The Descendants of

PETER AND SOPHIA

(LAUER) RUTH

Anna Ruth Salzman

Compiled by

Jack Akerboom

and

1994

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PREFACE

Peter Ruth was one of many thousands of German speaking persons who came to Pennsylvania in the 1700's. He would be surprised to see that after two and a half centuries he had so many descendants and to see such an excellent account of their lives. The authors of this book have given us a well documented record. It is truly a labor of love. There is a good historical introduction that tells us about conditions in Germany. "Pennsylvania" was a magic word to these Germans, tired of wars and hardships. Of special interest is the diary of David Scholtz, a rare account of a voyage in the 1700's.

Today, records in Germany are much more accessible. Much credit goes to Akerboom and Salzman for their research, organization and presentation of the information. This collection of thousands of names is thorough and well done. It represents years of research. Descendants of the Ruth family are fortunate to have such a record. The maps and index add to the value of the book, so does the early history of the Lauer-Lower family.

On the ship which brought Peter Ruth and his family to America were others from the Wolfersweiler Parish including Philip Schmeyer (age 35), his wife and three children. Then there were three young men including Christian Lauer, an 18 year old blacksmith; Michael Staudt, age 21, a linenweaver and Michael Gisch, age 23.

I have a personal interest in this work because Sophia Lauer's grandmother was a member of my Seibert family at Wolfersweiler.

The authors are to be commended for this excellent work.

Raymond Martin Bell Washington, Pennsylvania

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INTRODUCTION

Our early Ruth and Lauer ancestors migrated from the Wolfersweiler parish of the Duchy of Zweibrücken in what is now the state of Saarland, Germany. Villages in this area of interest to our family include Nohfelden, Gehweiler, Hahnweiler, Richweiler, Eitzweiler, Hirstein, Asweiler, Steinberg, Mosberg, Deckenhardt, Walhausen, Wolfersweiler, Baumholder and Ulmet (See Figures 1 and 2). Large numbers of Germans flowed into Pennsylvania which was the most widely advertised of the British colonies in America. Our ancestors joined their countrymen already here "in the promised land", a place of religious toleration and liberal terms.¹ our European ancestors during the 1600's and 1700's and the factors which caused them to leave their relatives and homeland for the new world. Some left because of devastating wars in southern Germany, some because of religious dissent following the Reformation and others due to a spirit of adventure. Queen Anne of England also encouraged immigration as she was anxious to have the New World populated and developed.¹

Not all found an easy life in the new world, as one wrote back to his German, relatives....."Now with reference to the country," I must say that though much was said of its advantage in Germany and much written here to there in praise of it, I find it to fall short of representation in many things"....."He who comes to this country with some money and devotes himself to amassing wealth may be successful"...."Farm land is not so easy to secure as one thought. There is plenty of it, to be sure, but money is needed for its purchase as very little can be had cheap"....."Liberty of conscience is certainly allowed here, each may do or leave undone as he pleases. It is the chief virtue of this land and on this score I do not repent my immigration. But for this freedom, I think this country would not improve so rapidly."2

In 1727 the Provincial Assembly of Pennsylvania passed a law requiring all immigrants to sign the ship's register and take an oath of allegiance to the British Crown. Consequently there are records available of the names of those who entered the country by way of the port of Philadelphia, better records of German immigrants that those of any other nationality.¹

We do not know why Peter Ruth with his young family left Walhausen in the Duchy of Zweibrucken, how their trip was financed, nor how they traveled to Rotterdam, though probably by river boat on the Rhine. This journey could have required up to six weeks just to get to Rotterdam, with taxes and tolls to be paid along the way. Nor do we know whether prior arrangement had been made for them to go to Lancaster County (Berks became a county in 1752 as a subdivision of Lancaster County), although we do know that Sophia's younger sister Susanna Barbara Lauer⁴, the wife of Johan Matthias Theiss had arrived in Philadelphia in 1730 on the ship Thistle of Glasgow and was living in the Tulpehocken area.1, 3

"Some advice for those planning to make the trip: It is well to be prepared with some medied bread (Zweibach) out of which, if medied, you could make soup. Dried fruit, miss, plums or pears are likewise useful. You provide yourself with some wine or medie. If you come, too, bring with you an iron medie. The people of the Palatinate generally miss theirs with them. Also bring a kettle, a missing hos, a few rasps, one or two engraving missing hos a set bring hos set with you, for gold, copper

Peter Ruth and his family left Rotterdam 24 June 1733 on the *Pennsylvania Merchant*, a brigantine, which arrived at the port of Philadelphia on 29 September 1733 (or 18 September by our present calendar). It was not until 21 Jul 1733 that they "sailed into the big ocean" losing sight of the shores of France and Spain and three days later the shores of England on their right.¹

It is difficult to imagine the economic, and and political environment experienced by

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there."2

On the ship's register the family is listed as R-OO-D-T as it probably sounded to the Dutch or German Captain John Stedman. Peter's name was spelled PIETER⁶. Sophia⁴, his wife, was thirty years old at that time, the children's names were listed as Johan, Jacob, "Christina" and Pieter. From baptismal records³ we know they were Joh Michael, age almost 9 years, Joh Jacob age almost 7 years, Joh Christian age almost 7 years and Joh Peter age almost 2 years. This voyage lasted over 18 weeks and it is difficult to imagine making that trip with four young children.¹

Following Peter Ruth's name on the roster was Sophia's half-brother Christian Lauer^{3,4,6} who was not married then, but in 1739 married a widow, Anna Catherine Seibert Steffan and also Christian's cousin Mathias Gisch. A recent publication quoted: "Christian Lauer of Hirstein, son of Peter Lauer, a vassal of the Kellenbach government, a blacksmith by trade, had immigrated to America in 1733 in/ order to perfect himself in his trade and he took along 4 reichstaler as traveling money." It also states "Matthias Gisch, step-son of Andreas Kniebes of Answeiler, had gone (to America) in 1733 and had received from his step-father 40 florins for the journey."^{1,3} bound. High waves covered the sea...the upper part of the foremast was carried away.

August 14 - The wind had carried us far toward the South, so that the Captain distinguished the Azores.

