William Henry Brandenburg Sr.
the immigrant - 1

William Henry Brandenburg Senior
(m. Ann [unknown])
Lived Winkelbach, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany, Middlesex Co., N J,
Frederick Co., MD and Hampshire Co., VA (now Mineral Co., W. Va.)
and possibly where Baltimore, Maryland now is (see below)

William Henry/Wilhelm Henrich Brandenburg Senior
b: 24 Aug 1722, probably Winkelbach, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany (National
Archives, records in hometown in Germany)
m: pre 1753, probably Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany (ship’s rec., b. of oldest child)
d: 24 Mar 1796, Frederick Co., MD or Hampshire Co., VA (now Mineral Co.,
W. VA.) (National Archives, deed, see below)
bur: Old Lutheran Cem.?, Frederick, Frederick Co., MD (ch. record, 10, below)
occ: Farmer (deed)
fa: Solomon Brandenburg (tradition - no proof, see below)
mo: unknown (see note below)
military: Revolutionary War (National Archives - see below)

Ann/Anna Maria [unknown] (see below)
b: pre 1737, unknown, probably Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany (estimate: see below)
d: ca 1765 to 1790, Middletown Valley, Frederick Co., MD (b. of child, census)
bur: Old Lutheran Cem., Frederick, Frederick Co., MD (ch. record, 10, see below)
fa: unknown (see below)
mo: unknown (see below)

CHILDREN

* 1. Elizabeth ‘Betsy’ Brandenburg
   b: ca 1750-1755, Winkelbach, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany (estimate, see below)
m: David Spielman, 2 Feb 1774, Frederick Co., MD (church record)
d: 1842, Yates Co., N Y (765)
bur: unknown

* 2. Anna Maria ‘Mary’ Brandenburg
   b: ca 1750-1755, possibly Winkelbach, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany (estimate)
m: Samuel Bossert/Bussard Jr., 16 Dec 1774, Frederick Co., MD (ch. record)
d: 26 May 1796 to 22 Jun 1805, Frederick Co., MD (b. child, husband’s 2nd m.)
bur: unknown (records in the Zion Lutheran Church Records, Middletown, MD)

* 3. Samuel Brandenburg Senior
   b: 6 Apr 1756, unknown, U S A (tombstone, ship’s record)
m: Mary Magdalena Hargerhymen, 9 May 1780, Frederick Co., MD (m license)
d: 30 Oct 1833, Middletown Valley, Frederick Co., MD (obit, Will)
bur: Christ Reformed Cem., Middletown, Frederick Co., MD (tombstone)
* 4. William Henry Brandenburg Junior
   b: 8 Oct 1758, Middlesex Co., N J (pension record)
   m: #1-Catherina Bussard, ca 1780, unknown b. of 1st child, 538)
   m: #2-Christina Martin, 15 Jun 1795, Frederick Co., MD (m. license, see below)
   d: 8 Sep 1834 to 2 Oct 1834, Bethel Twp., Clark Co., OH (deed, estate probated)
   bur: New Carlisle Cem., New Carlisle, Clark Co., OH (tombstone)

* 5. Henry Brandenburg
   b: ca 1759-1760, unknown, U S A (estimate from confirmation, ship’s record)
   m: Elizabeth Gorner, 11 Jul 1793, Frederick Co., MD (marriage license)
   d: 1824, possibly Milford Twp., Butler Co., OH (41, 73, census records)
   bur: Fifth Street Cem., Dayton, Montgomery Co., OH (538, see below)

* 6. Aaron Brandenburg
   b: 18 Feb 1761, unknown, U S A (tombstone, ship’s record)
   m: Ann Nancy Brandenburg, ca 1783, unknown (birth of 1st child)
   d: 22 Jul 1825, Warren Co., OH (41, tombstone)
   bur: Old Pioneer Cem., Lebanon, Warren Co., OH (tombstone)

* 7. Eva Catharina Brandenburg
   b: ca 1762-1763, unknown, U S A (estimate from her confirmation, ship’s record)
   m: unknown Spielman, ca 1783, unknown (birth of only child, see below)
   d: post 19 Jun 1784, unknown (birth of only child, see below)
   bur: unknown

