



Our Townships

East Hempfield Township

Organized 9 June 1729 as one of the original townships of Lancaster County, Hempfield was to play a major role in the history of the county. Hempfield originally extended from the Susquehanna River eastward to the Little Conestoga River, and included all the land above the confluence of those two rivers northward to the Big Chiquesalunga Creek and Old Peter's Road. In 1717 a tract of 16,000 acres in the lower portion of Hempfield Township was surveyed for the Penns for a manor. This was Conestoga Manor. Its eastern, western and southern boundaries were coterminous to what had been Hempfield Township boundaries; its northern boundary, and now the new southern boundary of Hempfield, was a line approximately the location of Charlestown Road running from Washington Borough to the Millersville Road near the Little Conestoga River bridge. Hempfield Township was further reduced in size when Manor Township was erected in 1759, which included all of the former Conestoga Manor and all the land north to the Lancaster-Columbia Turnpike. The Turnpike from the Little Conestoga River at Maple Grove westward to the West Branch of the Little Conestoga River near Hershey's Mill Road served as the Hempfield-Manor boundary. From the West Branch the boundary dropped approximately one mile south of the Turnpike, running westward to the Susquehanna River below Columbia. Finally, in 1818, West Hempfield Township was carved out of the western portion of Hempfield Township, leaving the eastern portion to be called conveniently but not officially "East Hempfield." The boundary between the Hempfields runs along the West Branch brook northeast to Stony Batter¹ Road, and by that road to Landisville at the northern edge of the township.

The origin of the name Hempfield is lost. Dr. Joseph Dubbs in a lecture to the Lancaster County Historical Society in 1896² claimed the name came from a parish in England, but the **Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names**³ lists no parish or any other place bearing the name Hempfield. Indeed, the incomparable **Oxford English Dictionary** does not find the compound "hemp" and "field" a proper construction; its very existence points to an American improvisation. Tradition says the vast amounts of hemp grown in this vicinity during the 1720's furnished the name. In 1715 the General Assembly passed "An Act for the More Effective Encouragement of the Raising of Hemp." A bounty of one penny for every pound of hemp prepared for market was provided. Most of the hemp grown in the 1720's was grown in Lancaster and York counties.⁴ Benjamin Franklin wrote in 1747, "The greater part of our hemp is brought from Conestoga, a large and very rich tract of land on the banks of the Susquehanna. It is brought down in wagons."⁵ We will have to assume there is more evidence to support this explanation for the name than for the English place-name.

The earliest settlement in Hempfield Township was along the Little Conestoga River adjacent to Lancaster Township. Here Hance Pupather (John Brubaker) and Christian Hershev took large tracts of land in 1717. Brubaker was the first constable of Hempfield Township, and performed many valuable services for the County during the Cresap troubles.