August 31 - At dinner time one of the women spilled some butter in the fire so that it was all in a flame. Had the main sail been lying on the other rigging it may easily have caught fire and thus, between fire and water, the whole ship would have gone to destruction.

A diary of the Pennsylvania Merchant voyage was kept by a 16 year old passenger, David Scholtz, one of 13 Schwenkfelders on board. Following are some of the entries that David made in his journal⁵: September 7 -the Captain caught with a great iron hook a large fish that is called a shark.

September 10 - The Captain and the boatswain (bos'n) had a boxing match in which the Captain came off best.

September 17 - We met a small ship sailing from N to S. It came from Rhode Island by New York and was going to the British West Indies. Our Captain was much concerned for us, for he imagined it to be a pirate ship......He at once had the boat let down and went over to the strange vessel. It was four days from land. The Captain brought back with him a bag of apples; he gave them an English cheese.

June 28 (1733) - Our ship carried only 155 tons, but there were over 300 persons on board so that we were much crowded and the pilots at Gravendeel complained of this grievance.

July 21 - Finally arrived at Plymouth. There we tarried some days. Here our captain took in fresh water and provisions, and settled the toll.

July 28 - We met a French man-of-war coming from the West Indies. It sailed around our ship and made many inquiries of our Captain. Its name was 'La Elizabeth'. They use speaking trumpets. In the first part of the day we had calms, but towards evening a favorable wind. Then we hoisted 12 or 13 sails and the ship went September 19 - A violent storm arose during the night. It wrenched off the bolt from one of the window shutters and a terrible quantity of water poured into the ship. In the morning the waves were fearful, like rocky cliffs and high mountains. The noise of their roaring was horrible.

September 24 - Early in the morning the sailors from the mast see land. There was however some fog but the land was clearly to be distinguished by noon. Toward evening three pilots came out to us. Our Captain took the second one and let the first and last return. Then we entered the stream called the Delaware.

September 26 - All day people were coming on

rapidly on its course.

August 9 - The wind rose into a storm so that all the sails had to be furled and the rudder firmly

the vessel, bringing apples and peaches for sale. This rejoiced those who could lay hands on

money.

September 28 - We arrived safe and sound in Philadelphia.

September 29 - According to our calendar, we were obliged to go to the Court House and take our oath of allegiance to the King. Accordingly we all left the ship.

A second record⁷ of the trip was written by Johannes Naas, a Dunkard, in a long letter to his son in Switzerland and not published until many years later in 1899. Naas was an adult so his report is in a different style but contains similar information to that reported by David, though somewhat more philosophical. He reported on the problems of unrest during the journey. however, many people here, who are not particularly successful....Some are to be blamed for it themselves; for when they come to this country and see the beautiful plantations; the number of fine cattle; and abundance in everything; and, knowing that they only just have come here too, then they want to have it like that at once and will not listen to any advice but take large tracts of land with debts, borrow cattle and so forth. These must toil miserably until they get independent."¹

Adding to the burdens were other factors.

"Since the trip owing to the many changes of wind had lasted somewhat long and the greater number of the people had all' consumed their provisions and their conception was always set up six weeks from land to land, they had gone on eating and drinking hard, from morning until late at night. Then at last they found it a great hardship to live on the ship's fare alone; thus the greater number so entirely lost courage that they never expected to get on land again."

He wrote "the trip can involve danger if

"In the spring of 1755 a warring band of Indians came down out of the Blue Mountains and launched a series of forays into the Northern sections of Berks and Northampton Counties." "On the first of May (1757) many more people in Memesink (Minisink) were murdered by the Indians. Abraham Miller's wife was captured and Battenbender was murdered, etc. On the 19th, the Indians again killed many people in and beyond Tulpehocken."²

On April 10, 1761, Peter Ruth of Cumru Township was naturalized by the Supreme Court at Philadelpha, having declared before the Court that he had last taken the Sacrament of the Holy Communion on March 15 of that year at Hain's Church in Berks County.

one went on an old, bad ship or had a ship master who was a tyrant or ignorant of sailing." More important were what he termed hardships resulting from passengers making the trip without giving it sufficient thought or if married couples were not in full agreement. Most left home because of the oppressive government making them fear they would become poor, going into debt and becoming beggars. Nevertheless, they so regretted having started the trip that they became unreasonable. In addition to the problems of food which had been lying too long in salt, water that was foul smelling, there were quantities of lice that increased their hardship. He wrote his son that he wished he and his children could join them but urged them not to make the troublesome trip.

Originally this book was planned to be a part of a book on the Lauer (Lower) family. As research progressed, it became evident that there was enough information for a separate book on the Ruth Family.

The collection of information for this volume covers many years of research and includes information supplied by the many individuals and sources cited in the Reference Appendix, census records, cemetery searches, obituaries, church records and other sources commonly used for genealogical research. As anyone knows who has done family research, it is very difficult to assure the accuracy of information as dates may vary between census records, cemetery stones, death certificates and other sources. We extend our grateful thanks to all those people who contributed information. Even though every effort has been made to minimize errors, we apologize for any that may be present in the text, for whatever reason.

In conclusion he reported some of the immigrants had been disillusioned about the new country: "This country requires diligent people, in whatever trade they may be.....There are, Each family paragraph includes the following information:

Generation number: A Roman numeral which designates the generation of the individual. The earliest generation for an individual is "TV" for Michael Lauer of Hirstein. Each descendant generation is assigned the next higher Roman numeral.

Child number: Following the Generation number is the Child number, an arabic number showing the order of birth of a descendant, the oldest child being assigned "1" and the next highest number(s) to the child or children thereafter. Biographical notations: Include vocations, occupations, military service, education and other pertinent factors where known.

References: Sources of information are identified in the Reference Appendix. These sources are common to this volume on the Ruth family as well as a companion volume on the Lauer family.

Each family paragraph is followed immediately by family paragraphs for their

Name of the descendant: Early European practice was to double name a child with the second name being the "call" name. Thus, for example, several sons in the same family could be named Johann, each followed by a different call name or that name by which he would be known. Later this practice was dropped.

