

Barns of Lancaster County: 1798

by Arthur C. Lord

One of the most conspicuous features of Lancaster County's rural landscape is the farmstead with its familiar Pennsylvania Barn. The problem with being such a familiar part of the landscape is that few people really look at a barn, and even more importantly, fewer people have written about it. What has been written in the past has all too often appeared to be the result of casual observation, speculation, or hearsay. Among most respected writers of Lancaster County and Pennsylvania history, there has been little written about barns, and in general, a lack of agreement on that which was recorded. Were large Pennsylvania barns a part of early South-eastern Pennsylvania and Lancaster County's landscape? On one side we have Christopher Sauer's letter (1724) which noted a lack of barns and noted grain stacked in the fields.¹ In agreement was Israel Acrelius (1759) who stated that "Stables and cow-houses are seldom seen on farms . . ." and that ". . . a good farmer has a stable with thin sides for the horses and sheds for cattle and sheep . . ."² S. W. Fletcher (1950) supports this position when he states that "The first crude barns of farmers of all nationalities were log shelters six to eight feet high, usually not chinked."³ In contrast Lewis Evans (1752) says that the area was known for large barns.⁴ Ellis and Evans (1883) continue this theme by stating that ". . . on the second (year after settlement) and subsequent years some Swisser Barns were built."⁵ Rochefoucault-Liancourt (1799) observed in 1795 & 1797 that the ". . . barns were large and in good repair."⁶ John Beale Bordley (1799) stated that "Farmers in Pennsylvania have a commendable spirit for building good barns, which are mostly of stone."⁷ Obviously there was little agreement on the Pennsylvania Barn in the 18th Century.

The folk myth of superior Germanic barn builders is also reflected by these often prejudiced writers. An excellent example was I. D. Rupp's statement that "Nothing struck the travelers in Pennsylvania seventy years ago (c1785) more forcibly than the contrast between the German's large Schweitzer Scheuer and his English or Scotch neighbor's apology for a barn."⁸ Even S. W. Fletcher falls under this syndrome of speculation when he states that "Germanic farmers soon replaced these (crude log shelters) with substantial barns of squared logs or stone . . ."⁹

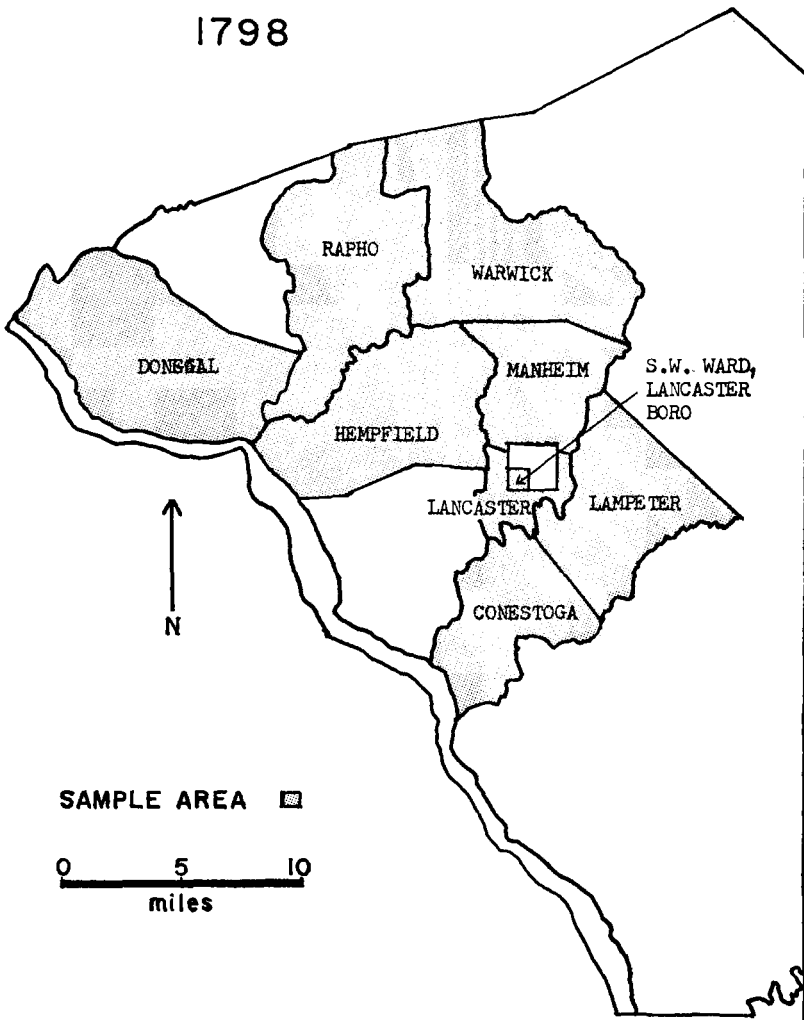
Several authors have recently focused on the Pennsylvania Barn. One of the first was Alfred L. Shoemaker who contributed to and edited **The Pennsylvania Barn** (1959) in which he uses historic data to determine the characteristics of these barns.¹⁰ James T. Lemon (1966), who with documented details, finally laid to rest the Germanic superiority prejudice and established that Southeastern Pennsylvania's agriculture and farmsteads were a product of the area and a result of the contributions of many nationalities.¹¹ Joseph W. Glass (1971) wrote on the characteristics of the Pennsylvania Barn, used it to help delimit his Pennsylvania Culture Region, and came to the same conclusion as Lemon, that the barn was a product of the area.¹²

