

THE CARD – Vol. 23, No. 3, Issue 257, March 2012

A Publication of the Lancaster County Postcard Club, Lancaster, PA

Enjoying postcards through education and entertainment.

Next Meeting: Mar. 19, 2012. Farm & Home Center. Buy, Sell and Trade from 4:30. Meeting - 7 PM.

Yearly membership is \$10 (\$5 for each additional member at the same address.)

NOW IS THE TIME ANNUAL DUES SHOULD BE PAID. PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECKS TO -
Membership chairman: Richard Pendergrast, 950 Willow Valley Lakes Dr., I-506, Willow Street,
PA 17584.

Club website: www.playc.com/clubs/lanaster or Google search: Lancaster County Postcard Club.

February Meeting

Business

Set up and selling from 4 to 7 were Ruth and Harold Moyer, Al Schaub, Aaron and Lynn Heckler, Dede Schaeffer, Jere Greider, Kay Feight, Gretchen and Dale Biesecker, Mike Middleton and Jim Ward. There were 28 members present. Until we get our treasury balance in better shape, the directors have decided to institute two cost-cutting measures. Purchase of carrying cases for the projectors has been tabled and Past Presidents will be asked to pay dues (from which they were exempted). We again thank Ruth and Harold Moyer for their hand in ordering and serving our 22nd birthday cake. There was no new business. Dale Schaub won a \$3 club certificate and James Tanis won a postcard booklet of VA. Jere Greider won the 50/50.

NOTE: 2012 Dues should be paid this month or your membership will lapse. Info above in the masthead.

Feb. Program

Members offered a favorite card and brief explanation. We saw mushrooms and elves, a birth place, old magazines, a rural school, comic kids, art scenery, and a steel bridge. Thanks to all who participated.

March Program

"The little dot on the map south of Erie, PA, and north of Meadville is Cambridge Springs. It is little known now, but a hundred years ago it was one of the most popular towns in the state. From Dr. Gray's mineral spring to the impressive Hotel Riker, the town was a major stop between New York and Chicago. **James Tanis** will introduce us to **Cambridge Springs** through his collection of postcards, using the Elmo and projector.

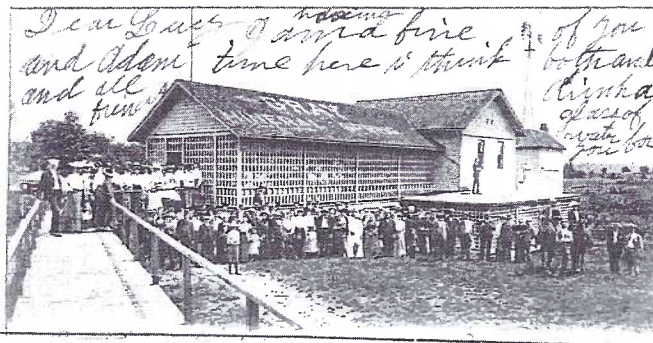
Your editor received this note from Cheryl Edwards, our LCPC friend from Kensington, MD.

"Jim

Just wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the [Feb.] LCPC newsletter that we received on Saturday. Ironically we had just come through Quarryville and were wondering about the quarries. We went to the paper show in Elkton and then swung up through Quarryville on the way home to pick up some milk in glass bottles at the Maplehoff Dairy Store. Back when I was in elementary school, I went wading in one of the quarries in Rheems; also climbed up to the top of the stone crusher one time. I went to school with a Heisey girl and she was good at talking people into doing things they knew they shouldn't do.

Enjoyed the article on HBG's Washington cards especially the card captioned 'Liberty was his fairy godmother'. Somewhere in my collection I have an HBG card that shows the world and a stork carrying BABY GEORGE WASHINGTON. I think the caption is "What if the stork had dropped George Washington in another country?" Have you ever seen this card? Were these cards from your own collection?"

They were, Cheryl, as are many of the PCs in THE CARD. JW



The Gray Mineral Springs at Cambridge Springs, PA.



