

Epitaphs



HANDBOOK OF HISTORIC FAMILY GRAVEYARDS
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

By
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A Publication of the
Berks County Association for Graveyard Preservation
4701 St. George Street
Reading, PA 19606

Baver Caroline d/o Johann & Catharine Sept. 7, 1850-Jan. 6, 1852
 Solomon s/o Thomas & Maria Jan. 27, 1839-Apr. 10, 1844 5 2 13
 Dum ? Joseph Mar. 26, 1841-Apr. 11, 1844 3 0 15 footstone S.D. & J.D.
 Wummer Magdalena (Schmidt) w/o Adam Jan. 18, 1779-June 16, 1836 57 5 3
 Hess Johannes Dec. 17, 1803-Oct. 11, 1869 65 9 24 footstone J.H.
 Data recorded by Msgr. Fink in 1930's
 Greth Daniel 1800-1817
 Hess Margaret 1801-1847 possibly a Renninger w/o John Hess
 Fink Barbara 1796-1871 possibly a Bauman w/o Charles Fink
 Probable burials without stones from Bally records
 Hopp Francis Anthony s/o George & Margaret -July 28, 1801 2 9m
 Magdalen d.o George & Margaret July 28, 1801 5 6 14
 Tum (Dumm) Thomas Feb. 4, 1833 3 yrs bd Moselem
 Footstone M.E.D., M.W., M.G., B.L.T.
 Data from Berks Co. Death records 1852-1855
 Hopp Andrew Lancaster Co. June 14, 1768-May 4, 1853 84 10 20 s/o Francis & Catherine issue: Catherine, Susanna
 & Mary
 Henry Philip Adam Windsor Twp (now Perry) March 6, 1795-Aug. 31, 1854 59 6 24 s/o Philip & Elizabeth h/o Catherine
 (Kissel), md. March 15, 1818, had with her 6s 4d - Elizabeth, William, Philip, Catharine, Charles, Mary
 Ann, John, Joseph, Ester and one other son; bd Moselem Richmond
 Observations: Starting at the top in the first row the first lot is empty and then 11 burials; some burials are irregular between the first
 and second row; in row two with the 2 trees there appear to be 15 burials; row three has 15; row four, 12 burials; row five, 14 burials;
 row six, 13; row seven, 15 and row eight too irregular to count. Graves are laying southeast to northwest.
 Site address: RD 2 Fleetwood (off of Richmond St.)
 Pin: 72-5422-04-53-9042 DB 1687 p. 1215

SAVAGE

Richmond Township: From Baldy Road near Dryville turn in at the Fleetwood Game Association near Dryville. Site is located in the
 field on the right beginning about 30 yards in at the curve in the wooded/field line.

Size: 50' x 150'

History: This site was suspect because of the Penn warranty (see warranty map in Recorder of Deeds) of March 20, 1743 to John Henry
 Saubau/Sowass, containing 147 acres. From a will abstract Johannes Sowas of Rockland died in 1761. His wife was Susanna and his
 son Heinrich and daughter Anna Elizabeth. Witnesses were Abraham Kieffer and Caspar Bicking. At some point the township line
 was changed, and this area became part of Richmond Township.

Gravemarkers and inscriptions: No information. Perhaps some can be located in the woods.

Observations: Indicate 6 rows with room for approximately 29 graves in each. It appears that there are approximately 98 burials. The
 burials are in the planted field near the wood line.

Site address: Baldy Rd.

Pin: 72-5441-02-89-9322* DB 1916 p. 0128

SCHADEL

Richmond Township: From Rt. 222 traveling north, right on School Rd. just north of Moselem Springs .7 mile, then left on Scheiry
 Rd. .2 mile to gravesite on roadbank on left.

Size: 86' into the fields along both sides of the road and 106' along the road.

History: Plot was certainly disturbed when road was widened and black topped. Research is needed for identity of burials.

Gravemarkers and inscriptions:

Schadel Maria Catharin April 23, 1722-March 15, 1768 had 5 children

Observations: This site was very difficult to evaluate. On the road side away from the house we detected a steady line of broad activity.
 This appears to be a buried foundation or footers for a wall. This was also detected on the other side of the road. There was an
 unbroken line of activity right up the very center of the road. Perhaps the activity was caused by the disturbance of the soil when they
 built the road. On the outer perimeter on both sides of the road the detectable pattern was not so defined. The site has 9 rows with
 approximately 110 burials. Did this happen before the road was black topped? Was there a court order granting permission to build
 a road over an historic graveyard? What happened to the tombstones?