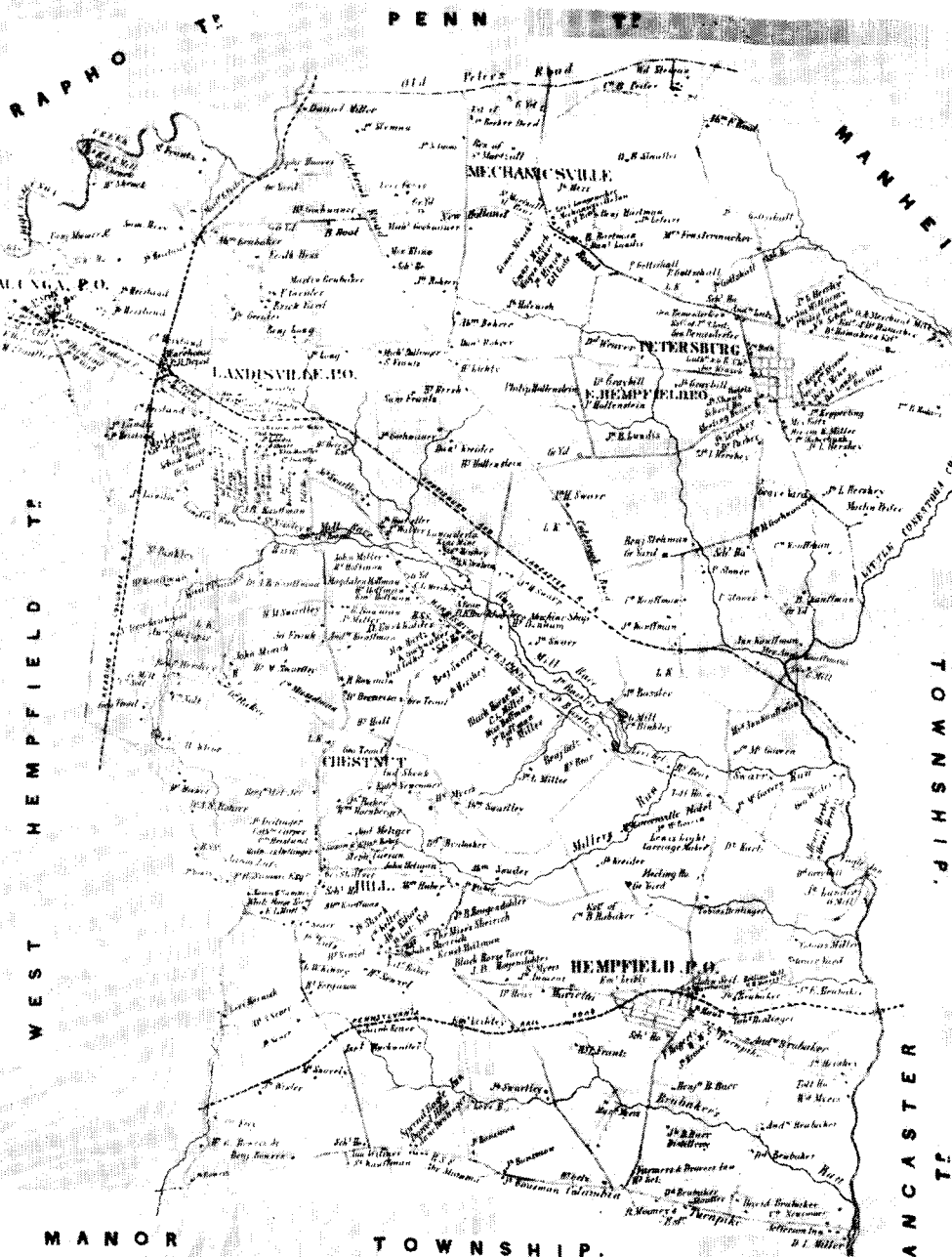
Reference to the accompanying map of original draughts will reveal the name and dates of all the first settlers in the East Hempfield portion of the original township. It will be seen that settlers in the vicinity of Centerville Road north of the Marietta Pike gave their "plantations" names: "Merryfield", "Blooming Grove", "Chestnut Hill", "Fairfield", "Rye Field", "Hempfield", "Smiths Delight", and Getzhagen". At some unlocated tract in the township was a 30½ acre farm named 'Livonia', and near Lancaster Junction were "Longton" and another "Hempfield".

No boroughs lie within the confines of Hempfield Township but the village of East Petersburg on the eastern edge of the township became incorporated after World War II. The main villages are Landisville and Rohrerstown, the latter being known as Hempfield Post Office until the 1870's when the surname of the village's founder superseded it by customary preference.

Landisville assumed the character of a village in the 1820's. About 1827 a post office was established and it was named to honor its first postmaster, John Landis, who would have preferred to call the place "Minnichville" after the town's earliest citizen and innkeeper, Jacob Minnich.

Rohrerstown was laid out by Christian Rohrer on 9 March 1812 as eighty-nine building lots to be sold by lottery. The village was an adventure in land speculation as were so many villages of the 1812 period. The earliest structure was the "Plough Tavern", erected before the Marietta Pike was completed. A brick hotel known as the "Cross-Keys" was located along the turnpike west of the village and beyond the Columbia and Philadelphia Railroad tracks. At one time an iron rolling mill operated in the village.⁶

Other villages, some hardly more than a few houses, have dotted the countryside and clustered along the turnpikes. Among the place-names are:



MANOR TOWNSHIP.

- Bamfordville (Old Harrisburg Pike East of Bowman Road)
- Salunga (Northwest of Landisville)
- Mechanicsville (Root's Auction)
- Locust Grove (Cashtown or West Kreadyville on Columbia Pike)
- Midway (Donerville on Columbia Pike)
- McGovernville (Intersection of Old Harrisburg Pike and Rohrerstown Road)