But what about Lancaster County? None of the preceding authors concentrated on Lancaster County. They had, naturally, included data about our barns within the general content of their works. What were the barns of Lancaster County really like? Were there regional differences in the type and size of the barns in the county? It is the aim of this paper to focus on these questions.

In order to answer these questions, accurate data is required. Shoemaker introduced the use of such data in **The Pennsylvania Barn** when he used tax data for 1798 as a basis for analyzing the barns of the late 18th century in Pennsylvania. This paper presumes to be a continuation of Shoemaker's work in that it will, by using the same tax records, produce a more detailed analysis of Lancaster County's barns in order to answer the two questions previously presented. What were the barns of Lancaster County really like? And, were there regional differences in the type and size of the barns in the county?

The records used were the Direct Tax Record for 1798. Specifically, Part B of the 1st District, Composed of the County of Lancaster in the 2nd Division of the State of Pennsylvania contains detailed data on the construction materials and dimensions of every barn in Conestoga, Donegal, Hempfield, Lampeter, Lancaster, Manheim, Rapho, and Warwick Townships and the Southwestern Ward of the Boro of Lancaster for the year 1798.¹³ Unfortunately part B, the section containing the barn data, is missing for Manor and Mount Joy Townships and the remainder of Lancaster Boro. There is no trace of any records for the 2nd District which it is assumed would contain the records for the rest of the county.

BARNES OF
LANCASTER COUNTY
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For the purpose of this study these eight townships and the one ward will comprise the study area. It is fortunate that the study area, as illustrated on the map, provides a good sample of the county. Some townships are near the population center, Lancaster Boro, while others are far from it. Some are in the fertile limestone lowlands, while others are in the shale and sandstone hills and metamorphic uplands. Some were settled by Germanic peoples, while others were settled by Scotch-Irish and English. This variety should provide a valid sampling of barns of 1798.

LANCASTER COUNTY BARNs

John Beale Bordley wrote in 1799, one year after the Direct Tax, that "Farmers in Pennsylvania have commendable spirit for building good barns which are mostly of STONE," and that ". . . the barn is built THIRTY-SIX to FORTY FEET WIDE."¹⁴ Did such a barn exist as the normal, average barn in this early period or was it an exception? It seems ludicrous that a man would need or want to build a large Pennsylvania Barn the second year after settlement as claimed by Ellis and Evans, or even for quite a while after settlement. What would be the need of such a large barn when so little land was cleared and there was a lack of forage necessary to support herds as well as a lack of the need to store grain crops as the acreage of grain was still relatively small. In 1772, for example, Lancaster County's farmers had cleared only 38.4% of their land for an average of 62 acres per farm. They owned an average of only 2.5 horses, 3.2 cattle, and 5.1 sheep per farm.¹⁵ A large barn obviously was not needed.

