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Adams County History 2013

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ADAMS COUNTY HISTORY



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FAIRFIELD AREA CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Anticipating the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War and the Battle of Fairfield, in October 2010 the Borough of Fairfield created a well-rounded sesquicentennial committee, consisting of citizens, business leaders, and borough and township officials from southwest Adams County, with strong historical interests. Chaired by Jack Inskip, the committee members were:

Sal & Joan Chandon
Kirk Davis
Phyllis & Don Gilbert
Ron Harris
Dave Hazlett
Brad Hoch

Bob Jackson
Randy Phiel
Coleen Reamer
Carroll Smith
Dean & Sally Thomas
Nancy Wenschhof

With financial help from forty businesses, organizations, and individuals, the committee undertook several public events commencing in April 2011: Fairfield Civil War Days in May 2012; the commemoration of J.E.B. Stuart's raid in October 2012; and the Fairfield Battlefield tour and town walking tour in June 2013. Additionally, the committee published the book *Fairfield in the Civil War* by Sarah Thomas, Tim Smith, Gary Kross, and Dean Thomas. It also created the Battle of Fairfield medallion.

In December 2012, the committee commissioned Tim Smith to do a study of the Fairfield town lots and dwellings during the Civil War. You are holding the results of that work in your hands, the culminating achievement of the Fairfield Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee's passion for the rich heritage of the Fairfield area.

Cover Illustration: *Street Scene in Fairfield, J. B. Waddle, c. 1910, ACHS. The view is looking east, not far from the intersection of current McGinley Drive and Main Street.*



2013

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Statement of Purpose

The Adams County Historical Society is committed to the preservation of the social, political, and religious history of the county and to the promotion of the study of history. Expressing its commitment, the society maintains a valuable library of publications and manuscript material which includes estate papers, deed books, land surveys, and newspapers. In addition, it publishes important historical studies on Adams County, a newsletter, and a journal.

The editorial board of Adams County History encourages and invites the submission of essays and notices reflecting the rich history of Adams County. Generally, authors should follow the latest edition of the Chicago Manual of Style. They should submit the typescript in both hard-copy and electronic format, using a commonly employed word-processing system. Copy should be typed double-spaced, including endnotes and block quotations. Use Times Roman font, 12-point (or 12 cpi) type, with one-inch margins. Number pages consecutively, using Arabic numerals in the upper right-hand corner of the page. ALWAYS carefully proofread your text several times before submitting. Pay special attention to quotations.

A small publication with a limited budget, Adams County History must normally limit the number of illustrations to no more than 7 or 8 per article. Please indicate where each the illustration is to go, both within the text and on a note attached to the picture caption. Image caption-lists should be compiled and submitted separately from the article. Please double-space and include both descriptive text and credit lines. Be sure to note where each illustration comes from. Items used without charge can be noted simply as, for example, "Courtesy the Pennsylvania Historical and Manuscript Commission." Where the owner has charged a fee, employ such a formula as "Collections of the Pennsylvania Historical and Manuscript Commission." If the source has specified a style or a way of acknowledging source, use that instead.

Submissions and inquiries should be addressed to:

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Gettysburg, Pa. 17325

Editor's Note

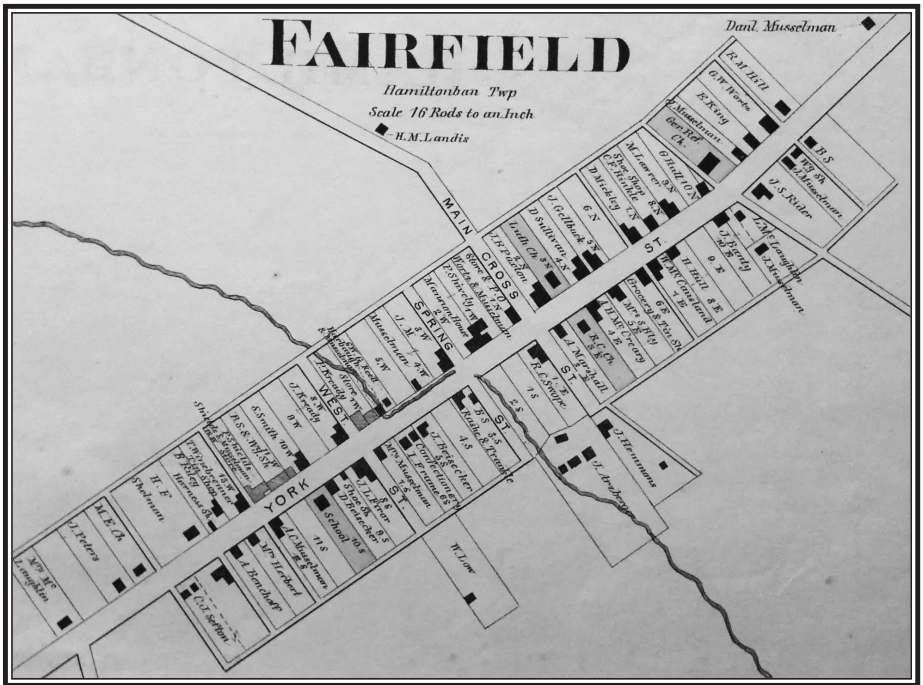
The year 2013 commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, a fact eloquently dramatized by the elaborate celebrations and moving reenactments that occurred earlier this year, both in and nearby Gettysburg. Not so well-known as the impact of the battle on the county seat of Adams County is the effect the battle and related activities had upon the communities surrounding Gettysburg. The house I live in -- a few miles west of Heidlersburg -- for example, was pillaged before the actual battle by Confederate soldiers, who made off with a horse or two and an "old piece of meat," as the owner's war-damage claim laconically phrased it.

Timothy H. Smith has researched and written extensively on the early history of one such community, Fairfield. He details the eighteenth-century genesis of Fairfield, or Millerstown as it was sometimes called in honor of its founding proprietor, William Miller. Focusing on the history of the town's lot and houses, Smith culls his sources for eye-witness experiences, newspaper accounts, and war-damage claims to create narratives capturing both the courtesies and violence with which Lee's retreating army and the citizens of Fairfield interacted in the aftermath of the battle. In several respects, this is one of his history's most poignant moments, but it just one: for Smith has thoroughly researched the genealogy of the town's properties, offering great detail on the pre-1860 years and sketching the subsequent chronicle down into the twentieth century.

Tim Smith is employed as a licensed battlefield guide, at the Gettysburg National Military Park and as a research historian at the Adams County Historical Society. He is the author of several books and numerous articles on the American Civil War, and on local and regional history. He lives with his family in the hamlet of Table Rock. Commissioned for the project by the Fairfield Bicentennial Committee, Smith was assisted in his research and the production of the individual lot histories by Andrew I. Dalton, whose, in Smith's words, "enthusiasm and energy kept the project moving."

A HISTORY OF THE EARLY FAIRFIELD TOWN LOTS

TIMOTHY H. SMITH



*Map of Fairfield from the Atlas of Adams County, Pennsylvania
(I. W. Field & Co., 1872).*

Introduction

In 1732 Charles Carroll of Maryland received a grant of 5000 acres of land in present Adams County, Pennsylvania, from the authorities of Maryland. Soon after, a survey of that land, known as “Carroll’s Tract” or “Carroll’s Delight,” was conducted. At that point in time there was still some dispute over the location of the boundary between the two states. A temporary line was agreed upon in 1739, and a more permanent line (very near that temporary boundary) was surveyed by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon during the 1760s. And even though it was established that Carroll’s Tract was in Pennsylvania, an agreement was made that Marylanders would retain their rights to the lands previously granted to them. But it is important to note that at an early date the people settling in this area knew they were in Pennsylvania. According to Charles H. Glatfelter, the most respected of local historians, “the widely held and long persisting notion that until many years later people did not know where the boundary line was and that it shifted from time to time has no basis whatsoever in fact.”

As the years went by, Charles Carroll subdivided his land and sold off parcels of his grant to various individuals. On December 19, 1755, Irish born John Miller purchased 247 acres of land in “Carroll’s Delight.” According to Frederick County Deed Book E, 950-51:

This indenture made the nineteenth day of December in the year of our lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty five [1755] between Charles Carroll, Esq. of the City of Annapolis in the province of Maryland of the one part and John Miller of New Castle County upon Delaware of the other part in consideration of the sum of sixty pounds sterling to him in hand paid by the said John Miller the receipt where of he doth hereby acknowledge. . . doth bargain and sell unto him the said John Miller his heirs and assigns all that part of land called Carroll’s Delight which is included in the following metes and bounds beginning at a stone set in the ground being at the corner of James Maginly’s plantation on which he lives the said standing house being north 68 [degrees]

west about fifteen perches from a large hickory tree notched with nine notches being an outside corner tree of the tract called Carroll's Delight the said tree stands at the bottom (on the north side) of a steep hill from the afsd. stone or boundary, north sixty eight degrees west, two hundred and eighty perches to a black oak sapling from thence north two degrees west one hundred and ninety perches to a white oak tree sapling from thence south fifty five degrees & a quarter three hundred & fifty two perches from thence in a straight line to the place of beginning containing and laid out two hundred & forty seven acres more or less.

Little is known of John Miller or the details of his life. It is not certain when he emigrated from Ireland or how long he lived in Delaware. His wife was Isabella Henry, and according to family legend, is said to have been related to Patrick Henry. Obviously, this is the basis for the local tradition that Patrick Henry often stayed at the Fairfield Inn, a story which almost certainly has no basis in fact. It has been repeatedly written that John Miller settled on and built a house on this tract in 1757, but Miller does not appear on the list of taxables in Hamiltonban Township, York County in 1762. Nor does he appear on a 1768 list of taxables. The first documentable source that places him on the tract is a Hamiltonban Township tax list for the year 1772. And although it was clearly John Miller who laid out the town of Fairfield in 1784, he does not appear in existing tax records associated with the town. In the 1783 tax list it is his son William (with 7 inhabitants in his dwelling) who is assessed with 230 acres of ground and in 1784 William was assessed for 241 acres. And the 1785, 1788 and 1789 lists of taxables (following the establishment of Fairfield) noted William as being assessed for "ground rents." Thus, the tax records establish that William, and not his father John, was the founder and proprietor of Fairfield. Explaining the origins of Fairfield, H. C. Bradsby's *1886 History of Adams County* supports this deduction:

The village was surveyed in 1801 for Squire William Miller and named by him Millerstown. He built the first house here the same year, graded a few streets and alleys, and made a good effort to build up a little village. The venture was premature, for fully twenty-one years elapsed before progress beamed on the Squire's paper city. In 1822 Maria Furnace was constructed and put in operation at this point; religious societies were organized and local industries began to expand; then a church was erected, a school was established, and the substantial beginnings of a town were formed and the name changed.

There are, however, several glaring inaccuracies in the paragraph above, but unfortunately, this version of the establishment of the town (printed in what many consider our "official" county history) has largely gone unchallenged over the years. It is understandable, then, that many have credited William as being the first settler and the original owner and proprietor of the town.

A closer examination at the facts, however, suggests another explanation for the origins of the town. On February 14, 1801, William Miller drafted an agreement with the lot holders of Fairfield in order "to correct inaccuracies and to secure the privileges of waters, streets, and alleys for the benefit of the inhabitants." The inaccuracies referred to existed in the original agreement of the town, which the 1801 document stated was entered into by the lot holders of the town and John Miller on February 27, 1784. One of the early deeds of the town states that "John Miller did survey and lay off a part of the above described tract of land into a number of lots in the plan of the town and called the same Fairfield (Millerstown)." The date of 1784 is also confirmed by the fact that William Miller, as noted, is first taxed for ground rents in 1785.

It is also important to note that all early documents refer to the town by its current name. The story repeatedly told that it was originally called Millerstown, and not known as Fairfield until much later, is simply not true. A Hamiltonban Township petition dated 1785, for example, states: "There is a necessity for a public road to be laid out from Fairfield Town to William Miller's land into

the road leading to Baltimore.” And on the Reading Howell map of Pennsylvania published in 1792, the village is specifically identified as “Fairfield Town.” But often in early documents “Millerstown” is placed in parentheses after Fairfield or in some deed references “alias Millerstown” or “also known as Millerstown” (after Fairfield). Many references in early newspapers also refer to the town simply as Millerstown. This implies that the official name of the town was Fairfield, but that the town was nicknamed Millerstown after its founder, and that the latter term was widely used. It should be noted, however, that Fairfield was not a separate or official entity until the borough was incorporated in 1897, and so people could call it whatever they liked.

The earliest known deeds for the town appear in the York County Deed Books, as this area was part of that county until the year 1800. There are two known deeds issued by John Miller for three lots in Fairfield on February 22, 1787. These deeds were issued to William McMunn (Lots 1W and 2W) and William Reed (Lot 3E).

The exact date of John Miller’s death is not known, but his will, probated on April 8, 1794, indicates that he had died a short time earlier (the oft-repeated date of 1790 for John Miller’s death is another persistent inaccuracy). According to his will, written in 1787, his wife Isabella was entitled to two-thirds of his estate, along with their dwelling house, while his son William was entitled to the other third. William, named as the executor, was also directed to pay Agnes Reed (nicknamed Nancy), daughter of John and Isabella and intermarried with William Reed, 100 pounds in lieu of her share of the estate. Upon Isabella’s death, William was to inherit his mother’s share of the estate. Thus, at some point, William Miller became the sole proprietor of Fairfield. The date of Isabella Miller’s death is not known, but, the first known deed issued by William Miller is dated 1795.

John Miller’s will refers to “the house I now live in.” One of the longstanding debates amongst Fairfieldians is the original location of John Miller’s dwelling. Some believe that this structure was at the site of the house currently standing at 23 North Miller Street, a short distance north of the center of town. In other words, the original John Miller homestead passed into the possession of William Miller and

then later James Wilson and eventually Henry Landis. On the other hand, the various owners of the Fairfield Inn over the past fifty years have maintained that the structure they own is in part; the dwelling house of John Miller, built in 1757, with additions over time to the original home. Unfortunately, very few records from that period can be used to determine such details as the exact location of a house on a larger tract of land.

Let us examine, then, what various individuals have written on the subject over the years. An article on Fairfield's history printed in the *Gettysburg Times* on June 28, 1926, states that "The first house as far as could be ascertained had been built by William Miller in 1760 on the land which now comprises the Landis Farm, and in 1797, Mr. Miller built the first bank barn which was to be found in this section of the state, and so well was it constructed that it is still standing and in use at the present time." A later article in the *Gettysburg Times* (November 16, 1929) citing a Miller descendent, affirmed that "the original John Miller property is now in the possession of Mr. C. A. Landis. The old stone barn and the stone farm house are still standing and still in use. Those early pioneers evidently knew how to build a house which would endure." The same article included the transcript of a letter written prior to 1850 by John Reed, a grandson of John Miller. Speaking of his sister, Reed wrote that "Mary was intermarried with James Wilson in 1799. He is a farmer and owns the original farm of my grandfather, John Miller." The general consensus thus locates the original home of John Miller north of the current town, at the site of the Landis house. It should also be noted that the York Nichols Gap Road (current 116) was laid out in 1747 prior to John Miller's purchase of the property. And the placement of the Landis House is consistent with other homes built at the time -- well back from and not adjacent to the main road.

Obviously, the information or misinformation given in the *1886 History of Adams County* gained the notice of those interested in Fairfield's early history. Frank Moore, a resident of town with a deep love of local history, provided much valuable information in a *Gettysburg Times* article on June 30, 1932. The article features a photograph of the stone barn on the Landis farm, which it describes as the oldest structure standing in the town (the barn contains a date

stone of 1797). Since it was known from the *1886 History* that the town was founded in 1801 and that William Miller built the first house in the town that same year, it made perfect sense that the 1797 barn predated the town.

The first extant reference identifying the Fairfield Inn (often referred to as the Mansion House property) with the original Miller homestead occurs in an article printed in the *Gettysburg Times*, September 11, 1951. That year, Fairfield was in the throngs of a large sesquicentennial celebration, based on the belief that the town was founded in 1801. Speaking of William Miller, the article claimed that “his plantation house was the present Fairfield hotel and his barn is that still in use on the James Landis farm.” The same statement was repeated in a June 25, 1956, article on the history of Fairfield. The exact chain of reasoning can only be conjectured, but it seems that, over the years, William Miller and his father John were fused together into the same person. And since it believed that William Miller built the first house in town in 1801 and at that time he did own the Fairfield Inn property, then that house must have been the original Miller homestead. Later, when it became evident to those involved that it was William’s father John who had settled in the area and laid out the town much earlier, the date of the Miller homestead (thought to be the Fairfield Inn) was just pushed back to fit the story. Thus, today, the Fairfield Inn is said to have been built in 1757.

It should be noted, however, that in 1787, the lots upon which the Fairfield Inn now stand were sold by John Miller to William McMunn. From the sale price of five pounds it appears that the property was vacant at that time. In 1789 the lots were sold by McMunn to a David Hayes, for 55 pounds, making it apparent by that time that some structure was standing on the property. This is strong evidence that the oldest portion of the structure we now call the Fairfield Inn was built between 1787 and 1789. And it is equally apparent that, at some point prior to 1801, William Miller acquired (or reacquired) possession of these lots. Also of interest is the fact that there are two sale notices describing these properties, one for William Miller in 1823 and another for James Wilson in 1841. Both advertisements describe the Fairfield Inn property, as well as the Landis Farm property, and both neglect to mention any structure standing on the

future Landis property, other than the stone barn (built in 1797). In other words, there does not appear to be any dwelling house, to speak of, on the property where the Landis house now stands. This lends credence to the idea that the original Miller house was located at the Fairfield Inn property. However, in an 1810 advertisement for the sale of lots in Fairfield, William Miller noted that “the subscriber also offers for sale a good well finished log house but when sold must be removed to another lot.” It thus seems likely that the original John Miller home was destroyed or removed and that the Landis House was subsequently built on the site following that family’s purchase of the property in 1854. It should be remembered, moreover, that the first houses constructed by the early settlers were mostly made of logs and hastily built, and for that reason were eventually replaced by more substantial structure.

As earlier stated, on February 23, 1801, Miller and the lot holders of Fairfield formalized an agreement, which included a map indicating the lots laid out at that time and the holders of each of those lots. This extraordinary document provides us with a starting point in our study of the history of the various town lots, tying specific names to specific properties. This is important considering the gaps in the existing tax lists and the absence of recorded deeds. Unfortunately, not all of the holders of the lots in 1801 held clear title to them, as will become apparent in the following individual histories. As mentioned earlier, it is uncertain exactly what inaccuracies the 1801 document corrected, but there is one striking feature of the map when compared to the early deeds: The original location of the center of town was moved 60 feet further to the east. So, instead of being situated at the intersection of lots 1E, 1W, 1N, and 1S, it is currently located at 1N, 2N, 1E, and 2E. The reason for this movement can only be surmised, but it is noteworthy that a clear town square never developed in Fairfield as it did in so many other towns.

As for the development of the town, it seems certain that Fairfield was established in 1784. As already indicated, by 1785 William Miller was being taxed with ground rents. According to the 1801 agreement, there were 45 available lots in the town on either side of “York Street.” Presumably, the same number of lots was available in 1784. The lots fronted 60 feet on the main street and were 280 feet

in depth. Three lots are said to have been sold in 1786, and as cited in the York County Deed Books five more lots were sold in 1787. In 1788 the tax records of Hamiltonban Township include a note: “Lots improved and unimproved—21.” An accounting of the individual properties shown in the tax records for that year, however, indicates 15 improvements on 35 lots. It should be recalled that the early lists also seem to record small properties elsewhere in the township described as lots, so two or three of these improvements are believed to be outside the town. Of interest is the fact that the term “Fairfield” is specifically used to define two lots in the 1788 tax list. The 1789 tax list identifies 34 lots in Hamiltonban Township on which are said to be 13 houses. The 1792 list also seems to reflect that there are 13 houses in the town. As examination of the 1795 tax list reveals 28 individual lots being taxed with what appears to be 14 dwelling houses.

In 1795 and 1797, William Miller is taxed for ground rents specifically valued at 6 pounds, 19 shillings, 2 pence. Since we know from early deeds that the ground rent was 7 shillings, 6 pence a year, this would mean that William was collecting rents on 18.5 lots. But this is probably not an accurate assessment, as the 1795 tax list indicated that there were 28 taxed lots in the township. Around the time of the formation of Adams County in 1800, the lot rents were converted from pounds into dollars and a one dollar-a-year ground rent was established. From 1802 until 1813, Miller is variously taxed for 25 or 26 dollars of rents. A comparison of 1801 agreement between William Miller and the lot holders of Fairfield and the 1802 tax list of Hamiltonban Township reveals that there were 18 dwellings in the town. These early sources are surprisingly consistent, allowing us to develop a frame of reference for the town’s early history. In the first five years of its existence about a dozen houses were built and during the next ten years about a half dozen more. The *1886 History of Adams County* would have us believe that the town was founded in 1801, and that history further states that Miller’s “venture was premature, for fully twenty-one years elapsed before progress beamed on the Squire’s paper city.” The 1820 census, which separates Fairfield from the rest of the township, indicates there were 30 families living in the Miller’s “paper city” at that time. Speaking of the town’s development, an article in the

September 11, 1951, *Gettysburg Times* contains the statement in that “Squire Miller attracted settlers by promising to give land free except for an annual quitrent of one dollar per lot.” Evidence to support this concept is sorely lacking. As a matter of fact, we have direct evidence that Miller was actively and aggressively selling lots, not giving them away. If someone was delinquent in paying his ground rent, Miller repossessed the lot.

As previously stated, Miller’s town included 45 lots in 1801. By 1810, he had laid out additional lots, and along with other lots that had remained unsold (or that he had reacquired or repossessed), he offered them for sale. His advertisement appeared in the *Centinel* on January 16, 1810:

In Millerstown (or Fairfield) the subscriber offers for sale a number of building and grass lots. As many applications have lately been made for lots of the above kind, he has though proper to give this public notice that the price of each lot will be \$30. Those suitable for building will contain a third an acre--the grass lots will contain half an acre—all fronting on the Main Street. They will each be subject to the annual ground rent of one dollar. Any person wishing to become a purchaser must apply on or before the 15th day of February next, as on that day, the numbers sold, will all be put into a box to be drawn either by the holder or his deputy, in order to determine the situation of each lot. But no drawing will be made unless the whole number offered for sale shall be taken. Six months from the day of the drawing will be given for payment or giving bond with sufficient security The subscriber also offers for sale a good well finished log house but when sold must be removed to another lot. William Miller.

The drawing or lottery must not have taken place (perhaps there was not enough interest) as the grass lots at the western edge of the town were still part of Miller’s property in 1823. It is evident from the notice given in an 1823 sheriff’s sale that these additional lots were numbered 14 through at least 21, extending the town westward

to the current McGinley Drive. But even though it appears that the grass lots at the western edge of town did not sell at that time, Miller did sell additional lots in his town as result of the advertisement. Recorded deeds indicate the sale of several lots by Miller that year. In 1814 the tax assessor apparently caught up with Miller because the ground rents he was taxed for jumped from 26 to 37 and would stay at that number until he sold his property in 1823.

Depending on one's calculations, William Miller was the proprietor or co-proprietor of the town of Fairfield or Millerstown for almost forty years. So what is really known about this man who had such a major influence on our local history? According to a family history in the files of the Adams County Historical Society, William Miller was born on May 25, 1755, in Cecil County, Maryland. (Keep in mind that the November 1755 deed issued by Charles Carroll to John Miller indicates that he was a resident of Delaware.) At an early age, William and his family settled in Hamiltonban Township, and at the outbreak of war with Great Britain he volunteered in the continental army. According to an application for the Sons of the American Revolution filed by one of his descendants, Miller served as ensign in the Sixth Pennsylvania Battalion, starting on January 9, 1776; as second lieutenant of the Seventh Pennsylvania, starting in December 1776, as a first lieutenant, starting on March 20, 1777; and finally as a captain, starting on April 17, 1779. He was released from service on January 17, 1781. A family history states that "he crossed the Delaware River with Washington and engaged in the Battle of Trenton. He received a portion (about six inches square) of a Hessian flag, captured at Trenton, and torn in pieces by Washington and distributed among his officers After the battle of Trenton, William Miller was ill (having spent the winter at Valley Forge) and was cared for at the home of Thos. Craig of Warrington (Martsville) Bucks Co., where he met the daughter Margaret, and after the war, went back and married her on March 10, 1784." During that same year his father laid out the town of Fairfield, and he and William became its proprietors. It is noteworthy that William's father-in-law, Thomas Craig, also moved to the area after the war, obtained a lot in the town, and spent the rest of his life in Fairfield. The remains of Craig and many other veterans of the American Revolution are today located in Lower Marsh Creek Cemetery.

William Miller was involved in local politics, serving for some time in the Pennsylvania State Legislature. He served as a state senator representing York and Adams Counties from 1805-1811, and in the state assembly for the terms 1804, 1813, 1814, and 1819. It may be of some interest that from 1810 to 1816, William Miller was taxed for owning a slave. Besides the town and the property around it, he owned other lands in Hamiltonban Township, and for a time he was taxed for a saw mill and a distillery.

Miller eventually encountered financial difficulties and began to sell off his land. In 1823 his remaining property was put up for sheriff's sale. Just days before the sale, however, Miller was able to sell his property to James Wilson, a Fairfield resident who had married one of William's nieces. The proprietorship of the town thus remained within the family. William then moved to Gettysburg, where he died eight years later on June 3, 1831, most likely in the old Dobbin House, which at that time was owned by his son Thomas Craig Miller. A notice of his death recorded that "the deceased took an active part in the Revolutionary struggle; and for many years represented this county in the legislature of Pennsylvania." Like his father before him, his original place of burial is unknown, but upon the opening of Evergreen Cemetery in 1854 his remains were removed to the place where his stone can be seen today. Following his death, his wife Margaret moved with her son James to Baltimore, where she died on February 11, 1844. The children of William Miller and Margaret Craig included James Henry Miller (January 20, 1778-May 12, 1853), one of the more prominent physician of his time; Thomas Craig Miller (December 14, 1789- April 19, 1860), a veteran of War of 1812, who later became the sheriff of Adams County; John Miller (April 13, 1795-1840), a civil engineer, who worked on the B&O Railroad; Jane Maria Miller (January 18, 1797-April 20, 1870), who was married to James D. Paxton, son of the Reverend William Paxton and a business partner of Thaddeus Stevens; Nancy Miller (July 24, 1799-March 25, 1877), who never married; and William Miller (April 3, 1802-February 4, 1826), a young lawyer who died on a steamer while on a trip down the Mississippi River. One note of interest concerning the Miller family is the story of Matthew Adam Miller, son of Thomas Craig Miller and grandson of William Miller. Matthew was born in Gettysburg, December 16, 1830, graduated from

Gettysburg College, followed the profession of civil engineering, working for a time on the B&O Railroad. He lived in Memphis, Tennessee, at the outbreak of the American Civil War and served in the Confederate army on various fortifications on the Mississippi River as a lieutenant of engineers.

