

# HMPS

Quarterly Newsletter

2017 1st Issue

Haldeman Mansion  
Preservation Society

230 Locust Grove Road  
Bainbridge, PA 17502



The birthplace of Professor Samuel Steman Haldeman, an internationally recognized naturalist, philologist, and linguist. He "epitomized the early 19th Century generation of scholars, who advanced American science and letters to a position of true cultural independence from Europe" (Sorenson).

## Haldeman Mansion Annual Meeting

**Sunday, April 23 at 2 PM**

**230 Locust Grove Road**

Our speaker is **Randolph Harris**, Independent

Consulting in Heritage Conservation & Community Development

Partner, National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom- Spring  
2017

His topic is "The Politics and Procedures of Preserving Sites Linked  
to the Underground Railroad."

Talk will be 45 minutes with Q & A.

All are invited to come and it will be inside the mansion.

Light Refreshments will be served.



# *Haldeman Mansion*

## **PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

### **2017 HALDEMAN EVENTS**

**Sundays, May 7- October 29**

*Open House with tours from 1 to 4 PM*

**Sunday, June 4 - Strawberry Festival** *noon to 4 PM*

**Saturday, July 15 - Victorian Tea** *at 4 PM*

**Saturday, Aug. (TBD) - Geology & Archaeology Tour**

**Saturday, Sept. 9 - Tavern Dinner** *at 4 PM*

**Sunday, Oct. 8 - Apple Fall Festival** *noon to 4 PM*

**Saturday, Nov. 4 - Kristkindle Mart** *9 AM to 3:30 PM*

**ELAINE JACKSON 717-426-3794**

**[WWW.HALDEMAN-MANSION.ORG](http://WWW.HALDEMAN-MANSION.ORG)**

\*\*\*The Geology Tour has been scheduled for Sunday,  
August 12th at 10 AM\*\*\*



## John J. Snyder, Jr. Historic Preservation Fund

The Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society is considering applying for another John Snyder Grant from the Lancaster County Community Foundation. Rarely are there funds available for the mundane “brick and mortar” work in maintaining a historic property. However, in Lancaster County, we have a wonderful exception in the recently established John L. Snyder, Jr. for Historic Preservation. This fund is for the restoration, maintenance, and repair of historical structures in Lancaster and Cumberland Counties, PA. Funds may be used for many of the “unglamorous things” necessary to sustain a documented historical structure so that it may be preserved for the education and appreciation of future generations.

From the Lancaster County Community Foundation website, we can learn a little more about John L Snyder, Jr. ... “Lancaster is fortunate to have individuals, like John J. Snyder, Jr., actively considering how their passions can live beyond their lifetime. John, a lover of local art, architecture, and history, spent his lifetime collecting decorative arts. He was the kind of person who would take apart a rare clock to see how it worked and composed letters on a typewriter. He had a love and passion for our local history, and wanted to see it preserved long after he was gone. We’re proud to say that John chose to work with the Community Foundation before he passed away in 2013. Now, our community has the John J. Snyder, Jr. Historic Preservation Fund, which will support local buildings and structures for the education and appreciation of future generations. This year, and every year, his legacy will live on. Thank you, John.”

John was also considered a local authority of historic buildings and was intimately involved with the preservation of the Haldeman Mansion. He drafted the first detailed architectural history of the mansion in 1967, co-authored the successful national register nomination in 1977 and, as the Lancaster Historic Preservation Trust’s architectural historian, studied, and commented on the question of restoring the previously dismantled



# Snyder Grant Continued

We were fortunate to having been awarded one of the first grants from the John L. Snyder, Jr. Fund in 2015. These monies were instrumental in the HMPS being able to replace the mansion roof and repair the deteriorated chimneys. The new slate roof and masonry work look great and will protect the mansion from water infiltration for generations to come.