Hotel Rider. Cambridge Springs, PA.

February Postcard Competition

Cards depicting YESTERYEAR – the way things used to be, was the subject. As always there was a great variety of entries.

First Lynn Heckler Horn and Hardart Automat
Second Ray Dennis Bell Telephone Relieves Anxiety
Third Walter Mowrer The Turkey Hill Experience

Honorable Mentions

Dede Schaeffer Family Postcard Album
James Tanis Grand Old Summer Time Hayride

Other Exhibits and Their Owners

Dick Pendergrast Pyramid
Kay Feight Wash Day
Henry Fortna Leap Year
Harold Moyer 1908 Leap Year

Kristin Fortna Little Girl and Her Dog
Jim Ward Child Riding an Irish Mail Cart
Dale Biesecker Eagle Horse Mower
Gretchen Biesecker Heinz - Weighing Preserves
Dede Schaeffer The Titanic

A great turn-out and great subjects. Thanks to all.

March - FOREIGN is the subject and it will be a board.

Future Shows

Mar. 10 Harrisburg Postcard Show, Linglestown Fire Co., 5901 Linglestown Rd. off I-81, Exit #72. 9 to 4.

Mar. 30-31 Morlatton Postcard Show, Farm & Home Center, 10 to 6 and 10 to 4.

April 28-29 Allentown Book, Paper & Adv. Show, Agricultural Hall, Fairgrounds. 9 to 5 and 9-3.

Local Grist Mills, Etc. by Jim Ward

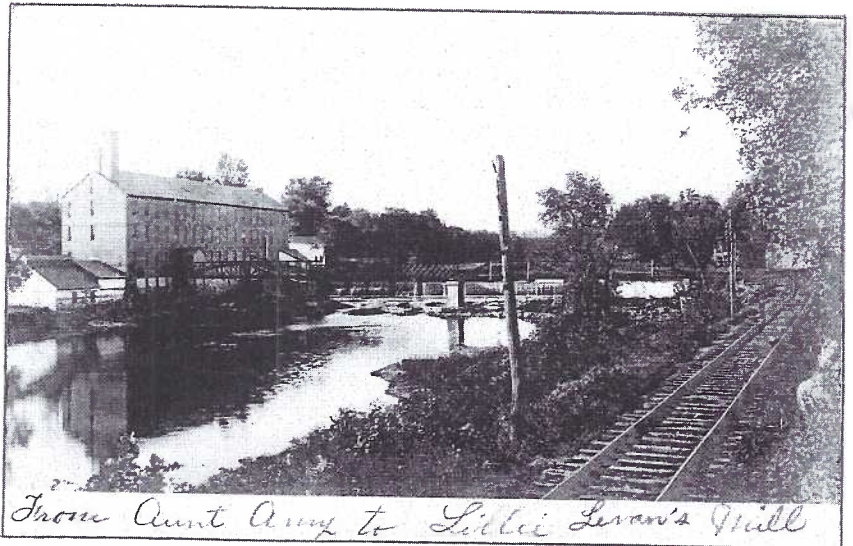
Members Are Encouraged to Offer Postcard Views of Mills

In the recent past I've hinted that grist mills played an important role in establishing Lancaster County. In fact, because we're blessed with an abundance of fast-moving streams, water-powered grist mills were an *extremely* important factor in deciding where many of our communities would take root and thrive. Most major roads were first developed to take grain to the mill or to transport flour to the marketplace. Hard work and long hours made the miller successful. His life often expanded – to become a merchant, a banker, a leader in his community. And he always welcomed his neighbors to fish from the mill pond, for wasn't he using their water to make a living?

Do you know that there were over 300 grist mills in Lancaster County and that nearly one in three still stands? A dozen or so still operate - mixing and distributing different kinds of flour; and two of them actually grind (grist) flour. Some mills were built and ran exclusively for other purposes. There were saw mills, woolen mills, paper mills, mills for carding and fulling or for making cider. A few mills could perform multiple tasks.

