

The Taverns of Early Lancaster and the Later-Day Hotels

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Preface

Many articles have been written on the taverns of early Lancaster and the social life surrounding them but very little attention had been given to describing their exact location and the time of their existence. Only a few of the most important ones are known. I can still remember as a boy, the many open archways in buildings in the central part of Lancaster which led from the main streets, over cobble-stones, to the stables in the rear. These buildings were taverns, inns, public houses, hostelries or hotels, whichever you choose to call them. The descriptive name changed with the time and place. It was not until after the Revolution that the name hotel came into prominence. Motel is more recent and will not be used in this report. Almost all the open archways with their adjoining buildings are gone and with the demolition that is now going on, the entire pattern of the central business section of Lancaster will be only a memory. It is hoped that this article will not only describe the time and place of the early taverns but will also perpetuate in some way, the appearance and life that was theirs in the years gone by. Perhaps too some pleasant memories will arise among those who can still remember them.

This research involved many problems. It meant checking all the writings pertaining to taverns and in so doing it was found that

they were not always in agreement with respect to names, owners, tenant proprietors, locations and dates. Similar and abbreviated names and the lack of distinction between the owner and the roving tenant proprietor, were common causes for misunderstanding. They did agree in most instances on the celebrities they entertained and there will be no need to repeat this here, except when necessary to identify a tavern. Early Lancaster County histories, old newspapers, tavern license files, The Pennsylvania Census of 1790, Lancaster County Historical Society Journals, Lancaster City Directories, old atlases and maps and people who remembered them, supplied valuable information but undoubtedly there remained many gaps that had to be filled by the author and he will be the last to believe that no errors have crept into this writing. He only hopes that they were few. Every effort was made to distinguish between well established factual information and such data that remained in doubt. Original sources were used in most instances rather than the copied material found in this research. No paper of this kind represents a finished task. Much more remains to be learned but if I had waited for perfection, this paper would never have been brought to an end.

Historical research is a collective enterprise. This project on the Taverns and Later-Day Hotels of Lancaster, would not have been possible without the help and encouragement of many others. Obviously, the author owes a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Charles Lundgren, the librarian of the Lancaster County Historical Society, where most of this work was done and also Mr. Clyde Groff, Mr. George Heiges, Mr. John Lippold, Mr. John McGrann, Mr. Samuel Slaymaker III, Mrs. Richard Gerstell, Mr. J. W. W. Loose, Mr. Samuel E. Dyke, Mr. J. Richard Gaintner, Mr. Edgar Musser and many others for their guidance and help. Last but not least, to my wife for her patience and help in typing this manuscript.

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In the days of yore, no place was more prominent in the affairs of the time than the tavern. It was not only a place to eat, drink and rest but was also a gathering place for daily communication. There were no telephones, radios and rarely a newspaper for those who could read, so it became a daily function to visit the tavern where people congregated. The sojourners were good sources for news from "abroad" while the neighbor supplied the local news. Trading stamps or trick coupons were not in vogue at the time but free lunches at the bar, a free cigar or a drink on the house, were inducements for those who lingered the longest. Drinking was the fashion in those days which apparently has not changed since.

Taverns were used for public gatherings, dances, shows and many other forms of entertainment. They were essentially houses for public use, hence the name Public House. The tavern keepers

were usually men of distinction and their warm hospitality was just as important then as a free windshield wash is today.

The tavern was the "railroad station" at Lancaster's beginning. The stagecoach brought many travellers, as did the wagon, the horse and others came on foot. The tavern was the stopping place, if for no other purpose than to rest and talk. There were sixty-two of them between Philadelphia and the inland town of Lancaster in 1734.⁴¹ In 1765 there were fifty-three persons licensed to keep tavern in sparsely settled Lancaster borough alone.¹ We found the location of sixty-one taverns that were actively operating before 1800 and there were eleven others we could not find. Some of these we believe, were short lived names of one of those already known. No community moving cause ever grew unless there was a tavern at the center of it. The tavern belonged to the community and the community belonged to the tavern.

It is not possible to write a history of the tavern without virtually writing a history of the community. When Lancaster was the capital of Pennsylvania from 1799 to 1812, there was no thought of a governor's mansion. The chief executive merely moved into a room in a tavern and made himself at home. Governor Thomas Mifflin died in his room at "The Grape" tavern on Jan. 22nd, 1800 and when Gov. Simon Snyder came to Lancaster in 1808, he moved into "The Red Bull" on E. King St. and later occupied a room in "The Grape" on N. Queen St.⁵

Attractive painted signs were used to identify most of the taverns. They portrayed pictures of prominent people, animals, birds, trees, fruit and familiar things such as ships, plows, keys, rainbows, wagons, sheaves of wheat and many others, all easily recognizable by those who could not read. These were welcome signs and many of the older ones are revered today. One did not stop at "The Grape" or "The White Swan" in those days, he stopped at "The Sign of the Grape" or "The Sign of The White Swan". This prefix "The Sign of" will seldom be used in this report for brevity.

There were five main classifications for taverns and this is worth repeating here.²

Stage Taverns—For the best exclusive trade; no teamsters were allowed

Stage Stands—These were the stage relay stops; meals were served, lodgings were available and feed for horses. These required large out-buildings.

Wagon Stands—For wagoners and teamsters. The men slept on the bar room floors or in the stables on a bag filled with straw.

Drove Stands—Special accommodations for cattle and drovers feed, pastures, etc. They usually had signs pertinent to their class of patrons such as "The Bull," "The Lamb," "The Ram," etc.

Tap Houses—The lowest class were catered to. This was the caravanary type which very often were only combination saloons and eating houses.

The exact location of many of the oldest taverns in Lancaster were not easy to find because there was no address or numbering system in use prior to 1860. The location of places were described as being so many doors north, south, east or west, as the case may have been, of a well known building and in most instances this building was a tavern. The taverns were said to be in the first, second, third or fourth square of a prominent street or near a cross street and very often it was placed on the north, south, east or west side. Sometimes a church, the home of a prominent citizen, a fire house or the Court House in Center Square, prior to 1852, were used as land marks. I saw one reference where a tavern was located near the Cotton Mill. Since there were several Cotton Mills scattered in Lancaster at the time, it had to be determined which one was meant. More confusion arose when it was learned that no distinction was made between North and South Queen Sts. When a tavern was found to be on Queen Street it had to be determined whether it was north or south of Center Square. This was also true of King St. The original names of these streets were Donegal and High.

Shortly after 1860 a numbering system was started which marked all places in numerical order beginning at King and Queen as division streets. To illustrate this early method and using North Queen St. as the example, we find "The Grape Tavern" in the middle of the first square, west side, as being #17. "The Franklin House" near the middle of the second square, west side, #45. "The Globe Tavern" on the northwest corner of N. Queen and Chestnut #69 and "The Keystone Hotel" in the third square, west side and near Walnut, #107. This method was used for about eight years when it was replaced with the system in use today. This is essentially the same, except the numbering changed to a new hundred at nearly every prominent cross street. The even and odd numbers on the sides were reversed also.

We found the names of 39 taverns reported to be in Lancaster but their exact locations could not be confirmed. This was because many of the early records were incomplete with respect to the name, owner, time and place. These taverns with unknown sites will appear after the name of the street on which they were believed to be and if the street is not known, they will appear at the end of this report. It is believed that most of these are short lived names of taverns already identified.

A change in ownership of a tavern, and there were many, often led to a change in name. Sometimes similar or abbreviated names were used which created some difficulty in identifying them. As for example "The White Swan" in Center Square was called "The Golden Swan" for awhile, (there was one on E. King St. later) and too frequently it was contracted to "The Swan". There was and still is a "Swan Tavern" at the corner of S. Queen and Vine Sts. which dates back to almost the beginning of "The White Swan" in Center Square. These taverns are often confused in the literature and it was not

easy to separate them. A sequence of owners was necessary in cases of this kind.

The names of "The Slaymaker Tavern" in E. King St. are not without confusion. This old historic tavern was also known as the "Golden Eagle", the "Spread Eagle" and the "State Arms" at various times. The latter was confused with the "Pennsylvania State Arms" which was around the corner on N. Queen St.

Another instance of confusion presented itself when it was learned that two "Lamb Taverns" were being operated at the same time, one on W. King St. and the other on S. Queen, each within one square of Center Square.

The famous "Grape Tavern" on N. Queen St. changed its name several times and also acquired the names of two long time operators. It was known for short periods as the "Bausman", the "Conestoga Waggon", the "Waggon and Horses", the "Michaels" and later the "American". Here again the sequence of proprietorship is necessary. The "Grape" name was best known and stuck throughout its entire existence. It should be noted here that when taverns were operated for long periods by the same person, often acquired the name of that person, in addition to the advertised or sign name. This is true here with "Bausman" and "Michael", both long time proprietors of the "Grape". Other examples of this are "Slough's" and "Rosina Hubley's" for the "White Swan" in Center Square, the "Cooper's House" for the "Red Lion" on W. King St., "Eicholtz" for the "Bull" on E. King St., "Snyder" for the "General Jackson" on E. King St. and there were many others.

There were many tavern-keepers whose stay at the same stand were very short. This roving group were always looking for greener pastures elsewhere and when they did change, they often took with them their sign and name. This frequently caused the same name of a tavern to appear at two different locations at the same time. Sign changing could take place over night but the name of a tavern was accepted much slower. This created some concern when trying to identify them.

Apparently new names for a tavern were hard to come by, as is evidenced by the many similar names such as, "Black Horse", "White Horse", "Sorrel Horse" and "Golden Horse". It appeared easier to copy a competitor's sign with a change in color, or merely alter the title slightly such as, "General Washington", "George Washington" or just "Washington". Very often too, when a tavern closed or went out of business, the name of that tavern was soon used by another. The best example of this is the name "Eagle". There were five "Eagle", two "Golden Eagle" and three "Spread Eagle" taverns in Lancaster but at different times.

The easiest way to acquaint the reader with the location of the 152 tavern sites found in Lancaster since its beginning, is to pass down each street from a central point and describe their position as

we come to them. On these 152 sites, were a total of 381 hostelrys either in the form of new buildings or just a change in the names, mostly the latter. It must be kept in mind that all the hostelrys mentioned were not being operated at the same time. The dates given will show when they were operated and are not intended to mean the exact opening and closing dates unless otherwise stated. It must also be remembered that most of the tavern buildings are gone and the order of businesses and stores have changed many times. The present address system will be used when possible, with an occasional reference to a well known building to mark the place where a tavern stood. Only those who can remember the second square of N. Queen St. as it was prior to 1967, will be able to visualize the exact position of those taverns in that area.

The 61 taverns that were in existence before 1800 are of most interest but unfortunately the location of some of these could not be found. This was also true of a few taverns that were opened in the early 1800's. As time went on, the records became more accurate and the locations were easier to find. After 1900 we found no new sites but there were many hotels rebuilt on the same sites and with the usual change in name. These later-day hotels are not considered too important in this report because their locations are all known.

We will first cover the taverns in Center and nearby Market Squares followed by the four main streets, South Queen, West King, North Queen and East King in this order. These will be followed by the central side streets and finally by those in scattered locations.

Taverns in Center and Market Squares

One of the most famous of all taverns in early Lancaster and one that has many varied records of its past, especially its name, was the "White Swan." It catered to the wealthy traveller and many of the most celebrated persons who came to Lancaster, were guests at this famous hostelry. It stood on the southeast corner of Center Square and S. Queen St., now occupied by the Watt & Shand Store. A bronze plaque marks this site. A Henry Bossler (Bostler) owned this site in 1736 and put a building on it which may have been a tavern.⁴ Jacob Slough bought it in 1747 and either enlarged the Bossler building or put up a new one, which he called the "Swan" tavern.³ Jacob died three years later and his son Mathias, then very young, became the proprietor. He did not become the rightful owner until 1782. He renamed it the "White Swan" and continued to operate it until his retirement in 1806.¹ His son Jacob, then living in Columbia, took it over and continued under the "White Swan" name.⁶ In 1809, the tavern was lost for default on the payment of £875 to Jasper Yeates. It then became the property of Robert Coleman and Jacob Slough leased it until his retirement in 1824. It is recorded that Joseph and Rosina Hubley were operating this tavern



White Swan

at this time but Robert Coleman's will dated 3/8/1822 refutes this.⁷ His will reads in part, "devises Mansion and Tavern House in Centre Square, now in occupation of Jacob Slough, formerly the estate of Matthias Slough and purchased by me" etc. This document shows that it was Jacob Slough who occupied the "White Swan" at this time and not the Hubleys.¹⁴⁹

After Jacob Slough retired in 1824, John Stehman took it over and was followed by Edward Parker in 1828, who changed the name to the "Golden Swan".¹ This name was used during the three years that Parker was there and never became prominent. The tavern was still owned by the Colemans in 1831 when Rosina Hubley, the widow of Joseph mentioned above, transferred from the "Hubley Fish Market" hotel, which was then at the corner of S. Queen and Vine. Mrs. Hubley changed the name back to the "White Swan" and continued to operate it successfully until her retirement in 1842. Her son Edward then put up his sign on the north side of the building and for several years it was known as "E. S. Hubley's White Swan".⁹ In 1848 Edward transferred the tavern to his brother-in-law Henry Kendig and he was followed by Henry Shenck in 1859.²⁸ Hiram Kendig ran it during the Civil War and closed it in 1865.¹ At this time it lost its identity as a tavern but the bar and restaurant continued because there are many records in the Lancaster City directories and as late

as 1888, that the "Swan" in Center Square was still open for business. Undoubtedly these records meant the bar and restaurant only. There is an apparent change in name at this time from "White Swan" to "Swan". William B. Fordney bought the building in 1855 and J. M. Johnson was the landlord from 1865 to 1869. It became occupied by the Inland Insurance Co. and other institutions for office purposes. The New Era Printing Co. occupied the upper floors in 1883.¹ Not long after this the restaurant took on the name Penn Square with D. B. Frey in charge.

This tavern had only one well defined name through-out its entire existence, (1747-1865) and that was "White Swan". There were periods when it was known as "Slough's Tavern", "Golden Swan", "Parker House", "Rosina Hubley's" and too frequently contracted to "The Swan". This created much confusion in the records of this hotel and the one at S. Queen & Vine, which later became the "Swan". Apparently when the "White Swan" closed in 1865, the bar and restaurant that continued, changed the name for their establishment to "Swan". This left the "White Swan" name available for use at the S. Queen & Vine St. hotel which they did use until about 1894, when they started using the "Swan" name. By this time the bar and restaurant in Center Square were out of business. Further proofs of the correct identity of the Center Square tavern are these records.

Mathias Slough was the proprietor of the "White Swan" tavern from 1751 to 1806.¹⁷

Washington alighted at the "White Swan" kept by Mathias Slough 7/3/1791.¹²

Fisher Ames stopped at the "White Swan" 7/25/1796.¹⁴

John Marshall lodged at Mr. Slough's tavern 6/25/1798.¹³

John Adams the second president of the United States, arrived in Lancaster 5/28/1800 and took lodging at the "White Swan" hotel in the Square.¹⁶

There are many advertisements in the **Lancaster Journal** that uses the "White Swan" name for the Center Square tavern. A few of these dates are 10/21/1806, 10/24/1806 and 10/21/1812.

Mrs. Rosina Hubley was proprietress of the "White Swan" hotel, one of the most prominent hostleries in Lancaster at the time, located on the corner of S. Queen and Penn Square.¹⁸ (1831-1842)

Matthias Zahm wrote in his diary 10/18/1848, "today Captain Bragg was in Lancaster and stopped at Henry Kendig's "White Swan" hotel."¹⁵

There are many records available from which it can be determined that the "White Swan" name was used for more than 110 years of its 118 years existence.

The "White Swan" was the only important tavern in Center Square. There were several smaller ones of lesser importance and the records on these are very vague. One notation stated that "Wil-

liam Geer" kept a tavern on the northwest corner of either Market or Center Square from 1793 to 1800 in a two story brick building. He was interested with Mathias Slough in a line of stages. The exact name and location is not known.¹⁹

It should be stated here that Market Square prior to 1800 was a small group of dwellings on the site of the present Central Market House. The William Henry home was in the center of this group.²⁰

Another record was found where "F. Dolle" operated a tavern in Center Square in 1799. No other data was found.²¹

There is a record in the Lancaster Journal 6/19/1807 that "**The Sign of the Globe and Spread Eagle Tavern**" was in the southwest corner of the Court House in Center Square and was operated by Henry Strouse. This was the only record found. There was a "Globe Tavern" on the northwest corner of Chestnut and N. Queen and a "Spread Eagle Tavern" on E. King St. near the Square about this time.

"**The Sign of the Two Highlandmen Tavern**" is said to have been on the northeast corner of E. King and Center Square in 1776 and was operated by William Ross.²² No other information was found.

"**The Leary House**" was at 14 Penn Square and was operated by Edward Leary in 1873. The name was changed to "**The Fulmer House**" in 1877 and A. F. Fulmer was the proprietor.²⁶ This tavern was in the northeast angle.