Dates: Birth date and place, baptismal date, death date and place, marriage date and place follow usual practice.

Name of Spouse: This is the maiden name of a female spouse or if previously married,

children. Missing information is identified by closed parentheses.

The index includes all descendant and spouses names shown in the text, including both the maiden and married names of females.

We invite readers to send us additions and corrections.

¹ From a speech given at the Ruth Family Reunion on 18 September 1983 upon the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the arrival of Peter Ruth and his family in America.

² Brower, Mary, Riegel Family

³ Burgert, Annetta K, Pennsylvania Pioneers from Wolfersweiler Parish, Saarland, Germany, 1983. ⁴ Bell, Raymond Martin, The Seiberts of Saarland,

her married name followed by "nee" and her maiden name.

Parents of spouse: The name of the spouses' father and maiden name (when known) of the mother.

Residence: Place or places of residence of the parents at the time they were living.

Buried: For those who have passed on, the name of the cemetery and location is given. If one spouse is still living, the assumption is that the living spouse upon death will be buried adjacent to the deceased spouse. Cemetery searches in Germany are difficult as burial places are reused after a period of time. This practice is common in Europe. Pennsylvania and West Virginia, 1977.

⁵ Riese Beschreibung der Schwenkfelder (Journal of a trip of the Schwenkfelders), published in Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, Vol X, pp 167-179, 1886

⁶ Pennsylvania German Pioneers, by Ralph Beaver Strassburger, edited by William John Hinke, 1934, Pennsylvania German Society. Lists 32A and 32 B ⁷ Johannes Naas letter of 1733, published in History of the German Baptist Brethren in Europe and America, by Martin Grave Brumbaugh, AM, PhD, 1899

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Children: A notation of the children

listed in order of birth.

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Figure 1. Villages and towns of interest to the Ruth-Lauer family in and near the Duchy of Zweibrücken (now the state of Saarland, Germany)



EARLY LAUER-LOWER FAMILIES

Chapter I

IV ? HANS LAUER was born () in Hirstein, (now in the state of Saarland), Germany and died () in Hirstein, Germany. Married (before 1630) in Hirstein, Germany to () born () in (). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children (V): Johannes, Nickel. References: 43, 44.

V 1 JOHANNES LAUER was born ca 1630

(after 1752 this area became part of Berks Co., PA). Married 29 Oct 1709 in () to MARIA "BARBARA" STEFFAN (STEPHAN) born 27 Dec 1683 in Asweiler, Germany and died () in () (p: Hans Jacob Steffan and Anna Catherina Baum of Asweiler, Germany). Residence Hirstein, Germany; Tulpehocken Twp., Lancaster Co., PA. Buried (). Children (VIII): Elisabeth Margaretha, Anna Barbel, Hans Michel, Anna Juliana, Maria Margaretha, Johann Nickel. Jakob immigrated to the United States through the Port of Philadelphia 30 Aug 1737 having arrived aboard the Ship Samuel, Hugh Percy, Master, from Rotterdam, The Netherlands. References: 18, 43, 44, 46.

in Hirstein, Germany and died 1 Mar 1698 in Hirstein, Germany. Married first 23 Feb 1658 in Hirstein, Germany to CATHARINA SEIBERT born 1638 in Hirstein and died 1 Jun 1669 in Hirstein, Germany (p: Hans Seibert and Gertz Nau). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Children (VI): Hans Michel, Hans Claus, Hans Peter. Married second 23 Aug 1669 in Hirstein, Germany to ANNA "BARBARA" born () in Luxembourg and died () in (). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children (VI): Johann "Nickel", Johannes, Philipp. Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). References: 43, 44, 73.

VI 1 HANS "MICHAEL" LAUER was born 1660 in Hirstein, Germany and died 25 Feb 1698 in Hirstein, Germany. Married 2 Feb 1683 in () to MARIA BRUCH born 1659 in Nohfelden, Germany and died 8 Mar 1700 in () (p: Hans Bruch and Susanna Glocke Block). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children (VII): Elisabetha, Johann Jakob, Hans Michel, Maria Margaretha, Anna Barbel, Hans Nickel, Anna Catharina. Maria married second 17 Jan 1699 in Hirstein, Germany to JACOB HEINRICH born () in () and died () in (). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children: No issue. References: 43, 44. VIII 1 ELISABETH MARGARETHA LAUER was baptized 14 May 1711 in Hirstein, Germany and died () in Berks Co., PA. Married 16 Feb 1734 in Hirstein, Germany to MICHEL SPENGLER born 10 Mar 1709 in Hirstein and died () in Tulpehocken, PA (p: Jacob Spengler and Sara Catharina Klein). Residence Berks Co., PA. Buried (). Children (IX): Johann Peter, Maria Margaret, Jacob, John, Christian. References: 18, 47, 73, 231.

VII 1 ELISABETHA CATHERINE LAUER was born 19 Jan 1684 in () and died () in (). Married first 1 Dec 1705 in () to WENDEL LINN born 1680 in Gehweiler, Germany and died before 1710 in (). Children (). Married second 4 Mar 1710 in () to HANS JACOB KEYSER born () in () and died () in (). Children (). Residence (). Buried (). References: 43, 73. VIII 2 ANNA "BARBEL" LAUER was baptized 9 Jan 1713 in Hirstein, Germany and died () in (). References 43, 44., 73.

VIII 3 HANS "MICHAEL" LAUER was baptized 17 Jan 1715 in Hirstein, Germany and died 16 Apr 1789 in Berks Co., PA. Married 9 Jun 1741 in Moden (Muddy) Creek, PA to ANNA BARBARA FREY born 7 Sep 1723 in Wingen, Alsace, Germany and died 7 Sep 1769 in Berks Co., PA (p: Peter Frey and Anna Barbara Schmid). Residence Tulpehocken Twp., Berks Co., PA; 1785-Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA. Buried Moravian Church Cemetery, Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA. (Found no stone or marker). Children (IX): John Michael, Heinrich, Anna Elizabeth, Anna Barbara, Johann Peter, Juliana, Rosina, Catharina Barbara, Christian, Maria Catharina, Margaretha, Christina. Hans Michael Lauer immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1737 with his father and siblings. Michael Lauer of

VII 2 JOHANN "JAKOB" LAUER was born ca 1686 in Hirstein, Germany and died (before 1745) in Tulpehocken Twp., Lancaster Co., PA Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co. was naturalized 24/25 Sep 1761. References: 44, 49, 73, 85.