Site address: Scheiry Rd. RD 4 Box 4030 Fleetwood

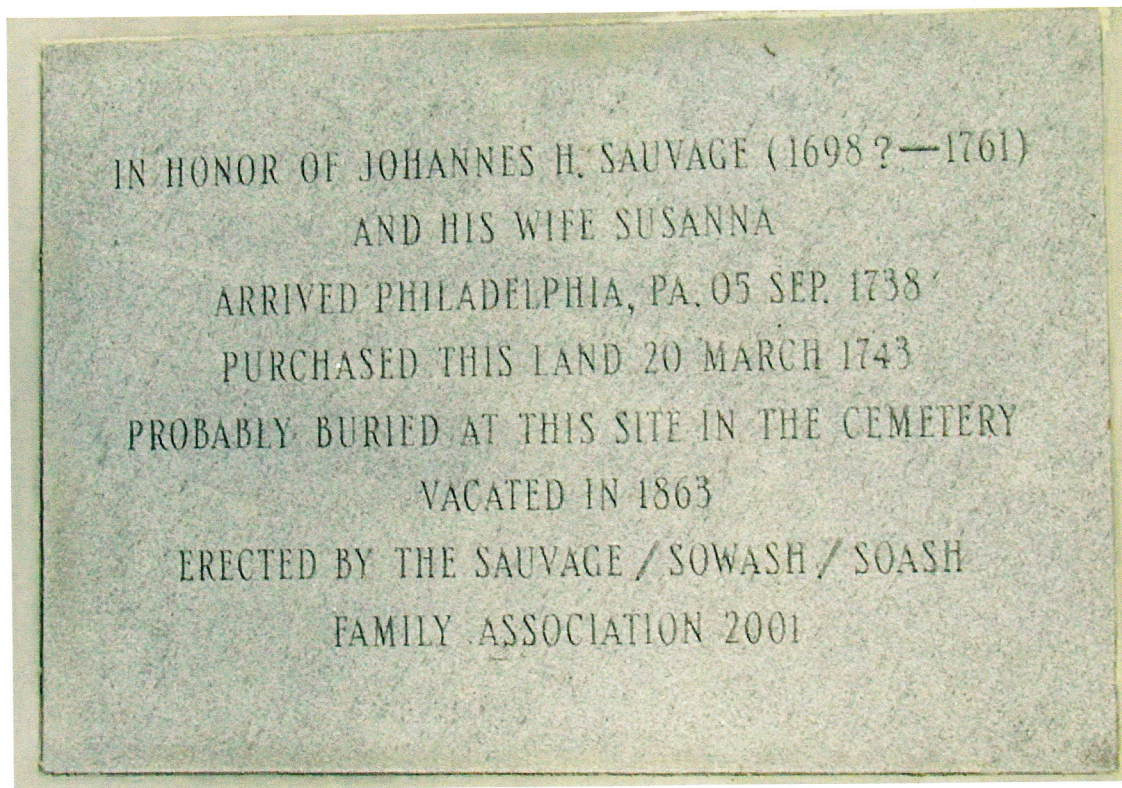
Pin: 72-5432-01-45-8174 DB 1503 p. 0252

SCHAEFFER

Richmond Township: North side of Fleetwood-Lyons Rd. 1.5 miles east of Fleetwood on second farm on left before Baldy.

Size: 40' x 45'

