

A History of Revolutionary War Patriot

Capt. Jacob Yoder

1758-1832



CAP'T JACOB YODER, Patriot



Prepared for the America250 Celebration in Taylorsville, KY

By Chris Yoder, Yoder Newsletter, 2026

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Capt. Jacob Yoder's Daughter Tells Family History



THE JACOB YODER HOMESTEAD – Sept 2016

Revolutionary War soldier and adventurer Capt. Jacob Yoder (1758-1832) (OH113) has been the subject of several articles in the Yoder Newsletter. In YNL3 we told how he was the first man to take a flatboat down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans and we gave an expanded biography in YNL12. In YNL23 we shared photos from the family homestead taken by a YNL subscriber, and in YNL67 we gave details of his family association with that of the famous frontiersman Daniel Boone. We can now publish, for what may be the first time in print, a family sketch written by his daughter Eliza Yoder Poignand. Our thanks go to the archives of the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY, for their permission to reproduce this material.

Account of the Yoders given by Mrs. E.Y.P. (Eliza Yoder Poignard- 1795 to 1883)

The Yoders left Switzerland, the Canton of Zurich (sic), at the revocations of the Edict of Nantes, There were two brothers, John and Samuel. John married Sarah Schenkle, their children were: Daniel, Martin, Jacob and Barbara. Samuel had no children. Sarah Schenkle had a sister who married a man named Eppler.

Jacob Yoder married Mary Mossman, the daughter of Archibald Mossman and Elizabeth Baird.

Archibald Mossman came from Scotland, they were married in Penna. Elizabeth Baird was the daughter of Thomas Baird and Mary Iack. Mary Iack was the daughter of ____ Iack and Elizabeth Douglas, who was the daughter of James Douglas and Janet Orr ("black haired Douglass").

.....Elizabeth Baird who married Archibald Mossman had two daughters, Margaret and Mary.

Margaret married William McClure.

Mary married Jacob Yoder at Bardstown in the year 1793. They had two daughters, Eliza and Mary.

Eliza married D. R. Poignand of Mass- their children were Eliza, Mary, Yoder, Louisa, and Rozel. Eliza married George Washington Weissinger, of Louisville and has one son Rozel Weissinger.

Mary Yoder married Mason Brown of Frankfurt, Kentucky, their children were: John Mason, married Mary Preston of Lex.; Margaretta Mason married W. F. Barrett of Louisville; Mary Yoder, married W. T. Scott of Lex., Yoder, died unmarried July 19th 1882; Knox married Adeline Watson of Frankfurt, Eliza Eloise.

Archibald Mossman was killed near Fredericktown, Maryland by 3 redemptionists whom he was talking to his home, they were afterwards hung upon the very scene of their crime, having made free confession. His youngest child Mary (who was born in Baltimore) was 6 months old at the time of his death. His widow went back to her father's home near Chambersburg, Penna where she died leaving Mary 3 years old. Mrs. Thomas Baird came to Kentucky in the year 78 or 1782 bringing with her several children, and her two granddaughters Mary and Margaret. . She died in Shelby Co., at her son's Thomas Baird

Jacob Yoder was the youngest child of John Yoder and Sarah Schenkle born in August 1758, the 11th day of the month, in the town of Reading, Penna. He left home when he was 13 years old, entered the Army as a private soldier when 15 years old (sic), served two years. He was in 7 encampments, one of them was the battle of Brandywine, and was at Valley Forge. After the war he was engaged in the "Pack horse trains" taking goods from Philadelphia to Fort Redstone now Brownsville near Pittsburgh. From there he came to the Falls of the Ohio- from thence he went to New Orleans in the first flatboat which ever reached N.O. from there went to Cuba- from Cuba to Phila, and then returned to the west. He traded for several years among the Indians in Indiana and Illinois, then settled in Bardstown Ky about 30 yrs old. Was married at 35. He removed from Bardstown to Spencer Co, where he lived for 28 yrs. And there died on the 7th of April 1832. His wife died 21st of August 1830. The Yoders were Calvinists. The Mossmans, Bairds, & C were Covenanters.

- - - - -
A Sons of the American Revolution claim for a descendant adds "He entered the army as a private in Capt. Charles Robins Co- 6th Battalion of Col. Irs? Heister- Berks Co, Pa Militia. (see roster of Berks Co, PA) ... He was at Valley Forge the winter of 77-78.... He was engaged in several Indian campaigns and in 1794 furnished to each of several regts formed for Genl Waynes Army 50 horses laden with provisions."

Spencer County Kentucky historian Tom Watson, a boyhood friend of the current homestead owner, has featured a number of articles about the family including one in the Apr.27, 2011 The Spencer Magnet, in which he wrote:

On a rise just north of Taylorsville, above the intersection of Yoder-Tipton Road and Kentucky 55-155 stands the Jacob Yoder home that was originally called "Beechland," but was renamed "Vaucluse" by Yoder's son-in-law, Frenchman David Roselle Poignand.

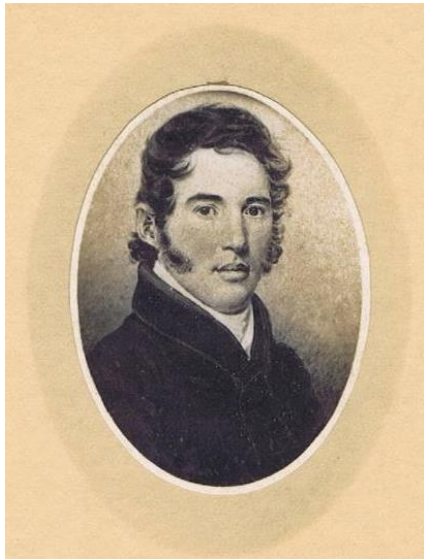
Before continuing, it might do well to explain that Vaucluse is pronounced something like VAW-CLOOZ' and Poignand sounds like PAW-YAH' in French, although Spencer Countians most often pronounced it PON'-YERD. Vaucluse was a wine-growing region of France and the Knox Brown family said that it was also the name of Poignand's home in France. Miriam Blackburn Brown, Knox Brown Jr's wife, said there was also a possibility Vaucluse got its name from a horse farm by the same name in the Lexington area.

Yoder named the place "Beechland" because of the large number of beech trees on his property, especially along Wolf Run Creek that empties into Brashears Creek.

Yoder was a captain for our side during the American Revolution. His grandparents were Swiss and his parents were Dutch immigrants to this country. Jacob Yoder made a name for himself by taking the first load of trade goods down the Mississippi River to New Orleans on a flatboat. In 1785, Yoder settled in Bardstown where he married Mary Mossman in 1793, but he learned that village life was not what he wanted and decided to become a farmer. He bought 4,000 acres of Shelby County land on the northeast side of Brashears Creek and in 1803, began construction of a two-story, 13-room house. The acreage was part of the territory out of which Spencer County was formed in 1824. Clay taken from the hole dug for the basement of Yoder's house was used to make the bricks that became the walls of the structure. The project kept Yoder's many slaves busy for three years.

The Yoder's first daughter, Elizabeth, was 10-years-old when the house was built and their second daughter, Mary, was born there in 1810. Mary Mossman Yoder died in 1830 and Jacob met his maker April 7, 1832. The first iron grave tablet west of the Alleghenies was sent from Cincinnati by Yoder's friend, Captain Joseph Pierce, and placed over Yoder's burial site in the family cemetery that is visible from Kentucky 55-155 at Yoder-Tipton Road. The cemetery is surrounded by a stone wall. A single marker on the hillside just below it is dedicated to the many slaves who lived, worked and died at Vaocluse. There are estimates of as many as 100 slave burials on the hillside.

Elizabeth Yoder married Frenchman David Rozel Poignand of Boston, Mass., and continued to call the house "Beechland." It isn't known exactly when Poignand changed the name of "Beechland" to "Vaocluse," but Jacob Yoder apparently did not approve of his daughter's marriage to the Frenchman nor the name change for his home. The family story is that the old captain sat on the back porch and whittled while the ceremony was being conducted inside the house.



**DAVID ROZEL POIGNAND
HUSBAND OF CAPT. JACOB'S
DAUGHTER**

(family photo credits to Liberty Hall Historic Site Collections, Frankfurt, KY)



**Eliza Poignand Weissinger (1824-
1896)**

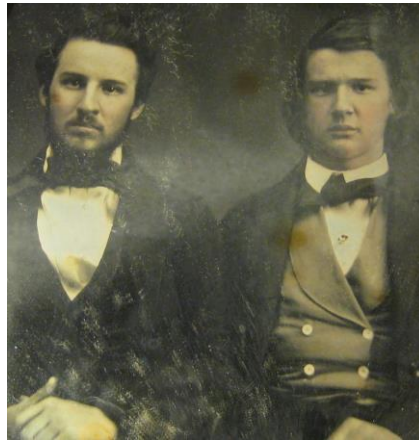
Capt. Jacob's granddaughter

Jacob and Mary Yoder's daughter, Mary (b, Jan. 26, 1810; d. March 15, 1881), married Mason Brown, who distinguished himself as a lawyer and judge. Mason and Mary Brown were

the parents of Knox Brown, who married Adeline “Addie” Crittenden Watson of Frankfort, the granddaughter of Gen. Green Clay, who was the father of Cassius Clay of Whitehall.



Mary Yoder Brown (1810-1881)
Cabinet Card Photograph, ca. 1875



**LtoR- Yoder Poignand
(1834-1908)
& John Mason Brown (1837-1890)**

(family photo credits to Liberty Hall Historic Site Collections)

Knox Brown was the grandson of John Brown, Kentucky’s first senator. Knox Brown and Addie bought Vaocluse and moved in during 1906 when their son Knox Brown Jr. was 12. Knox Brown Jr., who was born July 19, 1884, and died Nov. 23, 1970, was the great grandson of Jacob Yoder. He married Miriam Blackburn July 9, 1938. She continued to live at Vaocluse and died April 30, 1983. Knox Brown Jr. and Miriam were the parents of a boy and a girl. Joe Brown and his sister Mary Jane (Marcum) grew up in Vaocluse. Joe is a U.S. attorney in Nashville and teaches law at Vanderbilt.

Yoder Poignand never married and was living at the Spencer House in Taylorsville. Shortly before his death, he had given the knoll property to the citizens of Taylorsville if they would promise to build a school on top of the natural formation. Resident John Speed challenged Yoder Poignand to put the offer in writing, and he did. The school was named after Poignand. And if you wonder what happened to Yoder Poignand – he was killed by a train at the Main Street crossing in Taylorsville Aug. 28, 1908, at the age of 74.

An additional view of his Revolutionary War service is provided in the March 1896 application for membership in the Kentucky Sons of the American Revolution by Capt. Jacob’s great grandson William Francis Barrett (grandson of Mary Yoder and Mason Brown, Son of Mary Brown and William Francis Barrett Sr), he writes:

“He served as a soldier in 1777-1778. Fought at Brandywine and Germantown, took part in the actions occurring in those years, and suffered at Valley Forge and the Jerseys. He was also engaged in several Indian campaigns and in 1794 furnished to each of several regiments formed for General Wayne’s Army 50 horses laden with provisions. The details were provided from my ancestor himself. Jacob Yoder belonged to the Pennsylvania line, Enlisted at the age of 18.”

In his 1889 book The Political Beginnings of Kentucky, Capt. Jacob's grandson John Mason Brown (son of Mary Yoder and Mason Brown), a Kentucky historian and Civil War Officer, wrote:

Increase of population had brought with it yearly accumulations of the staple products of a purely agricultural community. Tobacco, flour, pork, were now produced in quantities that represented values great enough to enrich the community could a market but be obtained. All eyes were turned toward the broad waterway of the Mississippi; for it was only down its current that transportation of such bulky freight could be had. As early as May, 1782, bold Jacob Yoder had built his great broad-horn at Redstone, on the Monongahela, and as a pioneer of western commerce had safely carried it, freighted with flour, down the Ohio and Mississippi to New Orleans. With the sales of his cargo peltries were bought that had come in tribute to the king, buffalo skins from remote regions beyond the post of St. Louis, in the northern Louisiana, and beaver from the unnamed streams of Iowa and Wisconsin. The furs sold at the Havana purchased sugars that were freighted for Philadelphia; and enriched with the rewards of his expedition the successful adventurer returned across the Alleghanies and past Fort Pitt to his home, where the little hamlet of Bardstown nestled on the banks of the Beech Fork of Salt River.

The voyage of Jacob Yoder and its pecuniary results had fixed all western thought upon the riches that awaited a free

navigation of the Mississippi and an unobstructed outlet to the sea. Interposing mountains and the adverse current of the Ohio prohibited carrying eastward to Atlantic marts the ponderous barter of the new West. Through hundreds of weary miles, through canebrakes and forests, lay the Wilderness Road, the only communication with Virginia, skirting the streams toward their sources, winding through the passes of the Cumberland Mountains, and threading the long furrows that nature has plowed from northeast to southwest between the ranges of the Blue Ridge. Over such a road nothing could be carried except within the limits of a load for a pack-horse.



John Mason Brown (1837-1890)

John Mason Brown was born in Frankfort, Ky., 26 April 1837, the son of Mason and Mary (Yoder) Brown. He graduated from Yale College in 1856. He returned to Frankfort where he taught school and studied law. In April, 1860, he opened a law practice in St. Louis, Mo. He spent several months in 1861 and 1862 traveling in the Northwestern United States and British America. Upon his return from a trip to the Montana Territory in October, 1862, he was commissioned Major of the Kentucky 10th cavalry regiment. He was promoted to the rank of Colonel in the 45th Kentucky Mounted Rifles regiment in December, 1863. He was subsequently appointed commander of the 4th Brigade, 1st Division, District of Kentucky in April, 1864 and the 2nd Brigade in July, 1864. He left the service in December, 1864 and resumed his law practice in Frankfort. He eventually opened a law firm in Louisville in 1873 and later was a founder of the Filson Club. He married Mary O. Preston, eldest daughter of Gen. William Preston, 25 November 1869. They had 4 children. He eventually settled in Louisville, Ky., where he remained in practice until his death on 29 January 1890 at the age of 52.

Jacob Yoder's Family in Pennsylvania

Daughter Eliza wrote how Jacob left home at the tender age of 13- about the year 1761. What we know of his family life in Pennsylvania gives us some clues to the possible reasons for this departure.

In his 1926 work *Annals of the Oley Valley*, Rev. P. C. Croll, D.D. dedicates an entire chapter to the Yoder Family.

Of Jacob's family he writes:

The eldest son of Hans Yoder the immigrant (OH1), was also named Hans (John (OH11)), who married a Miss Sarah Shingle (Shenkel) in November of 1746 and with her he had four children named: (1) Daniel (1748-1820), married to Margaret Oyster, who lived and died in Oley and are buried at Pleasantville, (2) Martin, who was a lieutenant of the Fourth Company in Fifth Battalion of Berks County in the Revolutionary War, (3) Jacob (1758-1832) who was born in Reading, was a soldier during the Revolution, in 1780 moved to western Pennsylvania and in 1782 descended down the Monongahela, Ohio and Missouri rivers with a cargo of flour to New Orleans in the first flat-boat (built by himself) that ever floated down the Father of Waters.

He was in this respect the forerunner of Abraham Lincoln, who in 1831, nearly 50 years later, took a flat-boat load of pork, (which craft he had constructed with his own skillful hands), down the Sangamon, Illinois, and Mississippi to this southern market city. Capt. Yoder carried on a sugar trade with Cuba and Philadelphia while Louisiana still was under the French flag, and became widely known in his day as an extensive tradesman. He died in Spencer County Kentucky, and lies buried at Louisville KY (sic- Taylorsville on his homestead). Over his grave is erected a marker bearing this inscription on an iron tablet cast by Hanks & Niles, of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1834: Jacob Yoder Was born in Reading, Pennsylvania August 11, 1758 (sic- see below) and was a soldier in the Revolutionary Army in 1777 and 1778 He emigrated to the West in 1780 and in May 1782, from Fort Redstone on the Monongahela River in the first flat boat that ever descended the Mississippi He landed at New Orleans with a cargo of Produce. He died April 7, 1832 at his farm in Spencer County, Kentucky, and lies Interred beneath this tablet.

The last son of Hans Yoder, Jacob's father, was (4) Samuel, who fought for America's freedom and independence, and then lost his life near at home by falling to his death from a horse he was riding near the Oley churches,

(Note: There was also a daughter Barbara, see the family group below.