VIII 4 ANNA "JULIANA" LAUER was baptized 16 Dec 1716 and died 27 Jan 1725 in Hirstein, Germany. References: 43, 44, 73..

VIII 5 MARIA "MARGARETHA" LAUER was baptized 22 Sep 1720 in () and died 27 Jan 1725 in (). References: 43, 44, 73.

VIII 6 JOHANN "NICKEL" LAUER was baptized 27 Apr 1722 in () and died 1749 in (). VII 2 HANS "MICHEL" LAUER was born 17 Mar 1689 and died () in (). References: 43.

3 HANS "PETER" LAUER was born 17 VI Mar 1665 in Hirstein, Germany and died () in (). Married first 22 Jan 1692 in () to MARIA BARBARA SCHANCK see KÖHL born 1670 in Hahnweiler, Germany and died 26 Mar 1709 in Hirstein, Germany (p: Jacob Köhl and Maria Barbara Schwieg). Maria was the widow of Hans Nickel Schanck of Steinberg, Germany. Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children (VII): Nickel, Eva, Anna Margaretha Barbel, Hans Nickel, Hans Peter, Anna Maria Margaretha, Anna Sophia, John Peter, Susanna Barbel, Franz Michel, Maria, Hans Jacob. Married second 19 Nov 1709 in () to MARIA ELISABETH GISCH born 1685 in () and died () in () (p: Philipp Gisch and Magdalena _____ of Asweiler). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children (VII): Johann Jacob, Johann Christian. A son of Hans "Peter" and Maria died 11 Jun 1709 and a child died 28 May 1714. Hans "Peter" was Gerichtschöffe (assistant court judge or assessor) and Kirchencensor (church census taker) in Hirstein. References: 20, 43, 44, 45, 73, 231.

References: 43, 44, 73.

VII 3 HANS "MICHEL" LAUER was born 16 Feb 1688 and died () in (). Residence (). Buried (). References: 43, 73..

VII 4 MARIA "MARGARETHA" LAUER was born 8 Sep 1690 and died 16 Dec 1720 in (). Married 28 Jan 1710 in () to CHRISTIAN SCHWEIG born 3 Jul 1683 in Richweiler, Germany and died 21 Apr 1763 in (). Residence (). Buried (). Children: (). References: 44, 73.

VII 5 ANNA "BARBEL" LAUER was born 13 May 1693 and died () in (). References: 43, 73.

VII 6 HANS "NICKEL" LAUER (twin) was born 22 Jul 1695 in Zwillinge, Germany and died VII 1 NICKEL LAUER was born 8 Mar 1693 in Hirstein, baptized 3 Aug 1693 in () and died as a child () in (). References: 43, 45.

() in (). References: 43, 73.

VII 7 ANNA "CATHARINA" LAUER (twin) was born 22 Jul 1695 in Zwillinge and died () in (). Married 28 Jan 1716 in () to JOHANNES SCHWEIG born () in Richweiler, Germany. References: 43, 73.

VI 2 HANS "CLAUS" LAUER was born ca 1662 in Hirstein, Germany and died () in (). Married 19 Nov 1686 in () to MARIA "MARGARETHA" WENTZ born ca 1665 in Wolfersweiler, Germany and died () in () (p: Hans Adam Wentz). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children (VII): Anna Catharina, Hans Michel. References: 43, 44.

VII 1 ANNA "CATHARINA" LAUER was

VII 2 EVA LAUER was born 14 Nov 1694 in Hirstein and died 26 Jul 1765 in Hirstein, Germany. Married 19 Feb 1715 in Hirstein, Germany to JOHANNES BAUM born 25 Apr 1694 in Mosberg and died 26 Sep 1760 in (). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children (VIII): Barbara, A Mary, Michael, Elizabeth, Jacob, S Mary, A Catharine, Margaret, L Catharine, John, M Catharine. References: 45.

VII 3 ANNA MARGRETHA BARBEL LAUER was baptized 27 Jan 1696 in Hirstein and died 4 Dec 1757 in (). Married 20 Feb 1720 in Hirstein, Germany to HANS NICKEL KÜNTZER born 26 Jul 1694 in Asweiler and died 8 Sep 1730 in Hirstein, Germany (p: Johann Michel Küntzer and Anna Maria Margaretha Kuntz). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children (VIII):

born 15 Nov 1687 and died () in (). References: 43, 73. Johann Michael, Johann Nickel, Maria Catharine, 73. John Matthias, Lisa Barbara, Margaret ?. References: 45.

VII 4 HANS "NICKEL" LAUER was baptized 29 Sep 1697 in Hirstein and died as a child () in (). Residence (). Buried (). References: 20, 43, 44, 45.

VII 5 HANS "PETER" LAUER was baptized 4 May 1699 in Hirstein and died 4 Sep 1718 in (). References: 20, 44, 45.

VII 6 ANNA "MARIA" MARGARETHA LAUER was baptized 17 Apr 1701 in () and died 17 Apr 1773 in (). Married 22 Feb 1729 in () to JOHANN GEORGE BUNGERT born 18 Jan 1701 in Nohfelden and died () in (). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children (VIII): Catharine, Barbara, Michael, Nickel. References: 45. eventually he possessed 900 acres of land. The land on which the town of Sinking Spring is located was once the sole property of the Ruth family. On 1 Dec 1752, George Hean (Hain) deeded four acres of land in Heidelberg township to John Eaker, Paul Lengle, Peter Ruth and Casper Hean (Hain), trustees. This was the tract "on which the church or the House of Worship of the Reformed Congregation of the Lower part of Heidelberg (Hain's Church), aforesaid is erected with a burying ground enclosed." (From Charles Henry Glatfelter's Pastors and People German Lutheran and Reformed Churches in the Pennsylvania