When James Wilson purchased the property of William Miller on October 31, 1823, he assumed control of the original Miller farm; the Mansion House property; the lots that Miller had laid out that were still in his possession; and all of the annual ground rents. In consideration, William received \$8000. The deed was for “278 acres, ninety four perches neat measure including the town of Fairfield thereon located, the said William Miller & Thomas C. Miller nevertheless reserve to the purchasers of the town lots in the said town of Fairfield which has heretofore bought & has conveyances for their respective purchase, releasing to the said James Wilson and his heirs and assigns all the yearly quit rents reserved & due upon the said several lots according to the reservation made in the several deeds, from and after the first day of May next, forever.” Miller had made an agreement to sell 100 acres of his land to his son, Thomas C. Miller, in 1817 (the deal was never completed), and for that reason his name appears in the deed.

Many of the vacant lots of the town were subsequently sold and developed under Wilson’s ownership. Except for a few years when he deeded his property over to his son-in-law (Isaac Robinson), Wilson held the property until the mid-1850s, when he sold the farm north of the town to Henry Landis, and the lots surrounding the Mansion House property and ground rents to Peter Shively. James Wilson was one of the most highly respected citizens in the history of Fairfield. He was born in Hamiltonban Township on April 28, 1779, and in early life was a cabinet maker. He served as justice of the peace from 1811 to 1822 and from 1830-1859 , and in the United States House of Representatives from 1823 to 1829. He spent the last few years of his life in Gettysburg, dying in that town on July 13, 1868. According to the Gettysburg *Star and Sentinel*, “Mr. Wilson was a high-toned gentleman of the ‘old school,’ and it can be said of him that he never

solicited a vote for office, nor attended a political meeting to promote his own advancement. Thoroughly loyal, during the Rebellion he aided actively in sending volunteers to the war, by personal counsel and contributing from his private means.”

An 1845 description of the town noted: “Fairfield or Millerstown, a post village in Hamiltonban Township, 10 miles southwest of Gettysburg, contains 50 dwellings, several stores and taverns, 2 churches, a school house, and a number of mechanics’ shops. It is quite a brisk place; situate in a region of country well cultivated and productive—the scenery imposing—a fine view of Jack’s Mountain. There is some iron west of the village.” The 1860 Census for Hamiltonban Township, Adams County separated the “Town of Fairfield” from the rest of the township, giving its total population as 218 individuals.

Like many other towns north and south, Fairfield was deeply affected by the American Civil War. Throughout the war, men from the area enlisted and served in the Union armies. Because of the town’s location, the fear of invasion was a constant concern. On October 10 and 11, 1862, Confederate cavalry under the command of Jeb Stuart raided through South-Central Pennsylvania, passing through the town and gathering horses and supplies along the way. During the Gettysburg Campaign, the armies crisscrossed the area, and several skirmishes occurred near the town, before and after the battle. On July 3, 1863, a large cavalry action northeast of Fairfield spilled into the village, several of its building being used as hospitals. And on July 4 and 5, 1863, a large portion of the Confederate army passed directly through the town during its retreat, followed by a contingent of the pursuing Northern army. According to one resident, “Fairfield was on the main artery of the Confederate retreat after the battle of Gettysburg and older residents tell us that many were the pitiful sights of wounded and suffering soldiers dragging themselves through the deep mud of the streets.” These events made an indelible impact of the lives of the people of Fairfield.

In the years following the Civil War, the town grew rapidly. Many of the lots laid out by Miller on the western edge of the town were developed shortly after the war. Starting about 1868 Jacob Musselman and George W. Wortz developed the properties at the

eastern edge of the town. Lots were laid out and houses were built on the lands formerly owned by Daniel Musselman along East Main Street, along Water Street (also referred to as Chestnut Street) and Centennial Street (also referred to as Washington Street). Speaking of these improvements to Fairfield, the *1886 History of Adams County* specifically mentions George W. Wortz as “adding largely to its growth and prosperity,” being responsible or partly responsible for “twenty-eight houses in the town.” These post-civil war properties, however, are beyond the scope of this study.

Presentation

What follows is a preliminary study of the Fairfield town lots, focusing on the owners and appearance of the lots up through the American Civil War. Because the existing records are sporadic, some of the lots were more difficult to research than others and will require further research at some future time. This was anticipated going into the project. But it is hoped that this study will provide a foundation for that future research. Undoubtedly, there are many surviving Fairfield deeds still in private hands. It is anticipated that this study will bring attention to the subject and lead to the further discovery of material on the history of the lots.

Obviously, many properties have undergone a series of renovations over the years. Determining whether a house is the original structure, whether that original has been expanded or greatly altered, or whether the original has been completely replaced, is a very difficult matter. Deeds were often unrecorded officially. And where deeds exist, they are concerned mainly with the transfer of land, and often contain no details as to the structures or improvements on the property. A comprehensive study of an individual property is time consuming and includes an examination of existing deeds, tax records, estate papers, and notices of sale in local newspapers.

In addition, since history is really about people, this study is intended to provide information on those individuals who lived on the various lots. Using the year 1860 as benchmark, the ownership of the lots can be cross-referenced with the census recorded that year, thereby providing us with the names of the residents of the town on the eve of the American Civil War.

Town Lot #: When John Miller laid out the town in 1784, he established a numbering system for his lots. These numbers appear in early deeds and on an 1801 agreement between William Miller and the lot holders at that time. The same numbers appear on the map of Fairfield in the 1872 *Adams County Atlas*. I have studied many other towns in the area where properties were laid out in numbered lots, for the most part, in a simple, sequential order – Gettysburg, for instance, was originally numbered lot 1 through lot 210. The 1872 *Atlas of Adams County* contains examples of the lot numbering system in

many of these towns. The town of Fairfield, however, is unusual in that it was divided into four quadrants, which Miller refers to in his early deeds as Northwesterly, Northeasterly, Southwesterly, and Southeasterly, with each quadrant numbered separately, beginning with number 1. In other words, there are four lots in the town for each number. This has obviously caused problems over the years, and there are several examples where deeds give the incorrect lot number or quadrant. Eventually, the quadrant names were shortened to North, South, East, and West, and are shown on the map in the 1872 *Atlas* as N, S, E, and W. As a result of this confusion, many deeds, and most of the public sales notices published in local newspapers often give the lot numbers but rarely differentiate between the four quadrants. Interestingly, many early deeds refer to the numbers as lot first, second, or third, instead of lot one, two or three. As the town expanded over the years, additional lots were added to the western and eastern ends of the town as can be seen on the map in the 1872 *Atlas*. The additional lots were laid out by Miller and others to mimic the original plan. On the western side of the town, the numbering system is simply a continuation of Miller's. It is also apparent that the eastern lots were numbered by later developers, but their approach was not consistent, and the numbers are not always included in deeds. Additionally, there are several lots or parcels associated with the town, but which do not conveniently fit into the numbering system. I have identified these as outlying properties and placed them at the end of the descriptions.

Current Address: The current address refers to the address presently given to structures on the lot. Several lots have been divided over the years and have more than one address associated with them. A few of the properties are currently vacant and have no address. If known, I have given the address formerly associated with the property.

1860 Owner: As best as can be determined, the owner of each lot for the year 1860 is given. In the cases where deeds are available, this is a simple matter. In the instances where the name was established through the use of tax records, however, there may be some question as to the actual owner. This is especially true in the cases where a property was in the process of being transferred. The year 1860

has been chosen as the watershed date in this study for a number of reasons. It is immediately before the outbreak of the Civil War, a time of great interest to many historians studying our local history. Several of the buildings in Fairfield have Civil War building plaques or other markers denoting their association with events that occurred during the war. And perhaps most importantly, the 1860 census separates the borough of Fairfield from the rest of Hamiltonban Township, allowing us to make inferences as to the residents of specific properties in the town at that time.

Description: The description of the dwelling house or other structures on the property is based upon the best documentation concerning the appearance of the buildings in 1860.

Recital: The format given for the recital of the ownership of each property is entirely my own. The factors involved in determining the precise owner of a lot at any given time are very complex. Where deed references are available, a chain of ownership with exact dates is given. In many cases, especially where a reference to a will is involved, the sequence of heirs can be complicated. In those cases, I have simplified the language in the recital, to “heirs of,” until there is a clear settlement of the estate. The names of the wives are often given in the original deeds, but for the sake of simplicity, I have not included these in my recitals. Occasionally, the ownership is complicated by the death of a husband and the retention of property by the wife named in the deed. It should be noted, however, that a property owner was not required to record his deed at the courthouse and that most transfers were conducted privately, the deeds being passed from one individual owner to another. Where deeds are not available, other records have been used to determine the chain of ownership. The yearly tax records of Hamiltonban Township cite the individual responsible for the taxes of each of the lots in Fairfield, but these records are sparse prior to 1800, during the early formative years of the town. Additionally, the properties’ location is not given in tax assessments; and the entries for the town are simply mixed in with the entire Township of Hamiltonban. Fortunately, the transfer of a lot from one individual to another is often reflected in the tax records, this practice becoming more established as the years went by. And where the transfers are not specifically shown, inferences of

transfer can often be made by comparing the tax records year-by-year. It should be pointed out, however, that tax records contain frustrating gaps and often reflect inaccuracies or conflicts with known deeds. This is especially a problem when a tenant is the paying the tax on a property instead of the owner. For example, there may be some kind of mortgage agreement, and the mortgagee is paying the tax, and then there is a foreclosure and that mortgagee does not appear in a later deed recital, because there was never a clear transfer of the property. Fortunately, many records reference the adjoiners to a given lot, and I have used these names in place of other documentation. I have followed several general rules in this study: If an individual's name is followed by a specific date (i.e. month, day and year), the information is from a deed or other solid information. If an individual's name is followed by just a year, then an inference has been made, most likely through the tax records, for the date of initial ownership. If an individual's name is followed with a "by" and then a year, several sources reveal that the person is known to have owned the property by that date, but may have obtained it earlier. There may also be a gap in the recital that I have not been able to fill. In some cases I have indicated omissions by using "unknown," followed by the years in question. And if the individual's name is followed by an "in" and then a year, I found evidence that the person owned it during that one specific year, most likely because he was mentioned as an adjoiner in a deed or notice of property sale as printed in the newspaper. Last, I have not attempted to carry the recitals to the present day -- that would be a project worthy of attention, but beyond the scope of this study. I have concentrated on establishing the owners of the lots from the beginning of the town through at least the owner at the time of the Civil War, and then the next subsequent owner. Of great interest is the fact that the Fairfield Tax Records for the year 1919 record the street name and adjoiners for each tract of property accessed.

History of the Lot: The history of each lot focuses upon the following: the appearance of the lot through the years prior to the Civil War, and a discussion of the sources used to determine the transfer of the property; when the structure standing on the property was built; improvements that were made to the property over the years; and when the structure was removed in cases where it is no

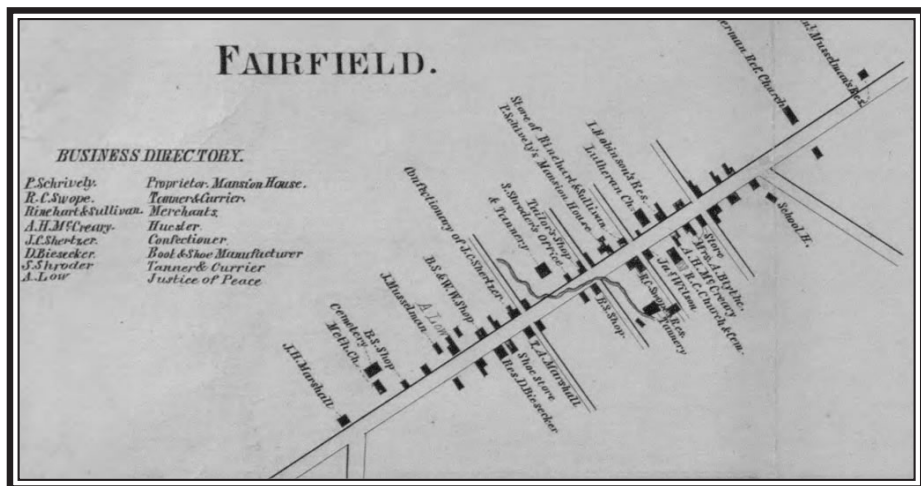
longer standing. If the lot was still vacant at the time of the Civil War, an attempt was made to determine when the first structure (in many cases the structure now standing) was built.

1860 Residents: The 1860 residents for each dwelling house have been established by a careful study of the town of Fairfield as given in the enumeration for Hamiltonban Township, Adams County, Pennsylvania in the 1860 Census, as recorded on June 5 and 6, 1860. We are fortunate that the inhabitants of the town of Fairfield were separated from the rest of the township. We are also fortunate that the path of the census taker was relatively consistent, as he walked up and down the street from house to house, allowing us to make inferences as to the residents of each dwelling he visited. The exact dates of birth and death for each individual were established using the extensive collection of records at the Adams County Historical Society. These records include: family files, church records, tombstone inscriptions, and death notices from the local newspapers. In the absence of such records, the date of birth as reported in the 1860 census is given.

Family Notes: The family notes contain biographic information pertaining to the residents of the lots and interesting facts discovered during the research of the properties.

Civil War Notes: Since the focal point of this study is year 1860, an attempt has been made to uncover stories about the period of the American Civil War as they apply to specific properties or individuals in the town. Again, this approach has been adopted because of the great national interest in this period as it relates to the area.

Sources: There are general sources that were used for each and every lot in the study, including the 1858 wall map, the 1872 *Atlas of Adams County*, the 1860 census and the tax records for Hamiltonban Township. In addition, the card files and family files of the Adams County Historical Society were exhaustively consulted. Outside those general sources, specific references, including deeds and public sales notices, are given for each of the lots. This has been done, not just for purpose of documentation, but also to provide further avenues of research for those interested in learning more about the individual properties in this study.



Inset of Fairfield from G. M. Hopkins, Map of Adams County, Pennsylvania, (Philadelphia: M.S. & E. Converse, 1858).

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Author's Note: I want to clarify what some readers may perceive as an inconsistency or source of confusion, involving the publication history of what was actually one newspaper: the problem is that an Adams County newspaper had various names at various times. It started as the *Centinel*, and then changed to the *Sentinel*, and after that to the *Adams Sentinel*. During this period, there was another totally separate newspaper, known as the *Star and Banner*. In 1867, the editor of the *Star and Banner* died, and the two papers merged, becoming the *Star and Sentinel*. Many authors are unaware of the changes and use the wrong names, so I have tried to be careful, citing the exact title of the paper in which the articles or notices appeared.

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Abbreviations

Adams County Deed Book---ACDB

Adams County Historical Society---ACHS

Grand Army of the Republic---GAR

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission---PHMC

Unrecorded Deed---URD

York County Deed Book---YCDB

1860 Lot Owners

Northeasterly Lots (N)

Lot 1N: Peter Shively

Lot 2N: John B. Paxton

Lot 3N: Trustees of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lot 4N: Isaac Robinson

Lot 5N: John Gelbach

Lot 6N: John Gelbach

Lot 7N: Daniel Mickley

Lot 8N: Charles F. Hinkle

Lot 9N: Michael Lawver

Lot 10N: Michael Lawver

Northwesterly Lots (W)

Lot 1W: Peter Shively

Lot 2W: Peter Shively

Lot 3W: Sandford Shroeder

Lot 4W: Sandford Shroeder

Lot 5W: Sandford Shroeder

Lot 6W: George Reed

Lot 7W: Jeremiah Stem

Lot 8W: John C. Shertzer

Lot 9W: John C. Shertzer

Lot 10W: Thomas Newman

Lot 11W: Thomas Newman

Lot 12W: John Musselman

Lot 13W: Thomas J. Winebrenner

Lot 14W: James Marshall

Lot 15W: Hiram Eshelman

Lot 16W: Hiram Eshelman

Lot 17W: Unknown

Lot 18W: Trustees of the Fairfield Methodist Church

Lot 19W: Unknown

Lot 20W: Unknown

Lot 21W: James H. Marshall

Southeastern Lots (E)

- Lot 1E: Rufus C. Swope
- Lot 2E Maria Paxton/Andrew Marshall
- Lot 3E: Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church
- Lot 4E: Abraham Hill McCreary
- Lot 5E: Sarah Amanda Blythe
- Lot 6E: Sarah Amanda Blythe
- Lot 7E: Robert M. B. Hill
- Lot 8E Adam Tawney/Robert M. B. Hill
- Lot 9E: Adam Tawney
- Lot 10E: Joseph Banty
- Lot 11Ea: School Directors of Hamiltonban Township
- Lot 11Eb: Joseph Banty
- Lot 11Ec: Jonas Hemmons

Southwesterly Lots (S)

- Lot 1S: Peter Shively
- Lot 2S: Peter Shively
- Lot 3S: George Trenkle and Rudolph Rasche
- Lot 4S: George Trenkle and Rudolph Rasche
- Lot 5S: George Trenkle and Rudolph Rasche
- Lot 6S: Israel W. Frame
- Lot 7S: John Sanders
- Lot 8S: Thomas Marshall
- Lot 9S: Daniel Biesecker
- Lot 10S: Rebecca Nunemaker
- Lot 11S: Rebecca Nunemaker
- Lot 12S: Rebecca Nunemaker
- Lot 13S: Zephaniah Herbert
- Lot 14S: Peter Musselman
- Lot 15S: Henry Overdeer
- Lot 16S: Henry Overdeer
- Lot 17S: Daniel Musselman

Outlying Properties

Outlying Tract A: Daniel Musselman

Outlying Tract B: Saint John's German Reformed Church

Outlying Tract C: Maria Loudon

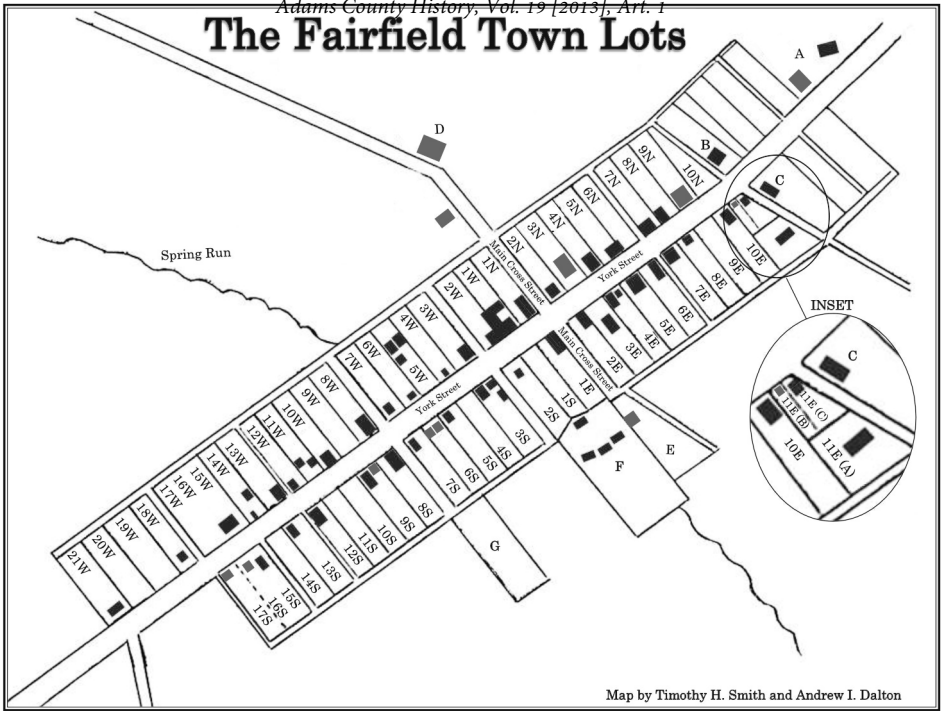
Outlying Tract D: Henry M. Landis

Outlying Tract E: Rufus C. Swope

Outlying Tract F: Rufus C. Swope

Outlying Tract G: William Low

The Fairfield Town Lots



Northeasterly Lot Histories

Town Lot #1N: Rinehart and Sullivan's Store. **Current Address:** 11West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Peter Shively. **Description:** One-story, stone, structure, still standing. **Recital:** William Miller, in 1801; James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Isaac A. Robinson, September 27, 1845; James Wilson, October 7, 1852; Peter Shively, November 8, 1856; Jacob J. Shoemaker, April 2, 1900.

History of the Lot: Lot 1N shares the same early history with Lots 1W and 2W (The Mansion House Property). The date of construction for the structure on this lot is not known, but its appearance suggests it was built at an early date. An 1841 sales notice describes it as "a stone store house, now occupied as a private dwelling." An 1846 insurance docket refers to this structure as a "stone store house . . . 20 by 40 feet." The building was used as a store for many years, operated by a variety of individuals or tenants. The 1858 wall map indicates this as the "store of Rinehart and Sullivan," merchants. The owners of the establishment, at least through Stuart's Raid in October 1862, were Evan Thomas Rinehart and Daniel Sullivan. An 1861

advertisement for the store described it as being on the corner of “Main and Mountain Sts.” At some point, the store became Sullivan & Sons. In the years following the war the store taken over by George W. Wortz and C. F. Hinkle, and then George W. Wortz and David R. Musselman. For many years this was the general store of G. M. Neely and later served as the Fairfield Post Office.

1860 Residents: Daniel Sullivan (February 27, 1807-October 6, 1891); Hannah Ogburn Sullivan (April 5, 1805-January 17, 1871); Susan Sullivan (March 11, 1838-March 18, 1916); Joseph T. Sullivan (June 1840 – November 16, 1921); John C. Sullivan (1843), clerk.

Family Notes: E. T. Rinehart was a merchant, who in the 1860 census is listed as residing at Shively’s Mansion House (current Fairfield Inn). In December 1860 he married Euphemia Knox, who in the 1860 census is shown at the residence of Maria Loudon (Outlying Lot C). According to the *Adams Sentinel*, in June 1864 “Thomas E. Reinhart of Fairfield Adams County, has been appointed to a clerkship in the office of Capt. Humes, Brig. Quarter Master, at Washington.” Enumerated directly below the residents of the hotel are Daniel Sullivan and his family, who were renters in the town at the time. Although it is possible that they lived in the rear of the store, it is also possible that they rented a house somewhere else in town, and the census taker just happened to question Sullivan at his store, thus accounting for his being cited here. In 1864 Sullivan purchased the property of Isaac Robinson at Lot 4N and so by that time his family had moved to that location. (The Sullivans had moved to Fairfield from Maryland just a few years prior to the Civil War.) Daniel and his wife are today buried at the Friends Meeting House in Union Bridge, Maryland. It is also of some interest that in 1867 Daniel’s son, Joseph, married Peter Shively’s daughter, Laura.

Civil War Notes: There are several stories associated with the Rinehart and Sullivan’s Store during the Civil War. In 1861, Evan Thomas Rinehart was second lieutenant of the Fairfield Zouaves, a local militia unit of about 40 men commanded by a Captain Knox. Their uniforms were red and gray and in the Zouave style. Apparently, the guns of this unit were held in the storeroom of Rinehart and Sullivan. A story concerning these guns and J.E.B. Stuart’s Raid of October 11, 1862, was related by Fairfield historian Frank M. Moore

in 1951: “The citizens of the town had planted a large flag-pole in the space between the Swope and Marshall Houses [Lots 1E and 2E] and when the Rebs clattered into town they saw the Stars and Stripes waving at the top of the pole. Some of them dismounted and with axes soon laid the flag on the ground. A hot-headed citizen watched them from the window of a garret room over the Rinehart and Sullivan store, now owned by G. M. Neely. When the flag touched the ground this man seized one of a number of muskets stored in the room by a company of home guards, trained it on one of the Johnnies and was about to pull the trigger when Mr. Rinehart came upon him and stopped him in the nick of time. We tremble yet to contemplate the sure consequences of such a deed if it had been carried out. The town would certainly have been burned.” In listing the losses of Fairfield during the raid, the Gettysburg *Star and Banner* of October 16, 1862, noted, “Sullivan’s of about \$200 worth. They also took 30 stands of arms from the armory of the Home Guard.” In a claim for damages made by Daniel Sullivan to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the guns are also mentioned but as being “broken.” But Stuart’s men did more than take the guns of the home guard. Sullivan stated that “the Rebels attacked my store” seizing and destroying about \$140 worth of merchandise. For more than an hour, Daniel, his son John, and William Lewis McGlaughlin witnessed the “depredations” of Stuart’s men. The store, was again looted during the Gettysburg Campaign, this time, much more severely, with the retreating Confederates hauling off the major portion of his stock in their wagons. The losses to his “country store” were estimated at a staggering \$3,494.70. Of course, there is no evidence that Sullivan was compensated for his losses.

Sources: ACDB K-269, T-454; C.V.M.P Insurance Company Lien Docket 1844-1846, ACHS; Civil War Border Claims Files, Sullivan and Sons, PHMC; “A Valuable Limestone Farm,” *Compiler*, September 27, 1841; “Money Stolen—Arrest,” *Compiler*, February 14, 1859; “Still in the Union,” *Compiler*, April 8, 1861; *Gettysburg Compiler*, September 2, 1861; “List of Merchants,” *Adams Sentinel*, June 3, 1862; “Excitement in Gettysburg,” *Star and Banner*, October 16, 1862; “The Rebel Official Reports of the Raid of Stuart’s Cavalry,” *Valley Spirit*, November 5, 1862; *Adams Sentinel*, June 14, 1864; Frank M. Moore, “Southern Armies thrice were temporary visitors

as events of the Civil War engulfed Village,” *Gettysburg Times*, September 11, 1951; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area’s Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee: 1976), 62.

