

JACOB SNIDER OF BERKELEY COUNTY (WEST) VIRGINIA

1732 - 1790

The following information pertains to Jacob Snider of Back Creek, Berkeley County, Virginia (now West Virginia). Jacob owned 238 acres of land on Back Creek purchased in three parcels. The certificate of deed for the first parcel of 140 acres was received from Lord Fairfax on February 17, 1773. The certificate of deed for the second parcel of land containing 44 acres of land was made out on October 5, 1770 and dated May 26, 1789. The last parcel of 54 acres was made out on April 3, 1779 and deeded on November 13, 1787. Jacob built and operated a grist mill on this property.

CIRCUMSTANCIAL CONJECTURE

Jacob's location prior to these land purchases is uncertain but current speculation indicates that he may have been living in Frederick County Maryland in 1767 when a Jacob 'Shnyder', Michael Miller, Conrad Fox, Simon Stuckey and Phillip Jacob Miller appear together on April 10, 1767 in Lancaster County to take the Oath of Affirmation and state that they are all of Frederick County Maryland (Pennsylvania Archives, 2nd Series, Volume 2, 467). According to Stuckey geneology, the above Simon Stuckey's son, Simon Stuckey III married Jacob Snider's daughter Margaret. This theory on Jacob Snider's location is further reinforced by the fact that Simon Stuckey II lived and died in Frederick County Maryland in the western portion near Hagerstown that later became Washington County in 1772. This is also true of Jacob's daughter Mary Snider that married Jacob Studebaker, since Jacob Studebaker's father Peter Studebaker also lived and died near what is now Hagerstown, Washington County, Maryland.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION

According to information, handed down through family generations, Jacob was a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War. In support of this family lore that Jacob provided provisions for the Army of Virginia in 1780, J T McAlister in his 'History of Berkeley County Virginia' on page 190 refers to The Virginia Order Book which recommended Jacob Snider as a Lieutenant of Militia on September 18, 1781. A number of Jacob's line have been admitted to the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), the most recent being the late Calvin Woodrow Snider who was certified by the Registrar General of the Sons of the American Revolution on July 28, 1982 - National #120613. Any of Jacob's descendents may attain membership by proving their relationship.

JACOB'S WILL

Jacob Snider's will was written on November 28, 1787 and probated on June 15, 1790 in Martinsburg, Berkeley County Virginia. Based upon a grave stone inscription located on Jacob's land, it is believed that Jacob died on March 3, 1790 at the age of 58 which would give his birth year as 1731 Or 1732. Jacob's will names only his wife Margaret and his sons Jacob, John, Abraham, David, Joseph, Daniel and William. The daughters are not named but court proceedings later identify some of them. After Jacob's death, his widow Margaret moved to West Providence Township, Bedford County Pennsylvania where she is listed as paying taxes until 1812 and deceased at the time of the 1813 Tax collection. Jacob's son Abraham and daughter Hannah who married Jacob Riner were the only two of Jacob's children that remained in Berkeley County Virginia. Jacob's other older sons, (Jacob Jr., John, David and Joseph) were each willed land that Jacob owned in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. The younger sons, (Daniel, George and William) did not receive any land but they shared equally in the estate.

JACOB SNIDER'S GRIST MILL

Jacob's mill located on Back Creek near the area today known as Swinging Bridge, east of Jones Spring was the site of his mill. The tract of land where the mill set was located on the 140 acres purchased on February 17, 1773. The 1809 Charles Varle map shows a grist mill on the Snider land indicating that the mill was built earlier than 1809. When Jacob died in 1790, he willed that his son Abraham should receive the land when the youngest son arrives at age. Abraham died in 1845 and willed that his property both real and personal be sold and the mill property was sold to Robert Penery. The mill was destroyed by a flood in 1889, the same year of the Johnstown Flood.

JACOB'S CHILDREN

The following are the known children and grand children of Jacob and Margaret Snider of Berkeley County (West) Virginia:

- 1 - JACOB SNYDER, JR - born about 1754 - possibly Pennsylvania, died 1848, Bedford County, Pa. Married to Catherine POSTETTER April 17, 1783 in Hagerstown, Md. The daughter of Abraham and Catherine POSTETTER. Nine known children: 1- John (Hannah Catherine ULLERY); 2- Jacob (Margaret STAYER); 3- Susanna (Daniel Frederick ZOOK); 4- Mary (David BRUMBAUGH); 5- Abraham; 6- David; 7- Elizabeth (Christian BRAKE and John KOONTZ); 8- Catherine (Adam STAYER) and 9- Rosanna (Andrew SNOWBERGER). Most, if not all were born in Bedford County Pennsylvania.
- 2 - JOHN SNYDER - born about 1755 - possibly Pennsylvania, died about 1793 (Will probated) - Married to Susanna OBERHOLSER about 1775. She was the daughter of Abraham and OBERHOLSER. Five known children: 1- David; 2- Catherine; 3- Jacob; 4- Abraham and 5- John (Susanna Fluke).
- ✓ 3 - MARY SNYDER - born January 22, 1756 - possibly Pennsylvania, died November 15, 1832 in Miami County, Ohio - Married to ✓ Jacob STUDEBAKER about 1773. He was the son of Peter and Susanna STUDEBAKER. Thirteen known children: 1- Catherine (Samuel STUCKEY - a cousin); 2- David (Mary ULLERY); 3- Susanna (David SNIDER - an uncle); 4- Barbara (Jacob RITCHEY); 5- Elizabeth (Isaac KARN); 6- Jacob (Catherine PUTERBAUGH); 7- John (Hannah ULERY); 8- Abraham (Elizabeth STEELE and Barbara WEAVER); 9- Maria (George HERSHBERGER); 10- Hannah (David PUTERBAUGH); 11- Samuel (Margaret RITCHEY); 12- Sarah (David RENCH) and 13- Margaret (John Daniel GUMP). Birth location of the first five children is uncertain but the rest were born in Bedford County, Pa. Barbara, Jacob and Maria died in Bedford County but the rest died in Ohio or Indiana.
- 4 - ABRAHAM SNIDER SR - born about 1763 - possibly Pennsylvania or Maryland - died April 7, 1845 in Berkeley County, (West) Virginia, married three times (1) Sarah CHIDESTER on June 10, 1797 in Berkeley County - the daughter of Eliphalet and CHIDESTER. Four known children: 1- Maria (John MYERS); 2- Jacob (Adah BUTT and Margaret INBODY); 3- James (Elizabeth FOUGHT); and 4- Charlotte (Andrew MILLER). Abraham Sr married (2) Mary MILLER on April 18, 1807 in Berkeley County - the daughter of Henry and MILLER.

Three known children: 1- Ann (died young); 2- Daniel; and Christian. Daniel and Christian living in 1845. Abraham Sr married (3) Catherine MILLER on January 20, 1919 in Berkeley County - parents unknown (she may have been previously married as she also names a son Andrew RINER in her will written on September 1, 1853 in Berkeley County and proved in March 1856. Seven known children by Abraham Sr: 1- Rose Ann (James M WILSON Jr); 2- Abraham (Barbary MYRICE); 3- William (Hannah BUTT); 4- George W (Barbara EVERHART); 5- Hannah (Teter EVERHART); 6- John William (Amanda Ann MCMILLAN); and 7- Elizabeth Jane (Michael PITZER). All of the children were born in Berkeley County and most of them probably died there except for Jacob (Hocking County Ohio), James (Sandusky County Ohio), Charlotte (Michigan) and Abraham Jr (Henry County Ohio).

5 - DAVID SNYDER - born about 1764 married to Susanna STUDEBAKER. According to STUDEBAKER genealogy they moved to Delaware County Indiana - no further positive data on this line.

6 - JOSEPH SNIDER - born about 1765 - died August 26, 1825 in Bedford County Pennsylvania. Married twice - (1) Catherine RINER - parents unknown. Nine known children: 1- Sarah (David SELLERS); 2- Catherine (George SELLERS); 3- Henry (Sarah REIGHARD); 4- Jacob; 5- Joseph (Mary Catherine STUDEBAKER - a cousin); 6- Daniel (Elizabeth STUCKEY - a cousin); 7- John; 8- Mary (Jonathon DIEHL); and 9- Elizabeth (Peter ENGLAND). Joseph married (2) Catherine BRAKE (BRECHT). Three known children: 1- William (Catherine SENSEMAN); 2- Samuel (Catherine _____) and 3- Philip (died young). Most if not all were born and died in Bedford County Pennsylvania except for Joseph Jr (Delaware County Indiana), Daniel (Jackson County Illinois) and William (Cass County Indiana).

7 - MARGARET SNYDER - (Rose or Regina) born about 1773 Berkeley County (West) Virginia died 1833 in Bedford County Pennsylvania - married Simon STUCKEY III on August 6, 1793 in Berkeley County. Simon was the son of Simon STUCKEY II and Barbara FOX. Seventeen known children: 1- David (Margaret BRECHT); 2- Daniel (_____ WILSON and Elizabeth DUNKLE); 3- Samuel (Ann Silver); 4- Mary (James Taylor); 5- Elizabeth (Daniel SNIDER - a cousin); 6- Jacob (Mary SNYDER - a cousin); 7- Joseph; 8- Simon (Mary Kegg); 9- Charles (Rebecca SILVER); 10- John; 11- Margaret (Joseph SMITH); 12- Susan (Samuel CARNEY); 13- William (Ruth POWELL); 14- Rosanna (Michael Lutz); 15- George W (Mary COMPHER); 16- Sophia (George W GUMP); and 17- Abraham. Most if not all were born in Bedford County and died there except for Daniel (Barton County Missouri, Elizabeth (Jackson County Illinois) and William (Green County Illinois).