This article can be the first in a series of Local Mills on Postcards and since very few PC views designate what the primary job was for that mill, let's show any mill we can find but concentrate on its location and perhaps the several names by which it is known. Like covered bridges, mills were often known by their location, their builder or their owner (and owners changed over the generations).

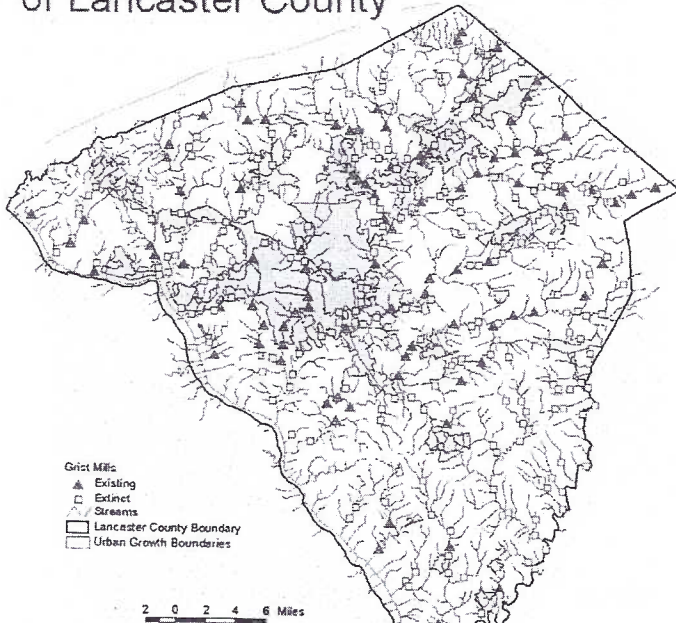
This can be a great club-wide project. Local members especially, search out your local mill postcards; bring them to the meetings; or scan and send them by E-mail. Chrome PCs often have a brief description on the back. Send that, too. Our in-house covered bridge photographer, Bob Shirk, included in his latest published CB series, several mills on postcards which we show here. Please don't be intimidated by the data provided by the mills in this article. We'll try to find out more about your mills, particularly if they are water-powered mills.



From Aunt Amy to Lillie Levan's Mill

We'll start off this parade of **LOCAL MILLS** with one of the largest. Levan's was on the Conestoga Creek/River south of Lancaster City "on the road to Martic Forge" (today's New Danville Pike). There were smaller mills on the site since 1767 (saw mills from 1820 to 1870). This gigantic 4 ½ story brick mill was erected in 1870. It was known as **Levan's Grist and Cotton Mill** in the 1875 atlas and as **Levan's Flour Mill** in the 1899 atlas. It was 40' x 155'. It burned down in 1913. The real photo view above shows Levan's Mill with a 3-span lattice type bridge crossing the Conestoga. It had a single track for hauling grist to the mill and flour from the mill to the Quarryville RR (tracks seen on the right). A section of that lattice bridge was later used to accommodate bathers walking from the bathing house (the old Abbeyville Mill) to the pool at Maple Grove. The RP card below **After the Fire at Levan's Mill, Lancaster, Pa.** was mailed from Lancaster, July 24, 1913, showing the Levan Mill fire. This postmark refutes the 7/24/1915 date of the fire found in several local history books. The chimney of the mill is in the distance to the right.