Town Lot #2N: John B. Paxton Residence. **Current Address:** Formerly 13 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** John Black Paxton. **Description:** Two-story, weather-boarded, dwelling house. **Recital:** Roger Hart in 1801; Thomas Craig; William Miller to Archibald Baird, September 5, 1807; Henry Zollinger, 1813; James and Joseph Scott, 1822; James Scott and Heirs of Joseph Scott, 1842, Samuel Linah, 1845; John B. Paxton, 1860; Heirs of John B. Paxton, 1891; Hattie McCreary, 1908.

History of the Lot: Roger Hart is indicated as the owner of this lot on the 1801 agreement between William Miller and the lot holders of Fairfield. But Hart does not appear with the property in the 1797 or 1802 tax list. From an examination of the early records, this appears to be the property of Thomas Craig who is shown in the 1802 and 1804 tax records with a house and lot valued at \$150, and he is mentioned as a former adjoiner in an 1813 deed for Lot 4N. In 1805 Craig is listed with a house and lot valued at \$80, so it seems that the property was reduced in value or he relocated to another lot. In 1807, William Miller sold this lot to Archibald Beard for \$200, strongly suggesting that there was a structure already there at that time. In the deed, which refers to this as “lot number second northeasterly,” there is no reference to a previous owner. In the 1808 tax list, Beard (or Baird) was assessed with a house and lot valued at \$150. In 1811, the value of the property was increased to \$450. In 1812, Beard transferred the lot to Henry Sellinger (or Zollinger), and in 1822 the property was transferred, once again, to James and Joseph Scott. An 1844 sale noted that this lot was sold to raise money for children of Joseph Scott, late of Hamiltonban Township. The advertisement described a “Lot of Ground . . . on Main Street and bounded on the west by an alley, on the north by an alley, and on the east by a lot of William Johnson on which are erected a two-story weather-boarded house, a blacksmith shop, a log stable, with a well of water near the door.” This house and lot are shown as owned by Samuel Linah in the 1845 tax list, being valued at \$400. It is shown but unlabeled on the 1858 wall map. The 1861 tax list indicates the transfer of a

house and lot valued at \$400 from S. Linah to John B. Paxton, but the actual transaction probably took place earlier as the Paxtons are shown at this location in the 1860 census. The 1872 *Atlas* indicates this property; owned by “J. B. Paxton.” The structure at this site was removed in the 1960s; currently the property is a vacant lot associated with Saint John’s Lutheran Church.

1860 Residents: John Black Paxton (1814-October 14, 1891); Margaret White Paxton (August 23, 1827-April 20, 1895); Sallie S. Paxton (1858-March 9, 1872), John Paxton (May 1860-August 9, 1860); Robert Slemmons (1783- January 28, 1863); Elmira Reese (1840, domestic servant of Robert Slemmons).

Civil War Notes: John B. Paxton was a partner in Paxton and McCreary’s Store (Lot 6E) and the postmaster of Fairfield at the time of the Civil War. According to several accounts, the post office was located in the back of the store. In the fall of 1862, during Stuart’s Raid, Paxton became a pawn in the much larger dispute between the United States and Confederate States authorities. In retaliation for the actions of General John Pope and the Union army in Virginia during the summer of 1862, General Robert E. Lee sent Stuart the following orders: “should you meet with citizens of Pennsylvania holding State or Government offices, it will be desirable, if convenient, to bring them with you, that they may be used as hostages, or the means of exchange, for our citizens that have been carried off by the enemy. Such persons will of course, be treated with all the respect and consideration that circumstances will admit.” On the evening of October 11, 1862, Stuart’s column entered the town and had Paxton arrested. Others citizens taken from the area during the raid included Andrew Low, Alexander Benchoff, John C. Martin, Sandford Shroeder, John Hartman, and Andrew Hartman. (Several citizens were taken hostage from Franklin County during the raid as well.) According to Paxton himself in an 1890 letter, “I was captured by Gen. Stuart on his raid through our state and town and was held as a hostage and spent the winter of 1862-1863 in ‘Libby.’ I returned in shattered health and am not yet wholly restored.” A later version of the story relates that “After about six months in Libby Prison” the men were exchanged. “Paxton who had suffered severely from prison fare and confinement, felt he could not make the trip home. He begged

the others to go without him. But [John] Martin [of Fountaindale] refused, saying that he could die as easily on the way as in prison. John Martin carried Paxton most of the way on his back.” Robert Slemmons, one of the long-time residents of the town and an uncle of John B. Paxton, was living with the family in 1860, and passed away while Paxton was in prison.

Sources: ACDB D-115; “Vendue,” *Adams Sentinel*, May 6, 1844; Paxton Family File, ACHS; Estate Papers of Joseph Scott, ACHS; “Times a-changing,” *Gettysburg Times*, January 28, 2013; Adelaide Paxton Doran, *The Paxton Family, A Genealogy* (Glendale, CA; 1987); *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, Series 1, Volume 19, Part 2 (Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.: 1887), 55.

Town Lot #3N: Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. **Current Address:** 15 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Trustees of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. **Description:** Large brick structure, built in 1854 and still standing. **Recital:** Henry Albright, by 1795; Andrew Topper, in 1801; William Miller to Alexander McGaughy, March 3, 1802; John Steen, February 25, 1805; Matthew Steen; 1806; Jacob Stover, September 6, 1806; Alexander Mack, April 1, 1813; John McWilliams, April 1, 1815; Ezra Blythe, June 30, 1818; William Johnson, November 17, 1839; John H. McClellan, January 29, 1845; Margaret White, January 14, 1846; Heirs of Margaret White, October 9, 1850; Trustees of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Fairfield, April 8, 1854.

History of the Lot: The tax list of 1795 shows Henry Albright with two lots (Lots 3N and 4N) valued at 20 pounds, indicating a house on one of the lots by that time. The 1801 agreement lists Andrew Topper as the owner of lots 3N and 4N, and the 1802 tax list shows him with a house and two lots valued at \$350. But Albright and Topper are not mentioned in the deed recital, which states that Miller sold the lot directly to McGaughy in 1802. In 1813, lots 3N and 4N were sold by Jacob Stover to Alexander Mack for \$750. In 1814, the lots were divided, lot 3N described as a house and lot valued at \$300. In 1815, the property was sold for \$500. In 1817, the value was \$400. An 1818 sheriff’s sale described the property of John McWilliams as “a lot of ground in the town aforesaid, and known on the general plan

of said town by No. 3 — whereon is erected a good framed dwelling-house and stable, also, a large and convenient black-smith shop.” The property sold in 1818 for \$600. In 1844, a sheriff’s sale described this lot, the property of William Johnson, “as adjoining lot of James Scott and the heirs of Joseph Scott on the west, and John McCleary on the east, on which are erected a one-story frame weather-boarded house, log shop and log stable.” The tax records for many years list this as a house and lot valued at \$200. In April 1854, the lot was transferred to the trustees of the Lutheran congregation of Fairfield by the heirs of Margaret White. A note in the 1855 tax list indicates this lot as having been “transferred to trustees of church.” Shortly after the sale, the dwelling house was removed and the cornerstone of the church edifice was laid in 1854. The cost of construction of the new church was said to have been \$2,500. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Fairfield was officially organized on November 10, 1855. Among the original members of the congregation were John Nunnemaker, Barnabas Riley, John Musselman, Christian Musselman, Jacob Musselman, Julia Ann Hoke, Michael Rugler, George Hull, Sr., William Culp, Rufus C. Swope, and Zephaniah Herbert. The church was renovated in 1891, the bell tower being attached to the front of the church at that time. Interestingly, a USGS benchmark (circa 1908) is attached to the tower which gives the elevation of the town of Fairfield as 608 feet above sea level. The church has undergone many renovations over the years, but the original structure is still standing. The congregation merged with the United Church of Christ Congregation (Fairfield’s original reformed congregation) and was renamed St. John’s Lutheran Church in 1967. (Transcriptions of the parish registers of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church [1853-1967] are held in the collections of the Adams County Historical Society.)

Civil War Notes: At the time of the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863, the church was apparently without its own pastor, sharing one with the Emmitsburg charge. On Sunday, June 28, 1863, services were conducted by the Reverend Washington Van Buren Gotwald, a student of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg. There was much anxiety, as the Confederate army had invaded Pennsylvania and was known to be in the area. “Just after the morning service was being concluded the Confederates dashed into the village. The people did not wait for the benediction.” A detachment of perhaps

twenty Rebel artilleryman under the command of Lieutenant John H. Chamberlayne, were scouring the area for horses and came upon the church just as the service was concluded. According to a later account, "Lieut. Chamberlayne entered the building and held up the congregation at the point of the pistol, while his men unhitched the horses in the yard; that Lieut. Chamberlayne gave to each person relieved of his horse a receipt for the animal, stating that it would be paid for on the conclusion of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States." Over the years, there has been much debate as to the exact location of the incident, but the *Gettysburg Compiler* of June 29, 1863, noted that "several gentlemen came into town last evening and reported that a squad of eighteen rebel cavalry had appeared at Fairfield, and had taken the horses of a number of persons whilst at church there." The Confederate detachment hurried on, but encountered a squad of Union troops near Fountaindale and after a short skirmish; the horses were recaptured and returned to the citizens. The Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church was used as a hospital following the cavalry action east of town on July 3, 1863. A 1927 article spoke of the "Confederate and Federal soldiers who were taken into the Lutheran church to be cared for. The hospital established there was in charge of Doctor Price of the Confederate Army and Doctor Forwood, a federal surgeon. The Rebels were on the left of the aisle it is said." Confirming the article is the fact that William Henry Forwood, assistant surgeon of the Sixth United States Cavalry, was captured in the battle of Fairfield. A church history related that "Strong Boards were placed across the backs of the pews and covered with blankets. Both Federal and Confederate soldiers received the same tender care . . . It seemed very proper that the house of God should become a place of mercy as well as a house of worship." According to the 1934 article, "The Lutheran Church . . . has a tablet attached to the outside as follows: General Field Hospital. The wounded of the Sixth United States and Sixth Virginia Cavalry were cared for here, July 3, 1863." This tablet (or wooden sign) was probably attached to the church in 1903 at the same time other markers were placed in the town by the veterans of the Sixth United States Cavalry. Today that marker does not exist, but the War Department placed a metal itinerary marker in front of the building at some point.

Sources: ACDB H-165; H-168, T-230, 58-572, 97-460, 280-20, 1420-228; Ezra Blythe to William Johnson, November 16, 1839, URD, in possession of Robert Fitez of Fairfield; *History and Directory of the Boroughs of Adams County* (Gettysburg: 1880), 154; H. C. Bradsby, *1886 History of Adams County* . . . (Knightstown, Ind. : The Bookmark, 1977), 281, 445; *Fairfield in the Civil War*, 18, 20; Timothy H. Smith, "Skirmish at Fountaindale," *Blue and Gray Magazine*, 23 (2000): 24-30; "Fairfield Items," *Star and Sentinel*, June 24, 1903; "Sheriff's Sale," *Adams Centinel*, April 29, 1818; "Sheriff's Sales," *Adams Sentinel*, October 28, 1844; Thriving Town can Cater to needs of Many," *Gettysburg Times*, June 28, 1927; "The Cavalry Fight at Fairfield," *Gettysburg Times*, September 10, 1934; "Historical Display Attracts Attention as part of Zion Lutheran Anniversary Events," *Gettysburg Times*, November 28, 1959.

Town Lot #4N: Isaac Robinson Residence. **Current Address:** 17 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Isaac Robinson. **Description:** Two-story, frame dwelling-house, with a one-story, frame back building. **Recital:** Henry Albright, by 1795; Andrew Topper, in 1801; William Miller to Alexander McGaughy, March 3, 1802; John Steen, February 25, 1805; Matthew Steen; 1806; Jacob Stover, September 6, 1806; Alexander Mack, April 1, 1813; Samuel Kittle, 1814; Samuel Hoover, 1818; Henry Myers in 1821; Heirs of Henry Myers; 1829; John McCleary, 1841; Thomas Hamilton, August 18, 1852; Daniel King, February 2, 1855; Isaac Robinson, March 13, 1857; Daniel Sullivan, October 24, 1864; Susan Sullivan, May 10, 1873; Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Fairfield, September 29, 1909.

History of the Lot: The early History of Lot 4N was associated with Lot 3N and in 1813 the two were sold together for \$700. In 1814 the lots were separated, Lot 4N being listed as a house and lot valued at \$300. An 1821 sheriff's sale of Samuel Hoover's property described it as "a frame dwelling house, shop, stable, and lot of ground situate in Millerstown." For many years this property was in possession of the heirs of Henry Myers and difficult to trace in the tax records. An 1846 sheriff's sale described this as "a lot of ground situate in Millerstown . . . on which are erected a two-story, rough-cast dwelling house, with a one-story rough-cast back building, one-story log shop, frame stable, and a well of water . . . adjoining the

property of Jacob Kridler, dec'd. and Mary Ann White—seized and taken in execution as the estate of John McCleary.” McCleary does not appear with property in the tax records after the sale, but still must have retained some sort of ownership. It appears that Thaddeus Stevens may have purchased the property on his behalf. An 1852 sheriff’s sale described this as “a lot of ground situate in Fairfield . . . known on the general plan of the said town as lot no. 4, situate on the north side of York Street, bounded by lots of heirs of Jacob Kriedler and heirs of Margaret White, and extending from York St., north west to an alley, on which are erected a two-story rough cast house, with a one-story frame, rough cast back building—a log shop, a frame stable, and other out buildings. There is a well of water with a pump in it near the door. Seized and taken in execution as the property of John McCleary.” In 1846 the tax records described the property as a house and lot valued at \$500, but in 1853 the value was reduced to \$200. The 1857 tax records indicate the transfer of a house and lot valued at \$200 from Daniel King to Isaac Robinson. The 1858 map shows this as “I. Robinson’s Res.” Daniel Sullivan purchased the property by 1864 and is shown as the owner of the property in the 1872 *Atlas*. Daniel Sullivan died in 1891, and his wife Susan sold the lot to the Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Fairfield in 1909. The current building at this site was built sometime thereafter and is owned by St. John’s Lutheran Church.

1860 Residents: Isaac Robinson (March 18, 1801- July 29, 1869); Agnes M. (Nancy) Wilson Robinson (January 22, 1800-May 21, 1882); Charles M. Robinson (November 10, 1836); James Wilson (April 28, 1779 - July 13, 1868); Elizabeth Crawford (1839), domestic servant.

Family Notes: *Boyd’s Business Directory* (1860) lists Isaac Robinson of Fairfield as a surveyor. Isaac was married to Agnes, the daughter of James Wilson, who was for many years the proprietor of Fairfield. For many years, Isaac operated the Mansion House or Fairfield Inn, and for a time (1845-1852) he owned the property. Isaac sold his Fairfield property in 1864 and moved to Gettysburg where he died in 1869. His obituary provides us with some insight into the prominent role that he had in local affairs. “Hon. Isaac Robinson, late an Associate Judge of this county, died at his residence, in this place,

at twenty minutes before 2 o'clock yesterday morning. He suffered excruciating pain for many months, the disease terminating in cancer of the bowels. Judge Robinson was born in Carroll's Tract, on the 18th of March, 1801, making his age 68 years 4 months and 11 days. He occupied public positions of responsibility during many years of his life—County Surveyor, Justice of the Peace, Member of the Legislature, and Associate Judge—the duties of which he discharged with efficiency and fidelity. Always courteous, even tempered and warm hearted, and of unbending integrity, no one knew Isaac Robinson without respecting and admiring him. Among the county's purest and most useful citizens, he died regretted by all its people." A family bible once owned by Agnes M. Wilson contains many birth and death dates of the Wilson, Reed, and Robinson families. A copy of pertinent pages can be seen at the Adams County Historical Society.

Civil War Notes: Isaac Robinson was one of those unfortunate citizens who lost a horse during Stuart's Raid on October 11, 1862. Robinson described the horse as a sorrel mare, 6 years of age, valued at \$125. It was taken from his stable, which, according to an affidavit by Peter Shively, stood "on an alley connecting with the road on which the Rebels passed." James Wilson, the former proprietor of the town, lived with his daughter's family at this location throughout the Civil War. In 1861 at the outbreak of the rebellion, he wrote a letter of encouragement to Charles H. Buehler of Gettysburg, the commander of Company E, Second Pennsylvania Infantry (a unit which included several Fairfield area citizens): "This war is not of our government's choosing. It behooves all sound men to rally round its standard, and sustain its stars and stripes which is the cherished emblem of our glorious country. I would not that any should, for one moment, doubt the issue of this contest. We can and will damn the rebels like damnation, (this may [be] thought profanity, but it is only the effervescence of patriotism), and then dictate the terms of peace. Arouse then, my young countrymen; arouse. Go forth and avenge your country's wrongs, for the aged cannot. I am now in the 83rd year of my life, and in the long course of it I have not known a time in which young men had so fair an opportunity of earning renown for themselves and their country. In the outset we may and probably will meet disaster, as we have heretofore in our wars. Don't get discouraged at them. Up and at it again; avoid our former errors

if defeat is attributed to our errors. When we get into the right hang of it, we can whip any equal number on God's earth, having equal advantages, with Gen. Scott's command and strategy. Our brave soldiers will soon learn that discipline and subordination is essential to the success in all armies. Without it the military arm would be but an armed rabble. Go-go-then, my brave boys, go-your country calls, and may heaven's choicest gifts attend you now and hereafter. Excuse me. When I get on this war subject as my whole soul is in it, my pen runs off with me." **Sources:** ACDB H-165, 64-604; Civil War Border Claims Files, Isaac Robinson, PHMC; "Private Sale," *Adams Sentinel*, October 22, 1816; "Samuel Hoover, Tailor," *Compiler*, August 11, 1819; "Sheriff's Sales," *Adams Centinel*, July 10, 1821; "For the Republican Compiler," *Compiler*, August 7, 1848; "Sheriff's Sales," *Star and Banner*, July 23, 1852; "Death of Hon. Isaac Robinson," *Compiler*, July 23, 1869; "Miss Crawford," *Adams County News*, September 23, 1916; Timothy H. Smith, "The First Battle of Gettysburg, April 22, 1861," *Adams County History*, Volume 16 (2010), 30-31; *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #5N: John Gelbach Residence. **Current Address:** 19 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** John Gelbach. **Description:** Two story, log, dwelling-house. **Recital:** William Miller to William Taylor; August 19, 1796; Thomas Dick, April 13, 1798; David McClellan, July 19, 1811; Heirs of David McClellan, September 15, 1813; Samuel Rife, April 2, 1814; [Gap in recital, 1815-1841] Heirs of Jacob Kreidler, July 5, 1842; John Gelbach, April 1, 1856; J. Upton Neely, June 15, 1885; Heirs of J. Upton Neely, 1917; Robert C. Neely, October 19, 1918.

History of the Lot: In 1796 William Miller sold to William Taylor three lots in "the town of Fairfield, otherwise Millerstown and known in the original plan of the town by numbers Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh North." The lots sold for 7 pounds, 10 shillings, suggesting that there were no structures at the time of the sale. However, the 1795 tax list for Hamiltonban Township shows William Taylor with a house and three lots valued at 50 pounds, indicating that there was a house on at least one of the lots prior to the deed. This illustrates the basic problem in establishing the true construction dates for the houses in Fairfield:

Lots were purchased, houses were built, and properties were sold and resold, prior to deeds being issued by Miller. The original Taylor house appears to be the one here on Lot 5N. In 1798 William Taylor sold the lots to Thomas Dick. Both William Taylor and Thomas Dick are shown as holding taverns licenses at this time, Taylor from 1795-1797 and Dick, 1797-1799. Lots 5N, 6N and 7N were still together in 1811 when they sold for \$560 to David McClellan. A 1813 advertisement for the property described “two lots of ground in the town of Fairfield, or Millerstown, late the property of David M’Clellan, deceased, on which lots are the following buildings, a large convenient dwelling house, which was long occupied as a tavern, a hatters’ shop, stabling, a good garden near the kitchen, a good wood yard—the remainder of said lots under a good pale fence, and in a good state for cultivation.” A notice of public sale for the estate of Jacob Kreidler in 1855 described this property as a “two story log house and two lots of ground, Nos. 5 and 6 on the original plot of the town of Fairfield.” The tax records show this as a house and lot valued at \$300. Records indicate that the property was purchased by John Gelbach, a farmer of Hamiltonban Township, on April 1, 1856. In 1857, tax records indicate that “house improvements” of \$200 were made to the property. Starting in 1859, Gelbach’s house and lot was valued at \$400. In 1871, Gelbach sold his farm in Hamiltonban Township to his son Joseph, and in 1874 the value of his house and lot in Fairfield was increased to \$1,800. Gelbach died in 1879, his estate papers describing his property as “a house and lot in Fairfield, Adams County, Penna, bounded by lot of Daniel Sullivan on the west and Daniel Mickley on the east, on the south by an alley [*sic*] and on the north by Main Street [*sic*], improved with a two story brick dwelling house, stable and other buildings.” It seems likely, then, that the two-story brick section of the house standing today at 19 East Main Street was built between 1871 and 1873, most likely before 1872, as the atlas that year seems to suggest the same configuration of the current house. It is also likely that the rear of the current house is a portion of the original house. In 1917 the estate sale of J. Upton Neely described this property as being “located on the west side of Main Street, in Fairfield Borough. Double Lot with a frontage of 120 feet, and 240 ft. depth, improved with a house 30x60, containing large hall, eight rooms, bath and toilet, also a large kitchen and pantry

attached . . . on rear of lot is a fine new stable 22x32 with carriage house attached. Also wood shed; corn crib, buggy shed and chicken house, all in good condition. The property has a rear and side alley and is considered one of the most desirable properties in Fairfield.”

1860 Residents: John Gelbach (March 16, 1796--March 28, 1879), Mary E. Filgel Gelbach (February 14, 1794--December 25, 1884), Savilla King, (1845-), domestic servant.

Family Notes: According to the *1886 History of Adams County*, John Gelbach “emigrated from Wittenberg, Germany in 1818, when twenty-two years old. When Prussia was at the feet of Napoleon, John Gelbach served in the army of the conqueror, but when his country asserted herself he was in her armies and was in the memorable battle of Waterloo, when but nineteen years old. His future wife accompanied him to this country, and they were married on landing at Baltimore. He worked as a blacksmith and his wife in the house of George Trostle, at Marsh Creek, for a year, to pay for their passage. Afterward they lived near the Monocacy until he bought a house and lot, one mile west of Fairfield, where he worked at his trade until 1839, at which time he bought a farm one mile east of Fairfield and built the house in which Joseph [his son] lives. Several years later he built a house in Fairfield, in which he and his wife passed a peaceful old age. He was a man of noted piety, identified with the Reformed Church from early life. He was born March 16, 1796 and died March 28, 1879. His wife, nee Maria E. Filgel, born in Prussia February 14, 1794, died December 25, 1884.” The *1886 History* lists the couple as having had seven children: George, who died in 1883; John (1822-1844); Mary Ann (1824-1844); Elizabeth, wife of Peter Shively, Lot 1W; Joseph, born March 21, 1828; Samuel David (1830-1848); and Sarah Eliza (1837-1840). At the time of the Civil War, John Gelbach was also the owner of a farm just east of Fairfield (on which his son Joseph resided), which included a lime quarry, opened about 1860. A 1917 advertisement described this as the “Gelbach Lime Quarries.” Over the years the quarry expanded and is still in use today. John Gelbach and his wife are buried in Gettysburg’s Evergreen Cemetery.

Civil War Notes: In 1902 the *Glen Rock Item* recorded the reminiscences of John W. Gelbach, son of Joseph and grandson of John Gelbach: “Our genial townsman, Mr. John W. Gelbach recalled

to-day that 39 years ago he heard the cannon at Gettysburg boom, and interested a little party of friends by relating incidents of that great battle. Mr. Gelbach's father at that time lived only seven miles from the battlefield and every pane of glass in the house was broken by the jars caused by the terrific shots. The retreating Confederate army passed by the Gelbach home and Generals Lee, Beauregard, Longstreet and Ewell dismounted and entered the house. Mr. Gelbach was then a small boy, but he remembers that General Lee took him in his arms and placed him upon his knee and asked him whether he thought he would like to be a soldier. Mr Gelbach thinks he replied that 'he didn't know.' Soon after the distinguished generals had entered the house a Union battery opened fire upon the retreating soldiers, and they joined in the retreat. Mr. Gelbach remembers the great general that caressed him as a tall man with a kindly look, and very handsome." The story of General Lee bouncing the boy on his knee is hard to believe, and of course, General P. G. T. Beauregard was nowhere near Pennsylvania during the Gettysburg Campaign. But the other details of the article are plausible. John W. Gelbach was eleven years old at the time and his family lived on the farm east of Fairfield owned by his grandfather. The Confederates did retreat past the family's farm and on July 5, 1863, the Union Army did place artillery on a hill east of the house and shell the rearguard of the Rebel army. One can only imagine the sound created by the shells whistling over the house and exploding near the edge of town.

Sources: YCDB 2N-465; ACDB F-56; F-467; G-108; V-453, 83-20; 139-69; 237-97; Estate Papers of John Gelbach, ACHS; H. C. Bradsby, *1886 History of Adams County* (Knightstown, Ind. : The Bookmark, 1977), 461-62; *Adams Centinel*, December 29, 1813; "Public Sale," *Adams Sentinel*, February 25, 1856; "Gettysburg Reminiscences," *Glen Rock Item*, July 4, 1902; "Public Sale," *Gettysburg Times*, October 5, 1917; "Quarry near Fairfield is in Operation," *GettysburgTimes*, October 6, 1961.

Town Lot #6N: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 21 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** John Gelbach. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** William Miller to William Taylor; August 19, 1796; Thomas Dick, April 13, 1798; David McClellan, July 19, 1811; Heirs of David McClellan, September 15, 1813; Samuel Rife, April 2, 1814; [gap in

recital] Heirs of Jacob Kreidler, July 5, 1842; John Gelbach, April 1, 1856; J. Upton Neely, 1885; Heirs of J. Upton Neely, 1917; Robert C. Neely, October 19, 1918.

History of the Lot: Throughout its history, this lot is associated with Lot 5N. The map in the 1872 *Atlas* clearly indicates that this was a vacant lot at that time. This lot was still associated with Lot 5N in 1919 and apparently still vacant. **Sources:** YCDB 2N-465; ACDB F-467; G-108; V-453, 38-20, 139-66 ; Estate Papers of John Gelbach, ACHS; “Public Sale,” *Adams Sentinel*, February 25, 1856; “Fairfield Items,” *Star and Banner*, October 9, 1907; “Public Sale,” *Gettysburg Times*, October 5, 1917.

