



# New information changes old assumptions

A photograph of the deeded transfer between Frederick Getman and Hendrick Six has been made available to your researchers, through the courtesy of Scott Failmezger, of Oregon. Scott is a previously unlisted member of the Getman "A" line. The deed transcript reveals that Frederick Getman (Our first ancestor in the new world) was living in Burnetsfield. The following summary outlines changes result from this information.

Frederick Getman, his step-mother Anna Barbara and her second husband, Johannes Bierman were delivered to West Camp on the Hudson River in 1710. West Camp was located on the West side of the river in the general area of Catskill, NY. During 1711 it became evident that the northern pines were not good for producing pitch, the purpose the Palatine residents were brought to the area for. Supplies to support the pitch camps (there were two, with the creative names of East and West Camp) were not financed by England and the local Governor was unable to provide them with adequate tools, food, clothing and shelter. By the fall of 1712 the Palatines in West Camp were upset enough to send representatives to Schoharie Valley, on the Western side of the Catskill Mountains to negotiate with the Indians for land they could move to.

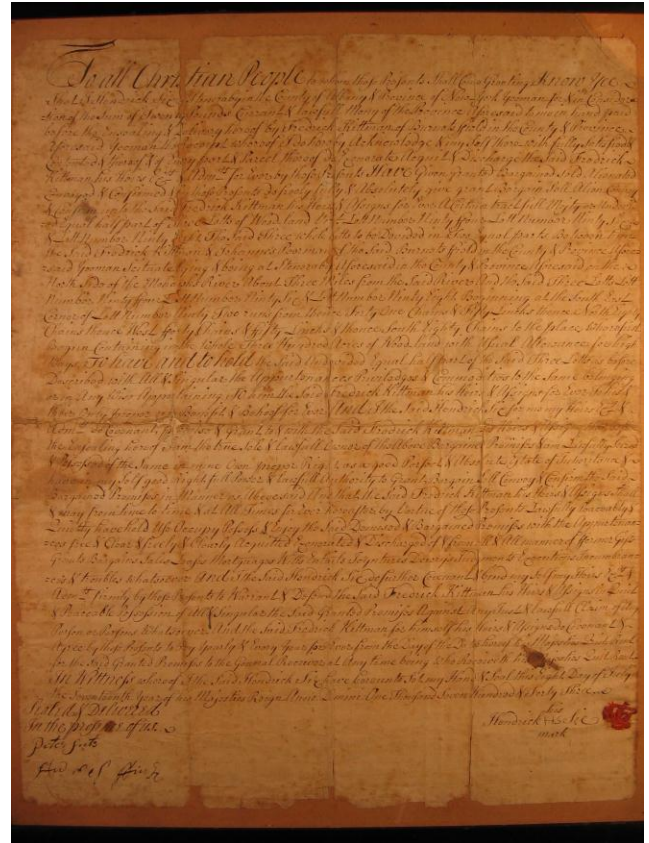
By 1713, things had gotten bad enough that most of the Palatines left West Camp. Many of them moved to the Schoharie Valley. Johannes Bierman and his family, including Frederick Getman, were among them. The Bierman family wound up in Hartman's Dorf, one of seven dorfs (villages) located along the Schoharie River. Hartman's Dorf was located just north of the current village of Middleburg and was the largest of the seven settlements.

About 1720 Frederick Getman married Maria Bierman, the younger of two daughters in Johannes's family with his first wife. Johanna was also born in Germany and was approximately seven years younger than Frederick. The couple had three children while they were living at Hartman's Dorf Anna Maria, b. 26 Dec 1721; Anne Eve, b. 1722 and George, b. 1 May 1723.

Several political and real estate speculation issues caused problems for the Palatines in the Schoharie Valley. Eventually they were offered an option to purchase land where they were or leave. The English government refused to recognize any arrangements the Palatines had made with the Indians and granted the land to politically connected land speculators. Several Palatine settlers purchased land and remained where they were. The rest were obliged to leave.

In 1723 The Burnetsfield Patent was established further West in the Mohawk Valley, in the area where Herkimer, Mohawk and Little Falls are now located. Two of the plots were granted to the Johannes Bierman family, one to him, the other to his wife. The family resettled there. Current speculation is that Johannes and his wife moved to the western lot along the West Canada Creek (River) in the

area now known as East Herkimer. Frederick Getman and



his family are presumed to have settled on the eastern plot which was located on the North side of the Mohawk River, approximately half way between the current villages of Herkimer and Little Falls.

While they lived in Burnetsfield Maria gave birth to the remaining Getman children; Frederick b. abt 1725; Johannes B, b. 1728; Maria Margaretha, b. abt 1732; Christian, b. 6 Mar 1734 and Catherine, b. abt 1737.

In 1743 Frederick Getman purchased three plots of land from Henrich Six in Stone Arabia, approximately 6 miles north of the current village of Canjoharie. Stone Arabia had been part of a previous land grant for Palatine settlers and was located approximately 15 miles from where Frederick is presumed to have lived. The Getman family relocated to Stone Arabia and became widely known as one of the founding families. Most records presume that they arrived in the 1720's. The recently reviewed deed of 1743 corrects this misconception.

While the family lived in Burnetsfield, the two oldest daughters married; Anna Maria, married Johann Meyers and settled in German Flatts (the south side of the river); Anne Eve married Frederick Orendorf and settled in the vicinity of Little Falls. The remaining 6 children moved to Stone Arabia, married other local palatine settlers and help to establish a far-reaching family legacy.