After analyzing the 1251 barns in the sample area it was found that the average barn was not large and not built of stone. Granted there were stone barns and there were some very large barns in 1798, as described by early authors such as Bordley, but they were not common. In size, the average barn was only 59.1 by 26.9 feet and an area of 1589.8 square feet per floor. Table No. 1 clearly illustrates that there was a definite relationship between construction materials and the size of barns, with the round log being the smallest barn and the stone being the largest. Unfortunately, the construction materials and/or the dimensions were sometimes missing for a barn. Forty two barns lacked materials and twenty six lacked recorded dimensions.

The most common material used for barn construction during this period was log, not stone. Round log, log, and log with stone foundations accounted for 69.4% of all the barns in the sample. The stone barn, referred to by so many authors, made up only 21.2% of the sample. Was Lancaster so different from the rest of Pennsylvania? Shoemaker found that "Only in the eastern part of the state

LANCASTER COUNTY BARNs — 1798

Barn Material(s)	Barn, Size Data	Total Barns	Average Barn Measurements	Average Area Per Floor	Percent of All Barns
Round Log	38	39	42.3' x 19.6'	829.1 sq. ft.	3.1%
Log	494	506	51.8' x 23.7'	1227.7 sq. ft.	40.4%
Stone/Log	323	324	64.0' x 28.7'	1836.8 sq. ft.	25.9%
Stone	261	265	71.8' x 31.5'	2261.7 sq. ft.	21.2%
Stone/Frame	45	46	69.6' x 29.9'	2081.0 sq. ft.	3.7%
Frame	16	19	42.3' x 25.4'	1074.4 sq. ft.	1.5%
Log/Frame	4	4	56.3' x 28.7'	1615.8 sq. ft.	0.3%
Stone/Brick	3	3	60.3' x 30.0'	1809.0 sq. ft.	0.2%
Brick	2	2	38.5' x 30.5'	1174.7 sq. ft.	0.2%
Half Stone	1	1	72.0' x 33.0'	1800.0 sq. ft.	0.1%
Unknown Materials	38	42	52.5' x 25.7'	1349.3 sq. ft.	3.4%
Totals/Averages	1225	1251	59.1' x 26.9'	1589.8 sq. ft.	100.0%

Table No. 1

were there any stone barns to speak of at all." He lists only Montgomery County as having a higher percentage of stone barns than did Lancaster, but also suggests that the percentage for Berks County, for which the data is missing, was probably as high as that of Lancaster.¹⁶ What stone barns there were, seemed to have impressed the early writers to such a degree that they all but overlooked the much more common small 18th Century log barns. The stone barns were found in greatest numbers around the Boro of Lancaster. Donegal was an exception and ranked first with 39.1% of its barns built of stone.

Barns built of other materials such as stone & frame, frame, log & frame, stone & brick, brick, and half stone make up only 6.0% of all the barns. Those townships which rank high in the number of stone barns also rank high in barns built of these other materials. Donegal, as in stone barns, is again the exception with 8.3% of its barns built of these other materials. The greatest concentration of other materials was in Lancaster's Southwest Ward, Manheim, and Lancaster Townships. These three areas contained 68.0% of all the barns built of these other materials. This concentration included all the stone & brick, all the brick, seventeen of the nineteen frame, and twenty five of the forty six stone & frame barns. The reason seems to be the same as that for the relationship of stone and log; communication, market, and labor supply.

Round log barns probably represented the oldest barns in the sample area. Listed in the tax record are only 39 round log barns for 3.1% of the sample. This, no doubt, doesn't reflect the total number found in the area in 1798 as Donegal, Lampeter, and Lancaster's Southwest Ward list no round log barns. While no listings may be true for the Ward, it is believed that they were included under log barns in Donegal and Lampeter. Who can tell how many more in the other townships were simply referred to as log barns or as time

passed been demoted to the status of round log stables. These were the smallest barns in the sample but not all were small, as one in Warwick was 80 by 20 feet. One interesting fact found was in reference to the folk-culture mystery of the lack of the Germanic characteristic of housing the farm animals under the same roof as the farmer and his family. This trait seemingly wasn't transferred to the new world and no one seems to know why. There was one case of it though, where the Direct Tax Record points out that in Warwick Township a John Shue lived in part of his round log barn which was 33 by 12 feet.

