

Conococheague Pioneer Times

The Newsletter of the Conococheague Institute for the Study of Cultural Heritage

3rd Quarter 2021



Volume 27 Issue 3

Good Day to you...From the Executive Director

We hope everyone has had as fruitful a Summer as we have, and are looking forward to just as an enjoyable Fall.

We left off our last Pioneer Times with the successful Matching Campaign update, and our Memorial Day Weekend Event. So what's been happening at your Conococheague Institute this Summer?

Well to begin with we have definitely been bringing the 18th Century to life at our homestead. Between our education bookings, weekly programming and special events we have been livelier than ever before.

The student interns and Jacob Davis made the Negley home and Piper Cabin bustling all summer long with historic demonstrations, crafts and programs weekly. Events both on site and outreach elsewhere have allowed even more people to experience the Conococheague Institute's message. From Fort Loudoun to Dill's Tavern, collaboration with other historic gems of Pennsylvania has helped our network grow.



Through much of this summer, CI's founder John Stauffer was present, and was volunteering weekly and putting us younger bodies to shame with his energy and zeal! We thoroughly enjoyed working with him on restoration work to the apple orchards here, and his background knowledge of the area history was incredibly useful. With many education bookings from Summer camps and Girl Scouts occurring during his visit, we were pleased that he was able to witness the fruit of his decades of work and support.

An end of Summer BBQ was held as a way of thanking as many of CI's supporters as possible, both for the Matching Campaign and their years of dedication.

Later in this Issue we will be discussing summer events, but there is not nearly enough space to talk about all the great educational programs we have held this summer.

A local Girl Scout Troop from Greencastle booked a "Women's Roles in Early America" program and we had an incredible time with them learning about Laundry, Gardening and Maternity.

Girls Inc of Washington County brought out 50+ girls for a full education day, and to see so many new faces on the site was a joy.

Girls Inc had donated sunflower seeds earlier in the year, and our small sunflower field has been a major draw (for bee's and goldfinches).

Every time something pops up in the garden we have been offering produce to our visitors, and it is nice to see repeat visitation from families due to this.

There will be much more to tell about this project in Decembers PT, but we have started a collaboration with the Mercersburg Academy Community Engagement program to restore the Old Welsh Cemetery (and other projects).

We've already begun, and these students show an amazing passion for philanthropy and are a lot of fun to be around.

We are cleaning the stones with the least invasive method: Water and light scrubbing, we will then repair broken stones, whitewash them, and then properly reseat them.

Bowens, Blairs, Angles, Lawtons and more are already recognizable when last week they were unreadable!

This collaboration we hope is just the first step in enriching the local community and Academy students in CI's cultural and natural resources.



Summer Donations

We'd like to thank the following people for their recent donations and memberships. Without your continued support we would not be able to offer the quality programming and services we do. Thank you!



Ron Chamberlin, Alva, Lynch, Elizabeth Lilklard, Richard and Susan Bell, Gay Buchanan, Jane Hersey, Stephen Runkle, Cecil Snyder, Richard Johnson, Emily Brantley, Marvin Rubin, James Strutz, John Morton, James Todd, Mary Ruth Reis, Eric Jones, Kelly Foster, Jason Koons, Roy Nesbitt, Melissa Shaw O'Connor, Aaron Moats, Paula Dawson, James Todd, Tanya Nitterhouse of Sunnhill Properties, Jennifer Burgum, Sally Haver, Joanne Thomas, Mara Kaiser, Jay Ouellette, Chuck Holland, Jean Woods, Robert Eckstine, Jon Keefer, Jack Demith, Nadine Robson, Darla Davis, Barbara Irene Hicks, Tonya Longacre, James Brown and John Fulk.

Our [Funded Projects List](#) will be continually available. Check the website page for the full details (our paper members would have gotten it in the mail in June).

One project to take off that list as FULLY FUNDED is the Bean Pole hinges for the Negley Homestead. Thanks to donations by Sally Haver, Mara Kaiser and our weekly Gift Shop Donation box this project is complete and the hinges have been ordered.