Probably the most unusual industry in the largely-agricultural township was the Bamfordville lead and zinc mine, located between the Old Harrisburg Pike and the Pennsylvania Railroad. Refer to the Map of Original Draughts; the mine was at the "d" of the name Bamfordville in the center of the map. About 1845 this mine was opened for the winning of white oxide of zinc by a promoter named Green of Aberystwith who imported dressing machinery from Wales. After some years of unprofitable operation the mine was abandoned. About 1872 Charles Bamford purchased the mine and installed elaborate machinery for dressing ore, and erected four furnaces containing fifty-six retorts and condensers each for the smelting of the ores bearing sulphides of zinc and lead. The property cost and improvements were reported to have been over \$200,000.00. Analysis of the smelter indicates it was quite pure:

Zinc	99.687%
Cadmium034
Lead262
Copper	trace
Iron017

Nevertheless, the company considered itself lucky when it netted \$25 profit on 100 tons of ore mined, an average day's production. Approximately 80 men, a quarter of them miners, were employed. The operations ceased in 1877 and the works fell into decay.⁷ As late as the early 1940's the furnace chimney was standing and a quantity of broken retorts and condensers were scattered in the grass and underbrush.

Politically East Hempfield Township has been conservative, giving majorities to the Federalists, National Republicans, Whigs and Republicans.