Log barns, while no doubt including some round log barns as well as squared logs, represented the largest number of barns, 506, for 40.4% of all barns in the sample area. These, no doubt, were the first barns on many farms. Being the first barn, it was often quite small, since a large barn wasn't needed until large acreage was cleared and the farm could produce grain and livestock in quantities necessitating larger barns. As in the case of round log barns, not all log barns were small, as there were several over 100 feet long, with the largest, a Hempfield barn, being 130 by 30 feet, but which was listed as being only one story high. In Hempfield Township, where there was additional information, 27 of the 79 log barns were listed as being only one story high — hardly the typical Pennsylvania Barn. Were these one story buildings really barns? The best answer is that in 1798 they were called barns so that is how they were identified in the Direct Tax Record.

Stone & log barns are the second most numerous type of barn, with 324 barns for 25.9%. This type varied greatly in size and is found throughout the sample area. The largest, a Lancaster Township barn, was 140 by 27 feet with a lower story of stone and an upper story of log. The smallest was a Lampeter barn that was only 25 by 18 feet. Most of these barns, it is believed, were built with the lower story, ground floor stable area, of stone, and the upper floor of squared logs. Included in the Direct Tax Record is specific reference to 46 barns of this type. Not as clear are the two references to barns of stone and log but which were only one story high.

The stone barn, probably the best known type, was the third most frequently found type, with 265 barns for 21.2% of the sample. These barns had the largest average size of all types found in the sample. The largest, a Hempfield barn, was 136 by 46 feet and two stories high. This may be the barn Bordley was describing in 1799 when he said that the barns were of stone and "For giving room to turn waggons (sic) within the barn it is built thirty-six to forty feet wide."¹⁷ There were small stone barns as well, the smallest being a Warwick barn only 30 by 20 feet. Based on the evidence supplied by the Direct Tax Record, most of these stone barns were two stories high as 39 of the 49 stone barns in Hempfield were of this type. It is unfortunate that Hempfield was the only township with a great

deal of additional information. Some of these stone barns apparently were built early in the 18th Century as some of the writers have claimed, as a stone barn in Donegal was described as being "An old stone barn nearly falling down." As a result of the study and the rather small number of stone barns found, it is suspected that many of the stone barns were built in the early 19th Century, not in the 18th as is often claimed.

Frame barns were not common in 1798 because the combination of stone & frame, frame, and log & frame only accounted for 69 barns and 5.5% of the barns. The stone & frame barns totaled 46 barns and are second only to stone barns in size. Over half, twenty five, are found in Manheim Township and twelve in Donegal. Based on size alone, one would suspect that they were fairly new barns and had been built in the Post-Revolutionary Period. The largest, a Manheim giant, was 150 by 33 feet. Frame barns numbered only 19 with nine of this total in Manheim and seven in the Southwestern Ward of Lancaster Boro. These small barns were the second smallest barns in the sample with only the round log barns being smaller. The largest, a 95 by 30 foot barn in Lancaster Township, is large by any standard, but usually they were small barns under 30 feet in length. One of the frame barns was listed as being only one story high but the most surprising fact is that two of the frame barns in Manheim are listed as "old frame barns." Most of the frame barns seem to have been built in the mid 19th Century but these two prove that there were earlier ones built. Shoemaker says that they were a relative rarity in 1798.¹⁸ The four log & frame barns apparently had a log first floor and a frame upper floor. There was no other information on these in the Direct Tax Report except that three were in Warwick and one in Manheim.

The remaining barns include three stone & brick, two brick, one half stone, and forty two for which there were no materials listed. The stone & brick barns were found only in Lancaster Township while the two brick barns, rather small and square, were found only in the Southwest Ward. It was somewhat surprising that these are the only brick barns listed, as many homes were built of brick during the 18th Century in Lancaster County and that a brick grist mill was erected as early as 1778 on Swarr's Run in what is now East Hempfield Township. The barn listed as half stone was no doubt Stone & log or stone & frame, but there is no way of telling. The remaining forty two barns have no materials listed but we are fortunate that materials were listed for the other 1225.