John Hart ran "**Hart's Inn**" in 1751. This property is now marked by the main entrance to the Watt and Shand Store.¹⁵⁹

A "Buck Tavern" was supposed to be in Center Square between 1800 and 1805. There was a "Buck Tavern" on the northeast corner of E. King and Christian Sts. at this time. I doubt if there was another in Center Square.²³

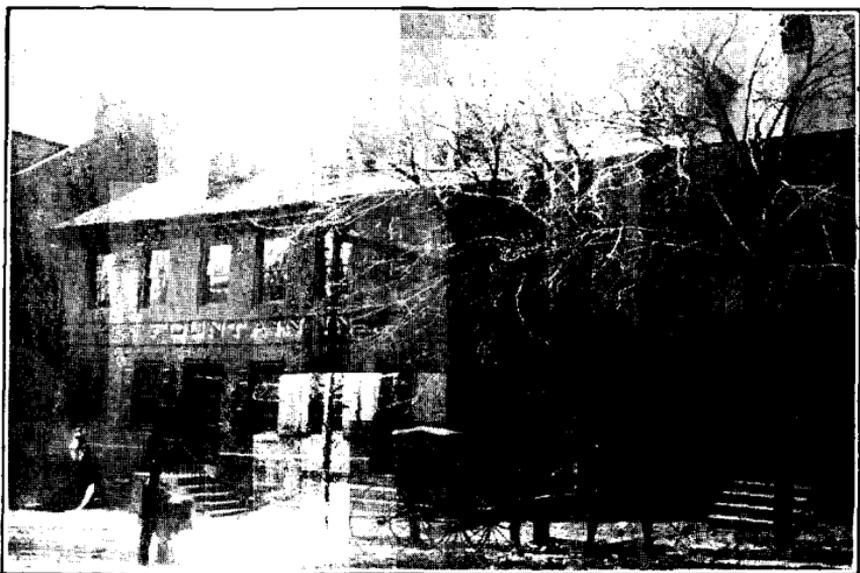
A "**Black Bear Tavern**" was found to be in Market Square as early as 1780. It was being managed by Jonas Metzger, Sr. in 1799,³¹ Mrs. Metzger in 1809,²⁵ John Mumma in 1810, John Alerman (Herman) 1813 and by John Wolf from 1813 to 1830.²⁷ A record was found that the latter rented a house in Market Square in 1813 next door to Dr. Abraham Carpenter and William Henry, in which a public house was kept for a space of 33 years.²⁵ The exact location of this tavern in old Market Square is not exactly known but is believed to have been near the northwest corner, or just west of the William Henry home.²⁰ After the City bought this plot for a new Market House in 1854, the "Black Bear Tavern" was on the southwest corner of Market and Grant Sts. Fred Maurer was the owner from 1842 to 1903.²⁶ In 1892 this tavern was known as "**The Corner Hotel**" with Charles Hoster as the proprietor and in 1917, it was called "**The Central Market Hotel**". It was still doing business under this title in 1921, when it was closed by Hager's in their expansion program. There was

a "Black Bear Tavern" on the south side of E. King St. near the Square from 1799 to 1870. This tavern was better known as "The Bear".

Taverns on South Queen Street

There were many taverns on S. Queen St. but only a few were well known. One that was not well known, was "The Bartgis Tavern" which stood on the west side, a few feet south of the present Conestoga Bank. In 1773 Michael Bartgis was the proprietor and he continued for many years.¹⁹ According to the late Mrs. Bertha Landis, "It teemed with excited soldiers defying Mother England at the time of the Revolution. It was a small hotel in which Major Andre and Gaspard were held prisoners." No other data was found.²⁹

"The Fountain Inn" at 32-36 S. Queen St. was one of Lancaster's well known hostelries. It was built by Ulrich Reigart, next door to his home, 38 S. Queen St. and opened by his son Christopher in 1758³⁰ Christopher died in 1783 and his wife Susannah continued until her death in 1805. She became Mrs. Thomas Edwards in 1788, having married the second time. Her son Henry Reigart, to her first husband, owned and operated the Inn 4/1/1811, when he leased it to John Whiteside, formerly of "The Lion" on W. King St.¹⁵⁹ Whiteside became the rightful owner in 1822. He passed away in 1830 and from then on there were many owners. It was demolished in 1898 to make way for the larger "Lincoln Hotel." Apparently in 1790 and under the ownership of Susannah Reigart, an attempt was made to change the name to the "Prince Ferdinand." This was unsuccessful.^{30, 88}



The Fountain Inn

"The Sign of the Unicorn" was a small tavern below the "Fountain Inn" and next door to Jacob Graeff's. The present address would be 46-48 S. Queen St.¹⁵⁹ Jacob Wilhelm was an early operator followed by Adam Messenkop in 1796. Adam transferred to "The Sorrel Horse" on W. King St. one year later.³³ "The Unicorn" was still functioning under Christian Apple and Jonas Metzger Jr. in 1799.³¹ We found no more information on this tavern.

"Effinger's Tavern" was at 49-51 S. Queen St., which is also the northeast corner of S. Queen and Vine. Jacob Effinger was the proprietor in 1874, Catherine Effinger from 1882 to 1887, followed by John Effinger in 1888. J. Shank was running it in 1894 and by this time, the name was changed to "The Southern Market Hotel." It closed about 1920.²⁶

"Frederick Hubley's Public House" which later became the "Swan" hotel, was on the southeast corner of S. Queen & Vine Sts. It is one of the oldest taverns in Lancaster and still doing business on the same site. Samuel Bethel purchased this site, (Hamilton lot #135) in 1740 and no doubt put a building on it some years later. We do know from the records of Lodge #43 Free and Accepted Masons, that Frederick Hubley was operating a Public House on this corner at the time the Lodge held its first meeting there on September 14, 1785.³² Hubley was only there from 1784 to 1788 but who preceded him, if anyone, we do not know.³³ Hubley was followed by George Ross who ran it several years as the "George Ross Public House". Leonard Eicholtz Jr. followed and ran it until 1817, at which time he replaced his father at the "Bull's Head" tavern on E. King St. George Beckel (Bechtel) replaced Eicholtz who is believed to be the last proprietor to occupy the old building. We do not know what names were used by Eicholtz and Beckel for the tavern but in all probabilities, they followed the custom of their predecessors and used their own names. The property was sold by Samuel Bethel, the original owner, to Dr. Clarkson Freeman for \$2,000 on February 23, 1819.³⁴

Dr. Freeman replaced the old building with a modern three story brick in 1824, which is still standing but covered with formstone. He immediately rented it to Archibald D. Warren who opened a tavern under the name "The Lancaster City" or "The Lancaster County Hotel", it is not known which.⁵⁰ Neither name became prominent. Joseph Hubley followed in 1828 and died two years later. His widow Rosina carried on for a short time and the tavern was then known as "Mrs. Hubley's Fish Market Hotel".²⁷ Mrs. Hubley moved to the "White Swan" in Center Square around 1831 with her three children Edward S., John A. and Mary.³⁶ It is not known who succeeded her at the "Fish Market Hotel".

Fredrick A. Muhlenburg bought the tavern property at S. Queen and Vine from the Freeman estate in 1843³⁴ and sold it to John N. and James Lane in 1847. The tavern was then known as the "Man-

sion House".⁹ G. Taylor Lane bought it at auction in 1857 and sold it at public sale to John Hess in 1864. Hess operated it as the "White Swan" who no doubt used this name because the tavern in Center Square by this name for many years, closed at this time. In the 1875 Lancaster City directory can be found an advertisement in both English and German which reads, "The White Swan" at the fish market with John Hess as the proprietor and when he sold his property to Joseph Wacker in 1879, the "White Swan" name was used in the deed.¹⁵⁶ So there can be no doubt that this name was used for both the Center Square and the S. Queen and Vine St. taverns but not at the same time. Very much confusion was created by this change. The compiler of the 1892 directory was not sure what the name of the hotel was on this corner, so he played it safe by using both names and on the same page #403. All the directories after this refer to it as the "Swan". The "White Swan" name could no longer be found anywhere. It must be remembered that the "Swan" name in any form, never was attached to the S. Queen & Vine St. tavern until after John Hess arrived there in 1864. All references to a "Swan" tavern before this, meant the one in Center Square. No doubt some bewilderment was caused by their like signs hanging above their front doors, a picture of a White Swan.

The last owners and proprietors of the "Swan" were John A. Shank in 1892, Wacker and Clark in 1894, B. Frank Brenberger in 1905, C. E. Stevens in 1919, Matt Miller in 1932, followed by Lloyd Mundorf and his sons Gary and Howard.¹⁵⁵

"The Lamb Tavern." Diagonally across from the "Swan Hotel" on S. Queen St. were two taverns adjacent to each other, "The Lamb" at #106-108 and "The Union" at #110-112. The former was operated by Jacob Miller in 1811 and Christian McManus in 1830.²⁷ The name was changed to "The Golden Lamb" in 1834 but apparently without success. We find "The Lamb" title still being used in the 1866 City Directory. Isabella Fitzpatrick was the tavernkeeper in 1873, D. Moore in 1877 and A. C. Rahter in 1883.

"The Union Tavern" next door to "The Lamb" was apparently of lesser importance. We were not able to find any earlier records. It was being run as "The United States" by Eva Nehr in 1873 and as "The Union" by George Erisman in 1877. It became **The Fourth Ward Hotel** in 1886 but was better known as "The Union" at the time it and "The Lamb" were demolished in 1888 to make way for the Southern Market House.²⁸

There was a "Union Hotel" opposite the Pennsylvania Railroad Station on E. Chestnut St. from 1868 to 1892.²⁸

"The Indian King Tavern" was on the southwest corner of S. Queen and German (now Farnum) Sts. and was operated by Robert Wilson from 1799 to 1808 and possibly longer.³¹ A circus ground was directly behind it and on circus days much liquid was consumed here, writes the late Mrs. Bertha Landis.²⁹ Very little is known of

this tavern and how long it existed but it is known that Lodge #43 Free and Accepted Masons met here from 1803 to 1809.³² The building was demolished in 1883 and the home of Dr. Abraham Breneman occupied this site. This was followed by St. Paul's Methodist Church.

The "**Columbia Garden**" title was used for two different taverns on St. Queen St. but not at the same time. It is believed to be the name of the first tavern on the northeast corner of S. Queen and Middle (now Howard Ave.) Sts. This site is also #323-5 S. Queen. The proprietor in 1830 was George Wein.²⁷ George Hinkle became the proprietor in 1843.²⁸ The name of this tavern on the Lancaster City Map of 1850 is "**The C. J. Plitts**" and in the 1873 City Directory the name was "**The Southern Exchange**" with George H. Erisman as the operator. Erisman moved shortly after this to "**The Union**" at 110 S. Queen. George Wall became the owner of the "**Southern Exchange**" in 1874 and changed the name to "**The Wall House**". In 1886 John H. Berger was running it but Wall was still the owner and as late as 1892. It was still doing business as "**The Wall House**" in 1935.²⁶ The "**Columbia Garden**" name was used again to mark a tavern at #624-6 S. Queen in 1873.

"**The Conestoga House**" was a 2½ story brick tavern on the southeast corner of S. Queen and Strawberry Sts. from 1861 to 1886. This site is also #343-5 S. Queen. John Franciscus was the keeper in 1886 and it became known as "**The Franciscus Tavern**" at this time.²⁶

"**The Half-Way House**" was at #524-6 S. Queen St., or very close by. This would place it on the west side of the street, south of Hazel and opposite the Woodward Hill Cemetery. It was a well known tavern in its day, half-way between Center Square and the Conestoga River.⁹ Mrs. Ann Knight was the proprietress in 1830²⁷ and as late as 1850, it was known as the "**Widow Knight's Tavern**."⁴⁹

The second "**Columbia Garden Tavern**" was a three story brick building located at #624-6 S. Queen St. In 1873 it was run by Gottlieb Wenninger and by Samuel Carmany in 1875.⁴⁰ It was still being used as a tavern in 1900.²⁶

"**The Graeff Tavern**" was built by George Graeff in 1784 on the north side of the Conestoga River and S. Queen St., now known as Engleside. George Guy operated it for a while followed by John Wein. A new building replaced the old one in 1798. In 1807 when the first bridge, a stone arch, was built at this location, the tavern was owned by Abraham Hostetter, or shortly after this. The tavern-keeper was Bernard Bartholomew. The stone arch bridge fell in 1829 and a year later it was replaced with a wooden covered bridge. During this interim, the river was difficult to cross and business suffered at the tavern. On the 1850 Lancaster City map, it was "**C. Nauman's Tavern**". Isaac Simmons was the keeper in 1886 and the name was changed to "**The St. George**".²⁶ In 1890 Fred Engle rebuilt the 2½ story stone building and from then on, it was called

"The Engleside Tavern". John Borger was the proprietor at this time. It is still doing business there.

Prior to 1807, the main crossing of the Conestoga River took place at a ford about 3/8 of a mile up stream from the "Engleside Tavern".³⁷ Swenck's wooden bridge replaced the ford around 1765. On the north side of the river, the road went up a steep hill and continued north for about 1/2 mile, passing slightly east of the present Highland Ave. It joined S. Queen St. at this intersection. This portion of the road was called Mortan Ave. on the Lancaster City maps of 1875 and 1899. Along this road and not far from the river, was **"Kendrick's"** tavern built before the Revolution.¹⁴⁸ The name in later years was believed to be **"The Relay House."** After standing idle for many years, the remaining walls were torn down around 1956.

The story of the taverns in the S. Queen St. area, would not be complete without mentioning **"Reigart's Tavern"**. It stood at the extreme end of Strawberry St. and about 150 feet from the Conestoga River. It was a three story frame building built by Adam Reigart, Jr. around 1850 when the Conestoga Canal terminated at what was then known as Reigart's Landing. It was razed in 1961 to make way for a new road and bridge which now crosses the Conestoga, a beautiful drive to Rock Ford, the home of General Edward Hand.

The following taverns are believed to have been on S. Queen St. but their exact locations could not be determined. A few may be additional names for one or more of those already identified and are not necessarily new taverns.

The **"Sign of the Sorrel Horse"** was on S. Queen St., five blocks from Center Square. It was purchased by John Culbert in 1818.²⁵ This may have been an earlier name for the **"Half-Way House"**. There was a **"Sorrel Horse Tavern"** on W. King St. at this time.

The **"Sign of the Eagle on the Poplar Tree"** was being run by John Culbert in 1830.²⁷ This may be another name for the **"Half-Way House"**.

The **"Sign of the Buck"**. John Shank transferred his license to Henry Phillips in 1810 and Joshua Bowman to Jacob Franciscus in 1815.²⁵ This may have been an earlier name for the **"Franciscus Tavern"** at 343 S. Queen St. The **"Buck Tavern"** on E. King St. closed about this time.

The **"Sign of the Drove of Horses"**. William Russel was the proprietor in 1830.²⁷ This may have been another name for one of the taverns at Howard Ave. and Strawberry Sts.

The **"General Gates Tavern"** was run by Charles Hinkle in 1817 and was said to be a Public House for many years. In this same year it is written that John Engle rented a two story stone house formerly occupied by Charles Hinkle. This may have been another name for the **"Graeff Tavern"** at Engleside.²⁵

Taverns on West King Street

When walking west from Center Square on W. King St. in 1887, we would pass the **"Central Tavern"** at #2, south side. Cuba W. Myers was the proprietor. In 1888 it was the **"Center Square Hotel"** with Cramer and Co. as the operators. No other data was found.²⁶

The **"Cross Keys Tavern"** at 12-14 W. King St. was the second oldest in Lancaster. Samuel Bethel, married to Sarah Blunston, owned the first tavern on this site in 1730. He may have used his name for the tavern for about 11 years because the "Cross Keys" title never came into prominence until 1741 when Peter Worrell took it over. Worrell was the second husband of Mrs. Samuel Bethel, who became a widow in 1740.⁴¹ Just who built the improved second building on this site and when, is not known but it did take place prior to 1757. The "Cross Keys" was a temperance hostelry most of its existence and catered largely to Quakers. It closed in 1888 and the walls of the old tavern were still standing in 1926.⁴¹ Some of the owners were Sam Bethel, George Anderson, Peter Worrell, Hugh Wilson, Sam Atlee, Christopher Brenner and a Mr. Smith.^{42 88}

The **"Prince Ferdinand"**, also known as **"Feltman's Tavern"** was opened by John Feltman about 1780 on W. King St. which later became #35-37, immediately west of the Hager Store. It was operated for awhile by his son William Feltman.⁴³ John Michael was the keeper in 1788⁴⁴ and perhaps continued there until he transferred to "The Grape" on N. Queen St. in 1794.⁵⁰ John Whiteside ran the "Feltman Tavern" from 1805 to 1811 under **"The Sign of the Red Lion"**.⁴⁵ William Cooper was licensed as a tavern keeper in 1808 and perhaps spent some time with Whiteside before he replaced the old building with a new one in 1812.²⁵ John Whiteside moved to the "Fountain Inn" on S. Queen St. in 1811. The new "Red Lion" or the **"Cooper House"** as it was sometimes called, was opened as a stage coach stop by William Cooper and his son Frederick. The Coopers continued to run it until 1838 at which time they rented it to a Mr. Hatz. Jacob Huber was the proprietor in 1843 and Abner Hiestand from 1866 to 1895.²⁶ William J. Cooper son of Frederick, was the owner in 1875 and he sold it to Weise and Smith who took possession in 1883. Many important events, dances, shows, etc. were held in the spacious rooms in this old tavern. It was demolished in 1900 to make way for the **"St. George Hotel"** which three years later became the **"Realty House"** under the management of Oron Brunner. Charles S. Killian was the proprietor in 1907. It was the **"Hotel Majestic"** in 1913, the **"Hotel Imperial"** in 1920 and again the "Hotel St. George" in 1923.²⁶ The "St. George" name was still visible on the west wall when it was razed for the Hager parking lot in 1963.⁴⁶ This brought to end 183 years of a hostelry on this site.

