

Fall 2019

Historical Journal



LITITZ HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 65 145 E. Main Street, Lititz, PA 17543

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120 E. Main Street—The Moravian Congregational Store

By Charlene Van Brookhoven

One of the oldest buildings on Main Street in Lititz is 120 E. Main. Its history goes back nearly to the founding of the town in 1756. Built in 1762 the building served as the Moravian congregational general store for almost one hundred years.

The first storekeeper was Matthew Tschady (Tshudy) followed by Jasper Payne, an Englishman who conducted the store for his own enterprise. Payne handed the business back to the church but continued to run it until 1778. John Becker, the town baker by trade, took over the store for the church until 1845. At that time the store was sold to Nathaniel Wolle. He was the owner for more than half a century. During Wolle's time, a brick addition was built on the eastern wall of the store. Today this address is 122 E. Main Street. The general store was moved into this new addition and the old building became a private dwelling.

The original walls of the building are of local limestone. In 1845, when Mr. Wolle was the proprietor, stucco was applied and covered the beautiful gray stone. That same year the Moravian Church and Brother's House were also stuccoed.

During the years 1777-1778, when Revolutionary War soldiers were sent to Lititz to recover from wounds and fatigue, several of the officers were housed above the store.

In April of 1987 the owners of 120 E. Main Street, A.J. Sandwood Antiques, decided to give the old building a face lift. Workers removed the stucco in one day and exposed the original stone structure. The stone was repointed and the door and windows were brought back as closely as possible to their 1762 appearance.

Once again the forward thinking property owners in Lititz had restored yet another part of our beloved Moravian history.



Above: 120 East Main Street, Lititz

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The Extraordinary Give is November 22nd!

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This year the Lititz Historical Foundation is again participating in the annual Extraordinary Give—Lancaster County's Largest Day of giving!

For a 24-hour period online donations can be made to the Lititz Historical Foundation through a special website. Our goal this year is to raise \$5,000 during this extra special event.

With your help we CAN achieve this goal! On November 22nd beginning at midnight, online donations can be made to our special website here:

<https://www.extragive.org/organizations/lititz-historical-foundation>

For your convenience online donations can also be made at our museum that day!

Remember, online donations can ONLY be made that day. Thank you so much for your generosity, and for your support of local history!



Uh oh! During the 1940s, the truck shown here accidentally crashed into the square in downtown Lititz. Aside from damage done to the truck, the Roebuck Memorial Fountain was also damaged as a result of the mishap.

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Historical Happenings

Yoga In our Gardens Oct. 5th!

Join us for a Gentle Yoga class in our beautiful Oehme Gardens, Saturday October 5th at 11 AM, taught by Michele Patterson, RYT 200. Michele is the owner of Feel At Ease, LLC located in Manheim.

She has 200 hour certifications in Power Vinyasa & Hatha Yoga. She has additional certifications in Restorative, Silver Sneakers, & trauma-conscious yoga through Connected Warriors. She has also taken wall yoga training and multiple yoga philosophy workshops. She has been teaching yoga for 7 years.

Gentle Yoga features poses that focus on breath and building strength. This free class is great for beginners or those who are looking for a slower practice. Please bring your own mat. Refreshments will be provided. This is a free class, but

Volunteer!

It's not too early to apply for the 2020 museum season! Orientation is in early spring. May is just around the corner...from a few snowflakes!



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**LITITZ
HISTORICAL
FOUNDATION IS
LOOKING FOR
VOLUNTEERS**

Do you have an interest in Lititz history, archiving, the Moravian community, meeting visitors from other states and countries, and sharing with those visitors Lititz's past and present?

We are open May-December and have a variety of shifts available to fit your schedule.

Please contact Elisa Benner
Museum Coordinator at
elisa@lititzhistoricalfoundation.com or
call the museum at 717-627-4636



Have you heard?

We are so thrilled! Our 1792 Johannes Mueller House as well as the Lititz Museum (housed in the 1793 Christian Schropp House) made the pages of Victoria Magazine!

It's all part of a special section in this month's edition on Lititz!

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Museum Day is September 21st!

We are excited to partner once again with the Smithsonian for Museum Day!

On Saturday September 21st, visitors may take a complimentary tour of our 1792 Johannes Mueller House.

Our friendly, knowledgeable, and costumed docents will lead visitors through this 1792 home, offering a captivating glimpse at what everyday life was like for an 18th century tradesman and his family in the closed Moravian settlement of Lititz.

The house retains its original architectural character and has been carefully restored with hundreds of traditional items from the late 1700s and early 1800s. Next door to the Mueller House be sure to visit the Lititz Museum, located in the 1793 Christian Schropp House. Also don't forget to visit our gift shop! Lastly, take a stroll through our gorgeous Mary Oehme Gardens, located behind our 18th century buildings.

Download your FREE ticket below. The Museum Day ticket provides free admission for two people on Saturday, September 21, 2019.

As a member of the LHF, your tours are always free....so pass this great information on to a friend or family member? Help us spread the word!

Ticket link: https://www.smithsonianmag.com/museumday/museum-day-2019/lititz-historical-foundation/tickets/?fbclid=IwAR0a7EO11Uv1nsv6DkVPw2ST8Lk_E6iLZBJauyjc4TxLFCwLxZ52xeRNQPI



Upcoming Events!

Mark your calendars for these exciting upcoming events! All events are FREE and open to the public

September 21—Free Museum Day at our Johannes Mueller House in conjunction with the Smithsonian. 10am - 4pm

November 9—Annual meeting at the Lititz Public Library—Speaker To be announced!

November 22— Donate to us via the Extraordinary Give!

December 12— Annual Carol Sing at Moravian Church Square. 7pm.

December 13— Annual Christmas Candlelight Tour of the Johannes Mueller House. 5-9 pm.

Christmas Is Just Around The Corner!***Our Annual Carol Sing is Dec. 12!***

Join the Lititz Historical Foundation in conjunction with the Lititz Moravian Archives for the annual Community Christmas Carol Sing Thursday, December 12th at 7pm. This is a FREE event--come one, come all!

The event will take place at Moravian Church Square. The Moravian Trombone Choir will be on hand and free song sheets will be handed out as you, your friends, neighbors, and family will sing holiday classics. Afterwards, all are welcome to warm up inside Fellowship Hall where light refreshments will be served. The Putz will also be available for various showings throughout the evening in the church's social hall.

The Annual Christmas Candlelight Tour is Dec. 13!

One evening later, on December 13th, join us for our annual Christmas Candlelight Tour of the 1792 Johannes Mueller House!

The Lititz Museum (located at 145 East Main Street) will be open from 5-9pm. Come explore this free attraction, and don't forget to shop the gift shop. Light refreshments will be available.

Next door, timed tours of the 1792 Johannes Mueller House will be held free of charge. Timed tickets can be picked up the Lititz Museum beforehand that evening, beginning at 4:30pm. **FIRST COME FIRST SERVED.** Groups of 15 will begin at 5pm every 15 minutes. While this is a free event, donations are welcome.

Period costumed docents will be located throughout this historic home to answer your questions, as you discover what life was like in the closed Moravian town of Lititz during the 1700s.

For questions, please call the Lititz Historical Foundation at 717-627-4636. We hope to see you there!

DID YOU KNOW...?

Many years ago, A.G. Fahnestock's Store, located just north of Lititz in Brunnerville, was the place to purchase clothing, gasoline, food, and household goods.

Today, this structure still stands as an apartment building.



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