In the 1860s Dr. Peter G. Bertolet gathered stories about the families in the Oley Township area of Berks County. He was the Peter Bertolet's "Fragments of the Past-historical sketches of Oley and vicinity". Bertolet was a grandson of Mary Yoder Bertolet (OY12) - granddaughter of immigrant Yost Yoder (OY), a brother to Jacob's great grandfather Hans Yoder (OH)). He practiced medicine in the Oley Valley from the 1840's

until his death in 1865. During this time, he assembled a 400 page manuscript, but did not publish it in his lifetime. This important document was first published by the The Woman's Club of Oley Valley in 1980. Why did Jacob leave home at such a young age? Bertolet tells of the unhappy home life he faced, which likely was a contributing cause:

Hanse Yoder (OH11) was the builder and owner of Griesemer's Mill property as well as the homestead of the Yoders, and had trouble with his neighbor Leshner. Neither did his domestic affairs glide along very smoothly. He was intemperate and, as might be expected, had a good many domestic squabbles. One day, after he was absent from home, he returned in the evening to find his house deserted by his wife, with everything that could be carried off except his three children, leaving them in a most deplorable condition, not even the means with which to feed them. Her brother, Mr. Martin Shenkle, took advantage of Mr. Yoder's absence and carried off all that he could with his sister. She subsequently removed to Reading where she had an illegitimate son, who later lived at Susquehanna, a respectable man. When she died she left some property. She was unfaithful. She lies buried at the family burial place at DeTurks in Oley. The burial took place at Easter.

"Intemperate" implies he may have had a problem with drink and perhaps was abusive. The desertion by Sarah seems to have occurred sometime by 1761 as records list her living by herself in Reading in the years 1762, 1764, and 1779. She died by 1798.

Our family group information on the Yoder newsletter webpage shows:

OH11- John Yoder Jr. (-by 1785) m. Nov. 1746 Oley Twp., Berks Co. to Sarah Shankle (- 1789 or 98--letter of admin 6/13/1797 to eldest son Daniel) Sarah deserted her husband and children & had illegitimate child in Reading. Listed by self in Reading 1762, 64, 79. Bur. Peter de Turck's plot at Oley). (Sower's Newspaper, Oct. 16, 1756 mentions "Johannes Joder the younger, Manatawny, Berks County; wife, Sara")(Note, Sara is cited in the estate document for her mother " SHENKLE, MAGDALENA, Oley. July 6, 1751, December 5, 1763., To son Martin SHENKLE £174., To dau. Sarah YODER £20., To dau. Magdalena APLER £20., Exr: son Martin-. Wit: Jacob HAUSSMAN (KAUFFMAN?), Henry MUSK.)

+OH111- Daniel b. 4/22/1748

+OH112- Martin born before 1858 m.5/21/1782 Sussanna Weitner

+OH113- Jacob born 8/11/1758

OH114- Samuel b. early 1760s .- family not clearly defined. He may not have married.

OH115- Barbara b.? m. Jacob Barr res. District Twp as of 1785 (reference to a settlement between Barbara and her brother Daniel on 12 Jan 1785 of payment owed her based on transfer of plantation and 11 acres to Daniel by his father John on 27 July 1775. Father John deceased as of 1785)

Of the sons in the family: oldest son Daniel was to inherit the family homestead. More details on his family later.

Second oldest son Martin (OH112), who also served in the Revolution, is shown as a single freeman Oley-1779,1780,1781 taxed with 25 acres-1784,1785, then In Mt. Joy Twp, York Co,

Pa tax lists 1788-169 acres but no horses or cows; beginning 1789 196 acres, 4 horse and 2 cows. Per York Co. Abstract of wills, Martin Yoder d. 9/7/1798. His widow Sussanna "Yetter" appears in the Adams Co Census 1800 (estate settlement of 1813 lists children's names) Susanna taxed with horses and cows shown (meaning still living there) through 1810. The 1812 tax list shows the property was transferred to George Trostle.. She died after the 1830 census and is buried in the Puckety Presbyterian Cemetery, New Kensington, Westmoreland Co., in the far western part of the state. Her stone reads "Susanna wife of Martin Yoter" (For a detailed article see YNL32 at:

<https://yodernewsletter.org/ynlpdf/YNL32.pdf>

CAPT JACOB YODER'S FAMILY

For Capt. Jacob we show:

**OH113- Capt. Jacob Yoder (8/11/1758 Berks Co, PA-Apr.7, 1832 Spencer Co, KY)
m. Jan. 17, 1794 Bardstown, Nelson Co, KY by James Chambers
Mary (Polly) Mossman (Feb.1, 1773-Aug.21, 1830)
d. bur. Yoder Graveyard near Taylorsville,
Spencer Co, KY. Served in Revolutionary War.
(Washington Co., Ky deed book J, page 82- Jacob Yoder sold land to John & Ignatus Wheatley)**

**OH1131- Eliza b. Aug.2, 1795 Bardstown, KY m. cAug.25, 1824
Taylorsville, KY to David Rozel Poignand (1/29/1793-1/13/1883) d. Oct.30, 1883
bur. Yoder Graveyard. (D. R. Poignand was the Spencer County delegate to the 1830
Democratic State Presidential Convention)**

**OH1132- Mary b. 1/26/1810 m. Dec.8, 1835 Spencer Co. KY Mason Brown (11/10/1799-
1/27/1867) of Frankfort (son of Congressman and Senator John Brown) d. 3/15/1881**

TAXLIST: Nelson County Tithes 1785-1791, Nelson Co., KY

Yoder Jacob 1 30 Thomas Morton 1790

Yoder Jacob - see David Heartman 25 Isaac Cox 1786

Yoder Jacob, Edmund Price 2 91 I. Cox 1785

Yoder Jacob; negro Judy 2 15 Wil May 1787

Yoder Jacob; negros Charles & Jude 3 12 Walter Beall 1791

Yoder Jacob; William Hamblton; negro Jude 3 4 Gabriel Cox 1788

Price Edmund - see Jacob Yoter 91 I. Cox 1785

[illegible]

Know all men by these presents that we David N. Poig
Hand and Alexander Thomas and here our firm
do bind unto the Commonwealth of Kentucky in the just and
full sum of \$50. current money, to the payment of which
wee and truly to be made to the sd Commonwealth, we bind
ourselves our heirs &c. jointly and severally firmly by these
presents, Sealed with our Seals and dated this 2^d day
of July 1824.

The Condition of the above
obligation is such that whereas the above David N. Poig
Hand has obtained a Licence for a Marriage shortly
intended between himself and Liz Hand
Now if there shall be no lawful cause to obstruct said
Marriage then this obligation to be void & else remain
in full force and virtue in Full

Teste
U. E. Huston

David N. Poig
A. N. Thomas

David N. Poig
A. N. Thomas

14

Granddaughter Eliza Poignand marriage 1847 to George W Wissinger

Know all men by these presents that I George W. Wissinger together with David R. Poignand Security, are here firmly bound unto the be our ourselves of Kentucky in the penal sum of Fifty pounds to the payment whereof well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves our heirs, Executors and Admors, jointly and Severally, firmly by these presents Sealed with our seals and dated this 21st day of September 1847.

The Condition of the above obligation is such that whereas a marriage is shortly intended to be solemnized between the above named George W. Wissinger and Eliza Y. Poignand of this County; And shall it hereafter appear, that there is no just cause to obstruct said marriage, then the above obligation to be void, else to remain in full force and virtue in Law.

Witness

Napht. Lancaster Clerk
Spencer Co Ky 28

Geo. W. Wissinger
D. R. Poignand

Spencer County Court.

These are to license and permit you to join together, in the holy state of Matrimony, George W. Wissinger — and Eliza Y. Poignand according to the rites and ceremonies of your Church; and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant: the said George W. Wissinger — having executed bond with security, in my office, conditioned as the law directs; and the consent of the Father of the said Eliza Y. Poignand having been personally given to me.

GIVEN under my hand, this 21st day of September 1847.

To any Minister of the Gospel, legally authorized to solemnize the rites of Matrimony.

} Attest. Napht. Lancaster Clerk
Spencer Co Ky 28

I the undersigned a legally authorized minister of the Gospel to solemnize the rites of matrimony. do testify that I have in conformity with the foregoing license married the above named George W. Wissinger to Eliza Y. Poignand according to the forms and ceremonies of the Church of which I am a minister. Given under my hand this 21st day of September 1847.

End. Sp. Henry Whaley.

Jacob Yoder estate

Faded Print

KNOW all men by these presents, that we *David R. Rignani*
(*Mary Yoder and Samuel Rignani*)

are held and firmly bound unto the Commonwealth of Kentucky, in the just and full sum of
1000 Dollars of lawful current money, for which payment, well and
truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly, severally and
firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals, and dated this *10th* day of *April* 1832.

The condition of this obligation is, that if the said *David R. Rignani*
as Administrator

of the goods, chattels and credits of *Jacob Yoder* deceased,
do make a true and perfect inventory of all and singular, the goods, chattels and credits of the said
deceased, which have, or shall come to the hands, possession or knowledge of *him*
the said *David R. Rignani*

or in the hands or possession of any other person or persons, for
same so made, do exhibit into the County Court of Spencer county, when *he* shall be thereto
required by the said court; and such goods, chattels and credits, do well and truly administer accord-
ing to law; and further, do make a just and true account of *his* actings and doings therein,
when thereto required by the said court, and all the rest of the said goods, chattels and credits, which
shall be found remaining upon the account of the said *Jacob Yoder*
the same being first examined and allowed by the Justices of the said Court for the time being, shall
deliver and pay unto such persons respectively, as are entitled to the same by law; and if it shall
hereafter appear, that any last will and testament was made by the deceased, and the same be proved
in court, and the executor obtain certificate of the probat thereof, and the said *David R. Rignani*

do in such case, being required, render and deliver up letters of administration, then this obligation to
be void, else to remain in full force.

David R. Rignani

Mary Yoder

Samuel Rignani

The Property on Which He Was Born

There are conflicting reports on where Capt. Jacob was born. The metal tablet on his grave says “Born in Reading” – the largest town in the area of his homestead. Bertolet quotes the plaque, but also writes that he was born at the of Griesemer's Mill property, and quotes his brother Daniel's children in the homestead at 13 Yoder Rd, Oley, as saying “he was born here on this spot” meaning the homestead.

He also writes of visiting the family of Jacob's brother Daniel and the nephews and learning of the visit Capt. Jacob had made to the homestead at 13 Yoder Road. This property was owned by older brother Daniel, who had inherited the property in 1771.

In making inquiry in regard to Captain Jacob Yoder, noticed in I. Rupp's work, page 181, the Messrs. Yoder (children of Jacob's brother Daniel (OH111- then living on the 13 Yoder Road homestead) told us "He was our uncle." They say he was born here on this spot, and not at Reading. They also recollect him well when he paid them a visit, now over fifty years ago. They say he was of a lively disposition and had imbibed considerably of the liquor. He was anxious to take Daniel along, who was then a small boy (OH1112- Daniel Jr. b. Dec.7, 1777), and told how he raised hemp and tobacco in Kentucky. Mr. Y. says he recollected this very distinctly. He also told them many of the Revolutionary incidents, as well as those of the Indian wars in which he had engaged. He had travelled all the way from Kentucky and back again on horseback. He stayed here for some time.

Joseph L. Mitchell, past vice-president of the Oley Valley Heritage Association and author of many books on local history, has provided the following assessment:

The homestead property of Capt. Jacob's grandfather Hans Jr (OH1) is at 13 Yoder Rd, he built Greisemer mill a mile distant sometime after buying the property in 1732. His son, John (b. 1726) likely grew up on both properties and we can assume that he operated the mill. So, it is feasible that John (b. 1726) and his wife likely gave birth to Jacob (b. 1758) on the mill property. In 1753, Hans (b. 1700) sold the home at 13 Yoder Road to his son John (b. 1726). In 1767, Hans (b. 1700) sold the property and mill to Casper Greisemer (b. 1715). Jacob (b. 1758) was nine years old when this happened. Obviously, he no longer had a reason to visit this place.

Daniel (b. 1748), Jacob's brother, inherited his father's home at 13 Yoder Road in 1771. Jacob (b. 1758) went west around 1780. When Jacob came back to visit, he likely went to 13 Yoder Road to visit his brother, Daniel (b. 1748).

So Jacob's father owned the homestead property (13 Yoder Rd, Oley) by 1753- 5 years before Jacob's birth and older brother Daniel took it over in 1771, when Jacob was 13- (was it a coincidence that that is the age his daughter said he left home?) Bertolet writes above that Jacob came back to visit his older brother Daniel when Daniel Jr. was “a small boy”. In that Daniel Jr was born in 1777, it would be reasonable to think that this visit to the homestead took place sometime before the mid-1780s (After his legendary flatboat journey,

he swung back through Philadelphia after he delivered goods to Cuba. Was that when he spent time back home in the Oley Valley? The young Daniel Jr would have been about 6 years old in 1783).

OH111- Daniel Yoder m.1773 Maria Margaretha Oyster (May 4,1753-Dec. 23,1833) d. 8/21/1820 age 72y-3m-29d , m 47yrs bur. Pleasantville Union Cemetery

OH1111- Hannah b.4/17/1775 m. Jacob Knabb d. 8/23/1825(23?) bur. Old Amityville Cemetery (Hannah Jotter of Oley m. 12/27/1801 Jacob Knab at Schwartzewald Reformed Church)

OH1112- Daniel Jr. b. Dec.7, 1777 m Margaret d.Nov.27,1826 bur. Pleasantville Union Cemetery. age 48y 11m 20d ("died of a carbuncle"-per article in The Eagle-c1908) (Ref. Sch. Orphans Court, p 94,95,96)

+OH1113- Martin b. Oct.19,1780 d. Jan.10,1837 age 56y2m22d m, 3/17/1807 Susanna Peter (11/29/1783- 3/13/1844) both bur. Freidensburg, PA.

OH1114- Catherine b. Oct.12,1783 m. Dec.23,1827 Wm. Willman d. Aug. 20, 1882 98y-10m-8d Pleasantville Union Cem.

OH1115- Maria b. Apr.(22?)24,1786 m. 1806 Philip de Turck d. Jan.19,1864 bur. Deturk graveyard, Ella Sassaman farm (marriage- DETURCK, Philip, to Polly YODER, last Tues., 18 Feb 1806ed.)

OH1116- John b. Apr.22,1788 farmed with brother David single d. May 3,1869 Bur. Pleasantville Union Cem.

OH1117- Margaret b. Aug.4,1790 m. Solomon Peter (12/12/1790-9/28/1843) d. 4/1/1880 bur. Spangsville, PA.