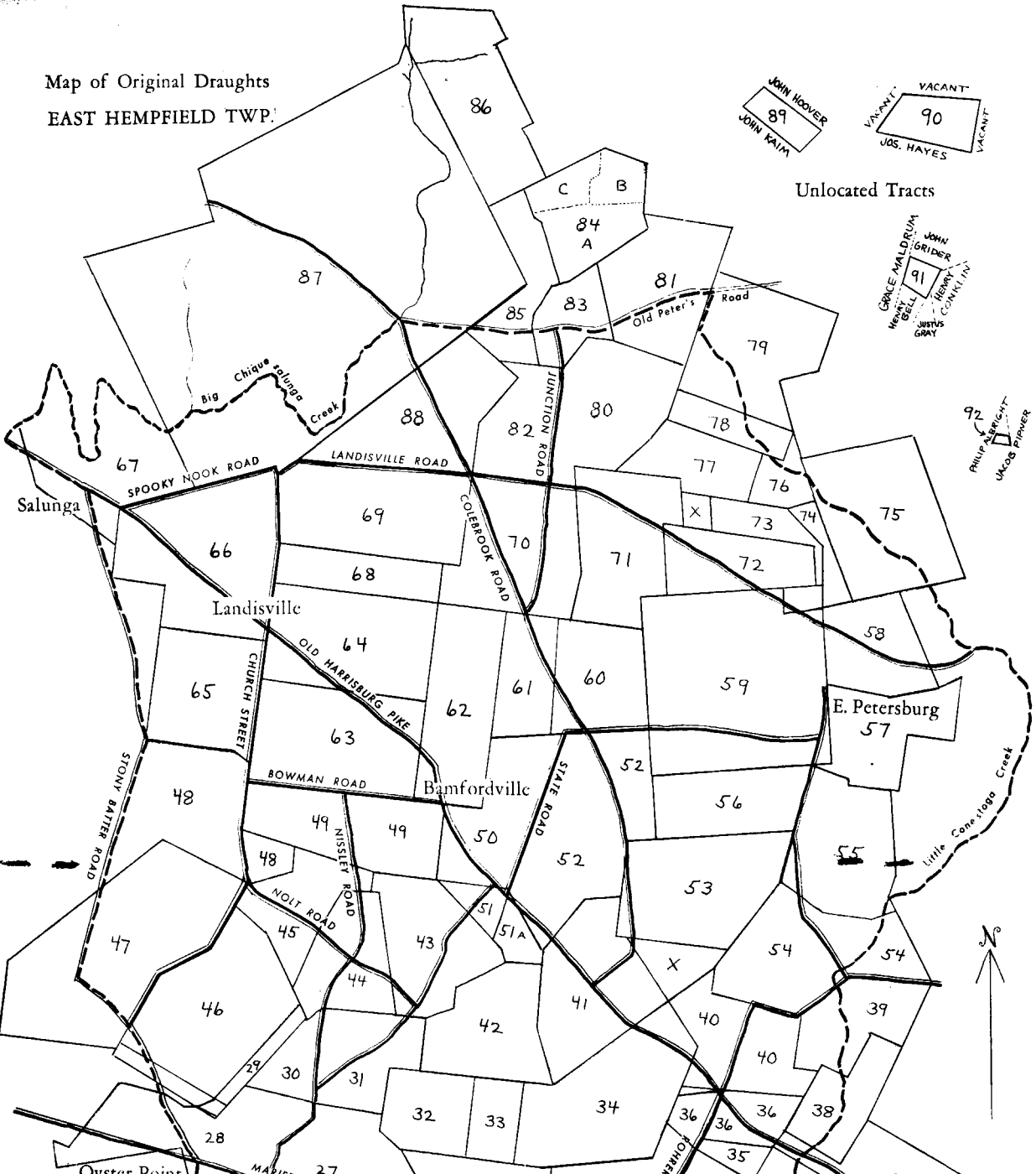
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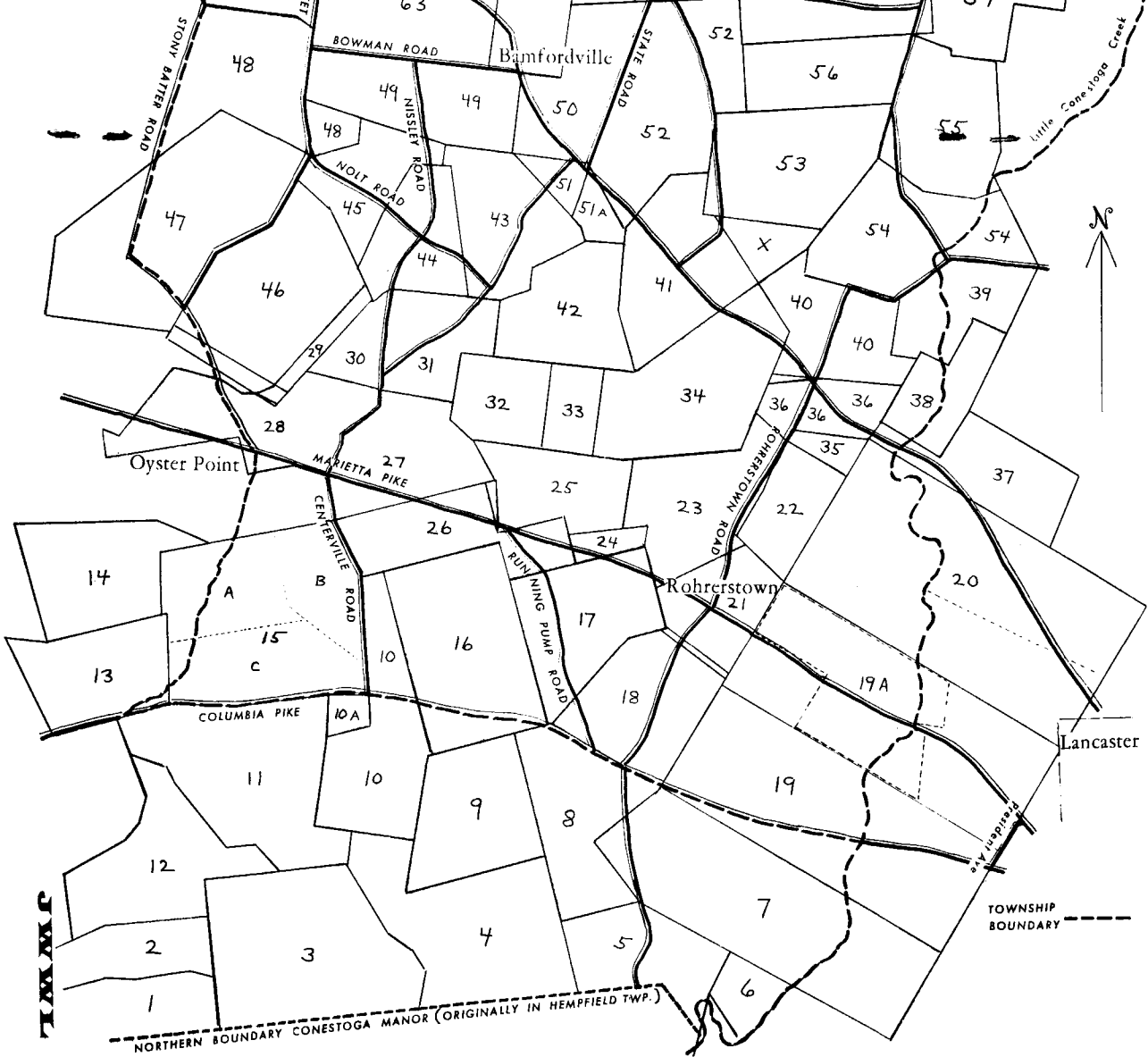
1. Stony Batter[y] was named in the late 1940's to honor the birthplace of James Buchanan. Batter, as the Scots used it, may have been suggested by the slope of the land, or, inasmuch as batter is also a paste or mortar, the small stones of the area may have given the name. The final "y" is an error made by those responsible for naming the Mountville-Salunga road.
2. Joseph H. Dubbs, "The Names of the Townships," **Historical Papers and Addresses of the Lancaster County Historical Society**, I (June, 1896), 7.
3. Eilbert Ekwall, **The Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names** (London: Oxford University Press, 1960).
4. Stevenson W. Fletcher, **Pennsylvania Agriculture and Country Life: 1640-1840** (Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1950, pp. 162-163).
5. Jared Eliot, **Essays on Field Husbandry in New England and Other Papers** (New York, 1934), p. 217.
6. J. W. W. Loose, "A Survey of 19th Century Iron Industry in Lancaster County," **Historical Papers and Addresses of the Lancaster County Historical Society**, LVIII (1954), 100-101.
7. Persifor Frazer, Jr., **The Geology of Lancaster County** (Harrisburg, Pa.: Board of Commissioners for the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania, 1880), pp. 196-203.