* 8. Matthias Brandenburg
   b: 1763, unknown, U S A (tombstone, ship’s record)
   m: Barbara Keller, 16 Dec 1789, Frederick Co., MD (church record)
   d: 10 Nov 1818, probably Frederick Co., MD (Will, tombstone)
   bur: Christ Reformed Cem., Middletown, Frederick Co., MD (tombstone)

* 9. Johann ‘John’ Brandenburg
   b: ca 1764-1770, unknown, U S A (census records, ship’s record)
   m: Phebe Gorner, 13 Apr 1793, Frederick Co., MD (church record)
   d: 1840-1850, Dayton, Montgomery Co., OH (taxes, census, estate)
   bur: Fifth Street Cem., Dayton, Montgomery Co., OH (#538: D. D. Matthews)

Note: The asterisks before a child’s name in the family group sheet above, denotes that I also have a sketch on that child’s family - all of them, in this case.

THE WILLIAM HENRY BRANDENBURG SENIOR FAMILY
by Pat Bristley

William Henry Senior’s wife’s given name was found only in a paper from the National Archives. Even then, there was a ‘?’ after the name, Ann, so whoever gave the information for the paper was not sure if that was her name. She was probably born in the Rheinland-Pfalz as people did not go far afield in those days to find marriage partners.
Her birth date was estimated by the fact that she was probably at least 18 years old when married, and even if Elizabeth, Anna Maria and Samuel were born only a year apart (1754, 1755 and 1756) she would have had to have been born before 1736. Her death date was estimated as being between when her last child was born and when William Henry Brandenburg Senior appeared in the 1790 census alone.

There is the possibility that William Henry Senior was single when he came to America and that he married soon after he arrived in this country. This would be possible if the two oldest girls were born in 1754 and 1755. If I can find Elizabeth’s (Brandenburg) Spielman’s tombstone in Yates County, New York it might have her date of birth on it which would give better information. So far the only tombstone found for one of the Brandenburgs who was born in Germany, is that of my ancestor, Barbary (Brandenburg) Franks (1741-1839) which is in the St. Jacob’s Lutheran Cemetery, in German Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania (her obituary and tombstone).

Bertha Fleming in her small book on the Brandenburgs said that William Henry Senior was buried in the Old Lutheran Cemetery, in Frederick, Maryland. That cemetery is now abandoned and all the remains found there were moved to another cemetery in Frederick. If he was buried there, probably his wife was too. He could have been buried in Mineral County, W. VA. Or his body could have been taken by boat down the Potomac River and from there by wagon to Frederick County, Maryland, to be buried beside the body of his wife. Or he may have returned to Frederick County near the end of his life to live with another one of his children (National Archives). William Henry Brandenburg Senior and his family may have also lived where Baltimore, Maryland is today. See the newspaper item from Clyde, Ohio, in the sketch on William Henry Senior’s father, Solomon Brandenburg. (There is no basis for them living in Baltimore, other than that newspaper clipping, which was written long after the fact.)

Even though it would seen that William Henry Brandenburg Senior was too old to be in the Revolutionary War - it was possible. The local militia during the war was made up all men between the ages of 18 and 55, so he was eligible. A further proof that he actually did help guard Frederick County, Maryland, during the war, was the paper found in the National Archives telling of his war service. I have a copy of that paper.

It is quite possible that the given names of William Henry Senior’s and Ann’s fathers were Samuel, William or Aaron, and their mothers’ names Elizabeth, Anna Maria or Eva Catharina, because German parents in those days usually named four of their children for the four grandparents. William may have been named for William Henry Senior. Henry was named for Alexander Henry who went by the name ‘Henry.’ Anna Maria may have been named for Alexander Henry’s wife, Anna or for her own mother, William Henry Senior’s wife. Matthias was named for another uncle. John was named for John Martin who was probably another brother. John Martin Brandenburg went directly to South Carolina, unlike the rest of the Brandenburgs who went to the Pennsylvania-Maryland area.
Elizabeth Brandenburg’s birth was estimated from her father’s age (when he would likely have been married) and from her oldest brother’s age when born. Since Samuel Senior was born in 1756, it is quite probable that Elizabeth and Anna Maria were born in 1752 and 1754. If so, one of them could have been born in Germany or on the ship coming to America and one of them would have been born in America. The usual rule-of-thumb is that the first child was born about a year after the parents were married, the second was born a year or two after that, and from then on the children were born about every two years, until near the end of the wife’s child-bearing years, when they might be born 3 to 5 years apart.