VII 7 ANNA "SOPHIA" LAUER was born 4 Mar 1703 in Hirstein, baptized 4 Apr 1703 in Wolfersweiler, Germany and died () in Pennsylvania. Married 15 Feb 1724 in Wolfersweiler, Germany to JOHANN "PETER" RUTH born ca 1700 in Steinberg, Germany and died 14 Sep 1771 in Cumru Twp., Berks Co., PA (p: Melchoir Ruth and Maria Catharine Trein who lived in Steinberg, Germany). Residence Walhausen; Cumru Twp., Berks Co., PA. Anna Sophia's burial place unknown; Johann Peter probably buried Hain's Church Cemetery, Wernersville, PA. Children (VIII): Johann "Michael", Johann "Jacob", Johann "Christian", Johann "Peter". Joh "Peter" Ruth married second () in () to CATHARINE MAYER (MEYER) born () in () and died () in (). Children (not carried forward): Anna Catharina, George, Maria Catharina, Maria Barbara, John, John "Henry", Francis, Eva, Maria Magdalena, Margaret. Peter and Anna Sophia immigrated from Walhausen to Pennsylvania aboard the brigantine Pennsylvania Merchant, John Stedman, Commander, from the port of Rotterdam, via Plymouth, England, qualified 18 Sep 1733 at the port of Philadelphia. Also on board was Christian Lauer and Matthias Gisch, the latter of Asweiler. Although proof does not exist, it is believed that Peter Ruth first settled in the Myerstown or Stouchsburg area of what is now Berks County as Sophia's sister Susanna Barbara Lauer, wife of Mathias Theiss was already living in that area. Baptismal records of Peter

Field 1717-1793). References: 44, 45, 47, 48, 80.

VIII 1 JOHANN "MICHAEL" RUTH was born 6 Nov 1724 in Walhausen, baptized 12 Nov 1724 in Wolfersweiler and died 21 Oct 1803. Married ca 1752 in () to ANNA "MARIA" MOSER born 13 Aug 1735 in () and died 13 Aug 1804 in Berks Co., PA (p: Hans Adam Moser and Anna Maria Boehm). Residence Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA; Cumru Twp., Berks Co., PA. Buried Hain's Church Cemetery, Wernersville, PA. Children (IX): Johann "Adam", Catharine, Christian, Margaret, Maria "Barbara", Magdalena, Michael, John, Leonard, Elizabeth. Michael served in the Revolutionary War as a Court Martial Man in the 7th Company, 3 Bn, Berks County Militia. References: 3, 7, 47, 48, 136.

See Chapter III for further information on the above family.

VIII 2 JOHANN "JACOB" RUTH was born Sep 1726 in Walhausen, baptized 7 Nov 1726 in Wolfersweiler and died 24 Sep 1797 in Cumru Twp., Berks Co., PA. Married first 16 Jan 1753 in Host, PA by Rev H W Stoy to ANNA "ELIZABETH" SCHELL born () in () and died () in () (p: Peter Schell and Maria Catharine Walborn). Children (IX): Maria "Catharine", Magdalena, Anna "Maria", Peter, Maria "Barbara", Elizabeth. Joh Jacob married second 13 Aug 1772 in () to CATHARINE KRICK (KRÜCK) born 4 Oct 1749 in () and died 3 Sep 1811 in Berks Co., PA (p: Frantz Krick and Anna Catharine Stouden). Children (IX): Frantz (Francis), Susanna, Philip, Jacob, Charlotte, Frederick, Jonathan (Jonas), Leonard, Catharine. Residence Berks Co., PA. Jacob buried Hain's Church Cemetery, Wernersville, PA; Catharine buried St John's Cemetery, Sinking Spring, PA. Jacob

Ruth's children by his second marriage also indicate that they were living in that area. Peter's earliest record of land ownership along the Cacoosing Creek was in January 1748 where served in the Revolutionary War as a Private in the 1st Continental Lines. References: 3, 47, 48.

See Chapter IV for further information on the above family.

VIII 3 JOHANN "CHRISTIAN" RUTH was born 7 Nov 1728 in Walhausen, baptized at Wolfersweiler and died 24 August 1793 in Cumru Twp., Berks Co., PA. Married 4 Apr 1758 in () to MARIA "BARBARA" EPLER HIESTER born 16 Aug 1732 in Geÿberg (present day Gaiberg), the northern Kraichgau, in the present day state of Baden-Württemberg, Germany and died 5 Oct 1809 in Berks Co., PA (p: Johannes Epler and Anna Barbara Wüstar). Residence Bern Twp., Berks Co., PA; Cumru Twp., Berks Co., PA. Buried Sinking Spring Cemetery, Berks Co., PA. Children (IX): John Adam, Susanna, Mary Magdalena, Anna Maria, Daniel. Christian served in the Revolutionary War as a Private in Captain Sebastian Miller's 1 Company, 6 Bn, Berks County Militia, commanded by his step-son Col Joseph Hiester, May 31, 1781 (see below). Barbara Epler was the widow of John Hiester (1707-1757) by whom she had four children (not carried forward): Maria "Catharine" who married John Ruth (son of Peter Ruth and his second wife Catharine Meyer), Joseph, Mathias and John. The Hiester's son Joseph served in the Revolutionary War, entering the service as a captain in the "Flying Camp", later promoted to the rank of colonel. Joseph was a member of general assembly, delegate to the Constitutional Convention, first state senator from Berks County, representative in Congress and Governor of Pennsylvania between Dec 1820 and Dec 1823. Christian Ruth bequeathed one and one half acres of land for a new Reformed Church and church yard (St John's) in Sinking Spring, PA. References: 3, 44, 45, 47, 48, 83.

Children: No issue. Margaret married second 15 Aug 1786 in () to JOHN "NICHOLAS" MOSSER born 19 May 1738 in () and died 19 May 1824 in Berks Co., PA (p: Hans Adam Mosser and Anna Maria Boehm). Children: No issue. Residence Berks Co., PA. Anna Margaret and John Nicholas buried Trinity Tulpehocken Reformed Church, Jackson Twp., Lebanon Co., PA. John Nicholas Mosser was previously married to CATHERINE LEY born () in () and died () in () (p: Christopher Ley and Anna Barbara _____). They had 12 children, 1 son and 11 daughters. Catherine Ley was a sister of Michael Ley, husband of Magdalena Lauer. References: 47, 48, 83.