Recent in-kind donations include re-enacting supplies from **Thomas Neveil** for our interpretive area, a painting of a captivity narrative from **John Stauffer**, and some great 19th Century furniture from **Debra Kaminski**. These latter items, that belonged to her mother (an avid antique collector) will be forming a new exhibit in our Rock Hill House to display life in the Negley/Brewer/Craig decades. The Jelly cupboard is of special interest, as it was made by Kaminski's 4th/5th great grandfather (likely Eliab or Christian Negley) and so is returning home to Rock Hill Farm after centuries away. The bed was rescued from a derelict plantation by Deb's mother and refinished and restored to functionality and actually was Deb's bed during her high school years!

When the exhibit is finished and the bed has its curtain hangings it will be a great asset to the Negley history at Rock Hill farm.

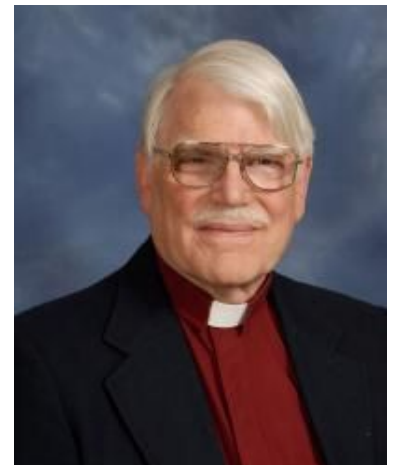
John and David Stauffer gave a in-kind donation this summer for which we could not be more grateful: 3.3 acres of land adjacent to our Visitor Center parking area. Currently being used as an apple orchard and trail portion, this very kind gesture ensures our historical and cultural boundaries will be preserved for years to come!



Estate Bequests - A Lasting Legacy

Decades ago, one of CI's founding members Catherine Stickell left a portion of her estate to CI for the benefit of the community. This yearly disbursement from her estate is a major support. In 2019 Rev. John Christopher Ramsey of Hagerstown passed away and left \$50,000 to the Conococheague Institute in addition to supporting other charitable organizations such as the Trinity Lutheran Church, Girls Inc of Washington County and more. Rev Ramsey was a philanthropist in the region with a deep interest in travel, history, hiking and camping. His bequest of \$50,000 was a blessing for CI, and it is what instigated the Board of Directors to seek the hiring of a new Management position: which was accomplished with the hiring of Matthew Wedd in 2020. Since then CI has grown in support and donors.

Please consider including CI in your own Estate bequests and wills, and ensure a legacy that will last for generations. Contact us to arrange this and thank you for your support.



CI in the News

Our Pioneer Times reaches you Quarterly, but we continue to find new ways to tell our story.

Our Facebook, Youtube and Instagram have all been growing a steady following, and the videos being produced especially have helped us reach new audiences.

Our short videos even sparked the Pennsylvania Cable Network to reach out to us about filming a special 30 minute professional piece on CI. It aired this summer and we were astounded by the results. We even had visitors the next day who visited after watching it.

The PCN show is called 'It's History!' and may be re-aired during their 8pm Sunday slots later this year. It is available on demand at <https://pcntv.com/itshistory/> and the episode can be purchased on their website store as a DVD.

Our Director has written articles all year for the tourism magazine 'At Home Places', and the latest issue for this fall features an article on 18th Century Festivals and Celebrations. Pick it up for free at local stores or [read it online](#).

The local Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Bureaus have been very supportive in advertising our events and promotional material.

The Cumberland Valley Business Alliance back in spring asked for Nominations for its Young Professional Awards.

Last month we were very surprised to hear that CI staff had made the finalists in 2 categories: Non Profit Young Professional of the Year for Executive Director Matthew Wedd and Rising Star Young Professional of the Year for Historic Warden Jacob Davis.

We attended the awards ceremony at Green Grove Gardens on September 16th with our supportive Board leadership and spouses.

It was wonderful to be recognised in front of so many community businesses and partners, with our headshots and CI name in lights for all to see.

