

W. P. A. 1936 HISTORIC SURVEY

BETHEL TOWNSHIP

[2014 UPDATES SHOWN IN SQUARE BRACKETS OR BOLD]

Bethel Hamlet, the neighborhood southwest from Chelsea, was in existence at an early date, but in 1683 this division was still a part of Concord Township. It has not been ascertained exactly when Bethel became a separate municipal district, but certainly prior to 1686. The name was probably derived from the Bible.

[NOTE: Revised 7/30/2016. This section on Bethel Township could not have been completed without the help of Elizabeth "Beth Bethel" McCarrick. Beth, who wrote the history of Bethel Township several years ago, guided me through Bethel Township with the picture taking, address updates and some research. Thanks, Beth!!! - Keith Lockhart]

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Bethel Township
Marker No. 1

WHEELWRIGHT SHOP

The first wheelwright shop in Chelsea, formerly Corner Ketch, was established by Samuel Regester in 1837. He built a frame building two stories high on the south side of Concord Road 300 feet east of Foulk Road. He conducted the business until his death in 1891. It then became the property of his daughter, Amelia Jane Lykens, and continued in operation until 1924. The property passed to Harvey M. Booth who remodeled the building and has conducted a general store here from that time [1924] up to the present time (1936).

[2014: On September 26, 1800, William Ingram sold (B-635) the property to John Sturgis, who died and by his will dated November 9, 1813 the property went to his wife, Sarah Sturgis. Sarah Sturgis died intestate and the property went to her granddaughter, Sarah Ann McKee. She married Samuel Regester and had two children, William S. and Amelia R. Likens. William sold (B8-68) his share to his sister Amelia on April 2, 1892. The other part of this 5 acre tract was from George Harvey who sold (B2-38) on May 1, 1841 to Samuel Regester. On November 28, 1924 Mifflin and Mary J. Bunker of Bethel sold (637-18) to Harvey and Jeanette Booth of Linwood for \$7,000.00 a lot of 5 acres and 16/100 with buildings. Bunker bought (446-443) the property from Amelia J. Lykens on April 10, 1919. The building has been demolished. The store's counter is now in the Winterthur Museum.]

Bethel Township
Marker No. 2

PUBLIC SCHOOL #1

This stone building is located on the southeast corner of Bethel and Foulk Rds. It was built in 1824 and it was originally known as a subscription school and remained as such until 1868 when it was removed and replaced [by contractor Osborne Booth at a cost of \$2,661.00] by the current structure. Several prominent people were students at this old school, viz: General Powell Clayton, who later became United States Senator and Governor of Arkansas; William Clayton, District Court Judge of Arkansas; Thomas J. Clayton, Judge of Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

[2014: The school's 1824 datestone (painted, no chiseled) is incorrect. On September 25, 1820 Isaac Larkin sold (O-132) a half acre of land to three trustees; Thomas Booth, John Larkin and Nathaniel Larkin. A one room stone school was built at the southeastern corner of the intersection of Bethel and Foulk roads that became known as "School #1" or the "Central School." The replacement 1868 school closed in 1952 and was sold (1668-374) to Delmas Christopher on September 18, 1953 for \$3,000.00. This school still stands at 3196 Bethel Rd., Boothwyn and is now a private home. The school's well is still on the property.]



Public School #1 from 1868 as it appears today

Bethel Township
Marker No. 3

METHODIST MEETING HOUSE

This old meeting house was built in 1846 on the south side of Concord Road about one-quarter mile east of Chelsea, and was used for a number of years. Siloam M.E. Church used this building as a mission for some years following 1871. It has been turned into a private dwelling and is now used as such (1936).