The **"Lamb Tavern"** by today's numbering was at 38-40 W. King St., next door, east of General John Reynold's home and across the



The Sign of the Red Lion

street from the "Red Lion",⁴⁷ it was a stone dwelling built about 1710 and opened as a tavern by Dan Witmer in 1796.⁴⁸ From 1802 to 1806 it was operated as the "Golden Fleece" a variation of the "Lamb", by J. Jefferies.⁴⁹ Dan Witmer took it over again in 1806 and ran it as the "Witmer Tavern" until 1810.⁵⁰ Hugh Wilson bought it 3/31/1810⁵¹ and after putting up a new building, ran it as the "Lamb" for about ten years. William Hambricht followed from 1820 to 1828 and then moved up the street to the "Cross Keys".⁵⁰ John Stehman moved in and operated it as the "Golden Lamb". Ben Witmer was the proprietor in 1830 followed by Peter Reed in 1839. At this time and for many years, it was known as "Peter Reed's Lamb Tavern". This title is used in an advertisement on page 21 of the 1843 Lancaster City Directory and is also used on the Lancaster City map of 1850. Jacob Kauffman followed Reed in 1843 and the name gradually changed back to its best remembered title, "The Sign of the Lamb". The building was taken down in 1869 by H. Z. Rhoads and Bro. for their jewelry store. The clock on the north wall marks this building.^{124, 40} There was another "Lamb" and a "Golden Lamb" tavern at 106-108 S. Queen St. from 1811 to 1888.

The "Sorrel Horse Tavern" was two doors east of Prince St. which later became #49-51 W. King. It was on the north side and dates back to 1775 when Jacob Stoffts owned it. Dr. George Moore took it over about this time and continued to 1796. He was followed by Adam Messenkop in 1797, J. Messenkop, Adam's son, in 1802, John Berg 1830. H. H. Lichte 1850.⁹ J. W. Frantz 1873. Christian

Shenk 1875, George W. Eby 1877, Hunshberger and Denlinger 1879, Frank Slough 1881 and L. Seibert in 1895. This illustrates the many proprietor changes that were necessary in the early days to operate a tavern. Unlike most taverns, the "Sorrel Horse" name was the only one used for 141 years, except for the first few years, when it was known as "**Mr. Stofft's Tavern**". The building was unique also because it was used as a tavern for 165 years with very little alteration. The rear of the building was practically unchanged.⁴¹ In 1916 the tavern became known as "**Clark's Manhattan Hotel**".²⁶ It was demolished in 1940.⁵² Other references for this tavern are, ^{40 33 53}.

There was a "**George Washington**" Hotel on the southeast corner of W. King and Prince Sts. in 1812.¹⁵⁹

The "**Stevens House**" that stood on the southwest corner of W. King and Prince Sts. was one of Lancaster's finest hostelryes. Many prominent persons registered here, especially those who played before the footlights at the Fulton Opera House. It was built in 1874 by a stock company and M. H. Wilson with his son, became its first proprietors. Abraham Hiestand assumed charge in 1879 and continued for many years.⁵⁰ It closed it's doors in the fall of 1963 after a proud history of its past.

"**William F. Eberman**" ran a small tavern at the corner of W. King and Water Sts. in 1843.²⁶ No more information was found.

"**Gross' Tavern**" was on the northwest corner of W. King and Water Sts. in 1798, operated by Henry Gross.¹⁵⁹

The "**Rothweiler Tavern**" at #206-8 W. King St. came into existence about 1885. It was "**Pontz's Hotel**" in 1888 and in 1892, it was known as the "**King Street Railroad House**" with F. E. Shroad as the proprietor.²⁶ The Rothweiler name is best remembered.

The "**King of Prussia**" at #214-6 W. King, south side, was a very old tavern. It was being run by George Fisher and Peter Gonter in 1796,^{31 19} the Rohrrers in 1799, Jacob Steffy 1815, Mrs. Steffy 1830,⁵⁴ F. Hess 1850,⁹ J. A. Scheurenbrand 1873, Mrs. P. Bissinger 1875, William Balz 1877, William Rehm 1887 and Fred Rehm in 1894. The name was changed to the "**Hoffman House**" in 1886. This was still the name in 1903 when Sam Howard was operating it and when it closed in 1920.²⁶ It then became the headquarters for the Water Street Rescue Mission for many years and is now being used as a Mennonite Spanish Church.

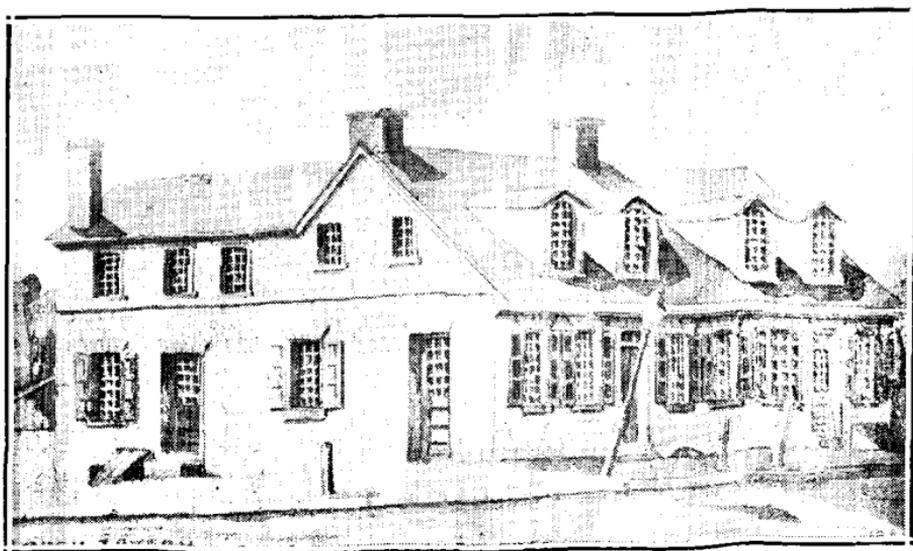
The "**Manor Tavern**" also "**Boley's Hotel**"¹⁵⁹ at #217-9 W. King was across the street from the "King of Prussia". It was built by Jacob Stoffts in 1778 and Frank Fritsch was the keeper.¹⁹ A serious fire destroyed it in 1825 and a second fire in later years, caused considerable damage to the replacement building. It was operated by George Heinlen in 1866, Adam Schuh in 1873, Philopoena Bissinger 1877, John B. Bissinger 1888 and William Wenninger 1894. It became the "**Buckius Hotel**" in 1923 with Harry Buckius as the oper-

ator.²⁶ The building that is still standing, is no doubt the remodeled one that was put up after the first fire in 1825. It went out of business around 1942.

The "Rising Sun Tavern" was west of the "Manor House" and would now be #237 and 239 W. King. This too was a very old tavern and still doing business on the same site but not as a hostelry. Martin Bard was the proprietor in 1799,³¹ John Murry 1830, J. S. Blank 1850,⁹ George Kircher 1875 and H. Rosenfeld in 1873.²⁶ It was known as the "Anchor Hotel" in 1882 and it continued under this title till about 1937. Since then, the name has changed several times.⁴⁰

"Levey's Tavern" was erected in 1746 at 240-242 W. King St., adjacent to Dr. D. R. McCormick's Drug Store. This building was replaced by Mathias Young in 1764 and the only record we have of this second building, is a picture in the John Steinman Album, page 83, which was taken about 1875. The "Levey Tavern" was only in existence a very short time, possibly not after the Revolution. No more information was found.⁵⁵

The "Plow Tavern" on the northeast corner of W. King and Charlotte Sts. was a 1½ story stone building built in 1745 but whether it was used as a tavern at this time, is not known.²⁹ It was built on the James Hamilton lot #471 and later owned by Robert Moore December 28, 1785.⁵⁷ Jacob Ackerman was the owner in 1818 and he rented it to Jonathon Pugh who succeeded Fred Hill.²⁵ It was operated by John Hamilton in 1830,⁵⁴ Mrs. John Bissinger 1873, Simon Snyder 1877, Michael Snyder 1887, George Weber 1894, Fred King 1911 and H. Wilson in 1920.²⁶ It was known as the "Golden Plough" in 1875 but not for long.⁴⁰ Both Washington and Lafayette were en-



The Plow Tavern

terained in this glorious old tavern.⁵⁸ It was razed in 1924 after withstanding the inroads of time with practically no alterations or change in name.

The "**Lechler Tavern**" at #407-9 W. King St., was in later years next door east of the old #1 Fire Engine House. Henry Lechler operated it as early as 1799 and shortly after this he named it "**The Green Tree**".⁵¹ It was known as such throughout its entire existence.⁵⁹ ⁴⁰ George Hitzelberger was the operator in 1830, ⁵⁴ Philip Wall in 1873 and he was followed by John Richie after 1903. It closed in 1921.²⁶

The "**Western Market Hotel**" at #602-6 W. King St. was built in 1881 by Frank A. Rieker. It was operated by P. K. Wolpert in 1890. The name was changed to the "**Rieker Hotel**" in 1917 and it is now doing business under the name "**Kirchner's Hotel**".²⁸

We found one record of "**Brenner's Tavern**" at Abbeville in 1791. It was originally the farm home of Christopher Brenner which stood on the southeast corner of the present Abbeville Road and Columbia Ave.¹³⁹ Washington mounted a saddle horse here and rode into Lancaster beside General Edward Hand on July 3, 1791.⁶⁰

The following taverns were believed to be on W. King St. but their exact locations could not be found.

"**Stag Tavern**". Ben Briceland was the proprietor in 1818-1830. The record seems to indicate that it was near Water St.⁵⁴

"**Farmer's Tavern**". Christian Swentzel was the operator in 1830. This tavern may have been near Mulberry St.⁵⁴

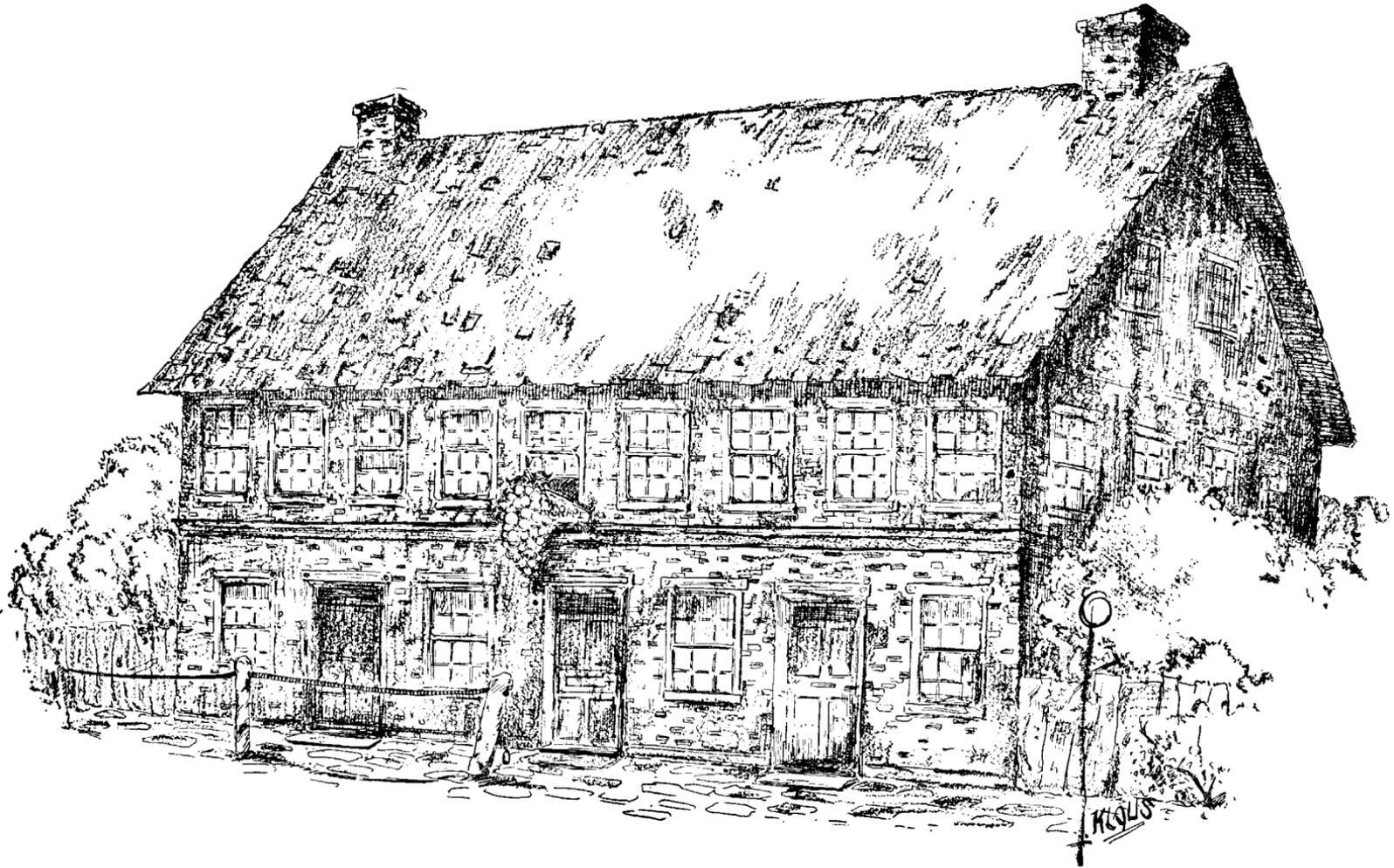
A "**Wagon Tavern**" was on W. King St. in 1828 and was operated by John Rupley and later by George Morry.¹⁵⁹

Taverns on North Queen Street

North Queen St. was a busy thoroughfare around the time of the two wars with England, just as it is today. Naturally, there were many taverns on this street. The first one that we would pass while walking north from Center Square in 1799, would be the "**Pennsylvania State Arms**" on the east side. The Lancaster Journal of 5/14/1806 and again in 11/4/1808, describes the location as being in Queen St., a few doors north of the Court House. The Ellis and Evans History of Lancaster County, page 399, reports it to be opposite "John Michael's," ("Grape Tavern") in 1799. On the Lancaster City

Map of 1850, "**J. Bear**", (No Sign) was running a tavern on the east side midway between Center Square and Grant St. This same site is pinpointed at #23-25 N. Queen in the Lancaster City Directory of 1881 when "**George H. Miller**" (No Sign) was operating a tavern there. This is believed to be the original site of the "Pennsylvania State Arms" in earlier years. It appears that John Hatz was the first proprietor from 1799 to 1801. He was followed by John Whiteside from 1801 to 1805³¹ and sometime during this period, he changed the name to "**The Red Lion**" or "**Lion**".⁶³ John Stahl was an early proprietor. Whiteside transferred to the "Feltman Tavern" on W. King St. in 1805 and he took with him the "Red Lion" sign. Gus Stoy took over the old N. Queen St. "Red Lion" and apparently changed the name back to the "Pennsylvania State Arms", a very pretentious name for a tavern at that time.⁶⁴ Stoy continued till 1809 when Tom Wentz of the "Rainbow Tavern" took over and ran it till 1813.⁶⁵ Ed. Parker followed and from here on, until the J. Bear and George H. Miller records described above, no data was found. It could be, the "Pennsylvania State Arms" closed and no tavern was operated here until J. Bear opened his tavern shortly before 1850. The "George Miller Tavern" did not continue very long after 1881.