We were happy to be mentioned, but in fact Matthew won the award for Non Profit Professional of the Year, and in his speech (as well as thanking our Board, members, supporters) quoted Ben Franklin for CI's success. "Join or Die" has been a major source of our growth. By partnering with other local sites and organizations like TWEP, Allison Antrim, Tri State Astronomers, Girls Inc, BSA, and the Mercersburg Academy, we are able to increase our own network dramatically. Just like the Cumberland Valley Business Alliance is the joining of two area Chambers, we are stronger together.

Jacob didn't win his award for Rising Star, but the simple fact that CI was the ONLY organization with two finalists present shows that CI's future is bright.



OUT AND ABOUT

festivals in the 18th century

By **MATTHEW WEDD**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
THE CONOCOCHQUE
INSTITUTE,
MERCERSBURG, PA.



Ask a few people to name five holidays, festivals or celebration days today and you'd probably receive similar answers.

While they might differ in their names and meanings, the way each is celebrated is usually pretty routine – good food and drink with good company. A shamrock here, a piñata there, a pumpkin or a decorated tree, lots of fireworks. At the center of each – that feeling of community spirit – remains the core of all holidays.

So, how were the holidays we know today celebrated in the 18th century? And what festivals and holidays have we lost?

The main aspect of celebration remains the same – good food, good drink, good company and games. Fire, fireworks and decorations, too, remain a consistent theme.

Saint days were major affairs on the festival calendar. Today, we still have St. Patrick's Day for Irish pride. In England, St. George's Day on April 23 offers the same type of celebration. Traditional English food and drinks are enjoyed, and games are played to honor St. George, the patron saint of England.

The same is true for the Scottish with St. Andrew's Day on Nov. 30 and the Welsh with St. David's Day on March 1. These days originated as religious saints' feast days and evolved into an excuse to celebrate national pride.

With a predominantly Welsh heritage in The Conococheague Institute's early history, we plan to celebrate St. David's Day 2022 with traditional Welsh food (leek soup, apples, rarebit), songs and games.

At The Conococheague Institute (CI), we portray the daily life of 18th-century settlers, and most of our events are themed around festivities from that time. We just released the second half of our 2021 events calendar, so here are some of those happenings and their meanings.



Militia musters

In the summer months, militia musters were major community festivals. We had one July 3, for the American Militia, and a children's version on Aug. 26.

Militia laws in the 18th century required a well-trained militia of civilian soldiers. In actuality, they didn't meet often for training, and militia musters were among the few times of the year they assembled. While drill and training did occur on these days, so too did an incredible amount of drinking, feasting and competition.

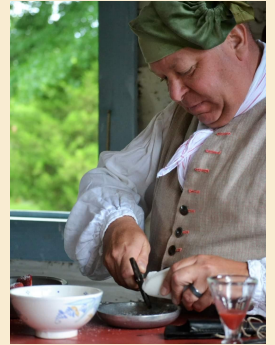
Soldiers competed to be the best marksman, best runner, best dancer, all the while trying to impress the local ladies.



Summer Events: A Snapshot

July 4th Militia Muster: So many volunteers and visitors joined us to celebrate American heritage, and learn about the soldiers of the Revolutionary War that this event will be a consistent staple in our annual calendar. With the Ordinary as a backdrop for the Militia to muster in, visitors were immersed in the preparations for war that American troops experienced in the 18th century. Drill and musketry, food and games, with a special celebratory Swivel Gun firing after a reading of the Declaration of Independence by our intern Dan Corcoran.

Food was available by local vendor Jenni's Knife and Spork, and a raffle and themed souvenirs in the gift shop made several hundred dollars in income.



August 26th Homeschool Day: All our education bookings for the last year have all been themed around daily life, medical practices, nature or women's roles. Following the Militia Muster program, we had several families suggest a children's version of the Muster and so Jacob Davis put the program together. It sold out within a few weeks, and on the day itself we had an incredible food spread provided by Carol Zehosky and Amelia Craven. Engaging programming by Jacob Davis and Sean Considine brought the students into the mindset of an enlisting soldier. They signed their papers, took the oath of allegiance, drilled, scouted, ate, fought and competed in games.