Town Lot #7N: Daniel Mickley Residence. **Current Address:** 23 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Daniel Mickley. **Description:** Two-story, brick, dwelling-house, no longer standing. **Recital:** William Miller to William Taylor, August 19, 1796; Thomas Dick, April 13, 1798; David McClellan, July 19, 1811; [gap in recital] Daniel Mickley, by 1844; Heirs of Daniel Mickley, January 9, 1899; Daniel D. Mickley.

History of the Lot: Daniel Mickley first appears in the tax records in 1844 with a house and lot valued at \$600. An unlabeled dwelling is shown at this site on the 1858 map. The 1872 *Atlas* indicates this as the residence of Daniel Mickley. The structure no longer stands, apparently torn down in the 1960s. **1860 Residents:** Daniel Mickley (December 22, 1801-January 9, 1899); Eliza Mickley (January, 1835-January 15, 1899); Daniel D. Mickley (January 21, 1859-February 28, 1948).

Family notes: When he died in 1899 at the age of 97 years of age, Daniel Mickley was Fairfield’s oldest resident. He is buried in Fairfield Union Cemetery.

Civil War Notes: During Stuart’s Raid on October 11, 1862, Mickley was another of those unfortunate citizens to have a horse stolen. He described it as being a gray horse, 14 years old, and valued at \$50. According to Mickley, “my horse was taken out of the stable saddled and bridled where I had left him for a few moments to give

the alarm.” During the Gettysburg Campaign, he suffered additional losses on a farm that he owned, two miles from Fairfield in “Carroll’s Tract.”

Sources: YCDB 2N-465; ACDB G-108; Civil War Border Claims Files, Daniel Mickley, PHMC.

Town Lot #8N: Charles F. Hinkle Residence. **Current Address:** 25 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Charles F. Hinkle. **Description:** Two-story, log, weather-boarded, dwelling-house, with back building. **Recital:** Henry Ferguson, in 1796; William Miller to Archibald Beard, October 22, 1806; George Stallsmith, 1807; Jacob Heagy, 1810; Philip Slentz, 1816; John Paxton, by 1817; William Johnson, by 1844; Eliza Harper, 1845; Charles F. Hinkle, by 1861; George Andrew, 1873; John Peters; Sarah E. Peters, in 1919; Solomon A. Allison, by 1929; Clarence Wilson, January 1, 1959.

History of the Lot: Henry Ferguson is shown as the original owner of this lot, as an adjoiner in 1796 and on the 1801 agreement. The 1802 tax records list him with a house and lot valued at \$300. But, as is the case with several Fairfield town lots, he must not have obtained clear title, for the lot was deeded by William Miller directly to Archibald Beard in 1806, when the deed states the property was sold for 50 shillings. Tax records indicate the transfer of the lot from Ferguson to Beard, without mention of Miller. Tax records also indicate the transfer of the lot from Beard to Stallsmith, and Stallsmith to Heagy, closely matching the known deeds. In 1813, Heagy’s evaluation is crossed out, and he is shown with a lot valued at \$76. In 1814 he is shown with a house and lot valued at \$600. This suggests that the original structure was destroyed or removed, and a new structure was built at that time, most likely the one standing today. An 1844 sheriff’s sale described the property of William Johnson as “adjoining Daniel Mickly on the west, Peter Wagner on the east, fronting on Main Street, and running back to an alley, on which are erected a two-story log weather-boarded dwelling house, with a back building attached thereto.” Eliza Harper (1803-1869), widow of Samuel Harper, is shown as the owner of this lot, valued at \$400, starting in 1845. The structure is illustrated, but not labeled on the 1858 map. Tax records indicate that Charles F. Hinkle was the owner of the lot by 1861 and possibly purchased the property in

1860, as the census indicates that he owned property. *Boyd's Business Directory* (1860) lists Charles F. Henckle [*sic*] of Fairfield as a boot and shoemaker. The 1872 *Atlas* indicates this site as "Shoe Shop, C. F. Hinkle." The 1976 history of Fairfield relates the fact that "during the third quarter of the [last] century a split hickory chair and rocker factory was located at 25 East Main Street. The original log structure at this site is still standing being one of the oldest structures in the town."

1860 Residents: Charles F. Hinkle (1835-April 27, 1899); Elizabeth J. Hinkle (1834 – November 16, 1877); Addison Hinkle (1857); Augustus Hinkle (November 24, 1858 – September 30, 1879); Mary Peters (1845); William Troxel (1839), shoemaker; William McIlhenny (1839), shoemaker.

Civil War Notes: Several sources list Charles F. Hinkle as a shoemaker at the outbreak of the Civil War. Hinkle was also one of the Fairfield residents who filed a claim of damages with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania due to losses during Stuart's Raid in October 1862. The claim stated that "three sides of upper leather," 15 lbs of sole leather, one calf skin, one pair of new boots, and tools were taken "from my shop in Millerstown." John W. Pryor, a journeyman of Hinkle's at the time, stated that he "saw the Rebels on the 11th of Oct. take several pair of boots and a bundle of leather from Mr. Hinkel's shop." This shop was most likely located in a small building next to the house. Hinkle also served as an officer in the Union Army. In September of 1864, he enlisted in Company G, 209th Pennsylvania Infantry. Two months later, he was promoted to captain of the company, a position which he held until the end of the war, being discharged on May 31, 1865. Company G was raised in Adams County and many Fairfield lot owners (or future lot owners) were represented in the unit, including: Daniel Biesecker, George Hull, Thomas Winebrenner, Joshua Cease, Hiram Eshelman, William McGlaughlin, and John C. Shertzer. The 209th was originally assigned to the Army of the James but with other Pennsylvania regiments was transferred to the Army of the Potomac, which took an active role in the Petersburg Campaign. On March 25, 1865, the regiment was involved in the recapture of Fort Steadman, and on April 2, the 209th was one of the units which broke through the enemy's entrenchments

around Petersburg, forcing the withdrawal of the Southern army from that city. Lee's Army surrendered a week later. Although their losses were not as heavy as other Adams County units, the 209th was among the most productive units during the war.

Sources: ACDB C-421; D-451, 223-521; 599-1099; Civil War Border Claims Files, Charles F. Hinkle, PHMC; "Sheriff's Sales," *Adams Sentinel*, October 28, 1844; "Funeral Home Expansion Plan hits snag in Fairfield," *Gettysburg Times*, September 14, 2004; Richard A. Sauers, *Advance the Colors! Pennsylvania Civil War Battle Flags*, Vol. 2 (Capitol Preservation Committee, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 1991), 513-514. *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860); *Glimpses of Fairfield's Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee, 1976).

Town Lot #9N: Michael Lawver Residence. **Current Address:** 27 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Michael Lawver. **Description:** Large stone-and-frame dwelling-house. **Recital:** William Miller to William Roberts, August 19, 1796; John Topper, April 3, 1800; Alexander Mack, April 28, 1806; John McClure, April 1, 1814; James H. Miller and Ralph Lashell, March 27, 1815; Martin Hill, March 30, 1816; Zephaniah Herbert, May 28, 1817; Michael Lawver in 1843; Peter Wagner, in 1844; Michael Lawver, by 1856.

History of the Lot: Lot 9 N is the site of another of Fairfield's early taverns. In 1796, Lots 9N and 10N were sold by William Miller to William Roberts for ten pounds, indicating, perhaps, that the lots were vacant. In 1800 Lots 9N and 10N were sold to John Topper for 200 pounds, so obviously something was standing by that time. In 1806 Lots 9 and 10 sold for \$700. In 1817 Zephaniah Herbert purchased lots 9N and 10N for \$3,000. The property was "bounded and described together as follows (viz) beginning from number 'Nine' on York Street at the corner of number eight belonging to John Paxton thence by the same two hundred and forty feet to a back alley—then by said alley sixty feet to corner of number 'ten'—thence for lot number ten by said alley seven feet to lands of Reverend William Paxton, then by the same two hundred and forty feet to York Street aforesaid thence by the same for lot number ten eighty nine feet and for lot number nine sixty feet to the beginning." The original building no longer stands. According to a 1951 article in the *Gettysburg Times*,

“one of the oldest houses in Fairfield was razed in 1940 and the stones from it were used for building the Allison funeral home. The exact date of building [or construction of] the old house is not known but it was some time before 1814.” According to article on the history of Fairfield in 1956 in the *Times*, “the exact erection date of the razed house, used at one time as an inn and known as the Temperance Inn, is not known. But a deed dated April 1, 1814, describes...on that date two lots, improved with a stone house, were sold by Alexander Mack to John McClure for 1,000 pounds.” The whereabouts of the deed mentioned in the article are unknown today, but that deed would certainly be of great interest, since it is said to describe the structure as being stone. In 1843 Michael Lawver encountered some kind of financial difficulty and his property was put up for public sale by assignees, Isaac Robinson and Zephaniah Herbert. It was described as “the real estate of Michael Lawver, consisting of two lots of ground, situate in Fairfield, Adams County, Pa., fronting on Main Street, bounded by an alley on two sides, and lot of William Johnson. The improvements are a large two-story roughcast dwelling house, two-story back building and kitchen, log-barn, threshing floor, with sheds, stables and other outbuildings; a good well of water in front. The property was for many years occupied as a tavern and more recently as a store, and is well calculated for either.” With no recorded deeds for this property dating from this period, the exact ownership of the lot is difficult to trace, but it appears that Michael Lawver was able retain (or reacquire) the property and owned it at the time of the Civil War. In 1940 the original structure at 27 East Main Street was razed, and in 1941 Mr. S. A. Allison opened a funeral parlor in the current building. William Wilson (known as Dutch), a son-in-law of Allison, purchased the parlor in 1959, continuing the family business for many years. Robert Monahan purchased the property in 1977, and it exists today as the Monahan Funeral Home. Lot 9N was divided in 1897. According to the *Compiler* in November of 1897, “Daniel C. Stoner has purchased a part of the Lawver property on Main Street, and expects to have a dwelling house on it ready for occupancy by the first of April.” No doubt, this refers to the dwelling house that stood for many years as 29 East Main Street. That house was removed in recent years.

1860 Residents: Michael Lawver (January 21, 1802-March 22, 1893); Sarah Lawver (1803); Eliz Lawver (1835); Alexander S. McCleaf (1825); Fanny McCleaf (1828); Sarah A. McCleaf (1849); Francis McCleaf (1851); Mary J. McCleaf (1855).

Family Notes: *Boyd's Business Directory*, 1860, lists Michael Lawver of Fairfield as a mason. It is interesting that in 1845 Michael Lawver attempted to reopen the tavern that had been previously operated at that location for many years. He filed a petition for a tavern license, but an objection was filed shortly after by forty citizens of the area, claiming that "said Michael Lawver is not a man in repute for temperance, and that such a house for vending spirituous liquors would be productive of evil." Lawver lived for 91 years. According to his death notice in 1893, "he has been identified with the history of Fairfield for a long time. He was a mason by trade and put up many of the buildings in this neighbor about sixty years ago." It would be interesting to know what 1830s buildings he was involved in the constructed of.

Civil War Notes: A story relating to the Civil War was told of the Lawver House in a 1951 article in the *Gettysburg Times*: "On July 3rd, 1863, in the confusion of horses and riders in the village streets, a Yankee soldier, who found himself on foot, was pursued by a Confederate horseman and darted into the old Lawver house which in the years past was a roadhouse. The 'Johnnie' dashed up, quickly dismounted, threw the reins of his mount over a hitching post and followed into the house through the door the other man had entered. He expected to find his quarry hidden somewhere inside, but the pursued had not tarried, going out the back door. He came around to the front and, seeing the horse tethered up there, quickly mounted and galloped away. The Rebel came out just in time to see his horse disappearing around a bend, and no doubt muttered to himself, 'just another Yankee trick.'" The source of the story is not given, but of course the escaping soldier was surely a member of the Sixth United States Cavalry.

Sources: YCDB 2M-170; ACDB C-292, C-325, H-256; 260-1190; 599-1107. "Assignees' Sale," *Compiler*, March 27, 1843; Death notice of Michael Lawver, *Compiler*, March 28, 1893; "Fairfield Items," *Compiler*, November 2, 1897; "Yank Turned Tables, Stole

Rebel's Horse," *Gettysburg Times*, September 11, 1951; "House Razed in 1940 Built Prior to 1814," *Gettysburg Times*, September 11, 1951; "History of Fairfield extends from Indian Raid through 3 World Wars," *Gettysburg Times*, June 25, 1956. "Love, Trust anchor 70 year marriage," *Gettysburg Times*, March 23, 2000; *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #10N: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 31-33 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Michael Lawver. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** William Miller to William Roberts, August 19, 1796; John Topper, April 3, 1800; Alexander Mack, April 28, 1806; John McClure, April 1, 1814; James H. Miller and Ralph Lashell, March 27, 1815; Martin Hill, March 30, 1816; Zephaniah Herbert, May 28, 1817; Michael Lawver, by 1843; Peter Wagner, in 1844; Michael Lawver, by 1856; George Hull, September 1, 1866.

History of the Lot: It is interesting to note that the eastern boundary of Lot 10 was also the original boundary of John Miller's 247 acre tract of land, and that configuration of Lot 10 is reflected by that boundary. The 1796 deed from William Miller to William Roberts describes Lot 10N as fronting 89 feet on York Street but only 7 feet along the alley in rear of the lot. Perhaps as a result of its odd shape, Lot 10N was connected to and associated with Lot 9N throughout its early history. There is no house shown at this location on the 1858 map. Tax records indicate that George Hull purchased Lot 10N in 1864 from his father-in-law Michael Lawver, but a recorded deed does not show the transfer until 1866. Clearly, the 1860 census indicates that Hull lived somewhere else at that time. And since Hull was in the Union army in 1864-65, it seems likely that house was not built until after the war. But regardless of the existing evidence, the house at 33 East Main Street has a plaque denoting it as a "Civil War Building, July 1863." At some point, prior to 1919, Lot 10N was divided and another house, still standing as 29 East Main Street, was constructed. As seen on modern tax maps, the boundaries of lot 9N and 10N were adjusted slightly when the lots were divided.

Residents: George Hull (October 30, 1835-January 8, 1914), Nancy C. Hull (May 3, 1840-October 29, 1916).

Family Notes: Even though it is clear that the Hulls were living elsewhere at the time of the 1860 census (perhaps on Lot 14S), they were the family first associated with the house at this site. George Hull was married to Nancy Lawver on August 3, 1859. Nancy was born and raised in Fairfield, the daughter of Michael and Sarah Lawver. So in essence, Michael was selling Lot 10N in 1866 to his daughter and son-in-law. The Hull family lived in the house for only a short time, moving to Illinois and eventually to Page County, Iowa, where George and Nancy spent their remaining days.

Civil War Notes: Along with other members of the Fairfield community, George Hull was a member of Company C, 165th Pennsylvania drafted militia in November 1862 to July 1863 and a member of Company G, 209th Pennsylvania, as corporal from September 1864 to May 1865.

Sources: YCDB 2M-170; ACDB Y-392, 419-20, 3061-263; Obituary of Mrs. Nancy C. Hull, *Clarinda Herald*, November 2, 1916.

Northwesterly Lot Histories

Town Lot #1W: Mansion House. **Current Address:** 15 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Peter Shively **Description:** Large stone-and-frame complex, still standing. **Recital:** John Miller to William McMunn, February 22, 1787; David Hayes, October 19, 1789; William Miller, by 1801; James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Isaac A. Robinson, September 27, 1845; James Wilson, October 7, 1852; Peter Shively, November 8, 1856; Jacob J. Shoemaker, April 2, 1900.

History of the Lot: Over the years, much has been said and written concerning the early history of the structure known as the Fairfield Inn. Unfortunately, much of that is based entirely on speculation and unfounded inferences. As stated in the introduction, the date of 1757 that has been popularly assigned to the building is founded solely upon the assumption that this was the site of John Miller's original homestead, a belief strengthened by the supposition that the Miller family retained this property throughout the process of laying out the town and the selling off of the other individual lots. But such is not the case. In *York County Deed Book*, 2F,194, there is a deed for the transfer of Lots 1W and 2 W from John Miller to William

McMunn. The transaction is dated February 22, 1787. According to the transaction dated February 22, 1787, McMunn paid five pounds for the property, and agreed to a ground rent per year of thirteen shillings and four pence. This suggests that there were no structures standing at that time. The property was described as two “lots of ground, situated lying and being in the Town of Fairfield, township and county aforesaid, bounded on the south by York Street, on the east by the main cross street, on the north by a fifteen feet alley, and on the west by Spring Alley and known on the general plan of the said town by the numbers one and two.” This description obviously predates the movement of the main cross street one lot further to the east. *York County Deed Books* also indicate that on October 19, 1789, William McMunn sold his Fairfield lots to David Hayes for 55 pounds. The increase in value seems to indicate that the property had some sort of improvement at the time of sale, constructed between 1787 and 1789. Most likely, this refers to the eastern stone portion of the current Fairfield Inn. The 1801 agreement between William Miller and the lot holders of Fairfield reveals that Miller owned lots 1W and 2W at that time, so the lots were reacquired by the family at some point, but existing tax records provide no clue as to the details of this transaction. A point of frustration in researching this property is the fact that Hamiltonban Township tax records do not list Miller’s properties separately, his Fairfield lots and nearby farm being lumped together throughout his ownership. As mentioned in the introduction, William Miller ran into financial difficulties and his properties were advertised for sale in 1823: The Sheriff’s notice describes “two lots of ground, in Millerstown, known and marked on the original plan of said town by Nos. 1 & 2, on which are erected a large stone dwelling house, and other buildings.” Miller’s other properties were described in detail, including his farm near Fairfield which was said to be “150 acres more or less on which [is] erected a large stone barn.” Also advertised were “the following lots of ground, 1, 2 and 3, south of Main St., and 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21; on the west side is lot No. 2, and one lot containing about 2 acres more or less.” Not mentioned in the advertisement is Lot 1N where the stone store house stood. This may have been an oversight. And the reference to lot 3, south of Main Street is curious, as Lot 3S was owned by the heirs of Barnabas Reily at the time. The Sheriff’s sale was supposed to be held on November 1, 1823, but it appears that James Wilson, husband

of one of William Miller's nieces, made arrangements to purchase all of Miller's holdings (including his ground rents) prior to the sale. Wilson and his family were the proprietors of the town and the owners of Lots 1W and 2W for the next thirty three years. At some point during Wilson's ownership, the Mansion House property was greatly expanded and the large stone house with balconies was added to the original two story stone house. But again, as is the case with Miller, the tax assessment for Wilson's holding is jumbled, making it is difficult to place an exact date of construction to the western stone portion of the current Fairfield Inn.

The year of 1823 has often been given for the expansion, but that date is primarily based upon the fact that Wilson purchased the property at that time. It was also under James Wilson's ownership that a tavern was first established at the site. Although it is true that William Miller held a tavern license for the year 1786, and the years 1795, 1796 and 1797, and that William Miller owned the property at this site in the 1801 agreement, the Millers laid out the entire town and records indicate that were three other Miller properties associated with early taverns. Miller could very well have operated the tavern at Lot 5E, for instance, as the initial sale of the property to John McGinley in 1800 was for 350 pounds, indicating that a substantial structure was already standing. The simple fact is that there is no evidence of a tavern being associated with the Fairfield Inn site at any point during William Miller's ownership of the property. Rather, Isaac Robinson, son-in-law of James Wilson, first appears running a tavern at the site. In the archives of the Adams County Historical Society, he is listed with a license for the years 1830-1837, 1839-1850, and 1854-1856. And it is clear that Lots 1W and 2W are the site of this tavern. There are numerous mentions of the tavern at this site in newspapers of the day. Additionally, John Pollard held the license at this site in 1837-1838, and Peter Shively from 1851-1854. So the tavern at this site is known to have been in almost continuous operation since 1830.

In 1841 James Wilson advertised the sale of his holdings in the *Compiler*. The following description is for Lot 1W, Lot 2W, Lot 1N, Lot 1S, Lot 2S and for the farm, north of the town: "The improvements are, two large stone dwelling houses; one of them being three stories

high with a piazza to each story. One of the said houses is now and has been for a number of years occupied as a public house of entertainment, having connected with it a back building and other improvements that adapt it well for such a purpose. Connected with it is a stone store house, now occupied as a private dwelling. These houses are well finished and make delightful residences. Belonging to them are new bake, wood and ice houses; three wells of good water, with new pumps in them, within a few steps of the doors. Also a stone bank barn. 140 acres of the farm are under cultivation, enclosed with good fencing.” In 1845, Wilson sold his property, including the tavern property to his son-in-law, Isaac Robinson. It is fortunate that on December 11, 1846, Isaac Robinson filed an insurance policy on the Mansion House property, and that document has survived. At that time it was described as “a three story house, stone, 32 by 39 feet, a 2 story stone house adjoining 29 by 39 feet, with a frame dining room attached in the rear, 16 ½ by 20 feet, 2 stories high. Also a one story stone kitchen built across the end of said dining room 15 by 36 feet. Also stone bank barn 30 by 63 feet. Also stone store house on same lot, 20 by 40 feet. Also frame stable 26 by 40 feet, on same lot.”

In 1852 Isaac Robinson sold the property back to James Wilson, and in 1854 Wilson sold the farmland north of the town (along with the stone barn) to Henry Landis, and in 1856 Wilson sold the tavern property to Peter Shively. The 1856 deed described the property as “all those three lots of ground known on the original plan of the said town of Fairfield . . . as numbers One N, One W, and Two W, on the north side of Main Street & on which are erected, a store house, a tavern house with extensive back building, a stone dwelling three stories high, a stone spring house, smoke house, oven and ash house, wood house, carriage house, out house, stable and other out houses, said lots each sixty feet front, and two hundred and forty feet to the back alley. Also the lot in front of the improvements above described and lying south of Main Street containing nearly one acre, upon which is an apple orchard, a spring, wash and milk house, said lot bounded on the east and south by lots of Rufus Swope.” Thus, the property appears as “P. Shively’s Mansion House” on the 1858 county wall map, and “P. Shively, Mansion House” on the 1872 *Atlas*. Over the years, the property passed between many owners and gradually deteriorated. During the 1970s James and Nancy Hammett

purchased the Fairfield Inn, and steps were immediately taken to restore the property was to its former glory. A 1972 article the *Gettysburg Times* gave a surprisingly accurate date for construction stating that the “section on the right [or east] was built between 1797 and 1801 and the porticoed structure on the left [or west] was added in 1823.” Shortly afterwards, the Hammetts filed a nomination for the National Register of Historic Places, with a lengthy description of the five distinct sections of the Fairfield Inn. There was obviously an onsite inspection of the building, and its architecture, but very little research into the historical record. The reports states that the original stone section was built in 1757, with major additions added in 1801 and 1823. Beyond the dates of construction, other information concerning the building was added to the report, including the undocumented stories that Patrick Henry was a frequent visitor to the inn, that Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon stayed there while surveying the line between Maryland and Pennsylvania, and, that “the Mansion House as it was called, was supposed to have been a hiding place for slaves from the Underground Railroad.” The story was also told that “the mansion house was used as officers’ quarters, when General J.E.B. Stuart occupied Gettysburg and the surrounding area.” Unfortunately, because most people believe that national register nominations are well-researched documents, over years these tales have come to be accepted as fact. Here we could provide great detail disputing the various inaccuracies, but no amount of protest by historians will dissuade people from continuing to relate these fantasies. The Fairfield Inn was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

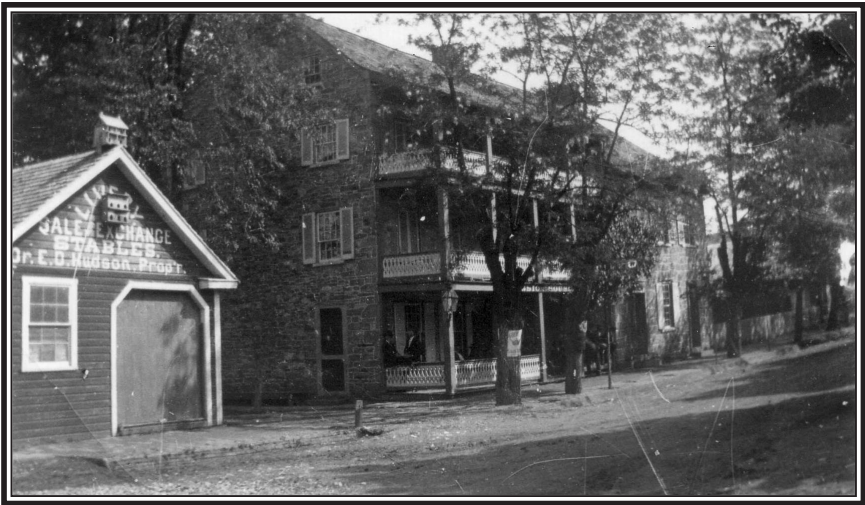
1860 Residents: Peter Shively (July 16, 1819-August 21, 1898), hotel keeper; Elizabeth Gelbach Shively (April 23, 1826-March 23, 1909); Laura C. Shively (May 21, 1846); Mary Elizabeth Shively (December 12, 1849); George G. Shively (March 20, 1854); Evan Thomas Rinehart (1828), merchant; Benjamin A. Marshall (1816), farmer; Jacob Rinehart (1834), physician; Charles Breyman (1841), hostler; Mary Andrew (1830), domestic.

Family Notes: The *1886 History of Adams County* has an extensive biography of Peter Shively which is worth repeating: “Peter Shively, hotel keeper, Fairfield, is a native of Chambersburg, Franklin

Co., Penn. His grandfather, on his father's side, was born in Perry County, and on his mother's side his grandfather was a revolutionary soldier, who settled in Chambersburg after the war. His father, Daniel Shively, was born in Perry County, Penn., in 1780, and came to Chambersburg when a young man, living there until his death; he died in 1863 at the age of eighty three. Our subject's mother, nee Elizabeth Hennaberger, born in Chambersburg in 1786, died there in 1861, aged seventy-five. They had nine children . . . Peter Shively was born July 16, 1819, and in his youth learned the trade of saddler, which he worked at only a few years. In 1841 he came to Fairfield, and kept hotel for three years, then the hotel at Gettysburg known as the "Eagle Hotel," for three years, and then he returned to Fairfield, and bought the "Mansion House" property, which he has ever since conducted. March 18, 1845, Mr. Shively was married to Elizabeth J. Gelbach, born April 23, 1826." Peter Shively had two children who died in infancy. Their names were William M. Shively (May 22, 1852-November 21, 1859) and John Charles Shively (September 1, 1856-December 7, 1859).