8 - DANIEL SNIDER - born August 5, 1772 Berkeley County (West) Virginia and died on March 7, 1866 in Perry County Ohio. Married twice (1) Mary HARSHBERGER - daughter of John and Rebecca HARSHBERGER. Fourteen known children: 1- Rebecca (Peter EVERSELE); 2- George N (Rhoda SCOFIELD); 3- Jacob (Susanna Helser); 4- Mary (Frederick MECKLING); 5- Susanna;

6- Catherine (John STUMBAUGH); 7- John Henry (Susanna NUNEMAKER); 8- Daniel (Mary GREENAWALT); 9- Elizabeth (Emanuel BINKLEY); 10- Samuel (Catherine SPANGLER); 11- Solomon (Nancy LANTZ BAILOR); 12- Joseph (Catherine WINEGARDNER and Mrs Nancy WILKES PLANK); 13- Sarah; 14- Frances (Michael COVER and John HELSER). Daniel married (2) Mrs Elizabeth PARKINSON. Two known children: 1- David (Sarah WALTMIRE) and 2- Eli. The first six children born Bedford County Pennsylvania and rest born Perry County Ohio.

9 - GEORGE SNYDER SR - born about 1775 Berkeley County (West) Virginia and died _____ Belmont County Ohio - twice married (1) Barbara - parents unknown. Fifteen known children: 1- Mary (Henry KEEFER); 2- Margaret (John DENT); 3- John; 4- Samuel (Mary HOUSER); 5- Daniel (Mary Ann KEEFER); 6- Jacob; 7- Sarah (Casper KEEFER); 8- George Jr (Eleanor PARKINSON); 9- William; 10- Joseph; 11- Nancy (Harrison FOREMAN); 12- Susanna (Jesse WILKINSON); 13- Levi (Mary MARSHALL); 14- Lucinda (William GUMMERE) and 15- Eli. George Sr. married (2) Mrs Nancy EWERS in Belmont County on August 17, 1837. No known children. All of the children were born in Belmont County.

10 - WILLIAM SNYDER - born about 1783 in Berkeley County (West) Virginia and died about December 1815 in Montgomery County Ohio. He married Elizabeth WARNER about 1803 in Bedford County Pennsylvania - the daughter of Henry and _____ WARNER. Five known children: 1- Susanna (David ARNETT); 2- Henry (Nancy QUILLEN); 3- Jacob (Elizabeth HATFIELD); 4- Catherine (Benjamin WILLIAMSON); 5- Daniel (Margaret PIPPENGER). The first four children born in Bedford County Pennsylvania and Daniel born in Ohio. Most probably died in Montgomery or Miami County Ohio.

11 - HANNAH SNIDER - born about 1768 and died _____ Berkeley County (West) Virginia. She married Jacob RINER - son of Henry and Elizabeth RINER. Ten known children: 1- Catherine (_____ FSLINGER); 2- Margaret (John GRUBB); 3- Susanna (William YOST); 4- Elizabeth (George KEESECKER); 5- Hannah (Peter KEES); 6- Sarah (_____ HITE); 7- Rosanna (Archibald MYERS); 8- Daniel (Ann BLINCO); 9- Peter and 10- Jacob. All were probably born in Berkeley County.

12 - ELIZABETH SNIDER - born about 1770 - died March 25, 1826 in Perry County Ohio. She married John HENRICKS (HENDRICKS) - parents unknown. Eleven known children: 1- Jacob (Elizabeth HOFFERT); 2- Margaret (Solomon HOFFERT); 3- John (Mary FINK); 4- George (Elizabeth FINK); 5- Samuel (Mary EVERSOLE); 6- Joseph (Elizabeth HOFFERT); 7- Daniel (Sarah Saloma HOFFERT); 8- Peter; 9- Elijah (Catherine SPEAR); 10- Elizabeth (Samuel OLINGER) and 11- Mary. Most of the children were probably born in Bedford County Pennsylvania. Most probably died in Sandusky or Fairfield County Ohio except for John who died in Clinton County Indiana.

13 - SUSANNA SNIDER - born _____ Died _____. She married John OVERHOLSER son of Abraham and _____ OBERHOLSER. Thirteen (?) known children: 1- Abraham (Catherine MILLER); 2- Jacob (Catherine BENNETT); 3- Barbara; 4- Margaret (Joseph WAGONER); 5- Susanna (Jacob MARTIN); 6- Mary (Jacob FLORY Sr); 7- Samuel (Susanna EARHART); 8- Elizabeth (Joel WAGOMAN); 9- Absalom; 10- Daniel (Dorothy SALA); 11- Hannah (Michael MILLER); 12- Henry (Mary MCCORMICK) and 13- John Jr. All of the children except for possibly the last two were born in Bedford County Pennsylvania before Susanna and John went to Montgomery County Ohio in 1810. Most of the children probably died in Ohio except for Samuel and Daniel (Carroll County Indiana).

THE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

There is no documented proof of Jacob's religion but there is a great deal of German Baptist or Brethren background and influence in the family and lives of Jacob's children. The prevailing theory is that Jacob was the son of Christian Snider, who was one of the three Sniders (Jacob, Mathias and Christian) that arrived in Philadelphia on the Ship Allen in September of 1729 and settled in Earl Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. On board the Ship Allen was a large group of German Baptists, led by Alexander Mack, one of the founders of the German Baptists or Brethren who had fled Germany where they had been persecuted by both the Protestants and the Catholics.

The writer is attempting to locate data on all of the descendents of Jacob and Margaret Snider and would appreciate any information or clues that may help.

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