September 4th History in Nature Celebration: For the Labor Day travellers we offered a smaller program that got all aspects of our site involved combining history and nature. Birding walks inspired by the writings of John and William Bartram spotted lots of Hummingbirds on our trails (and young birders sketched what they saw), an insect identification station by volunteer Joe Murdoch got children up close and personal with the bugs that live among us, there were cooking and craft demonstrations in the cabin and gardens, but the highlight of the day was Amelia Craven's 'Art of Dye' program. She made natural dyes of pokeberry and walnut that were harvested at CI and used them to explain dying in early America. Visitors of all ages were then encouraged to try their hand at some fun dye projects that they took home with them!



A Special Invitation: Annual Members Meeting and Afternoon Lecture October 9th 2pm-5pm

Dear Members,

It is that time of year annually when we ask all our members to attend our Members Meeting. This important occasion is an opportunity to have your voice heard in CI's management. We'll be voting on new Board Nominees, Bylaw amendments and presenting our Annual Report from the President, Treasurer, and Executive Director.

Like last year it will be outdoors and socially distanced so we hope you will be able to attend. It is also a great day to see those who support us so well, and discuss new ideas and hear your thoughts on the past year.

The Members meeting part is scheduled for 2pm to 4pm outside the Welsh Barrens Visitor Center, and although we welcome all members on the day, **please RSVP via mail, phone or email** if you can so we plan seating accordingly.

As an extra incentive, Board Member and Anthropology lecturer Will Sheppard will be presenting a **Members only IN-PERSON LECTURE at 4pm**. Don't miss this opportunity.

Lecture Description: *Rock Hill Revisited will be a lecture presentation on the original research that led to the establishment of the Conococheague Institute in Welsh Run, Pennsylvania, and the listing of the property on the National Register of Historic Places. This research from 1994 through 1996 included a remote sensing survey, archaeological investigation, architectural analysis, and extensive archival research. The original interpretations of the property were updated in 2016 to reflect the additional research conducted by many other researchers on the archaeology, genealogy, and dendrochronology of the farmstead. In many ways, Rock Hill is typical of most 18th and 19th century farmsteads in Franklin County. It also retains several unusual elements that make it an exceptional historical resource.*

Looking to help plant trees?

On the same day as the Members Meeting we are also planting 55 largestock trees sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation from 10am to 2pm.

Bring some muddy clothes and a shovel that morning, and stay for the Members meeting at 2pm.



Save the Date

October 9th, 1pm: Kids Craft 'Hand Print Trees'

October 23rd, 1pm Pumpkin Craft 'History of the Jack O Lantern'

November 6th: Bonfire Night

December 18th: Colonial Christmas

In addition to:

Programs each Friday & Saturday!

Bonfire Night

AN 18TH CENTURY FALL CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH | 12PM-8PM

Bonfire Night, Thanksgiving, Guy Fawkes Day, Fall Fest or Harvest Festivals.

However you celebrate this time of year, come join us at the Conococheague Institute for a special evening celebration. Throughout the day 18th Century life will be on full display with cooking, games, crafts and song.

Bring a picnic supper and warm drinks and stay as the sun sets for a bonfire and candlelit tour of our historic structures.

This program will provide an immersive experience for visitors as they are transported back in time to the Frontier during the 18th Century.

Learn how the community celebrated together by joining in for several fun activities and presentations:

- **12pm to 6pm - Tombola:** A chance to win some historic prizes in our Visitor Center with an instant-win Raffle.
- **12pm, 2pm and 4pm - A Penny for a Guy:** Help stuff and make effigies (imagine a Scarecrow) for the evening Bonfire and learn about the history of this strange tradition.
- **3pm - Cricket:** Our most popular program returns for one last huzzah! Show us your batting and bowling skills in a match to end the year!
- **5pm - Libations, Drinks and Taverns:** Join us in the Ordinary to learn about why Cider and Whiskey could be so important to a fledgling farming community. Copies of original drink recipes will be available for adults to try out at home!
- **6:30pm - The Bonfire:** Don't miss this special moment as the Bonfire is lit and learn about the history of Bonfire Night!
- **7pm to 8pm:** Relax with us and enjoy the ambience of a candlelit cabin, play card games or break out in song to your heart's content!