Water Powered Grist Mills of Lancaster County



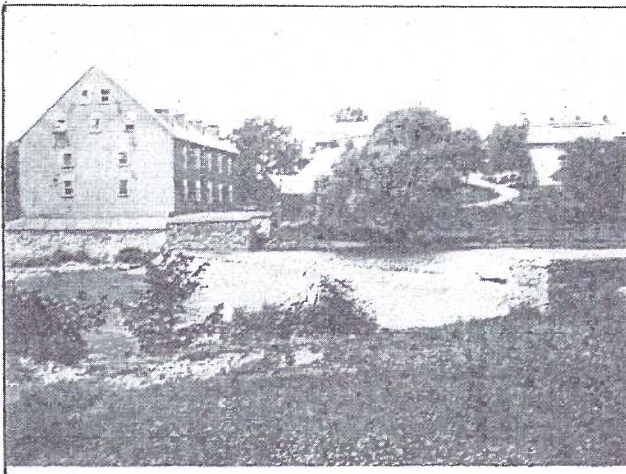


Photo: D. B. Landis. 1908. **RANCK'S MILL AND DAM, BIG CONESTOGA, LANCASTER, PA.**

One of the more common mill views is **Ranck's Mill**. (One PC publisher erroneously labels it "Old Ronks Mill...") It was on the Conestoga east of the city. Follow Orange St. east passed Broad St. It angles left. Turn right on to Ranck Mill Rd. The mill was at the bottom of the hill along the Conestoga. There was a carding and chopping mill on the site as early as 1758. Ownership passed through Graeff/Groff, Witmer and Demuth. A new (or enlarged) mill was owned in 1864 by Samuel Ranck. The 80' x 100' 4-story brick mill was closed in 1912 by Dan. Ranck. The b/w 1908 view is by photographer-publisher D. B. Landis.



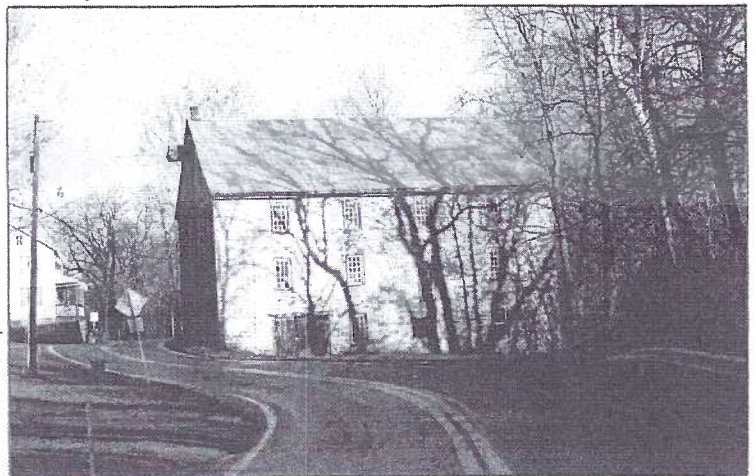
Photo: D. B. Landis. 1908. **STONEROAD'S MILL, BUILT 1770, SOUTHWEST OF LANCASTER, PA.**

A half mile downstream from the Maple Grove/Abbyville Mill on the Little Conestoga Creek is **Stoneroad's Mill** or **Rock Furnace Mill**. The PC view shows a covered bridge that abutted the mill, a unique occurrence in Lancaster Co. The mill was built in 1770 as a rifle factory but became a grist mill by 1789. Supposedly it was used as a military arsenal in the War of 1812. In the 1864, 1875 and 1899 atlases J. Stoneroad is the owner. The bridge succumbed to Tropical Storm Agnes in 1972. The 32' x 48' 2½ story stone mill did not. It is now a fine residence, but a huge amount of earth moving and especially the relocated road makes it easy to miss. The 1908 b/w view is by photographer-publisher David Bachman Landis.



