

# Dreisbach Family Association

June 2013 Newsletter©



**T**his issue of the DFA Newsletter is related to the upcoming Dreisbach Family Association 2013 Reunion to be held near Valley Forge, PA. What, we wondered, were the Dreisbach men doing during that winter of 1777-1778 when George Washington was building the army that would win independence from the greatest military force on earth, Britain? This issue looks at each of the three Dreisbach immigrants and their sons who were of age to serve in the military/militia at that time.

**Washington and Valley Forge:** In December 1777, when Washington chose Valley Forge as the place for his winter encampment, he had many things on his mind: protecting the roads that led to York where the fledgling Pennsylvania government was sitting, finding a place that had sufficient wood to build huts and provide fires for heat and cooking, and making his rag tag group of men into a disciplined army. With great difficulty and perseverance, he accomplished all of these things.

At the DFA 2013 Reunion which will be held near Valley Forge, we will learn more about Washington and his army and what occurred during that fateful winter. The juxtaposition of these two - Valley Forge and the DFA Reunion leads us to ask: **Where were the Dreisbach men during that Valley Forge winter of 1777-1778?**

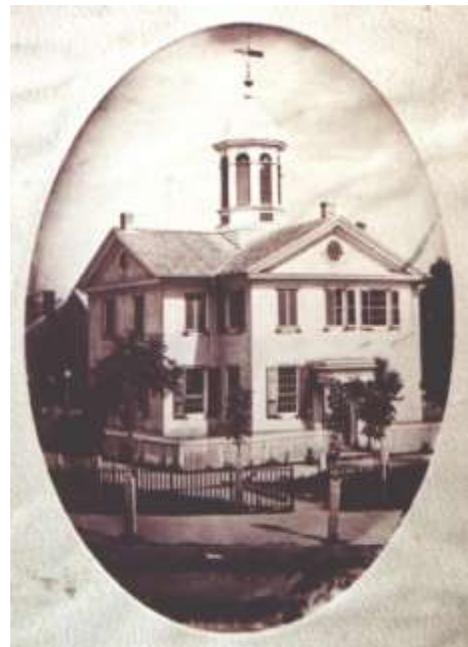


*A log house, similar to but probably a bit larger than those of the Dreisbach family. This is Gray Cottage built in 1743 in Nazareth, PA.*

**Simon Dreisbach Sr (1698 - 1785):** We can say with certainty that Simon Sr was not at Valley Forge with Washington, but was living somewhere in Northampton County, PA. Simon Sr was born in 1698, making him almost 80 years old in that winter of 1777-1778. He was a widower - his wife had died nine years previously, in 1768 - and was almost certainly living with one of his children, although we have no idea with which one. All of his

children still had their own young children living with them and all lived in log cabins that were approximately 32' x 22'. But one of them made room for their aged father.

**Lost Dreisbach (1721-1794) Patriot, but not present at Valley Forge:** Jost, Simon Sr's oldest son, was a miller. He owned a grist mill in Lehigh Township<sup>1</sup> that had been in operation since the early 1750's<sup>2</sup>. As a miller, he knew and was known by most of the local residents. He was also an ardent patriot and an early supporter of the cause for Independence.



*Northampton County Court House where the Committees of Observation and Safety were formed. Built in 1766, Jost and Simon Dreisbach Jr certainly attended meetings here.*

**The cause for independence gains momentum:** On 20 Oct. 1774, delegates from the colonies met in Philadelphia to draw up the "The Association", an agreement designed to put economic pressure on Great Britain<sup>3</sup>. Very soon activists were forming local Committees of Observation to ensure that everyone complied and did not purchase goods from Britain.

For this reason "... a very respectable number" of the Northampton County legislators gathered on 21 Dec 1774 at the new Court House in Easton. Their work was to elect members of the Northampton County Committee of Observation. Jost Dreisbach was chosen to represent Lehigh Township.<sup>4</sup> This act clearly indicates Jost was

strongly sympathetic to the independence movement several years before the Revolutionary War began.

**The war begins:** In April, 1775, war broke out. The militia were organized in Northampton County and elsewhere. On 22 May 1775, Jost Dreisbach was named Captain of the Lehigh Township Company of Associators and Militia.<sup>5</sup> Things were moving quickly. On 3 Oct 1775, the Committee of Observation again met in Easton and divided the county into districts to form militia battalions. Jost Dreisbach was elected by the more than 300 men<sup>6</sup> of his battalion to be their Colonel<sup>7</sup>.