Anna Maria Brandenburg’s birth was estimated from when she was married and from census records. Probably both she and Elizabeth, her sister (or one of them), were born before their parents arrived in America in September of 1752. The rest of the children were born in America but I have found nothing to show where they were born except for William Junior’s pension record which says he was born in Middlesex County, New Jersey, and since it was his own deposition I assume that it was correct. The family may have lived in New Jersey before joining Alexander Henry Brandenburg and his family in Frederick County, Maryland. I am almost certain that Alexander Henry was his brother, as their children kept going to the same places after they left Maryland.

Samuel Brandenburg Senior’s birth was recorded in one place as having taken place while his parents were on the ship to America. According to his tombstone, however, he was born about 3 and a half years after they came to America.

William Brandenburg Junior must have married Christina Martin because no other “William Brandenburg” was old enough to be married that early (except his father and he was already in Hampshire County). Later Ohio censuses indicate that William Junior had at least two wives because his wife in Ohio was too young to be the mother of his oldest children. The part of her tombstone I could see, looked like her name was “Christina.”

Henry Brandenburg may have ended his life in Montgomery County, Ohio, where his brother, John lived. It is near Butler County, Ohio, where I found records for him. I have no proof that Henry was buried in the Fifth Street Cemetery in Dayton, other than the information Darrell D. Matthews had in his manuscript about the Brandenburgs that is in the Mormon Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Matthews was an early researcher of the Brandenburgs, however, and he might have talked to some of the older Brandenburg descendants in Montgomery County, Ohio. He seemed to have quite a bit of information about the Brandenburgs who lived there. Any of his work that I have been able to verify has been correct, so I assume that the information on where Henry was buried was correct too. The Fifth Street Cemetery was abandoned. It was built over by downtown Dayton.
Eva Catharina (Brandenburg) Spielman and her husband died young, according to Darrell D. Matthews. Matthews did not give her husband’s given name. It is quite possible that she did marry a Spielman as in those days often brothers and sisters married neighboring brothers and sisters, and her sister, Elizabeth, married David Spielman. He also stated that John Brandenburg, her youngest brother, raised her only child, Jacob Spielman, who went by the name “Jacob Brandenburg.” He married Salome Kramer. Several records found seem to indicate that this was true. Matthews is also the one who said that Eva Catharina “married a man named Spielman.”

Matthias Brandenburg (who married Barbara Keller) is often confused with the Matthias Brandenburg who married Hester Wolgamot. It is thought by most recent genealogists that the Matthias who married Hester is the brother of William Henry Senior and the uncle of the Matthias who married Barbara Keller.

John Brandenburg was buried in the Fifth Street Cemetery in Dayton, too, according to D. D. Matthews. That cemetery has been abandoned and built over. It was a very early cemetery in Dayton and it is now covered by the downtown area.

Anna Maria, Samuel, William Junior, Henry, Aaron, Matthias and John are all proven as children of William Henry Brandenburg Senior. Anna Maria by church records, Aaron by a deed of land from his father, and the others because descendants were at the meeting of the ‘Heirs of William Henry Brandenburg’ in Dayton, Ohio in 1889 (I have a copy of the original of that meeting). I listed the children given by Jennie (Brandenburg) Dye (who was his great-granddaughter (born 1842). I found records of all of them in Frederick County, Maryland. Most of them had records in Christ Reformed Church in Middletown, Maryland (original records now in the Hall of Records at Annapolis).

Other possible children of William Henry Senior are Frederick Brandenburg who married Elizabeth Sibert; and George Brandenburg. They were both in the Frederick County, Maryland, census of 1790 (which only gave the categories: ‘males under 16; males over 16; and females’. They were not the sons of Alexander Henry Brandenburg (his Will) and Matthias Brandenburg (married Hester Wolgamot) left Frederick County circa 1772 (his deed to Joist). I do not think that Christopher ‘Stoffel’ was his son, but Christopher’s parentage has not been determined yet.