Having many preservation projects ahead, the HMPS is now considering applying for another grant from the Snyder Fund. There are two viable options for our needs including:

1. Replacement of the roof over the summer kitchen
2. Remediation of the exterior stonework at points along and below grade at the mansion to prevent moisture and pest infiltration and repair of bulges above some windows and voids in the exterior wall near the old porch

After the roofing project, we began a fund to install HVAC in the mansion to permit year-round use. This project was actually begun years ago with the installation of geo-thermal wells near the mansion awaiting connection to the mansion. However, the cost to install HVAC at this time is prohibitive for our means and, upon the advice of our architects, should wait until basic rehabilitation work is done on the exterior and interior of the mansion. Installing HVAC at this time may actually harm the mansion in its current state due to the expansion and contraction of the sensitive building fabric with the introduction of heating and cooling. Such is the life of a historic structure.

The HMPS board will be considering the two viable options soon to be able to construct a worthwhile grant application. Stay tuned for news and details.

Tim Smedick  
HMPS Consultant



## Haldeman Mansion Wish List

- ◆ Mattress with straw for a twin sized rope bed in the Summer House
- ◆ New or gently used tea towels and dish clothes
- ◆ Donation of good folding chairs.



# Locust Grove's Colonial Heritage

## Part Three

### Locust Grove's Second Owner

First owner, John Galbraith sold the extreme northeast corner of the original Locust Grove property in 1756 1/. The balance, about 406 acres, he sold to his uncle James Galbreath, Esquire (1703-1786) and his wife Elizabeth Bertram (1713-1799) on December 29, 1757. The balance included about 3/4 of a mile of the Susquehanna's eastern river bank, the confluence of the Conoy Creek and Susquehanna River and the present day Haldeman Mansion property.

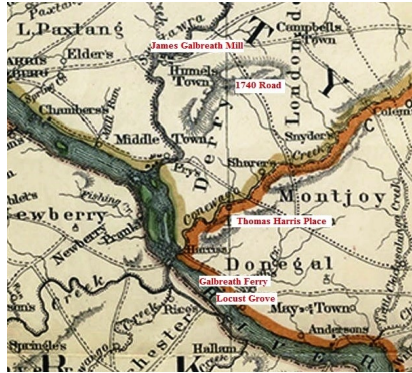
### James Galbreath, Jr., Esquire

James was a man of considerable ambition and wealth. He was active in his church (a founder of the Derry Presbyterian Church, Hershey, PA). He was twice-elected Sheriff of Lancaster County 2/ (1742-43) and was a commissioned Justice in the Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas (1746-58). During the French & Indian War (1754-1763), he served as Lieutenant Colonel and Provincial Commissioner. He was appointed Lieutenant of Cumberland County during the American Revolution 3/. By profession, he was a miller and farmer. During the French & Indian War, according to Pennsylvania's Colonial Archives, he was a prominent figure in monitoring and securing Derry, Paxtang, Hanover and Lebanon Townships against Indian raids.

James and his father, James, Sr. (1666-1744), settled on 53 acres in Derry Township by 1737, at the confluence of the Swatara and Spring Creeks. Today, this property lies to the immediate west of the Giant Center's parking lot at Hershey, PA. Here, he built a grist mill. In 1740, a road was laid out from the mill to Thomas Harris' place (present day Elizabethtown). This road was the precursor to the old Hershey Road and present day Route 743. In 1744 James & Elizabeth took out a warrant for a neighboring 187 acre property that today is home to the Milton Hershey Middle School and Hershey's Chocolate World. Thirteen years later, when James was 54 years old, on July 10, 1757, they sold these two properties.



After a five and 1/2 month delay, they purchased Locust Grove. They owned (and we believe resided at) Locust Grove for about 26 months, during the French & Indian War. At the time of their move, James & Elizabeth had three sons and two daughters aged ten years or younger.



*Figure 1: Reading Howell Map, 1792. This map is provided to show the locations and features mentioned in this article during the period 1737-1804.*

### The Move to Donegal Twp.

There are several theories as to why James and Elizabeth purchased Locust Grove:

1. James was seeking safety for his family, fleeing their home on the frontier, where the threat of deadly Indian raids must have been worrisome.
2. James was helping his nephew John, who needed collateral after having incurring significant losses in his fur trading business 1/.
3. James was helping his nephew John save Locust Grove from potential bankruptcy sale for one of his children 1/.
4. Perhaps a combination of the above?