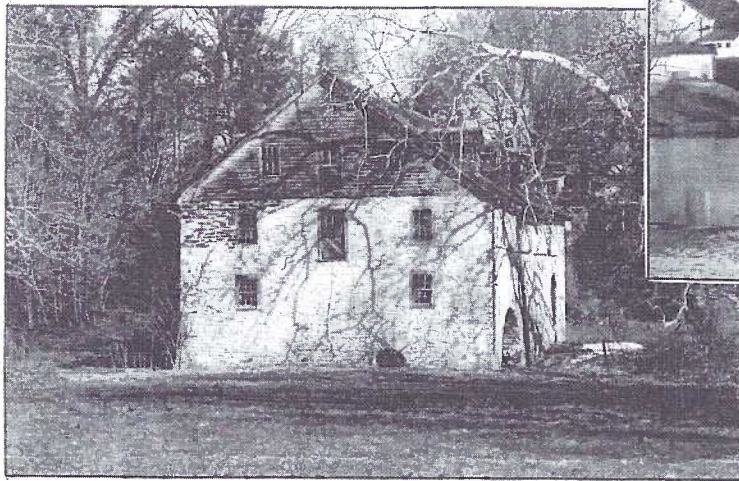
Photo: D. B. Landis. 1908. **ANCIENT ABBYVILLE MILL, MAPLE GROVE, LANCASTER, PA.**

Records show there was a mill on the Lancaster-Columbia Turnpike as early as 1729. A second mill was built in 1767 by Johannes and Barbara Steiner. It has the earliest date stone of any mill still standing; others may be older but w/o date stones. **Abbyville Mill** escaped being torn down in recent years due to destruction by consistent flooding of the Little Conestoga Creek. We know the 40' x 60' 2½ story stone grist mill as the **Maple Grove Mill**. The undated b/w view is by D. B. Landis.

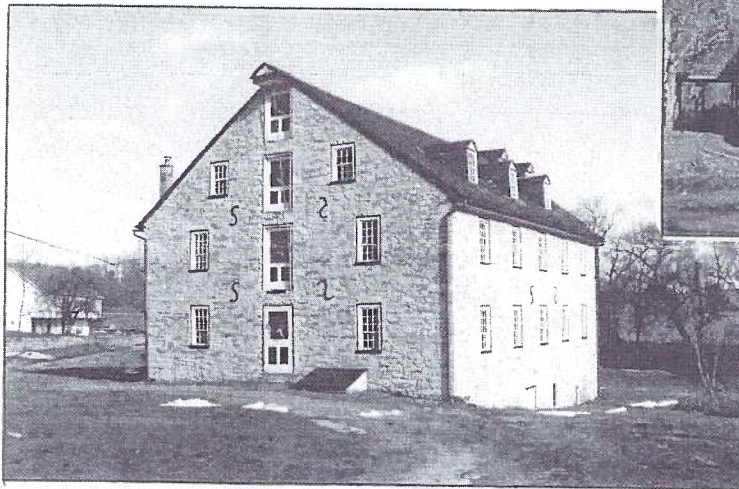


Risser's/Horst's/Roddy's Mill. is in Mount Joy Twp. A grist mill was built on this site as early as 1721 by Jas. Roddy. From 1815 to 1899 the Horst family was associated with a larger 70' x 80' 3½ story stone mill here on Little Chickies Creek. More recently it was owned by the Risser family which operated it until it closed in 1940. Bob Shirk is the photographer-publisher of the 2009 postcard view.

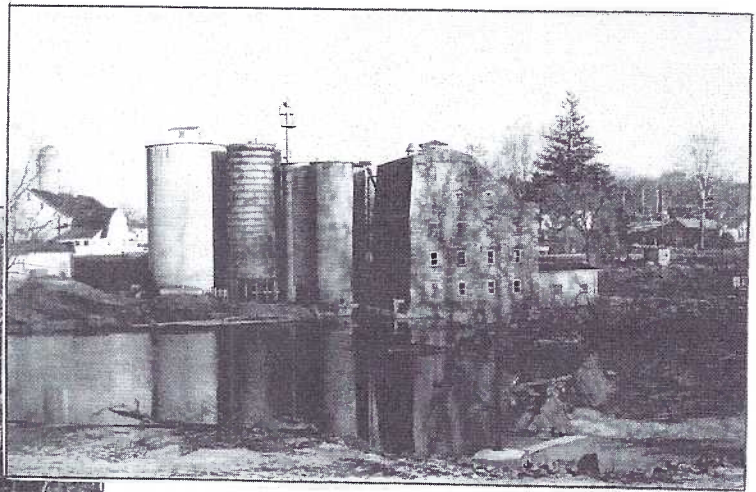
Have you sent in your dues for this year?
Please do so while you think about it.
See page one masthead for information.
THANKS!