Barns within the sample area were found to vary in size as well as construction materials. The area patterns illustrated that there was an inter-relationship between materials and size since size produced a pattern similar to that of construction materials. The larger barns were nearer to the population and political center of the county, Lancaster Boro, while the smaller barns were found in the outskirts. Donegal, as usual, was the exception. Lampeter, in spite of



Early stone barn in East Hempfield Township, along Centerville Road near Nolt Road, one-half mile south of the Old Harrisburg Pike. The farm was patented to Jacob Getz on the warrant of Peter Getz 17 July 1768, and was called "Getzhagen." By 1850 the farm was owned by George Trout. Photo by J. Loose

the large number of log barns, ranked quite high in size of barns, as its location near Lancaster Boro indicated that it should. Lancaster's Southwestern Ward ranked the lowest in size, but what

LANCASTER COUNTY BARNs BY TOWNSHIP — 1798

<i>Enumeration District</i>	<i>Barn Size Data</i>	<i>Total Barns</i>	<i>Average Barn Measurements</i>	<i>Average Area Per Floor</i>
Conestoga	113	115	59.5' x 27.1'	1612.5 sq. ft.
Donegal	149	156	64.3' x 28.5'	1832.6 sq. ft.
Hempfield	158	159	61.7' x 27.9'	1721.4 sq. ft.
Lampeter	186	190	59.9' x 27.7'	1659.2 sq. ft.
Lancaster Boro	10	10	37.7' x 26.0'	980.2 sq. ft.
Lancaster Twp.	30	30	66.8' x 29.3'	1957.2 sq. ft.
Manheim	115	124	61.6' x 27.8'	1712.5 sq. ft.
Rapho	220	221	51.5' x 25.4'	1308.1 sq. ft.
Warwick	224	246	59.0' x 25.3'	1492.7 sq. ft.
	1225	1251	59.1' x 26.9'	1589.8 sq. ft.

would be the need of large barns within the boro limits? Table No. 2 illustrates the average barn size of each enumeration district in the sample area.

BARN CHARACTERISTICS BY TOWNSHIP

CONESTOGA TOWNSHIP, which included the present Pequea Township in 1798, had 115 barns in 1798 for 9.2% of the barns in the study. As can be seen in Table No. 3, there were 77 barns in which log was the major building material. The stone & log was the most common type and seventeen barns were distinguished as having the first story made of stone and the second of log. Only sixteen were stone for a low 13.9%. Unfortunately 22 barns, 19.1%, were not identified as to construction materials. Conestoga was apparently still reflecting an 18th Century agricultural pattern and had not then reached the stage where large expensive barns were needed. In the size of barns, Conestoga ranked 6th of the eight townships.

CONESTOGA TOWNSHIP

<i>Material(s)</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Measurements</i>	<i>Area Per Floor</i>
Round Log	9	7.8%	40.8' x 21.9'	893.5 sq. ft.
Log	20	17.4%	55.3' x 25.2'	1393.6 sq. ft.
Stone/Log	48	41.7%	64.4' x 28.3'	1822.5 sq. ft.
Stone	16	13.9%	70.3' x 31.9'	2242.6 sq. ft.
Unknown	22	19.1%	51.7' x 24.6'	1271.8 sq. ft.
	115	99.9%	59.5' x 27.1'	1271.5 sq. ft.

Table No. 3

DONEGAL TOWNSHIP, which included in 1798 West Donegal, East Donegal, and Conoy Townships, contained 156 barns for 12.5% of the barns in the study area. Donegal is the most difficult township to comprehend because it breaks all the accepted generalizations which one might be expected to apply in this situation. Being the furthest from Lancaster Boro, it should be low in stone barns, yet it is the highest. The same generalizations should be true for size of barns and yet it ranks second in barn size. In almost every history of Lancaster County and Pennsylvania, and by most everyone writing on barns, except Lemon and Glass, you may read about the Germans receiving credit for building the large stone barns and yet Donegal was less Germanic than other townships and had the highest percentage of English and Scotch-Irish in the sample area.

DONEGAL TOWNSHIP

<i>Material(s)</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Measurements</i>	<i>Area Per Floor</i>
Log	60	38.5%	59.7' x 24.7'	1474.6 sq. ft.
Stone/Log	22	14.1%	60.3' x 28.9'	1742.7 sq. ft.
Stone	61	39.1%	70.0' x 31.6'	2212.0 sq. ft.
Stone/Frame	12	7.7%	66.3' x 30.1'	1995.6 sq. ft.
Frame	1	0.6%	47.0' x 22.0'	1034.0 sq. ft.
	156	100.0%	64.3' x 28.5'	1832.6 sq. ft.