This program is a fun and educational celebration event for families. No Alcohol will be served and children and pets are welcome.

Admission is free, but donations are appreciated!

Add these events to your calendar NOW! As a member of the Conococheague Institute we hope you will **share these events** and future programs with friends and family!

The Warden's World by Jacob Davis

2021 Summer Interns at CI

With only a staff of two maintaining CI's 30 acres and historic structures can be a lot. There is also grass to mow, weeding to be done in both our interpretive garden and the flower beds around several of the structures. Then on top of this we also present historical programs every Friday and Saturday that are supposed to depict a living community at the tail of the settlement period in 18th Century Pennsylvania. This summer we had some incredible help with this workload in the form of our Living History and Garden Interns Sarah Hoffeditz (Shippensburg University), Dan Corcoran (Temple University), and Scott Seburn (McDaniel College).

Living history aims to show a snapshot of what life would've been like in another time. In the 18th Century, Rock Hill Farm was a bustling farmstead with livestock, growing produce and the additional trades that the people who lived there would've held. At CI today we don't have any livestock, but what we do have is our garden. This is where our interns spent much of their time doing living history and interpreting the historic methods of planting and maintaining a kitchen garden. When not in the garden, they were exploring other aspects of 18th century life in central Pennsylvania.

To show a living community our interns took to learning additional skills and knowledge of the 18th century to interpret in CI's historic area. Dan became an excellent card player where he explored the popular card games of the 18th century like Whist, and Draughts and would teach the game to visitors in our Ordinary. Sarah delved into several skills like baking, where she made incredible bread, and motherhood as it related to the 18th century. Finally, Scott researched the history of lacrosse to develop his own program as well as techniques on how to make his very own lacrosse sticks.

These three interns did so much to help out around CI this summer while also growing in their knowledge of the 18th Century. Each of them added something unique to CI's interpretation and we were definitely sad to see them go, but excited to see where their futures take them.



We look forward to more incredible Interns in 2022. If you know someone interested in intern opportunities have them contact us. Internships are made possible at CI by the Lucas Lapole Memorial Fund, so please continue to donate to this fund to support these young professionals through stipends and bonuses.



Library and Genealogy Assets

Over the Summer we have processed Genealogy requests for Seiberts, Rogers, Studebakers, Davises, Angles, Blairs and more. Like many things at CI, we are blessed to be able to rely on the past experiences of those who came before. Past Genealogists records have been invaluable in helping new searches.

Some Studebaker family explorers were pleasantly surprised to see their own Bio in a Studebaker Genealogy book, detailed down to the college major!

Mary Hartman

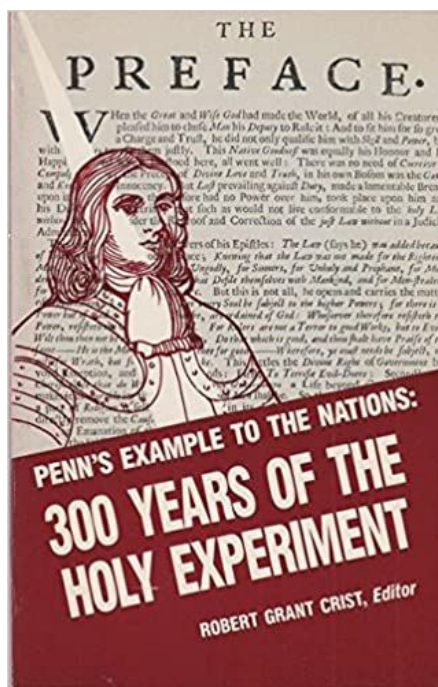
Many of our long term members may have noticed Mary's absence this year. After being on long term leave for health reasons, she formally retired in August 2021. Though a full retirement story was offered, Mary asked that we would simply thank all the people who have enriched her life during her long and fruitful career at CI, and so we respect her privacy and wish her well and good health.