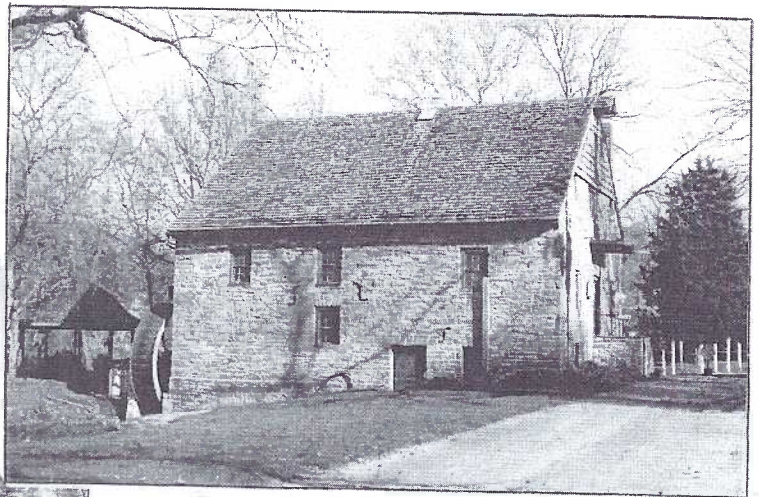
Baumgardner's Mill, McGeary Organics, which continued to hold the brand name, inherited from **Millvale Mill** is in Pequea Twp on the Pequea Creek. An early log mill (20' x 40') was built here in 1774 as a corn and saw mill. It was 3 stories high. It was replaced by a stone mill c1806. Later a third mill, 40' x 60' 3 ½ story stone/frame, was built c.1836. That mill was enlarged or re-built following a fire in 1853. The 1875 and 1899 atlases list Baumgardners as the owners. In 1905 the owner, Edwin Diffenderfer, was killed by the mill wheel. Today it's been returned to good condition. Bob Shirk is the photographer-publisher of this 2010 view.



The Lime Valley Mill is on the Pequea Creek in W. Lampeter Twp. It was built in 1846. There had been several mills on this site, perhaps as early as 1734. The present 3½ story 40' x 60' stone mill was actually operating with water power as recently as 1969 when it was owned by the Lancaster Milling Company. McGeary Organics, which still owns the product name, Daisy Flour, says it operated the mill until 1985, when the label was discontinued and the mill shut down and sold. Bob Shirk is the photographer-publisher of this 2010 view.



Zook's Flour Mill or Bushong's Mill is on the Conestoga River in Upper Leacock Twp. As early as 1777 a saw and hemp mill was on this site; by 1796 there was also a grist and saw mill. In 1857 John Bushong built a 60' x 80' 3½ story stone mill and the two earlier mills eventually disappeared. The Bushong Mill was purchased by Elmer Zook in 1954. It's suffered extensive flood damage in recent years. Presently it is not operating. Bob Shirk is the photographer publisher of this 2010 view.



South of Route #30 on Ronks Road is Mill Bridge Village business. The stone and frame 40' x 50' 2 ½ story mill is **Lefever's Mill**, but better known as **Herr's Mill**. It's on the Pequea Creek that separates Paradise and Strasburg Twps. Several mills (as early as 1740) are recorded on deeds for that immediate neighborhood; at least half a dozen owners were named Herr and there was also Lincoln Lefever. Lewis Snyder operated the grist mill until it closed in 1924. The demonstration exterior water wheel (left side of the mill) is not the kind ever used in Lancaster County. Bob Shirk is the photographer-publisher of this 2009 view.

My source material includes articles written by Thomas Kipphorn which appeared in issues of *Wooden Covered Spans* the publication of The Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of PA from 1996 to 2003, also from the 1996 book, *Water-Powered Grist Mills* by Arthur C. Lord.