Table No. 4

HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP, including the present East and West Hempfield, had 159 barns in 1798 for 12.7% of the sample. Hempfield, being near Lancaster Boro, was as expected, ranked high both in the size of barns as well as in percentage of stone barns. Hempfield was one of the townships for which there was considerable additional data on its barns. The single round log barn was listed as being only one story high. Of the 79 log barns listed, it identified 27 as being one story high and there was no listing of a two story log barn. Of the stone & log barns, nineteen were two stories, two were one story, and sixteen had the first story of stone and the second story of log. Included with the stone barns was the information that 39 of the 49 were two stories high. The picture seems to be developing that the more sophisticated materials—stone, stone & log, and stone & frame, not only meant larger barns but ones with more stories as well. The log barns, especially the round log, were often only one story. Most of the stone, stone & log, and the stone & frame were built two stories high.

HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP

<i>Material(s)</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Measurements</i>	<i>Area Per Floor</i>
Round Log	1	0.6%	30.0' x 22.0'	660.0 sq. ft.
Log	79	49.7%	53.0' x 24.9'	1319.7 sq. ft.
Stone/Log	25	15.7%	69.3' x 29.5'	2044.4 sq. ft.
Stone	49	30.8%	75.2' x 32.3'	2429.0 sq. ft.
Stone/Frame	1	0.6%	80.0' x 30.0'	2400.0 sq. ft.
Frame	1	0.6%	40.0' x 30.0'	1200.0 sq. ft.
Unknown	3	1.9%	50.0' x 24.7'	1235.0 sq. ft.
	159	99.9%	61.7' x 27.9'	1721.4 sq. ft.

Table No. 5

LAMPETER TOWNSHIP, including both East and West Lampeter, had 190 barns in 1798 for 15.2% of the sample. Like Donegal, Lampeter Township does not always follow the expected pattern. Being Germanic and near to Lancaster Boro, it is very surprising to find that Lampeter had the second highest percentage of log barns and the second lowest percentage of stone barns. While some of the other townships were settled at a later date than others, Lam-



Early stone barn in West Hempfield Township, along Druid Hill Drive near Summit Drive, one-half mile southeast of Silver Spring. The farm was patented to Nicholas Bower in 1739. By 1850 the farm was owned by Jacob H. Hershey. Circular opening in wall near peak is shown enlarged in picture inset at upper left. Photo by J. Loose

peter was one of the first settled so that settlement date could not be a factor. It is good land and has some of the best limestone soil and is an area of moderate slope. In 1772 it had a large percentage of its land taxed and almost half was cleared and the number of its horses, cattle, and sheep was above the county average.¹⁹ Yet Lampeter ranked fifth in the size of its barns and had a high percentage of small log barns. Like Donegal, this township is something of a mystery which merits further research.

LAMPETER TOWNSHIP

<i>Material(s)</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Measurements</i>	<i>Area Per Floor</i>
Log	57	30.0%	49.7' x 22.3'	1108.3 sq. ft.
Stone/Log	100	52.6%	63.5' x 30.0'	1905.0 sq. ft.
Stone	24	12.6%	74.4' x 32.4'	2410.6 sq. ft.
Stone/Frame	2	1.1%	70.0' x 32.5'	2275.0 sq. ft.
Unknown	7	3.7%	40.2' x 22.0'	884.4 sq. ft.
	190	100.0%	59.9' x 27.7'	1659.2 sq. ft.

Table No. 6

LANCASTER BORO, SOUTHWEST WARD, was the only part of the boro for which Schedule B, the section which contained the barn data, could be found. The Boro didn't have much agriculture and therefore lacked the need for large barns. There were ten buildings in the Ward referred to as barns and it was not unexpected that they were the smallest barns in the sample. They were built of the more sophisticated materials, and only one, a stone & log, used logs.

LANCASTER BORO, SOUTHWEST WARD

<i>Material(s)</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Measurements</i>	<i>Area Per Floor</i>
Stone/Log	1	10.0%	50.0' x 21.0'	1050.0 sq. ft.
Frame	7	70.0%	35.7' x 25.4'	906.8 sq. ft.
Brick	2	20.0%	38.5' x 30.5'	1174.7 sq. ft.
	10	100.0%	37.7' x 26.0'	980.2 sq. ft.