Our thanks for all her input over CI's decades is unbound. She can be reached at 21mshart@gmail.com

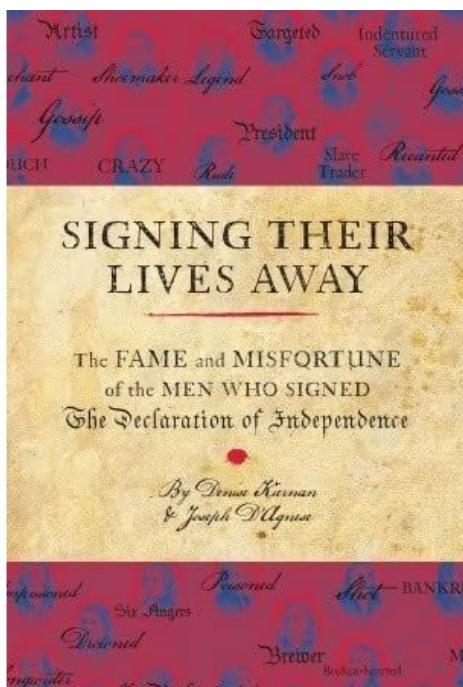
The Conococheague Book Club

3rd Thursday of every Month at 1pm at the Welsh Barrens Visitor Center

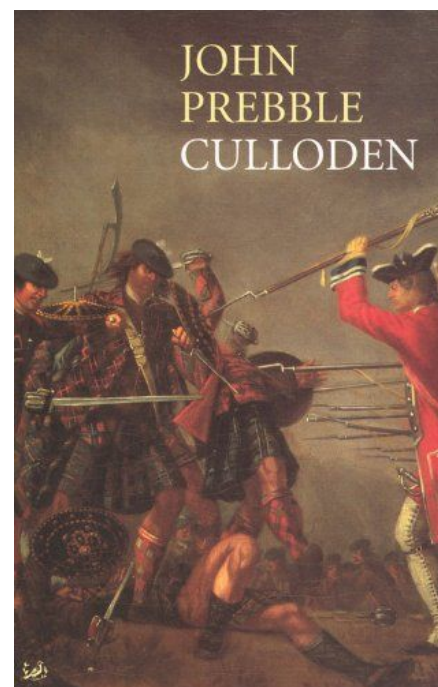
We are pleased to announce that the CI Book Club has been meeting regularly for some time, as always on the 3rd Thursday of the month. This Summer they have discussed books on Captivity Narratives, Architectural History, CI's very own McCullough "A Glimpse into life on the Colonial Frontier" by John Stauffer and Calvin Bricker. Below are the books for the next few months. Come join us!



October 21st



November 18th



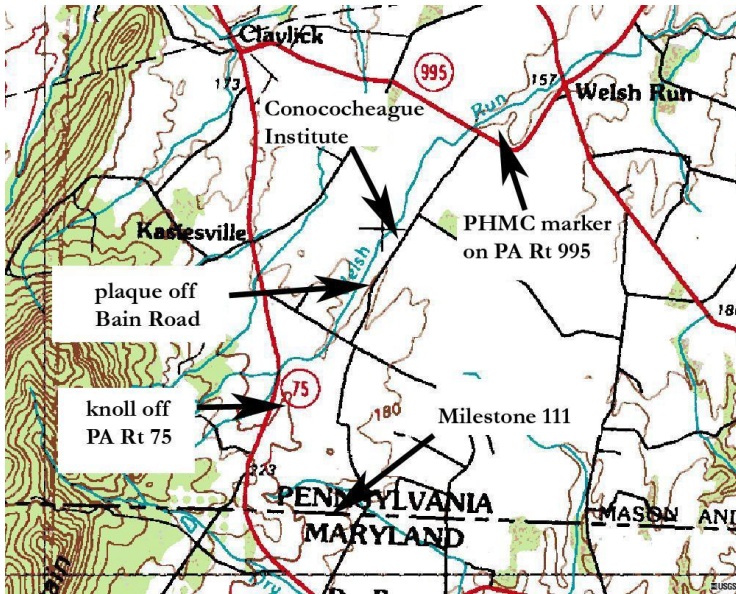
December 16th

Where was Fort Philip Davis?

by Dan Guzy

Among the first Europeans to live in what is now Montgomery Township in Franklin County was the Welshman Philip Davis, who settled along Welsh Run in 1737. Between 1754 to 1756, at the beginning of the French and Indian War, Davis built a fort on his land. Rangers garrisoned the fort during that war and the subsequent Pontiac's War. They patrolled between this southernmost Pennsylvania fort and the forts at William Marshall's, Thomas Waddell's and John McDowell's to the north. The records note no battles or skirmishes at Fort Philip Davis.