One of the most prominent hostelries on N. Queen St. and one of the oldest in Lancaster, was the "**Grape Tavern**." In later years the address was #32-34 N. Queen St., west side. John Harris obtained a license to open a tavern here in 1741. He didn't do too well because the tavern was sold at sheriff's sale to Adam Reigart in 1769.⁶¹ Adam continued it as the "Grape" and soon after he took charge, he had a local blacksmith hammer out of wrought iron, an immense representation of a bunch of grapes which was hung above his front entrance on a ponderous ornamental iron bracket, projecting from the front of the building.⁷⁷ Adam Reigart continued until 3/3/1794 when John Michael took possession. John Bausman became the clerk in 1799 and continued in this capacity for many years.³¹ In 1805 the name was changed to the "**Conestoga Waggon**"^{62, 111} and when John Michael, Jr. took charge 5/5/1821, he renamed it the "Grape". Following the custom of long time proprietors, this tavern became known also as the "**John Michael's**", the "**John Bausman's**" and "**Reigart's**" over the years. In 1839 John Michaels, Jr. bought the lot adjoining on the north and enlarged the "Grape Tavern". During his long reign from 1830 to 1880 the tavern also acquired the title "**Michael's House**".⁵⁴ Apparently some effort was made to call this tavern the "**Waggon and Horses**" around 1830 but without success.⁵⁴ Other proprietors were Christian Smith 1817, Silas Danner 1843,²⁵ Silas Wright 1877, Henry Rahter 1883 and David Mingle 1887.²⁶ The name of the tavern was finally changed to the "**American House**" in 1892 with John Britton as the keeper. John Ridenour ran it in 1898. When the doors were closed in 1912 it brought to an end the familiar scene of the many armchairs that stood along the sidewalk during the warm summer months and occupied by men, 'to watch the girls go by.' I believe a portion of the walls are still standing but unfortunately the 'Glory' of this old historic tavern can never be revived.⁴¹



The Sign of Grape Tavern

A "**Veteran's Tavern**" is reported to have been in the former home of Dr. Dufresne, on the east side of N. Queen St. and south of Orange.¹¹⁷ The Dufresne estate on the Lancaster City map of 1850, was opposite the "**Black Bear Tavern**". The Lancaster City Directory of 1888 describes the "**Veteran's Tavern**" as being at #39-41 N. Queen St. This was the site of the Farmers' Bank before moving to Duke and E. King Sts. in 1810 and after the tavern closed in 1890, it became the site of the Lancaster New Era Printing Co. Just when the tavern opened its doors is not known, possibly between 1860 and 1870. George Schmid was the proprietor in 1886 and William Snyder in 1890 when it closed.²⁶ Snyder took over the "**Commercial Hotel**" at #111-113 N. Queen two years later.

The "**Black Horse Tavern**" and sometimes just "**The Horse**" was at 44-46 N. Queen St., now the site of Reilly Bros. & Raub store. Henry Bostler bought Hamilton lot #169 in 1736 and is believed to have built a tavern on it shortly afterwards. It may be, this tavern is much older because when it was torn down in 1883, one of the foundation stones was marked 1717.⁶⁶ Subsequent owners or part owners after Bostler were Conrad Schwartz 1742, Lodowick Stone 1747, Frederick Frick 1778, Adam Weaver 1779, George Weaver 1810, John Bachman 1814, Abraham Ditlow 1839 and John Kauffman from 1839 to 1844. His widow ran the tavern and sold it in 1852 to A. Hostetter. He enlarged it after a bad stable fire in 1858.³³ We found one record which said that it was Lodowick Stone who opened the "**Black Horse**" tavern in 1765.⁴⁸ We are therefore not certain how old this tavern is but it is one of Lancaster's oldest. During the period the Weavers operated the "**Black Horse**," it was known as "**Weaver's Tavern**". On the 1850 City map, it is shown as "**J. Kauffman's**" **Tavern**. John Sheaffer bought it around 1860 and then leased it to George Horting from 1860 to 1867. H. S. Kauffman ran it from 1871 to 1877 and changed the name to the "**Black Horse and Corn Exchange**".²⁶ John Slough and his sons Frank and John Jr. became the last proprietors in 1877. John Sr. died a few years later, Frank moved to the "**Sorrel Horse**" on W. King St. in 1881 and John Jr. carried on alone until it closed in 1883. The building was razed to make way for the four story A. C. Kepler building which enclosed the Reilly Bros. & Raub hardware business from 1884 until it was destroyed by one of Lancaster's worst fires in 1910. This tavern had many names but "**Black Horse**" is best remembered. It was used on the City map of 1875 and in the City Directories at the time it closed.

North of the "**Black Horse**" tavern and in the same square of N. Queen St., same side, we found several small taverns, the exact location of which are still in doubt. These are as follows:

The "**General Wayne**" was said to be a good tavern on the west side of N. Queen St. between King and Orange Sts. John Riddle was the proprietor in 1804 and John Miller before this.³¹ It is believed to be the forerunner of the "**Plough and Wheat-Sheaf**".

The "**Plough and Wheat-Sheaf**" tavern and often abbreviated to "**The Plough**", was said to be two doors north of the "Black Horse" in 1807.⁵⁰ This would place it at #54-56 N. Queen St. Peter Gonter was the operator in 1803.¹⁵⁹ Jonathan Hinkle and Samuel Carpenter were the owners in 1809 and they transferred their license to George Hambright in 1813.²⁵ Sometime before 1830 the name was changed to the "**Steamboat**" with Sam Ringwalt at the helm.⁵⁴ George Danner was running it in 1843,²⁶ and Amos Lee conducted the restaurant.⁵⁴ The "**Steamboat**" was scuttled in 1856 and the name changed to the "**National House**."¹⁹ It was still the "**National House**" when it closed around 1909. The James Miller Drug store then took over part of this site.²⁶

There was a "**Lancaster Tavern**" on the southwest corner of N. Queen and Orange Sts. in 1815, operated by Dan Witmer. It was reported to be a few doors from the tavern once occupied by George Hambright and others.²⁵ George Hambright at this time was the proprietor of the "Plough and Wheat-Sheaf" at 54-56 N. Queen. No other information was found.¹⁹

Moving into the second square of N. Queen St., we first come to the "**Eagle Tavern**" on the northwest corner of Queen and Orange. The stables were adjacent to Reitzel's Hall along W. Orange and near Market St. The tavern was built in 1757 by John Greff Catharina, Mar Greffin.⁶⁷ There were many landlords before Emanuel Shober took it over, which was around 1828. He improved it and changed the name to "**Shober's Columbia Hotel**" but more frequently it was referred to as "**Shober's Eagle Hotel**", from the old name.⁶⁸ He did not purchase it until 1850.⁶¹ George Danner was the keeper in 1830, Philip Reitzel in 1839, Graybill Diller 1843 and Emanuel von Causan in 1848. Mrs. Catherine Shober became the owner and operator in 1877 after the death of her husband. Winfield S. Weaver became the last owner in 1883. It was demolished in 1899 to make way for the Young Men's Christian Association which stood on this corner for 68 years. There were four other "Eagle Hotels" in Lancaster, one at N. Prince and Walnut in 1803, one at N. Queen and Chestnut in 1875, one at E. King and Lime, also in 1875,²⁶ ⁴⁰ and another at Walnut and Water.

The "**Commercial Hotel**" at #111-115 N. Queen St. was being managed by William Snyder in 1888.²⁶ The name was changed to the "**Snyder Hotel**" in 1899 when it was being run by John A. Snyder and his son. This site was later taken over by the Pfaeffle Cafe and still later, the Rustic Lunch was here.

The "**Franklin House**" at 120-122 N. Queen St., west side, was a very prominent hostelry for more than 150 years and well remembered by the arched driveway, which led from N. Queen St. to the stable yard in the rear. It was opened for business in 1790, or before, as the "**Dr. Franklin**", named for a guest at the time.³¹ John Hatz, Jr. bought it in 1800 and was still the owner at the time of his death in 1845. He willed it to his son John 2nd, and after him, Sam-

uel Hatz a grandson acquired it. These two offspring of John Jr. never became innkeepers but they did lease the hotel to others. Samuel died in 1886 and Harriet, his widow, sold it to Peter Ammon in 1894, after it had remained in the Hatz family for about 92 years.⁷¹ Ammon replaced the old 3½ story, 60 roomed building, erected in 1813, after the fire of 3/1/1811.⁶⁹ In the Lancaster Journal of 6/5/1807, it was advertised as "**Dunn's Hotel**" formerly the residence of Dr. Franklin. It was the "**Thomas Wentz**" hotel in 1813 and very often during this period, it was referred to as the "**John Hatz**".⁷⁰ On the Lancaster City map of 1850, it was "**E. Van Kanan's Franklin House**."⁸⁵ All these names were short lived but the "Franklin House" name persisted. The "**Pennsylvania**" title came into being about 1920 and was still used when the building was demolished by the Lancaster Redevelopment Authorities in 1967. Other proprietors and landlords were George Koenig 1811, Thomas Wentz 1813, Nathan Schofield 1843, Jacob Sener, Emanuel Van Kauffman (Kanan) 1850, Reuben Weidler, Ben Kauffman 1856, George Schott 1875, Adam Rothermal 1912, William Ziegler 1916 and Harry Schlotthauer in 1919.²⁶ Like many of the better hostelries, the "Franklin House" was heated with Franklin wood stoves until 1847 when coal came into use. It was first lighted with candles, followed by oil and then gas after 1840. The sign of Dr. Franklin which hung over its entrance for many years, was restored in 1910 and then hung inside on the south wall of the parlor, where it was viewed by those who entered.⁷¹ The "Franklin House" had more than its share of stable fires, which were very common, one in 1888, one in 1909 and another in 1915. Many horse auctions were held in these stables.

The "**Copeland Hotel**" was operated by John Copeland at 125-127 N. Queen St. from 1873 to 1888. It later became the "**Ashland House**" with Mr. Shober as the proprietor in 1894 and Charles Hoster in 1899.²⁶

The "**White Horse Inn**" and sometimes called the "**Horse**" in 1843, was a few doors from the railroad and on the east side of N. Queen St.^{26 119 151} H. Michael McGrann was the first proprietor and he continued for many years. Some time before 1850, he moved his "White Horse" sign across the street to #148. The name on the 1850 City map was "McGrann's White Horse Inn" and in the 1866 City directory it was the "**McGrann's House**". Mr. McGrann was also operating the "Fairmont Inn" at the corner of E. King and Plum Sts. at this time. William Batz took over the "White Horse" in 1888 and ran it till 1902. William T. Wenninger moved in and ran it until it closed in 1919.²⁶

The "**Tremont House**" was across the street from the "White Horse" at 157-159 N. Queen and was managed by Peter Scheid in 1870, Emil Beck 1873, Arnold Haas 1874, Fred Woehrle 1887 and John V. Bruder in 1888. John B. Bissinger ran a saloon here from 1894 to 1903 and so did W. F. Troast after this. In later years it became the Pittsburgh Restaurant. This building was demolished in 1940.²⁶

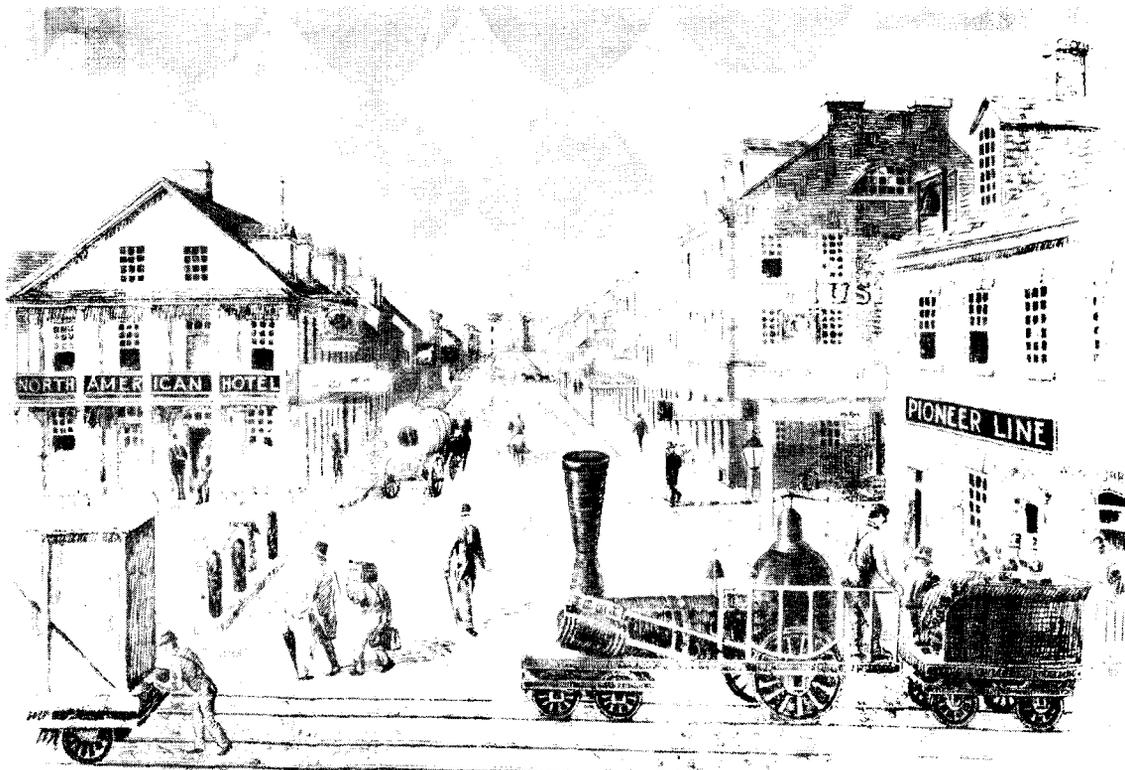
The "**Hubley City Hotel**" was at 162-164 N. Queen St. and is believed to have been there as early as 1827.⁷² Mr. and Mrs. E. Reese were the operators between 1863 and 1873 and at this time it was called the "**City Hotel**".⁷³ We were not able to learn which Hubley opened this hotel, nor exactly when. J. W. Frantz was running it in 1877, H. W. Power 1879-1883, Ridenuer and Schaum 1887-1894 and Harvey R. Cummings in 1897. The "**City Hotel**" name was used until the "**Wheatland**" replaced it in 1901. The "**Milner**" name came into use about 1939 and the "**Earl**" around 1950. The building was razed in 1966 for downtown redevelopment.²⁶

The "**Rohrer House**" was a four story brick building on the southwest corner of N. Queen and Chestnut Sts. with its entrance at #6 W. Chestnut St. This was preceded by the "**Crawford Inn**" as early as 1761.¹⁵⁹ It belonged to Christian Rohrer in 1808⁵⁰ and John A Rohrer about 1870. It was still the "**Rohrer House**" in 1886 and shortly after this it became the "**Aurora House**".^{40 26} It was operated by Mrs. M. L. Dellinger in 1894.⁷⁴ In 1879, Frank Woolworth opened his first 5 and 10 cent store in the front portion of this building.⁷⁵

There were several important hotels on the southeast corner of N. Queen and Chestnut Sts. which later became the site of the Brunswick. The first was a 2½ story stone building which was put up by George Hofnagle shortly before 1777. He named it the "**Hofnagle Hotel**".⁹⁵ In 1830, it became known as the "**Sheaf of Wheat**" with Michael Metzger as the proprietor.⁵⁴ The next change in management came in 1834 when Joseph Howitt took it over and then changed the name to the "**North American**".⁵⁰ Elizabeth Peterman was the manager in 1843 and David Lechler in 1848.²⁶ Shortly after this, the name was changed to the "**American Hotel**".⁹ In 1860, Jay Cadwell replaced the old 2½ story stone building with a modern 3 story brick and changed the name to the "**Cadwell House**". H. L. Barrett, the last proprietor of the "**American**", became the first proprietor of the new hotel. Two years later, Cadwell sold it to Hon. Isaac E. Hiester who managed it until his death in 1871. The name was changed at this time to the "**Hiester House**" and H. L. Barrett was still the proprietor.⁹⁵ Mrs. Lily Eshleman Bates, the new owner, changed the name to the "**Imperial Hotel**" in 1895 and it continued under this name until the "**Brunswick**" replaced it with a new building in 1914.³⁵ This hotel continued to be one of Lancaster's finest until the Redevelopment Authorities knocked it down in 1966 to make way for the "**Hilton Inn**", which is now completed.

The "**Globe Hotel**" on the northwest corner of N. Queen and Chestnut Sts. may date back to 1740.⁷⁹ Since very little is known about the early life of this hotel, there is some question whether it did open much before 1800. It was supposed to have had a very checkered career under the management of numerous proprietors before it was acquired by Jacob Hartman in 1829. In 1834, the first railroad came into Lancaster and in the absence of a station, the "**Globe Hotel**" became the baggage room and ticket office for several

years. William C. Hull was the proprietor at the time.⁵⁰ Owen Hobbble ran it in 1843 and John Sides in 1868.²⁶ On the Lancaster City map of 1875, the name of the hotel had been changed to the "Eagle". Joseph Roop was the manager in 1877, Jacob Cramer in 1879 and Louis H. Pfaeffle in 1894. The name was changed to the "Pennsylvania House" in 1898 and it continued under this title until Michael Burns, the owner, retired in 1911. J. B. Bissinger then took over and he called it the "Hotel Bissinger" which is best remembered by many Lancastrians living today. Roy Axer ran it for about two years before it closed its doors in 1929. This building was unique because very few changes were made throughout its long career as a hotel. It is a shame that this 1½ story old stone building is not there today.²⁶



North Queen and Chestnut Streets about 1835. On the southeast corner is the "North American Hotel". Down the street on the east side can be seen the "Sign of the White Horse." Across the street, the "Franklin House." On the southwest corner was the "Rohrer House". The building with the "Pioneer Line" also housed the "Globe Hotel," showing Owen Hobbble name sign.