Civil War Notes: Following the war Peter Shively filed a claim for damages for property "taken by the Rebel army during the Battle of Gettysburg, and on their retreat from said battle." His loses included 250 pounds of lard, 70 bushels of oats and 20 bushels of corn, whiskey, brandy, wine, gin and rum, said to be valued at \$278. Appearing as witnesses for Shively were Daniel Sullivan and Joshua Cease. Although it has been repeatedly stated that Shively's Hotel was used as a hospital in July 1863, no one has produced evidence to support the claim. It has also been suggested that J.E.B. Stuart (in 1862) and Robert E. Lee (in 1863) visited the Mansion House, but again I have found no documentation for the claim, beyond the obvious fact that they did pass through Fairfield. Significantly, the National Register application also states that following the battle of Gettysburg, "General Robert E. Lee and thousands of his defeated troops poured into the town in driving rain and they were fed beansoup in the yard behind the Mansion House by the womenfolk of Fairfield."

Sources: YCDB-2-F-194; ACDB K-269; T-454; Fairfield Inn File, ACHS, Tavern License Applications, ACHS; C.V.M.P Insurance Company Lien Docket 1844-1846, ACHS; “Dissolution of Partnership,” *Centinel*, April 29, 1807; “Sheriff’s Sale,” *Adams Centinel*, October 29, 1823; “A Valuable Limestone Farm,” *Compiler*, September 27, 1841; “Tavern Stand for Rent,” *Adams Sentinel*, December 20, 1845; “The Hand of Death,” *Compiler*, August 30, 1898; “In his Ninetieth Year,” *Compiler*, August 30, 1911; “175-year-old Fairfield Hotel will be restored by new owners, the Hammetts,” *Gettysburg Times*, February 26, 1972; “Fairfield Inn marking its 225 Anniversary,” *Gettysburg Times*, August 31, 1982; “Piece of area history is uncovered,” *Gettysburg Times*, November 18, 2004; *York County Deed Books*; “Historical Society of Pennsylvania plans to feature the Fairfield Inn,” *Gettysburg Times*, January 2005; H. C. Bradsby, *1886 History of Adams County* (Knightstown, Ind. : The Bookmark, 1977), 447.



*View of the Mansion House or Fairfield Inn
(lots 1W-2W), J. B. Waddle, c. 1910, ACHS.*

Town Lot #2W: Mansion House. **Current Address:** 15 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Peter Shively. **Description:** Large stone-and-frame complex. **Recital:** John Miller to William McMunn, February 22, 1787; David Hayes, October 19, 1789; William Miller, in 1801; James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Isaac A. Robinson,

September 27, 1845; James Wilson, October 7, 1852; Peter Shively, November 8, 1856; Jacob J. Shoemaker, April 2, 1900. **History of the Lot:** From the earliest known deed, Lot 2W has been associated with 1W and shares the same history and sources.

Town Lot #3W: Sanford Shroeder Tannery Property. **Current Address:** 17 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Sanford Shroeder. **Description:** Two-story, log, weather-boarded, dwelling-house, with a one-story, stone, back-building. **Recital:** Jacob McClellan, by 1801; Samuel MacFarlane, 1826; John McClain, 1837; John Marshall, 1839; Amos McGinley, 1851; Sanford Shroeder, 1856; John Bennett, August 20, 1862; Alexander Benchhoff, April 11, 1863; Joshua Cease, April 2, 1866; Joseph Musselman, March 25, 1872; John M. Musselman, April 13, 1872; William L. Musselman, April 23, 1923.

History of the Lot: The early history of Lots 3W, 4W and 5W is identical, the lots being transferred together and described as one tract of land. Jacob McClellan is shown as the holder of these lots on the 1801 agreement. The 1802 tax records of Hamiltonban Township list Jacob McClellan as a tanner, indicating an early date for the establishment of that business at this location. An 1825 sheriff's sale for the property of Jacob McClellan describes it as "3 adjoining lots of ground situated in Millerstown, Hamiltonban Township, containing in all one acre, more or less, bounded on the west by a lot of John Criswell, on the north and east by alleys, and fronting on the main street, on which is an excellent tanyard with 21 vats, a large frame bark shed and millhouse, log currying shop, log dwelling-house with a stone back building, stone springhouse, log barn &c." In 1837, a sheriff's sale for the property of Samuel McFarlane described it as "containing 1 acre, more or less adjoining John Cruswell [*sic*] and an alley—on which are, a two-story log dwelling house with a large stone kitchen, and a frame stable with a threshing floor to it. Also, on the same lot, a tanyard with thirty lay away vats, &c. a finishing shop, a bark house and mill, a slaughter house, a hog pen and other out houses, a quantity of fruit trees, and a good spring of water near the door." The 1858 wall map shows this as the property of Sanford Shroeder, tanner & currier. When it was sold at a sheriff's sale in July of 1862, Shroeder's property was described as: "Three lots of ground,

situate in Fairfield . . . on the north side of York Street, and bounded east, west and north by allies, improved with a two-story log partly weatherboarded and partly plastered dwelling house, with a one-story stone back building, frame stable, hog pen, tanner shop, 2 bark sheds, 44 vats, 6 of which are under roof, slaughter house, two wells of water with pumps in them, &c. Seized and taken in execution as the property of Sanford Shroeder, with notice to Hamilton Diehl, tenant.” The 1858 wall map makes apparent that the two-story log house with stone back building was situated at the corner of York and West Streets on Lot 3W. This map also indicates that there was a tailor’s shop in the structure at that time. *Boyd’s Business Directory* (1860), lists both Sanford Shroeder and Hamilton Diehl of Fairfield as tanners. Hamilton Diehl is taxed with this property in the 1863 and 1864 tax lists (1 lot valued at \$250 and a tan yard at \$400), but deed records do not indicate that he ever held clear title. In 1872, the property was purchased by Joseph Musselman and was transferred to John M. Musselman shortly thereafter. It appears that the original two-story-log and-weatherboarded structure was removed at this point and replaced with the current two-story brick house. Also, the one story stone back building was likely expanded to a second story at this time. The current structure at 19 West Main Street is said to have been built as a store by John Musselman in 1888. “In 1897 he was joined in business by his young son, William.” On a 1908 list of the buildings in Fairfield this was shown as a frame structure, the clothing and grocery store of J. M. Musselman. “After Mr. John Musselman’s death in 1929, the business was continued by his son until his death in 1967.”

1860 Residents: Hamilton Diehl (July 2, 1831-February 8, 1917); Almira Ohler Diehl (1841-1931); William Diehl (1859). **Family Notes:** Jacob McClellan, the original owner of the tannery at this location, was an “old soldier of the Revolution.” He died in Fairfield in 1827 at the age of 93. Sanford Shroeder was the owner of this property in 1860, but lived outside of the town in Hamiltonban Township. Hamilton Diehl, listed as a tanner in the census, was the occupant at that time, along with his wife and young son. Following the war, he moved west and was laid to rest in Cedar Rapids, Linn County, Iowa.

Civil War Notes: Hamilton Diehl, who was the tenant of this property during the ownership of Sanford Shroeder, was one of the Fairfield residents who served in Company C, 165th Pennsylvania Drafted Militia, from November 1862 to July 1863 as a substitute for Isaac Hafleigh. Sanford Shroeder owned the tannery property at the outbreak of the Civil War, but resided on a farm outside of Fairfield. On October 11, 1862, during J.E.B. Stuart's Raid, Shroeder was one of several unfortunate citizens who were taken captive by the Confederate Army. According to an article in the Waynesboro newspaper, published shortly afterwards, "in passing from Fairfield to Emmitsburg the Rebels fell upon a company of home guards drilling, capturing five or six of them. Mr. Sandford Shroder, son-in-law of Dr. Walker of this place, was met by them on the road between Fairfield and Emmitsburg and also captured. Mr. S. had his little son in the buggy with him, but succeeded in getting him released at Emmitsburg . . . Mr. Shroder with the other prisoners were taken over the river." John Bennett, who owned this property at time of Stuart's Raid, was also taken prisoner by the Confederates, but according to his affidavit was held for only hours. Bennett did lose five horses to the Rebels, however.

Sources: ACDB 262-379; 273-627; "Sheriff's Sales," Civil War Border Claim of John Bennett, PHMC; *Compiler*, December 14, 1825; "Sheriff's Sale," *Adams Sentinel*, September 18, 1837; "Sheriff's Sale," *Adams Sentinel*, July 22, 1862; "The Rebel Raid," *Village Record* (Waynesboro), October 17, 1862; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area's Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee: 1976), 62; *Tariff of Rates for Adams County* (Philadelphia: 1908), 50; *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #4W: Sanford Shroeder Tannery Property. **Current Address:** 21 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Sanford Shroeder. **Description:** Tannery office. **Recital:** Jacob McClellan, by 1801; Samuel MacFarlane, 1826; John McClain, 1837; John Marshall, 1839; Amos McGinley, 1851; Sanford Shroeder, 1856; John Bennett, August 20, 1862; Alexander Benchoff, April 11, 1863; Joshua Cease, April 2, 1866; Joseph Musselman, March 25, 1872; Joseph Creager, 1875; Heirs of Joseph Creager, 1916.

History of the Lot: The early history of the Lot 4W is associated with that of Lot 3W. The 1858 wall map indicates that the office of Sanford Shroeder, tanner and currier, was located on this lot. According to the 1872 tax list, Joshua Cease sold his “Tannery” to Joseph Musselman. However, there is no evidence that the tanning operation was continued there in subsequent years. The 1872 *Atlas* indicates that a structure sat on this lot, probably a remnant of the tannery business. Tax records show that in 1874, Joseph Musselman built the two-story frame dwelling house that stands at the site today. In 1875 he transferred this house and lot valued at \$1,000 to Joseph H. Creager (1842-1916), a Civil War veteran from Thurmont, Maryland, who had married Joseph’s daughter Susan in 1869. A 1908 list of the structures in town at that time referred to a frame blacksmith and wagon shop owned by Creager. Joseph Creager and his family lived on this lot until Mr. Creager died in 1916. In his obituary, he is referred once again as a wagon maker. According to the 1919 tax list, the property was worth \$800 and belonged to the heirs of Joseph Creager.

Civil War Notes: Joseph Creager moved to Fairfield following the war after serving in Company D, 6th Maryland Infantry, from August 1862 to June 1865.

Sources: Obituary of Joseph H. Creager, *Adams Sentinel*, March 11, 1916.

Town Lot #5W: Sanford Shroeder Tannery Property. **Current Address:** 23 West Main Street **1860 Owner:** Sanford Shroeder. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** Jacob McClellan, by 1801; Samuel MacFarlane, 1826; John McClain, 1837; John Marshall, 1839; Amos McGinley, 1851; Sanford Shroeder, 1856; John Bennett, August 20, 1862; Alexander Benchoff, April 11, 1863; Joshua Cease, April 2, 1866; Joseph Musselman, March 25, 1872; Joseph Musselman, in 1919; Robert McNair in 1933.

History of the Lot: Lot 5W is associated with lots 3W and 4W and shares the same early history and sources. The 1858 wall map indicates that the majority of Sanford Shroeder’s tannery complex occupied this lot. However, the property is shown as vacant in the 1872 *Atlas*, indicating perhaps that there was no dwelling house on

the lot, but clearly there were structures here associated with the tannery business. Tax records strongly suggest that a dwelling house was built on this site by Joseph W. Musselman in 1873-1874. At that time, the lot is valued at \$1,200. But the current structure does not appear in a 1908 photograph of this area, so it must have been built afterwards to replace the earlier dwelling that perhaps sat further back from the street.

Town Lot #6W: George Reed Residence. **Current Address:** 25-27 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** George Reed. **Description:** Small dwelling-house, built about 1849, no longer standing. **Recital:** Jacob Ferree, by 1795; William Miller to John Criswell, April 2, 1810; James Wilson, May 8, 1843; George Reed, 1849; Calvin J. Seifert, by 1914.

History of the Lot: Jacob Ferree appears as the owner of this lot as an adjoiner to Lot 7W in a 1795 deed. He also appears as the holder of this lot on the 1801 agreement, and again as an adjoiner in an 1804 deed. But as is the case with several of the Fairfield lots, at some point, for some reason, it reverted back to Miller. An 1810 deed indicates that William Miller sold this lot to John Criswell for two pounds, ten shillings, the price giving strong evidence that there were no improvements on the lot at that time. In 1843 this was one of nine lots owned by Criswell that were reclaimed by James Wilson (for non-payment of ground rents). Wilson had acquired the ground rents (and for all intents and purposes became proprietor of the town) when he purchased Miller's property in 1823. The 1849 tax list indicates the transfer of a house and lot valued at \$175 from Wilson to George Reed, "colored." This tax list also shows that lot 6W had been recently improved with a new house, the lot's value being increased from \$50 to \$175. No structure is present at this location on the 1858 map, even though it is clear that George Reed lived there at the time in a small dwelling. The 1872 *Atlas* indicates two structures on this lot, the residence of "G. Reed" and what appears to be a store owned by "G. W. Harbaugh and Musselman." In the estate papers of George Reed, the property is described as "a lot of ground situate in the borough of Fairfield, Adams Co. Pa., adjoining lot of Joseph Creager on the east and a public alley on the north, lot of Mrs. Boyd on the west and Main Street on the South, improved with a 1 ½ [story] frame

dwelling house...of the value of \$300.” Obviously, the original 1840s structure no longer stands on the lot today. In July 1914, the *Adams County News* reported that “Calvin J. Seifert, our harness maker, is preparing to build a new house on his lot beside the harness shop.” Subsequent articles indicate that the two-story frame dwelling house that stands today as 27 West Main Street was built at that time. The estate of Calvin J. Seifert in 1933 described this as “a lot of ground situate on the north side of Main Street in the borough of Fairfield, Adams County, Pennsylvania adjoining property of Robert McNair on the east, and the McGlaughlin property on the west, improved with a 2 ½ story frame house and harness shop.” The lot was valued at \$1,800 at this time. The 1976 history of Fairfield notes that a “fine place to loaf and catch up with the news was the cobbler shop next to 27 West Main Street. Opening around 1900 and continuing to 1945, it had two owners in that period, Mr. Calvin Seiferd and Mr. John Myers. Both of the men could provide many interesting tales which entertained both young and old.”

1860 Residents: George W. Reed (November 16, 1813-September 18, 1897); Ann E. Reed (January 8, 1821-February 12, 1901); Samuel Asbury Reed (January 1, 1843-March 26, 1916); Mary Jane Reed (1845); Margaret L. Reed (1848); George L. Reed (1853); James W. Reed (1856); Lavina V. Reed (1859).

Family Notes: The Reeds were one of only two mulatto families residing in the town of Fairfield at the outbreak of the Civil War. As stated above, George Reed first appeared in the Hamiltonban Township tax list of 1848 and first appeared owing this property in 1849. Interestingly enough, Adams County Deed Books indicate that in 1822, James Wilson of Fairfield manumitted a slave by the name of Daniel Reed. It is not known, however, if this Daniel was related to George. It is also not known if the white Reeds of Fairfield are related to the mulatto Reeds that later inhabited the town.

Civil War Notes: On February 29, 1864, Samuel Asbury Reed, son of George, enlisted in Company A, 43rd United States Colored Troops at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. His enlistment papers describe him as 5 feet 6 inches, with black eyes, black hair and a yellow complexion, suggesting that he was mulatto. The 43rd United States Colored Infantry was involved in the Petersburg Campaign, participating in the attack on the Crater. Reed “served faithfully until the close of the war” and was honorably discharged at Brownsville, Texas, on October 20, 1865. Today, Samuel’s grave is located in Gettysburg’s Lincoln Cemetery.

Sources: YCDB 2K-510; ACDB E-173, K-58; P-285; Service and Pension Records of Samuel Asbury Reed, NARA; Estate Papers of John Criswell, ACHS; Estate Papers of George Reed, ACHS; Estate Papers of C. J. Seifert, ACHS; “Fairfield,” *Adams County News*, July 25, 1914; “Fairfield,” *Adams County News*, August 1, 1914; “Fairfield,” *Adams County News*, September 26, 1914; Obituary of Samuel Reed Asbury Reed, *Star and Sentinel*, March 28, 1916; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area’s Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee: 1976), 65-66.

Town Lot #7W: Jeremiah Stem Residence. **Current Address:** 29-31 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Jeremiah Stem. **Description:** Small dwelling-house. **Recital:** William Miller to Richard Porter, March 19, 1795; David McClellan; October 26, 1804; John Sheaffer; March 13, 1805; John Hoke, April 1, 1812; William Elgenfritz; George Miller, 1813; James Wilson, December 20, 1813; Catherine Frantz, by 1850; Heirs of Catherine Frantz; Jeremiah Stem; by 1861; Daniel King, by 1866; Ephraim W. Harbaugh, 1867; Peter Kready, 1871; Esther Musselman, 1875; William T. Harbaugh, 1879; Harriet Evanah Harbaugh, 1881; Joseph W. Kittinger, 1890; Mary A. Boyd, 1894; W. D. Clark Marshall, 1918; Heirs of W. D. Clark Marshall, 1926; Earle McGlaughlin, 1927; Earl W. McGlaughlin, November 16, 1949.

History of the Lot: Lots 7, 8, 9, and 10 were sold together by William Miller to Richard Porter in 1795 for 10 lbs. In about 1797, Richard Porter married Isabella Reed, granddaughter of John Miller, and niece of William. Lot 7 was sold in 1805 for \$160, suggesting that a structure was there at the time. Tax records indicate the transfer

of a house and lot, valued at \$180, from John Sheaffer to John Hoke in 1810. In 1813 the lot sold for \$380. Catherine Frantz is clearly shown as the owner of this lot in an 1856 list of lot holders in the town. She first appears in 1850, but there is no clue as to when, or from whom, she obtained it. Possibly, it was Wilson who purchased the lot in 1813. A structure is shown at this location on the 1858 map but not labeled. The 1861 tax records indicate the transfer of a house and lot, valued at \$150, from the heirs of Catherine Frantz to Jeremiah Stem. Most likely, the property was transferred in early 1860 as Jeremiah Stem is shown at this location in the census, and is listed as a property owner. *Boyd's Business Directory* (1860), lists Jeremiah Stem of Fairfield as a butcher. The 1866 tax records imply that the lot, valued at \$175, was transferred to Daniel King. In November of 1867, the *Compiler* announced that "Daniel King has sold two houses and lots in Fairfield, on Main Street—one to E. W. Harbaugh, for \$400." The 1869 tax records show a transfer of a lot valued at \$125 from Daniel King to Mrs. A. E. Harbaugh, who is shown with that lot in 1870, but not in 1871. A. E. Harbaugh probably refers to the wife of Ephraim W. Harbaugh who operated a store in Fairfield from 1861 to 1869. Peter Kready first appears in the 1871 tax records with a lot valued at \$600, and it is apparent that some improvements were made at this time, for 1872 *Atlas* shows two structures on this lot, labeled "P. Kready" and "Store." In 1874, the property's value increased to \$1,100, indicating that another major improvement had been made. Unfortunately, it has been difficult to trace this lot through tax records, and early deeds have not yet been located. This being said, evidence suggests that Ester Musselman is taxed for the lot in 1875. Starting in 1879, William T. Harbaugh (1846-1891) and his wife Harriet Evannah Musselman Harbaugh (1856-1933) were owners of the property, which was valued at \$1,200. A photograph of flooding on Main Street in Fairfield, taken on February 15, 1908, gives a good illustration of what the property looked like when it was owned by Mrs. Mary Boyd. As the value of the property remained relatively consistent in tax records from 1874 to 1908, this view reflects the 1870s improvements mentioned above. It is difficult to say whether the original building is incorporated into the current structure or if it was completely removed in the 1870s. There are two store structures east of the house in the 1908 view. One was incorporated in the residence when it was expanded at some point, and the other was

removed and eventually replaced by the Village Table Restaurant. In 1926 the property was described as part of the estate of W. D. C. Marshall as a “lot in the borough of Fairfield, Adams Co., Pa, fronting 60 feet on Main Street, running back 240 ft. to a public alley, adjoining lot on the east by Calvin Seifert, and on the west by public alley improved with a 2 ½ story frame house, and small stable in the rear.”

1860 Residents: Jeremiah Stem (1829), hotel keeper; Harriet E. Stem (1830); Oregon L. Stem (1854); Francis N. Stem (1856); James Stem (1859); Sarah Seifert (1841), domestic.

Civil War Notes: The account book of Ephraim W. Harbaugh (who operated a store on this lot for a time) is now in the collections of the Adams County Historical Society. It is filled with extensive notes concerning his business activities, a record of his family and a page of specific events that occurred in Fairfield during the Gettysburg Campaign.

Sources: YCDB 2K-510; ACDB F-394, B-455, 370-303, 1924-298; Estate of W. D. C. Marshall, ACHS; “Property Sales,” *Compiler*, November 22, 1867; *Boyd’s Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #8W: John Shertzer Residence and Confectionary.
Current Address: 101 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** John C. Shertzer. **Description:** Two-story, stone, dwelling-house, still standing. **Recital:** William Miller to Richard Porter, March 19, 1795; Richard Porter, in 1801; Joseph McCleary, by 1805; Heirs of Joseph McCleary, September 4, 1840; William Johnson, 1842; Thaddeus Stevens and James D. Paxton, 1844; Joseph Prim, August 12, 1846; Joseph Bowling, March 27, 1852; John C. Shertzer, March 16, 1854; Jacob Kready, April 3, 1869; Heirs of Jacob Kready, April 14, 1883; Catherine Kready, June 19, 1884.

History of the Lot: Starting in 1805, Joseph McCleary (a shoemaker) is shown in the tax records with a lot valued at \$150, indicating there was a structure on Lot 8W at that time. Over the years, Shertzer’s property increased in value until his death in 1840 when it was listed as a house and lot at \$350. The first description is an 1840 sheriff’s sale which described this as “two lots of ground situate in

the town of Fairfield . . . adjoining lots of Henry Hockensmith on the west, the main street on the south, and an alley on the north, on which are erected a two story stone house, a frame shop, and log stable, with a well of water near the door. Seized and taken in execution as the estate of Joseph McCleary, deceased.” Tax records indicate that the property was transferred soon after from McCleary to Johnson as a house and two lots valued at \$250. An 1844 sheriff’s sale for the property of William Johnson once again described the tract as “two lots of ground, adjoining lot of Aaron Frame on the west, cross-street on the east, and fronting on Main Street, on which are erected a two-story stone dwelling house, a frame shop, and log stable; with a well of water near the door.” From 1854 to 1869, John Shertzer owned and occupied the house and two lots. Jacob Kready purchased the property in 1869, and the 1870 tax list reflects this transfer of the \$300 lot. Kready is shown as the owner of Lots 8W and 9W in the 1872 atlas. In 1900, Catherine Kready sold off Lot 9W and the western 10 feet of Lot 8W to J. Jacob Reindollar and from that point on it became associated with Lot 9W, as is shown on the modern tax map. The original stone house on this lot still stands being of the best examples of early Fairfield architecture.

1860 Residents: John C. Shertzer (April 30, 1825-March 17, 1902); Maria E. Shulley Shertzer (1832—May 24, 1915); Mary J. Saylor (1843); Elizabeth Strickler (1849).

Family Notes: John C. Shertzer was born in Linglestown, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. Shertzer is listed on the 1860 census with his family, and also in *Boyd’s Business Directory* (1860), as a confectioner. Today, Shertzer and his wife are buried in Fairfield Union Cemetery.

Civil War Notes: John C. Shertzer was another of those citizens who lost a horse “worth sixty dollars, which was taken by the Rebles in a raid by Gen. Steward [*sic*].” Like other Fairfield citizens, John C. Shertzer served in Company C, 165th Pennsylvania Drafted Militia from November 1862 to July 1863, and Company G, 209th Pennsylvania from September 1864 to May 1865. According his record of service in the Fairfield GAR book, “the important events in the service were, 1st the capture of his colonel, Col. Kauffman in front of Bermuda One Hundred, near Dutch Gap which left them

without an experienced officer and about 100 of the men captured with several officers, among them Captain Henry Lee, 2nd the battle at Fort Steadman where they were taken by surprise at 3 o'clock A.M. while napping."

Sources: YCDB 2K-510; Heirs of Robert S. Reindollar to Elizabeth K. Reindollar, URD, ACHS; Record Book of the Fairfield GAR, ACHS; Civil War Border Claim of John C. Shertzer, PHMC; "Sheriff's Sales," *Adams Sentinel*, November 2, 1840; "Sheriff's Sales," *Adams Sentinel*, October 28, 1844; Obituary of Maria Shertzer, *Compiler*, May 29, 1915; *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #9W: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 103-105 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** John C. Shertzer. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** William Miller to Richard Porter, March 19, 1795; Richard Porter, in 1801; Joseph McCleary, by 1811; Heirs of Joseph McCleary, September 4, 1840; William Johnson, 1842; Thaddeus Stevens and James D. Paxton, 1844; Joseph Prim, August 12, 1846; Joseph Bowling, March 27, 1852; John C. Shertzer, March 16, 1854; Jacob Kready, April 3, 1869; Heirs of Jacob Kready, April 14, 1883; Catherine Kready, June 19, 1884; J. Jacob Reindollar, February 6, 1900.

History of the Lot: In 1860, this was a vacant lot associated with Lot 8W, of which it shares the same early history. It belonged to Joseph McCleary in 1811 as a lot valued at \$35. This lot is shown as vacant on the 1858 map and in the 1872 *Atlas*. In 1900 J. Jacob Reindollar purchased Lot 9W for \$175 indicating that it was still vacant at that time. According to the 1976 history of Fairfield, J. Jacob Reindollar moved to Fairfield from Frizzelburg, Maryland, in 1885 and "established the town's first hardware store in the brick building located at 115-117 West Main Street . . . In 1900, he built the present store property at 105 West Main Street." According to the *Gettysburg Compiler* (May 8, 1900), "The carpenters began work on the erection of J. J. Reindollar's large new store room and dwelling last Monday morning and by Saturday evening they had the building up, under roof and painted, which demonstrates the agility of our mechanics." At "his death in 1919, the business was continued under the partnership of Robert S. and Carroll Reindollar, to 1924. Thereafter the business

was carried on by Robert S. Reindollar, enlarged and modernized the store to the point where it was one of the finest in the area. In 1968 Mr. Reindollar sold the business to Paul Metz. Mr. Metz also greatly enlarged and modernized it to more nearly meet the demands of the day.” Even though it is clear from multiple sources that this lot was vacant at the time of the Battle of Gettysburg, and the current structure was built in 1900, today the building standing at 103 West Main Street has a “Civil War Building, July 1863” plaque on it. Several deed references describe there being an alley between lots 9W and 10W. The alley, however, does not appear on early maps.