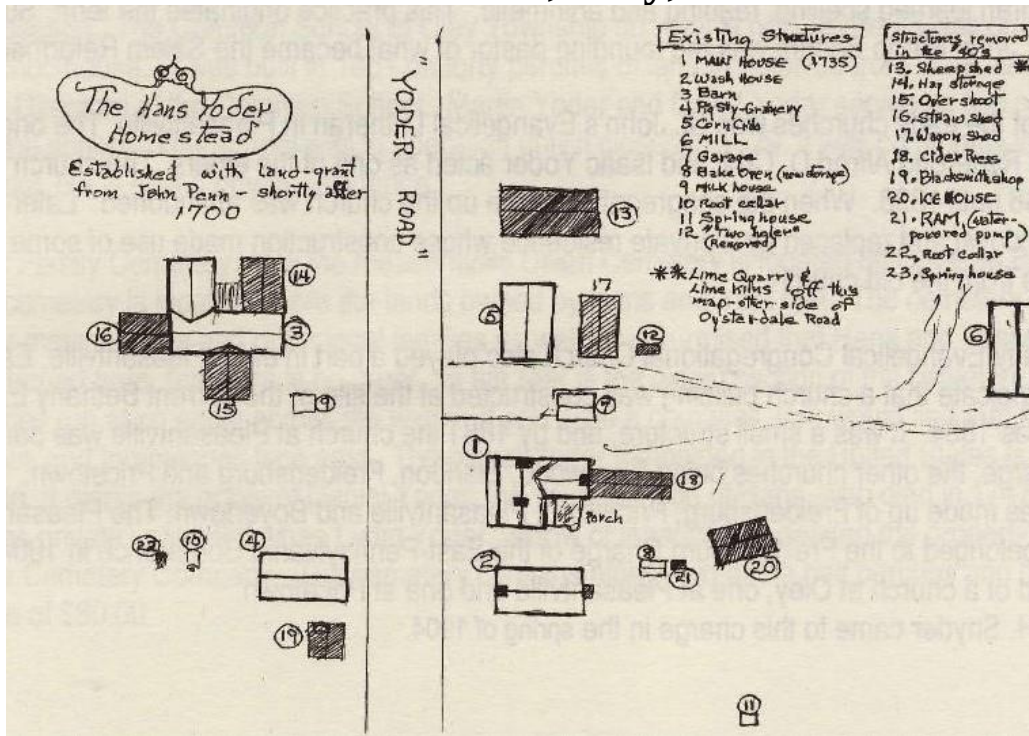
OH1118- Samuel b. Nov.23,1793 d. <1813 bur. Pleasantville Union Cemetery

+OH1119- David (Feb.8,1795-10/26/1881 at Yodersville) m. Hannah Bitler (7/13/1797-10/15/1862) bur. Pleasantville Union Cem. Served on County Commission 1846-49.Farmer & millwright. (per 1908 article in The Eagle- "for a time made money, but later lost nearly all in an effort to manufacture paper")

Mr. Mitchell's excellent book, "The History of Oley Township.", can be ordered at:

<https://www.bhr1752.com/berks-history-books/oley-township-berks>

The Berks Co, PA Homestead Where Capt. Jacob Grew Up 13 Yoder Rd, Oley, PA



Homestead Map



Main House



Main House



Wash House with Main House above



Wash House



Wash House



Pig Sty



Pig Sty



Pig Sty



Barn



Mill



Inside the Mill - Cutting Lumber



A Mill Stone



Historian Dick Yoder, Owner Richard May Yoder- Dick Yoder's son



The Family Cemetery- Pleasantville Union



Marker Placed in 2014 to Capt. Jacob's Great Grandfather

Capt. Jacob's Ancestry and Swiss Origins

Capt. Jacob's grandfather was Johannes Joder Jr, born in Germany about 1700 to Hans (Johannes) Joder (Sr) and his first wife Veronica Iselmyn. His family was as follows:

OH1- John Yoder (Jr) m1. Barbara_____ m2. Elizabeth () Keim (h2)
d. 1779 (will made 3/8/1779 proved 10/20/1779)

OH11- Hans (John) Jr. b. c1726 (father of Capt. Jacob)

OH12- Daniel (c1723-) m Catharina _____

OH13- Samuel (1727- ~1771) m Elizabeth Oyster

OH14- Peter (~1729-1809) m Eve Levan

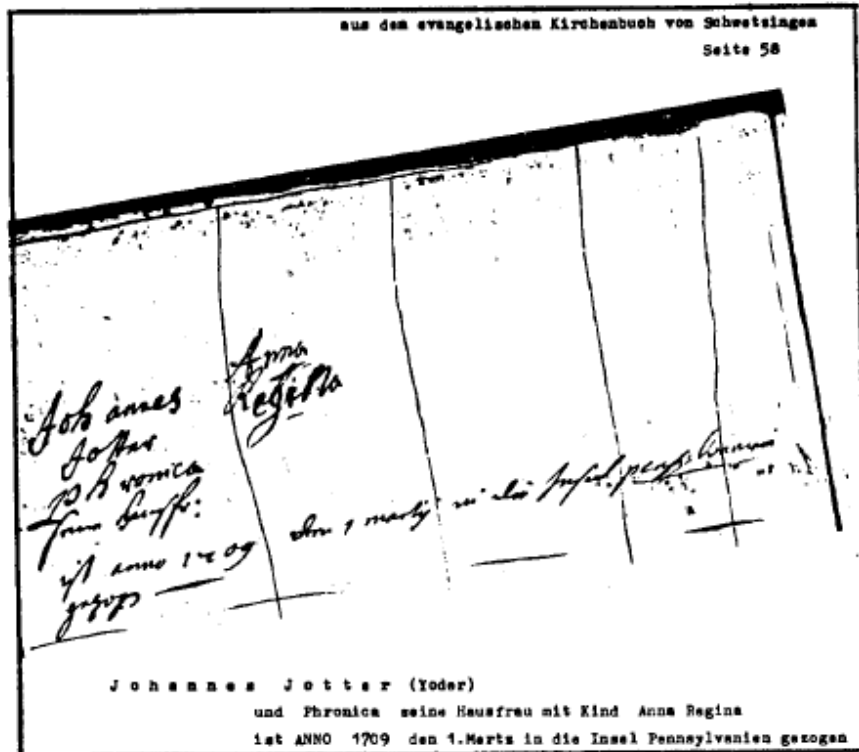
OH15- Maria Johanna (1720-1762) m. Sep.25,1740 Col. John Leshar

The great grandfather of Capt. Jacob was Hans (Johannes) Joder, was born in the small town of Steffisburg, Canton Bern, Switzerland on Mar. 10, 1672.



Steffisburg Church With Clock Tower

Hans left Steffisburg sometime in the 1690s and moved into the German Palatinate. On March 1st, 1709 a Reformed Church record in Schwetzingen, Germany reports that Hans and his family have left the community “for the island of Pennsylvania”.



He is next seen listed among refugees in London, and then by 1711 is purchasing land in then Chester Co, Pa on 1/14/1711. His first wife Veronica Iselmyn died about 1710 and he married a second time to Anna Rosina LeDee on Apr. 29, 1711 at the Whitmarsh Church, then in Philadelphia County. Three years later he purchased a large section of land in what would become Oley Township, Berks County on 3/25/1714.

On 3/10/1735 Hans (1st) and wife Rosina sold a portion of his land to Hans (2nd). It was this land which was passed down to John (3rd) (Father of Capt. Jacob) and upon which Jacob was to spend his youth.

OH- Hans Joder b. 3/10/1672 Steffisburg, Switzerland
m1. Veronica Iselmyn (d. c1710/1) m2. 4/29/1711 by Paulus van Vlecq, at Whitmarsh Church to Anna Rosina LeDee d. 1741/2
(will proved by son John 1/14/1742) res. Schwetzingen GY to 3/1/1709; London; Chester Co. land 1/14/1711; in Oley 3/25/1714)
(on 3/10/1735 Hans 1st and Rosina sold land in Oley to Hans 2nd)
+OH1- John b. 1700
OH2- son b. c1705
OH3- Anna Regina b. c1705
OH4- Daniel b. Jan.1718 m. Barbara _____
d. 8/21/1749 (or47) age 31 yrs 8 mos bur. Cem at Pleasantville
(other records give wife name as Elizabeth... Elizabeth m2.
at St. Michaelis Ch, Phila. Oct. 2, 1750 Matthias Hollenbach)

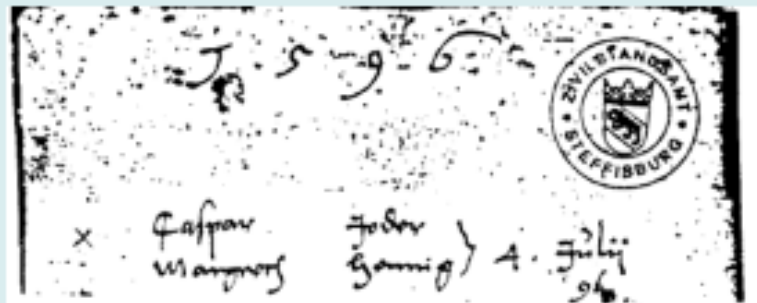
The Joder ancestry in Steffisburg can be traced back hundred of years further. Hans the immigrant was the oldest child of Adam Joder and his wife Barbara (Barbli) Ochsenbein. His parents had married in the Steffisburg Church on Jan. 9, 1671.

Adam Joder was the son of Niclaus Joder b. 1609 and his wife Anna Trachsel, whose ancestry has been reported as shown backward on the following chart, at least some of the generations are very likely to be accurate:

Joders in Switzerland

- An apocryphal lineage:

Peter Joder
 Caspar b1300 Hutwill
 Ulli b. 1340
 Heini b. 1363
 Jost b. 1387 Steffisburg
 Caspar
 Caspar
 Fredli b. 1488
 Balthasar b. 1525
 Caspar b. 1548
 Caspar Joder b. 1571
 m. Margaret Hennig

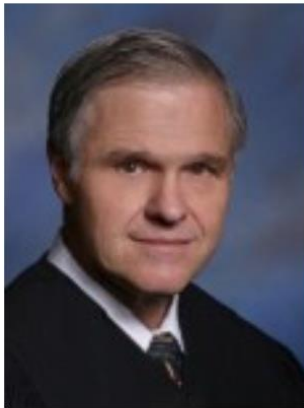


<http://www.yodernewsletter.org/court/stef1.html>

--Caspar-Joder-b-2/24/1571-m-7/4/1596-
 Margret-Hennig.
 +-----Peter-----b-6/5/1597
 +-----Heini-----b-10/10/1599
 +-----Margret-----b-2/8/1601
 +-----Niclaus-----b-7/17/1603
 +-----Barbara-----b-9/28/1606
 +-----Jost-----b-11/30/1607
 +-----Nicolaus-----b-3/25/1609

Yoder Lineage from Adam's father Nicolaus on backward
 (based on inferences by Karl Joder from Steffisburg church records)

Beechland/Vaocluse - the Brown Years – by Joe B. Brown



Joe B Brown

Yoder Poignard and my Grandfather Knox Brown were friends and when Yoder tired of living at Vaocluse He reportedly sold it to Knox for one dollar. Poignard also left Knox money and personal property as well as a 200 acre farm in Owen County in the tiny town of Gratz on the Kentucky River. Knox and his wife Adeline Crittenden Watson had 8 children. Two of the boys died in their teens, one from an accident while crossing a railroad bridge in Danville where he was attending Center College and another died from diphtheria at Vaocluse.

A sister Virginia Leith married a Methodist Minister and lived in Cleveland Ohio. A brother, for whom I am named, Jo Bailey Brown became a very prominent patent attorney in

Pittsburgh, PA.

My Father, Knox Brown Jr. was born in 1894. He moved to Vaocluse in 1900 with his father. When they moved there the house was in some disrepair with livestock in the parlor.

There were some 4 or 5 rock foundations of what had been slave cabins in the front yard and there was the cabin in which the Yoder family had lived in while Vaocluse was being built from 1802-1804. The clay from the basement of the house was used to make the brick for the house. The wall of the house are 3 layers of brick thick including the interior walls.

Father told stories of his time there and he told fascinating tales of the adventures of a series of animals in the area. I wish recording equipment had been available as I can only remember small bits of the stories. During the winter when farm work stopped for the most part he made furniture.



I am attaching a photograph of the type of furniture he made over the years. He also made a six foot bench in the same pattern as the love seat which my sister Mary Jane Yoder Marcum has in Lexington. He gave a number of the chairs to his brother Jo and his nephew Knox. I helped with some of the last chairs he made. It was all hand tools with the exception of a brace and bit for holes. No lathe. When I broke a couple of spindles on the back of one of the Windsor chairs I was able to replace it using a piece of broken window glass to scrape a length of hickory dowel to shape as father had done and finding a source of hide glue.

Father had 3 Black workers for many years that helped run the farm. Two of them along mother's maid lived in two small houses on Yoder Station road. During the winter when there was little farm work they would undertake longer term projects. One project was building the rock fence around the house down to the one lane road at the front of the house. They broke the rock from ledges in Wolf Run which was the small creek in front of the house and use sleds to haul the rock to the work site. As I recall the wages were a dollar an hour when I was growing up. There was a bell at the back of the house, near the hand pump with a common tin cup to get water from the cistern, to call everyone to dinner.

When there was a need for a large crew to work, the table in the living room could be extended to 24 feet and placed diagonally in the living room.

Fairly early in moving to the farm was the construction of the small cemetery where Jacob Yoder and his wife and various other relatives on the Yoder, Poignand and Brown side of the family are buried. The cast iron grave cover plate has a brief history of his life. The stone enclosure has a marker that it was built by a company out of Louisville in 1911. The very large stone marker for Yoder Poignand was according to my father brought there in about 1937 on the railroad which ran from Shelbyville to Bardstown and stopped on request at Yoder Station. They then transported it by sled to the cemetery and lifted it over the cemetery wall to its present location in the center of the cemetery. At about this same time they also installed granite markers for the faithful colored servants who were buried in the area outside of the walled cemetery.

When I was growing up the train ran once a week or so and it was very exciting for our school to occasionally take a class outing riding from Taylorsville to Bardstown and back.

The house had electricity installed in 1937 and running water some time before that. There were two cisterns, one in front of the house and one at the back that collected water from the house roof. Climbing up to the roof was a chore that was done fairly often in the fall to clean leaves and inspect the gutters. There were 6 massive pecan trees in the back yard that were planted when the house was built. Unfortunately one of them blew over in a storm a few years ago and severely damaged the stone kitchen. The Glissons have plans to restore it. I can remember there was a very large tank in the basement that had to be pumped full of air each day to provide running water to the kitchen and the one indoor bathroom. Later an electric pump was installed. There was still a two-hole outhouse beside the log cabin. The cabin was used as a tool shed with a small forge, large iron anvil, various shop tools, and a smoke house to cure hog hams and shoulders. In December several hogs would be killed and processed in what was the original house stone kitchen. A separate kitchen from the main house with a cooking fireplace which was built for safety with the original house.

There was another stone building below the front of the house we called the spring house. It had a spring that was channeled through a trough in the lower part of the structure that was at one time used to store milk. The upper part was used for general storage. It is in the process of being restored.

Although it is hard to see when you first start to drive up to the house there is a depression in the hill just to the right of the road that was an early ice house to store ice for the house. Unfortunately nothing of that structure remains.

Heat was from coal stoves in the bedrooms and fireplaces in the parlor and dining room as well as a large coal stove to heat water and cook in the kitchen. Part of my daily chores was to carry out ashes and bring in fresh coal.

Father did not marry until he was 54. He often said he asked most of the eligible ladies in Taylorsville without success. He recounted one of his dates ended in failure when he ran over a skunk with his buggy on the way to pick up her up.

He met my mother, Miriam Hurley Blackburn, who was a teacher at Tilghman High School in Paducah at a function in Louisville. Mother was born in 1900 and also unmarried, so they were both considered somewhat over the hill at the time when they married in 1938 and she moved to Vacluse. I was born Dec 9, 1940 and my sister, Mary Jane was born December 22, 1942.

My grandparents on father's side lived at Vacluse until they both died at the age of 93 just before I was born so other than one picture of them sitting on the front porch I have no memory of them.

Growing up on a farm was certainly different from growing up today. We had cattle and sheep and raised corn, tobacco, and hay, as well as raising Hereford cattle. Father was a well-known farmer and was always improving the farm with a pond and an extensive fencing program. He used a 3 year rotation on the crops and was a great believer in soil testing and the use of fertilizer. In 1958 he won the Central Kentucky award as the years Master Pasture Man.

Life on a farm is never dull. When I about 6 I managed to insert my left index finger in a pulley with a large hay fork of hay on one end and a horse pulling the load up on the other end. I still have a crocked finger from the experience. Other than that I survived farm life unscathed.

Father was a bird and rabbit hunter and at the time both were abundant on the farm. He used a Winchester Model 12, 16 gage pump shotgun. One day he came back from a hunt and the barrel was pealed back in 4 sections about 3 or 4 inches just like a Bugs Bunny cartoon. He had slipped and gotten the muzzle in the mud. I later had it repaired and have used it for my dove and pheasant hunting to this day.

I learned to shoot at an early age. We had a 22 Savage bolt action rifle with a telescope on it. English Sparrows were abundant and they would fly thought the tobacco barn in the winter destroying the tobacco that was curing in the top of the barn. I was paid a nickel for every dead sparrow, and about the same for a dead rat from the corn cribs, but I had to pay for my own ammo. A box of 50 .22 shells cost 50 cents so I learned to be good shot. At times I used a Red Ryder BB gun. We had some fights with our BB guns in hay barns with school class mates that lived nearby. We had goggles of a type and somehow we avoided any serious

injuries. This led to my being on the Rifle Team at McCallie, Vanderbilt and various Army High Power Rifle Teams over the years.

Up until 1948 our farming was done with 6 mules and one horse, when we got our first tractor, a Farmall H. We still kept the mules for several years as they were great on steeper land and compacted the soil less as well, as being able to plow corn and tobacco with less damage.