The question of where Fort Davis was remains open. Local traditions suggest two possible locations for it: one near a plaque on a stone on the west side of Bain Road a quarter mile south of the Conococheague Institute's visitor center and the other on a knoll southeast of where Welsh Run crosses under PA Route 75 (Fort Loudon Road). The two sites are 0.8 miles apart, but both are on the land Davis had surveyed for his patent.



Arguably the best documentation supporting the Bain Road site comes from a note in Mason and Dixon's 1765 journal for the survey of their line. The note placed "Mr. Phillip Davis's House one mile and a half North by Estimation" from a location that equates to Milestone 111. On the accompanying map, the plaque on Bain Road is near such a location, whereas the Route 75 site is about a mile northwest of Milestone 111. However, Mason and Dixon referenced only a house and not the fort.

We might question how many houses Philip Davis built since 1737 and where the fort would have been in relation to his house(s).

The "go to" local history books from the nineteenth century do not pinpoint a location for Fort Philip Davis. However, the accompanying clippings from 1895 Chambersburg newspapers do. The *Franklin Repository* article placed the fort on "a high knoll near the [Welsh] Run on the road [now Route 75] leading from Mercersburg, Pa. to Clearspring, Md." It said that land there belonged to Philip Davis and then the Blairs, Duffields, Bells, Wolffs, Swartz and the Wingers. The 1858 map of Franklin County placed a "J. Swartz" at the knoll off Route 75 and the 1868 county atlas situated "J.G.S. Winger" there. Thus, two of the landowners cited in the article match those on the map and atlas at the knoll off Route 75.

Fort Philip Davis.

One of the earliest stockades or fortifications against the Indians was "Fort Philip Davis" on upper Welsh Run, Franklin county, was built by the early Welsh settlers in that vicinity before the French and Indian war to protect themselves from the savages. It stood on a high knoll near the Run, on the road leading from Mercersburg, Pa., to Clearspring, Md. The land on which it was built belonged originally to Philip Davis; then to the Blairs, Duffields, Bells, Wolffs, Swartz and now to the Wingers. This spot should be marked by the State Commissioners.—Greencastle Press.

from April 5, 1895, *Public Weekly Opinion*

Reverend Paul Martin (the 84-year-old founder of the Two Top Fellowship Church) once owned the farm on the knoll off Route 75. He told this writer that he believes it is the site for Fort Philip Davis. Martin recalls hearing that a Fritz family owned the land when they tore down the remains of a "fort house" and built a new house there in the 1930s. The fort house was north of the current house.

In contrast, the accompanying 1895 *Public Weekly Opinion* and *Peoples Register* articles placed the fort site on the western side of Welsh Run, opposite the plaque location on Bain Road. That is, Edwin Bell claimed Fort Philip Davis would have been a half mile south of the Welsh Run Cemetery that is now west of the Conococheague Institute.

**Welsh Run and the Early History of the
Cumberland Valley.**

Edwin Bell, of Hagerstown, is collecting incidents connected with the early history of the Cumberland Valley. He is especially interested in locating the spot on which Fort Philip Davis stood before and during the French and Indian wars. The fort has been obliterated. Mr. Bell says he remembers seeing the stone foundation and old logs of this historic structure when a boy, and that its site is on the western side of Welsh Run brook, Franklin county, about one-half a mile south of Welsh Run cemetery, along which the stream flows. The State of Pennsylvania is making every effort to locate the sites of her colonial forts that they may be appropriately marked.

from March 1, 1895, *Franklin Repository*

Edwin Bell, of Hagerstown, who was bred and born up along the Welsh Run, has been on a tramp about the old hunting grounds in search of the remains of old Fort Philip Davis, part of the walls of which he remembers to have seen standing in his boyhood days. The Fort was located on the Royer farm, about one and a half miles south of Welsh Run store, along the Clearspring road. Jas. P. Wolff in the course of a ramble about the site of the Fort last summer found numerous arrowheads and Indian relics. The foundations of the Fort are still there but buried up. They should be exhumed and preserved as a curious old landmark of Indian times.