1919 Family Reunion View Surfaces

Brubaker-Hershey Graveyard Postcard Not Common

Recently found in a York postcard collection was the b/w view shown below along with a contemporary photo of the same scene. During the last 93 years, silos and several buildings have been added and trees removed along the road to the right. The Gary Martin family operates a dairy farm at 216 East Brubaker Valley Rd., the property where an old family cemetery can be seen along the road. The 1899 atlas map of Elizabeth Twp. shows the 100-acre property belonged to Menno Hershey Brubaker. It was here a family reunion was held on Sept. 13, 1919. The "souvenir" postcard, no doubt, was distributed among the relatives that day. Its message reminds them of the following year's reunion to be held near Rohrerstown "on the original tract."

Ben Brubaker of Manheim says reunions of the Brubaker-Hershey clans are still regular events and he has never seen nor heard of the card. (This is only the third one your editor has seen in 35 years.) An out-of-control truck had done extensive damage to the cemetery a few years ago and Ben was able to find identical finials to replace those that had been damaged or lost on the posts.

The location of the cemetery is ½ mile east of Furnace Hills Pike (#501). It connects with #322 at the village of Clay. At one time Brubaker farms covered most of the arable area north of Lititz and south of Brickerville ergo Brubaker Valley Road.

SOUDENIR

of the Brubaker-Hershey Reunion held September 13, 1919, on the Menno Hershey Brubaker farm, in Brubaker Valley, Lancaster County.

Welcome!

to the next Brubaker-Hershey Reunion to be held September 4, 1920, near Rohrerstown, on the original tract, settled jointly by the Brubakers and Hersheys.

Genealogical and Historical facts and subscriptions invited for Brubaker-Hershey History, pending.

Greene Post Office

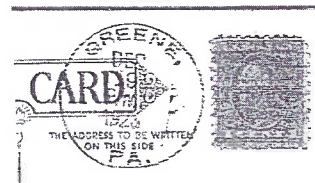
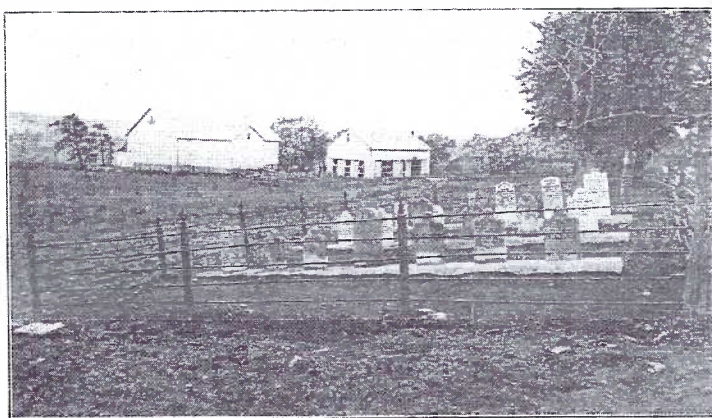
Dorothy Aument for a number years was LCPC member #469. Her interest was primarily post offices of southern Lancaster County. After an arduous task she compiled a small book containing data for all of the post offices including a post mark for *most*. She's still looking for one of Smithville. Her recent phone call to me bubbled with enthusiasm.

The village of Fairfield, Drumore Twp., had a PO but it was called Greene. When a PA village or town wishes to choose a post office name, it cannot use a name of an already existing P. O. in PA. **What everyone's question has always been, why was Greene chosen?**

Enter Stan White, a new president of the "Southern End's" historical society. He got on the case and found in the Dec. 10, 1879 *Oxford Press* an article telling how Fairfield was to have a post office and Gardiner Furnace was to be its first post master. Gardiner thought a Quaker deserved recognition and that man was General Nathanael Greene, the "fighting Quaker" of the American Revolutionary War, and so "Greene" became the post office for Fairfield, Lancaster County in 1838.