I had a pony, Scout, that I rode until I left for McCallie School in Chattanooga in 1955.

I had written my uncle Jo (He changed his name from Joe to be different) a letter asking him to buy some school magazines. He wrote my father back with my letter pointing out the spelling and grammar errors and suggesting I would not make much of myself if I did not get a better education. He had taught at McCallie in Chattanooga shortly after it was founded in 1908 and I found myself being taken there to check it out just as summer school was starting. Somehow I was left there to start summer school. Mother has the necessary clothes for me, so I believe my enrollment was planned. Fortunately all turned out well and I graduated three years later and went to Vanderbilt undergraduate and law school.

During the winter when the ewes were producing lambs we often had as a few in the kitchen for feeding. At the time if a ewe lost a lamb the dead lamb would be skinned and the skin put on a twin lamb from another sheep so the new mother would not reject the substitution. We of course had a chicken house with eggs and fresh chickens to eat and a couple of milk cows.

When I was at Vanderbilt, I met my future wife, Marilyn McGowen, and brought her to Taylorsville for a visit over Christmases. Marilyn was a pure city girl and was fascinated about farm life and having lambs being cared for in the kitchen.

Father was an active farmer up until he broke a hip from a fall in 1970 and died November 23 of 1971. Mother continued to live there and run the farm until her death on April 28, 1983.

My sister, Mary Jane Yoder Marcum, and I ran the farm with long time tenants until we sold it to Glissons at the end of 2021. Her father and grandfather had been good friends with my father so there is a continuation with ownership in spirit. They have made remarkable progress in restoring the house and rebuilding the original log cabin and the spring house.

Some photos from the years when Beechland was still occupied by the family (the 1960s) appear below.



Our father and mother at the wedding of Mary Jane Yoder Brown my sister and her husband Glenn Marcum taken in 1964 and shows part of the living room with some of the chairs father made.

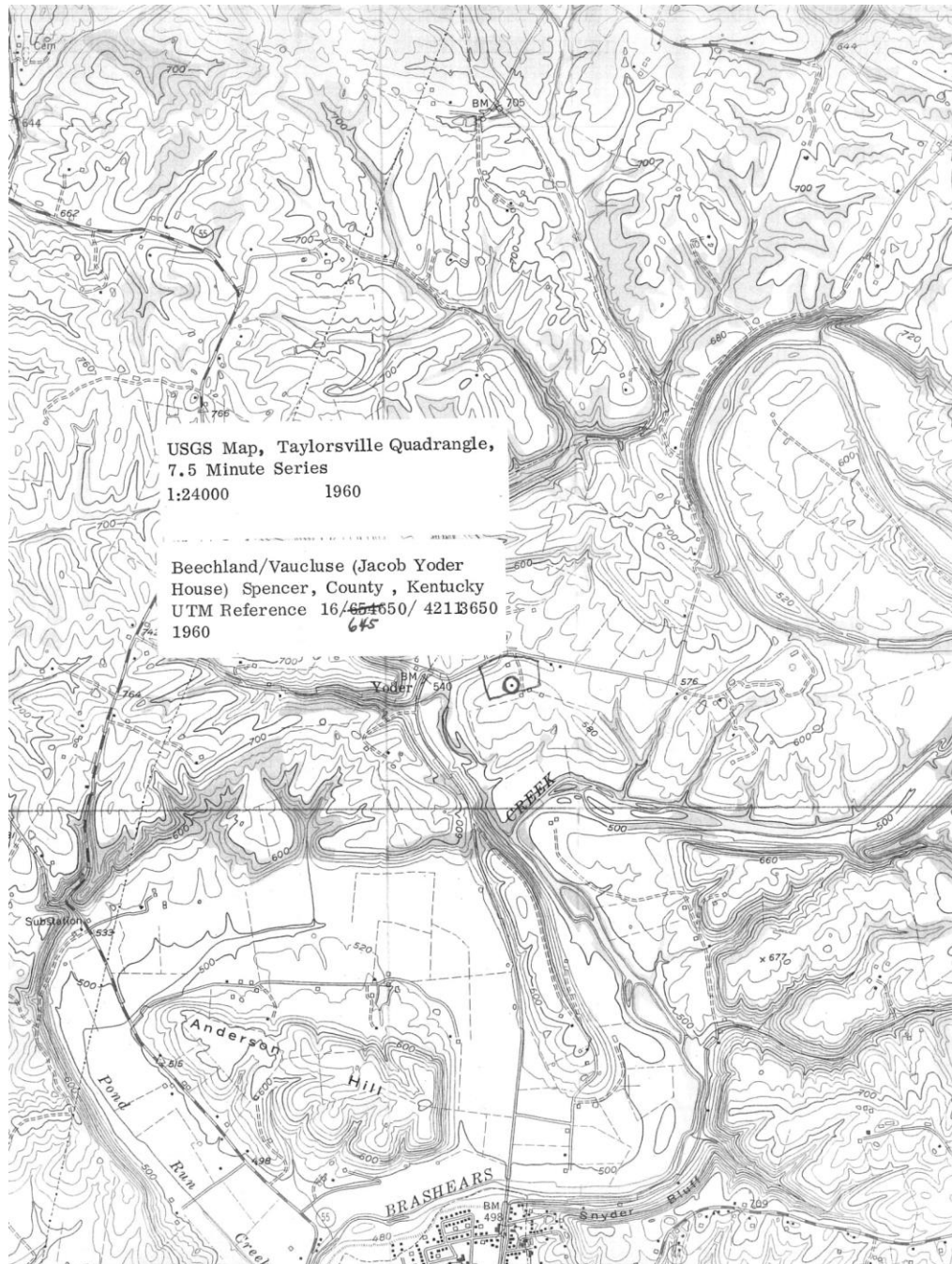


This picture is one also taken in the living room which shows the expandable dinner table and a large secretary that had been in the house for years.



**My father, Knox Brown Jr, holding our daughter Jennifer Brown Byrnes,
on the porch at Beechland.**

**Photos taken 1978 by the Kentucky Heritage Commission
(Copied from the US Library of Congress)**



Beechland/Vaucluse (Jacob Yoder House), Taylorsville, Spencer Co., Kentucky. Ray Kraus, April 1976, Negatives: Kentucky Heritage Commission, Frankfort

MAY 10 1976

Photo 1. Photo taken from the north showing the house on the rise, the stone kitchen, immediately to the right of the house, and the stone springhouse in the foreground.

NOV 7 1976

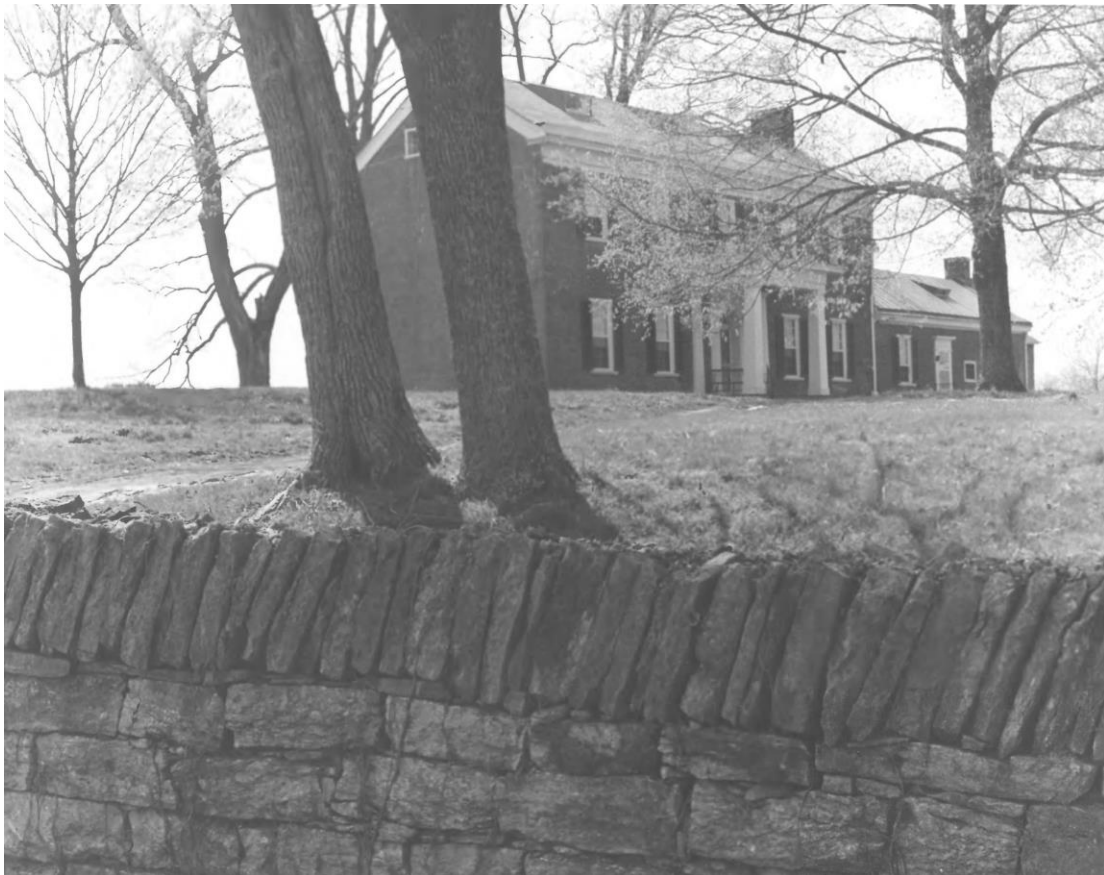


Beechland/Vauchuse (Jacob Yoder House), Taylorsville, Spencer Co., Kentucky. Ray Kreis, April 1976, Negatives: Kentucky Heritage Commission, Frankfort

Photo 2. Taken from the northeast showing the facade of the house. Notice the stone fence which encircles the property in the foreground.

MAY 10 1976

NOV 7 1976



Beechland/Vaucluse (Jacob Yoder
House), Taylorsville, Spencer Co.,
Kentucky, Ray Kraus, April 1976,
Negatives: Kentucky Heritage
Commission, Frankfort

Photo 3. Photo taken from the
northeast. Notice the Greek
Revival porch and the one-story
wing on the right.

MAY 10 1976

NOV 7 1976



Beechland/Vauchuse (Jacob Yoder House), Taylorsville, Spencer Co., Kentucky, Ray Kraus, April 1976,
Negatives: Kentucky Heritage
Commission, Frankfort

Photo 4. Photo taken from the north showing the detail of the front entrance. Notice the spider-web-like fanlight.

MAY 10 1976
NOV 7 1976



Beechland/Vauchuse (Jacob Yoder
House), Taylorsville, Spencer Co.,
Kentucky, Ray Kraus, April 1976,
Negatives: Kentucky Heritage
Commission, Frankfort

Photo 5. Photo taken from the
west showing the side of the main
block, the one-story wing, and the
detached stone kitchen. MAY 10 1976

NOV 7 1976



Beechland/Vaucluse (Jacob Yoder
House), Taylorsville, Spencer Co.,
Kentucky, Ray Kraus, April 1976,
Negatives: Kentucky Heritage Comm.
Frankfort

Photo 6. Photo taken from the
southeast showing the back of the
house.

MAY 10 1976

NOV 7 1976



Beechland/Vauchuse (Jacob Yoder
House), Taylorsville, Spencer Co.,
Kentucky, Ray Kraus, April 1976,
Negatives: Kentucky Heritage
Commission, Frankfort

Photo 7. Photo taken from the
southwest showing the rear of the
house, the stone kitchen and the log
slave quarters on the right. MAY 10 1976

NOV 7 1976

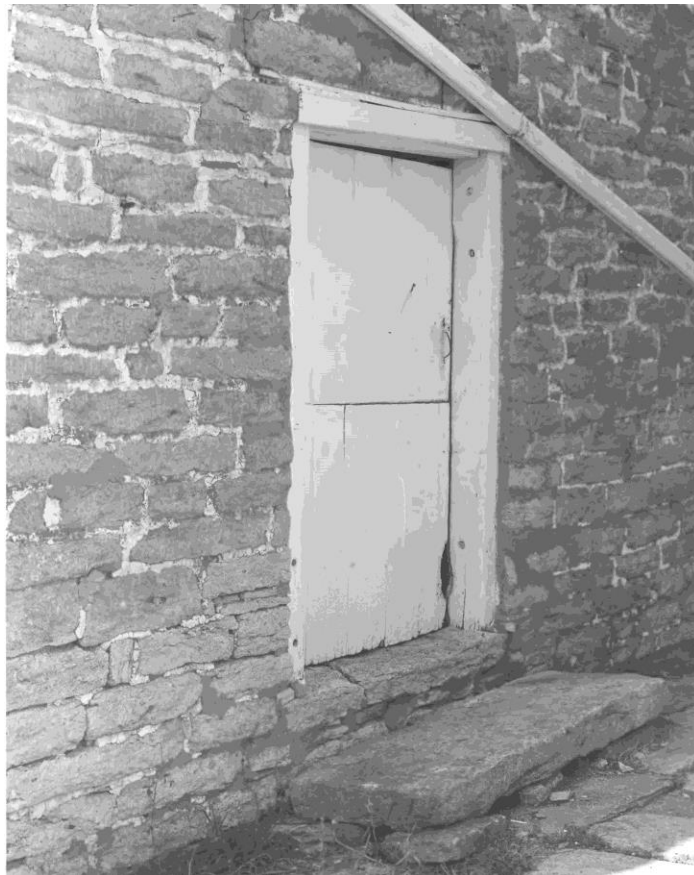


Beechland/Vaucluse (Jacob Yoder
House), Taylorsville, Spencer Co.,
Kentucky, Ray Kraus, April 1976,
Negatives: Kentucky Heritage
Commission, Frankfort

Photo 8. Photo taken from the
southeast showing detail of the
entrance to the stone kitchen,
located west of the house

MAY 10 1976

NOV 7 1976



Beechland/Vauchuse (Jacob Yoder
House), Taylorsville, Spencer Co.,
Kentucky, Ray Kraus, April 1976,
Negatives: Kentucky Heritage
Commission, Frankfort

Photo 9. Photo taken from the
northeast of the log slave quarters,
located southwest of the house.

NOV 7 1976

MAY 10 1976



Beechland/Vauchuse (Jacob Yoder House), Taylorsville, Spencer Co., Kentucky, Ray Kraus, April 1976,
Negatives: Kentucky Heritage
Commission, Frankfort

MAY 10 1976

Photo 10. Photo taken from the southeast of the half-stone half-timbered springhouse, located several hundred yards north of the house.

NOV 7 1976



Pre-renovation Photos
Submitted with the HISTORIC PRESERVATION
CERTIFICATION APPLICATION



Parlor



Library



Kitchen



Dining Room



2nd Floor West Bedroom



2nd Floor East Bedroom



3rd Floor Servants Quarters



Stone Kitchen

Our Hosts at Beechland/Vaocluse- Vickie and Shawn Glisson



Vickie and Shawn purchased the property known as Beechland/Vaocluse on January 28, 2022 from Joe B. Brown and Mary Jane Brown Marcum, the son and daughter of Knox and Marian Blackburn Brown. Vickie grew up on a farm just a few miles west of Beechland/Vaocluse owned by Albert Duncan and Frances Downs Yates, her Father's parents and Robert Duncan and Muriel Lavon Herndon Yates, her parents. Vickie's grandparents and parents had great respect for the Brown family, and they were business and political friends.

Vickie and Shawn now own and operate her family's farms as well as the Beechland/Vaocluse property where they raise corn and soybeans.

They have been restoring the house and the dependencies since purchasing the property. They are working closely with the Kentucky Heritage Council, which has very exacting standards that must be met in restoring historic properties. The Glissons love history and appreciated the significance of Jacob Yoder and the architecture of the house in our country's history. The Glissons wanted to make certain the history of both were preserved.

Cemetery Clean-Up Photos - Apr. 18, 2025 at the Homestead of Capt. Jacob Yoder

Photos by Terri Cooper, used with permission

The cemetery clean-up was called A Day of Service and sponsored by Spencer County's America250 committee. Community volunteers showed up not only to lend a hand but to catch a glimpse of the cemetery where Rev War soldier Jacob Yoder was laid to rest.

At the end of the day of service Joe Brown told the group tales of growing up at Beechland and Shawn Glisson gave us a short history on the Yoder family. Vicki Yates Glisson baked gingerbread cookies for the volunteers using a recipe found in an old Yoder cookbook in the house.