The **"Fulton House"** was about two doors north of the railroad tracks and on the west side of N. Queen St.⁹ In the 1866 Lancaster City Directory the address given by the old numbering system was #85 N. Queen St., which also places it immediately north of the railroad tracks. William Marquard was the operator in 1863 and Henry Shenk in 1868.²⁶ It appears that this hotel did not operate more than about 20 years.

The **"Buchanan Hotel"** occupied the same site as the "Fulton Hotel" but many years later. The address is now #206-208 N. Queen. It is a comparatively new hotel, having been built around 1924. The name was changed to the **"Corine"** in 1937 and it continued under this name for about ten years when it went back to the old name "Buchanan". It is still doing business under this name.²⁶

"Joseph Kautz" ran a small hotel and restaurant on the north-east corner of N. Queen and Fulton Sts., next to the Pennsylvania Railroad Station in 1888. It changed hands several times and finally went out of business about 1959.²⁶ It is well remembered by its sign which implied: 'if you want to get fat, eat here'.

The **"Schiller House"** opened at 231-233 N. Queen St. in 1877 and was a part of the Lebzelter estate for many years.¹⁵² It is not mentioned in the Ellis and Evans history of Lancaster County printed in 1883, apparently it was wearing its swaddling clothes at that time. J. C. Hall was running it in 1884 and is believed to be the first proprietor.²⁶ It was torn down in 1969, and the ornate facade was purchased by Simon Mohr.

The **"Girard House"** was across the street from the "Schiller House" at #236-238 N. Queen in 1883 and was being operated by Charles Zech.⁸¹ Samuel Rudy ran it from 1886 to 1888 and this is the last record found. It is believed to have closed right after this.²⁶

The **"Keystone House"** at #240-242 N. Queen St. dates back before 1865. Uriah Bitzer operated it in 1873, H. A. Horting 1875, Ream & Groff also in 1875, Samuel Groff 1877, Peter Ammon 1883 and Michael Burns in 1894.²⁶ This hostelry was the headquarters for many real estate sales, especially those that were put up for Public Auction. At the time it went out of business in 1932 it was called the **"New Keystone Hotel"**.

The **"Great Western Hotel"** was on the southwest corner of N. Queen and Walnut Sts. in 1850.⁹ It was operating in 1866 but not long after this.²⁶

The **"Farmers Hotel"** at 317 N. Queen, east side, was managed by Jacob Kauffman in 1843. It was doing business at this same location in 1906. It closed shortly after this.²⁶

The **"Northern Market Hotel"** was at #328-330 N. Queen, west side, in 1882. Arnold Haas was the proprietor in 1890 and John Borger from 1907 to 1920. It closed shortly after this.²⁶

The **"General Washington"** hotel was on the corner of N. Queen and Walnut Sts. according to the 1843 City directory pages 21 and 33 with W. C. Hull as the manager. In 1850 the **"Great Western"** was on the southwestern corner and it is believed the **"General Washington"** preoccupied this same site.⁹ In this same year, a **"Washington"** hotel was on the west side of N. Queen St. a few doors north of Walnut. In 1887, a **"Washington House"** was at #342-344 N. Queen with John B. Kepperling in charge. Henry Kieffer was operating it in 1892 and it closed soon after this.²⁶ The slight difference in the names of this hotel may be significant, or may be errors in recording them. The building with its open driveway is still standing.

Jacob Sherer ran a hotel at the corner of N. Queen and Lemon Sts. (no sign) in 1830.⁵⁴ It was **"Glassbrenner's Hotel"** in 1948 and now the **"Harmony Inn"**.²⁸

There was a **"North Pole Hotel"** at 654 N. Queen in 1886 with Harry Fisher as the innkeeper. In 1894 or slightly before, they moved to better and larger quarters at 716-718 N. Queen with William Kurtz as the manager. It is still doing business at this location.²⁶

The following taverns are believed to have been on N. Queen St. but their exact locations could not be confirmed.

"William Russel Hotel" is reported to have been on the east side of N. Queen, near the north end in 1816.²⁵ This may have been an earlier name for the **"North Pole"** hotel.

The **"Thomas Jefferson Hotel"** was supposed to be in the second square of N. Queen St., east side, in 1843 and was run by Frederick Dern. It is also rated as being one of Lancaster's principal hotels at that time.²⁶

The **"Turtle Tavern"** was on N. Queen St. in 1799 and operated by Joe Weaver³¹

There was a **"King Ferdinand Tavern"** on N. Queen St. in 1810 and being run by Michael Kellahan. He transferred his license to Thomas Vogan at this time.²⁵ There was a **"Prince Ferdinand"** on W. King and another on S. Queen but we were unable to find a **"King Ferdinand"** in Lancaster.

"Smith's Tavern". In the 1817 license petition file, we found that Christian Smith rented a public house owned by John Michael. Smith may have been another proprietor of the **"Grape Hotel"**.

"Gonter's Tavern" in 1799 was operated by Peter and John Gonter.⁸⁴ According to the 1790 census order of names, this tavern was in the first square of N. Queen, west side and near Orange St. This was no doubt the **"Plough and Wheat Sheaf."**¹⁵⁹

There was a **"Rainbow Tavern"** in Adamstown in 1799 which was then a part of Lancaster. It was either on Middle (Howard Ave.) or Church St. John Wentz who ran this tavern, transferred to the

house of Gerhard Bubach in N. Queen St. and ran a tavern there using the same sign.³¹ There are several references to a "Rainbow Tavern" on N. Queen St. in the Lancaster Journal of 5/5/1809 and again 1/6/1815 but the exact location could not be traced.

Taverns on East King Street

The first east-west road through Lancaster was on High St., later known as King St. Many taverns were on this street to care for the travelling public and one of these it may be said, was at the center of Lancaster's beginning. It is unfortunate that the main road, also known as the King's Highway, did not pass through Lancaster in the vicinity of Lemon St., a fairly level area. If this had been done, Center Square would have developed at the N. Queen and Lemon Street crossing, or close by, and from here a fine business section would have grown on streets with little or no grades. This would have eliminated all the steep hills on King Street and the one immediately south of the present Center Square. No one was thinking of downtown development at that time.

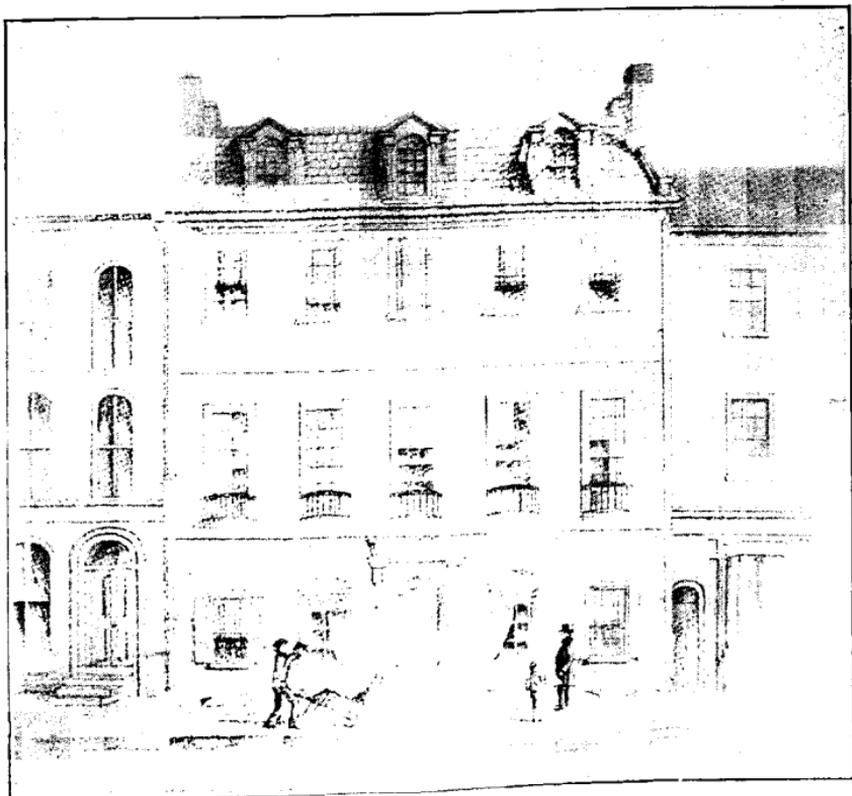
The first and oldest public house in Lancaster was "Gibson's Hickory Tree Tavern" which stood on the north side of E. King



An artist's conception of Gibson's Hickory Tree Tavern. The artist is Charles X. Carlson and taken from his book "Old Lancaster" with text by Frederic S. Klein. Reprinted by permission.

St. near Christian. Using the current address system, it was at #15, now occupied by McCrory's store.⁵⁶ This tavern dates back to 1722 and possibly before this.⁴² Unfortunately very little is known about it except that it did have a good spring and a large hickory tree shading its front door. It was from this tavern hickory tree setting that Lancaster derived its first name, Hickorytown. George Gibson, a squatter, was the owner and operator of the tavern until about 1729. He never applied for a license after this. He did own Hamilton lots #119 and #120 on the northwest corner of E. King and Christian Sts. in 1742 and it is believed he bought them because his tavern was already there.⁸⁷ It is not known who ran the tavern after 1729, or how long it was operated, but it is believed that Gibson leased it for many years. An invoice to Edward Shippen for dinners, dated 24 August 1753 and receipted by George Gibson, was found recently at the Lancaster County Historical Society. This indicates that "Gibson's Tavern" was still operating as late as 1753 and that Gibson was still involved. The site was later occupied by the "Slaymaker Tavern", Ben Champany's residence, High and Martin Crockery Store, First National Bank and Bursk's Grocery store.

The "Slaymaker Spread Eagle Tavern" was reported to be two doors from Center Square, on the north side of E. King St. in 1799.^{31 84} It was farther east than two doors imply today because in



Slaymaker Spread Eag'e Tavern

1801, this tavern was known as the "**Pennsylvania Arms**" and was immediately west of the Bursk property.⁸⁸ This would place it at #13-15 E. King.⁸⁹ Apparently a building was on this site when Henry Slaymaker acquired it in 1799 for use as a tavern and stage coach stop. The records indicate that Henry was the first landlord followed by his brother Samuel in 1815 who was still the owner in 1825 when Lafayette was entertained there. Jasper Slaymaker, son of Henry, was the legal adviser during part of this period. A few of the proprietors were John Hartz and Jacob Hubert in 1799,³¹ George Hambright in 1810, William Atlee in 1813, John Grey in 1818,²⁵ John Graeff in 1828 and Edward Parker in 1830.⁵⁴ The latter changed the name to the "**Golden Eagle**" and is believed to be the name at the time it closed in 1835. The building was then converted to other uses. The best remembered name for this old tavern and stage house was "**Slaymakers**". The "**Pennsylvania Arms**" and the "**State Arms**", as it was sometimes called, were confused with the "**Pennsylvania State Arms**" which was around the corner on N. Queen St. The "**Spread Eagle**" and "**Golden Eagle**" titles were short lived.

The "**Black Bear Tavern**" or more frequently called the "**Bear**", was on the south side of E. King St., first square, just east of the Court House in Center Square at the time. It was operated by Philip Messenkop in 1799 and by George Messenkop in 1830.⁵⁴ On the Lancaster City map of 1850, it is shown as "**Messenkop's Tavern**" at approximately 12-14 E. King. In the 1873 City Directory we find that J. S. Miller was managing the "**Miller House**" at 12-14 E. King, which is believed to be the correct address for the "**Bear Tavern**" earlier. No tavern was found on this site after 1873.²⁶ There was a "**Black Bear**" tavern in Market Square and another on Middle St. (Howard Ave.). Their business lives overlapped for short periods.

One of the earliest taverns in Lancaster was the "**Bull**", "**Red Bull**" or later known as the "**Bull's Head**". It was on the southeast corner of E. King and Christian Sts. and operated by Catherine Eicholtz in 1765. Her son Leonard took charge in 1771 and continued until his demise in 1817. He was succeeded by Leonard, Jr., who transferred from the tavern at S. Queen and Vine, which later became the "**Swan**". He carried on until his death in 1828. His widow Charlotte continued to be the hostess until her son Henry replaced her in 1834.³³ The Eicholtz reign ended as landlords of the "**Bull's Head**" in 1840 when a Mr. Rohrer started operating it as the "**Jefferson House**".⁴⁸ Christian Shertz succeeded him in 1843 and the name was changed to "**Shertz's Tavern**".⁹¹ It was torn down in 1850 and replaced with a modern building which became known as the "**Exchange Hotel**", with its entrance at #9-11 S. Christian St.⁹ This new hotel was run by C. F. Myers for many years and during this period, it was often referred to as the "**Myers Hotel**". Solomon Sprecher was the proprietor at the close of the Civil War.¹⁵³ The "**Exchange Hotel**", the best remembered name by many living today, was abandoned as a hostelry around 1926.²⁶

The "Buck" or the "Hager Tavern" as it was also known, was on the northeast corner of E. King and Christian Sts. Stophel (Christopher) Hager lived here as early as 1778 and operated a tavern from 1782 to 1807 at this same location.⁹² It is believed that the tavern and the Hager home were one and the same building. Daniel Herr followed Hager according to an advertisement in the Lancaster Journal under date of 11/13/1807, which reads as follows; "Daniel Herr took over the "Sign of the Buck" in E. King St., opposite the "Leonard Eicholtz", from Christian Hager 10/30/1807. Philip Eberman followed Herr in 1810 and is believed to have been the innkeeper in 1816 when it closed. Mr. Hager sold this property to Robert Coleman 6/18/1807 who apparently leased it after this.¹²⁰ Sometime after 1816 and the time he wrote his will 3/8/1822, Coleman replaced the Hager home and tavern with two houses. He devised the westernmost portion of these houses to his three sons which later is believed to have been the home of James Buchanan for fifteen years, before he moved to Wheatland in 1848 or 1849.¹²⁹

Robert Coleman bought another property about 100 feet east of the Hager property 2/1/1803. It consisted of a fine dwelling which he and his family occupied when they moved from Elizabeth Furnace in 1809. This property is now the site of the Garvin Store, less a small portion which was sold to the County of Lancaster and is now included in the land upon which the Court House stands. It was in this dwelling that Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coleman lived and died and not in the Hager home as is sometimes believed.¹²³ ¹⁰ The following is an abstract of a letter written by Judge Charles Landis to Francis Rawle April 29, 1926. It was found in the files at Elizabeth Furnace.

"The record discloses that, on February 1st, 1803, Michael Rine High Sheriff, in consideration of £3600, deeded to Robert Coleman a three story brick messuage or tenement and lot of ground, containing in front on King St. 42 feet 8¼ inches and in depth to a 14 foot alley, 252 feet. This property was subsequently sold by Lewis Hurford, surviving executor of William Coleman, and George W. Aspenwall and Isaac Hazelhurst, executors of Edward Coleman, to John Reynolds. A portion of it was subsequently sold to the County of Lancaster and is included in the land upon which the Court House stands. The balance on which was the dwelling house, adjoins on the west of the Court House property, and it has fallen from its high estate to that of a department store, owned by a man of the name of Garvin. Robert Coleman lived and died in this house, and his widow lived in it until her death.¹²¹ It was conveyed, as I have stated, on September 16th, to Reynolds.

"Robert Coleman also bought from Christopher Hager and wife, on January 18, 1807,¹²² a lot of ground containing on King St. 60 feet and extending in depth 252 feet. This lot lies about 100 feet west of the other Coleman property and on it I am told, he erected two houses. At his death, he gave the westernmost of the two houses to

his three sons and subsequently it became the property of James Buchanan, who resided here until he purchased Wheatland about 1833, I think.¹²⁵ The other house he gave to his daughter Sarah Hand Coleman and he states in his will that the property was in the tenancy of Judge Walter Franklin. The Judge's son, Thomas E. Franklin, subsequently purchased it and resided there for some years, and it is now owned by the Lancaster County Bank".

The first paragraph of Judge Landis's letter, pertains to the Coleman property on which the Garvin's Store now stands. It was immediately west of the John Hopkin's mansion, which then occupied the site of the Lancaster County Court House. The latter was not built until 1852. The second paragraph refers to the "Hager Buck Tavern" property on the northeast corner of E. King and Christian Sts. and it is implied, that the two Coleman houses replaced the Hager home and "Buck" tavern. James Buchanan bought and occupied (1833-1848) one of these, before moving to Wheatland.

There was a "Buck Tavern" in the second square of E. King St. in 1765 but only for a few years. This later became the "Leopard".

The "General Washington Tavern" in 1797 was two doors west of Duke St. and on the south side of E. King.⁷⁸ It was not numbered then but in later years, it became #46-48. William Ferree was the proprietor. In 1813 it was rebuilt and the name changed to "Dave Miller's Hotel". The following year, the Farmer's Bank moved from #41 N. Queen to the southwest corner of King and Duke, next door east of the hotel. Dave Miller was the landlord of this famous stage house for many years. Sam Diller was operating it in 1818.²⁵ It was abandoned as a hostelry about 1840 and the site was taken over by the Lancaster County Farmer's Bank.