KEY TO ORIGINAL DRAUGHTS
OF EAST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP

1. John Shope, 142 A., A-12-386, Sur. 22 Oct. 1736, Warr. 5 Dec. 1745, Pat. 6 Dec. 1745.
2. Christian Care, 145 A., A-17-61, Sur. 22 Oct. 1736, Warr. 5 Dec. 1745, Pat. 3 Feb. 1752.
3. John Baumgardner, 294 A., A-12-387, Sur. 22 Oct. 1736, Warr. 5 Dec. 1745, Pat. 16 Jan. 1745.
4. Ulrich Rhode, 232 A., A-19-530, Sur. 16 Dec. 1753, Warr. 20 Feb. 1738, Pat. 5 May 1760.
5. Melchoir Erisman, 120 A., A-7-19, Sur. 14 Oct. 1717, Warr. 27 Sept. 1717, Pat. 11 Nov. 1734.
6. John Tubert, 204 A., A-7-17, Sur. 14 Oct. 1717, Warr. 27 Sept. 1717, Pat. 11 Nov. 1734.
7. Isaac Kauffman, 300 A., A-7-9, Sur. 14 Oct. 1717, Warr. 27 Sept. 1717, Pat. 11 Nov. 1734. Portion across creek southeast of the above tract: to Melchoir Erisman, 150 A., A-7-19, same dates.
8. Andrew Kauffman, 200 A., A-8-211, Sur. 31 May 1718, Warr. 7 June 1735, Pat. 20 Oct. 1736.
9. John Witmer, 200 A., A-7-505, Sur. 31 May 1718, Warr. 4 June 1718, Pat. 18 Nov. 1735.
10. Martin Kendig, 200 A., A-7-313, Sur. 25 Nov. 1719, Warr. 22 Nov. 1717, Pat. 13 Oct. 1735, to Christian Peelman.
11. Henry Neff, 308 A., A-9-444, Sur. 22 Oct. 1736, Warr. 11 Jan. 1733, Pat. 24 June 1741.
12. John Neff, 181 A., A-9-434, Sur. 22 Oct. 1736, Warr. 23 June 1741, Pat. 17 Aug. 1741.
13. John Newcomer, 146 A., A-11-290, Sur. 23 May 1735, Warr. 22 Feb. 1743, Pat. 22 Feb. 1743.
14. George Mummer, 175 A., A-13-397, Sur. unknown, Warr. 9 May 1748, Pat. 10 May 1748.
15. James Webb, 410 A., AA-1-233, Sur. 23 Mar. 1761, Warr. 4 Dec. 1760, Pat. 9 Apr. 1761.
 - (a) James Webb to Joseph Corl, 1761, Deed Book G-267, Lancaster County.
 - (b) James Webb to Sebastian Weidman, 1761, Deed Book G-265, Lancaster County.
 - (c) James Webb to Nicholas Bower, 1761, Deed Book G-268, Lancaster County.
16. Henry Pare (Bare), 300 A., A-5-356, Sur. unknown, Warr. 10 Mar. 1718, Pat. 20 June 1718.
17. Hans Snyder, 200 A., A-5-336, Sur. 13 Mar. 1718, Warr. 26 Nov. 1717, Pat. 20 May 1718.
18. Michael Miller, 200 A., A-6-255, Sur. 14 Oct. 1717, Warr. 27 July 1717, Pat. 11 Mar. 1733, to Daniel Eshleman.
19. Hans Pupather (John Brubaker) and Christian Hersey (Hershey), 1000 A., Sur. 14 Oct. 1717, Warr. 17 Sept. 1717, Pat. 30 Nov. 1717. Later divided into two 500 acre parcels recorded as A-5-271 and D-73-156. Christian Hershey died intestate, leaving two sons and a daughter who, with John Brubaker, granted to Benjamin

Map of Original Draughts
EAST HEMPFIELD TWP.