Volunteers Gather



**Nancy Glisson, Shawn Glisson, Hon. Joe B Brown,
Marilyn (Mrs. Joe B) Brown**



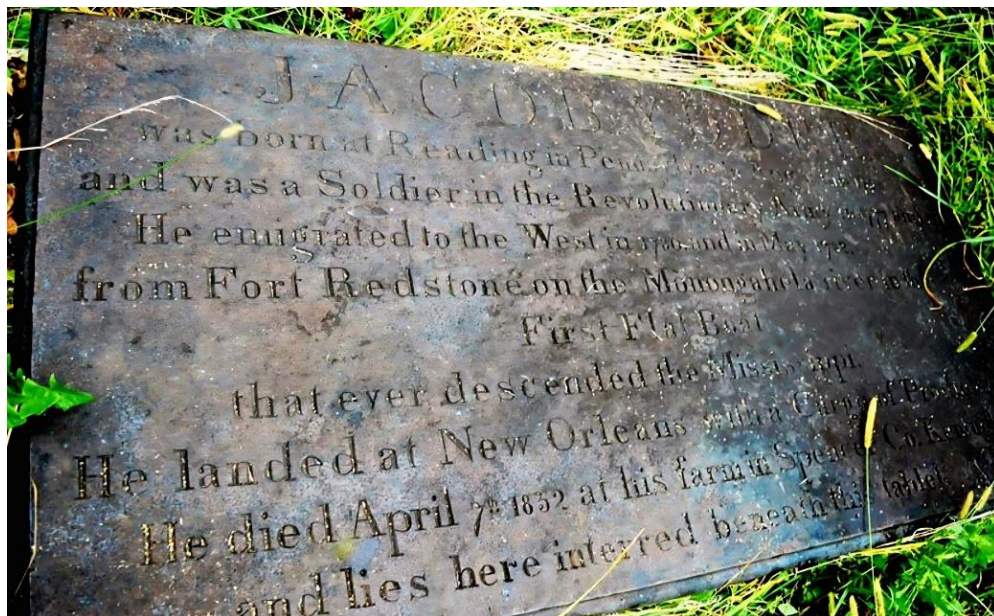
Vicki Glisson (right in red)



When placing the new sign the Glisson family decided to go back to the roots of the Yoder homestead. Jacob Yoder originally named his land Beechland, due to the large amount of Beech trees present on the property. These trees are known to impart wisdom, knowledge, longevity, and endurance on the land and people who inhabit that land.



A local sign company called Kile Signs was used and the two men standing with me are the workers from the sign company standing proudly with Terri Cooper.



Iron tablet cast on Capt. Jacob's grave, cast by Hanks & Niles, of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1834



The bit of overgrowth is actually very important. Mary Yoder Jacob's wife planted Jonquils in the small cemetery. She received them from her own mother when she moved from Maryland to Bardstown. As time has gone on they have grown and spread across the entire walled in cemetery, blanketing, protecting and bringing joy not only to the family's final resting place but everyone who visits.



Sign and Walled Family Cemetery-in Background

Marker for Negro Servants Burials outside the Walled Family Plot



**Jason McKinley
Cleans Slave Memorial**



**Memorial to “Our Faithful
Colored Servants”**

Kentucky Tombstone Transcriptions

From Register of Kentucky, Kentucky Historical Society

YODER BURIAL GROUND

(Jacob Yoder emigrated to Kentucky from Pennsylvania in 1780, and settled in what is now Spencer County, on a tract of land owned in 1929 by his great-grandson, Knox Brown).

Jacob Yoder—Was born at Reading, Pennsylvania, August 11th, 1758, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary Army in 1777 and 1778. "He emigrated to the west in 1780, and 1782 from Fort Redstone on the Monongohela river in the first Flat Boat that ever descended the Mississippi, He landed at New Orleans with a cargo of produce.

"He died April 7, 1832, at his farm in Spencer Co., Kentucky and lies here interred beneath this tablet."

Mary Mossman Yoder—Wife of Jacob Yoder (Dates illegible).

David Rozel Poignard—Born Jan. 28, 1793, Boston, Mass. Died at his Home, Spencer Co., Ky., January 13, 1883. "God is Love."

Eliza Yoder—Wife of D. R. Poignard—Born August 2, 1795, in Bardstown, Died at her home, Spencer Co., Ky., October 30, 1883. "The Lord is my Shepherd."

Yoder Poignard—June 1, 1834—Aug. 28, 1906. "Thou Art with Me."

Eliza Yoder Poignard—Wife of George W. Weissinger, born in Spencer Co., Ky., June 16, 1825—Died at Louisville, Ky., August 31, 1896. "He Leadeth me."

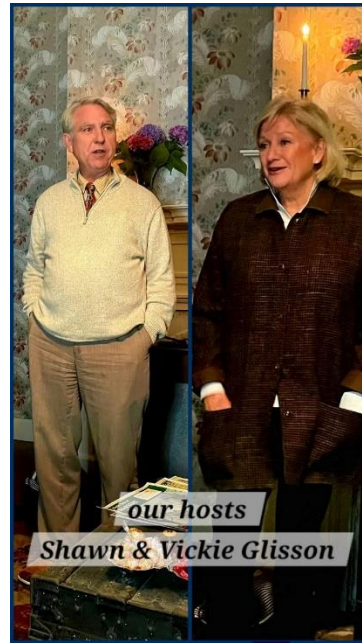
Rozel Weissinger—Son of Geo. W & Eliza P. Weissinger—Born at Louisville, Ky., August 9, 1848—Died at Frankfort, Ky., March 9, 1896. "He restoreth my Soul."

From Joe B Brown about the cemetery:

"Fairly early in moving to the farm was the construction of the small cemetery where Jacob Yoder and his wife and various other relatives on the Yoder, Poignand and Brown side of the family are buried. The cast iron grave cover plate has a brief history of his life. The stone enclosure has a marker that it was built by a company out of Louisville in 1911. The very large stone marker for Yoder Poignand was according to my father brought there in about 1937 on the railroad which ran from Shelbyville to Bardstown and stopped on request at Yoder Station. They then transported it by sled to the cemetery and lifted it over the cemetery wall to its present location in the center of the cemetery. At about this same time they also installed granite markers for the faithful colored servants who were buried in the area outside of the walled cemetery."

**Pictures from the Oct 2025 Visit to Beechland/Vaucluse by the Spencer
County Historical and Genealogical Society (SCHGS)**

Photos by Terri Cooper, used with permission



SCHGS President Cathy McClain calls the meeting to order. Shawn and Vickie Glisson, the hosts at Beechland/Vaucluse gave an oral history of the Yoder family, their home and the land as well as a detailed history of what was going on at the time that Jacob Yoder came to this area.



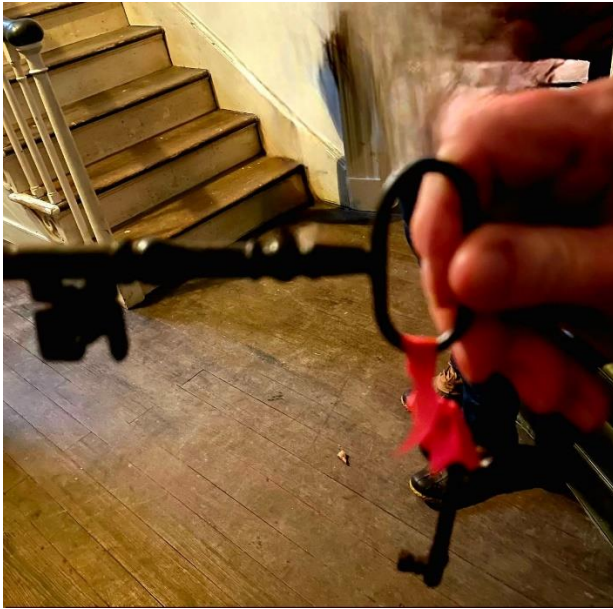
Stone fencing along the drive.



One interesting fact about the stone fencing is as Shawn has been taking the stone walls apart to restore them he found a huge skeleton key hidden in a section of the wall. He thinks it may be the key to the front door of the original log cabin, owned by Thomas Carlin and sold to Jacob Yoder, where the Yoder family lived while building their mansion. Could this be the ORIGINAL hide-a-key??!!



Historical Society members assemble in the front hall. Notice the webbing in the transom window above the front door.- it is very unique. It is called a “spiderweb transom”.



Original front door key.



Views of the stairwell- - identical to the staircase built in Liberty Hall in Frankfort, KY where Jacob's daughter Mary Yoder Brown went to live with her husband - she must have liked the staircase so much that she asked for Liberty Hall's to be built exactly the same.



The living room with the original fireplace mantle

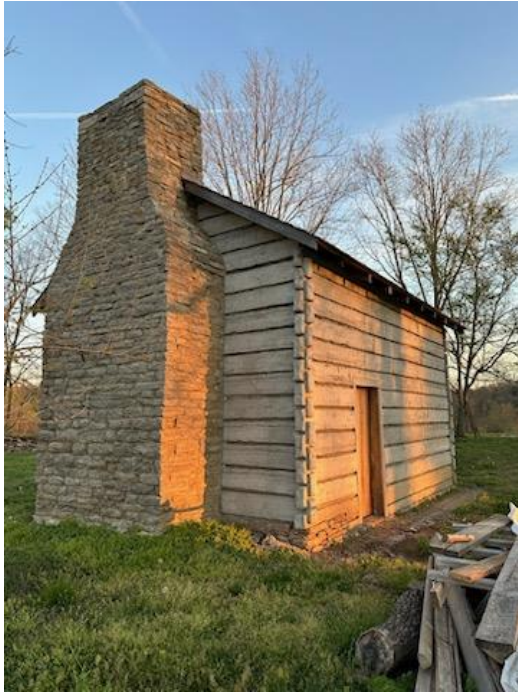


The hanging light fixture, brought from a ship a member of the family had sailed upon and installed in the home. The Generational Library is something to see - each generation had their own set of books which means not only that they had a lot of money at the time but that they had lots of connections - because books were scarce during these times. Based on each generation's worth of books you can tell what that family member was interested in



The Jenny Lind Piano. Swedish opera singer Jenny Lind, the "Swedish Nightingale," visited Kentucky in late March 1851 during her famous American tour. She traveled through the region, staying at Bell's Tavern and visiting Mammoth Cave on March 31, 1851, where she sat in a spot now known as "Jenny Lind's Armchair". She also performed in major Ohio River cities, including Louisville.

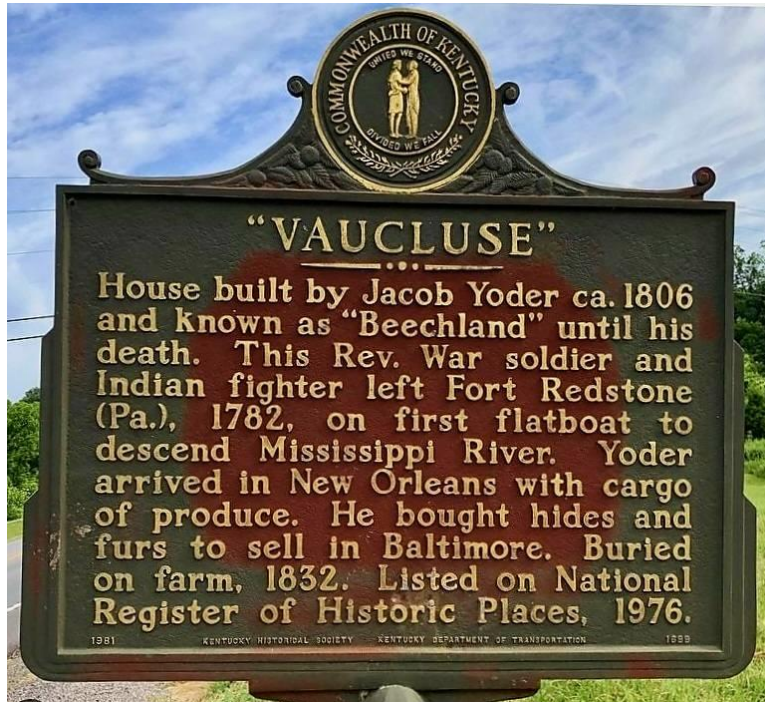
The Swedish soprano Jenny Lind, often known as the "Swedish Nightingale", was one of the most highly regarded singers of the 19th century. At the height of her fame, she was persuaded by the showman P. T. Barnum to undertake a long tour of the United States. The tour began in September 1850 and continued to May 1852. Barnum's advance publicity made Lind a celebrity even before she arrived in the U.S., and tickets for her first concerts were in such demand that Barnum sold them by auction. The tour provoked a popular furore dubbed "Lind Mania" by the local press, and raised large sums of money for both Lind and Barnum. Lind donated her profits to her favored charities, principally the endowment of free schools in her native Sweden. So this piano was bought specifically for Jenny Lind to be accompanied by during her visit to Louisville and afterwards it was taken to Beechland!!! sooo cool!



Reconstructed original log cabin on the property, built by fellow Revolutionary War veteran Thomas Carlin who sold the land to Jacob Yoder. Thomas referred to Jacob Yoder in 1800 as “my trusty friend” when he gave Jacob power of attorney over possible legal matters. The Yoders lived in the cabin while they built their mansion. The original cabin had burned down several years before- circa 1990.



Shawn Glisson tells of restored fireplace in the cabin.



Roadside Marker placed by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Listed on National Register of Historic Places 1979. Junction of KY 155 and Yoder Station Rd.

Notes about the Beechland Homestead property from Don Carlin of Kirkland, WA:

Jacob Yoder purchased the Beechland property from Thomas Carland/Carlin, a multi great uncle of Don Carlin. Don is fairly certain that Jacob and Thomas didn't become acquainted until around 1800, when Thomas referred to Jacob Yoder as "my trusty friend" and he gave Jacob power of attorney over possible legal matters. Don writes:

"Thomas first came to Kentucky from SW Virginia in 1775. He was in the war as part of the Henry County militia. Thomas first became involved in the subject property in 1778-9, he acquired the Warrant rights from a Peter Flinn in 1783, but didn't survey the property until 1791, and homesteaded there in 1792-3. By the time Thomas moved west to Missouri in 1803, Thomas and Jacob had become good friends, and Jacob had moved from Nelson County Ky to establish his homestead on the property he purchased from Thomas. Beyond the property transactions, I don't know much about the relationship between Thomas and Jacob, but my other Carlin ancestors (Thomas's nephews and nieces) remained nearby neighbors with Jacob until Jacob died. Thomas's nephew Matthias was my 3x great grandfather who lived near Jacob's home until his death in 1834)." Thomas's son, also named Thomas, was to become the 7th governor of Illinois.

Capt. Jacob and the Slaves at Beechland

As mentioned previously in Collins' Historical Sketches of Kentucky: History of Kentucky, 1872, writes:

The Original Sale bill, dated Oct . . . 31, 1785, from Edward Tyler to Jacob Yoder, of a family of Negros, Judah and her son Henry and an infant daughter unnamed, is preserved. This family was brought to Kentucky from North Carolina by Squire Boone. The boy Harry was still living in Sep., 1871, 89 years old, in the family of Capt. Yoder's daughter, Mrs. David R. Poignand, near Taylorsville. Henry knew well, and often speaks of, John Fitch, one of the pioneers of steamboat navigation (see sketch under Nelson county) – whom he describes as short and stout, speaking with a foreign accent, and always conversing with said Capt. Yoder in Dutch or German.

From the Nelson County Tax Lists

TAXLIST: Nelson County Tithes 1785-1791, Nelson Co., KY

Yoder Jacob 1 30 Thomas Morton 1790

Yoder Jacob - see David Hartman 25 Isaac Cox 1786

Yoder Jacob, Edmund Price 2 91 I. Cox 1785

Yoder Jacob; Negro Judy 2 15 Wil May 1787

Yoder Jacob; Negroes Charles & Jude 3 12 Walter Beall 1791

Yoder Jacob; William Hambleton; Negro Jude 3 4 Gabriel Cox 1788

Price Edmund - see Jacob Yoder 91 I. Cox 1785

The 1810 census shows there were 28 slaves in the Yoder household. Counts only are listed, not names.

1830 shows 35 slaves in the household.

Capt. Jacob passed away in 1832. In 1833 Kentucky banned the importation of slaves for sale into the state.