We found one record which said that a "General Washington Tavern" was doing business on the northwest corner of E. King and Duke Sts. in 1738 now the site of the Lancaster County Court House. John Jordan was the proprietor and owner.^{94, 159} Nine years later it opened on the south side of the street.

When walking north on nine foot wide Court Ave., which is between Garvin's Store and the Lancaster County Court House, we would come to a Victorian type building on the southwest corner of E. Grant St. In 1875, this was the site of the "Court Ave. Hotel" and the address was #8-11 Court Ave. At this time, it was operated by George Miller. Harry Copeland followed in 1877, J. W. Stauffer in 1887 and Charles Wagner in 1890. The name was changed to "Wagner's Cafe" and today is remembered more affectionately as "Charley Wagner's".¹⁰ The building is now being used by Garvin's as a warehouse.²⁶

A short distance east of "Charley Wagner's", was the "Sprecher Hotel" on the southeast corner of Duke and Grant Sts. in 1863. Amos Lee's saloon and restaurant was here and may have been operated as a concession in the "Sprecher Hotel". Around the turn of the cen-

tury, the name was changed to the "Hotel Royal" and about 1921, it became the "Burton Hotel".²⁶ Most of the walls of this building are still in use, including an open archway, which was used jointly with the "Leopard Hotel" around the corner on E. King St.

John Eppeley is believed to have conducted a tavern on the southeast corner of Duke and E. King Sts. from 1761 until and after the Revolutionary War.¹⁵⁸ The name used may have been **Eppeley's Tavern**.¹⁵⁹

The "Leopard Hotel" at #105-107 E. King St., is another old Lancaster hostelry and well remembered as a stage house. I can still remember the stage coach that tied-up in front of this hotel, as late as 1909. It ran to Intercourse, leaving at 3:00 in the afternoon and returning at 9:30 the next morning.²⁶ This was the only means of public transportation to that area at the time. The hotel was built in 1765 by John Michael Diffenderfer and opened as the "Buck Tavern". The name was soon changed to the "Leopard" which stuck for more than 135 years.³ His son Philip ran it from 1789 to 1805 and then sold it to Jacob Duchman. Jacob continued as the innkeeper until his son assumed charge in 1839, followed by Gen. Witmer in 1843. From here on till Samuel R. Weber bought it in 1903, there were 16 proprietors. Sam Weber rebuilt the hotel and a few years later, changed the name to the "Weber Hotel". The name was again changed in 1932 to the "King Douglas".²⁶ This hotel is still operating which continues a span of more than 200 years of a hostelry on this same site.^{23 33}

The "Lancaster County House" was a few doors east of the "Leopard" in 1754. The numbering in later years was #117-119 E. King. It was operated by William Bausman nine years before the "Leopard" opened. Mr. Bausman, a very prominent man about Lancaster, died in 1784 and his son John took charge.⁶¹ After operating it himself for 28 years, he sold it to James Buchanan in 1812, who continued to be the owner until 1868, the year he died. Mr. Buchanan leased it to many operators but only a few will be mentioned. Daniel Witmer, who seldom stayed long at any place, took it over in 1813 and changed the name to the "Golden Swan".^{96 25} Jacob Rathon kept it from 1818 to 1830 and changed the name to the "Farmer's Hotel".^{19 27} Levi Swope (Swobe) assumed proprietorship in 1840 and is responsible for the "Pennsylvania Farmer" name. It was also known as "Levi Swope's Hotel".⁹¹ He may have been prompted to make this change, knowing that there was a "Farmer's Hotel" at 317 N. Queen St. A Daniel Swobe was also involved in the "Pennsylvania Farmer Hotel" at this time but how he was related to Levi and what his duties were, we do not know. D. Espenshade was the operator in 1850 because his name appears on the Lancaster City map. Levi Swope continued to manage the hotel until his death in 1868, the same year that James Buchanan the owner died. Joseph Wacker then bought it and continued to lease it to David Espenshade, the last operator under Swope.⁸ He changed the name to the "Lancaster County

House".⁴⁰ There was no name changing after this but many more operators were involved. A few will be mentioned because the hotel acquired their names. W. H. Kohring was the keeper in 1873, A. Lechler in 1875 and Bousum in 1894. At various places in the literature, you can find "Kohring's Hotel", "Lechler's Hotel" and "Bousum's Hotel". It ceased being a hotel about 1914 and was razed some years later for an automobile parking garage. The building that was removed, was a 3½ story brick and was next door and east of the Peoples Trust Co. Bank. It had its open arched driveway on the east end of the building.



The "William Pitt—Earl of Chatham Tavern" was across the street from the "Lancaster County House", #118-120 E. King St., using the present numbering system. It was built between 1759 and 1792. John Messenkop, Jr. operated it as a tavern in 1799 and Henry Diffenbaugh, his brother-in-law, from 1808 to 1838.^{27 31} It was abandoned as a tavern about 1842 and later became the home of Charles Demuth, one of Lancaster's famous artists.³⁴

The "Temperance House" was operated by George B. Mackley in 1843 and was found to be on the north side of E. King St., second square.⁹⁸ This I believe was the fore-runner of the "Excelsior Hall Hotel" at #125-127 E. King.¹⁰⁴ It was run by Charles Vogt in 1886 and Henry Kegel from 1894 to 1903.²⁶ It is believed that Kegel was still there when it closed in 1906 to make way for Westenberger, Maley and Myers store.⁹⁹

The **"Empire Hotel"** at #141-143 E. King was owned and operated by Lawrence Knapp in the late 1850's. This was largely a saloon rather than a hotel and used primarily as an outlet for Knapp's Empire beer and ale. The ale was brewed in the rear of the hotel in the 1870's. To further the outlet for his amber colored products, he fitted up a large room on the second floor for meetings and concerts by the German singing societies of Lancaster. These attracted large crowds. The Maennerchor Singing Society held its first meetings here, before building their home on N. Prince St.⁸ The hotel went out of business around 1906.²⁶

Timothy Rogers was the proprietor of the **"Golden Horse Tavern"** at #142-144 E. King St. in 1830.²⁷ There were many operators, Allen G. Williams, Henry Fritz, H. W. Herchelroth, J. Schoenberger, F. Woehrle, Eugene Baner, William Rehm and Mr. Shroad from 1899 to 1903. It is believed the latter closed it in 1908.²⁶

The **"Ship Hotel"** was at 171 E. King which is also the northwest corner of E. King and Lime Sts. It was built in 1761 and is still standing but not used as a hotel.³⁹ Major John B. Light opened it for hotel purposes in 1784 and continued to be the host till 1803. At this time William P. Atlee, his son-in-law, took over, followed by Barton Henderson and then Stephen St. John in 1823. He changed the name to the **"Anchor Hotel"**.¹⁹ It became the residence of Dr. Washington L. Atlee about 1840.³⁴

The **"Eastern Hotel"** was on the southwest corner of E. King and Lime Sts. Thomas Doyle owned this lot as early as 1730 and is reported to have owned the tavern property in 1747, which is still standing.^{100 101} The "Eastern" name appears to be the first one used and it continued till about 1873, when it was changed to the **"Eagle Hotel"**.^{40 26} Soon after this, it was changed to the **"Golden Eagle"** no doubt because there was another "Eagle Hotel" in Lancaster at the time. The "Golden Eagle" name was still being used as late as 1931.²⁶ The **"Royal House"** name now used, was attached about 1959. If the early records for this hotel are correct, the building may be more than 200 years old and still open for business.

The **"Indian Queen"** was a 2½ story stone dwelling built by Adam Simon Kuhn in 1763. Its location was marked as being on the site of the Eastern Market, south side and just above Church St.³³ This later became #302-306 E. King St. The dwelling was changed to a tavern and opened by Michael Lightner in 1777 as the **"Indian Queen"**.⁴⁸ The date may be as late as 1788. One record was found which claimed that the first name was the **"Washington Inn"**.¹⁰² Gottlieb Eberman bought the **"Indian Queen"** in 1785 and sold it two years later to Michael Bartgis. When he died, his wife Catherine became the hostess and continued until 1798, when she put the tavern up for sale.¹⁹ The advertisement read as follows. "The noted tavern and the other large stone house adjoining, situated on King St. at the corner of Middle St., (Howard Ave.) or the beginning of Adams-town". The latter was a development of Adam Simon Kuhn, a section

of Lancaster, transversed by Church and Middle Sts. The latter was changed to Howard Ave. around the turn of the century. The large stone house adjoining, referred to in the advertisement, was about 150 feet east of the "Indian Queen" and which later became the "General Jackson" tavern. John Wein purchased the entire property in 1798 and it remained in his family until 1834. During this period, Leonard Eicholtz, Jr. applied for a tavern permit 4/1811 to operate the "Indian Queen".²⁵ He stayed only a short while and then took over the tavern at the corner of S. Queen and Vine, which later became the "Swan Hotel". John Wein continued to lease the "Indian Queen" to others, because in 1818, he applied for a license to take over a stone house at the end of S. Queen St. This was the "Graeff Tavern". Tom Hinkle was operating the "Indian Queen" at this time. Wein sold it to George Musser in 1834 and Musser later deeded it to Dr. Samuel Humes. Dr. John Levergood bought it in 1864 and he sold it to Dr. Carpenter in 1865. It was finally sold for the Eastern Market House which was built in 1882.¹⁰³ There is a tradition that Washington stopped here long before he became president.⁴⁸

The "Compass and Square" or the sign of the "Compass" as it was also known, was apparently next door, east of the "Indian Queen" and kept by one Eberman in 1830. The "General Jackson" and still later, the "Snyder Hotel" occupied this same site, which later became #324-324½ E. King St.¹⁰⁴ We found two almost identical references which claim that Mr. Brilleschmidt kept a circle of flying horses for the amusement of children, in the yard of the "Indian Queen" and another in connection with the sign of the "Compass".^{38 50} We concluded that these two taverns were neighbors and were on the same property, owned by the same man. They were separated by an open area which could have provided the space for Mr. Brilleschmidt's flying horses. (See advertisement under "Indian Queen" above.) It is obvious that the "Compass and Square" tavern made a bid for the Masonic trade. The "General Jackson" followed and was operated by J. A. Snyder in 1873. In 1875 the name was the "Snyder Hotel"⁴⁰ and it continued as such until S. C. Klein changed it to the "Eastern Market Hotel" in 1886.²⁶ J. F. Bruderly ran it from 1901 to 1907 and then moved to the "Roselyn" on N. Prince St. This hotel went out of business around 1917 and the name then was "Hotel High Boy".¹⁰⁴ The building is still standing but altered.

The "German Tavern" was at #331-3 E. King St., next door and west of the #3 Lancaster City Fire Engine House in 1850.⁹ The name was changed to the "General Taylor" and was operated by C. Hoeltzel and Louis Siegler in 1872 and James Donnelly ran it in 1891. About this time the name was changed to the "Shamrock Hotel" and it continued under this name till it closed around 1924. Samuel Howard was running it in 1901.²⁶

The "Bird in Hand" tavern was on the north side of E. King St. and was being supervised by Patrick Green in 1799.³¹ Peter McDonough transferred his license to Patrick Green in 1810 according to the

records, which appears that the latter left this tavern for awhile and then decided to try it again. Charles O'Harra applied for a license to run it in 1811 and he put up a new building adjacent to the old one in 1815.²⁵ This address later became #343-5 E. King.¹⁰⁴ It appears that this tavern had a very short existence, or it may be, that it did continue after 1815 but under a name that could not be associated with it. It is now an automobile parking lot.

The "**Fairmont House**" on the southeast corner of E. King and Plum Sts., is a very old tavern according to the date on the building, 1775. Like many others, it apparently had other names which could not be tied in with the later Fairmont name. The earliest record that we could find was on the Lancaster City map of 1850, which marks it as the "**Fairmont Inn**" under the supervision of Michael McGrann. Mr. McGrann was also operating the "**White Horse**" on N. Queen St. at this time. In the 1874 directory, we found that C. Bender was running it as the "**Fairmont House**". This is the first and oldest record of the exact name as it is used today. Anna J. Ritchey was the owner in 1929.¹⁰⁴ It is still doing business at this same location.

The "**Waggon and Horses**" tavern in 1830 was run by George Fondersmith.²⁷ In the 1843 City Directory, it is written that it was in the fifth square of King Street with James Hamilton as the proprietor. In 1850 it was the "**Travellers Inn**".⁹ The name had been changed to the "**Hamilton Hotel**" in 1866 and the address was #200 E. King.²⁸ This old numbering would place it on the north side and east of Plum St. It was later established as being at #439 E. King, which was the site of the Church of Christ, now removed.¹⁰⁴ We believe an earlier name for the "**Waggon and Horses**" was the sign of the "**Waggon**". The only information we have is that it was on E. King St. and kept by Jacob Frey before 1800. He was succeeded by Ulrich Danner in 1804.^{31 93} Both names imply that this tavern catered to the waggon trade.

A "**White Horse**" tavern was believed to be on the northwest corner of E. King and Ann Sts. in 1800. Christopher Hager may have been a proprietor in 1808-1810.¹⁵⁹

"**Knapp's Villa**" hotel was originally erected as a residence by F. J. Krampf around 1860. It was an impressive brick structure that stood several hundred feet east of Parkside Ave. and well back from E. King St., on the north side. Krampf occupied it for a while and sold out to Thomas H. Burrowes, the famed public school educator. William Carpenter bought it from Burrowes and after he lived there for several years, sold it to Lawrence Knapp the Empire Steam Brewery baron in 1873. Knapp saw another outlet for his beer and ale. He converted the residence into a hotel and opened it in 1876 as "**Knapp's Villa**". It became very popular, especially as a summer resort. Mr. Knapp died in 1894 and his hotel continued for about five years under the management of Albert Guhl. Fire destroyed it 2/26/1904, then a residence. Carl F. Widmyer was the owner at the time.¹¹⁰

As stated several times before, Lawrence Knapp had a talent for enlarging the market for his 'sudsey products'. He built "Tell's Hain", a name always associated with "Knapp's Villa". It was, a hotel of a kind, used in conjunction with "Knapp's Villa" in suitable weather. "Tell's Hain" or Tell's Woods, with William Tell the archer as the patron saint, was opened in 1877 on the west bank of the Conestoga River and several hundred yards north of E. King St. The large red brick building is unique with its big archway over the road, which extended southward to the highway, (E. King St.) and northward through the 'Hain' to the 'Villa' up on the hill. This provided a beautiful love walk, especially on moonlight nights, for the youth of that day. Many archery contests were held, which attracted German Singing Societies from Lancaster, Reading and Baltimore. Dances, parties, receptions and picnics also attracted large crowds which always ended in singing, beer drinking and all around good fellowship. The building is still standing and is a veritable monument to Lawrence Knapp and the fun loving Germans of yesteryears.^{90 105}

Old "Conestoga Inn" was on the west bank of the Conestoga River and on the north side of the Philadelphia road, where it crossed at a ford. The first Inn at this location was built in 1741 but we do not know what name it operated under.⁴¹ Abraham Witmer bought it sometime after the Revolution and put up a 2½ story stone building which is still standing and used as an Inn.¹⁰⁸ Except for the formstone now covering this fine old building the appearance



today is very much the same as it was when it was built 180 years ago. It was originally known as **"Witmer's Tavern"**.²¹ Just when the Conestoga name was first used, we are not sure. We do know that it was used most of the time throughout its existence but not continuously. Many other names were used as the following records indicate.