Hershey, the elder son of Christian, the upper tract, excluding Baumgardner's parcel.

(a) Benjamin Hershey to Peter Baumgardner, 1734, through Penn's Land Office, A-6-379.

20. Hans Pupather (John Brubaker), 700 A., A-5-268; D-73-158, Sur. 14 Oct. 1717, Warr. 27 Sept. 1717, Pat. 28 Nov. 1717.
21. John Brubaker, 125½ A., A-13-195, A-84-88, Sur. 10 May 1738, Warr. 28 Oct. 1746, Pat. 11 May 1747.
22. Jacob Brubaker, 105½ A., A-84-93, A-12-422, Sur. 27 May 1735, Warr. 23 May 1746, Pat. 11 May 1747.
23. John Adam Liphart, 185 A., A-69-188, AA-1-293, Surv. 28 Apr. 1761, Warr. 20 Mar. 1733 or 1734, Pat. 4 June 1761 to Augustine Liphart.
24. John Musser, 21½ A., C-115-224, A-14-623, Sur. 17 Feb. 1746, Warr. 26 Feb. 1745, Pat. 20 June 1751.
25. John Adam Liphart, 136 A., C-119-20, Sur. 28 Apr. 1761, Warr. 28 Feb. 1750, Pat. 2 June 1761, to Jacob Neff.
26. Henry Bare (Bear), 154 A., A-84-170, Sur. 20 Feb. 1735, Warr. 11 Nov. 1740, Pat. 10 Nov. 1741.
27. Henry Persinger, 169½ A. ("Fairfield"), C-159-93, Sur. 28 Nov. 1763, Warr. 1 Mar. 1749, Pat. 20 Apr. 1803 to John Leman.
28. Peter Sweigart, 245½ A. ("Chestnut Hill"), B-4-47, Resur. 26 May 1773, Warr. 18 Apr. 1751, Pat. 27 Sept. 1773, to John Hoover.
29. Joseph Webb, 89-¾ A., A-56-251, Sur. 14 Jan. 1790, Warr. 8 Dec. 1789, No patent.
30. Frederick Dochterman, 58½ A. ("Hempfield"), A-39-264, Sur. 4 Jan. 1763, Warr. 14 Mar. 1750, Pat. 11 Feb. 1767, to John Kauffman.
31. John Shyacks, 125 A. ("Smith's Delight"), C-197-291, Sur. 12 Jan. 1737, Warr. 31 Jan. 1769, Pat. 19 May 1769, to Henry Smith.
32. Michael Miller, 106 A. ("Rye Field"), C-115-286, Sur. 23 Nov. 1755, Warr. 27 Aug. 1737, Pat. 22 Apr. 1767, to Isaac Whitelock.
33. Felix Miller, 60½ A., C-185-265, Sur. 16 Jan. 1745, Warr. 8 Apr. 1750, Pat. 7 June 1751, to John Shanower.
34. Herr and Kendig, 269 A., D-78-282, Sur. 13 Jan. 1745, Warr. 22 Nov. 1717, Pat. 15 June 1747, to Michael Miller heirs.
35. Jacob Brubaker, 25 A., A-84-94, Sur. 27 May 1735, Warr. 4 June 1746, Pat. 5, June 1746.
36. Jacob Brubaker, 90½ A., A-83-207, Sur. 26 Sept. 1760, Warr. 2 Mar. 1733, Pat. 29 May 1761, to Peter Brubaker.
37. Peter Swarr, 150-¾ A., C-182-174, 16 Aug. 1734, Warr. 22 Apr. 1734, Pat. 22 Jan. 1740.
38. Felix Miller, 106 A., A-1-271, Sur. 20 May 1734, Warr. 12 Feb. 1733, Pat. 7 June 1751, to John Shanower.
39. George Nissley, 111 A., C-154-265, Sur. 11 Feb. 1747, Warr. 28 Oct. 1746, Pat. 22 July 1747.
40. Jacob Shelley, 147 A., C-185-271, Sur. 21 May 1734, Warr. 26 March 1751, Pat. 6 Nov. 1751 to Anna Stevens, et al.
41. John Nissley, 234 A., C-179-64, Sur. 20 Nov. 1734, Warr. 21 Feb. 1734, Pat. 27 June 1760 to Christian Overholser.
42. John Nissley, 187 A., C-107-102, Sur. 1 May 1761, Warr. 4 Sept. 1745, Pat. 7 Jan. 1762 to Christian Overholser.