Of course Frederick, George and Christopher may have been the children of a son or sons of John Anthony/Johann Anton Brandenburg, who left two orphan children when he died within two years of his arrival in the U. S. A. in 1740, in Pennsylvania (records from his hometown in Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany and ship’s record). John Anthony may have been an uncle of the others. According to the ship’s record when he arrived in Philadelphia, he was born circa 1709. Both Frederick and Christopher later went to Fayette County, Pennsylvania where Barbara (Brandenburg) Franks and Conrad Brandenberg Senior lived (church records and census), as did William Henry Senior’s daughter, Elizabeth Spielman (census).
It is not known if William Henry Brandenburg Senior was a ‘Redemptioner.’ The only branch that we have proof of as being Redemptioners was that of Alexander Henry Brandenburg’s family (his daughter’s obituary in the Baltimore, Maryland, Historical Society Library). It is probable that all of the Brandenburg men who came to the USA from Germany were Redemptioners though. A Redemptioner was the term used for persons from Germany that were sought out by recruiters for clients in this country who needed workers.

The Redemptioners were already assigned to families in this country before they left Germany. The persons they were assigned to work for as ‘bond servants’ were the persons who had paid for their passage to this country. For most adults the servitude lasted for 5 to 7 years, for those over age 13 until they were 18, and for those under 13 until they were 22 or 23 years old. Often members of the same family’s indentures were paid for by different persons, so when they came to this country, they would not necessarily have been together. This was the case of Alexander Henry’s family, who were probably separated. If a male Redemptioner had a special skill that was greatly needed in this country, such as a cooper (barrel maker) his term of servitude would have been shorter than if he had no special skills. Most German men, however, were not only farmers but had another trade as well (which they used at times when it was not necessary to work on the farm, such as in the winter).

There were many problems in finding records about some of the members of this family. This is because the period was so early, but also because some of them died quite young and several of them moved to several other places. An example is Aaron for whom records were found in four different counties and three different states.

30,000 Names of Immigrants in Pennsylvania. (see #20):


“...Wil. Henrich Brandenburg...”

Note: Most Germans in those days walked north along the Rhein River to Rotterdam, Holland (the port from which most Germans left in those days), or if they could afford it they took a Rhein River boat north to Rotterdam. When the ship, “Two Brothers,” left Rotterdam with the immigrants for America, it made a stop at Cowes, England, to pick up immigrants, more food and water for the trip, and cargo to be shipped.

JOHANN ANTON BRANDENBURGER

Jon. Anton Brandenburger from Niederhätt in the parish of Altstadt [“old county” in German] sold his estate to someone in Kirburg for 40 Rthal, 15 alb., less 17 Rthal, 20 alb. Debts; he is to pay 2 Rthal, 13 alb. for what he took away. In the [sic] another section of this document, it was added that he had nothing, and so was gracefully exempted from payment. It was then recorded that he moved to America in 1740.

File #340/3891 details more on the sale of his property and names his wife Anna Ursula. In the file dated 1743, it was noted that Wilhelm Brandenburger from Anteroth in the parish of Altstadt, being the guardian of his late brother Donges Brandenburger’s two children who are presently abroad, has on 4 May 1742 sold all the inheritance at Niedderhätt for 39 Rthal. (343 Sayn-Hachenburg Rechnungen.). (See Westerwald To America, pp. 40-41, for more on this man.)

WILHELM HEINRICH BRANDENBURGER

Wilhelm Heinrich Brandenburger of Winkelbach in the parish of Hochstenbach went to America in 1752 (343 Sayn-Hachenburg Rechnungen). “Willem Henrich Brandenburger” was a passenger on the ship Two Brothers arriving in Philadelphia in 1752 (S-H, I, p. 479).

Records of The Evangelical Lutheran Church, Frederick, Maryland, (original records at Wentz Library, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, PA), in German.

2 Feb. 1774: David Spielman married Elisabeth Brandenburgerin, proclaimed 3 times by Mr. Henop, married in his absence by me, J. A. Krub.

16 Dec. 1774: Samuel Bossert, Samuel Bossert’s son, married Maria Brandenburgerin, Wilhelm Brandenburger’s daughter, both residing on Catoctin Creek in Frederick County. Proclaimed Dec. 4, 11, and 16.

4 Apr. 1785: Johannes Preusch married Anna Maria Taub. One of the witnesses was ‘Brandenburger.’

20 Nov. 1787: Jacob Miller married Catharina Walther. One of the witnesses was Aaron Brandenburger.

Note: Brandenburgerin with the ending ‘in’ was the way the Germans denoted that the person was a female.
26 Dec. 1804: “Buried - George Ludwig Nuss, born 15 April 1788. The father, Georg Michael Nuss, the mother Elisabeth. Sunday evening he was walking past the door of a certain Elisabeth Spielman, whose true character is a publicly known whore and who had fellows of the same character in her house at the same time. A half brick was thrown out of the same house on his head and it shattered his cranium. It happened on the 23 December at 4:30 p.m. He died on the 25 of December on Christmas afternoon at 2:00 p.m., aged 15 years, 8 months, 10 days.”

Note: There is no reason to believe this was the Elizabeth Spielman who was the daughter of William Henry Brandenburg Senior, although I thought I would be remiss if I did not include the record. This family was very religious and I cannot imagine that a daughter had that kind of character. I found two other ‘Elizabeth Spielmans’ in Frederick County, Maryland, in the period in question. Because much earlier William Henry’s daughter, Elizabeth, had moved to western Pennsylvania, and then to New York state, it is improbable to imagine that she returned to Frederick County after her husband’s death in 1803 in Ontario County, New York to be ‘a whore.’ She would have been at least 50 years old in 1804. Furthermore, she died in Yates County, N Y in 1842, where at least one of her children lived.

In my study of William Henry Brandenburg Senior’s family, they appeared to be very religious, and I cannot imagine that Elizabeth would be all that different. Furthermore, in the sketch on Elizabeth’s daughter, Sophia (Spielman) Eberhart’s grandson, in the Memoirs of Elkhart and St. Joseph Counties, Indiana, it said: “…There he was married to a Miss Sophia, daughter of David and Elizabeth (Brandenburg) Spielman, who was born February 7, 1770, and was an excellent woman….” If her mother had a bad character, it is doubtful that Sophia would have been such a good woman.

Zion Lutheran Church Records of Middletown, Maryland, (original records at the Zion Lutheran Church in Middletown), in German.

BAPTISMS

Heinrich, son of Wilhelm Brandenburger, baptized 29 March 1782, sponsor: the father, himself

Samuel Brandenburger, son of Wilhelm Brandenburge & wife, Catharine, born 11 Dec. 1782, baptized 21 April 1783, sponsors: the parents

Samuel Brandenburger, son of Aaron Brandenburger & wife, Anna, born 19 March 1784, baptized 10 Nov. 1784, sponsors: Samuel Bossert & wife, Maria

Wilhelm Brandenburger, son of Wilhelm Brandenburger & wife, Catharina, born 9 Feb. 1785, baptized 16 May 1785, sponsors: the parents
William Henry Brandenburg Sr.  
the immigrant - 9

William Henry Brandenburg Senior Deed #1, Deed Book 9, pp. 165-166, Recorder of Deeds, Hampshire County, West Virginia Courthouse.

This indenture made this 12th day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety three, between James Fleming of Hampshire County in the State of Virginia, and Ann his wife of the one part, and William Branninburge [sic] of the same County aforesaid, the other part. Witnesseth that in Consideration of the sum of three pounds Current money of Virginia by the said William Branninburge [sic] to me the said James Fleming in hand paid at or before the sealing and deliveray [sic] of these presents [sic] the recips [sic] whereof the said James Fleming doth acknowledge and therefore doth release, acquit & discharge the said William Branninburge [sic], his heirs, Exe’rs, Adm’rs forever by these presents [sic] the said James Fleming, and Ann his wife, have and each of them hath granted, bargained, sold, aliened and confirmed and by these presents [sic] do and each of them doth grant, bargain and sell, and assign all that Tract or parcel of Land whereon he, the said William Branninberge [sic] now lives. Containing by patent dated at Richmond, January the 14th, 1791, containing one hundred and forty-one acres and a half acre and bounded as follows to wit:

Beginning at three pines and a white oak, corner to Henry Lighter, formerly corner to said Beaver, and running thence with said line North twenty-eight degrees, East two hundred and seventy-two poles to a white oak standing on Peter Humstot’s line, and with said Line passing his corner, South eighty-eight degrees, West ninety-seven poles to two pines on the West side of the Waggon [sic] Road, then South twenty-eight, West two hundred and fifty-eight poles to a Hicory [sic], white Oak and Chesnut [sic] Oak in the line of Salvanster [sic] Welch, thence with his line crossing the Waggon [sic] Road north eighty-eight, East one hundred & sixteen poles to the beginning, with its appurtenances, to have and to hold the said Tract or parcel of Land with its appurtanances to him, the said William Branninburge [sic], and his heirs from me, the said James Fleming, from my heirs forever. In witness whereof I have set my hand and fixed our seals [sic] this day above written.

James Fleming  (Seal)  
Ann Fleming  (Seal)

Signed, Sealed & delivered in the presents [sic] of us....

At a Court held for Hampshire County the 12th day of June, 1793. This deed of bargain and sale from James Fleming and Ann, his wife, to William Brandinbirgh [sic] was this day acknowledged by the said Fleming and his wife, she having been first privately examined as the Law directs and voluntarily asserting thereto, the same is ordered to be recorded.

Test: Andrew Wodrow

MEMORANDUM of Agreement between William Brandenburgh and his son Aaron Brandenburgh is as followeth: that the said William doth agree with his son Aaron to give him, the said Aaron, all his rights and Title of the plantation whereon they now live in Hampshire County, ajoyning [sic] Henry Liteson on the waters of Beaver Run and to let him, the said Aaron, his son have one plow and one black mare, one Shovel plow, and one Matuk [sic], one ring Mall and Wedges, one locke [sic] chain and further the said Aaron doth agree to let his father, William, have yearly and every year in consideration during the natril [sic] life of the said William, fifteen Bushels of wheat and ten Bushels of Corn and one hundred and fifty pounds of Pork, and the said Aaron is to keep a Cow on said Plantation for the yuse [sic] of his father, and the said Aaron is to bilda [sic] his father a warm good Little house against next winter and at the expiration of the natrii [sic] life of the said William Brandenburgh, the said Aaron is to have all the household furniture, together with said Plantation and for the Just and true performance of the above bargain, each party doth bind themselves, their Issue and several heirs in the Just sum of five hundred pounds lawful money of Virginia, as witness our hands and seals this sixteenth day of April, 1792.

William Brandenburgh (Seal)

In presents [sic] of: Howe Git Aaron Brandenburgh (Seal)

Okey Johnson

An [sic] if requested the said Aaron is to find and keep his father in firewood, washing and clothing.

Witness: Okey Johnson

At a Court held for Hampshire County, the 12th day of June, 1793. This Article of Agreement was this day proved by the oath of Okey Johnson, a witness thereto, and is Ordered to be recorded.

Test: And. Wodsow, C.C.

This indenture made the fourth day of December, 1797, Between Aaron Brandenburg of the County of Hampshire, State of Virginia Law & one of the Heirs of Wm. Brandenburg, dec’d, & Ann his wife, of one part & Daniel Whoop of the said County and State of the other part.

Witnesseth: that the said Aaron Brandenburg for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred & fifty pounds current money of Virginia to him paid by the said Daniel Whoop, at or before the sealing and delivery of those presents [sic], the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged. They, the said Aaron Brandenburg & Ann his wife, Have granted, bargained, sold, aliened & confirmed and by those presents [sic] Do grant, bargain, sale [sic], alien and confirm unto the said Daniel Whoop and his heirs a certain tract or parcel of Land lying on Beaver Run, in the said County, being the same that was granted to James Fleming by Patent from the Commonwealth, bearing date the 12th day of June, 1793, & duly recorded in the Court of said County of Hampshire as by the same may more fully appear & is bounded as follows: (the same description as in William’s Deed #1)

In witness, whereof, the said Aaron Brandenburg & Ann his wife, have hereunto set their hands and seals the day & year first above written.

Sealed & delivered in presence of:

- Andrew Wodrow
- Peter Umsttast
- David Arnold

At a Court held for Hampshire County the 18th day of December, 1797. This Deed was proven by the Oaths of Andrew Wodrow, Okey Johnson & Daniel Arnold, three of the Witnessses thereto, and is ordered to be recorded.

Test: Andrew Wodrow


- Name of Veteran: William Brandenburg
- Date of Birth: 24 Aug. 1722
- Place of Birth: Germany
- War in Which He Served: Revolution
- Places Where Veteran Lived After Service: died Frederick Co., MD
- Pension File Number: S-2405
- Name of Widow or Other Claimant: Ann ?
- Date of Death: 24 March 1796
- Place of Death: Frederick Co., Maryland
- Records Checked: Pension, Bounty Land and Military
Mineral County, West Virginia, Wikipedia Free Encyclopedia, on the Internet:

John Lederer, a German physician and explorer employed by Sir William Berkeley, colonial governor of Virginia, is believed to be the first Englishman [sic] to set foot in present-day Mineral County. He explored the area in 1669.

In 1749, the first frontier fort, Fort Ohio, was built at Ridgeley. Fort Ashby was constructed in 1755, and was the last standing unit in the chain of forts built under the orders of George Washington. Fort Sellers was built near present day Short Gap, and Fort Cocks near Headsville. In 1750, a frontier Blockhouse, New Creek Blockhouse, was built about one mile west of New Creek to protect local settlers.

Prior to 1738, the present Orange County, Virginia, situated on the east side of the Blue Ridge Mountains, included all of Virginia west of the Blue Ridge. In that year, the Virginia Assembly passed an act dividing this territory into two counties, Frederick and Augusta. Hampshire County was formed from those two counties in 1753.

It was not until after West Virginia became a state in 1863, that the present Mineral County was created in 1866 by an Act of the West Virginia Legislature from the existing Hampshire County, The name was selected due to the vast reserves of minerals, especially coal.

Geography

Mineral County is bordered to the west and north by the Potomac River. To the north lies Allegheny County, Maryland, and to the west Garrett County, Maryland. The eastern border of the county is the watershed between the North Branch of the Potomac River and the South Branch of the Potomac River. Hampshire County, West Virginia, lies to the east. To the south is Grant County, West Virginia.

Mountains

The northern terminus of the Allegheny Front in West Virginia lies in Mineral County, and contains the highest point in the county. Known as the Pinnacle, it is 3,104 feet above sea level. From the abandoned fire tower you can see four states on a clear day: Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia. The Allegheny Front is the largest mountain in the county, on the north end it is also known as Green Mountain. On top of the Allegheny Plateau is located the town of Elk Garden, West Virginia, in the southwestern portion of the county. The Potomac River Valley lies to the west and north of the mountain, and the New Creek Valley lies to the east.

Knobly Mountain lies between the New Creek and Patterson Creek valleys. It is the longest mountain in Mineral County, stretching from the Grant County line in the south, to the Potomac River in the north at Ridgeley, West Virginia. To the east of the Patterson Creek Valley lie a series of low hills which form the eastern border of the County with Hampshire County.
Rivers

North Branch of the Potomac River is the largest river, though not actually in the county. It forms the northern border of the county, and the state border with the actual border being the low water mark on the south side. Jennings Randolph Lake is located on this section of the Potomac River.

New Creek enters the Potomac River at Keyser, West Virginia, with the headwaters starting at Damn Site 14 in Grant County, West Virginia.

Patterson Creek enters the Potomac River east of Cumberland, Maryland, with the headwaters being in Grant County, West Virginia. Patterson Creek is the watershed for two-thirds of the county.

Note: Wilhelm Heinrich Brandenburg Sr.’s land was on Beaver Run, a branch of Patterson Creek.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Since my bibliography is quite long, only the sources below that pertain to this family are given. Numbers after the events in the family group sheet that begins this sketch, correspond to the numbers in my bibliography.

The sources in the bibliography were given either in the order they were found, or else listed when I used them for a certain sketch.

41. 1820 Ohio Census, (1810 destroyed)
538. Genealogy of the Brandenburg Family and Related Lines, Darrell D. Matthews, (mss), Roll #355556, Mormon Library, Salt Lake City, UT.

Sketch on Elizabeth (Brandenburg) Spielman’s Daughter, Sophia (Spielman Eberhart’s Grandson, Memoirs of Elkhart and St. Joseph Counties, Indiana, (no info), sent by Ruby Coleman, North Platte, NE.