# Colonial Heritage Continued

## Was it for the safety of his family?

In the mid 1750's, James's thoughts must have been preoccupied by the war, as well as his mill and farming operations, and the safety of his family, especially when his military duties required him to be away from home. As early as January 1756 Derry Township had organized its own guard to be deployed in neighboring Hanover Township, to the north, for protection from Indian raids. In early 1757, before James sold his two properties, petitioners from Hanover Township pleaded for a garrison of troops, after a widespread enlistment of men for the war left the township exposed to attack.

It is very possible that James sent his family south well before his two properties were sold. Such an action may help explain why there was a 5 1/2 month gap, a delay, between the sale of his properties and his purchase of Locust Grove. Perhaps, his wife and young children boarded with nephew John and his family?

On August 9th, after the sale of his properties, James wrote a letter to an Edward Shippen, Esq. in Lancaster, "There is nothing but bad news every day last week. \*\* We shall all be broke, people are going off daily from these parts and leaving almost there all behind them; and as for my part, I think a little time will lay the country waste by flight, so the enemy will have nothing to do but take what we have worked for." The next day he followed with a second letter "There is nothing here, almost every day, but murder by the Indians in some parts or other. About five miles above me, at Manada Gap, there were two of the Province soldiers killed and one wounded. There were but three Indians, and they came in among ten of our men. \*\* The name, or sight of an Indian, makes all in these parts tremble ..."

## Was it to provide John with collateral?

John, along with other fur traders, had significant financial losses during hostilities building up to the French & Indian War 1/. James would have been aware of his nephew's losses and sympathetic to any risk of him losing his land.







If this was indeed the case, this theory may support the belief that John continued to live on the Locust Grove property after he sold it to James. It would help explain why John, after selling his two properties (1757 & 1758) and upon his death (1769) in Donegal Township, possessed a significant inventory of farming equipment and 42 acres of crops. There is no evidence, no recorded deeds, indicating him having owned any lands in Donegal after 1758.

### **Was it to preserve the property for one of John's children?**

James & Elizabeth sold Locust Grove to a Patrick Work on March 8, 1760. This sale took place three days after Patrick had married Jannet Galbreath, one of John's daughters. James and Elizabeth sold it for 1,200 pounds, exactly what they paid for it. This could support the view that there was a prior agreement to hold the property for Jannet and her husband. However, such an agreement was not included in the December 29, 1757 deed.

### **To Be Continued In Our Next Newsletter**

References:


1/ See "Locust Grove's Colonial Heritage, Part 2", HMPS Fourth Quarterly Newsletter, 2016.

2/ Lancaster County included Derry and Paxtang Townships until 1785, when Dauphin County was created. It included a portion of Lebanon County until 1813.

3/ Too old for active duty, James acted in a consultative capacity for the county.

**Readers interested in additional information on this article, including source materials, can contact Dale Good, [dale\\_good@hotmail.com](mailto:dale_good@hotmail.com).**





HALDEMAN MANSION PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC.  
2015-2016

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**NEW or RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**2017**

Name _____	Circle Your Amount
	Contributing \$20
Address _____	Family \$30
	Supporting \$50
_____	Sustaining \$60
	Benefactor \$100
Telephone _____	Patron \$500
	Corporate \$1000
Email _____	Heating Fund _____
Heating Donation (HONOR or MEMORY) of: _____ \$ _____	

**Donations made to the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society, Inc. are tax deductible under section 501 C (3) of the Internal Revenue Service. The official registration of the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.**

**RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK TO:**

**HMPS**

**PO BOX 417**

**BAINBRIDGE PA 17502**

**Volunteers are the lifeblood of this organization and we need all who can help in maintaining and restoring this beautiful property full of history. Please express your area of interest.**

**I am willing to (Check all that apply):**

Serve on an event committee \_\_\_\_\_ Help at events \_\_\_\_\_ Donate food items for events \_\_\_\_\_ Help paint \_\_\_\_\_ Carpentry Repairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Do other repairs \_\_\_\_\_ Help with cleaning inside \_\_\_\_\_ Clean up yard \_\_\_\_\_  
Do research & help with exhibits \_\_\_\_\_ Help write grant requests \_\_\_\_\_  
Serve as volunteer contact (call volunteers to schedule hours) \_\_\_\_\_

**IF YOU GET THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL**

**PRINT THIS PAGE TO PAY YOUR DUES or MAKE A DONATION**



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