Table No. 7

LANCASTER TOWNSHIP, while a little larger in 1798 than now, was one of the smallest townships and contained only 30 barns. These thirty barns accounted for 2.4% of the barns within the sample area. Lancaster Township fit the generalizations well, as it had the third lowest percentage of log barns in the sample area found here. It showed the greatest variety of construction materials, as one would expect since it was so close to Lancaster Boro. Here again we have some additional information and it was found that all twelve of the stone & log barns had a lower story of stone and upper story of log. In the case of the two stone & frame barns, the lower story was log and the upper was frame in one and wood in the other. Lancaster also had three of the stone & brick barns in the sample. These three barns were listed as having a lower story of stone and an upper of brick.

LANCASTER TOWNSHIP

<i>Material(s)</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Measurements</i>	<i>Area Per Floor</i>
Round Log	1	3.3%	50.0' x 30.0'	1500.0 sq. ft.
Log	3	10.0%	51.0' x 30.0'	1122.0 sq. ft.
Stone/Log	12	40.0%	78.0' x 29.2'	2277.0 sq. ft.
Stone	8	26.7%	62.6' x 32.1'	2009.5 sq. ft.
Stone/Frame	2	6.7%	67.0' x 30.0'	2025.0 sq. ft.
Frame	1	3.3%	50.0' x 27.0'	1350.0 sq. ft.
Stone/Brick	3	10.0%	60.3' x 30.0'	1809.0 sq. ft.
	30	100.0%	66.8' x 29.3'	1957.2 sq. ft.

Table No. 8

MANHEIM TOWNSHIP had 124 barns in 1798 for 9.9% of the barns in the sample. Similar to Lancaster Township in being close

to Lancaster Boro, we find the lowest percentage of log barns and the highest percentage of barns built of a variety of non-log and stone barns. Here again is more detailed information on some barns. Reinforcing the concept that the round log and log barns were the earliest barns on a farm, as well as being the smallest barns, we have three of the round log barns being referred to as "old round log barns" and nineteen of the log barns referred to as "old log barns." One fact that was surprising was that two of the nine frame barns listed were called "old frame barns."

MANHEIM

<i>Material(s)</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Measurements</i>	<i>Area Per Floor</i>
Round Log	4	3.2%	42.5' x 18.8'	799.0 sq. ft.
Log	42	33.9%	50.1' x 25.0'	1252.5 sq. ft.
Stone/Log	8	6.5%	54.5' x 27.8'	1515.1 sq. ft.
Stone	31	25.0%	76.3' x 31.6'	2411.1 sq. ft.
Stone/Frame	25	20.2%	70.9' x 29.5'	2112.8 sq. ft.
Frame	9	7.3%	48.3' x 23.3'	1125.4 sq. ft.
Log/Frame	1	0.8%	60.0' x 30.0'	1800.0 sq. ft.
Half/Stone	1	0.8%	72.0' x 33.0'	2376.0 sq. ft.
Unknown	3	2.4%	45.0' x 25.0'	1125.0 sq. ft.
	124	100.1%	61.6' x 27.8'	1712.5 sq. ft.

Table No. 9

RAPHO TOWNSHIP had 221 barns in 1798, or 17.7% of the barns in the sample area. Rapho's pattern seems to indicate a more typical frontier agricultural region. It has the highest percentage of log barns in the sample area and the smallest barns, except for the Southwest Ward of Lancaster Boro. It was not a lack of building material responsible because the southern third of the township is limestone and the northern third is sandstone. Both limestone and sandstone are excellent building materials, and at a later date were used to build many barns in the area. It is a township quite far from the population and political center of the county.

RAPHO TOWNSHIP

<i>Material(s)</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Measurements</i>	<i>Area Per Floor</i>
Round Log	21	8.5%	43.1' x 17.7'	767.2 sq. ft.
Log	88	35.8%	51.7' x 22.7'	1173.6 sq. ft.
Stone/Log	78	31.7%	62.3' x 26.9'	1675.9 sq. ft.
Stone	52	21.1%	72.2' x 29.9'	2158.8 sq. ft.
Stone/Frame	3	1.2%	68.3' x 28.3'	1932.9 sq. ft.
Log/Frame	3	1.2%	55.0' x 28.3'	1556.5 sq. ft.
Unknown	1	0.4%		
	246	99.9%	59.0' x 25.3'	1492.7 sq. ft.