43. Peter Getz, 178-3/4 A., ("Getzhagen") C-58-225, Sur. 6 March 1765, Warr. 10 Nov. 1749, Pat. 17 July 1768 to Jacob Getz.
44. David Miller, 134½ A. ("Blooming Grove"), C-133-111, Sur. 1 Feb. 1786, Warr. 19 Jan. 1786, Pat. 28 Apr. 1786.
45. Jacob Minich, in right of Jacob Getz, 116 A., ("Merryfield"), C-58-241, Sur. 22 Nov. 1765, Warr. 10 Nov. 1749, Pat. 3 Aug. 1768.
46. Christian Hooper (Huber, Hoover), 224 A., C-67-244, Sur. 12 March 1735, Warr. 8 June 1743, Pat. 16 June 1743.
47. Joseph Gochenauer, 403 A., A-63-99, Sur. 20 May 1735, Warr. 15 April 1740, Pat. 16 April 1740.
48. Henry Heistand, 226 A., A-66-161, Sur. 20 May 1735, Warr. 8 June 1743, Pat. 22 June 1743 to John Kauffman.
49. John Kauffman, 190 A., A-63-117, Sur. 18 Oct. 1735, Warr. 1 May 1734, Pat. 19 Jan. 1738.
50. Jacob Jacobs, 174 A., C-121-238, Sur. Oct. 1733, Warr. 11 April 1745, Pat. 11 Nov. 1747 to Henry Musselman.
51. Henry Musselman, 27¾ A., C-121-237, Sur. 13 Jan. 1745, Warr. 11 April 1745, Pat. 11 Nov. 1747.
52. Jacob Shelley, 326 A., C-182-165, Sur. 10 May 1735, Warr. 4 Sept. 1734, Pat. 29 Dec. 1739.
53. Martin Kauffman, 230 A., A-64-201, Sur. 20 April 1733, Warr. 21 Sept. 1743, Pat. 24 Oct. 1743 to John Kauffman.
54. Jacob Kauffman, 251 A., C-107-233, Sur. 21 Mar. 1733, Warr. 14 Mar. 1733, Pat. 11 April 1741.
55. Adam Miller, 191 A., C-115-296, Sur. 19 Jan. 1757, Warr. 28 Oct. 1748, Pat. 18 Feb. 1757 to Philip Beel.
56. Jacob Jacobs, 138 A., C-89-125, Sur. 29 Oct. 1733, Warr. 23 June 1741, Pat. 4 Aug. 1741.
57. George Terr, 142 A., C-234-84, Sur. 19 Feb. 1750, Warr. 12 Jan. 1748, Pat. 30 Nov. 1761 to Philip Alberth et al in trust.
58. George Litchner, 142 A., C-234-84, Sur. 19 Feb. 1750, Warr. 7 Dec. 1749, Pat. 16 April 1761 to Peter Gottshall.
59. Andrew Hershey, 500 A., C-76-52, Sur. 24 Jan. 1733, Warr. 19 Jan. 1733, Pat. 15 Jan. 1735.
60. George Shellenberger, 138 A., C-182-255, Sur. 20 April 1736, Warr. 13 March 1735, Pat. 4 June 1746.
61. Henry Musselman, 103 A., C-121-89, Sur. 18 Nov. 1735, Warr. 27 Feb. 1734, Pat. 11 Nov. 1747.
62. Henry Musselman, 212 A., A-63-210, Surveyed by consent and direction.
63. John Kauffman, 250 A., A-63-81, Sur. 23 Oct. 1729, Warr. 18 Aug. 1737, Pat. 15 Sept. 1737.
64. Herman Long, 250 A., A-63-81, Sur. 23 Oct. 1729, Warr. 29 Oct. 1737, Pat. 21 Dec. 1737.
65. Jacob Newcomer, 176 A., C-154-285, Sur.—, Warr. 5 Oct. 1750, Pat. 11 Oct. 1750.
66. Jacob Heistand, 300 A., C-76-26, Sur. 8 April 1736, Warr. 14 May 1735, Pat. 20 Oct. 1740.
67. Alexander Scott, 202 A., C-82-159, Sur. 21 July 1738, Warr. 19 July 1738, Pat. 31 July 1738.