VII 8 JOHN PETER LAUER was baptized 26 Jun 1704 in () and died () in (). Residence (). Buried (). References: 231.

9 SUSANNA "BARBEL" LAUER was VII born () in Hirstein, baptized 23 Mar 1705 and died (before 1748) in Lancaster Co., (later became part of Berks Co.) PA. Married 5 Mar 1726 in Germany to JOH MATTHIAS THEISS born 18 May 1704 in () and died 24 Aug 1748 in Lancaster Co., (later became part of Berks County) PA (p: Hans Matheus Theüs and Maria Margretha__). Residence Grunbach, Germany; Lancaster Co., PA. Buried (). Children (VIII): Johann Michael, Matthias III, John, John George, Henry, David(Daniel), Elizabeth. Johann Matthias Theiss and his family immigrated aboard the ship Thistle of Glasgow, Colin Dunlap, Master, last from Dover on June 19 and qualified at Philadephia August 29, 1730. Johann settled in the Tulpehocken region which later became Berks Co., and was a blacksmith by trade. References: 44, 231.

See Chapter V for further information on the above family.

VIII 4 JOHANN "PETER" RUTH was born 9 Nov 1731 Walhausen, Germany and was buried 14 Aug 1784 in Berks Co., PA, having been "killed by a stroke of lightning in his house." Married 5 Apr 1768 in Berks Co., PA to A N N A "MARGARET" HAIN born 20 Jun 1748 in (), baptized 3 Jul 1748 and died 10 Jul 1816 in Berks Co., PA (p: Peter Hain and Barbara Weiss). VII 10 FRANZ MICHEL LAUER was born 15 Oct 1706 in Hirstein, Germany and died 15 May 1771 in Hirstein, Germany. Married 27 Nov 1731 in () to ANNA CATHARINA SEIBERT born 29 Nov 1771 in Eitzweiler, Germany and died () (p: Wendel Seibert and Anna Maria Stephan). Residence Hirstein, Germany. Buried (). Children (VIII): Maria Margaretha, Anna Catharina, Maria Elisabeth, Anna Margaretha, Anna Maria. References: 43.

VIII 1 MARIA "MARGARETHA" LAUER was born 12 Jul 1733 in Hirstein and died 19 Feb 1739 in Hirstein. Buried (). References: 43.

3 JOHANN "CHRISTIAN" RUTH was 7 Nov 1728 in Walhausen, baptized at ersweiler and died 24 August 1793 in Cumru B., Berks Co., PA. Married 4 Apr 1758 in () to RIA "BARBARA" EPLER HIESTER born 16 1732 in Geÿberg (present day Gaiberg), the hern Kraichgau, in the present day state of m-Württemberg, Germany and died 5 Oct in Berks Co., PA (p: Johannes Epler and Barbara Wüstar). Residence Bern Twp., Co., PA; Cumru Twp., Berks Co., PA. d Sinking Spring Cemetery, Berks Co., PA. fren (IX): John Adam, Susanna, Mary Lalena, Anna Maria, Daniel. Christian d in the Revolutionary War as a Private in Main Sebastian Miller's 1 Company, 6 Bn, County Militia, commanded by his step-Col Joseph Hiester, May 31, 1781 (see below). Ener Epler was the widow of John Hiester 1757) by whom she had four children (not forward): Maria "Catharine" who ind John Ruth (son of Peter Ruth and his d wife Catharine Meyer), Joseph, Mathias John. The Hiester's son Joseph served in the dutionary War, entering the service as a in the "Flying Camp", later promoted to mank of colonel. Joseph was a member of m assembly, delegate to the Constitutional ention, first state senator from Berks My, representative in Congress and Governor msylvania between Dec 1820 and Dec 1823. tian Ruth bequeathed one and one half of land for a new Reformed Church and and yard (St John's) in Sinking Spring, PA. mnces: 3, 44, 45, 47, 48, 83.

Susanna, John A, Daughter. References: 3, 44, 45, 47, 48, 83, 121, 159.

Chapter V

CHRISTIAN RUTH FAMILY

1 MARIA "MAGDALENA" RUTH was born (), baptized 13 May 1781 at Hain's Church and died 1837 in (). Married 15 Jan 1799 in Jackson Twp., Lebanon Co., PA to GEORGE ADAM KALBACH born 6 Dec 1776 in (), baptized 22 Dec 1776 at St John's Church, Host, PA and died () in () (p: Adam Kalbach and Anna Maria Eva Spang). Residence (). Buried (). Children (XI): Daniel, George, William, Michael, Rebecca, Adam, Susanna. References: 47, 159.

XI 1 DANIEL KALBACH was born 23 Apr 1800 in (), baptized 14 Sep 1800 at Zion's Church in Womelsdorf, PA and died 1 Sep 1874 in (). Married first 28 May 1819 in Trinity Tulpehocken Church to CATHARINE SUSANNA YEAGLEY born () in () and died () in (). Children (XII): Israel, Elizabeth. Daniel married second 22 Feb 1825 in () to CATHARINE SEIBERT nee LASH (widow of John Seibert) born 20 Apr/Oct 1799 in () and died 17/15 Jul 1878 in (). Children (XII): Elvina, William L, Jonah, Josiah L. Residence Womelsdorf, PA; Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA; Womelsdorf, PA. Daniel also lived in Spring Township for many years. Buried Zion Lutheran and Reformed Church Cemetery, Womelsdorf, PA. John and Catharine Seibert had a daughter (not followed): Mary Ann who married Urich Reifsnyder. References: 10, 11, 12, 47, 225.

