

**Ancestry of Elizabeth Hey  
Married February 26, 1878  
Wife of John Philip Hey**

Rev. Hans Herr came to Pennsylvania in 1709 from Switzerland with his son, Hans, and a group. We have a picture of the Christian Herr House in Lancaster built in 1719. (Not now occupied).

There was a Herr family genealogy book printed about 1910 at which time I sent some information to a Mr. Herr. We were the seventh generation from Rev. Herr. Elizabeth, our mother, was a daughter of Mary Herr and Martin Baer. Mary Herr was born about 1825 and died early in 1914, age 89. Martin Baer died in 1887, age 63.

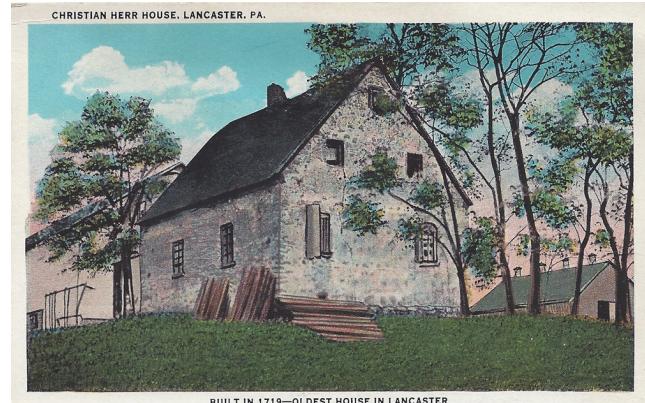
Martin and Mary Baer moved to Section 26 in Jordan Township in 1857. They were married in 1850 in Lancaster County where mother was born January 2, 1854. She had 5 brothers and 1 sister. She died in Sterling February 9, 1921.

### **Hans Herr**

Hans Herr (September 17, 1639 – October 11, 1725) was born in Zürich, Switzerland, a descendant of the Knight, Hugo Herr. He joined the religious society. He was a bishop in the Mennonite faith.



The Hans Herr House



Christian Herr House (postcard found in wallet of [Martin Baer](#))

When religious persecution became unendurable in Switzerland, many of his congregation emigrated with him to the Palatinate in Germany, which was governed by a ruler who promised them protection and religious freedom. This was satisfactory until the Palatinate fell into the hands of other rulers, when the Mennonites were again subject to severe religious persecution.

When this occurred, a number of them visited William Penn in London, in 1707, and arranged terms with him to colonize a portion of what is now Lancaster county near what was then the western frontier of Pennsylvania.

In 1709, Hans Herr, John R. Bundely, Martin Meylin (Mylin), Martin Kendig, Jacob Miller, Hans Funk, Hans Graff (Groff), Martin Oberholtzer, Wendel Bowman and others bought 10,000 acres (40 km<sup>2</sup>) of land on the south side of Pequea creek. A warrant was issued for the land October 10, 1710, and it was surveyed October 23, 1710.<sup>[1]</sup>

The tradition, which is no doubt true, is that these people held a conference as to what steps should be taken to inform their relatives and friends left behind in Europe of their opinions and expectations, and it was determined that Hans Herr, their revered minister, should return, explain the situation and the great advantages of emigration, and bring with him those he could induce to come. He returned with many more immigrants despite making the journey at 70 years old. He had six sons.

The Hans Herr House, built by his son Christian Herr in 1719, is open to the public as a museum, and is the oldest Pennsylvania German settlement still in existence today. The house is located at 1849 Hans Herr Drive in Willow Street, Pennsylvania.

The museum complex includes the 1719 Hans Herr House, the Georgian-style 1835 Shaub House, the Victorian-style 1890s Huber House, several barns and outbuildings with animals, exhibit buildings, blacksmith shop, bake-oven, smoke house, and a collection of farm equipment. Exhibits focus on Mennonite history, colonial and Victorian era farm life, and the Herr family. The museum opened in 1974 and is administered by the Hans Herr House Foundation.