

THE HOME OF JOHN JACOB BALTHASER



The exhibit included on the exhibit page is an illustration of the stone house built by John Jacob Balthaser in 1820, located about one mile northwest of Hamburg, in Tilden Township; then Upper Bern. It was the homestead on his first farm.

After his death, the farm was successively owned by Jeremiah Balthaser, John Balthaser, Jacob L. Balthaser, Albert Smith, and now owned and occupied by Oscar Stein. John Jacob Balthaser, owned three farms at the time of his death. The one described above which consists of about 120 acres; the one now owned and occupied by David Balthaser of about 200 acres; and the farm now owned and occupied by William Balthaser in Penn township; which originally also had about 200 acres, but part of it was cut off years ago and made into a new farm; first occupied by Levi K. Balthaser, the oldest child of Samuel Balthaser.

John Jacob Balthaser was very well known in northern Berks, both for his handsome appearance and for his habit of driving a very high-wheeled and high-seated buggy, in which he often took his wife to church.

[*"A Concise History of the Balthasers,"* by Francis W. Balthaser, 1924, Source #19]