[2014: This building is a mystery. A date stone says 1846 and Ebenezer Church, but this property appears to have been rented by the church and not owned and only used for a brief time. This church was known as "Little Heaven" and was where the Siloam Methodist Church started in 1846; that church later moved when they needed more space (*Philadelphia Inquirer* Dec. 22, 1902). The church was on the property of Dr. Phineas Price M.D. of Aston, under a rental. After his death his executors, Penrose Miller and Thomas Beeson, on February 8, 1869 sold (H8-566) the "meeting house and 40 square perches" to the trustees of Siloam Methodist Church for \$300.00. Price's will stated the meeting house and lot be sold at private sale "to any Christian Church or Congregation excepting Roman Catholic and Arian or Universalist." At this point in time, the Siloam group was already in a larger church (see Marker 7). Siloam sold (943-230) the property on June 6, 1931 to Harvey Booth for \$750.00. Today this building still stands at 1149 Concord Road, as a private home with modifications.]



The 1846 Methodist Meeting House as it appears today

Bethel Township
Marker No. 4

SCHOOL #2

In 1839 a one story octagonal shaped school house was erected on the west side of Naaman's Creek Road about 1/5 of a mile north of Foulk Road. It was used as a public school until it was destroyed by fire. A new school was erected upon the old walls and the school continued till 1870. In 1870 it was replaced by Contractor Nelson Green at a cost \$1789.00. The second floor was added in 1898. The school is operating at this time (1936).

[2014: Foulk Cloud on September 3, 1839 sold (U-521) for \$27.50 a lot of 55 perches. The school closed in 1952 and was sold (1670-112) to Briggs Auction for \$1500.00 on September 2, 1953 by the school district. This building is still standing at 1315 Naaman's Creek Road and is used for storage for Brigg's Auction.]



Current building at the site of the former 1839 octagonal School #2

Bethel Township
Marker No. 5

SCHOOL

Previous to 1780 a subscription school stood at the northwest corner of Booth's Corner [now Kirk Road] and Foulk Road. Just how long it continued is unknown, but in 1825 it was removed and a blacksmith shop erected on the site. The blacksmith shop is operating at this time (1936).

[2014: This school was reported to be octagonal and no ruins can be seen today. No deeds could be located for this school; it may have been leased.]

Bethel Township
Marker No. 6

SCHOOL #3

This school was built in 1860 on the north side of Foulk Road about 700 feet west of Chelsea. It is still operating (1936).

[2014: On May 22, 1860 Curtis Barlow sold (H2-237) 84 square perches of land to the Bethel Township School District for \$129.00. A stone one-room school was built known as the "Chelsea School" or "School #3." This school was used until 1952 when a new grade school was built. The school was sold (1664-302) to Oliver Coppenhaver on December 11, 1952 for \$1500.00. The school stood in the 2000 block of Foulk Rd. and was later torn down for a power company transmission right of way.]



Site of the former School #3 or "Chelsea School"

Bethel Township
Marker No. 7

CHURCH AND GRAVEYARD

The Siloam Church and graveyard were organized in 1852. The church was completed in 1854 on the south side of Foulk Road about 700 feet west of Naaman's Creek Road. Both the church and graveyard are still being used (1936).

[2014: On September 21, 1852 Samuel and Hannah Hanby of Bethel Twp. sold (B2-112) for \$100.00 a lot of 120 square perches on Foulk Rd. to the trustees to "have built or erected a house of worship for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church." Hanby also sold (C2-64) another lot of 33 square perches to the trustees for \$100.00 on October 3, 1854. On March 14, 1853 Samuel and Margaret Hance of Concord Twp. sold (B2-111) for \$100.00 by Foulk Road 120 square perches of land to the trustees of the Siloam Methodist Church. The trustees were: Andrew Hance, Joseph Derrickson, Samuel Hance, Adam Pierce, Wesley Poole, Adam Grubb, Isaac Booth, Dutton Pyle and William Hanby. The church was chartered (W2-458) on November 30, 1868. The church still stands at 3720 Foulk Road with one addition, Cloud Hall, which was erected in 1940.]