**Col. Jost Dreisbach was a civilian militia officer, not a member of the Continental Army.** Without minimizing the role of Col. Dreisbach in the movement for independence, it is necessary to clarify that he and the other officers in the militia were **civilian officers**. They had military titles, but they should not be confused with officers of the Continental Army. The civilian officers did not receive a monthly pay and they lived at home unless specifically called up for active duty.<sup>8</sup> Col. Jost was *never* called up to serve in the regular Continental Army.<sup>9</sup>

**Where was Col. Jost Dreisbach in the winter of 1777 – 1778?** In the records, Jost is shown as colonel of the Third Battalion Militia between 1775 and 1777.<sup>10</sup> During the Valley Forge winter, Col. Jost was living with his family in a log house located somewhere near the intersection of Cedar Drive and Walnut Drive in Lehigh Township, Northampton Co., PA.

**Did Jost deliver blankets to the men at Valley Forge?** There is an oral tradition in the Dreisbach family that Jost delivered blankets to Valley Forge. I have been unable to substantiate this, however it may be true. The Northampton County militia wagonmaster was Conrad Kreider, an acquaintance and probably a good friend of Jost. Conrad had an inn and like Jost the miller, Conrad must have known many of the men in the township. A few years younger than Jost, Conrad was appointed as militia Wagon Master during the winter of Valley Forge.<sup>11</sup>



*In the 1700's roads were terrible. Travel was easiest in winter, by sleigh. Most supplies delivered to Valley Forge, probably arrived by horse drawn sleigh.*

In the cold of December and January, Washington issued many pleas for blankets, food and clothing for his men. It is probable that the Lehigh Township militia responded and gathered blankets that Wagon Master Conrad Kreider delivered to Valley Forge. If this was so, and at this point this is merely conjecture, then it is logical that his friend and the colonel of the militia, Jost Dreisbach, would go along on this trip. So perhaps Jost did visit the Valley Forge encampment to deliver blankets.

(For more information about Jost and the Revolutionary War, see DFA Newsletter of April 2011.)

**Adam Dreisbach (1722 – 1803), the second son of Simon Sr., not present at Valley Forge:** The "Act to Regulate the Militia of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania" passed on 17 March 1777. It required all white men between the ages of 18 and 53 to put in two months of militia service, on a rotating basis. Adam Dreisbach was 55 when this law was passed and therefore exempt from serving in the militia. Unlike Jost, who was also above the mandatory age, Adam chose not to get involved in politics.



*The green shows the extent of Adam's land at its maximum. The outlines within the green indicate separate land purchases. Google Earth view.*

Adam was a tanner and a saddler as well as a farmer. In 1776, Adam was the largest landholder in Lehigh Township (Northampton Co.). He had 250 acres of which 70 were cleared and sowed. He had 4 horses, 4 cattle and 4 sheep<sup>12</sup>. By local standards, Adam was a very successful farmer.

With no evidence to substantiate this statement, one gets the feeling that Adam was typical of cautious, successful, German farmers. Unlike Jost (and Simon Jr, as we will see later), Adam may not have immediately embraced the idea of independence.

In the early years of the Revolution, the most likely outcome was British soldiers squashing the revolution and then punishing those who sided with the revolution. In this case, losing one's house and fortune was certainly a possibility. As a result, many of the prosperous farmers and tradesmen occupied the middle ground, sympathizing with the idea of independence, but realistic in assessing the probabilities of success.

John Adams, the second President of the United States recognized this when he said *"I should say that full one-third were averse to the revolution ... the yeomanry, the soundest part of the nation, always averse to war, were rather lukewarm" on the idea of a revolution.*<sup>13</sup>



Portrait of John Adams, Second President of the United States by John Trumbull, 1792-93 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Adams](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Adams)

**Adam is a Lehigh Township Constable:** One of the few records we have of Adam shows that he was the constable of Lehigh Twp in 1778. As such, it was his duty to prepare a list of all the inhabitants, their land, draft animals and sheep, occupations, servants, slaves and more. While the list that Adam prepared has not been found, the letter telling him to do this has!



Letter describing Adam Treisbach's duties as 1778 Lehigh township constable. Document discovered in Northampton Co archives by Richard Musselman, 2013.

Adam Dreisbach therefore served the newly formed Pennsylvania government, which qualifies him as a DAR Patriot, but he did not serve in the militia nor was he otherwise openly affiliated with the Revolutionary cause. And he certainly spent the winter of 1777-1778 on his farm preparing the assessment list that he had to complete.

**Simon Jr (1730 - 1806), Simon Sr's middle son, not present at Valley Forge:** Like his oldest brother, Simon Jr was an early and open sympathizer with the revolutionary cause in spite of the fact that he had significant land holdings to lose if the British won!

**A Philadelphia connection:** Circumstantial evidence suggests that after the Dreisbach family arrived in 1743, the then 13 year old Simon Jr was apprenticed (or indentured) to a Philadelphia business firm. The connections he developed here probably helped his career in politics, which spanned more than 10 years.

Supporting the idea of a strong Philadelphia connection, is the fact that in 1752 Simon Jr married a girl from the Philadelphia area, Dorothea Dies, in Philadelphia at St. Michael's and Zion Church. The ceremony might even have been performed by the famous Lutheran minister, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg who served here as the pastor.

**Simon Jr becomes a landholder:** In 1755 Simon Jr moved his young family to Lehigh Twp. in Northampton Co. and purchased land adjacent to his older brother, Jost. Within the next decade Simon Jr became one of the large landholders in Lehigh Twp.



Simon Jr's contiguous lands in Lehigh Twp, Northampton Co.. The years represent time of purchase. Google Earth view.

**Simon Jr appointed Commissioner:** Simon Jr. started his local career in politics when he was appointed as a Commissioner for Northampton County on 10 Oct 1770.<sup>14</sup> Three years later, Simon Jr's wife, Dorothea, died after giving birth to still-born twins. With many of their 12 children still living at home, including a two year old, a four year old and a six year old, it was imperative that Simon Jr

remarry quickly. He did. He married a widow, Anna Maria Fuchs Gucker, within the year.

**Simon Jr moves to Allen Twp:** His new wife owned property in the more cultivated and desirable area of Allen Township. Simon Jr seized the opportunity and moved there, occupying a two story, 35' X 22', log house<sup>15</sup> located on what is now PA Route 329, across the street from the Hower homestead<sup>16</sup>. Simon Jr now was closer to the political scene in Easton and Philadelphia,

**Simon Jr becomes a judge:** On 9 March 1774 the governor appointed Simon Dreisbach Jr, Esquire, to be a Justice of the Court of General Quarter Sessions and of the County Court of Common Pleas for Northampton County.<sup>17</sup> The fact that Simon Jr already was known as "esquire" indicates he had attained stature in the community. Here was no backwoods farmer. Simon Jr was acquainted with enough people in power to be made a judge.

*In 1776 Philadelphia was the second largest English speaking city in the world. London was the largest.*

**Simon Jr and Independence:** Gov. John Penn was removed from office in May 1776. On 4 July 1776, Independence was formally declared. After this the governing of Pennsylvania was done by the elected Assembly and by the Council of Safety, headed by Benjamin Franklin.



Photo of a re-enactment to show Philadelphia as it was in 1776.  
<http://www.phillyhistory.org>

On 15 June 1776, a Convention was called to write a Constitution for Pennsylvania. Simon Jr, Esquire, was elected "A Member of Convention for Northampton County" and as such, he helped to draw up the new Pennsylvania constitution!<sup>18</sup> (More on this in an upcoming issue.)

**Simon Jr Collects Blankets for Soldiers:** Simon had been appointed Commissioner for Northampton County in 1770

and continued in this position for a number of years. One of his duties as commissioner was "to collect blankets and provisions for the Continental soldiers..."<sup>19</sup> It is possible that – in the Dreisbach oral tradition - this activity by Simon Jr was mistakenly attributed to his older brother, Jost. Or perhaps they both collected blankets for the troops.



Exterior of Independence Hall in the 1700's.

**The winter of 1777-1778:** Simon Jr had been elected as a representative to the governing body of Pennsylvania, the Assembly. However the British invaded Philadelphia on 23 Sept 1777, forcing the government to relocate to York. At this time the government was a "house divided", and in York the portion represented by the Committee of Safety, headed by Benjamin Franklin, became dominant. It seems as though Simon Jr, was aligned with the opposing side. There are no records of Simon Jr's political activity between the fall of 1777 until 1783. From this we can make a reasonable assumption that, in the Valley Forge Winter of 1777-1778, Simon Jr was at home, with his wife and children in Allen Township.

**George Wilhelm Dreisbach (1733-to after 1809) not present at Valley Forge** – George was 10 years old when the family arrived in Pennsylvania. It is quite possible that he was indentured to a carpenter for he seems to have done some sort of woodwork all his life. George's life, and indeed the names and birthdates of his children are poorly documented. We know he married Sophia Schmidin, about 1758, but we have only bare tax records to tell us what George was doing.

One gets the feeling that George may have been a bit of a loner. In the 1760's and 1770's, all his brothers, Jost, Adam, Simon Jr and youngest brother John, owned contiguous properties in Lehigh Township, but George never *owned* (had clear title to) any property in this area.

In 1768, George is a millwright in Lehigh Township. A millwright is a person who specializes in keeping the wooden parts, gears, etc. of a mill in working order and/or

who makes new parts. No doubt this was a good job to have since his brother, Jost, owned a mill.

Interestingly, the tax lists of 1761, 1763, 1764, 1765 and 1766 do not list George Dreisbach at all. His brothers are all shown as paying tax but George is missing from the tax rolls. As a millwright, he might have moved often and perhaps he was not living in Lehigh Twp during this period.

**George first appears in the 1770 tax list<sup>20</sup>** which shows George as a “laborer”, meaning he did not own property and either was squatting on unbought property or lived with and worked for someone else. Indeed, the Proprietary Tax for Lehigh Twp in 1772<sup>21</sup> tells us that he was squatting in the Indian Tract. (The history of the Indian Tract is extremely interesting and will be covered in another issue of the newsletter.)

By 1775 George and his family were still living in Lehigh Twp, but there is no indication of where they were living. The 1776 County tax<sup>22</sup> shows that he had no land, no horses, 2 horned cattle and no sheep. And when the 1776 detailed tax assessment<sup>23</sup> was published, George was listed as a millwright who owned one horned cow. He was thus renting or living with or on the land of someone, probably one of his brothers.



*Men serving in the militia would have been dressed much like the re-enactors of Captain Selins Company. Photo courtesy of Jim Filipski.*

**Revolutionary War Service:** George was 43 and therefore required to serve in the militia. The records of the Penna. Archives have at least one listing for “George Dreisbach”.<sup>24</sup> There is a problem, though. In addition to George Wilhelm, there was a son of Simon Jr named George (1756-1826) who served in the militia as well<sup>25</sup>. Both resided in Lehigh Township and there is no way of knowing which George is represented in the Penna. Archive records of the militia.

As for where George Dreisbach was, during that winter of Valley Forge in 1777-1778, we can only say that he and his family were probably renting from or living with somebody in Lehigh Township, Northampton Co., where George was working as a mill wright. He was not at Valley Forge.

**John Dreisbach (1735-1796):** John was the youngest son of Simon Sr. He was about 8 years old when the family

sailed on the *Lydia* to Philadelphia and seems to have been too young to be an apprentice or to be indentured. He probably remained with his mother, along with younger sister, Anna Catherina.

John married Elizabeth Waltman in 1758 in Tohickon, Bucks Co. where many of the Dreisbachs fled in response to the Indian attacks of 1755 and 1756. It is likely that John met Elizabeth in Tohickon.



Looking into what was John's property in the Indian Land Tract, Lehigh Twp. Northampton County, PA.

**1761 – John is back in Lehigh Twp.** Sometime after 1758, John and his family returned to the area of Lehigh Township where Jost, Adam, Simon Jr and probably George were already living. John appears in the 1761 tax list which was assessed on 6 Jan 1761 and so reflects the situation in 1760. This means that John was already back in Lehigh Twp by 1760, possibly coming back in 1759 after the conclusion of the Indian Peace Treaty that was signed in Easton, PA on 8 Oct 1758.<sup>26</sup>

**Where was John Dreisbach in 1777-1778?** There is no proven answer to this, but we do know that John never served on the Pennsylvania Line in the regular army. However his service in the Northampton Co. militia is recorded in the Penna. Archives including one reference where he is serving in the 2<sup>nd</sup> class of the Fourth Company in the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion. In the same class with John are neighbors Frederick Bauchman and Michael App as well as brother-in-law Peter Waldman.<sup>27</sup> We can be certain, though, that John Dreisbach was not at Valley Forge.

**What about 1751 immigrant, Martin Dreisbach?** As we've seen in recent DFA Newsletters (Sept. 2012 and March 2013), Martin Dreisbach and his young family settled first in Cocalico Twp, PA. where he had a successful farm and a good life until tragedy struck and his oldest son died. Martin then moved his family to Alsace Twp in Berks Co., PA. When his oldest daughter married Henry Aurand and moved to Buffalo Valley in Union County, PA, Martin followed. By 1774 57 year old Martin Dreisbach owned land in the “New Purchase”.

**1775 and the beginning of the Revolutionary War** found Martin living on his farm with his wife, Anna Eva, 16 year old daughter Catherine, and 13 year old son John. His three other children, Margaretha, Jacob and Henry, were married but living nearby. Part of the tax assessment for 1775 survives<sup>28</sup> and shows that in this year Martin and his two sons, Jacob and Henry, were paying taxes – and for the Daughters of the American Revolution, this alone qualifies them as “Patriots”.



West branch of the Susquehanna River, not too far from where Martin Dreisbach settled in Union County, PA.

**Did Martin support the revolution?** By 1776 Martin was 59 years old and well beyond the age for mandatory participation in the militia. His name has not been found in any of the Pennsylvania Archive lists of militia men. However we can infer that he was a supporter of independence because in 1778 Martin was appointed *Overseer of Buffalo Township*.<sup>29</sup> It is very unlikely that a loyalist would have received such an appointment! Martin certainly was not at Valley Forge, but he was a Patriot.

**A Complicated Revolution!** The Revolutionary War was a very complicated event along the western frontier, in Buffalo Valley, and nearby Wyoming. (Wyoming is not the current state of Wyoming but rather the area now known as Scranton – Wilkes-Barre). Combatants included the British and their French and Indian allies, the Connecticut land companies, the Pennsylvania government, local people with loyalist leanings, local people cheering for independence, and gangs aligned with none of the above but looking for material gain. Anyone interested in what went on in the area where Martin and his family lived should read *Wild Yankees, the Struggle for Independence Along Pennsylvania's Revolutionary Frontier*, by Paul B. Moyer, Pub. by Cornell Un. Press, 2007.

What is important to know is that Martin's two older sons, Henry and Jacob, did not need to leave home to be involved in the defense of independence! We can be certain they were not at Valley Forge.

**Martin's sons served in the Revolutionary War:** In 1776 Jacob was 26, Henry was 21 and John was 14, but because the Revolutionary War lasted until 1783, even Martin's youngest son saw militia service as did both his older

brothers. In the Penna. Archives Jacob is listed as an ensign while Henry and John are listed as privates serving in the Northumberland County militia.<sup>30</sup>

**Jacob and the 1776 Salt Delivery:** Salt was a precious commodity in the 1700's. In addition to making a diet of corn meal palatable, it also was the main way to preserve meat and fish. A curious report of an attempt to buy and deliver salt is reported in the *Annals of Buffalo Valley*.<sup>31</sup> A court case was brought against a Captain Links of Buffalo Twp. who was given money by several people to make a trip (apparently to Philadelphia) to bring back salt. Links apparently did not bring back any salt because of “it being troublesome times” and the people wanted their money back.

Jacob Dreisbach was involved in this case. A summons was issued for him to appear before the committee that was hearing this case. Jacob did not appear so a special warrant was issued and according to the book...

“Jacob Dreisbach was brought before the committee, and being duly sworn, he saith that he asked Captain Links if he was the man that was to go to Philadelphia for salt, and the said Links answered that he was, and (Jacob) said that he had a sister in Philadelphia and wanted to see her, and said it would suit him better to go than another who had no errand of their own; but says for his (Jacob's) own part, he was willing to allow Captain Links whatever came to his share of the expenses, at the same rate that the rest of his employers allowed him, and further saith not.”

From this we learn that Jacob's sister, Margaretha, was living in Philadelphia at this time. And that Jacob was willing to make the long and somewhat dangerous trip to Philadelphia with a horse and cart to bring back salt. Judging from the rest of the story, Links made the trip but could find no salt to buy. However he was allowed to keep a certain amount of the money as payment for his expenses, which the committee found to be “very moderate”.

**1754 Immigrant Henrich Driesbach and the Revolutionary War:** Henrich is the immigrant with the fewest known documents. A thorough but incomplete search of the Bucks County militia records did not turn up any listings for Henrich. However there is quite specific information about his Revolutionary War service on the DFA website. Unfortunately the person who supplied the following information did not supply the source of it.

The website says: “During the Revolutionary War he (*Henrich Driesbach*) served in Capt Kachline's Company (Bucks County). [Captain Kachline must have been Andrew Kachlein from Rockhill Twp, Bucks Co. Andrew was chosen as Captain on 19 August 1775 and his unit became part of Thos. Craig's Company, 2nd PA Battalion, and saw action in Quebec.”



Tohickon United Church of Christ, Old Bethlehem Road, Perkasie, PA. Land for the church was given by Capt. Andrew Kachline.<sup>32</sup>

**About Andrew Kachline/Kachlein:** Andrew Kachlein had 244 acres and his residence in Rockhill Twp was just across the street from the Tohickon UCC Church (where we held the 2010 reunion).<sup>33</sup> This is fairly close to where Henry Driesbach lived. Perhaps Andrew and Henry knew each other or might even have been friends.

In 1775 the townships were to create a Committee of Safety and form Associators (militia) to 'learn the art of war'. On 10 Aug 1775, Kachlein was elected Captain of the Associated Company of Rockhill and a list of all the men in this militia company is found in the Penna. Archives.<sup>34</sup> Henry Driesbach's name is not among them but it is quite possible that he signed up a bit later.

**On 5 Jan 1776, Andrew Kachlein joined the Continental Line** (the regular army) as a First Lieutenant of Capt. Craig's Co. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pennsylvania Battalion under Arthur St. Clair. It is said this company was raised mainly in Northampton County but had a number of people from Bucks Co (where Henry Driesbach resided).<sup>35</sup> It is possible that Henry went with Andrew Kachlein and if so, he was then a member of the regular army and may have seen service in Canada however records that he did this have not been discovered.

**Was Henry Driesbach at Valley Forge with Washington?** The answer is almost certainly not. Although the 2<sup>nd</sup> PA Battalion *was* at Valley Forge, Andrew Kachlein and his company were not. So it is very unlikely that Henry spent the winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge.

There is a cryptic entry for a "H'y Driesback" in the Penna. Archives.<sup>36</sup> The lists of men who served during the Revolutionary War were prepared from enlistment books, roll calls and names written on scraps of paper. Many of the later gave no indication of whether they referred to militia companies, Continental Line companies, the Navy or the frontier Rangers. So as not to omit any names, the compilers of the Penna. Archives simply printed all these names under the heading "Muster Rolls of the Navy and

Line, Militia and Rangers, 1775 to 1783". It is in this list that we find "H'y Driesback".

Circumstantial evidence suggests that this name refers to Henrich Driesbach of Rockhill Twp. One bit of evidence is the 'Driesback' spelling, which is more typical of Rockhill Henry than of the Simon or Martin lines. Another is that the names on the list above and below Henry are not names associated with the Simon Dreisbach line nor are they names that we see associated with the Martin Dreisbach line. So despite the fact that Martin had a son named Henry who served in the militia, and that Simon had a grandson (son of John) named Henry who also served in the militia – it seems most likely that this entry refers to Henrich Driesbach of Rockhill Twp., Bucks Co., PA.!

On a more definite note, there are 4 mentions of "Henry Drisback" paying taxes in Bucks County in 1779<sup>37</sup>, in 1781<sup>38</sup>, in 1782<sup>39</sup> and in 1787<sup>40</sup>. Any one of these qualifies Henrich as a DAR Patriot.

**What about Henry's sons?** Henry had one son, Jacob, born in 1762, who would have been old enough to serve in the militia just as the Revolutionary War was ending in 1783. Once again, the problem is distinguishing this Jacob from "Jacob born 1759, son of Simon Dreisbach Jr" and "Jacob born 1748, son of Martin Dreisbach. The Jacob listed as an "Ensign" in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion of the Northampton Co. militia in 1783<sup>41</sup> probably was the son of Simon Jr, but could be the son of Henry Driesbach. Further research is needed.



Tombstone of Henry's son, Jacob, Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Almonte, PA. Written in German it says "In memory of Jacob Dreysbach. He died the 19<sup>th</sup> September Anno 1846 and reckons his age at about 81 years."

**In Conclusion:** We have examined all known Dreisbach men from the first and second generation of Pennsylvania immigrants who might have served during the Revolutionary War. Simon Dreisbach Sr was too old to serve. Of the remaining eleven Dreisbach men, there are militia records for nine (Jost, Simon Jr, George, John, Jacob, Henry, John, Henry and Jacob). Adam and Martin have other records that indicate they played a role in supporting the new government. Although none of these men spent the winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge, they each served in their own way.

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<sup>1</sup> 1776 Lehigh Township Tax Assessments, Hist. Soc. of Penna., Phila. Pa., Northampton Co. Collection #456, Accounts 1754-1779, Box 2, Vol. 1776.

<sup>2</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser. 1, Vol. III, p. 341.

<sup>3</sup> Morison, Samuel E., *Sources & Documents Illustrating the American Revolution 1764-1788...* pp. 122-125.

<sup>4</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser. 2, Vol XIV, p. 591.

<sup>5</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser. 2, Vol XIV, p. 553.

<sup>6</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser. 2, Vol III, p. 579.

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/revolutionary\\_war\\_militia\\_overview/](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/revolutionary_war_militia_overview/)

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Comm., Revolutionary War Militia Overview

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> See DFA newsletter of April 2011 for discussion and evidence to substantiate this statement.

<sup>10</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser. 5, Vol. VIII p.14

<sup>11</sup> Ibid. p. 4.

<sup>12</sup> Provincial Tax for Lehigh Twp. 1776, Northampton Co. Archives, Northampton Co. Courthouse, Easton, PA., two loose pages located in a box "SKP 340361928, Assessments Hamilton to Lowhill.

<sup>13</sup> *The Real History of the American Revolution*, Alan Axelrod, Sterling Press, NY. 2007. p. 151.

<sup>14</sup> Hist. Soc. of PA., Philadelphia, PA. Provincial Delegates Collection, Vol. 4, p 126. Dreisbach, Simon.

<sup>15</sup> 1798 U.S. Direct House Tax, Marx Room, Easton Public Library, Easton, PA.

<sup>16</sup> According to the late William J. Fiedler, a descendant through Simon's daughter, Elizabeth, the wife of Nicholas Hower

<sup>17</sup> Penna. Arch. Col. Rec. X, Minutes of Provincial Council, p. 155.

<sup>18</sup> *The Proceedings relative to calling the conventions of 1776 and 1780, the Minutes of the Convention that formed the present Constitution of Pennsylvania.* Harrisburg, Pa. 1825. pp. 45-65.

<sup>19</sup> *The Pennsylvania German Society*, Vol. XXXI, Ephrata, PA. October 8, 1920. p 218.

<sup>20</sup> Lehigh Township Tax List, 1770. Northampton Co. Collection #456, Northampton Co Papers, Box 2, Vol 1770, "Treasurer's Report 1754-1770", at Hist. Soc. of Penna., Phila. PA.

<sup>21</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser 3, Vol XIX, pp 58-60.

<sup>22</sup> "Return of Lehigh Twp for a County Tax, Jan. 1776", in a box labelled SKP 340361928, Assessments Hamilton to Lowhill, in Northampton Co. Archives, Northampton Co. Courthouse, Easton, PA.

<sup>23</sup> 1776 Lehigh Township Assessment, in Northampton Co. Collection #456, Northampton Co. Papers, Northampton Co. Assessments, Accounts 1754-1779, Box 2 Vol 1776, at Hist. Soc. of Penna., Phila. PA.

<sup>24</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser 5, Vol. VIII, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, p. 309.

<sup>25</sup> *The Pennsylvania German Society*, Vol. XXXI, Ephrata, PA. October 8, 1920. p 218.

<sup>26</sup> Chidsey, A.D., *A Frontier Village, Pre-Revolutionary Easton*, Northampton Co. Hist. & Genealog. Soc., Easton, PA., 1940, p. 183.

<sup>27</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser. 5, Vol VIII, p. 310.

<sup>28</sup> Linn J.B., *Annals of Buffalo Valley, Union Co., Penna. 1755-1855*, Harrisburg, PA., 1877. p.73.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid. p.73.

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<sup>30</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser. 5, Vol IV, p. 318.

<sup>31</sup> Op cit Linn, p. 135.

<sup>32</sup> <http://www.kichline.com/documents/archives/KichlinesInAmerica.htm>

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

<sup>34</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser 2, Vol. XIV, p. 170.

<sup>35</sup> <http://www.kichline.com/documents/archives/KichlinesInAmerica.htm>

<sup>36</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser 3, Vol. XXIII, p. 305.

<sup>37</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser 3, Vol. XIII, p. 77.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid. p. 172.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid. p. 295.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid. p. 799.

<sup>41</sup> Penna. Arch. Ser. 5, Vol VIII, p. 240.