1 JOHN "ADAM" RUTH was born 10 Oct In Berks Co., PA and died 24 Dec 1824 in berg Twp., Berks Co., PA. Married 13 Feb in () to EVA ANN HAIN born 4 Aug 1762 (14 1762 on gravestone) in Heidelberg Twp., Co., PA, baptized 29 Aug 1762 at Hain's and died 19 May 1819 in () (p: John Adam and Anna Magdalena Heckert). Residence berg Twp., Berks Co., PA. Buried Zion and Reformed Cemetery, Womelsdorf, Children (X): M Magdalena, Catharine,

ISRAEL KALBACH was born () in () XII and died () in (). Israel and ANNA BECHTEL born () in () and died () in () had a son (XIII): Israel. Israel Kalbach Sr moved to Ohio. Buried (). References: 47.

XIII 1 ISRAEL KALBACH was born 20 Jan 1844 in (), baptized 26 Mar 1844 at the First Reformed Church in Reading, PA and died () in

(). Residence (). Buried (). References: 47, 225.

2 ELIZABETH KALBACH was born () in XII () and died Mar 1909 in (). Married 28 Dec 1839 in

XII 12 ANNA MARGARITE HAIN was born 10 Aug 1890 in () and died 15 Apr 1892 in (). Residence (). Buried (). References: 121.

3 AMANDA HAIN was born () in () and XI died () in (). Residence (). Buried (). References: 121.

4 ANNA MARIA RUTH was born 28 Dec IX 1768 in () and died 4 Mar 1836 in Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA. Married 22 Jan 1788 in () to ADAM HAIN born 18 Jun 1770 in Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA, baptized 1 Jul 1770 at Hain's Church and died 14 Apr 1801 in Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA (p: Johannes Hain and Anna Margaretta Guschwa). Residence Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA. Buried Hain's Church Cemetery, Wernersville, PA. Children (X): Elizabeth, John A, Daniel, Anna C, Peter. Tradition says they had two pairs of twins and one set of triplets. References: 3, 44, 45, 47, 48.

(). Residence (). Buried (). Children (). References: 48.

2 ELIZABETH A "ELIZA" XII NUNEMACHER was born 1837 in Womelsdorf, PA and died 25 Nov 1915 in Reading, PA. Not married. Residence Reading, PA. Buried Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, PA. Eliza was a school teacher and pianist. References: 2, 3, 48.

3 HANNAH M NUNEMACHER was XII born () in () and died 13 Feb 1941 in Reading, PA. Not married. Residence Reading, PA. Buried Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, PA. **References:** 2, 3, 48, 121.

X 1 ELIZABETH HAIN was born 11 Oct 1788 in Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA, baptized 26 Oct 1788 at Hain's Church and died 7 Apr 1861 in Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA. Married 14 Jul 1805 in () to BENJAMIN S HAIN born 23 May 1785 in Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA, baptized 7 Aug 1785 at Hain's Church and died 31 Oct 1867 (27 Oct 1867 on gravestone) in Wernersville, PA (p: Joseph Hain and Catharine Schauer). Residence Heidelberg Twp., PA. Buried Hain's Church Cemetery, Wernersville, PA. Children (XI): Maria, Catharine, Joseph, Hannah, Amelia, Anittia, Ellenora, Harriet, Adam H, George G, Elizabeth, Sarah A. Benjamin was a farmer and also had a general store. The Hains lived on a farm just west of Wernersville, now part of the State Hospital grounds. References: 3, 11, 47, 48, 77, 83, 121.

ELLEN NORA NUNEMACHER was XII 4 born 24 Jun 1844 in Reading, PA and died 24 Apr 1906 in Reading, PA. Married () in () to WILLIAM KEECH born () in () and died () in (). Residence Reading, PA. Buried Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, PA. Children (XIII): Harry B, Anna M, Eugene W. References: 2, 3, 48, 121.

XIII 1 HARRY B KEECH SR was born 1867 in () and died 1906 in (). Married () in () to () born () in () and died () in (). Residence Reading, PA. Buried Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, PA. Children (XIV): Paul R, Harry B, William M. **References:** 3, 30, 121.

XI 1 MARIA HAIN was born 29 Apr 1806 in Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co., PA and died 20 Aug 1885 in (). Married () in () to MICHAEL H NUNEMACHER born 1806 in () and died 1880 in (). Residence (). Buried Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, PA. Children (XII): Sarah, Elizabeth A, Hannah M, Ellen N, Maria C. **References: 3, 48, 83.**

XIV 1 PAUL R KEECH was born 1893 in () and died 1913 in (). Married () in () to () born () in () and died () in (). Residence Reading, PA. Buried Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, PA. Children (XV): William J. References: 3, 121.

1 WILLIAM JOHN KEECH was born () XV in (). Residence (). References: 121.

XIV 2 HARRY B KEECH JR was born 1895 in () and died 1904 in (). Residence (). Buried Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, PA. **References: 3.**

XIV 3 WILLIAM M KEECH was born () in () and died () in (). Residence Philadelphia, PA. References: 121

XII 1 SARAH NUNEMACHER was born () in () and died () in (). Married () in () to **_ROSENTHAL** born () in () and died () in XIII 2 ANNA M KEECH was born 1872 in () and died 1872 in (). Buried Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, PA. References: 3.







XIII 3 EUGENE W KEECH was born () in () and died () in (). Residence Philadelphia, PA. Buried (). References: 30, 121.

XII 5 MARIA CATHARINE NUNEMACH-ER was born 28 Nov 1846 in () and died 12 Mar 1848 in (). Buried Charles Evans Cemetery, Reading, PA. References: 3, 48.

2 CATHARINE HAIN was born 17 Oct XI 1807 in Berks Co., PA, baptized 21 Nov 1807 at Hain's Church and died 11 Feb 1876 (1870 on gravestone) in Womelsdorf, PA. Married Mar 1829 in () to MICHAEL SELTZER born 24 Oct 1807 in Womelsdorf, PA and died 4 Feb 1896 in Womelsdorf, PA (p: Jacob Seltzer Jr and Catharine Kaufman). Residence Womelsdorf. PA. Buried Union Cemetery, Womelsdorf, PA. Children (XII): Anna M, Levi, Hannah, Elmira, Lovina ?. Michael inherited in 1825 the two story stone inn built by his father in 1800. He added a third story and operated the Seltzer House until he sold it in 1859. He also was a farmer and horse dealer. References: 3, 10, 47, 48, 77.

