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U. S. CENSUS RECORDS

Much of the information in the text comes from census records dating back to the first U.S. federal census in 1790. I started out years ago with the help of census indexes, many of them done by Accelerated Indexing Systems Inc. of Utah. Later searches were done using the search engines on the web sites of Ancestry.com and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Some of the searches were as late as the 1930 census.

Most Ohio records for 1790, 1800 and 1810 were lost in the War of 1812. The 1800 census for Campbell County, Kentucky, has also been lost, and information for Blount County, Tennessee, is missing for 1800, 1810 and 1820.

WILLS AND WILL INDEXES

Most of the searches for Kerstetter wills were done by the author during visits to county seats or using materials available at the state library and archives in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Suzanne Rice of Madison, Wisconsin, had extensive records from Centre and Clinton counties. Shirley G. McQuillis of Ligonier, Pennsylvania, did searches in Centre and Clinton counties. Mrs. Robert Appleby of Latrobe, Pennsylvania, looked for Kerstetter wills in Kentucky prior to 1851 and found none.

The Pennsylvania searches covered the following counties:

> Centre County, 1800-
> Cumberland, 1750-1771 and 1777-1789
> Clinton, 1839-
> Dauphin, 1785-1806
> Juniata, 1831-
> Lancaster
> Lebanon, 1798-1833
> Mifflin
> Northumberland, to 1930
> Perry, 1820-1880
> Snyder, 1855-
> Union, 1813-1886

BIRTH, MARRIAGE AND CEMETERY RECORDS

Some of the following information is available in summary form in the International Genealogical Index (IGI) of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Some birth, marriage and death records and records from individual churches are available on-line at Ancestry.com.

The location of individual churches below is given using 20th-century township boundaries. The location of unpublished Pennsylvania records is indicated by the codes AC and HA, short for the Adams County Historical Society in Gettysburg and the Pennsylvania State Library in Harrisburg.

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LAND RECORDS

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission now has its early land records available on line. Click on the Archives and the Land Records buttons on its web site at www.phmc.state.pa.us. Among the records are lists of early land warrants and patents and copies of the land surveys for each warrant or patent. Some years ago, researchers had to travel to the archives in Harrisburg to obtain the information or had to pay research fees of $20 for locating each warrant and copying the land survey for the warrant.

The archives also has warranty township maps available on line, but very few that cover areas in central Pennsylvania where early Kerstetter settlers lived. Warrantee township

maps show the location of all the early land holdings within a township and are the only easy way to locate any particular tract of land in the 1700s or early 1800s. There are 11 warrantee township maps for Northumberland County, only one for Union County and none for Snyder, Centre and Clinton counties.

I also searched some of the records of early land transactions at courthouses in Northumberland, Union and Snyder counties. Some of these land records include releases and other legal documents that contain important genealogical information. It was a document filed with the land records in Northumberland County, for example, that established conclusively which one of the Martins in central Pennsylvania in the early 1800s was the son of Sebastian Kerstetter. Other records show the maiden names of Kerstetter wives and the names of their parents.

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