There was a **"White Horse Inn"** on E. King St. and opened by Archibald Lanegan in 1799.^{21 31} Daniel Witmer, Abraham's brother and Francis O'Neal were early proprietors.¹⁹

The **"Sign of the Pennsylvania Arms"** was said to be at the 'Old Witmer Bridge' which spanned the Conestoga River just east of the city.¹³⁷ This name was being used for the "Witmer" tavern in 1806 when the Philadelphia and Lancaster turnpike was being surveyed. Dan Witmer was the proprietor at that time.¹⁴⁴

Another record was found which read, "an old tavern at the east end of King St., known as the **"Olympic Gardens"**, subsequently changed to the **"Union Hotel"**.⁵⁰ It was operated in 1815 by George Hambright and before him by Daniel Witmer.²⁵ We do know that the latter served his brother several times between 1796 and 1819 and for this reason we believe that the "White Horse", "Olympic Gardens" and "Union" were alternate names for Witmer's "Conestoga Inn". Henry Keffer owned the Inn in 1828 and Thomas Logan operated it in 1830 under the "White Horse" name. John Swartz followed him and used the "Olympic Gardens" name.²⁷

In August 1890 Samuel Potts sold the **"Potts Hotel"** and his boat landing, along the Philadelphia turnpike to Harry Eichler for \$12,000. This was another name for the "Conestoga Inn".¹⁴²

The entire area at the foot of E. King St. and the Conestoga River, was a popular picnic grounds between the years 1885 and 1910. Thousands of men, women and children, gathered here on week-ends.¹⁴³ To the rear of the "Conestoga Inn" was a large open air elevated dance floor and along the water-front were picnic tables and Potts' Boat Landing. Several hundred yards upstream was "Tell's Hain" previously described. South of E. King St. was the very active Conestoga Park, owned and operated by Captain John Peoples and the Conestoga Traction Co. The "Conestoga Inn" was in the center of all this and did a flourishing business.¹³⁸ Charles Hoster was a popular proprietor in 1894 and his establishment was then known as the **"Conestoga Park Hotel"**. It became **"Toll's Inn"** in 1939 and back again to the "Conestoga Inn" in 1944. It is still doing business under this name, the one we liked to remember.²⁶

The **"Bethel House"** was also a very old historic tavern. It was erected of stone by Samuel Bethel, Jr. in 1762 on the west bank of the Conestoga and a few feet south of the Philadelphia road.^{9 107} His father operated a tavern on the site of the "Cross Keys" on W. King St.^{106 131 141} Henry Dering leased the "Bethel House" in 1777 and



operated both a public house and a ferry.¹³⁰ Abraham Witmer purchased it as "**Dering's Wayside Inn**" in 1789 from Wm. Webb estate which included 19 acres extending north and south of the highway. Witmer realizing that the ford and ferry were too slow for the increasing traffic, proceeded to make plans to build a bridge.^{108 140}



Henry Dering's Wayside Inn

Witmer completed his beautiful nine arch stone bridge in 1800 which served the travelling public for more than 130 years.¹³⁶ After the bridge was put in operation, there was no need for the ferry and less need for "Dering's Inn". Abraham Witmer who now owned the bridge and both Inns at the western terminus, proceeded to develop the larger and more modern "Witmer's Tavern". How long the Inn on the south side of the road continued as such, is not known. Apparently not long, because in 1890 the identity of the old building was in doubt. Two men obtained permission to go through it and they found many artifacts which convinced them that "Dering's Wayside Inn at the Ferry" was still in existence. This lost identity would never have happened, had it continued as an Inn throughout the years.¹⁴⁰ At the time this examination was made, it was called the "Old Colonial House" and was being used as a dwelling in which light lunches were served during the summer months. It belonged to the Dunlap family for many years and later to the Conestoga Traction Co. The latter owned it when it was destroyed by fire in 1901.^{132 133}

On the east side of the Conestoga and on the southeast corner of the turnpike and the present Lampeter road, stood a very old tavern known as the "**Indian King**". It took care of the traffic on the east side that was slowed up by the rough crossing of the stream.¹⁰⁷ It was built of brick sometime between 1758 and 1766 by Jacob

Shoemaker but not used as a hotel until 1766 when Christopher Franciscus bought it and obtained a license.¹³⁶ John Witmer a brother of Abraham, took it over in 1772 and eleven years later transferred it to Henry Lougher. In 1800 John Shingle became the owner and in 1806 when the turnpike was surveyed, the name used on the drawings was "Indian King".¹⁴⁴ We do not know when this name was first used. Christian Martin was the owner in 1809 and a few years later, transferred it to David Witmer, another brother of Abraham. David sold it to Lemuel Sappington in 1821 and he was followed by Rudolph Kauffman and then by Cyrus Miller. The name was changed to the "Metzger Hotel" in 1852 when Michael Metzger took it over and maintained it until 1895. The hotel continued under other operators and finally closed under the "Metzger" name in 1916.²⁶ In the later years it was more often referred to as the "Bridgeport Hotel", no doubt because of its location. Much history was written here during the 150 years of its existence.

The following taverns were believed to be on E. King St. but their exact locations could not be determined.

The Sign of the "Bear Tavern", according to the 1843 City Directory, was in the second square of E. King St. and on the north side. It was run by Timothy Rogers. At this time, a "Bear" tavern was operating in the first square of E. King but Rogers was not the operator. Timothy Rogers did operate the "Golden Horse" in the second square not long before this. "Bear" may be a later name for the "Golden Horse".

"Sharp's Tavern" was in the second square and on the north side of E. King, next door to Henry C. Locher's store. Joel Sharp ran it in 1839.^{91 109} This may be a short lived name for the "Lancaster County House" but we are not sure. We were unable to locate the exact position of this Locher's store.

There was a "Jacob Frimb" tavern and a "John A. Landis" tavern in the second square of E. King St. and on the south side. These gentlemen were undoubtedly operators of taverns already identified but which ones, we do not know.⁹¹ These names can also be found in the Lancaster City Directory of 1843.

The Sign of the "Daniel O'Connell" was in E. King St. in 1830 with Bernard McGonigle as the manager.²⁷ On the 1850 and 1886 maps of Lancaster City, we find that Bernard McGonigle was a big landholder at the corner of E. King and Middle Sts. This hotel may therefore be a part of the "Compass and Square" or the "General Jackson" on this same corner. This was also known as "McGonigle's Tavern".¹⁴⁵

There was supposed to be a "Sorrel Horse" tavern in E. King St. Martin Shupe transferred his license to Fredrick Hambright 11/1811.²⁵ This I believe is an error and was intended to read W. King St.

There was a "Green Tree" tavern on E. King St. in 1830 with Ephraim Bowman as the keeper.²⁷ I believe this may be an error also. The "Green Tree" was on W. King St. for many years.⁵⁹

The "Pittsburgh Wagon" is another tavern supposed to be in E. King St. It was run by John Fisher in 1834.^{38 50} This may have been another name for the "Waggon and Horses" at #439 E. King.

Taverns on Mulberry Street

The first name for Mulberry St. was Spring Garden. It is only natural that one of its hotels should use this name.¹²⁶

The "Spring Garden Hotel" on the northwest corner of N. Mulberry and W. Walnut Sts. opened shortly before the turn of the century. J. J. Warfel was the keeper in 1892, H. Dorsheimer in 1897 and Peter Ziegler in 1901. It was demolished about 1922 to make way for a gasoline station.²⁶

The "William Penn Hotel" at 429-431 N. Mulberry St. opened in 1880 or before. It was operated by Henry Rohrer from 1886 to 1901. It is still doing business there.²⁶

Taverns on North Prince Street

There were many taverns on N. Prince St., some of which were very old and difficult to review. Going north from W. King St., the first one was "Funk's Hotel" at #21 N. Prince and opened by Amos Funk before 1866.²⁶ In 1868 the name was "Funk's Merrimac Hotel" and the address was the same. The odd numbers were then on the west side. The name had been changed to "Sprenger's Hotel" by 1886 and the address by the new system was #18-20 N. Prince. A few years later it became the "Opera House Hotel" and it continued as such until 1915.

Amos Funk moved from the first square of N. Prince St. to the second around 1871 and took with him his Merrimac sign. From this date forward, we find the "Merrimac House" at #111-115 N. Prince. Some of the proprietors were George Grossman, Joseph Sundheimer, S. B. Kepperling, J. Sides, C. A. Miller, George E. Krouse and A. K. Mohn. The name was changed to the "Kendig House" in 1894 with Eph. Shue supervising it.⁹⁸ He continued for many years.⁸³ There were not many horses in the center of Lancaster, even on market days, to use the prominent arched driveway in this building, when it closed its doors in 1920.²⁶

The "**Hotel Franke**" at 236 N. Prince St., was opened for business by Henry Franke in 1872.¹¹² His brewery in the rear along Water St., was brewing beer 25 years before this. Franke continued to operate the hotel 11 years, when the brewery was demolished for the Maennerchor Home to be built there. This German Singing Society, with its 500 members, became the headquarters for many of Lancaster's social functions in the 1890's. The name of the hotel was changed to the "**Maennerchor Gardens**" with Emil Hermanns as the proprietor in 1886 and with George H. Killinger in 1887. The red bricked paved garden with its green shrubbery and fountain in the center was surrounded by the hotel on the east and south sides and the Maennerchor building on the west. It made a beautiful setting, especially at night, when lighted with Japanese lanterns. Meals and beverages were served in this typical German beer garden, when the weather was suitable. Along about 1890, the title was changed to the "**Maennerchor Hotel**" with Alexander B. George running it for the next 11 years. The name was finally changed to the "**Roselyn**" in 1907 when J. F. Bruderly took it over. It closed with this name in 1918.²⁶

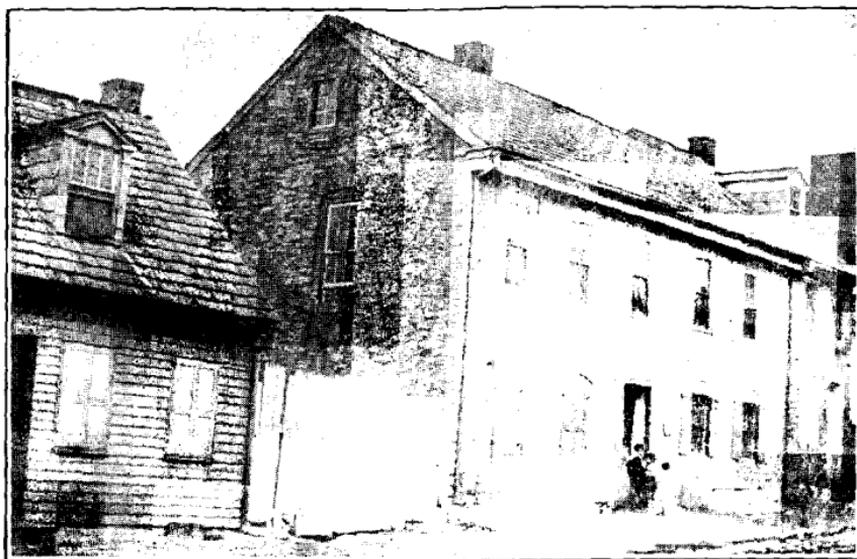
On the southeast corner of N. Prince and Walnut Sts. was the "**Relay House**", a 2½ story stone building, built in 1766 by Nicolaus and Magdalena Hitzelberger. The "**Eagle**" name was probably used as early at 1813 when John (J) Martin, a one arm man, applied for a license.²⁵ The name of the hotel was not mentioned in the petition. It was the "**Eagle Hotel**" in 1830 and John J. Martin was still running it.⁵⁴ It was "**Martin's Tavern**" on the Lancaster City map of 1850. John G. Martin, no doubt a son of John J., was the keeper of the "**Relay House**" in 1872 and George Myers in 1892.²⁶ This hotel was frequented by teamsters and it derived its name from the practice of relaying or changing horses that were used to pull the heavy Conestoga Wagons overland. This beautiful old building was razed about 1950 for a "much needed" gasoline station.

The "**Flying Angel**" was a small hotel on the northwest corner of N. Prince and Walnut Sts. in 1789 and perhaps many years before this. It was operated by John Hegetschweiler at this time.¹¹³ In 1799 George Road was running it.³¹ He was followed by Charles Nagle, Sam Kendig (Kendrick) in 1809 and Paul Dewees in 1811. Dewees transferred his license to Patrick McGivern in 1813 and John England rented it from Patrick McGivern in 1818.²⁵ It was dismantled many years ago for a Coal Yard.

The "**Little Dutch Hotel**" is on the corner of W. Walnut and Water Sts. since 1823. Levi Miller was the first proprietor. In 1890 it was called the "**Hotel Continental**" but only for a short time. It was next door to and was a part of the Wacker Eagle Brewery. Through the years of 1923 to 1931 it was named the "**Eagle Hotel**".²⁶ At present it is operating as the "**Little Dutch Cafe**".¹¹²

The "**Melrose Hotel**" has been on the northwest corner of N. Prince and Lemon Sts. since 1903. William Hoenninger was an early proprietor.²⁶ It was taken down in May 1970.

The "Cat Tavern" was at #448 N. Prince St., west side and a few doors south of James St. This 2½ story stone tavern flourished during the Revolution. General Moses Hazen and his troops were quartered here while guarding British prisoners.^{19 115 116} It was torn down in 1923.²⁶



Cat Tavern

At the corner of N. Prince and James Sts. was a pretentious place known as the "Botanic Gardens". In 1837, it was a kind of hotel under the supervision of J. Fredrick Heckler. It was very popular in summer with its beautiful flower gardens in which band concerts were heard.^{38 50} Apparently it did not operate very long.

The "Reading Depot House" is on the southeast corner of N. Prince and Frederick Sts. since 1873. It was operated by R. Fisher at this time, Peter Latz in 1877 and Thomas Calnan in 1894. It was a very popular hotel when the Reading Railroad Station was opposite it.²⁶

The following hotels were believed to be on N. Prince St. but their exact locations are not known.

The "General Wayne Hotel" was on N. Prince St. Clement Smith transferred his tavern license to Albert Weaver 4/1811.²⁵

The "Mermaid Hotel" was on N. Prince St. 4/1811.²⁵ No other data.

A "Red Lion Hotel" was on N. Prince St. with Joseph Barnitz as the proprietor in 1830.⁵⁴ This may have been another name for the "Cat" tavern.

A "**Joseph Barnett**" tavern was operating in the fifth square of N. Prince St., west side, in 1843.²⁶ This may be a part of the "Cat" tavern.

Andrew Fryer ran a hotel on N. Prince St. in 1799, no sign.³¹

Taverns on Orange Street

The "**Waggon Hotel**" was on the southwest corner of W. Orange and Water Sts. in 1788. It had commodious yards and stables for the accommodation of teams and was rated high for the wagoner trade. It was owned by Dr. Rieger who survived the duel with Stephen Chambers which was precipitated in the "White Swan" hotel on May 11, 1789. Jacob Frey, the proprietor in 1799, moved with his sign to E. King St. where he opened another tavern under this same name.^{31 93} The Orange and Water St. tavern continued under a new name, the "**Western Hotel**". It retained this name for more than 125 years. John Landis was the proprietor in 1814 followed by Nathan C. Schofield 1823, Christopher Brenner 1828, John Kauffman 1834, Thomas (Robert) Loag 1843, P. G. Morgart 1866, J. Fagon 1873, Samuel Fagon 1875, H. N. Fritz 1875, F. W. Rehm 1877, J. A. Schuh 1879, Emil Beck 1887 and Tobias Mowrer in 1892.²⁶ It is apparent that many operator changes were necessary in order to keep this tavern running. Their average was about five years. A newspaper clipping, filed at the Lancaster County Historical Society dated 6/7/29 and under the general heading 'Ramblings', stated that Mayor Harry L. Trout and his brother Frank B., were born here. Their father Adam Trout was a proprietor of the "Western Hotel" but the time was not given. This 2½ story stone hotel was demolished around 1927 for a gasoline station.¹⁴¹

J. Harmony owned the lot on the northwest corner of W. Orange and Water Sts. in 1850. The 2½ story brick tavern that is still there but covered with formstone, was built about this time. It is not shown on the City map of 1850. Henry Stroble owned it for awhile and then sold it to Jeremiah McElligott in 1865. The next owner was Henry Niemer in 1868 followed by Philip Dassinger in 1892.³⁴ At this time it was known as the "**Northwestern Hotel**". We do not know what name was used before this, if any. W. A. Buckius bought it in 1908 and changed the name to the "**Iroquois Hotel**". It now operates under the "**Tallyho**" sign.²⁶

The "**Willow Grove Tavern**" at 441 E. Orange St. is still standing but now a residence. This is a 2½ story brick with a tin roof, on the north side of the street and well marked because it sits below the present street level.³⁴ Samuel Boyd bought Hamilton lots #574 and 575 in 1784. The tavern was built between this date and 1798, when it first appeared in the Direct Tax list. It may have been built as early as 1773.¹⁵⁶ Samuel Boyd was the innkeeper in 1800.³¹

William Porter was the owner in 1801 and was then tenanted by Jesse Miller. In the Lancaster Journal under date of 1/18/1800, the "Willow Grove Tavern" was advertised, to be let and in the same paper but under date of 2/10/1810, it was sold at public sale to Jacob Koenig. Jacob King owned it in 1825, Patton Ross lived here in 1843¹¹⁸ and William Gumph was another owner in 1869. When it ceased being a tavern is not known, but hardly after 1810. G. B. Marrow bought it from the Gorman estate in 1923 and he converted it into four apartments.²⁶

The "**Drove of Cattle Hotel**" is recorded to have been on the corner of E. Orange and N. Ann Sts. James Cory was the proprietor in 1830.⁵⁴ No other information was found.

In the Lancaster Zeitung and under date 9/2/1789 we found that Nathaniel Hantsch advertised spinning wheels, hardware etc. for sale in a house next to the "**Blue Lion Tavern**" on Orange St. We found no other reference to this tavern.