The 1850 Slave schedule shows 12 male slaves between the ages of 2 and 65 the oldest obviously being Henry) and 12 females (between 1 and 70 years old) (gender and ages only are shown in the schedules... not names.

The 1860 Schedule show 16 males (between 4 months and 75 years) and 13 females (between 2 and 57 years old).

Kentucky remained in the union between 1861 and 1865. In 1863 Congress passed the emancipation proclamation. This applied only to the states which were in rebellion and Kentucky was not covered. On Dec 5, 1865 the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was passed ending slavery throughout the nation.

The Census for 1870

Page No. 32 } Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered (if at all) merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in Taylorville Precinct, in the County of Spencer, State of Kentucky, enumerated by me on the 27 day of June, 1870.

Post Office: Taylorville Ky James W Stone, Ass't Marshal.

1	2	3	4			7	8		10	11			14	15			18	19	20
			Age at last birthday, or under five years, state sex, color, and whether deaf, blind, insane, or idiotic.	Male (M)	Female (F)		Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.		Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Native of foreign birth.	Native of foreign birth.	Married within the year, state month (date, Feb. &c.)	Married with the year, state month (date, Feb. &c.)	Married with the year, state month (date, Feb. &c.)	Married with the year, state month (date, Feb. &c.)			
9	188	Prigman, D. R.	77	M	W	Retired Farmer	35000	0000	Marion, Kentucky										
10		Eliza Y.	74	F	W	Keeping House			Kentucky										
11		Yoder	36	M	W	Farmer			"										
12		Weissinger, Eliza	39	F	W	Without Occupation			"										
13		Yoder, Henry	89	M	W	Farmer Laborer			North Carolina										
14		Valentine	58	M	W	Farmer Laborer			Kentucky										
15		Juliette	60	F	W	Domestic Servant			"										
16		Daphney	12	F	W	Domestic Servant			"										
17		Valentine	8	M	W				"										
18		Hagen, Ben	49	M	W	Farmer Laborer			"										
19		Daphney	42	F	W	Domestic Servant			"										
20		Nancy	9	F	W				"										
21		Babe	7	M	W				"										
22		Matthew, Kat	12	M	W	Farmer Laborer			"										
23		Philip	10	M	W	At School			"										

In addition to David Rozel Poignand and wife Eliza Yoder Poignand, their son Yoder and daughter Eliza Weissinger (wife of George Washington Weissinger) there are families of black servants. It seems a reasonable assumption that all were among the previous residents of the property before emancipation.

The 89 year old Henry and four others have listed the surname of Yoder. Valentine and Juliette Yoder aged 58 and 60 respectively are of an age to be likely husband and wife, children Daphne and Valentine Yoder and 12 and 8, seem likely to be children of the older Valentine, perhaps from an earlier and younger wife. It seems likely that the elder Valentine was a son of Henry, and he adopted the same surname, and that Daphney Hagen may have been his sister in that Valentine named one of his daughters after her.

Further evidence of this family is revealed in the Will of Valentine, signed May 1th, 1888 below and witnessed by Yoder Poignand, then owner of the Beechland/Vauchluse property. The will was filed Sept. 3, 1888.

Valentine Yoder

Will

Be it Known to all men by these writings, that I Valentine Yoder (Colored) of Elk Creek precinct Spencer County Kentucky, do make this my last will and Testament, hereby revoking and annulling any other will and writing that I may have made. At my death, it is my will, that the parcel of land which I purchased from the "Old Pittenger" tract and containing four acres, More or less, Shall be divided, into equal portions - as to area between my four heirs, and in order as follows - To wit - To my daughter Daphne the wife of Basil Bourn, I

49

leave the portion upon which the house and improvements are placed, To my daughter Aggie wife of John Bourn I leave the portion north of the house, and adjoining the lot of her husband John Bourn, To my son Volly, I leave the portion East of Aggies and by so Marks, and to my grandson Volly, Son of my deceased daughter Mary the first wife of John Bourn, I leave the portion lying between the house Lot and Jackson Jewell, and whereas neither my daughter Daphne, or my son Volly have children, it is my will that should they die without issue, then their portion shall revert to my remaining heirs, children or grand children, and that neither Basil the husband of Daphne, nor the wife of Volly shall hold or have any interest or claim to the portion of their respective wife and husband.

Given under my hand and Seal this May 19th one thousand eight hundred & Eighty Eight

witness Chad, B. Stitwell

Valentine ^{his} Yoder
mark

Yoder Pignand.

State of Kentucky Spencer County Court.

I Charles, B. Stitwell clerk of the County Court, Certify that at a County Court, held for Spencer County on Monday the 3rd day of September 1888 - This writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of Valentine Yoder deceased, was produced in open Court, and proved according to law, by Chad, B. Stitwell & Yoder Pignand, the subscribing witnesses to said writing - and was ordered to be recorded, which is now done accordingly.

Attest - Chad, B. Stitwell c.s.c.

Valentine Yoder Will

Transcription:

“Be it known to all men by these writings , that I Valentine Yoder (Colored) of Elk Creek men present Spencer County Kentucky , do make this my last will and Testament , hereby revoking and annulling any other will and writing , that I may have made , my dear at my death if is my will that the parcel of land which I purchased from the old | Pittenger , tract and containing four acres , more or less , shall be divided into equal portions , as to and between my four heirs , and in order as follows , towit , To my daughter Daphne the wife of Basil Bourn , I 3 00 | 00 200 00 137 50 49 leave the portion upon which the house and improvements are placed . To my daughter Aggie wife of John Bourn I leave the portion north of the house , and adjoining the lot of her husband John Bourn . To my son Volley , I leave the portion own of Aggies and by to Macks , and to my grandson Volly , son of my | Deceased daughter Mary the first wife of John Bourn , I leave the portion by ing between the house lot and Jackson Jewell , and whereas neither my saw after Daphne , or my son Volley have children , it is my will that should they did without issue , then their portion shall revert to my remaining heirs , children or grandchildren , and that neither Baril the husband of Daphne , nor Clare the wife of Volley shall hold or have any interest or claim to the portion of their respective wife and husband - Given under my hand and seal this May 19th one thousand Eight hundred & Eighty Eight - witness Chas B. Stilwell, **Yoder Poignand Valentine Yoder State of Kentucky Spencer County Court I Charles B. Stilwell Clerk of the County Court , Certify that at a County Court , held for Spencer County on Monday the 3rd day of September 1888 . This writing purporting to be the last will and Testament of Valentine Yoder Deceased , was produced in open Court , and proved according to law , by Chas . B. Stilwell & **Yoder Poignand** , the subscribing witnesses to said writing -- and was ordered to be recorded , which is now done accordingly Attest - Chas B. Stilwell C. C. C McClair Inventory”**

Joe B. Brown writes that the marble marker “To the memory of our faithful colored servants” outside of the walled family cemetery was placed about 1937. The name “Yoder Poignand is engraved on the top of the stone. His obituary, published in The Louisville Times, Sept. 3, 1906, says that at the time of his death, he was among the wealthiest men in Spencer County, and shows that among his bequests are ones to “a colored friend William H Minor”- \$400, his sons Yoder Minor- \$500 and Wesley Minor \$100.

Another family with known connections to the homestead adopted the surname “Poignard” and included a member with the name “Rozel” (the middle name of Eliza Yoder’s husband David Rozel Poignand of the 1870 census).

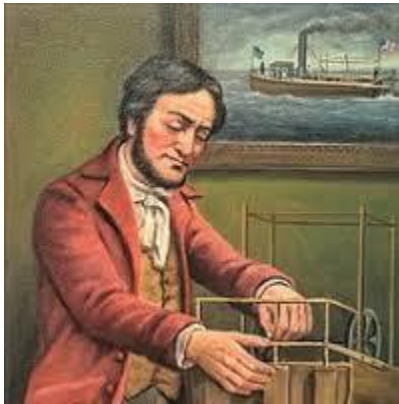
Capt. Jacob and Steamboat Pioneer John Fitch

It appears that Jacob Yoder met John Fitch during his winter at Valley Forge.

As previously reported, from Collins' Historical Sketches of Kentucky: History of Kentucky, 1872, writes:

The Original Sale bill, dated Oct. 31, 1785, from Edward Tyler to Jacob Yoder, of a family of negros (sic), Judah and her son Henry and an infant daughter unnamed, is preserved. This family was brought to Kentucky from North Carolina by Squire Boone. The boy Harry was still living in Sep., 1871, 89 years old, in the family of Capt. Yoder's daughter, Mrs. David R. Poignand, near Taylorsville. Henry knew well, and often speaks of, John Fitch, one of the pioneers of steamboat navigation (see sketch under Nelson county) – whom he describes as short and stout, speaking with a foreign accent, and always conversing with said Capt. Yoder in Dutch or German.

Extracts from From Wikipedia entry on John Fitch



John Fitch (January 21, 1743 – July 2, 1798) was an American inventor, clockmaker, entrepreneur, and engineer. He was most famous for operating the first steamboat service in the United States. The first boat, 45 feet long, was tested on the Delaware River by Fitch and his design assistant Steven Pagano.

He served briefly during the Revolution, mainly as a gunsmith working for the New Jersey militia. He left his unit after a dispute over a promotion but continued his work repairing and refitting arms in Trenton. In the fall of 1777, Fitch provided beer and tobacco to the Continental Army in Philadelphia. During the following winter and spring, he provided beer, rum, and other supplies to troops at Valley Forge.

In 1780, Fitch began working as a Kentucky surveyor, recording a land claim of 1,600 acres (6.5 km²) for himself. In the spring of 1782, while surveying in the Northwest Territory, he was captured by indigenous people and turned over to the British, who eventually released him.

Fitch was granted a U.S. patent on August 26, 1791, after a battle with James Rumsey, who had also invented a steam-powered boat. The newly created federal Patent Commission did not award the broad monopoly patent that Fitch had asked for, but rather a patent of the modern kind for the new design of Fitch's steamboat. It also awarded steam-engine-related patents dated that same day to Rumsey, Nathan Reed, and John Stevens. The loss of a monopoly due to these same-day patent awards led many of Fitch's investors to leave his company. While his boats were mechanically successful, Fitch no longer had the financial resources to carry on. Fitch's idea would be turned profitable two decades later by Robert Fulton.

Fitch had also received a patent in 1791 from France, and in 1793, having given up hope of building a steamboat in America, he left for France, where an American investor, Aaron Vail, had promised to help him build a boat there. But Fitch arrived just as the Reign of Terror was beginning, and his plans had to be abandoned. He went to London to attempt it there, but

that also failed. He returned to the United States in 1794 and tried a few more times to build a steamboat.

Failing this, he moved to Bardstown, Kentucky in 1797, where he hoped to sell some of the lands he had acquired in the early 1780s and use the proceeds to build a steamboat for use on the Ohio or Mississippi River. He arrived to find settlers occupying his properties, resulting in legal disputes that occupied him until his death on July 2, 1798, in Bardstown. A life of continual failure, frustration, and litigation wore Fitch down. He began drinking heavily once he returned to Bardstown in 1797. Fitch died of an overdose of opium pills in what may have been suicide. He died on July 2, 1798, at age 55 and was buried in Bardstown.

Fitch's legal dispute over state monopoly rights with fellow steamboat inventor James Rumsey and others helped enact the first Patent Act of 1790. He is mentioned in the personal letters of several historical figures, including George Washington, Benjamin Franklin Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison.

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In his 1889 book The Political Beginnings of Kentucky, Capt. Jacob's grandson John Mason Brown (son of Mary Yoder and Mason Brown), a Kentucky historian and Civil War Officer, wrote:

Already John Fitch had demonstrated the principles of steam navigation, and by practical test upon the Delaware had shown that the current of great rivers could be surmounted. He had joined his old comrade of Valley Forge, Jacob Yoder, at Bardstown, and discoursed with him of the great stream of the Mississippi, and the possibility of stemming it with returning boats. His experience of 1782 led Yoder to flatly deny that the dream of his inventor friend could ever be realized in a boat propelled by any mechanism against the current of the great river. It was, he said, like darting straws against the wind.² But Fitch, in the inter-

¹ *Navarro, Despatch of* 10th October, 1787.

² Fitch and Yoder had known each other in the army. The settlement of his friend at Bardstown probably attracted Fitch to that place, and they remained closely intimate till Fitch's death. Yoder's slave, Harry (who died at a great age), remembered Fitch well, and often related to the present writer stories of his eccentricities. Fitch's temperament was very variable; he was alternately elated with hope and profoundly depressed. He became in his later years quite intemperate. He was unmarried; had simple habits and few wants, even for those simple times, and it is a mistake to suppose that he suffered want or neglect in his last days. His grave is at Bardstown, Ky.

After Fitch finished his six weeks of schooling, he served as an apprentice to a watchmaker. He became very skillful with his hands and in the use of the tools of the trade. At the close of the term of his apprenticeship, he secured employment as a stock clerk in a store at New Trenton, New Jersey. He was placed in charge of stock items such as guns, ammunition and other military stores valued then at \$5,000, all of which were destroyed when the British captured Trenton. Fitch is next heard of as a lieutenant in the New Jersey Line of the Continental Army. Charles Whittlesey in his life of John Fitch states, "He was lieutenant in the New Jersey Line in the Revolutionary War, but became offended at some slight and resigned. He continued with the Army as armorer or gunsmith and sold tobacco, beer, and other articles to the troops and laid up quite a sum of depreciated Continental money."⁸

While the troops were wintered at Valley Forge, he heard some of the officers from Virginia speak of the fertile lands in Kentucky. Fitch also had a close companionship at Valley Forge with a Captain Jacob Yoder. Captain Yoder was born at Reading, Pennsylvania, August 11, 1758, and died April 7, 1832, on his farm in Spencer County near Taylorsville, Kentucky. During the years 1777 and 1778 at Valley Forge, Fitch confided to Captain Yoder that he was interested in Kentucky land and that as soon as the war ended, he intended to go to Warminster, Pennsylvania, to apply as a Deputy Surveyor so that he could survey western lands. At the same time Captain Yoder assured his friend that he was already familiar with the land along the Ohio River and in Kentucky where

⁸ Charles Whittlesey, *Life of John Fitch*. (Spark's *The Library of American Biography*, XVI, 98).

they could exercise their military warrants, if they became available. As Fitch learned, Captain Yoder had conducted a modest business prior to the war driving horses and other livestock from Pennsylvania to the frontier settlements, where he sold them for a profit. Captain Yoder also informed Fitch that as soon as the war ended he intended to make a buying tour through the Pennsylvania countryside and secure enough horses and cows to make a good profit. This time, however, he did not plan to drive the livestock overland but to buy a flatboat at Fort Redstone on the Monongahela River and float his cargo down the Ohio River. Captain Yoder invited Fitch to join him as a member of his crew in handling the boat and livestock. Accordingly, the two friends met at Fort Redstone in 1780 and started the journey down the Ohio River. The trip down the Ohio was uneventful until the flatboat reached the mouth of the Big Sandy River where they were fired upon by a party of thirty Indians who succeeded in wounding two of the crew, killing a cow and wounding two cows and fourteen horses.⁹

Undaunted by their experience, Fitch and Yoder came ashore when they reached Kentucky and spent some time in what was then Nelson County in search of suitable land. Fitch pre-empted 1,000 acres of land on Simpson's Creek and also surveyed land for his friend Captain Yoder in Nelson County which was to include his farm in what later became a part of Spencer County, Kentucky. Spencer County was the 77th of the counties in the order of formation and was established in 1824 out of parts of Nelson, Shelby, and Bullitt counties. It was named in honor of Captain Spear Spencer who fell at the head of his company at the battle of Tippecanoe. Spencer County is situated in the north middle portion of the state bounded on the north by Bullitt County. It is watered by the Salt River which flows east and west through the county. The tributaries of the Salt River include Ash's Big Beech, Brashears, Elk, Plumb and Simpson's Creek.¹⁰

Although Fitch and Yoder were close companions in Nel-

⁹ Collins and Collins, *op. cit.*, II, 84.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, II, 722.

son County, the relationship ended there because Captain Yoder soon became restless and departed for Pennsylvania to collect another shipment of horses and cows to bring down the Ohio River on a flatboat. In May, 1782, Captain Yoder left Fort Redstone with a flatboat loaded with horses and cows for New Orleans. He sold this shipment to the Spanish commandant at New Orleans for a draft on the Captain General of Cuba. Havana was then the *entrepot* of furs and other merchandise received from the Mississippi River trade and large quantities of merchandise had accumulated there in consequence of the war between Great Britain and Spain. Captain Yoder invested the proceeds of his draft in furs and hides which he took to Baltimore where he sold them for a considerable profit. Encouraged by the success of his business venture, Captain Yoder repeated the trips with horses and cows to New Orleans but his later trips were not as successful as the first trip made in 1782. In 1784 and 1785, Captain Yoder visited Vincennes and St. Louis and settled in Bardstown, Kentucky, in 1785. In 1804 he removed to his farm in Spencer County. It is known that he engaged in several Indian campaigns and in 1794 furnished to each of the several regiments bound for General Wayne's Army, fifty horses loaded with provisions.