Sources: YCDB 2K-510; ACDB 54-351; Heirs of Robert S. Reindollar to Elizabeth K. Reindollar, URD, ACHS; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Adams Sentinel*, November 2, 1840; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Adams Sentinel*, October 28, 1844; “From Fairfield,” *Compiler*, May 8, 1900; Obituary of Maria Schertzer, *Compiler*, May 29, 1915; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area’s Past* (Fairfield Area Bicentennial Committee: 1976), 66.

Town Lot #10W: Thomas Newman Residence. **Current Address:** 109 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Thomas Newman. **Description:** Two-story, log, weather-boarded, dwelling-house with a one-and-a-half-story back building. **Recital:** William Miller to Richard Porter, March 19, 1795; Richard Porter, in 1801; William Miller to Arthur Cloghersey, October 27, 1804; James Wilson, October 30, 1813; Fielding Donaldson, April 1, 1815; Henry Hockensmith, by 1840; Aaron Frame, April 28, 1843; Jesse D. Newman, December 15, 1848; Thomas Newman, March 22, 1855; Jacob Musselman, February 19, 1863; Samuel Smith, April 2, 1866; Mary Smith, May 2, 1866; J. J. Reindollar, in 1919.

History of the Lot: Lots 10, 11, and 12 sold together in 1813 for \$300. An 1824 sheriff’s sale described the property as “a lot of ground situate in Millerstown . . . adjoining lot of Charles Donaldson on the west, Joseph McCleary on the east, and Main-Street, on which are erected a log dwelling-house, weatherboarded blacksmith shop, &c.—late the estate of Fielding Donaldson.” An 1843 sheriff’s sale describes this as “two lots of ground . . . on which are a two story log weatherboarded dwelling house, a one and half story log wagonmaker’s shop, a frame smithshop, a log stable Property

of Henry Hockensmith, adj. William Johnson on the east, the heirs of Charles Donelson on the west.” The 1843 sheriff’s deed further relates that the residential structure was “a two story log weatherboarded dwelling house, [with] a one and a half story back building.” The dwelling house, located on Lot 10W, is shown but unlabeled on the 1858 map. Jacob Musselman purchased Lots 10W and 11W from Newman in February of 1863, but it appears that Samuel Smith occupied the property at the time of the Battle of Gettysburg. Smith, who appears as a 23 year-old blacksmith apprentice in the 1860 census (working for Samuel Eiker in Hamiltonban Township), probably had some type of mortgage agreement with Musselman, as deeds indicate that the Smith family gained possession of the property in 1866. The 1867 tax list indicates the transfer of this lot, valued at \$400, from Musselman to Smith. In 1874 the value increased to \$1,000, suggesting that a substantial improvement was made at that time. This is probably the date of construction for the modern brick dwelling house at this site. The 1872 *Atlas* shows two structures on this property, one being the residence of “S. Smith.” On the 1897 survey of Fairfield, “S. Smith” was listed as the owner of the lot. Tax records indicate that the value of the property was \$1,100 around that time. In 1908, a list of Fairfield structures included the brick dwelling house on this lot, owned at that time by Mary Smith. In September of 1909, the *Star and Sentinel* reported that “the desirable property of the late Mrs. Mary Smith was sold at public sale, Saturday afternoon to J. J. Reindollar, for \$1,000.”

1860 Residents: Thomas Newman (1822), blacksmith; Catherine A. Newman (1828); Mary Newman (1848); David Newman (1851); Clara A. Newman (1855); Eliza V. Newman (1857); John C. S. Newman (1860); John Sites (1842), blacksmith’s apprentice. **Notes:** In the files at the Adams County Historical Society there is a handwritten note dated June 16, 1849, stating that James Wilson received from “Jesse Newman, twenty five dollars, it being in full of quitt rentz [*sic*] on two lots of ground in Fairfield or Millerstown, being the same two lots which he the said Newman purchased of Aaron Fream, releasing him, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assignees, from further payment on the same.”

Sources: YCDB 2K-510; ACDB 392; Francis Bream (Sheriff), to Aaron Fream, April 28, 1843, URD, ACHS; Jesse D. Newman to Thomas Newman, March 22, 1855, URD, ACHS; Thomas Newman to Jacob Musselman, February 19, 1863, URD, ACHS; Jacob Musselman to Samuel Smith, April 2, 1866, URD, ACHS; Samuel Smith to Mary Smith, May 2, 1866, URD, ACHS; *Tariff of Rates of Adams County* (Philadelphia: 1908), 50; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Compiler*, July 14, 1824; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Compiler*, March 20, 1843; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Adams Sentinel*, March 27, 1843; “Fairfield Items,” *Star and Sentinel*, Sept. 1, 1909.

Town Lot #11W: Current Address: 113 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Thomas Newman. **Description:** One-and-a-half-story, log, wagon-maker’s shop and frame blacksmith shop. **Recital:** William Taylor, in 1801; William Miller to Arthur Cloghersey, October 26, 1804; James Wilson, October 30, 1813; Fielding Donaldson, April 1, 1815; Henry Hockensmith, by 1840; Aaron Frame, April 28, 1843; Jesse D. Newman, December 15, 1848; Thomas Newman, March 22, 1855; Jacob Musselman, February 19, 1863; Samuel Smith, April 2, 1866; D. B. Riley, April 1, 1874; H. Artzberger, in 1897; H. S. Wortz in 1919; Harry L. Wortz, in 1920.

History of the Lot: For much of its history Lot 11W was associated with 10W. As shown on the 1858 map and the 1872 *Atlas*, the one-and-a-half story log wagon-maker’s shop and “frame smithshop” were located on this lot. *Boyd’s Business Directory* (1860), lists Thomas Newman as a blacksmith in Fairfield. As mentioned in the history of Lot 10W, Jacob Musselman purchased Lot 11W in February 1863, and it appears that Samuel Smith occupied the blacksmith shop at this location. Following the war, Smith filed a claim for damages, stating “that on Saturday the 4th and Sunday the 5th of July A.D., 1863, a large Rebel Force, on retreat passed through and around Fairfield, and after using the shop for two days they took all of his smith tools and all the iron which he had . . . making the total amount of loss of personal property, one hundred and ninety four dollars and ninety five cents (\$194.95).” His losses were listed individually as two full sets of blacksmith’s tools worth \$80.00; three screwplates worth \$15.75; one blacksmith’s vice worth \$7.00; three kegs of shoes worth \$24.00; one hundred weight of nail rods worth \$12.00; one set of

buggy harness worth \$15.00; one saddle; one halter, one axe, and two chains worth \$6.00; two scapes of bees (in patent hives), worth \$20.00; two new single trees and one set of spread rods, worth \$3.75; 60 pounds of blister steel worth \$7.20; and 9 pounds of cast steel worth \$4.25. Henry M. Landis who was said live “upon the farm adjoining Fairfield was a witness to the claim stating that “he had his shoeing done” at Smith’s blacksmith shop, “and that after the Rebel retreating force had passed pursued by Union forces all these things and the contents of his shop had been taken, and nothing remained when witness went to his shop & house after the enemy had gone.” Tax records indicate that this lot was valued at \$100 and owned by Samuel Smith, starting in 1871. In 1874 the value increased to \$300. At some point the shops were removed and a dwelling house was erected at this site. In 1920 the site was described as part of the estate of Harry L. Wortz, fronting 50 feet along Main Street and being 240 feet deep adjoining Michael Herring and Carroll Reindollar, and improved with a two-story dwelling.

Sources: ACDB F-392; Francis Bream (Sheriff), to Aaron Fream, April 28, 1843, URD, ACHS; Jesse D. Newman to Thomas Newman, March 22, 1855, URD, ACHS; Thomas Newman to Jacob Musselman, February 19, 1863, URD, ACHS; Jacob Musselman to Samuel Smith, April 2, 1866, URD, ACHS; Samuel Smith to Mary Smith, May 2, 1866, URD, ACHS; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Compiler*, July 14, 1824; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Compiler*, March 20, 1843; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Adams Sentinel*, March 27, 1843; “Notice,” *Compiler*, June 19, 1920; Civil War Border Claims File for Samuel Smith, PHMC: *Boyd’s Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #12W: John Musselman Rental Property. **Current Address:** 117 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** John Musselman. **Description:** One-story, frame, dwelling-house. **Recital:** William Miller, in 1801; William Miller to Archibald Beard, September 5, 1807; Arthur Cloghersey, March 13, 1812; James Wilson, October 30, 1813; Fielding Donaldson, April 1, 1815; Charles Donaldson, April 12, 1828; Heirs of Charles Donaldson, October 1843; Catherine Donaldson, May 2, 1843; Heirs of Catherine Donaldson, 1849; Catherine Donaldson, in 1855; John Musselman, 1856; Maxwell P. Shields, in 1866; Lewis Wortz, 1884; George W. Wortz, in 1897; Michael Herring, in 1919.

History of the Lot: An 1807 deed for this property specifically mentions that Archibald Beard was a carriage maker. At that time, the lot sold for just \$25, indicating perhaps that it was vacant. A petition in the estate papers of Charles Donaldson dated January 23, 1843, describes this as “a certain lot of ground situate, lying and being in the town of Fairfield . . . at the west end of said town, on the north side of the main street, adjoining lots of Henry Hockensmith on the east; and Jesse Seabrooks on the west—fronting sixty feet on the street & running back to an alley—on which are erected a one story frame dwelling house.” An unlabeled dwelling is shown here on the 1858 map. During the early period of John Musselman’s ownership, the property was listed as a \$100 lot, suggesting that the early house was not very large. It should be noted that Musselman owned other properties as well and did not live on this lot. The 1860 census appears to indicate that the family of Andrew Sanders resided there at the time. In 1861 the property’s value increased to \$900, revealing that major improvements had been made. On November 8, 1860, Susan Musselman, daughter of John, was married to Maxwell P. Shields of Emmitsburg. Apparently, the couple moved into the new structure at this site shortly afterwards. According to the *Gettysburg Compiler* in April 1861, J. V. Danner and Maxwell Shields “have opened an entire new stock of goods at Fairfield, to which they invite the attention of the public. We are prepared to sell at extremely low rates for cash. All we ask is a call, and we will prove the truth of the above assertion.” As it turned out April of 1861 was not the best time to start a new business. By 1866, tax records indicate that John had transferred the lot to his daughter and son-in-law. In 1867 the interest of J. V. Danner in the business was purchased by Adam C. Musselman, brother-in-law of Maxwell Shields, and this became the establishment of “Shields and Musselman.” According to the directory in the 1872 *Atlas* of Adams County, these men were dealers in “dry goods, groceries, queensware, &c.” The 1872 *Atlas* also shows that the residence of “P. Shields” was located on the eastern side of the lot and that the store was located on the western side, presumably in the same building. In 1873, the property’s value jumped to \$2,500, which indicates that major improvements were made at that time. Most likely, this reflects the construction of the building at this site today, or at least the expansion of the 1860 structure into its current

appearance. On April 1, 1882, Musselman bought out the interest of Maxwell Shields and continued the business alone, eventually relocating to a new building across the street. The *1886 History of Adams County* states that in 1885 Musselman “built a commodious store, rendered necessary by his increasing trade, the result of enterprise and integrity.” This is confirmed by newspapers of the day, which reported in November of 1885 that “the new store room of A. C. Musselman is about completed and he will occupy it in a few days.” This new store was probably the building later known as the I.O.O.F Hall, located across the street on Lot 11S, on property owned by Adam C. Musselman. At about the same time, Maxwell Shields and his family moved to Michigan, where they spent the remainder of their lives. In 1884, tax records indicate the transfer of the property to Lewis Wortz and brother. At that point, the store building on Lot 11W was apparently leased to another businessman. The 1976 history of Fairfield noted that “in 1885 J. Jacob Reindollar came from Frizzelburg, Md., and established the town’s first hardware store in the brick building located at 115-117 West Main Street In 1900, he built the present store property at 105 West Main Street.” A 1935 public sale listed this as the property of Michael Herring, deceased. A confused description notes its being “known on the plan of the said borough as Lot No. 12, being northwesterly bounded by Main Street (in front), westward by an alley, northwestward by an alley, and on northeast by Lot No. 11, containing in front, or on Main Street sixty feet, and in depth or back to the alley aforesaid two hundred and forty feet, improved with a two and one-half story brick dwelling house, stable and other outbuildings.”

1860 Residents: Andrew Sanders (1831); Jane Sanders (1832); Mary Sanders (1851); Virginia Sanders (1854); Hester C. Sanders (1856); Charles Sanders (1860).

Civil War Notes: “Danner and Shields” of Fairfield did file a claim for damages following the war, and their names appear in the index as suffering \$727.00 of loss, but their claim was apparently not among those microfilmed by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

Sources: ACDB D-112, F-392; Heirs of Charles Donaldson to Catherine Donaldson, May 2, 1843, URD, ACHS; Estate Papers of Charles Donaldson, ACHS; Estate Papers of Catherine Donaldson; “New Store at Fairfield,” *Compiler*, April 15, 1861; “Don’t Read This,” *Adams Sentinel*, November 25, 1865. “List of Merchants,” *Adams Sentinel*, June 3, 1862; “Public Sale,” *Gettysburg Times*, September 11, 1935; “Out of the past, 50 years ago,” *Gettysburg Times*, November 19, 1935; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area’s Past* (Fairfield Area Bicentennial Committee: 1976), 66; H. C. Bradsby, *1886 History of Adams County* (Knightstown, Ind. : The Bookmark, 1977), 446.

Town Lot #13W: Thomas J. Winebrenner Residence. **Current Address:** 119 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Thomas J. Winebrenner. **Description:** Frame dwelling-house. **Recital:** William Miller to Jesse Seabrooks, April 23, 1812; James Wilson, October 15, 1846; Andrew Low, by 1853; William Winebrenner, 1861; Thomas J. Winebrenner, 1861; Heirs of Thomas J. Winebrenner, by 1899; William Dubbs, 1906.

History of the Lot: Lot 13W is the western-most lot that appears on William Miller’s 1801 agreement. Unfortunately, the original document is somewhat damaged and the name of the lot holder is illegible. In 1844 this is listed as the property of Jesse Seabrooks, valued at \$275. The 1846 tax records indicate that the property was transferred to John Crimer. At the same time, the lot’s value increased to \$450. However, this is the only time that Crimer’s name appears in tax records, so it would seem that the transfer never actually materialized. An 1846 deed recorded the sale of the property from Jesse Seabrooks to James Wilson and described the lot as follows: “a house and lot or parcel of ground No. 13--situate lying and being in the town of Fairfield (Alias Millerstown) Adams County & State of Pennsylvania and known on my plan of said town, by lot number thirteen, northwesterly beginning at York Street, thence by an alley on the east side, two hundred and forty feet, to a back alley thence by the said alley, sixty feet to lot number fourteen, belonging to James Wilson, thence by said lot, 240 feet to York Street aforesaid, thence by said street, or in front sixty feet to the beginning.” Andrew Low first appears with this property in 1853. At that time it was valued

at \$400. The dwelling on this lot is shown on the 1858 map as belonging to “A. Low.” Low (also spelled Lowe) was a justice of the peace in Hamiltonban Township at the time of the Civil War and was one of those taken prisoner during J.E.B. Stuart’s Raid in October of 1862. The 1861 tax list indicates that the property was transferred to William Winebrenner and then quickly to Thomas Winebrenner, presumably his son. Thomas Winebrenner is shown at this location on the 1860 census, so the actual sale of the property may have been earlier. Winbrenner is also shown as the occupant of this lot in the 1872 *Atlas*. The current building appears to be the same configuration as shown on the map in the 1872 *Atlas* but its date of construction has not been established.

1860 Residents: Thomas J. Winebrenner (January 5, 1836-March 27, 1898); Annie Winebrenner (1835); Charles D. Winebrenner (1859); William Winebrenner (1797); Mary E. Winebrenner (1799).

Family Notes: *Boyd’s Business Directory* (1860), lists “Wm. & T. Winbrinner” of Fairfield as tinsmiths.

Civil War Notes: Thomas J. Winebrenner was another of Fairfield’s Civil War veterans. According to his record of service in the Fairfield GAR book, Thomas was born in Woodsboro, Frederick County, Maryland. He served as a musician in Company C, 165th Pennsylvania from October 1862 to July 1863. He enlisted again in September of 1864 in Company G, 209th Pennsylvania as a musician. Winebrenner was involved in the Petersburg Campaign, his most intimate comrades being “Daniel Biesecker, John Moser, Lewis McGlaughlin, George Hull, William Hoke, Peter Overdeer, Daniel Benchoff and William Boller. The most important event of his service was the beating of the long roll calling the men together to go into action.”

Sources: ACDB Q-344; Fairfield GAR book, ACHS; *Boyd’s Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #14W: James McIlhenny Residence. **Current Address:** 121-123 West Main Street. **1863 Owner:** James McIlhenny. **Description:** Small dwelling-house and shop. **Recital:** William Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Andrew McMaster, 1848;

Reuben Carley, January 17, 1855; Daniel King, 1855; J. Musselman, by 1858; James McIlhenny by 1860; Barnabus Reily, 1870; Heirs of Barnabus Reily, December 7, 1880.

History of the Lot: Lot 14W is the first lot beyond the western boundary of Miller's original plan of the town. It appears that this is one of the lots laid out and described in Miller's 1810 advertisement. No early deeds for this lot have been discovered, but it appears that this is one of four lots purchased by Reuban Carley from Andrew McMaster in 1855 and then resold to Daniel King shortly after. The 1858 map indicates that this was the residence of J. Musselman. Tax records reveal that James McIlhenny owned this lot by 1860. Barnabus Reily later acquired the property, which was valued at \$250 in 1870, the first time that he appears in tax lists associated with this lot. Two structures are shown at this location in the 1872 *Atlas*; "B. Riley" and "Harness Sh." In 1874 the lot's value increased to \$1,300, indicating perhaps that a much more substantial home was constructed at that time. The 1880 estate papers of Barnabus Reily describe the property as including "the old house," located on "a certain lot of ground in the town of Fairfield, fronting on Main Street, adjoining lot of Thomas Winebrenner on the east, and lot of Margaret Wilson on the West, improved with a two story frame dwelling with back building, a good frame stable and other improvements." As Fairfield grew during the latter part of the nineteenth century, lots were divided and new houses sprung up. In 1881, the eastern half of lot 14W was purchased by William P. Nunemaker. The following recital shows subsequent owners after the division of the lot: William P. Nunemaker, April 8, 1881; Margaret McSherry, March 27, 1884; George W. Wortz, January 26, 1885; Henry Peters, February 14, 1887; James Peters, February 8, 1897; Lillie E. Harman, April 10, 1899; Margaret Patterson, October 17, 1901; E. E. King, 1908. In an 1899 deed, this section of the lot was described as "the eastern portion of lot known on the plot of the said borough as lot No. 14, bounded and described as follows, viz:-Fronting thirty-five feet more or less on Main Street, thence along lot now owned by John C. Shertzer, two hundred and forty feet to a public alley; then along said alley, thirty-five feet more or less to corner of lot of Mrs. Anna Winebrenner; thence along lot two hundred and forty feet to the beginning." In 1899 this half-lot sold for \$500. In 1901 it sold for \$1,350 and was described as "a two and one half

story frame dwelling house, stable and other necessary outbuildings.” When E. E. King owned the property in 1919, its value was \$1,400. The western half of lot 14W was owned by John C. Shertzer in 1899 and later by Margaret Wilson in 1905.

1860 Residents: James McIlhenny (1830); Ann McIlhenny (1833); Mary M. McIlhenny (1856); Emily I. McIlhenny (1859). **Notes:** According to the 1860 census, James McIlhenny was a blacksmith. He and his entire family were born in Pennsylvania.

Sources: ACDB ZZ-525, 60-270, 90-106; “Town Lots for Sale,” *Centinel*, January 16, 1810.

Town Lot #15W: Hiram D. Eshelman Residence. **Current Address:** 125 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Hiram D. Eshelman. **Description:** Two-story, brick, dwelling-house, built in 1859 and still standing. **Recital:** William Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Andrew McMaster, 1848; Reuben Carley, January 17, 1855; Daniel King, April 1855; Catherine Eshelman, December 7, 1858; Charles J. Sefton, April 3, 1883; Heirs of Charles J. Sefton, June 13, 1900; Mary Rowe, April 9, 1902; Jennie McCreary, March 31, 1905; H. B. Slonaker, March 26, 1917.

History of the Lot: The early history of this lot is confusing and difficult to trace in the tax records, but clearly this is one of four lots acquired by Reuben Carley from Andrew McMaster in 1855 and then quickly sold to Daniel King. The *Compiler* in April of 1859 reported that “Mr. Samuel King [actually Daniel King], during the past year, put up a neat brick house, at the west end of Fairfield, which he sold, recently, to Hiram Eshelman, for \$700. Mr. King has since erected a two-story log house, a short distance from town.” The 1860 census clearly indicates that Eshelman lived here at that time. The 1872 *Atlas* shows this as the residence of “Hiram Shelman,” reflecting how *Eshelman* may have been pronounced at that time. The property was described 1901 as part of the estate of Charles J. Sefton, “fronting on Main Street and running back to an alley, adjoining lot of heirs of Philip Brown dec’d, on the west and J. C. Shertzer on the east improved with a two story brick house, frame shop and other outbuildings.” Another document refers to the smaller structure as an “implement shop.” Often the earliest recorded deed for a property

is much more recent than one would expect. However, later deeds can be of great value if they provide a history of the lot or recital of the previous owners, sometimes referred to as a “begat” section. A 1905 deed describes this property as “two lots of ground situate lying and being in the Borough of Fairfield, County of Adams and State of Pennsylvania and known on the plan of said town as lots nos. 15 & 16 bounded and described as follows. Beginning at York or Main Street and corner of lot belonging to Margaret Wilson and known as part of lot no. 14, thence along York or Main Street west one hundred and twenty four feet to corner of lot no 17, now belonging to Mrs. H. Wintrode, thence along said lot two hundred and twenty feet to a back alley thence eastward with said alley one hundred and twenty feet to lot no 14, and Margaret Wilson thence along said lot two hundred and forty feet to York or Main Street, and place of beginning. Being two out of four lots of ground which Andrew McMaster and Eliza Ann his wife by their deed dated January 17th A.D. 1855 sold and conveyed to Reuben Carley and Eveline Carley wife of John Z. Carley and which Reuben Carley and Eveline Carley wife of John Z. Carley by their deed dated April A.D. 1855 sold and conveyed to Daniel King and which Daniel King and Mary his wife by their deed dated December 7th A. D. 1858 sold and conveyed to Catharine Eshelman and which Catherine Eshelman and Hiram her husband by their deed dated April 3rd 1883 sold and conveyed to Charles J. Sefton and which Virginia M. Sefton and Lillie M. Knox administrators of the estate of Charles J. Sefton deceased by their deed dated April 9th A.D. 1902, sold and conveyed to Mary J. Rowe, party hereto.” In 1905, the property sold for \$1,250. Incidentally, Lot 15W still fronts 64 feet along Main Street today as shown on the modern tax map.

1860 Residents: Hiram Eshelman (January 20, 1823-October 12, 1903); Catharine Ann Shulley Eshelman (April 5, 1830-April 20, 1910); Mary Alice Eshelman (April 28, 1851-January 2, 1935); William David Eshelman (March 5, 1853-August 15, 1929); John Henry Eshelman (February 3, 1855-January 17, 1912); Sarah Catherine Eshelman (March 28, 1856-October 9, 1920); Frederick S. Eshelman (December 27, 1858-January 17, 1865).

Family Notes: Hiram Eshelman was born in Halifax, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania in 1823. In 1850 he married Catherine Shulley of Hamiltonban Township and is shown in the 1850 census living with his father-in-law. In 1859 they moved to Fairfield, where Hiram worked as a cabinet maker. In 1883 the Eshelman family moved west and settled in Sheffield, Bureau County, Illinois, where Hiram and his wife spent the remainder of their lives and are now buried. Catherine was the daughter of Frederick and Mary E. Shulley. She was also the sister of Maria Hester Shulley Shertzer (who lived on lot 8W). According to her obituary, “Mrs. Eshelman was born in Fairfield.”

Civil War Notes: In October of 1862, Hiram Eshelman was drafted and mustered in as a member of Company C, 165th Pennsylvania Drafted Militia, and served with that unit until its discharge on July 28, 1863. Of course, like many other fathers, husbands and sons of Adams County, he was away from his home during those terrifying days of the Confederate invasion. The Eshelman family history includes an account that relates to Mary Alice Eshelman, who was just thirteen years old at the time of the battle: “She saw the Confederate soldiers go by her father’s home in Emmetsburg [*sic*] on their way to Chambersburg after the battle of Gettysburg. The household consisted entirely of women . . . [who were] much frightened, especially when the soldiers stopped and came up to the door; but they merely asked very politely for water. All of at least one day the soldiers marched by, and they could hear the distant booming of the guns. The first intimation that the household had of the way the battle was going was the hurrying along the road and across the fields back of the house of ambulances and wounded men going south, some walking, some riding horses and mules, often two men to a steed, but all pressing on without pause, and then later the Union in pursuit.” On April 18, 1864, Catherine gave birth to another child, Moriah Virginia Eshelman. In September 1864, Hiram volunteered and mustered in as a member of Company G, 209th Pennsylvania Infantry, commanded by Captain Charles F. Hinkle, of Fairfield (see lot 8N). The 209th was involved in the heavy fighting at Petersburg, Virginia on April 2, 1865. Eshelman was discharged with his company on May 31, 1865. While he was away from home, a tragic incident occurred that seriously impacted the Eshelman family. The events of January 17, 1865 were related by the Gettysburg *Star*

and Banner: “We are called upon to record another sad and fatal accident from the careless use of fire-arms. On Tuesday week, two little boys, children of Hiram Eshelman, of Fairfield, were playing with the barrel of a gun, which had been picked up after the army left that place. The children, it seems, were in a room, and while the elder of the two placed the breech of the barrel in the stove, he called on his little brother to put his ear to the other end ‘to hear something,’ when the gun discharged, the contents passing through the head of the boy, and causing almost instant death. The lad was about 7 years old, and what adds to the sadness of the affair, is the fact that his father was absent in the army. --We do not know when we have been called upon to record an accident so distressing. It is another sad warning against the danger of handling shells and cast away guns, which are daily picked up on the battlefield.”

