

SUCCESSIVE OWNERSHIP OF THE OLD HOMESTEAD

Dear Mr. Pawling, (current historian for Gring's Mill Park)

Johannes George Althaus with two brothers left Elsoff, County of Wittgenstein, Province of Westphalia, Germany in 1738. I visited Elsoff in 1975. John died prior 1754. His son, George, born May 5, 1744; died February 7, 1811; married Barbara Herbine. They had two sons, John and Peter. George acquired large land holdings between the Tulpehocken Creek and the Schuylkill River. He disposed of part of it as follows in 1804. To John, 186 acres, and to Peter, 140 acres for the sum of 600 Lbs. each. The successive ownership of the Althouse land across the creek from the park is as follows:

Johannes Georg Althaus died prior to 1754.

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|---|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. George Althouse | Born 1744 | Died 1811 |
| 2. John Althaus | | |
| 3. Adam Althaus | (Brother to my great grandfather Dan) | |
| 4. Cyrus, Monroe, Nathan | - all sons of Adam | |
| 5. Adam and his cousin, *Scott Althouse | | |

The three brothers of the fourth generation had children, but no grandchildren, therefore ownership ultimately passed out of the Althouse family.

The above is substantiated by Miss Fisher,

5. *Scott Althouse who built the mansion, did not get along with his cousin, Adam. He had originally acquired his building lot from the Fisher farm together with a right of way over the Fisher fields. Desirous of a direct exit to the Bernville Road he had to get land from his cousin, Adam who refused to sell to Scott (the original homestead). Through a devious third person, Scott finally gained possession of what was left of the old farm. After Scott's death, with no heir, the original land and buildings passed on to the insurance company ownership.

Respectfully,

Harry N. Althouse

[Althouse, Harry N.; Althaus – Althouse; A genealogical booklet; 1977]