Table No. 10

SUMMARY

For anybody interested in barns and/or Lancaster County history, there is a great deal of data included in this paper. The data has been carefully researched and tabulated and can be checked in the Direct Tax Record of 1798, which is available on microfilm at both the Lancaster County Historical Society and at Millersville State College's Ganser Library. It is believed that this method of using factual information is the only way we can truly know what the rural agricultural landscape was like in 18th Century Lancaster County. Here we have facts, not hearsay, casual observations or speculation.

The questions? What were the barns of Lancaster County really like? They were mostly log, of one type or another, and were small barns. It was found that 69.4% were of log construction and the average size barn in the sample area was 59.1 by 26.9 feet with an average of 1598.8 square feet per floor area. There were larger barns of all types with the renown stone barns, representing 21.2% of the 1251 barns in the sample, being the largest barns. Were there regional differences within the county with respect to the materials and sizes of the barns built? Yes, there were differences which were based on the distance from the population and political center. We find that the larger barns are near Lancaster Boro. The greatest number of small barns and ones built of log were found farthest from the population and political center. Unexplained, though, is Donegal Township, with large barns of stone and stone & frame construction.

Much work needs to be done on the rural landscape of Lancaster County. Little has been published and there is a great gap in knowledge of Lancaster's agriculture in the 18th Century. Barns of 1798 is only a small vignette of this fascinating era of our cultural revolution.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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NOTES

- ¹ Christopher Sauer. "An Early Description of Pennsylvania . . ." (1724) R. W. Kelsey, Ed., Adolph Gerber, Trans., *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, XLV (1921) 243-54.
- ² Israel Acrelius. "Description of the Farmer and Present Conditions of New Sweden" (1759) Trans. by William N. Reynolds. Reprinted in *Memoirs of the Pennsylvania Historical Society*, XI (1874) p. 155.
- ³ Stevenson W. Fletcher, *Pennsylvania Agriculture and Country Life, 1640-;840* (Harrisburg, 1950) p. 82.
- ⁴ Lewis Evans. "A Brief Account of Pennsylvania . . ." in Lawrence H. Gipson. *Lewis Evans . . .* (Philadelphia, 1939) p. 101.
- ⁵ Franklyn Ellis and Samuel Evans. *History of Lancaster County* (Philadelphia, 1883) p. 348.
- ⁶ Francois Alexander la Rochefoucault Liancourt. *Travels Through the United States of North America (1795-1797)* (London, 1799) p. 65.
- ⁷ John Beale Bordley. *Essays and Notes on Husbandry and Rural Affairs* (Philadelphia, 1801) p. 134.
- ⁸ I. D. Rupp. "Geoponic History of Pennsylvania From the Earliest Settlements Till 1800" (Mount Joy Herald, 1855-56) as reported in Alfred L. Shoemaker, Ed. *The Pennsylvania Barn* (Kutztown, 1959) p. 14.
- ⁹ Fletcher, p. 82.
- ¹⁰ Alfred L. Shoemaker, Ed. *The Pennsylvania Barn* (Kutztown, 1959).
- ¹¹ James T. Lemon. *A Rural Geography of Southeastern Pennsylvania in the Eighteenth Century* (Doctoral Dissertation, University of Wisconsin, 1964).
- ¹² Joseph W. Glass. *The Pennsylvania Culture Region* (Doctoral Dissertation, Pennsylvania State University, 1971).
- ¹³ *Direct Tax Records for 1798, Part B of the First District, Composed of the County of Lancaster in the 2nd Division of the State of Pennsylvania.* (National Archives Microfilm Publications, Washington, D.C., 1962) Microcopy No. 372, Roll #6.
- ¹⁴ Bordley, p. 134. (Emphasis Mine)
- ¹⁵ Arthur C. Lord, unpublished computations from Lancaster County Assessment Lists, c.1772.
- ¹⁶ Shoemaker, p. 35.
- ¹⁷ Bordley, p. 134.
- ¹⁸ Shoemaker, p. 38.
- ²⁰ Shoemaker, p. 38.
- ¹⁹ Lord.