Sources: ACDB 60-270, 90-106; “Town Lots for Sale,” *Centinel*, January 16, 1810; “Fairfield Items,” *Compiler*, April 4, 1859; “A Sad Accident,” *Compiler*, February 6, 1865; John W. and Esther F. Eshelman, *Descendants of Peter Eshelman of Swatara 1724-1780* (privately printed: 1979), 6-14; Nancy Sceery Bazar, *Multiple Stories, Multiple Values: Assessing the Importance of a House Study* (Master Thesis, University of Maryland School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, 2013), copy at the ACHS.

Town Lot #16W: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 129 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Hiram Eshelman. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** William Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Andrew McMaster, 1848; Reuben Carley, January 17, 1855; Daniel King, April 1855; Catherine Eshelman, December 7, 1858; Charles J. Sefton, April 3, 1883; Heirs of Charles Sefton, June 13, 1900; Mary Rowe, April 9, 1902; Jennie McCreary, March 31, 1905.

History of the Lot: Lot 16W was associated with Lot 15W throughout the early years of Fairfield and shares the same history. The lot was vacant throughout the Civil War and appears as part of the Eshelman property on the map in the 1872 *Atlas*. In addition, deeds indicate that lots 15W and 16W were still together in 1905. In the 1919 tax records, this lot is described as the property of Harry W.

Cluck located on Main Street and adjoining the lots of H. B. Slonaker and the estate of Philip Brown. At that time, the lot was valued at \$1,200, indicating that a structure had recently been built.

Town Lot #17W: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 131 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Unknown. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** William Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Andrew McMaster, 1848; Reuben Carley, January 17, 1855; Daniel King, April 1855; Heirs of Philip Brown, in 1900; Mrs. H. Wintrobe, in 1905; Heirs of Philip Brown, in 1919.

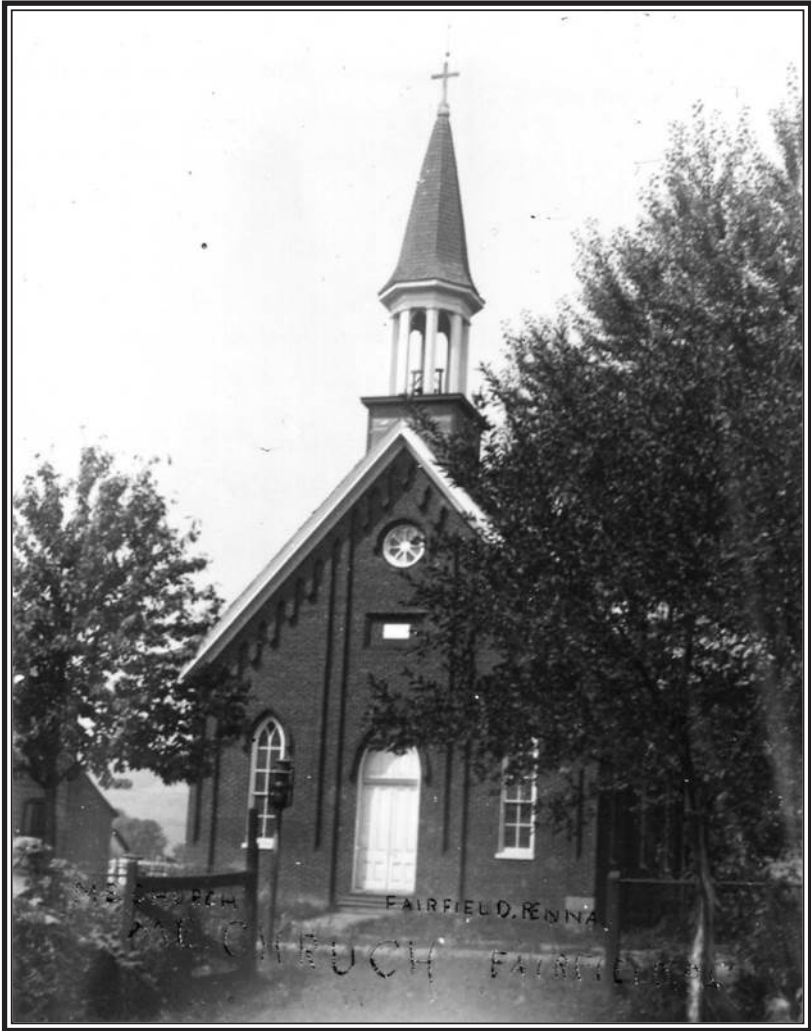
History of the Lot: Again, this seems to have been one of the four lots purchased by Reuben Carley from Andrew McMaster in 1855 and then quickly sold to Daniel King. This lot is shown as vacant on the 1858 map and in the 1872 *Atlas*. Along with 15W and 16W, this may have been part of the Eshelman property, or Daniel King may have sold this property to someone else. In 1919 the property was described as a house and lot valued at \$13,000, and owned by the heirs of Philip Brown, being on Main Street and adjoining Harry Cluck's lot and an alley.

Sources: Estate Papers of Philip Brown, ACHS.

Town Lot #18W: Fairfield Methodist Episcopal Church. **Current Address:** Today, this is a vacant lot with no address. **1860 Owner:** Trustees of the Fairfield Methodist Church. **Description:** Large church structure and cemetery. **Recital:** William Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Trustees of the Fairfield Methodist Episcopal Church, 1831; Fairfield School Board, July 30, 1934; Fairfield Shoe Company (L. E. Beaudin), 1942.

History of the Lot: The original Methodist church structure at this site is said to have been erected in 1831. The church and cemetery are indicated on the 1858 map as well as on the map in the 1872 *Atlas*. The original church was replaced by a larger more modern brick structure in 1895. According to the *Compiler*, "the structure is one of marked beauty of the gothic style of architecture, of brick with a slate roof, a graceful tower through which the building is entered, occupying one corner. The auditorium, with seating capacity of fully three hundred, has a class room addition which can

be thrown into the main room. The ceiling is of wood neatly paneled from which are suspended handsome reflecting chandeliers, making it one of the most attractive church edifices of the county.” During the 1920s, the structure was discontinued as a place of worship. The Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church made the decision to dispose of the property in 1933. On July 30, 1934, the church edifice was sold for \$200 to the Fairfield School Board. According to the *Gettysburg Times* in August of 1934,



*Fairfield Methodist Church (lot 18W),
J. B. Waddle, c. 1910, ACHS.*

“following some repairs and alterations it will be used for various school activities.” In 1938 the *Gettysburg Times* reported that “the old Methodist Church in Fairfield, now used as a gymnasium, had a burial ground in the rear of the building. Twenty-five years ago the plot was full of grave markers, but now only a very few remain.” At some point the graves in the cemetery behind the church were moved to the Fairfield Union Cemetery. In 1942, the church was converted into a factory for the manufacturing of shoes. According to the 1976 history of Fairfield, “the largest employer in the community in recent years has been the shoe manufacturing business. In the early 1940’s Mr. L. E. Beaudin, using the old Methodist Church, built the first shoe factory on West Main Street. Mr. Beaudin sold the shoe factory in 1948 and the Fairfield Shoe Co. was formed in enlarged quarters with Mr. Carl Filsinger serving as superintendent.” In August of 1953, the factory burned to the ground “leaving 300 to 400 people unemployed. The shoe company rebuilt, but this time at the western edge of Gettysburg.” Later Carl Filsinger built another factory “at the extreme end of Balder Street, which eventually sold to the Kinney Shoe Company who manufactured and sold shoes all over the world.” Today, the Methodist Church lot is vacant, except for the large concrete slab that was once the floor of the shoe company building.

Sources: “Church Dedication,” *Complier*, July 25, 1895; “Fairfield,” *Gettysburg Times*, August 21, 1934; “Fairfield has new fun room,” *Gettysburg Times*, November 3, 1934; “Background of Adams County,” *Gettysburg Times*, July 30, 1938; “Fairfield Shoe Company plant is destroyed by Fire of undetermined origin on Sunday; loss unofficially estimated at \$1,500,000,” *Gettysburg Times*, August 3, 1953; “Fairfield Shoe reopens after September 7,” *Gettysburg Times*, September 5, 1953; “An open letter to the Fairfield Area School Board,” *Gettysburg Times*, November 23, 1971; *Glimpses of Fairfield’s Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee, 1976).

Town Lot #19W: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** No current address. **1860 Owner:** Unknown. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** Daniel King; Josph Peters, 1869; John Peters, 1870; Margaret Reed, in 1919.

History of the Lot: There is no house shown at this location on the 1858 map. This was most likely a vacant lot at the time of the Civil War. Unfortunately, post-war tax lists are not particularly helpful in determining the ownership of this lot. A “J. Peters” is shown as the resident of this lot in the 1872 *Atlas*. In 1869, Joseph Peters appears with a lot valued at \$250, transferred from Daniel King. In 1870, Joseph’s name is crossed out. John Peters first appears with a lot, valued at \$50, in the 1870 tax list. In 1874 his lot increased in value to \$200. An advertisement for this property (and also lot 20W) was published in the *Compiler* on September 14, 1904: “a lot of ground situate in the borough of Fairfield, Adams County, Pa., fronting 70 feet more or less, on Main Street, and containing 69 square feet, adjoining lots of Samuel Baum[actually Brown] on the west and the Methodist Church on the east, improved with two weatherboarded dwelling houses, with outkitchen and other improvements.” The 1919 Fairfield tax records describe this as the property of Margaret Reed valued at \$400. Eventually, the house on 19W was torn down and the shoe factory expanded onto this lot. The lot is currently vacant.

Sources: *Compiler*; September 14, 1904.

Town Lot #20W: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 141 West Main Street. **Recital:** John F. Peters to Peter Dick, February 24, 1872; Heirs of Peter Dick; H. H. Wintrode, September 9, 1882; Mary E. Wintrode, June 2, 1888; Alice S. Spalding, March 9, 1892; Samuel Brown, March 17, 1897; Oliver Sanders, February 21, 1913; Cornelius Sanders, March 30, 1914. **Description:** Vacant Lot.

History of the Lot: This appears as a vacant lot on the 1858 Map and in the 1872 *Atlas*. The 1919 Fairfield tax list indicates that this was the property of Cornelius Sanders, valued at \$1,100. Sanders purchased this property, perhaps along with 19W, in 1916, when his property was valued at \$1,800. There is a house at this location today, and the same house appears in a photograph of a Memorial Day parade in Fairfield, about 1910.

Sources: ACDB 75-32; Fairfield Vertical File, ACHS.

Town Lot #21W: James H. Marshall Rental Property. **Current Address:** 201 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** James H. Marshall.

Description: Small dwelling-house. **Recital:** James Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; James H. Marshall, March 16, 1857; Anna Fanny McGlaughlin, February 13, 1867; Joanna McGlaughlin, April 8, 1892; Samuel Brown, May 2, 1904; Trustees of the Christian Church, March 18, 1912.

History of the Lot: The 1858 map shows a building on this lot owned by “J. H. Marshall.” However, it is clear that Robert McGlaughlin and his family lived on the property in the 1860 census. The McGlaughlins purchased the property in 1867. In 1903, the “Christian Church” built a church edifice at this site, and the original house may have been demolished at the same time. A 1908 list of the structures in Fairfield identifies the church as a frame building owned by the “Christian Congregation.” The 1919 Fairfield tax list refers to this as the “Disciples Church,” and places the value at \$3,500. In 1927 a Mennonite congregation purchased the property, greatly improved the building, and established the Fairfield Mennonite Church which is still in existence today.

1860 Residents: Robert McGlaughlin (February 25, 1805-September 23, 1870); Anna Francis Ingram McGlaughlin (January 6, 1802-February 22, 1891); John Calvin McGlaughlin (January 1, 1841-September 1, 1933); Margaret Helen McGlaughlin (1841), married George Leisinger; Herbert McGlaughlin (1845-May 30, 1865); Adaline McGlaughlin (May 2, 1846-1927); William Lewis McGlaughlin (October 29, 1830- March 6, 1909); Anna Margaret Rider McGlaughlin (1834); Mary J. McGlaughlin (1855); Sarah E. McGlaughlin (1857); Rachel F. McGlaughlin (1860); Elizabeth Sanders (1857).

Family Notes: At some point Lewis McGlaughlin (son of Robert and Anna) and his family moved to the dwelling owned by Jonas Hemmons on Lot 11E and by 1866 McGlaughlin and his wife are listed as the owners of that lot.

Civil War Notes: Five sons of Robert and Anna Francis McGlaughlin are said to have served in the Union armies, one of whom, William Lewis McGlaughlin, was a lifelong resident of Fairfield. He served as a private in Company G, 209th from September 3, 1864 to May 31, 1865. According to his record service in the Fairfield GAR

book, "The first engagement in which he participated was at Fort Steadman and then again at front of Petersburg. He was wounded by a piece of a shell striking him at Fort Hell and was taken to the hospital at City Point and remained there until he recovered. His most intimate comrades in the service were Frederick Shulley, John Moser, Thomas Winebrener, Daniel Biesecker, John C. Shertzer and Charles F. Hinkle." McGlaughlin died on March 6, 1909, and was buried in Fairfield Union Cemetery. John Calvin McGlaughlin, another son, served in the "Anderson Troop," Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. He enlisted on September 1, 1862. His brother Herbert McGlaughlin enlisted on October 16, 1862, as a substitute in Company C, 165th Pennsylvania Drafted Militia, a nine-month unit. On September 16, 1863, he enlisted again in Company I, Third Maryland Cavalry. Herbert died of Smallpox in New Orleans, Louisiana, and is buried there in Chalmette National Cemetery. Another brother, Ezra Blythe McGlaughlin (1838-1917), who was not living with the rest of the family in 1860, served in Company C, 165th Pennsylvania Drafted Militia. Finally, Andrew Thompson McGlaughlin, not living with the rest of the family in 1860, is also said to have served in the Union army. His unit is not known.

Sources: ACDB K-269, SS-3; Samuel Brown to Trustees of Christian Church, URD, ACHS; Record book of the Fairfield G.A.R., ACHS; *Tariff of Rates for Adams County, Pennsylvania* (Philadelphia: 1908), 50; "Town Lots for Sale," *Centinel*, January 16, 1810; "Mennonites began independent congregation in Fairfield in 1926, Church dedicated in 1927," *Gettysburg Times*, October 5, 1956.

Southeasterly Lot Histories

Town Lot #1E: Rufus C. Swope Residence. **Current Address:** 10 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Rufus C. Swope. **Description:** Two-story, frame, dwelling-house, still standing. **Recital:** William Miller, in 1801; James Hill, by 1821; David Blythe, by 1846; James D. Paxton, 1846; Rufus C. Swope, March 22, 1848.

History of the Lot: The early history of Lot 1E appears to be associated with the extensive tannery property which bounded this lot on the south and which is included in this study as “Outlying Lot F.” Rufus Swope purchased this lot in 1848 and was the owner throughout the Civil War. He must have encountered some financial trouble in 1875, because his property was put up for sale by an assignee. It was described at that time as a lot of ground 60 by 252 feet, fronting on York Street, bounded on the northeast by an alley, on the southeast by lot of Lewis Artzberger, and on the southwest by lot of Peter Shivley, improved with a two story frame roughcast house, filled in with brick, a frame stable, carriage house, an excellent well of water and fine cistern.

1860 Residents: Rufus Christian Swope (August 22, 1822-October 9, 1908); Evelyn Forest Swope (1822-1894); Elvira F. Swope (1847); Granville H. Swope (1849); Augustus S. Swope (1851); Ephraim Brinkerhoff Swope (1854-1944); Clayton M. Swope (1856); Edward McPherson Swope (October 17, 1857-January 14, 1942); Lydia A. Forrest (1834); Ephraim Dixon (1848); Harvey Carter (1840), black, tanner.

Family Notes: *Boyd's Business Directory* (1860), lists Rufus C. Swope of Fairfield as a tanner, but that was apparently just of his many talents. The *1886 History of Adams County* gave an extensive biography of Swope. “Rufus C. was born August 20, 1822, in Littlestown. His mother died when he was thirteen years old, and he was then sent to learn the trade of a tanner with Daniel Crome, at Littlestown, where he stayed until he was nineteen, when he rented a tannery in that place, which he carried on until 1852, at which time he bought a tannery in Fairfield, which he ran until 1866, when he sold it. . . . In 1862 he was appointed, by Gov. Curtain, draft commissioner of this district, and delivered a regiment to the authorities at Gettysburg

[The 165th Pennsylvania Drafted Militia]. In December, 1862, he was appointed by President Lincoln captain, assistant quartermaster, and remained in the service until August, 1866, being on duty in Washington for a year after the close of the war. In the fall of 1866 he was appointed internal revenue collector of the Sixteenth Congressional District, which position he held until March, 1867, when he failed to be confirmed by the Senate, in consequence of having identified himself with the Johnson administration.” Swope’s position as “draft commissioner,” made him unpopular with many young men in the area. This was evidenced by an incident that occurred following the extensive draft of men from this area in October of 1862 and just a week after J.E.B. Stuart’s raid. The *Adams Sentinel* reported that “the stable of Col. Rufus C. Swope, in Fairfield, near his tannery, was fired on Monday evening last, and consumed Suspicion at once fell upon two men named Joseph Saylor and David Bostick, who had been making threats of vengeance upon Col. S., the former having been drafted. They were arrested, and are now in prison.” A register of officers in the United States Army confirms that in November of 1862 Swope received a commission as assistant quartermaster in the United States Volunteers. He served in different capacity with the quartermaster’s department throughout the war. In March 1864, he was listed as the quartermaster of the Second Division, Fifth Corps, Army of the Potomac, a division formerly associated with the First Corps. At the end of the war, he was recognized “for the efficient manner in which he has supplied the wants of the command; for the superior character of his transportation under all circumstances, and for his faithfulness in the discharge of his duties.” He was honorably discharged from service on August 4, 1866.

Civil War Notes: Lieutenant Christian Balder, Sixth United States Cavalry, met a tragic death in the streets of Fairfield on July 3, 1863. At the conclusion of the action east of Fairfield, Balder was one of those who attempted to escape pursuing rebels by riding through the village. Spectators witnessed the “lone cavalryman” as he “rode madly up the street with a capless, red-headed Confederate in close pursuit. The Union cavalryman suddenly wheeled his horse into an alley [today South Miller Street] and turned to meet his enemy. There was a sharp rifle report and Lt. Christian Balder fell from his horse critically wounded. He dragged himself to the porch of the Swope

house where members of the family took him inside to care for him. Knowing that death was near, Lt. Balder asked Swope to send his personal belongings to his family in Connecticut.” Another account stated simply that Balder “was shot through the body . . . and laid in the hall where he died.” Apparently, Balder had refused to surrender because of an incident earlier in the war: “two of his friends came to inquire about him [at the Swope house]. At some previous time, they said, he had been accused by his superior officer of cowardice. He declared then that never again would any man make such a charge.” Lieutenant Adna R. Chaffee was another member of the Sixth United States Cavalry wounded in the action and brought to the Swope house, where he was cared for by the family. He recovered and eventually rose to the rank of Major General, commanding the United States forces in the Boxer Rebellion. In August 1903, a “metal tablet” was placed on the Swope house to commemorate its use as a hospital. Edward McPherson Swope (son of Rufus and Evelyn) was just five-years old in 1863. Upon his death in Altoona, Pennsylvania, in 1942, the obituary made specific mention of his being a “witness of Lee’s retreat. “The family home was at Fairfield, Adams County, and the son many times recalled that he was just tall enough to get his elbows on the window sills and from there witnessed the remnants of the Confederate army making their way south toward Maryland after the battle which turned the tide against the south.”

Sources: H. C. Bradsby, *1886 History of Adams County*, Reprint (Knightstown, Ind.: The Bookmark, 1992), 447-448; “Valuable Tan Yard Property,” *Star and Banner*, February 4, 1848; “Fire,” *Adams Sentinel*, October 21, 1862; “Assignee’s Sale,” *Star and Sentinel*, October 7, 1875; “Saw Room where Chaffee lay Wounded,” *Compiler*, September 30, 1902; “Fairfield Items,” *Star and Sentinel*, June 24, 1903. “Col. Rufus C. Swope passes away at great age,” *Compiler*, October 14, 1908; Thriving Town can Cater to needs of Many,” *Gettysburg Times*, June 28, 1927; William Storrick, “The Cavalry Fight at Fairfield,” *Gettysburg Times*, September 10, 1934; “Witness of Lee’s Retreat Expires,” *Altoona Mirror*, January 15, 1942; “Officer Died in Swope Home,” *Gettysburg Times*, September 11, 1951; “Southern Armies Thrice were Temporary Visitors as Events of the Civil War Engulfed Village,” *Gettysburg Times*, September 11, 1951; “Fairfield Grew From Section of Maryland Province Known

Formerly as Carroll's Delight," *Gettysburg Times*, June 25, 1956; *War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Reports of the Union and Confederate Armies* (Government Printing Office, Washington: 1889), 33: 774 and 46: 980; Francis Heitman, *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army*, (Government Printing Office, Washington: 1903), 1: 941; *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #2E (Western Half): Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 10 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** James D. Paxton. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** James Agnew, in 1801; Heirs of William Miller (Maria M. Paxton); Andrew Marshall, August 15, 1865.

History of the Lot: At some early date, Lot 2E was divided in half, the western portion apparently being retained by William Miller. Following his death, it was retained by his heirs, the last surviving of whom was his daughter Maria, married to James D. Paxton. In 1865, Andrew Marshall purchased the western half of Lot 2E from Maria Paxton, "in right of her father, William Miller, Esq., deceased," for \$120.

Family Notes: According to the family history, James Dunlop Paxton (June 11, 1796-February 10, 1864) "possessed intelligence and enterprise, and was proficient in mining and manufacturing iron. He erected the Maria Furnace [named after his wife Maria, daughter of William Miller] in Adams County, Pennsylvania, situated at the foot of South Mountain, ten miles from Gettysburg. He was a partner with Hon. Thaddeus Stevens in a rolling mill and furnace located in Caledonia, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, but this enterprise was destroyed in the Civil War." Paxton moved to Baltimore at some point and died there in 1864. He was laid to rest in Evergreen Cemetery.

Civil War Notes: In April of 1861, an American Flag was raised on or near this half lot. The following article appeared shortly thereafter in the *Compiler*: "The patriotic citizens of Fairfield and vicinity raised a Liberty Pole and unfurled to the breeze the American Flag on Monday afternoon, amid long continued, enthusiastic cheers. The pole is 110 feet long, and the flag a neat and graceful one, the handiwork of the ladies, who ever exhibit their true devotion to the

Union, and are ever willing to contribute all they can to their country.” The officers for the occasion were: President, Captain P. Dick. Vice Presidents, John Mickley, John Bennett, James H. Marshall, T. A. Marshall, Jacob Musselman. Secretaries, J. Stem, Charles Sefton. Chief Marshal, Thomas Marshall. The flag was later torn down by Confederates during J.E.B. Stuart’s October, 1862 raid.

Sources: ACDB Y-70; Adelaide Paxton Doran, *The Paxton Family, A Genealogy* (Glendale, CA; 1987); “Pole Raising,” *Compiler*, April 29, 1861.

Town Lot #2E (Eastern Half): Andrew Marshall Residence. **Current Address:** 10 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Andrew Marshall. **Description:** Two-story, frame, dwelling-house. **Recital:** James Agnew, in 1801; William Miller, in 1804; James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Mary Wilson, March 7, 1857; Heirs of Mary Wilson, May 20, 1859; Andrew Marshall, February 2, 1860 and March 23, 1860; N. C. Trout, in 1919.

History of the Lot: According to the inset on the 1858 wall map of Adams County, James Wilson’s residence was located on Lot 2, but it is clearly shown on the western side of the lot instead of the east. It is uncertain if this is an error, but the history of the property is certainly very confusing. According to a biographical sketch, Andrew Marshall, “in 1860 . . . bought a property in Fairfield, which has ever since been his home.” In 1860, Marshall purchased the eastern half of lot 2 from the heirs of Mary Wilson in two different transactions, totaling \$1,200. The transfer of the eastern half of the lot from Wilson to Marshall is also noted in tax records as a house and lot worth \$250. In 1865, Marshall purchased the western half of Lot 2, and the value then increased to \$333. In 1871, the value increased once again to \$450. It appears that the house we see today was built at that time, or it is possible that the original structure was greatly enlarged. The 1872 *Atlas* indicates this lot as being the residence of “A. Marshall.”

1860 Residents: Andrew Marshall (November 18, 1818-November 16, 1904); Helen Knox Marshall (March 11, 1829- April 1, 1893).

Civil War Notes: Following the Civil War, Andrew Marshall filed a claim, stating that the Rebels had taken from him one “Rockaway Buggy” valued at \$125. According Lewis McGlaughlin in an affidavit, “on the 5th of July, 1863 he was at his home in Fairfield, and on that day Lee’s Rebel army retreated through said town, that he saw the Rebels have the buggy of said Marshall and take it away with them, that he saw said Marshall in the buggy with a Rebel trying to get him to leave the buggy, but in spite of all his entreaties the Rebel took the buggy along with them.”

Sources: ACDB T-424, V-141, V-143; Civil War Border Claims Files, Andrew Marshall, PHMC; H. C. Bradsby, *1886 History of Adams County*, Reprint (Knightstown, Ind.: The Bookmark, 1992), 442-443; *Fairfield in the Civil War*, 75; “Public Sale,” *Gettysburg Times*, February 20, 1946.

Town Lot #3E: Saint Mary’s Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery. **Current Address:** 12 East Main Street. **1863 Owner:** Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church. **Description:** Large brick structure. **Recital:** James McCreary, in 1801; William Miller to James McCleary, April 28, 1804; Matthew Dill, 1810; Heirs of Matthew Dill, April 10, 1812; Heirs of Susanna Dill, November 19, 1816; William McClean, May 28, 1845; Trustees of Roman Catholic Church, March 26, 1852; Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia, May 16, 1868.