Collins' interest in Captain Yoder led to his discovery of an original bill of sale dated October 31, 1785, from Edward Tyler to Captain Yoder of a family of Negroes including Judah, her son Harry, and an infant daughter unnamed. This family had been brought to Kentucky from North Carolina by Squire Boone. Collins learned that the boy, Harry, was still living and in September, 1871, when Harry was 89 years old, Collins located him in the family of Captain Yoder's daughter, Mrs. David R. Poignand, near Taylorsville, Kentucky. Fortunately, he took the time to interview Harry who claimed that he remembered John Fitch and remembered that Fitch and Captain Yoder were close friends. He described Fitch as being short and stout and that he spoke with a foreign accent. When Fitch and Yoder conversed, they spoke in Dutch or German. This last revelation may have resulted from their

close companionship on the Ohio River and in the wilderness of Kentucky.¹¹

There is no clear cut record of Fitch's activity in Kentucky after Captain Yoder left him to return to Pennsylvania. During the interim, John Fitch evidently conceived the idea of "navigation by horses." It is not certain whether or not Captain Yoder shared in the idea but may explain, in part, his return to Nelson County. Regardless, the Spanish minister Gardoqui described in 1785 a boat invented by John Fitch which moved against the current by means of a wheel fixed in its center worked by horses.¹²

A more detailed description of Fitch's unusual boat propelled by horses is furnished by Fortescue Cuming in his *Sketches of a Tour to the Western Country*. He states that in the Spring of 1808 he saw a boat propelled by horses a short distance below Shippingport which

was a keel boat of forty tons that came to the landing at the same time we did. She was worked by a horizontal wheel kept in motion by six horses going around in a circle on a gallery above the boat by which are turned two cog wheels fixed each to an axle which project over both gunwales of the boat, one before and the other behind the horizontal wheel. Eight paddles are fixed on the projecting end of each axle, which impel the boat about five or six miles an hour so that she can be forced against the current about twenty miles a day. Brookfield, the owner, who conducts the boat, had her built last year (1807) about two miles above Louisville in Kentucky, and then went in her to New Orleans, from whence he was now returning disposing of a cargo of sugar from place to place in his ascent. He expected to get home and commence a second voyage in about a month. Seven horses died during the voyage and he had only two remaining of the first set he commenced with.¹³

Apparently Fitch, with some encouragement from Captain Yoder, conceived the plan of "navigation by horses" in 1780 while floating down the Ohio River on the flatboat loaded with horses and cows and applied his skill as a watchmaker to the mechanical arrangement of wheels and cog wheels to turn the paddles. The question is, who built these unusual boats

¹¹ *Ibid.*, II, 723.

¹² Mary Verhoeff, *The Kentucky River Navigation*, Filson Club Publications No. 28, Louisville, Kentucky (1917), p. 97.

¹³ Fortescue Cuming, *Sketches of a tour to the Western Country in the Years 1809-1810 and 1811* (Pittsburgh, 1823), p. 264.

described by Gardoqui and Cuming?

Other Yoder Newsletter Articles

YNL3- The Flatboat Report



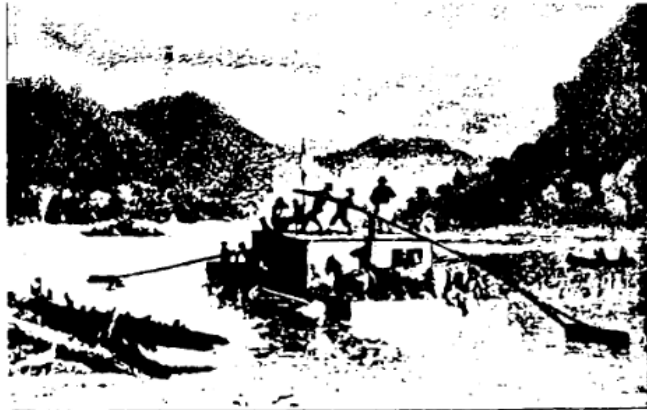
YODER NEWSLETTER



Vol. I No. 3

P.O. Box 594 Goshen, IN 46526

April, 1984



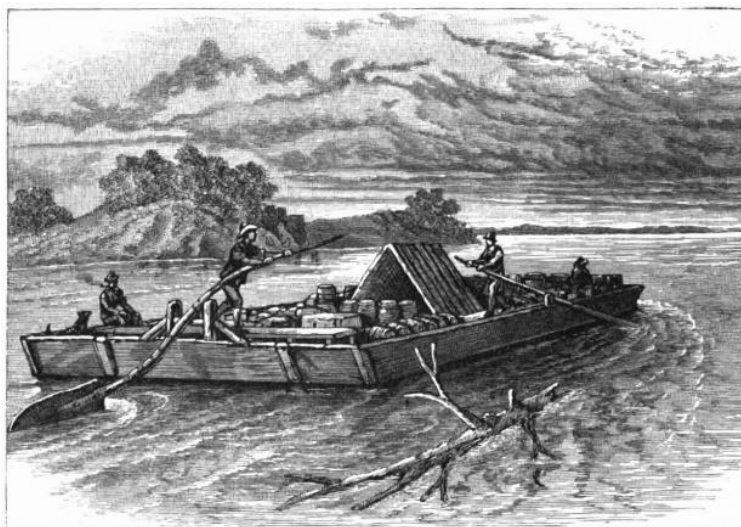
Ein Flachboot auf dem oberen Ohio.

Der erste Flachbootschiffer auf dem Ohio war der Deutsche Jakob Joder. Er fuhr im Jahre 1757 den Strom hinab.

Captain Jacob Yoder-Early Adventurer

The illustration above was provided by Mr. Karl Joder, the prominent German researcher of our family. Captain Jacob Yoder, a member of the Oley Valley Yoder family, is recorded as the first man to take a flatboat down the Ohio and Mississippi to New Orleans. Look for an article on his life in a future edition of the Yoder Newsletter. (The real date of this event was 1782)

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YNL12- Introduction to Capt. Jacob



Issue #12

P.O. Box 594 Goshen, IN 46526

October, 1988



YODER NEWSLETTER

FIRST FLATBOAT TO NEW ORLEANS--CAPT. JACOB YODER

In a small family graveyard near Taylorsville, Spencer County, Kentucky, rests an iron tablet with the following inscription:

"Jacob Yoder,
Was born in Reading (sic), Pennsylvania,
Aug. 11, 1758;
And was a soldier in the Revolutionary Army
in 1777 and 1778;
He emigrated to the West in 1780, and in May
1782, from Fort Redstone, on the Monongahela
river in the

FIRST FLAT BOAT

That ever descended the Mississippi River, he
landed in New Orleans, with a cargo of produce.

He died April 7, 1832, at his farm in
Spence County, Kentucky, and lies here interred
beneath this tablet."

So is summed up the life of the most unique
of our early Yoder forebears. The tablet itself
is unique. It was cast by Hanks and Niles of
Cincinnati in 1834, one of the first cast west
of the Alleghenies, and was erected by Capt.
Joseph Pierce, an old friend of Capt. Jacob from
Cincinnati.

Jacob Yoder was a son of John Yoder of Oley
Township, Berks County, PA and his wife Sarah
Shankle. (John, son of John, son of the immi-
grant Hans (Hance) Yoder (1672-1741). Jacob
served in the Revolution and reportedly spent the
winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge with Washing-
ton and his troops. After the war, Jacob went
west to claim government lands coming due him
from his military service. In the west he also
became engaged in commerce. One historical sketch
of Spencer County, Kentucky describes the results
of his river trip chronicled on the memorial
table:

"This cargo Capt. Yoder sold to the Spanish
commandant at New Orleans for a draft on the
Captain-general of Cuba. Havanna was then entre-
pot of the furs received from the Mississippi
River---large quantities which had accumulated
there, in consequence of the then existing war
between Great Britain and Spain. Yoder invested
the proceeds of his draft in furs and hides,
which he took to Baltimore, making a profitable
venture. He repeated the trip to New Orleans,
and the adventure in furs and hides, but this
time was unsuccessful. In 1784 and 1785 he
visited Vincennes and St. Louis, and settled in
1785 in Bardstown, but removed in 1804 to Spencer
County. He was engaged in several Indian cam-

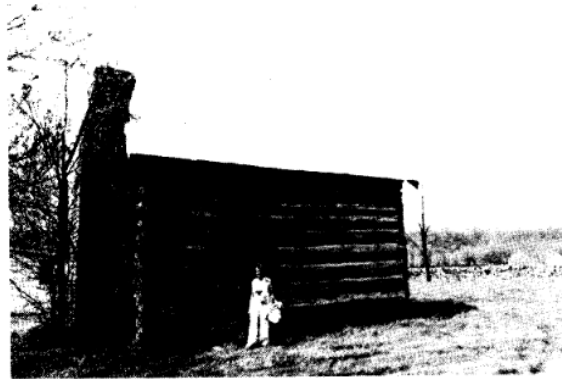
paigns; and in 1794, furnished to each of the several regiments bound for Gen. Wayne's army, 50 horses loaded with provisions.

Jacob was prominent in the affairs of this frontier community, then a part of Virginia. A list of Nelson County (Bardstown) Military officers which can be found in the Executive papers at the Virginia State Library includes Jacob Yoder. He appears in this 1879 document as a Captain, appointed by the County Court. It is hard for us to realize today how wild these lands were at the time of Jacob's travels. The last buffalo killed in this area of Kentucky was recorded as being in 1739.

Jacob's move to Spencer County from neighboring Nelson came after his purchase at a courthouse auction of 4,000 acres of lands in 1804. On this property near Taylorsville, Jacob built a thirteen room plantation home. The house was built in 1806 from bricks made of native clay through the labor of slaves.



YODER PLANTATION HOUSE-BUILT IN 1806



SLAVE CABIN...single remaining structure
as of 1974. Originally held house slaves.
(continue on page 7)

In research to date, Capt. Jacob is the only member of the family confirmed to have owned slaves. A document which was in the possession of his family addressed the sale on Oct. 31 1785 from one Edward Tyler to Jacob Yoder of a family of negroes. "Judah and her son Harry and an infant daughter unnamed.". This family was reportedly originally brought to Kentucky from North Carolina by Squire Boone, father of the pioneer Daniel Boone, and like Jacob, also originally a resident of Berks County, Pennsylvania. The boy Harry was still living with them when he was living with the family of Capt. Jacob's daughter Mrs. David Poignand, on the homestead near Taylorsville in 1871 at the age of 89.

Harry is quoted as describing visits to Capt. Jacob by Mr. John Fitch (1743-1798), well known pioneer of steamboat navigation. He described him as "short and stout, speaking with a foreign accent, and always conversing with said Capt. Yoder in Dutch or German".

A list of open accounts, bond and note holders due the estate of Col. Andrew Hynes in Bardstown, 1801, includes Jacob Yoder and also one "Dick Yoder (Negro)". The third census, taken in 1810, shows in Jacob's household more than 20 slaves and one "free colored".

Jacob was certainly one of the wealthier slaveholders in the county at that time. Whether the descendants of any of these slaves took the "slave-name" Yoder (as "Dick Yoder" apparently did in the 1801 record cited above) is not known. If any YNL reader has ever run into any black Yoders, please let us know.



YODER CEMETERY

When the Oley Valley, PA historian, Peter G. Bartolet, M.D. gathered his information of the area during his professional visits of the 1840s and 1850s, he met with John and David Yoder, children of Jacob's brother Daniel. They recalled the visit of their uncle (who was born there on the homestead ...not Reading as the tablet stated) which had occurred over 50 years before. (Fragments of the Past, published by the Women's Club of the Oley Valley, 1980). Capt. Jacob is reported to have been "of a lively disposition and had imbibed considerably of the liquor". He told how he raised hemp and tobacco in Kentucky, and "also told them many of the Revolutionary incidents, as well as those of the Indian wars in which he had engaged. He had traveled all the way from Kentucky and back again on horseback. He stayed there for some time."

Capt. Jacob married Mary Mossman (Feb. 1, 1773-Aug. 21, 1830). They had two daughters known to lived to adulthood. Eliza, born in 1795 in Bardstown, married at Taylorsville about Aug. 25, 1824 David Rozel Poignand. Mary (1810-1881) was married on Dec. 8, 1835 to Mason Brown of Frankfort. Mrs. Poignand originally received the homestead, but when all her heirs had died, it subsequently went to the family of her sister, Mrs. Brown.

The family cemetery, located on the property, identifies the following family members:
 Jacob Yoder (Aug. 11, 1758-Apr. 7, 1832) Rev. soldier;
 his wife Mary Mossman (Feb. 1, 1773-Aug. 21, 1830)
 ..David Rozel Poignand (June 29, 1793-Jan. 13, 1883)
 b. Boston, His wife Eliza Yoder (Aug. 2, 1795-Oct. 30, 1883). Eliza Yoder Poignand (June 16, 1825 Aug. 31, 1896) d. in Louisville, wife of Geo. W. Weissinger. Rozel Weissinger b. Aug. 8, 1848 Louisville d. Mar. 9, 1896 Frankfort. Mary Mossman Poignand (Dec. 30, 1828-Jul. 24, 1854). Yoder Poignand (June 1, 1834-Aug. 28, 1906). Rozel Poignand (Dec. 23, 1837-Feb. 28, 1842).

In previous editions of the YNL we have run a series entitled "TOWNS NAMED YODER", reproduced from "Family Life". The August-September 1973 issue covered "Yoder", Kentucky. This "town" is not on present-day maps, but appeared in the 1918 Rand McNally Atlas two miles north of Taylorsville, marking the spot of Capt. Jacob's home. To quote from David Luthy's article:

"Yoder , Kentucky never had a postoffice nor any stores. never existed as a town. The name "Yoder" appeared on the map of Kentucky because it was a stop on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The passenger trains stopped at the Yoder plantation for passengers, but especially for cans of milk which the plantation and surrounding farms shipped by train to the city. The stop was known as a "milk stop" and was called "Yoder" because it stopped at that particular plantation. At one time there were six trains a day using the track. But when trucks replaced the hauling once done by train, the railroad was discontinued. The last train passed "Yoder" in 1952."

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus (Betty) Christner, of Goshen, IN, were inspired by the Luthy article to stop by the Yoder plantation during a 1974 trip south. Betty wrote that evidence of the railroad tracks could still be seen at that time.

We are greatly indebted to the Christners for the excellent photographs of this property. The mansion was featured in the "Louisville Courier Journal" in 1952 and appears in the book Colonial Houses of Kentucky by Coleman.

Betty Powell Christner (YR2337a416) (1919-2010) was the granddaughter of Reuben Yoder of Lagrange County, IN

Berks County historian Joe Mitchell writes

"I also ran into an early account (1844) of Jacob Yoder's flatboat trip. The trip started in Pittsburgh and ended in New Orleans. The article is interesting because it states Jacob Yoder (b. 1758) transported flour from a gristmill built by Gaspard Markle (Merkle) in 1772. Merkle was born in Berks County in 1732 and moved to Westmoreland County in 1770. He returned to Berks in 1776 and got married. He and his new wife settled in Westmoreland County.

"All accounts indicate that 22-year old Jacob Yoder immigrated to the "western" part of the state in 1780. I found no other details. Why did he go to the remote western frontier on his own? Where did he settle? What was the relationship between Gaspard Merkle and Jacob Yoder? Did they know each other when they lived in Berks County? Did they meet while serving in the War? It can't be a coincidence that they are both from Berks and involved in milling, right? Maybe Merkle convinced Yoder to work at his gristmill. Afterall, Yoder grew up at his father's gristmill and had experience. It's hand-wavy, but the circumstantial evidence suggests that Yoder settled near Merkles' Mill in Westmoreland County. One source states that Yoder's flatboat was launched in Brownsville, Pa. That location is less than 15 miles from Merkle's Gristmill. Obviously, it had to be close since it was carrying his flour.