The Siloam church and graveyard today

Bethel Township
Marker No. 8

ZEBLEY'S CORNERS

The name "Zebley" was given to the four corners at the intersection of Foulk Road and [western] Naaman's Creek Road [Zebley Rd.] because there were so many families named Zebley residing in that vicinity. Today (1936), it is still called the same, but a large majority of these families have moved elsewhere.

[2014: At one time there was a Zebley Corner Store at this location which has now been demolished. Recently a Zebley's Corner sign has been erected.]



A classic-design "Keystone" highway sign identifies Zebley's Corner today

Bethel Township
Marker No. 9

BOOTH'S CORNERS

Booth's Corners is at the intersection of Naaman's Creek Road and Foulk Road. It is named after the Booth Family living in this section. Booth descendants still live in the area today, and the area is still called Booth's Corners.

Keith Lockhart Collection

Bethel Township
Marker No. 10

FORGE AND WHEELWRIGHT SHOP

This shop located on the northwest corner of Concord Road and Chester Heights Road (now Valley Brook Road) was built perhaps by C. J. Young. It is still being used, the owner being John A. McKinley (1936).

[2014: On March 23, 1867 William H. Bullock of Bethel Twp. sold (T2-424) to Charles Young of Concord for \$4,000.00 two tracts of land. The tracts were in Bethel and Concord Townships. Tract #1 with house was 3 acres, 3/4 and 26 square perches. Tract #2 was 4 acres. The blacksmith equipment was removed to Newlin's Grist Mill in the 1970's. The shop building was demolished in 2013. A small part of the original building is still standing at 1009 Valley Brook Road, but the site is actually on Concord Road.]



Remains of the forge and wheelwright shop today

Bethel Township
Marker No. 11

GARNET MINES

An old historical map shows that there were located on the east side of Garnet Mine Road, about 1/3 of a mile north of Foulk Road, some mines containing garnets. At this writing, 1936, there is no visible evidence of the mines. Investigation shows the site being filled with water.

[2014: On November 5, 1879 Rush and Martha Beaumont of Easttown, Chester County sold (X4-242) to Herman Behr of New York three tracts of land in Bethel Township: Lot #1 33 and 3/4 acres, Lot #2 6 acres, 2 roads and 33 perches, and Lot #3 7 acres of woodland no size given. Total cost for all three lots was \$4,700.00. George W. Sharp originally bought (W7-230) another 36 acres from James Fulton on June 17, 1891 and then sold (V7-226) the same 36 acre property on September 30, 1891 to Herman Behr and Co. Sharp then bought (P11-251) it back, 36 acres, from Behr on September 20, 1905 for \$3500.00 dollars. On December 28, 1905 George W. Sharp of Upper Chichester entered into an agreement (G12-28) for ten years beginning January 1, 1906 with the American Glue Co. of New Jersey on 30 acres of land in Bethel Twp. The "said party of the second part shall have the sole and exclusive right and privilege, to explore mine and dig for garnet mineral." Rent \$1.50 per ton and a minimum of \$300.00 per year to be paid to Sharp lease is for ten years. NOTE: deed is 3 pages long and has other conditions. Sharp died on November 22, 1908. There were two different mines, # 1 and # 2. The sites were filled with debris from the building of Conchester Highway, Rt. 322 in the 1940's. The entrance for Mine #2 is now Brookstone Rd. at Garnet Mine Rd. Mine #1 is directly across the Conchester Highway from Mine #2, and ruins of the back wall of the mine can still be seen.]



Site of the old garnet mines today

Bethel Township
Marker No. 12

PYLE HOME

The house of Robert Pyle was built about 200 hundred years ago on the west side of Bethel Road about ½ mile north of Foulk Road (this house site is back about 720 feet from Bethel Road). At one time services were held in this house prior to the building of a meeting house. In later years this site was known as the Albin C. Baldwin Farm. Albin C. Baldwin was an earlier treasurer of Delaware County. Later the property was owned by M. Bullock and is now owned by J. J. Gray who now lives in the house (1936).

[2014: On September 17, 1816 William and Jane Pyle, Bethel yeoman, sold (M-411) for \$770.00 two tracts of land totaling 14 acres to Ellis Williams of Concord. On October 30, 1820 Williams sold (O-560) the same property to Joseph Booth of Upper Chichester for \$4,450.00. On January 1, 1869 James Booth, administrator of the will of Joseph Booth sold (T2-132) the 14 acres and 32 perches to Albin C. Baldwin for \$930.10. This house was demolished about 1980.]



The site of the old Pyle House as it appears today

Bethel Township
Marker No. 13

SCHOOL LOG HOUSE

A log house was built on the east side of Chelsea Avenue about 200 feet south of Concord Road in the early 1800's. It was used as a school till about the time Samuel Regester purchased the property. The school had been by then moved to the roadside and remodeled into a private dwelling. About 1896 this log house was torn down. There is nothing on this old school site at this writing (1936).

[2014: This site is still empty today. All deeds that Sam Regester purchased prior to 1860 have been checked. None mention a school house; the property may have been rented. NOTE: On September 29, 1808 Caesar Paschell, a black, sold (H-402) an acre of land to four trustees for \$40.00. The four trustees were Ben Cloud, John Grubb, William Peters and John Richards. Although this property is named as being used for a school, there appears to be no mention of a school in the deed itself. This property was on the north side of Bethel Road about a quarter mile before the intersection of Concord Rd. This school was said to be log and was used till about 1824. No deed has been found at this time regarding the sale. Paschell would later lose the rest of his property at a sheriff's sale to pay a debt.]

Bethel Township
Marker No. 14

OLD HOUSE

This house is located on the north side of Foulk Road between Garnet Mine and Bethel Roads. It was built about 1786. The house is still standing (1936), being owned and occupied by Edward D. McLaughlin Esq. who uses it as a summer home.

[2014: John Larkin received this property from his father's estate, Isaac Larkin on May 5, 1827 (Will Book C-135). Nathaniel Pratt, administrator of the estate of John Larkin of Bethel sold (I2-580) one of two tracts of land that Larkin owned. The property of 50 acres and 14 perches, house and 2 roads was sold at auction on March 20, 1862 for \$5,217.00 to Samuel Hewes Jr. Hewes also bought the other tract the same day of 32 acres and 38 perches. On March 25, 1882 Samuel and Mary Hewes of Chester sold (E5-527) to George McLaughlin of Bethel a tract of 53 and 3/4 acres for \$6,000.00. George and Esther McLaughlin of Bethel on May 16, 1908 sold (H13-410) the 53 and 3/4 acre property to George and Mary Beale for \$1,850.00. The Beales sold (709-382) the property to Domenico and Porrini of Philadelphia for one dollar on June 1, 1926. They sold (964-170) the 53 and 3/4 acres on May 17, 1934 to Catherine McLaughlin of Chester. This home is still standing at 3017 Farmhouse Lane in the Longmeadow development.]



The "Old House" as it looks today

Bethel Township
Marker No. 15

THOMAS BOOTH FARMHOUSE

This house is on the north side of Foulk Road about 500 feet west of Bethel Road and back about 800 from Foulk Road. It was built in 1820 and still standing and owned by the Booth Estate (1936).

[2014: Thomas Booth Sr. on December 31, 1885 sold (A6-502) to Thomas Booth Jr. a house and 77 acres, one road and 36 square perches for one dollar. Thomas Jr. died on October 31, 1911 and the property passed to his wife Leah and children, Laura Booth and Dr. Thomas Booth. Dr. Booth died on April 1, 1929 and the property was left to his wife Mary E. and son Thomas A. Booth. The property 77 acres, one road and 36 square perches were sold (2233-107) by Mary Booth to her son Thomas A. Booth on February 8, 1966 for one dollar. This house is still standing at 3221 Foulk Road.]