Taverns on Chestnut Street

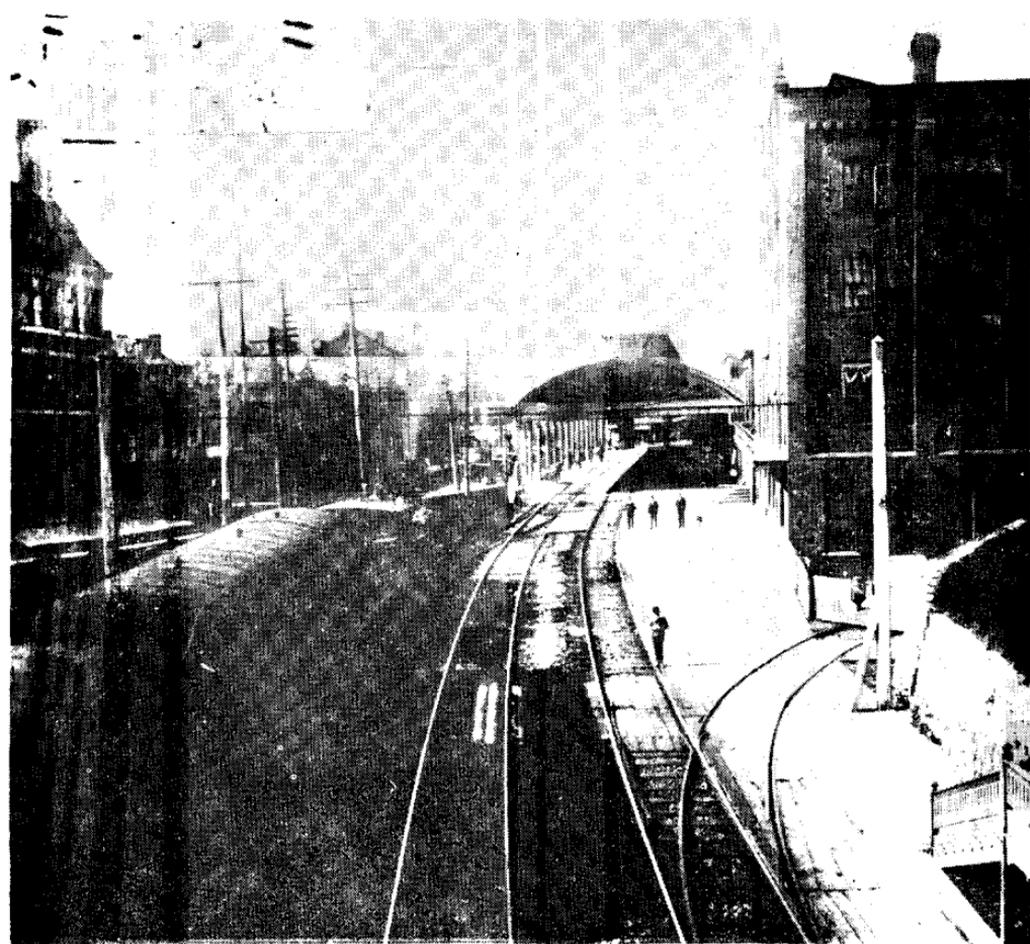
The "**St. Charles Hotel**" was a small hostelry at #14-16 E. Chestnut St. It had its beginning in 1886. George Flory was the operator.¹⁵⁷ In 1892 it was under the proprietorship of Aaron Snyder. It became Nissley's Restaurant shortly after this.²⁶

A few doors farther east at #24-26 E. Chestnut St., which is also the southwest corner with Christian St., was the "**Chestnut Street Hotel**" in 1875. Theodore Wenditz was the landlord in 1887. In 1892 the name was changed to the "**Ransing House**" and was run by Henry Ransing. There was no hotel on this corner from 1901 to 1923 but in 1924 the "**Hotel Central**" opened. In 1937 the "**Plaza Hotel**" was here and closed several years later.²⁶

On the southeast corner on E. Chestnut and Christian Sts. in 1866 was the "**Union Hotel**" and we believe the owner was William Rehfuss. Christian Bender was the innkeeper in 1873, William Roehm 1875, J. J. Dosch 1877 and Gottlieb Streiner in 1892.²⁶ The "Union Hotel" on S. Queen St. was also operating at this time.

The "**Witmer House**" was the first name of the "**Railroad House**" which dates back before the railroad first passed through Lancaster in 1834. It stood on the northeast corner of E. Chestnut and N. Christian Sts. until it was demolished in 1939. In 1896 it was often referred to as "**Warfel's Railroad House**".^{74 82 97}

The "**General Washington**" or the "**Cosgrove Hotel**" as it was later known, was next door, east of the "Railroad House" on E. Chestnut St. in 1830. This cheap boarding house was constructed of stone with the upper story of logs, weather-boarded. John Cosgrove was the owner. It was removed to make way for "**Hotel Lancaster**".^{54 82}



Hotel Lancaster

“Hotel Lancaster” was built in 1879, east of the “Railroad House”, which included the site of the “Cosgrove Hotel”. The correct address was “31-35 E. Chestnut St.” It was Lancaster’s most modern hotel at the time, built of brick, four stories high and well remembered for its white tiled floor, as you entered it. Brenberger and Snyder operated it for many years. The skyline of this area was sadly changed when the railroad station was removed in 1929 and the two hotels just reviewed in 1939.^{26 28}

On the southeast corner of E. Chestnut and N. Plum Sts. was the **“Mechanics Hotel”**, so named because of the many factories and machine shops in that area. J. Schoenberger ran it in 1873, Lawrence Knapp owned it in 1866 and H. F. Gollatz operated it in 1887. The name was changed to the **“Merchants Hotel”** in 1899, or before this.^{26 114 40}

The **“Stock Exchange Hotel”** was at #346-348 N. Plum St., a few doors south of New Holland Ave. Albert Henrietta was the owner of this small hotel from 1873 to 1901. It was operated by L. J. Lindenmuth in 1873, Louisa Langan 1887, Conrad Scheffer 1892, George Smith 1901, Michael Heldig 1905, Marius Smith 1909 and Hiram Lynes in 1913. It closed about 1922.²⁶

Jacob Fordney ran a hotel on Chestnut St. with no sign in 1830. We were unable to find its position.²⁷

Taverns on Middle Street (Howard Ave.)

Middle Street was a busy thoroughfare at Lancaster's beginning. It was the main street through Adamstown, a section of southeast Lancaster at the time. The name was changed to Howard Ave. about 1897. There were many taverns on this street, the exact location of several are not known.

"**Effinger's Tavern**" was at #61 Middle St., south side and a few doors from Shippen St. It was operated by Jacob Effinger in 1892. It became "**Jacob Utzinger's Tavern**" in 1894 and the "**Black Horse Tavern**" in 1903. It continued under this name until it closed in 1928. The building is still standing, covered with formstone.²⁶

George Wall operated the "**Summer House**" at #314-316 Middle St. in 1877. This was a few doors southwest of Rockland St. The building was demolished, with the others in that area, in 1962.²⁸

The "**Lion Brewery Hotel**" was at #328 Middle St. in 1875.⁴⁰ John W. Keller ran it in 1892 and Jacob M. Herchelroth in 1894. The building was razed in 1962.

"**Brecht's Hotel**" was at the corner of Middle and S. Duke Sts. in 1875.⁴⁰ No more information was obtained.

The "**Rainbow Tavern**" was in Adamstown and no doubt on Middle St. in 1800.³¹ It was operated by John Wentz and shortly after this, he opened another "Rainbow Tavern" on N. Queen St. His wife continued at the old stand in Adamstown and under the same sign. We were unable to learn the exact location of either of these taverns.³⁸

Gottlieb Nauman was licensed in 1780 and kept a tavern in what was then Adamstown, now a part of the city. He may have been an earlier operator of the "Rainbow" because it was the oldest tavern we found in this section. We never did learn where it was.¹⁹

There was a "**Cross Keys Tavern**" on Church St. in 1810 and operated by Rebecca Weidly. She transferred her license to John Engle sometime during this year. There was a prominent "Cross Keys Tavern" on W. King St. at this time.²⁵

Taverns in Scattered Locations

Not much importance is placed on the following taverns because they were not in the center of Lancaster where most of the activity took place, yet many of them were very old and did play an important part in the growth of our community. No article of this kind would be complete without them.

The sign of the "**Lafayette Hotel**" was on Manor St. in 1830 and run by John Kautz. The exact location was not stated. There was another "Lafayette Hotel" on N. Christian St. which came later.⁵⁴

"Schneider's Hotel" was at 464 Manor St. in 1892 and operated by W. Schneider. The spelling of the name was changed to the **"Snyder House"** in 1897. It became **"Stumpf's Hotel"** in 1899.²⁶

The **"Kohlhaas Hotel"** was at 655 Manor St. in 1892 with Al Kohlhaas as the operator. He was also the operator in 1877 when it was known at the **"White Horse Hotel"**. It became **"Johnson's Hotel"** about 1933.²⁶

William Kurtz was the landlord of the **"Centennial Hotel"** which was at the corner of Strawberry and Vine Sts. in 1892. Edward Kirchner was there in 1930. It is still doing business at this location.²⁶

Victoria Diehl ran the **"Victoria Hotel"** at #452 High St. in 1892.²⁶

The **"Glenn Hotel"** was at #558 High St. which is also the southeast corner of High and New Dorwart Sts. It later became **"Arm-and's Tavern"**.²⁶

The **"Fairview Hotel"** was on the southeast corner of High and Fairview Ave. It is now **"Steinbaecher's Hotel"**.

The **"Eighth Ward Hotel"** was operated by Charles A. Fritz in 1892 at #522 St. Joseph St.²⁶

The **"Green Cottage Hotel"** in 1877 was in the area of Poplar, Fremont and Cottage Alley. The latter later became New Dorwart St. It was originally the summer home of Kitty Yeates, daughter of Jasper Yeates. She held many garden parties and picnics here. It was a hotel in 1877 and kept by Lucas Fritz. We do not know how long it was operated as such.^{26 40} Later owners were Harry M. Stumpf and Mrs. Elsie Brady. The present address is 613 Fremont St. according to the Lancaster New Era under date of January 6, 1961.

The **"La Pierre Hotel"** was on the southeast corner of Poplar and Filbert Sts. in 1892 with John Snyder as the operator.²⁶ It became the property of the Wacker Brewing Co. estate around the turn of the century and is still owned by them. Charles Kirchner ran it for many years and was succeeded by Robert Holbein. It is now doing business under the name **"Brauhouse"**.

The **"West End Hotel"** at #121-123 Dorwart St. was supervised by John Ritschey in 1892.²⁶ It was **"Smith's Hotel"** around 1918 and sometime after this it became the **"Black Cat"**. Is is now the **"Spread Eagle"**.

The **"Pyfer Milford Hotel"** was at 40 S. Duke St., the **"Wimer Hotel"** was on the southwest corner of Vine and Duke Sts., the **"Sturgis Hotel"** was at #460 S. Duke and **"Bushong's Hotel"** was at #439 Chester St. These were all small hotels and of rather recent date.²⁶

A **"Washington House"** stood on the southwest corner of Lime

and Locust Sts. from about 1855 until it was demolished in 1968. The Sprenger Brewery was next door.^{26 24}

The "**Conestoga Hotel**" was run by J. J. Warfel in 1890 at #509 Rockland St. It was called the "**Seventh Ward Hotel**" in 1892 with Adolph Effinger at the helm. Some time after this it was known as the "**Union Garden Hotel**" with B. Kuhlman as the man in charge.²⁶

The "**Lafayette Hotel**" at #527 N. Christian St. was operated by Hannah Worth in 1892 and by Gottlieb Hotzworth in 1897. One of the entrances to this hotel was a narrow passageway which extended to N. Duke St. It was used by many persons who voted at this polling place in the 1920's.²⁶

The "**Union Stock Yards Hotel**" is on the southeast corner of the Lititz Pike and Marshall Ave. It is believed to have been there before 1897. It is now known as the "Stockyard Inn" and is one of Lancaster's finest restaurants.²⁶

"**Ziegler's Stock Yards Hotel**" is at #457 New Holland Ave. since 1880, or before this.¹²⁸ It derived its name from Mentzer's stock yards close by. It is still operating but under the name "**Ziegler's Hotel**".^{26 134}

The "**Park Stock Yard Hotel**" was run by Eph. O. Eby in 1887 and the address was #557-559 New Holland Ave. On the Lancaster City map of 1899, we find the name changed to the "**McGrann's Park Hotel**" and it was located in the center of McGrann's Park, near what is now the intersection of N. Marshall and Reynolds Avenues. Its popularity waned when the park became inactive.²⁶

On the east side of New Holland Ave. at #550, was the "**Park Hotel**" operated by Jonathan Sprecher in 1875. In 1877 it was being run by James Bryson as the "**Park House**" and was said to be opposite the Park Grounds on New Holland Ave. Harry Myers was in charge in 1887. It closed not too many years ago.²⁶ The building is still standing.

John Hiemenz bought what was once the farm of George Ross. (1761-1779) signer of the Declaration of Independence, from A. C. Kepler in 1899. He built the rambling 60 odd roomed "**Rossmere Hotel**" around the old farm house. It was located on the southeast corner of Juliette and Marshall Avenues. Across the street to the east, he developed the Tri-State baseball park, on which the Lancaster Catholic High School now stands. He gave land to the Conestoga Traction Co. for a streetcar right of way, to both the ball park and the hotel. A car siding ran into the hotel yard and is marked today by parallel rows of Norway spruce trees. On entering the hotel, your attention was immediately attracted to a large fountain which rained on a little boy with a leaky boot and partly hidden behind beautiful ferns. The floor was of terrazzo type, not frequently seen in those times. To the right after entering, was a spacious dance floor, covered by a huge dome and with mirrored walls, which

reflected the many colors of the party dresses of the girls, as they twirled around the floor in merriment, to the beautiful strains of the Blue Danube Waltz. The flowering youth of both the college and high schools and many other social gatherings, used the beautiful setting of "Hotel Rossmere". It closed its doors in 1923 but the altered buildings remained in use as a Tuberculosis Sanitarium for about 31 years. The Health and Welfare Center replaced it in 1961. Durable memories of an older generation will not need the hotel building itself to survive the pleasant happenings that took place there in the prime of their lives.⁸⁰

Taverns Believed to be in Lancaster

The following taverns are believed to have been in Lancaster but we have no knowledge of where they were. We presume that some of them are additional names of those already identified but we can not be sure of this. We are reporting them with the references where they were found.

The "**Hat Tavern**" was run by William Michael in 1799.³¹

There was a "**George Fifer Inn**" operating in 1799.³¹

The "**Harp Tavern**" was operating in 1802. It is implied that it was on E. King St.³¹

"**Napoleon Crossing the Alps Tavern**" was apparently in Lancaster in 1841 or before.¹¹⁹

The "**Thirteen Stripes Tavern**" was operated by Mary Weidley in 1799.³¹

Lodge #43 of Free and Accepted Masons held a meeting in the "**House of Julian Sonnet**" in 1792.⁷⁶ According to the Census of 1790, Julian Sonnet lived in the vicinity of the "Sorrel Horse Hotel" on W. King St. and it may be, that he was an operator of this hotel at that time. In other words, this meeting may have been held in the "Sorrel Horse Hotel".

The "**Black Swan Hotel**". We found only one reference to a tavern by this name.¹¹ There was a Mrs. Eligah Boston, a negro singer and entertainer of note in 1862 billed as the Black Swan. It may be that this title was confused with that of a tavern. We were unable to locate a tavern in Lancaster by this name.⁵⁶

Lancaster has lost in history and picturesqueness by the too frequent changes in the names of its taverns. We have driven from our streets all the Leopards, Lions, Bears, Bulls, Lambs and even the horses but the Swans and Eagles still fly over-head, to remind us of the part they played in the ornate signs that hung over the doors of Lancaster's early taverns. Yes, the names and the buildings have

changed many times but the real purpose for the tavern did not change. It is still a public house for the use of the traveller, as well as for banquets, dances, receptions, anniversaries, meetings, displays etc. One does not realize the importance that it played in molding the lives of those living, just as it did for those at Lancaster's beginning. It is a shame that some of them had not been restored, as had been done at Newtown and New Hope, Pennsylvania and at Fredericksburg and Williamsburg, Virginia. Yes, many of the taverns were hard to find for this report but who dares to say that they will be easy to forget.

About the Contributor

Herbert Ray Woerner was born in 1895, the son of Sarah Eisele and William P. Woerner. He is a graduate of the Lancaster Boys High School, class of 1914, and has been its president ever since graduation. He received his B.S. degree from Franklin and Marshall College in 1919 and immediately started work at the Armstrong Cork Company as a chemist. After 41 years with Armstrong he retired December 1, 1960.

During his early life he was a musician and earned more money playing his saxophone and clarinet than he received as a chemist. He played in all the important local bands and orchestras during the twenties, and also with the famous National Guard Fourth Regiment Band.

He is a member of the Elks, and of all the Masonic bodies. He is a past Director of the Lancaster Kiwanis Club and past Director and Treasurer of the University Club. Also, he served as a councilman of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

Ray has been a member of the Lancaster County Historical Society since 1936 and a member of its Board of Trustees since 1965. A previous contribution to the **Journal** was the preparation of a detailed map of the Elizabeth Furnace Plantation in Herbert H. Beck's article of the same name, Vol. 69 No. 1, 1965.

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