68. Herman Long, 100 A., A-63-81, Sur. 23 Oct. 1729, Warr. 29 Oct. 1737
Pat. 21 Dec. 1737.
69. Jacob Reiff, 300 A., A-83-9, Sur. 7 April 1736, Warr. 4 Sept. 1734, Pat.
24 April 1741.
70. Christian Haldeman, 257½ A., C-107-275, Sur. 27 Sept. 1746, Warr.
19 May 1747, Pat. 20 July 1747 to Martin Kauffman.
71. Christopher Fry, 188 A., C-48-102, Sur.—, Warr. 17 Nov. 1748, Pat.
12 Jan. 1749.
72. Martin Hoffman, 218 A., A-50-297, Sur. 14 April 1752, Warr. 18 Oct.
1739, No Pat.
73. Martin Hoffman, 91½ A., A-50-297, Sur. 20 Feb. 1746, Warr. 21 May
1746, No Pat.
74. John Graybill, 44½ A., A-9-15, Sur. 28 Aug. 1746, Warr. 21 May 1746
Pat. 7 June 1753.
75. John Graybill, 254 A., A-9-16, Sur. 20 April 1736, Warr. 9, Aug. 1734
Pat. 7 June 1753.
76. Anthony Emmerk, 45½ A., C-50-130, Sur. 14 May 1762, Warr. 19 July
1753, Pat. 17 Dec. 1762 to Valentine Grosh.
77. Valentine Grosh, 100½ A., A-67-37, Sur. 25 Feb. 1747, Warr. 8 Jan.
1747, Pat. 17 Dec. 1762.
78. Christian Hooper, 57 A., C-67-241, Sur. 21 Feb. 1746, Warr. 10 Jan.
1744, Pat. 12 Dec. 1747.
79. Christian Hooper, 221 A., C-67-219, Sur. 4 April 1740, Warr. 7 Dec.
1737, Pat. 12 Dec. 1747.
80. Ludwig Becker, 200 A., A-84-130, Sur. 25 Feb. 1748, Warr. 13 Nov.
1747, Pat. 20 1748.
81. Nicholas Miller, 210½ A., C-132-91, Sur. 4 April 1740, Warr. 7 Dec.
1737, Pat. 22 Jan. 1762.
82. Frederick Hoffman, 114 A., C-67-243, Sur. 9 March 1747, Warr. 31
May 1746, Pat. 16 July 1747.
83. Michael Strebble, 73 A., ("Hempfield"), C-198-97, Sur. 29 Nov. 1751,
Warr. 22 Nov. 1750, Pat. 29 Nov. 1796.
84. Martin Miller, 175½ A., C-112-60, Warr. 17 March 1739.
(a) Joseph Long, 92 A., ("Longton"), Pat. 12 Dec. 1771.
(b) Andrew Eby, 46 A., Pat. 12 Dec. 1771.
(c) John Eby, 48 A., Pat. 12 Dec. 1771.
85. John Long, 149 A., C-119-31, Sur. 15 Nov. 1760, Warr. 25 May 1751,
Pat. 17 Oct. 1761.
86. Christian Hershey, 226½ A., C-76-142, Sur. 16 March 1736, Warr. 16
Sept. 1735, Pat. 12 May 1743.
87. Thomas Griffiths in trust for Isaac Norris, 1500 A., D-89-170, A-6-327,
Sur. 31 Dec. 1733, Warr. 19 Oct. 1733, Pat. 1 June 1734.
88. George Hooper (Huber, Hoover), 222 A., C-107-271, Sur. 7 April 1746,
Warr. 11 April 1745, Pat. 12 Dec. 1748, to Peter Kreider.
89. Nicholas Baker, 30½ A. ("Livonia"), C-10-21, Sur. 4 Jan. 1788, Warr.
20 Dec. 1787, Pat. 26 March 1788.
90. David Thomas, 61 A., A-83-145, Sur. 16 March 1741, Warr. 24 July
1738, Pat. 14 Sept. 1742.
91. Michael Greider, 11 A., C-69-72, 21 Feb. 1847, Warr. 20 Dec. 1847,
Pat. 28 April 1848.
92. Jacob Yoner, 1¾ A., ("Old Right"), C-197-233, Sur. 21 May 1761,
Warr. 15 April 1761, Pat. 13 July 1774 to Henry Schweitzer.