A current-day photo of the 1820 Thomas Booth Farmhouse

Bethel Township
Marker No. 16

CLAYTON HOUSE

This house was built on the west side of Naaman's Creek Road, 8/10 of a mile south of Booth's Corner or Foulk Road, about 1811. It was the home of Judge Thomas Clayton. The house is still standing and used for residential purposes (1936).

[2014: On September 8, 1883 William H. and Florence Clayton sold (N5-386) to Judge Thomas J. Clayton a house and 82 acres and 60 perches for \$2,000.00. Formerly the property of John Clayton, deceased. The house has been demolished.]



The site of the former Clayton House

Bethel Township
Marker No. 17

GARNET MINES

These Garnet Mines, located on the west side of Garnet Mine Road, about 300 feet south of Foulk Road, were operated prior to 1909. After that date they were discontinued and have not been operated since.

[2014: No trace of these mines exists today. Some of these mines were in Concord Township.]

November 29, 1907 - Chester Times

THE GARNET MINES OF DELAWARE COUNTY
Large Deposits Recently Discovered, but Minerals Have Small Value as Gems

Under date of Media the New York Herald prints the following concerning Delaware County's garnet mines:

Pennsylvania promises to take the lead in garnet mining, according to the rich yields that have already been reported in sections of Delaware County and the discoveries recently made. The Boothwyn garnet mines were the first to prove financially successfully some five or six years ago. Before these had become practically exhausted the winding veins of rich garnet had let the miners with their tracks and hand cars a mile or more into the hillsides in various directions.

Then more profitable garnet was discovered along the Brandywine Creek, beyond Boothwyn, and Lansdowne next reported rich finds and still more recently reports of garnet discoveries promise to attract considerable attention to one of the most picturesque of the historic sections of Delaware County's beautiful old Sycamore Mills.

Singularly enough, this is the section of the State where the value of anthracite coal as a fuel was first practically demonstrated, according to an early report of the Pottsville Board of Trade. At that time the present Sycamore Mills section was known as Bishop's Mills several mills at that time being dotted along the Ridley Creek in the locality and utilizing its abundant water power.

A grist mill, a saw mill and an iron mill were in operation at the time of the cost test. According to the early records, this occurred after Thomas Bishop, the younger had acquired absolute ownership of the property. His ownership began in 1786, and a frame third story and an overchute were then added to the mill, the eastern end of the latter resting on three stone piers, the public road passing underneath. It is further recorded that during Thomas Bishop's ownership of the mill many changes of management took place. He himself operated the mills until 1802, when Francis Bishop began operating them. In 1817 Thomas was again conducting the grist mill, while in 1811 he operated the saw mill and Amor Bishop the grist mill.

Tradition says that the employer, in charge of the furnace of the Delaware County Rolling Mills, when the load of anthracite coal first came to the works late in the afternoon, threw into the fire a considerable quantity of the material with the oft expressed opinion that the "boss had been fooled," an opinion which became more and more confirmed when the coal refused to ignite, although frequent attempts were made to kindle it. Late in the evening the fireman gave up in despair and went to bed. An hour or two later, being restless, he arose and went to the mill, when he found the furnace door red hot, the building intensely heated and the woodwork almost ready to burst into flame. There had never been such a fire in the mill before. From then on Enos Helms was sent to Mauch Chunk with a five-horse team and hauled the fuel for the rolling mill from that place. The coal cost \$2 a ton at the time.

MAY BE BETTER PROFITS

According to recent predictions a profitable industry may be established here if the garnet finds continue. The garnet which has been discovered here is of excellent quality, on the gem order; but if it should later be mined in paying quantities it will probably be utilized as the other garnet of Eastern Pennsylvania – for the manufacture of a fine grade of sandpaper and the best of emery for polishing purposes. None of the garnet mines so far discovered

in Delaware County have yielded valuable jewels, like those of Cornwall and Bohemia, although some of the deep red stones taken from the Boothwyn and the Lansdowne mines and along the Brandywine are so perfect when cut that they closely resemble the most expensive rubies.

The mining of garnet in Eastern Pennsylvania is an industry of which little has been heard so far, although large profits have been secured by the owners of the various mines for several years past.

When a rich vein is struck the big profits are not derived from the so-called gems, but from the superior grade of garnet for the manufacture of the best polishing papers.

It is true that the workmen in the mines are ever on the lookout for the big flawless stones, and that they preserve the best of the brilliant, glistening specimens as valuables; but the majority of the large stones are shoveled into the buckets with the "garnet dirt" without the slightest ceremony, and ground up with the inferior ones.

In preparation of the garnet for commercial purposes, after the heavy buckets of garnet are wheeled from the different caves on hand care, they are lifted from the mines by derricks and swung in the washing troughs, where the worthless soft dirt and the garnet in the mass is then transferred to the grinding machines, where it is ground to the desired degree of fineness. There is abundant water power at the Sycamore mills for establishing the machinery for utilizing the garnet if it is discovered in paying quantities.

Bethel Township
Marker No. 18

MERRILL OR LARKIN FARMHOUSE

This farmhouse was built in 1824 by William S. Larkin. It is located on the south side of Foulk Road about 1600 feet west of Garnet Mine Road. On this site two structures were erected; one a cottage and the other a smaller house nearby, which were constructed by Mr. Larkin using a tongue and groove method which was most unusual, accounted for, no doubt, by the fact that Mr. Larkin was a coffin builder. Both these structures had this peculiar method of erection. In front of the house is a depression in the ground where a horse evidently walked around in a circle to make power for the use of a saw. There was an unusual layout in the cooking or baking room, for today (1936) there can be seen the chimney place and an opening in the wall where a horse could draw the logs from the saw mill and push them through the walls of the oven. The walls of the house are native Brandywine granite taken from the ground in the vicinity. The frame barn has upon it a date stone, "WSL 1806." The site is now known as the Merrill Farm.

[2014: On August 23, 1824 Isaac Larkin, Bethel yeoman, sold (P-420) to his son, William Larkin for one dollar 94 acres and 20 square perches. Property bought from Thomas and Margaret Bezer on April 10, 1751 sold to John Larkin the father of Isaac Larkin. John Larkin died 1788 and property went to his son, Isaac Larkin. The heirs of William Larkin, Prudence Larkin, widow, William Henry Larkin and Jane, his wife, James Gill and Elizabeth (late Larkin) his wife, Alfred Larkin and Martha, his wife, Charles Edwin Larkin and Addie P. his wife, A. Winfield Larkin and Isabella Ann, all of the Township of Lower Chichester of the one part, on August 1, 1878 sold (R4-180) to Samuel F. Larkin, Isaac Elwood Larkin, Amos C. Larkin, and Elizabeth Larkin, all of the Township of Bethel, 63 acres for \$562.00. On February 3, 1896, Sheriff Ellwood Carr sold (deed missing) the property of William Larkin to the Delco Trust Co. The Delaware County Trust Co. on April 18, 1896 sold (A9-522) for \$3,900.00 sold the house and 63 acres to Charles J. Schlachter of Chelsea. Amy Zebley, wife of Reece Zebley of Chester on February 2, 1909 bought (L13-360) the 63 acre farm with house for \$4,400.00 from Charles J. Schlachter of Chelsea. On December 2, 1918 the guardians of Laura May Zebley, minor child of Amy Zebley, Reece Zebley of Bethel and James Tyson of Aston sold (364-313) the 63 acre farm to Arthur Steffenberg and William Clendenning of Chester for \$6,500.00. On November 14, 1923 Arthur and Margaret Steffenberg of Bethel sold (599-120) the 50 acre farm and "stone house" to Louise Merrell of Swarthmore for \$10,000.00. On April 30, 1929 Louise J. Merrill of Bethel, unmarried sold (825-547) to Carlyle H. Ross of Philadelphia for one dollar a house and tract of unknown size. Today the house and barn are still standing at 3080 Foulk Road.]



The Merrill Farm as it appears today

Keith Lockhart

Bethel Township
Marker No. 19

POWELL CLAYTON HOUSE

This house, on the east side of Naaman's Creek Road, about 3,000 feet south of Booth's Corner or Foulk Road, was built in 1739 by Powell Clayton. In 1810 there was an addition made to the house. The residence is still (1936) standing and occupied by W. J. Hance. Powell Clayton was the father of Judge Thomas J. Clayton.

[2014: On February 23, 1842 Curtis Clayton of Bethel sold (Z-574) to Nelson Clayton also of Bethel for \$30.00 a lot of 155 perches. Witness Isabella Mattson in her will left her estate to her niece, Mary Lamplugh, for her use. At her death the property was to go to her daughter, Abigail Kirk, through her executors, Nelson Clayton and Edwin Hammon. On April 11, 1867 Mary Lamplugh, Benjamin and Abigail Kirk fulfilled this wish. On September 19, 1919 the executors of the will of J. Wesley Hance sold (466-538) the house, barn and outbuildings of 10 acres to Edith Hance, widow of Bethel, for a dollar. This house is still standing at 4757 Naaman's Creek Road and the former barn has been converted into a house.]



The 1739 Powell Clayton House

Bethel Township
Marker No. 20

JOHNSON HOUSE.

This house is known as the home of Dr. Robert S. Johnson. It was built about 1814 on the east side of Naaman's Creek Road about 8/10's of a mile south of Booth's Corner or Foulk Road. This house is still standing and is occupied by the great-great-granddaughter of Dr. Robert S. Johnson, Mrs. Mary B. Jester (1936).

[2014: On March 25, 1801 Robert and Hannah Lodge of Bethel, farmer sold (K-273) to Robert Johnson of Christiana Hundred, New Castle, Delaware, farmer for 850 British Pounds a house and tract of 109 acres. Today this house, which stood at 4715 Naaman's Creek Rd., has been demolished, but the springhouse is still standing in the Green Briar Development.

NOTE: Robert Lodge bought (Chester County D2-978) the 109 acres and house from Isaac and Priscilla Tussey August 26, 1788.]



Site of the former Johnson House

Bethel Township
Marker No. 21

BETHEL SPRINGS

These springs are located on the south side of Foulk Road about 200 yards east of Booth's Corner or Naaman's Creek Rd. The springs have been at this location for 70 years or more. These springs are now known as the Bethel Springs Water Co., the water being bottled and sold (1936).

[2014: On May 17, 1917 Francis H. and Gertrude Green of West Chester sold (461-200) two tracts of land for \$4,000.00 to Alice Smith, wife of Smith Smith of Bethel: Tract #1 15 1/2 acres and Tract #2 unknown acreage, but a small amount. The Bethel Springs opened about 1920 and closed about 1940. No trace of the springs can be seen today. The area is covered by the Gram's Way development. The site is the 3400 block of Foulk Rd. nearly opposite Kirk Rd.]



Location of the former Bethel Springs

Bethel Township
Marker No. 22

BOOTH'S STORE

Located on the northeast corner of Naaman's Creek and Foulk Roads, it is the store of Isaac Booth, which he built in 1861. It seems he specialized in shoes made by Sharpless Green of Bethel Township. It was after the Booth family, of which Isaac Booth was a member, that the section known as "Booth's Corner" was named. Today (1936), the site is still being used as a general store.

[2014: On March 29, 1849 Curtis and Malinda Clayton of Bethel sold (Y-246) to Isaac Booth of Bethel a house and 5 acres and 70 square perches for \$156.00. Today the building is still standing at 1396 Naaman's Creek Rd. and houses professional offices.]



Booth's Store from 1861 as it looks today