"Gaspard's son Joseph Merkle took over management of the mill and made his own trip to New Orleans in 1799 with a boat load of flour. He left home in March returned home in May, having been six weeks on the voyage. Then repeated his voyages to New Orleans 1800, 1801, 1803, 1809."



YODER NEWSLETTER

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APRIL 2016



Boone-Yoder Connections



Yoders Visit the Daniel Boone Homestead

The final event at the 2014 National Yoder Reunion hosted by the Oley Yoder Heritage Association was a picnic lunch on the grounds of the Daniel Boone Homestead followed by a guided tour of the old residence. Several people asked what the connections were between the Boone and the Yoder family, and in this article we'll try to spell out some of the ties which are known.

The history of the Boone family was published in an excellent article by Isaac Crawford Sutton which appeared in the April 1949 issue of *The Historical Review of Berks County*. Daniel's grandfather, George Boone, was a weaver living in the village of Bradnich, near Exeter, England. He and his wife, Mary Maugridge, were Quakers and subject to persecution in England. In 1712, Grandfather George first sent his three oldest children to "Penn's Wood", George Jr., Sarah, and Squire (Daniel's father). Daughter Sarah married Jacob Stover and was the first to move to the Oley Valley by 1714. The grandparents followed to America arriving in Oct. 1717, and by 1719 they and George Jr. joined Sarah in the Oley Valley, purchasing about 400 acres along what is now Spring Creek. George Sr. and his family organized the Exeter Friends Meeting in the Valley, and donated the ground on which the meeting house still stands.

Daniel's father Squire, married Sarah Morgan in 1726. After initially living in Bucks County they, too, moved to Oley Valley, not far from the rest of the family, buying a tract of 250 acres and building a cabin on the site of the present homestead. This is where Daniel, the sixth of twelve children, was born on November 2, 1734, (October 22nd by the old calendar).

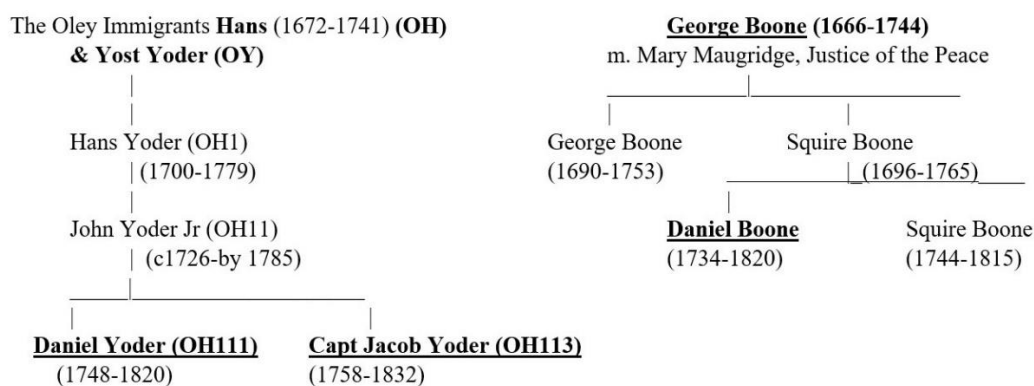
The first records which ties the Boone and Yoder family together was a 1720 petition by the early Oley Valley residents to establish their area as a separate township in what would remain a part of Philadelphia County, until Berks was formed in 1752.

Signature of "George Boon" and Mark of Jost Joder (OY)
On 1720 Oley Township Petition

The names of Yoder brothers Hans and Yost both appear on the 1720 petition, along with that (presumably) of Daniel Boone's grandfather George. Interesting enough, George's name is shown directly beside that of Yost. The county officials initially took no action, and a new petition was circulated in 1740, leading to the formation of the township at that time. While Hans and Yost Yoder's names would appear on the later petition, the Boones did not. Six months after the establishment of Oley Township, Exeter Township was split off and formed on Dec. 7, 1741. The petitioners for this second township were mostly Quakers and included James Boone, Benjamin Boone, John Boone, Squire Boone (all sons of grandfather George). The actual name of the Township, "Exeter", is generally credited to the George Boone family and as derived from the family point of origin in England. The Boones were some of the most prominent citizens of the area, and grandfather George served as a Justice of the Peace. Both Oley and Exeter Townships were to become a part of Berks County when it was formed in 1752 from Philadelphia County.

In 1750, when Daniel was sixteen years old, his parents sold their Oley Valley property and moved the family south. Other Boones were to remain in the Oley Valley and many are buried in the cemetery at the Exeter Meeting House, along with Mordecai Lincoln, the great-great-grandfather of President Abraham. Squire and family lived for a year near Winchester, VA, near their friend John Lincoln (great-grandfather of Abraham) before migrating to the Yadkin Valley of North Carolina.

Yoder-Boone Connections



Boone-Yoder connections appear in the family of Hans Yoder's grandson John Yoder Jr (c1726-1785) (OH11). In a 1795 estate record, Daniel (OH111), inheritor of the Yoder Homestead (1748-1820) appears as a witness to the will of his uncle George Oyster, along with a George Boone (apparently a first cousin of Daniel, born 1759 and died at Pikeville 1824). George Oyster's sister Elizabeth (1730-1812) was the wife of Samuel Yoder (OH13).

- The will abstract shows:

OYSTER, GEORGE, District.

October 7, 1795 - September 5, 1795 (sic).

Provides for wife Hannah.

Land to be sold and estate equally divided between children, viz: Susanna, George, Catharine, John, Hannah, Bettee (Elizabeth), Daniel and Samuel.

Daus. Bette and Hannah to be fitted out in the same manner as Susanna and Catharine were.

Exrs: Sons-in-law George SCHALL and Solomon YERGER.

Wits: George SCHALL, Daniel YODER and George BOONE.

Daniel's brother "Capt. Jacob" Yoder (OH113) was born August 11, 1755. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary Army in 1777 and 1778, and moved to western Pennsylvania in 1780. In May of 1782, he left Ft. Redstone in Fayette County, PA on a flatboat, floated down the Monongahela River, and proceeded to take a load of produce down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans. He was the first person to have ever done so (see YNL 3 and 12).

Collins' Historical Sketches of Kentucky: History of Kentucky, 1872, writes:

This cargo Capt. Yoder sold to the Spanish commandant at New Orleans for a draft on the captain-general of Cuba. Havana was then the entrepot of the furs received from the Mississippi river- large quantities of which had accumulated there, in consequence of the then existing war between Great Britain and Spain. Yoder invested the proceeds of his draft in furs and hides, which he took to Baltimore, making a profitable venture. He repeated the trip to New Orleans, and the adventure in furs and hides; but this time was unsuccessful. In 1784 and 1785 he visited Vincennes and St. Louis, and settled in 1785 in

Bardstown, but removed in 1804 to Spencer county. He was engaged in several Indian campaigns; and in 1794, furnished to each of several regiments bound for Gen. Wayne's army, 50 horses loaded with provisions.

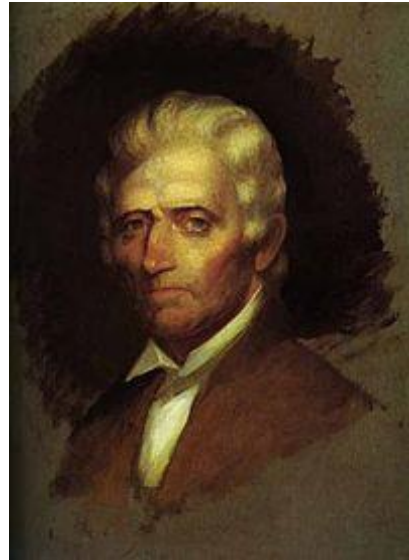
The Original Sale bill, dated Oct. 31, 1785, from Edward Tyler to Jacob Yoder, of a family of negros, Judah and her son Henry and an infant daughter unnamed, is preserved. This family was brought to Kentucky from North Carolina by Squire Boone. The boy Harry was still living in Sep., 1871, 89 years old, in the family of Capt. Yoder's daughter, Mrs. David R. Poignand, near Taylorsville. Henry knew well, and often speaks of, John Fitch, one of the pioneers of steamboat navigation (see sketch under Nelson county) – whom he describes as short and stout, speaking with a foreign accent, and always conversing with with said Capt. Yoder in Dutch or German.*

The Squire Boone mentioned here was Daniel's brother. A 1792 grant is recorded for him of 1,000 acres of land in what was then Nelson County on the Salt River. In 1803, Jacob Yoder bought land on the northeast side of Brashears Creek to form a plantation just north of the present day town of Taylorsville. (The town was founded in 1799 on the land of Richard Taylor, father of US President Zachary Taylor, and is on the banks of the Salt River). In 1806, he began construction of a two-story, 13-room house. An 1831 tax list for Spencer County lists Yoder is listed as having 1,300 acres on Brashears Creek and 29 slaves. One article about the homestead estimates there may have been as many as 100 slaves buried in the homestead cemetery. Jacob died at his home April 7, 1832. (See article in YNL12).

Daniel Boone 1820 by Charles Harding

Daniel Boone is best known as an explorer and frontiersman and the man who opened up Kentucky for settlement. He engaged extensively in land speculation and survey work. After the Revolution, Boone resettled in Limestone (renamed Maysville, Kentucky in 1786), then a booming Ohio River port. In 1787, he was elected to the Virginia state assembly as a representative from Bourbon County. In Maysville, he kept a tavern and worked as a surveyor, horse trader, and land speculator. He was initially prosperous, owning seven slaves by 1787, a relatively large number for Kentucky at the time.

We know Daniel went back to Berks County twice to visit relatives.... The first time when he was forty-seven years old in 1781, and his Uncle James Boone entered in his Bible "1781 Oct. 20. Then Daniel came to see us for the first time." Again in 1788, this time wife and daughter and two sons, James recorded "1788, Feb. 12, Then Daniel (with Rebecca his wife, and their son Nathan) came to see us."



OWNERSHIP OF THE HOMESTEAD

There are additional interesting connections when you look at the ownership of the Daniel Boone Homestead property. The chain of ownership is as follows:

-1730 Squire Boone purchases 250 acres of land and erects a log house and spring cellar

-1750 William Maugridge buys 159 acres of the Boone property, and the Squire Boone family move south (Maugridge was the likely a cousin on Squire's mother's side.)

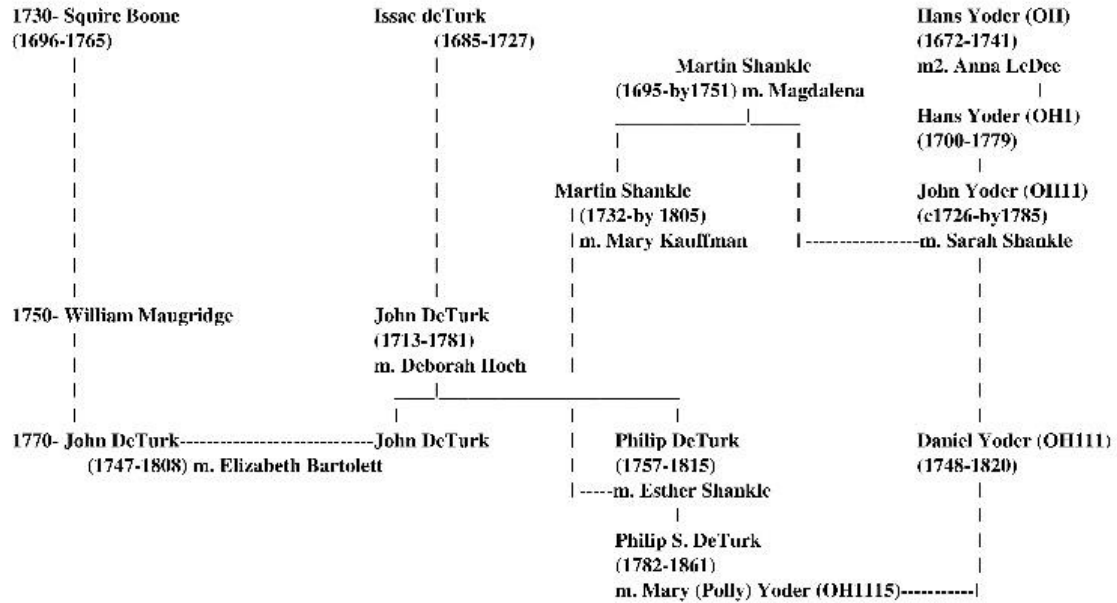
-1770 John DeTurk buys the property after Maugridge's death in 1766 (Maugridge left two negro slaves in his estate, Cloe and Dick) so slave ownership in the Boone family was not limited to its life in the South).

John DeTurk has ties to the family of John Yoder (OH11). His brother Philip married the niece of John Yoder's wife Sarah Shankle (Shenkle). Sarah, who had married John Yoder in 1746, deserted her husband and children and had an illegitimate child in Reading. This seems to have occurred sometime after 1756, and tax records list her living by herself in Reading in the years 1762, 1764, and 1779. She died about 1798 and is buried in Philip DeTurk's plot at Oley. Sarah's granddaughter, Polly Yoder, married Philip DeTurk's son Philip S. DeTurk (as shown).

The Yoder, Shankle, LeDee, and DeTurk families all were followers of a radical pietist sect called the "New Born", founded by a poor day-laborer from Lamsheim in the Palatinate named Matthias Baumann. (see YNL5 for details)

Boone Homestead Ownership

DeTurk-Yoder Connections





YODER NEWSLETTER



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OCTOBER 2022

VIDEO VISIT TO CAPT. JACOB YODER'S KENTUCKY HOME



#history #flatboat #jacobyoder

FLAT BOAT INVENTOR! HISTORY OF JACOB YODER'S HOME, BEECHLAND OR VAUCLUSE!

The genealogy site “Family Tree Nuts” visited the home of Capt. Jacob Yoder (OH113) in Spencer County, Kentucky and prepared a wonderful 14 minute video on their visit. Jacob Yoder was the first person to take a flatboat from Pittsburgh, down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans. In this video they tell the stories of Jacob Yoder, his descendants and his Kentucky homestead which is still in family hands. We have written about him in many past issues.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDW48Q1syWY>

Yoder Immigrants to America in Red

Kaspar Joder (c1548-) m. Margareth M

571-) m. Veronica Henning Caspar Joder (-) m. Margaret Henning

garet Erb Niclaus Joder (1609-) Jost Joder (1607-) Amish Yoders

719) Adam (1650-) Caspar (1648-) Caspar (1644-) ?

Hans (1672-) Yost (1679-) Niclaus (1673-) Hans (1677-)
(OH and OY) Oley Yoders YB-Mennonite

ehli Johannes of Mussbach Niclaus **Conrad (1725-)**
North Carolina
 ? **Melchior (b.c1735)**

Jakob Christian
Samuel Josef
Michel (1788-) Joseph (1805)
(YRC8) Joder (D)

Christian Jotter (YR2) Widow Barbara (YR1) Yost Yoder (YRB) Alsatian Yoders (YA2, YA3, YA4)

The Amish Yoders can be tied based on a unique DNA marker common to them all to the older brother of Han's (OH) grandfather Niclaus Joder (b.1609) named Jost Joder (b. 1607), who was a church official in Steffisburg. We cannot tell from which of his sons most of them descend, although there has been much speculation. The first and largest known batch of these folk arrived in Philadelphia on Sept 21, 1742.



T Shirts Prepared for the 2026 Yoder America250 Event Designed by Angela Yoder

<https://villaparkhearts.com/author/angela/>

Angela A.J. Yoder (YR2354681251)

Daughter of Theresa Louise (Switlik) and the late Jay (Elmer) Yoder, Denver, CO. Granddaughter of Barbara Edna (Nisly) and Jacob N. Yoder, Hutchinson, KS. She lives in Tacoma, WA with her family and two black labrador/blue heelers. She is an artist who made previous works for the larger Yoder Clan with St. Joder's Day cards, the 2017 and 2026 reunion T-shirt designs.



With the expertise to create art for fabric and surface patterns, Angela makes custom designs and original art for any occasion or project. Email her at villapark@villaparkhearts.com

Find fabrics and home décor on Angela's Spoonflower:
<https://www.spoonflower.com/profiles/villaparkhearts>