Needless to say, Dorothy, who was Fairfield's last post master* when the Greene P. O. closed in 1949, is delighted to see closure to a long-unanswered question. It's a wonderful present for the ever-young lady who will celebrate her 92nd birthday on Mar. 24. Dorothy lives at Meadow Ridge in Willow Valley. A mending broken hip doesn't keep her down. She's back to recording anecdotes and happenings in Lancaster's Southern End for the historical society. She'd be happy to hear from you at 717-490-8333 if you can solve another problem: The Red House Post Office, Fulton Twp., existed from Jan. 23, 1834 to Apr. 6, 1836 with Mr. A. Stubbs its only postmaster, **but where was the building?** We know it was near Dorsey's Station on the Peach Bottom RR, but *exactly* where is unknown.

*Postmistress is not used anymore in the United States.



Very Early Advertising Postcard

"Since 1784, the D. Landreth Seed Company has been providing its customers with one of the most extensive selections of fine lawn and garden seeds in the world. Our founders introduced into the United States some of the most beloved flowers and vegetables known today including the Zinnia, the white potato, various tomatoes, and our own Bloomsdale Spinach. We have become the oldest seed house in America because we are passionate in our quest for excellence in quality, service and innovation." This is what Landreth Seed Company offers on their 2012 website - quite an accomplishment. Read further, however, and you'll find the company is on verge of declaring bankruptcy. Today it is in southern York County, PA.

The Philadelphia cancellation on this over-sized postcard (3½"x6½") is not clear, but in reading their message we see they're touting their 1887 catalogue. Can we assume the PC was mailed in 1886? Don't count on getting your "extra early peas" this year for 60¢ per quart and 10¢ per ½ pint.

The address side of the postcard (above) illustrates the *Central Portion of Landreth's Bloomsdale Seed Farm, Phila., PA.* It was mailed to Granville Centre, PA.





LANDRETH'S EXTRA EARLY PEAS.
(EARLIEST OF ALL)
PER QUART, POST PAID 60 C.
PER PINT 30 C.
PER ½ PINT 10 C.

THE OLDEST SEED HOUSE IN AMERICA.

LANDRETH'S RURAL REGISTER CATALOGUE AND PRICED LIST OF SEEDS FOR 1887, a valuable illustrated Annual of practical information for the Family or Market Gardener, is now in press, and will be mailed FREE to all applicants. Drop us a postal for a copy, and mention that you have received this card; also add the names of your friends interested in procuring GOOD SEEDS.

LANDRETH'S SEED HOUSE, established in 1784, is the oldest in America.

During all that period, 103 years, the *practical growing* of GARDEN SEEDS has been pursued by our predecessors and ourselves without interruption, upon our own farms.

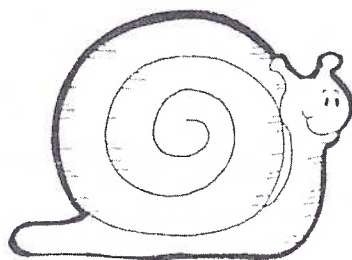
THOUSANDS OF GARDENS throughout this and other countries are annually planted with LANDRETH'S SEEDS.

Our facilities for the production of GOOD SEEDS ever keep pace with the demand. We are therefore prepared to supply all who want them, either through merchants who have LANDRETH'S SEEDS for sale, or direct from our ESTABLISHMENT.

DAVID LANDRETH & SONS,
SEED GROWERS,
21 AND 23 SO. 6TH ST., PHILADELPHIA.

MORLATTON POST CARD CLUB INC.

37th Spring Postcard Show



Farm and Home Center
1383 Arcadia Road
Lancaster, PA 17601
(off Manheim Pike Rte. 72)



Friday, March 30, 2012 - 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.
Saturday, March 31, 2012 - 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

No Pre-Show Buying

Admission \$2.00
(50 cents off with ad)

For more information call
Kay Feight, (717) 263-1638
Leon Rowe, (610) 444-0641