from April 12, 1895, *Peoples Register*

Citing a Welsh Run doctor and a Philip Davis descendent as its sources, the 1896 report of the commission to locate the frontier forts of Pennsylvania said the fort was "located on a slight knoll, known as Casey's Knob, overlooking a spring, on the McPherran farm, now owned by Royer's heirs, being two miles southwest of Welsh Run." The Bain Road fort location is two miles southwest of the crossroad at the Welsh Run village, while the Route 75 site is 2.8 miles from the crossroad. But the reference to the "slight knoll, known as Casey's Knob" is confusing. What we now call Casey's (or Kaisies) Knob is no "slight knoll" and is to the southwest over a mile away.

In 1899, a few years after the publication of the articles and report discussed above, W. S. Hoerner presented a paper in which he summed up opinions on the Fort Davis location: "It is alleged to have been situated on a farm now owned by Royer's heirs, two miles southwest of Welsh Run, but this location is sadly lacking in definiteness."

The plaque off Bain Road is part of the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission's (PHMC's) historical markers. It was dedicated in 1931 when George Royer owned the land while being a supervisor of Montgomery Township. The plaque says: "Fort Davis was Located Near this Marker on the Plantation of Philip Davis Welshman -- Patriot -- Collector of Taxes -- Member of the Presbytery of New Castle who Built the Fort about 1754 as a Protection Against the Indians."

In 1946, the PHMC dedicated a historical marker on PA Route 995 (Welsh Run Road) near its intersection with Bain Road. That marker referred to the plaque location with the following text: "Fort Davis - Built about 1755, on land of Philip Davis. Farthest south in this State of a line of settlers' refuges from Indian attacks. The site is about a mile away." (A PHMC marker website places the plaque 1.3 miles from Route 995.)

So, the Bain Road site for Fort Philip Davis is the one better recognized by Pennsylvania state organizations. However, the Conococheague Institute presents the Route 75 site as the stop for the fort in its brochure: *Biking and Driving Tour of French & Indian War Sites in Southwest Franklin County, Pennsylvania*. The primary basis for selection of either site seems to be just local tradition.

We are reminded of how there were three candidate sites for the 1755 Fort Morris in Shippensburg until a recent archaeological dig better established one of these. Perhaps archaeology could one day better establish the location of Fort Philip Davis. Until then, W. S. Hoerner's 1899 conclusion still holds: "this location is sadly lacking in definiteness."

References:

Survey plot of Philip Davis's land at:

<https://earth.google.com/web/data=MicKJQojCiExdXc2aWUudDBTTVIGYUuZMWIfZzZvSmE0aG1ubU1jZXI6AwoBMA?authuser=0>

The Journal of Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, (American Philosophical Society; 1969), page 11.

"BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE WEST LINE, 111th Mile Stone," Maryland Historic Trust Survey WA-V-212, 1981.

Daniel Rupp, *The History and Topography of Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin, Bedford, Adams, and Perry Counties*, (Lancaster, Pa.; 1846), page 78.

Jay Gilfillan Weiser, "The Frontier Forts in the Cumberland and Juniata Valleys," *Report of the Commission to Locate the Site of the Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania*, Volume One, (Harrisburg, 1896), pages 533-534.

W. S. Hoerner, "The Colonial Defences of Franklin County," *The Kittochtinny Historical Society Papers Read before the Society from February 1899 to February 1901*, (Chambersburg, PA; 1903), page 31.

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Address: _____

Phone No: _____ Email: _____

Newsletter Form, Email or Printed: _____

Student: \$10

Individual: \$25

Family: \$35

Patron: \$125

Corporate: \$200

Sustaining: \$300

Life: \$1000

Membership Level: _____

Additional Donation: _____

Make Checks Payable to The Conococheague Institute, 12995
Bain Road, Mercersburg, PA, 17236

Thank you!

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