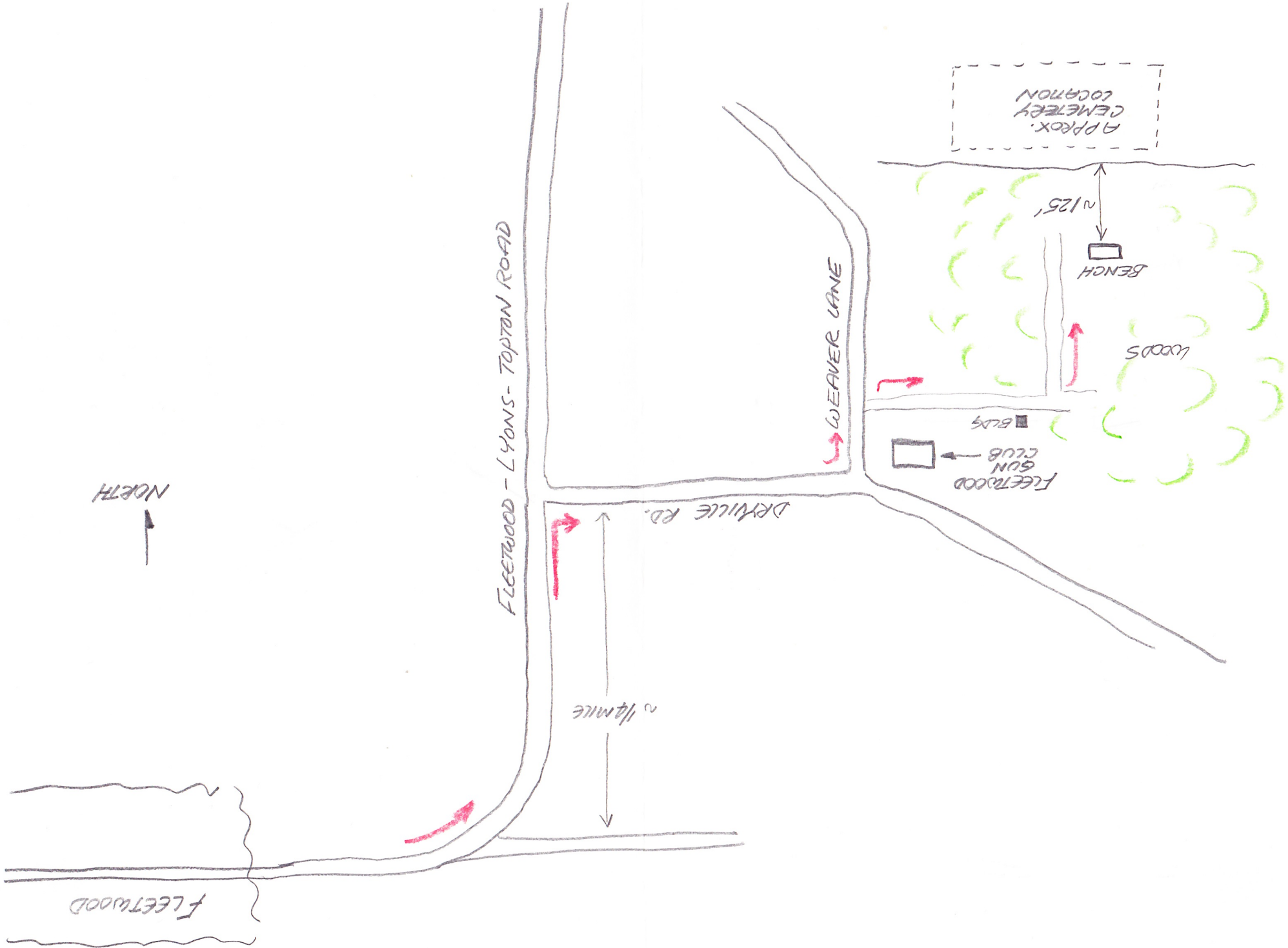
History: The emigrant George Schaeffer married Catharine Ruhl. For Schaeffer family information refer to MHBA, p. 573. Stone wall
 covered with cement was in very bad condition in 1996. The family financed the rebuilding of the wall, the refinishing and repair of
 the gate and is working on a plan of perpetual maintenance and care.



Marker embedded in the bench installed on nearby land owned by the Fleetwood Fish and Game Association.







Picture 1 on map below



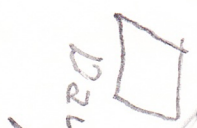
Area of graveyard

Picture 2 on map below



Picture 3 on map below





David Bittler Farm

Farm Rd



Rd to Weavers store (W. lower Road)

Bittler Rd. (Ruth Road)

Cemetery
50' x 150'



Woods

Dryville Rd.



Fleetwood

Fish & Game Club

Property

see put
2152 also

Numbers in circles with arrows
correspond with photo numbers

Berks County Association for Graveyard Preservation

2225

4701 St. George Street, Reading, PA 19606 610-779-3464

Jacqueline B. Nein, Executive Director

Sauvage/Sowash/Soash Family Association
5723 N. Charles
Wichita, KS 67204

April 10, 1997

Dear Richard;

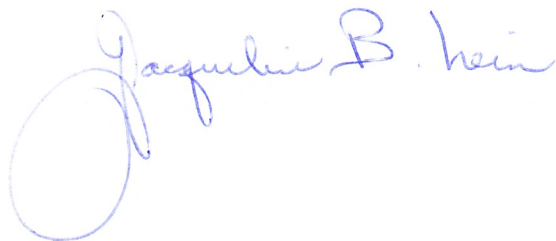
Yesterday 3 of our members and Wilber and Mary Savage took a trip to the farm of David Bitler in Rockland Township to try to locate the exact location of the *Savage* grave site shown on the warranty map that you sent us.

We began at the bottom of the incline in the field which was pointed out to Mary at the Berks County Savage reunion. Within fifteen minutes we discounted the first part of the incline and abandoned a search in the woods. A gully separates the woods from the site of the graveyard that was found. Some brush exists between the plowed area and the gully and a few more burials could be possible in that area. The site located has a tremendous view of the area around the Fleetwood/Lyons Road. It would appear that the heads are at the side next to the woods. The general area is 150' wide and 50' deep. We got dowsing activity in 98 sites, suggesting that we have found 98 occupied grave sites. There is no doubt that this is the site of the Savage historic graveyard. Mary Savage marked the trees in the woods with a green banner to indicate the beginning and end of the location of the site. We also left two ground markers at these trees.

We did not probe the sites because no evidence exists suggesting that any tomb stones remain. If any existed they have disappeared. We reported our findings to the owner, Mr. David Bitler. In a conversation I had earlier with his wife I learned that their children were very interested in learning about the site. Perhaps they can be encouraged to look in the woods for evidence of stones. Likely the stones would not have been moved far from the property. We were also told of foundations that could be of the homestead.

Included is the graph reporting our results. Mary has indicated that she also would be reporting to you on our findings. Even though this was a very cold, windy day the experience was worth the discomfort. We will continue to be in touch with Mary to help and advise her. The retainer you sent will now be moved to our general fund. Our association is always eager to work with preserving and maintaining these historic graveyards and we commend you for your perseverance.

Sincerely,



Berks County Association for Graveyard Preservation

4701 St. George Street, Reading, PA 19606 610-779-3464
Jacqueline B. Nein, Executive Director

March 6, 1997

Re.: Savage Graveyard Research

Dear Richard,

I did some preliminary looking to determine what work needs to be done to help you find your graveyard. I tried to talk with Mary Savage but she is not available for a few weeks.

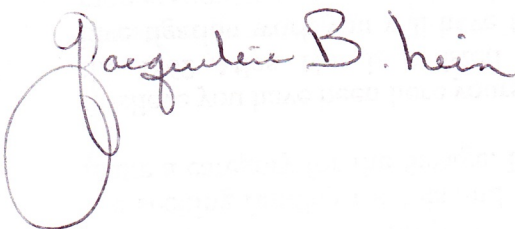
We know that over 300 of these historic family graveyards existed. Today we have only about 150, more than half of which were neglected before we began this work in 1995. This is the wrong time of the year to do book research and even field work to locate a graveyard without visible evidence. We do have a project which we are trying to initiate to identify the location of as many of these sites as possible and to properly and separately record them in the Recorder of Deeds Office. We are seeking funding for this and cooperation with the County. When this happens we will try to make a category for the Savage. Deed research, now, in Berks County is very difficult.

X I believe you have been here yourself trying to solve the mystery. The graveyard is not recorded on the 1862 Atlas. Nor is it listed in our graveyard book. If you want us to pursue with some investigation work you will have to pay our expenses and for our services, and if you want your money spent well you must briefly tell us what you have already done. We do not want to duplicate efforts unless something was missed. I do want to know where you got the map you sent and what is the meaning of the crosses. I never saw crosses on warranty maps. Have you talked with any local old timers?

Send \$200 as a retainer and do not expect quick results or frequent communications. I will contact some authorities in the area and together we will try to pinpoint the location. Then we can try to confirm the site with dowsing. If dowsing is successful we will probe for buried tombstones. When your \$200 has been used up we will give you a report and then you can determine if we should continue.

Please advise.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline B. Nein

DAVE
BITLER
FARM 55

SAVIDGE ②

5000

Berks Co PA
grovesite
land of Johannes
Samsage

[illegible]

SANDIDGE (I)

150' W 107
50' LO 16

WOODS

FLEET
WOODS
CAM
150'

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| F | V | V | F | F | V | F | V | V | V | V | F | F | F | F | 7 |
| F | F | V | F | F | V | V | F | V | F | F | V | V | V | V | 9 |
| F | F | V | F | F | F | F | F | V | F | V | F | F | F | V | 5 |
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