History of the Lot: In 1804, William Miller issued a deed for this lot to James McCleary at a cost of \$6.67. However, McCreary is listed as the holder of this lot in the 1801 agreement, so he had already established some type of ownership prior to the issuing of the deed. In the 1802 tax records, he is listed with a house and lot valued at \$350. The 1810 tax list notes the transfer of a house and lot from McCreary to Matthew Dill valued at \$360, and in 1811 it was increased to \$400. Matthew Dill, a soldier of the American Revolution, died on April 10, 1812. His will mentions of “the house and lot I now live upon in Fairfield,” which he bequeathed to his wife Susannah. She died in 1816, and a public sale the following year described the property as “a house and lot in Millerstown, Adams County. The house is two stories high, with a back building attached to it—the whole conveniently laid off in rooms. There is also a good stable on



St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church (lot 3E), c. 1904, ACHS.

the lot.” Perhaps the back building was added in 1811, as shown by a tax increase. The property remained as part of the estate of Susannah Dill for more than 30 years. The 1845 tax records note the transfer of a house and lot valued at \$250 from the heirs of the Widow Dill to William McClean. In 1852 the lot was purchased in preparation of the construction of the Catholic Church, and the original Dill house was removed. According to the *Gettysburg Compiler* of August 9, 1852, “The corner stone of the Catholic Church in Fairfield, in this county, will be laid on Sunday next, at 4 o’clock, P.M.” In 1904, the

church was greatly altered and expanded. Fairfield tax records for 1919 actually list the “Catholic Church” as being valued at \$6,000. The records of this church are in the collections of the Adams County Historical Society. Originally, there was a cemetery in rear of the church, but at some point it was removed.

Family Notes: Matthew Dill, a soldier of the American Revolution, and his wife are interred at the Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church Cemetery, where their stones can still be seen.

Sources: ACDB B-314, Z-388; Estate Papers of Matthew Dill, ACHS; Notice in *Compiler*, August 9, 1852; Notice in *Star and Banner*, October 13, 1854; *Commemoration Book, Saint Mary’s Church* (Fairfield, 1966); *Fairfield in the Civil War*, 18-19.

Town Lot #4E: Abraham Hill McCreary Residence. **Current Address:** 14 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** A. Hill McCreary. **Description:** Two-story, frame, dwelling-house, still standing. **Recital:** John Miller to William Reed, February 22, 1787; Yost Arnold, January 14, 1812; Samuel Rife, 1815; Charles and Daniel McAllister, 1817; Samuel Rife, April 18, 1823; Jacob Bushey, June 11, 1825; James Reed, April 8, 1828; Thomas C. Miller, April 12, 1828; John McGinley, May 5, 1831; Heirs of John McGinley, by 1835; Zephaniah Herbert, April 6, 1836; Rufus Swope, March 29, 1849; A. Hill McCreary, March 29, 1855; Heirs of A. H. McCreary, 1882; William S. McCreary, May 4, 1901; Frank Moore, April 1, 1918.

History of the Lot: The house standing at this lot is one of the oldest documentable houses in the town, and it is one of a handful of properties whose recital states that the lot was purchased directly from John Miller. William Reed received a deed for this property in 1787, and he appears in the 1789 Hamiltonban Township tax list, assessed with a house and lot valued at 40 pounds and a lot valued at 4 pounds. So presumably, the house on this lot was built between 1787 and 1789, but it could be earlier, as a reminiscence written by Williams’s son, John Reed, in about 1850 states: “I was born in Millerstown in June, 1786.” In 1797, William Reed is taxed with a house and lot valued at \$100. Tax lists indicates the transfer of a house and lot in 1817, valued at \$650, from Samuel Rife to Daniel McAllister. An

1823 sheriff's sale describes the property as "a certain lot of ground situate in Hamiltonban Township, Adams County, adjoining lands of John McKesson and others, on which are erected a two-story log dwelling house and log stable—the estate of Charles and Daniel McAllister." The 1825 tax records list the transfer of a house and lot valued at \$400 from the heirs of Daniel McAllister to Samuel Rife, and in 1826 the value dropped to \$300. In 1828, the lot sold for \$300. A description of this property from the estate papers of John McGinley in 1835 notes "a certain lot of ground in the town of Millerstown, on which are erected a two story log rough cast house, stable, and other improvements adjoining lots of Ezra Blythe, the heirs of John Dill and others." In 1836 the lot sold for \$600. In 1855 the property sold for \$650, indicating that the house had not changed very much in previous decades. On the 1858 map this is shown as the residence of A. H. McCreary. And although references clearly place him there earlier, he is not taxed for the lot until 1858. Also shown on the map is a small shop or office just to the east of the house. Speaking of this small building, an 1853 advertisement mentions that Dr. Samuel E. Hall had relocated himself in Fairfield and set up a doctor's "office adjoining Mr. Hill McCreary's." According to the 1976 history of Fairfield, the office was later used by "two brothers, Warner and William McCreary, [who] conducted the same type of woodworking and undertaking business the early part of the century near the First National Bank." A notice for the estate of William S. McCreary in 1917 describes this as "A lot of ground . . . fronting 60 ft. on the south side of Main Street and running back 240 ft. to a public alley; adjoining lands of the Catholic Church on the west and lot of James Cunningham on the east. Said lot of ground being improved with a two-story frame dwelling house with all modern conveniences . . . also a large two-story frame store building . . . The rear of the lot contains a stable and large buggy shed." The two-story frame store building was later converted into a house (current 16 East Main Street). Fairfield historian Frank Moore, the grandson of A. Hill McCreary, purchased this property from the estate of William S. McCreary and lived on the lot for many years. In some deeds, the number for this lot is mistakenly identified as "No. 5 on said plot of the town," but from various descriptions it is clearly Lot 4E. At a public

sale years ago, Robert Fitez purchased a large collection of original unrecorded deeds for this property. He gratuitously made these deeds available for this project, greatly expanding our knowledge of the lot.

1860 Residents: Abraham Hill McCreary (1813 - 1882); Martha McCreary (1822 – October 11, 1900); Margaret McCreary (1848); Ann B. McCreary (1850); Robert W. McCreary (1852); Martha J. McCreary (1856); Warner H. McCreary (1858); Harriet McCreary (1859).

Family Notes: William , who purchased this lot in 1787, married Nancy Miller, the daughter of John Miller, about 1777. According to Reed's son, "My father received only an English education. He was a man of great energy of character of strong intellect. In 1778 he served one campaign in the revolutionary struggle. He was an ardent Whig. He served in the capacity of major of militia. He had thro' life a predication for military tactics, was for many years colonel of a regiment and afterwards a major general of a division composed of militia of York and Adams county. With Michael Slagel, he was a member of the convention from York County in 1790 which framed the first constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He served four years as a senator in the state legislature, representing York and Adams County from 1806 till 1810. He was an active and influential member. When war broke out in 1812 with Great Britain, he was appointed adjutant general of the state by Gov. Snyder. He took an active part in procuring an organization of the militia so as to render them fit for service The great labor and exposure incident to this service produced in him a fatal disease of which he died in New Alexandria, Westmorland County, in October 1813. He was then in the 62 year of his age. He was buried in the church yard at Salem Meeting House in Salem Township, Westmoreland County, a marble slab with a suitable inscription marks the spot of his interment. My mother survived till 1828, when she died in Millerstown, Adams County, and is buried in the Marsh-Creek Burying ground."

Civil War Notes: A. Hill McCreary was the captain of a local militia unit, the Adams Dragoons, organized at the outbreak of the war in 1861. In 1862, he served as captain of this unit when it was temporarily called into Federal service at the time of the Maryland Campaign. During J.E.B. Stuart's Raid in October of 1862, it was

men of his command who engaged advance elements of Stuart's column in a small skirmish outside of the village of McKnightstown (or New Salem), resulting in the capture of a Rebel soldier. That same day, the Confederates ransacked Paxton and McCreary's store located on Lot 6E. In June of 1863 during the Gettysburg Campaign, many of his men (excepting McCreary) were again mustered into Federal service under Captain Robert Bell, eventually becoming Company B, Twenty-First Pennsylvania Cavalry. Of course, the most extraordinary story associated with the McCreary family during the Civil War concerns that of Martha who was pregnant and expecting at the time of the Battle of Gettysburg. On the afternoon of July 5, during the retreat of the Confederate Army through Fairfield, elements of the Union Sixth Army Corps under General John Sedgwick shelled the Rebel rear-guard at the edge of the town. According to family legend, Martha went into labor and the child was born in the cellar of the home. In honor of the Union commander, the child was named William Sedgwick McCreary.

Sources: ACDB 89-265, 145-28, 146-61; Samuel Rife to Jacob Bushey, June 11, 1825, URD in possession of Robert Fitez, Fairfield; Jacob Bushey to James Reed, April 8, 1828; URD in possession of Robert Fitez, Fairfield; James Reed to Thomas C. Miller, April 12, 1828, URD in possession of Robert Fitez, Fairfield; Thomac C. Miller to John McGinly, May 5, 1831, URD in possession of Robert Fitez, Fairfield; John M. McGinly's Administrator to Zephaniah Herbert, April 6, 1836, URD in possession of Robert Fitez, Fairfield; Zephaniah Herbert to Rufus C. Swope, March 29, 1849; URD in possession of Robert Fitez, Fairfield; Rufus C. Swope to A. Hill McCreary, March 29, 1855, URD in possession of Robert Fitez, Fairfield; Civil War Pension Papers of A. Hill McCreary, ACHS; Estate Papers of John McGinley, ACHS; "Dr. Samuel E. Hall," *Compiler*, April 18, 1853; "Excitement in Gettysburg," *Star and Banner*, October 16, 1862; "More War Time Recollections," *Star and Sentinel*, September 5, 1907; Obituary of William S. McCreary, *Compiler*, January 6, 1917; "Administrators Sale," *Gettysburg Times*, August 25, 1917; "Properties Sold," *Gettysburg Times*, August 27, 1917; "Reminiscences Dedicated to My Children," *Gettysburg Times*, November 16, 1929; *Glimpses of Fairfield's Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee, 1976).

Town Lot #5E: Sarah A. Blythe Residence. **Current Address:** 18 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Sarah Amanda Blythe. **Description:** Two-story, weather-boarded, dwelling-house, still standing. **Recital:** William Miller to John McGinley, December 18, 1800; Heirs of John McGinley, August 23, 1811; Zephaniah Herbert, June 4, 1812; James McKesson, Jr., February 28, 1817; John A. McKesson, September 29, 1818; James Paxton, by 1823; Heirs of John Paxton, by 1827; Sarah Amanda McKesson, in 1828; Ezra Blythe, by 1831; Sarah Amanda Blythe, by 1856; John Paxton, 1876; James Cunningham, 1900 and 1919.

History of the Lot: Again, Lot 5E is the site of one of Fairfield's early taverns. In 1800 John McGinley purchased Lots 5E and 6E from William Miller for 350 pounds, which indicates that some structure stood there at the time of the sale. McGinley appears on the 1801 agreement as the owner of these lots, and the 1802 tax records list him with two lots valued at \$650. Advertisements in the *Adams Centinel* indicate that McGinley ran a store in Fairfield starting in 1803. An 1811 sale describes this as "Two lots of ground in Fairfield (alias Millerstown) late the property of John M'Ginly, deceased—on which are the following buildings: A large convenient dwelling house (which was long occupied as a tavern), a store house, stabling and sheds; a good well of water and garden near the kitchen." According to deeds, the two lots were purchased in 1812 by Zephaniah Herbert for \$1,085. In 1817, the property sold for \$3,000. The following year it sold yet again for \$3,500. It appears from advertisements that there were several attempts to divide the property and sell the dwelling house and store individually. It is possible that for a time, Lots 5 and 6 were separated and then reunited again later during the ownership of the Blythe family. An 1823 sheriff's sale describes "a certain two-story dwelling house and kitchen, stable and lot, situate in Millerstown . . . fronting on Main Street—late the estate of John A. McKesson." An 1827 advertisement for the property describes it as "A lot, containing one-third of an acre, in Millerstown, bounded by lots of Col. James Reid and others, on which are, a log weather-boarded house, with a back building, frame store-house, and frame stable—the estate of John Paxton, deceased." In 1832 it was again described as, "A lot of ground, situate in Millerstown—on which are erected a two-story double dwelling house—formerly the property

of John Paxton, dec'd . . . a reasonable credit will be given by John Hensel.” Regardless of Paxton’s association with the lot, the property stayed in the McKesson family, and adjoining deeds continued to refer to the lots as belonging to the heirs of John McKesson. In 1828 Sarah Amanda McKesson (daughter of John McKesson) is listed as the owner of the lot. In 1829 she married Erza Blythe. A very complicated matter arose when Erza fell into financial trouble, and his properties were assigned to his creditors. Initially, Lots 5E and 6E were taken from the couple, but following Ezra’s death and a lengthy court battle, the assignee deed (or indenture) was invalidated, and Sarah remained in possession of her property. Following her death in 1874, the property was described in the estate of Amanda Blythe as “two lots in Fairfield fronting on Main Street bounded on east and south by public allies, on west by lot of A. H. McCreary, two story frame dwelling house, with a one story addition on the west, wood house, large frame stable with room for six or 8 horses, a frame store house with sheds attached, a good well of water, cistern, choice fruit.” In the 1919 tax records, Lots 5E and 6E are referred to as one lot valued at \$2,250 and owned by James Cunningham.

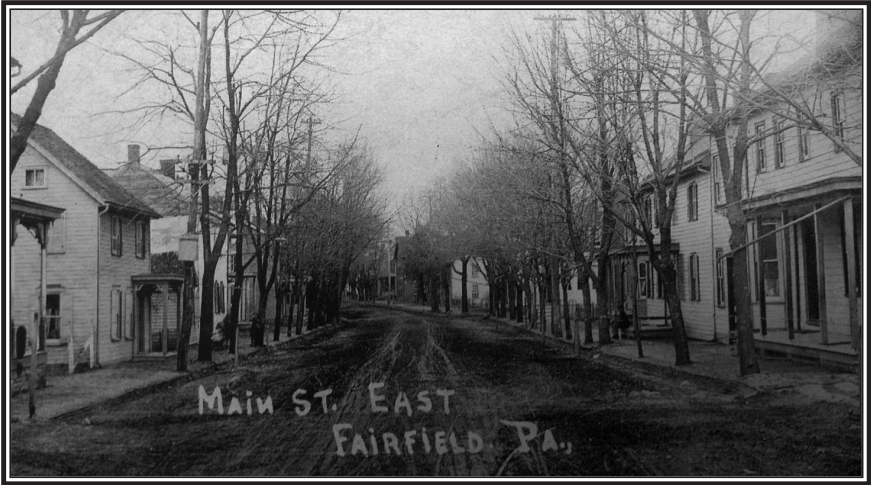
1860 Residents: Sarah Amanda McKesson Blythe (1792 – October 31, 1874); Charles J. Sefton (February 11, 1834 – June 13, 1900); Isabella Sefton (February 26, 1839 – January 24, 1898); William Row (1840); Jemima Hull (1842).

Family Notes: Sarah Amanda McKesson was the daughter of John McKesson. She married Ezra Blythe on December 30, 1829. Ezra died on August 25, 1844, and is today buried in the Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church Cemetery. James Cunningham, who later owned the property, was married to a daughter of Robert R. Blythe and was most likely a niece of Sarah McKesson Blythe. The Cunningham family owned the property for some time afterwards, so there was a continuous family connection with the house for over 100 years. Charles J. Sefton and his family are shown living with Mrs. Blythe at the time of the 1860 census, but in 1862 Charles purchased the property of Henry Overdeer (Lots 15S and 16S) and presumably removed to that location.

Civil War Notes: There are several articles pertaining to the Blythe House and its connection to Major Samuel H. Starr of the Sixth United States Cavalry, who was wounded in the fighting outside of Fairfield on July 3, 1863. A 1927 article reported that “Major Starr, who was in charge of the Sixth Regulars, was cared for at what is now the Cunningham place. His amputated arm for a time lay buried in the garden there, but when he recovered the doughty major took both arms with him!” According to a 1934 article, “Major Starr, who lost an arm, was removed to the Blythe house (now the James Cunningham house), where he and others were cared for. The Cunningham house bears the following inscription: Major Samuel H. Starr and other wounded officers of the Sixth U.S. Cavalry were cared for here, July 3, 1863.” The original plaque, believed to have been placed on the building in 1903, was a wooden sign. This was replaced by the current bronze memorial plaque in 1965. A 1951 article noted that “when the major was carried to the door, Aunt Amanda Blythe who had consented to the use of her house said rather tartly to the men who carried him, ‘Does he have lice?’ Their answer must have satisfied her for the major was carried into the house and later an arm was amputated there. The amputated member was buried in the garden but [physically] pained the major so much afterward that he had to have it taken up and placed in a more comfortable box.” The story of the arm buried in the back yard became something of a Fairfield legend. In 1957, local resident and historian Frank Moore related that the arm “later caused the major trouble. He said that the arm he had lost was hurting and he and some companions came here, dug up the arm, claimed they found it buried in a cramped position, reburied it, and as far as is known the major never had trouble with that arm again.”

Sources: ACDB A-274, F-368, F-394; H-394; “On Wednesday,” *Centinel*, November 26, 1811; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Adams Centinel*, October 29, 1823; “Public Sale,” *Compiler*, March 14, 1827; “Public Sale,” *Star and Banner*, December 18, 1832; *Star and Sentinel*, September 2, 1875; “Fairfield Items,” *Star and Sentinel*, June 24, 1903; “Thriving Town can cater to needs of Many,” *Gettysburg Times*, June 28, 1927; “The Cavalry Fight at Fairfield,” *Gettysburg Times*, September 10, 1934; “Major’s Arm Buried in Blythe Backyard,” *Gettysburg Times*, September 11, 1951; “Raid, Battle of Fairfield

are Related,” *Gettysburg Times*, August 23, 1957; “Plaque will be Dedicated at Fairfield,” *Gettysburg Times*, May 25, 1965; “A Guest House is Alive Again,” *Gettysburg Times*, July 31, 1981.



Street scene in Fairfield, J. B. Waddle c. 1910, ACHS. The view is looking east, from a point between Lots 6N and 6E.

Town Lot #6E: Paxton and McCreary Store. **Current Address:** Formerly 22 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Sarah Amanda Blythe. **Description:** Frame storehouse. **Recital:** William Miller to John McGinley, December 18, 1800; Heirs of John McGinley, August 23, 1811; Zephaniah Herbert, June 4, 1812; James McKesson, Jr., February 28, 1817; John A. McKesson, September 29, 1818; James Paxton, by 1823; Heirs of James Paxton, by 1827; Sarah Amanda McKesson, in 1828; Ezra Blythe, by 1835; Sarah Amanda Blythe, by 1856; John Paxton, 1876; James Cunningham, 1900.

History of the Lot: Lot 6E shares the same early history as Lot 5E. Advertisements in the *Adams Centinel* indicate that a dry goods store was being operated at this site by John McGinley starting in 1803. It appears that the structure on this lot was used for store purposes by various individuals throughout the early history of Fairfield and for many years following the Civil War. Ezra Blythe was postmaster of Fairfield starting in 1817 and may have operated the office out of this building. David Blythe and John Paxton were in business at this site from about 1850 to 1858. In 1858, Blythe's interest was purchased

by A. Hill McCreary, and it became Paxton and McCreary's store. A 1908 listing of the buildings in Fairfield described this as a frame structure, the general store, and post office of J. Cunningham. In 1921, a portion of the lot fronting on Main Street was purchased by the Fairfield National Bank (which had been established in 1908), and for many years the bank building (opened in 1924) stood at this site. Of interest is the fact that there was a bank robbery at this site on November 28, 1933.

Civil War Notes: On October 11, 1862 Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart and 1,800 of his cavalymen passed through Fairfield on their famous raid. According to the *Gettysburg Star and Banner* of October 18, 1862, "In the evening they reached Fairfield. The principal damage done there was to the store of Paxton and McCreary who they robbed of \$1,000 worth of goods The post office was destroyed, and the Postmaster Jno. B. Paxton, Esq., carried off a prisoner." In 1956, the *Gettysburg Times* published a story concerning Paxton and McCreary's store during J.E.B. Stuart's Raid. "At the present site of the First National Bank, Paxton and McCreary had a general store. In the rear of the store was the post office where John Paxton was postmaster. He was ill that day and had remained at home. Hill McCreary, his partner, learning that Stuart was approaching, locked the store and went home. They had known earlier that he would probably visit the town, so they had taken their supply of molasses, sugar, and tobacco to the Witherow Farm about a half a mile from the town where it was hidden in the cellar. The Confederates, finding the store door locked, went to the McCreary Home and demanded the key. They took from the shelves dry goods, and general merchandise. Bolts of Calico were opened and dragged through the street while other goods were scattered everywhere In some way the Confederates heard of the merchandise hidden in the Witherow cellar. When a detachment of cavalryman arrived there they found grandmother Witherow, dinner horn in hand, perched on the cellar door. She refused their admittance threatening to call the men from the field. The ranking officer proved his gallantry saying, 'lady, your white hairs had saved the situation and whatever lies behind those cellar doors.' They left the merchandise in the cellar but they took all the livestock they could find." The John Stewart Witherow Farm was located on Bullfrog Road, a short distance east

of the town. “Grandmother Witherow” undoubtedly refers to Nancy Stewart Witherow (1796-1873), who was living on the farm with her son and family at the time. Another story concerning J.E.B. Stuart’s Raid and a store in Fairfield was related by Confederate Captain Martin V. Moore of Company D, First North Carolina Cavalry in an 1891 *Philadelphia Times* article. No details of the exact location of the store were given, but there were only a few stores in the town: “Just before our column left Pennsylvania I had quite a thrilling experience in Fairfield, a village near the State line. With a single escort, I was the last man in the rear being left behind for the purpose of pushing forward any stragglers dropping out of line. Some of these stragglers in passing through the town, as I found, had acted in a most outrageous manner in violation of orders, and the citizens, wrought with fury, were ready to retaliate on any helpless ‘Reb’ upon whom they could lay their hands of vengeance. They surrounded me and the sergeant as we entered a store for the purpose of making some slight purchases and for which I was offering to pay in silver coin when the men came in on us. Fortunately for me, I found in the merchant before me a gentleman, with whom I had some community of sentiment, and to whom I revealed my relationship with his friend, Mr. John W., from whose house, only a mile away I had just come. I asked that this gentleman be sent for in necessary in my defense; but as I had manifested a spirit somewhat different from that exhibited by some of my comrades who had preceded me, myself and sergeant were permitted to proceed in peace—without further molestation, and without anything more than a big case of fright at the prospect of a lynching.” It is tempting to speculate that “Mr. John W.” is actually John S. Witherow and that he was the officer who encountered “Grandmother Witherow” in the preceding story. Of course, this would be mere conjecture. If the incident related by Moore did occur at Paxton and McCreary’s store, the attitude of the Fairfield citizens is quite understandable. The store had just been ransacked and Postmaster Paxton taken hostage.

Sources: ACDB A-274, H-394; *Adams Centinel*, November 1, 1803; *Adams Centinel*, May 17, 1803; “Fall Goods,” *Adams Sentinel*, October 17, 1804; “Venders of Foreign Merchandise,” *Star and Banner*, November 8, 1850; “Dissolution of Partnership,” *Adams Sentinel*, March 22, 1858; “List of Merchants,” *Adams Sentinel*, June

3, 1862; "Excitement in Gettysburg," *Star and Banner*, October 16, 1862; "Rebel Raid into Pennsylvania," *Adams Sentinel*, October 14, 1862; "The Rebel Raid into Franklin and Adams County," *Compiler*, October 20, 1862; "Stuart's Raid in '62," *Compiler*, July 7, 1891; "Fairfield Bank Buys New Site," *Star and Sentinel*, March 12, 1921; "New Bank Building Opened," *Compiler*, June 28, 1924; "\$400 Fairfield Notes Found in home of Bandit," *Gettysburg Times*, December 7, 1934; "Thriving Town can Cater to needs of Many," *Gettysburg Times*, June 28, 1927; "Fairfield Bank 30 years old," *Gettysburg Times*, August 31, 1938; "History of Fairfield extends from Indian Raid through 3 World Wars," *Gettysburg Times*, June 25, 1956.

Town Lot #7E: Dr. Abraham O. Scott Residence. **Current Address:** Formerly 24 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Robert M. B. Hill. **Description:** Two story, frame, dwelling-house, with kitchen attached. **Recital:** William Miller to James McGinley, April 3, 1799; Amos McGinley, by 1801; William Sidle, April 29, 1826; Andrew Thompson and William Johnson, February 17, 1829; William Johnson, May 5, 1836; David Horner, January 29, 1845; William D. Hill, October 2, 1857; Robert M. B. Hill, March 24, 1858; William McCausland, April 5, 1866; Charles Musselman, in 1905; Horace S. Neely, in 1919.

History of the Lot: A somewhat curious statement appears in the 1799 deed between William Miller and James McGinley, which states that the latter would be given ownership "all above the surface of said lot to the middle region of the air, and all under the said surface to the center of the earth." It is not known for certain whether this was a serious attempt to protect the mineral rights of the property or just an attempt at humor. The sale price of the lot in 1799 was given as 10 pounds, indicating perhaps that the lot was vacant at that time. An 1825 sheriff's sale described this property as "a lot of ground, in Millerstown, known by No. 7, on which are erected a two-story frame dwelling-house, a kitchen, (part log & part frame), frame barn and wagon shed—late the estate of Amos Maginly." An 1844 sheriff's sale described this as the property of William Johnson, "bounded by the lot of Samuel Eiker on the east, south an alley, west an alley, and fronting on Main street on which are erected a two-story weather-

boarded dwelling house, with a kitchen attached thereto; a double barn.” At some point (perhaps in 1825), this became a-lot-and-a-half, the rear portion of Lot 8E being associated with this property as indicated in the deeds and in the 1872 *Atlas*. The 1858 map shows this was an empty lot at that time, but that is clearly a mistake. Robert M. B. Hill owned Lot 7E in 1860, but the census of that year reveals that he lived in nearby Liberty Township, so the structure on this lot was a rental unit. A number of clues, including the census, suggest that the 1860 tenant was Doctor Abraham O. Scott. Deeds and tax records indicate that Robert Hill transferred this property to William McCauslin in 1866. He is shown as the resident of the house on this lot in the 1872 *Atlas*.

1860 Residents: Abraham O. Scott (February 21, 1825-1908); Jane R. Wilson Scott (1828-1919); David W. Scott (1854); Jane R. