

Pfaltzgraff

Conewago Township connection

Johann George Phaltzgraff was born in Germany in the early 1800's. He learned the potter's trade, but because of a restricted guild situation, he had trouble establishing himself. So, he and his new bride Elenora decided to emigrate to Pennsylvania, perhaps on the urging of a relative named George Falsgraff, who had been a potter there since 1811. Johann and Elenora boarded the Brig Charles Ferdinand in Germany in May, 1833, and arrived in Baltimore, MD almost four months later. By 1835, they had established themselves at George Falsgraff's 21 acre farm in **Conewago Township**, York County. In 1839, Johann George decided to grow his family business by moving to Freystown, a small community that is now incorporated into the east side of the City of York. The family remained there until 1848, when they moved back to a more rural location north and west of town. Johann George's nephew, Henry Miller, eventually purchased the Freytown pottery. Four pieces of redware attributed to Miller have survived. However, as part of a research project into the history of The Pfaltzgraff Company, an archeological dig unearthed pottery shards that could date back to Johann George, and confirmed the exact location of the historical site.



Source:

www.pfaltzgraff.com History