Residence (). Buried (). Children (). References: 77, 121.

XIII 4 JOHN M SELTZER was born () in () and died as an infant () in (). Residence (). Buried (). References: 77, 121.

3 HANNAH SELTZER was born 17 Dec XII 1834 in Womelsdorf, PA, baptized 17 Feb 1835 at Zion's Church, Womelsdorf, PA and died 1 Dec 1921 in St Joseph, MO. Married 1859 in Kirksville, MO to JOSEPH RITNER GOOD born 19 Oct 1832 in Marion Twp., Berks Co., PA and died 9 Nov 1925 in St Joseph, MO (p: Edward Good and Elizabeth Anspach). Residence St Joseph, MO. Buried St Joseph, MO. Children (XIII): Edward S, George M, Katherine E, Mary A, Ella. Joseph was a farmer near Kirksville, MO until the Civil War when he served with the Missouri Militia as a Captain. After the war, the family moved to St Joseph where as a pharmacist he was in the wholesale drug business. Later he manufactured show cases for stores. References: 47, 77, 121.

XII 1 ANNA MARIA SELTZER was born 9 Dec 1829 in (), baptized 18 Mar 1830 at Zion's Church, Womelsdorf, PA and died 21 Apr 1833 in (). Buried Zion Lutheran and Reformed Cemetery, Womelsdorf, PA. References: 47, 77.

EDWARD SELTZER GOOD was born 4 XIII Apr 1861 in Kirksville, Adair Co., MO and died 17 Sep 1939 in Sabetha, KS. Married 5 May 1891 in () to LUMOLLIE KLAUS born 13 Dec 1871 in Atchison Co., MO and died 17 May 1944 in Edgemont, MD (p: George Klaus and Margaret Hall). Divorced. Children (XIV): Leota E, Wyeth E. In the 1890's Lumollie changed her name to MILDRED and married second () in Maryland to JOE MILES born () in () and died () in (). Children (). Cremains of Edward and Mildred buried Cumberland, MD. Edward was in business with his father, then a travelling salesman for a wholesale grocery company. He moved to Hiawatha, Brown Co., KS ca 1899. References: 77, 121.

XII 2 LEVI SELTZER was born 28 Dec 1832 in Womelsdorf, PA and died () in (). Married () in () to JULIA F THOMAS born () in () and died () in () (p: John F thomas of Sullivan Co., MO). Residence Womelsdorf, PA; moved 1857 to Sullivan and Adair Co., MO. Buried (). Children (XIII): Frederick L, Edgar T, Sarah E, John M. Levi was a barkeeper, then became a horse and mule trader in Missouri. References: 47, 77, 121.

XIII 1 FREDERICK L SELTZER was born () in () and died () in (). Residence (). Buried (). References: 77, 121.

XIII 2 EDGAR T SELTZER was born () in () and died as an infant () in (). Residence (). XIV 1 LEOTA EUGENE GOOD was born 6 Jun 1893 in St Joseph, MO and died 27 Jun 1990 in Hagerstown, MD. Married 17 Jun 1914 in Salt Lake City, UT to JOHN HENRY AYERS born () in () and died Nov 1969 in Smithsburg, MD. Residence Smithsburg, Washington Co., MD. Buried Cumberland, MD. Children (XV):

Buried (). References: 77, 121.

XIII 3 SARAH ELIZABETH SELTZER was born () in () and died () in (). Married () in () to ______SMITH born () in () and died () in ().

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Norman. John was in the ice, coal and lumber yard business in Hagerstown, MD. References: 47, 77, 121. and the former American Plywood Co., in Reading, PA. John graduated from Mercersburg Academy and Pennsylvania Military College and was in the service for 22 years. References: 2, 47, 77, 121, 226.

XIII 4 MARY ANNETTA GOOD was born 18 Nov 1869 in St Joseph, MO and died 16 Mar 1954 in St Joseph, MO. Married () in () to THOMAS ROBERT WALL born () in () and died () in (). Residence St Joseph, MO. Buried St Joseph, MO. Children (XIV): Annetta, Robert. Thomas was the owner of a large department store in St Joseph, MO. References: 47, 77, 121. William M S, Mary C, Paul W. William owned and published the Redlands Daily Facts newspaper. While living in Womelsdorf, William was a horse dealer. References: 3, 12, 30, 77, 121, 165.

XIV 1 ANNETTA WALL was born 17 Jul 1893 in St Joseph, MO and died 1978 in St Joseph, MO. Not married. Residence St Joseph, MO. Buried St Joseph, MO. References: 47, 77, 121.

XIV 2 ROBERT WALL was born 1895 in St Joseph, MO and died 1979 in Florida. Married () in () to IRENE MOSER born () in () and died () in (). Residence St Joseph, MO; Florida. Buried (). Children (XV): Beverly, Thomas R. Robert was in the department store business with his father. References: 47, 77, 121.

XV 1 BEVERLY WALL was born 9 Nov 1926 in St Joseph, MO and died 21 Jun 1932 in St Joseph, MO. Residence St Joseph, MO. Buried St

XV 2 THOMAS ROBERT WALL II was born 11 Aug 1931 in St Joseph, MO. Married () in () to JULIE_____ born () in (). Residence Bermuda. Children (five). References: 47, 77.

XIII 5 ELLA GOOD was born 1872 in St Joseph, MO and died 11 May 1964 in St Joseph, MO. Married () in () to FRANK BAKER born () in () and died () in (). Residence St Joseph, MO. Buried St Joseph, MO. Children: No issue. References: 47, 77, 121.

XII 4 ELMIRA SELTZER was born 17 Nov 1841 in Womelsdorf, PA and died 7 Nov 1902 in Redlands, CA. Married 23 May 1865 in Womelsdorf, PA to Captain WILLIAM GRAFF MOORE born 1 May 1841 in Womelsdorf, PA and died 7 May 1899 in Redlands, CA (p: William Moore, MD and Mary Ann Doll). Residence: Womelsdorf, PA; Redlands, CA. Buried Hillside Memorial Park, Redlands, CA. Children (XIII):

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