

Our Visit to the 268 year old Buckwalter Farm!

Written by Jay Clair Buckwalter
October 2015



Our Visit to the 268 year-old Buckwalter Farm! On Saturday, October 17, 2015, some descendants of Freeland & Florence Buckwalter visited Wilmer & Doris Buckwalter Nolt at 130 Buckwalter Road, Lancaster, PA. The two acre lot on which they live is what is left of the 200 acre farm purchased by our immigrant ancestor Theodorus Buckwalter in 1747. Wilmer & Doris showed us the Richard Penn deed with Theodorus' name in it.

In front of the current house is a spring over which Theodorus probably built a log house. A stone house was built over the spring about 1754. At some point at a short distance from the house a shallow well was hand-dug. (the stone house is pictured on the Buckwalter Family web site under a Story about Durst Buckwalter)

There was a large stone lean-to built unto the stone house in 1799. Wilmer incorporated the date stone from the lean-to into the stone entrance to the spring cellar during recent renovations. The current doorway to the spring cellar is the same doorway that was in the stone house!

Doris's great-great grandfather, Daniel Buckwalter and the brother of Henry Buckwalter, my great grandfather, owned the farm from 1846-1903. He built the last barn in 1871 (barn was taken down around 1988 when the land was sold.) About the same time he built the summer kitchen behind the stone house. He built the current house attached to the summer kitchen. The old house was taken down soon after 1900 and the stones were used to pave the newly opened Buckwalter Road.

Doris & Wilmer were quite friendly and enthusiastic and could not stop showing us around and telling us stories!!

Marge & Clair

P.S. On the next page the left column is the chain of ownership of the farm. John Buckwalter is the common ancestor of Doris and I. My great grandfather, Henry would have grown up on this farm.

Chain of Ownership of the Buckwalter Farm
taken from Mennonite Research Journal, July, 1975

? - 1718 Native Americans	
1718- 1722 William/Richard Penn	
1722- 1747 Andrew Seldenrich of Strasburg	
1747- 1777 Theodorus Buckwalter (1702-1782) m. Barbara Landis	
1777-1805 Henry Buckwalter (1742-1805) m. 1) Barbara Cassel 2) Elizabeth Schneider	
1805-1846 John Buckwalter (1779-1844) m. Judith Buckwalter ↓	
1846-1903 Daniel Buckwalter (1825-1903) m. Elizabeth Denlinger	Henry Buckwalter (1807-1862) m. Barbara Neff
1903-1932 Dorus Buckwalter (1855-1931) m. Mary Bender	Freeland Buckwalter, Sr. (1854-1933) m. Henrietta Zimmerman
1932- 1953 Frank Buckwalter (1894-1968) m. Ada Neff	Freeland Buckwalter, Jr. (1902-1988) m. Florence Huber Leon, Ellen, Marian, Kathryn, Evie, Jay
1953---1987 Paul Buckwalter (1914-2000) m. Ethel Charles	
1987-----present Doris Buckwalter m. Wilmer Nolt	

Buckwalter Farm Milestones

- 1747-1777 Theodorus probably lived in a log house over the spring.
- 1777-1805 Henry built the stone house over the spring. Stone house was used until 1875.
- 1846-1903 Daniel built the barn in 1871 and the current house in 1875. Buckwalter Road was opened in 1901 and was paved with the stones from the old house