

NEW HANOVER REFORMED CHURCH CEMETERY

This church is located at New Hanover in New Hanover township, Montgomery County, along what is popularly known as the "Swamp Pike". In the early days it was known as the Falckner Swamp Reformed Church. It was founded about 1725 and is the oldest congregation of the Reformed Church (now United Church of Christ) in Pennsylvania.

The church has a very excellent church record book, a typewritten copy of which makes up about 175 pages. This includes a long list of early burials, mostly from 1773 to 1822. There is however little to compare between this list and the list of gravestones. Very few of the early burials have gravestones, and probably never had any.

In 1894 George S. Nyce made a complete transcription of about 100 of the earliest gravestones. This list was printed in six installments in the magazine "The Perkiomen Region, Past and Present" in that year. He apparently selected the stones at random but he made complete transcripts of the exact wording, including the funeral texts, which makes his record very interesting. With the exception of less than half a dozen the stones which he copied are still all there, which shows that the loss of stones in the last 75 years has been very small.

In 1963 the congregation erected a new building for use by the Sunday School and for other congregational purposes. This necessitated the removal of many gravestones in back of the church. The stones were carefully removed and replaced in three long rows at the back side of the cemetery, with the stones cemented in three continuous rows, each stone about a foot apart. Unfortunately in reerecting the stones no consideration was given to the original location of the stones as to other stones which may have been of the same family.

In this copy only the names and dates and other important data has been copied. The age which appears on most of the older stones has been omitted where both the date of birth and the date of death are given.

The burial ground is in two areas which on the accompanying chart have been designated "A" and "B". In area "A" nearly all the inscriptions are in German; in area "B" most of them are in English. Later burials are made in a new cemetery a short distance up the road towards Limerick. None of these have been copied.

Row 1 is the row along the field and is farthest away from Swamp Pike. The rows numbered with letters run at a right angle to the Swamp Pike. In each row the readings are from left to right.

All data that has been added in the list that is not on the gravestone has been put in parenthesis (). The data on Revolutionary soldiers is taken from Volume 1, Series 6, Pennsylvania Archives. Less than half a dozen of these soldiers have Revolutionary War grave markers.

Raymond E. Hellenbach

HERMINA SOPHIA BUCHERT, dau. of
Daniel & Sarah
Sept. 14, 1827
Aug. 27, 1828

GEORGE BUCHER
Jan. 1, 1767
Oct. 17, 1845

GEORG DIETRICH BUCHER
Mar. 18, 1736 (dates vary at some
Aug. 12, 1738 places)
REVOLUTIONARY WAR (Capt. Benj.
Markley's company, New Hanover,
6th class)

MATHIAS BUCHER, s. of
Conrad and Maria
Oct. 29, 1805
Oct. 4, 1822

MARIA CHRISTINA BUCHER, w. of
George Bucher
June 22, 1767
Mar. 28, 1839

MARIA SALEME BUCHER, dsu. of
George & Christina
Oct. 11, 1794
Aug. 9, 1813

JOHANNES BUCHER, s. of Conrad
d. May 13, 1843, age 27-9-18
married Rachel Kerner

DIETER BUCHER
d. Sept. 16, 1850
age 74-7-3

MARIA STELTZ, dau. of
Peter Steltz
Apr. 17, 1784
Sept. 9, 1791

MARY BUCHERT, w. of
Daniel Buchert
d. May 22, 1839, age 35-10-22

PHILIP ROSHON
May 15, 1787
Apr. 10, 1843

SARAH ROSHON, w. of Philip
Jan. 2, 1790
Apr. 23, 1870

SAMUEL MAYBERRY
b. 1789, d. June 22, 1856

ELISABETH KOLB, dau. of
George & Susanna

SUSANNA GEIST, dau. of
Samuel & Elisabeth
Apr. 4, 1829
Apr. 20, 1844

MARIA GEIST, nee GROFF, married
Conrad Geist, Apr. 16, 1797
6 sons and 3 daughters
Sept. 29, 1780
May 13, 1843

SARAH ANNA STELTZ, dau. of
Christian and Catharine
Nov. 6, 1817
Jan. 25, 1825

JAMES STELTZ, s. of
Peter & Catharine
Dec. 8, 1819
Apr. 27, 1829

HEINRICH DERR
Jan. 14, 1777
Jan. 19, 1842

CONRAD GEIST, s. of Mathias
& Elisabeth - married to Maria
Groff 30 years
Apr. 18, 1773
June 16, 1827

JOHN JACOB NAUMAN (NEIMAN)
died Feb. 8, 1790, age 59-8-~~7~~
married to Catharina . . .
Survived by 3 sons & 8 dau.
REVOLUTIONARY WAR (Capt. John
Missimer's company of Limerick
township militia)

ANNA MARIA GILBERT, nee
ZEIDING (or ZEIDINGRIN ?)
married 24 yrs. died June 26,
1790, age 58 years

CHRISTINA DREES, w. of Johannes
May 15, 1796
Dec. 1, 1823

JOHANNES KEHL
b. 1720
d. Nov. 23, 1792
4 children

MARIA M. SPECHT, dau. of
Wilhelm & Maria M. Specht
May 13, 1829
Mar. 17, 1833

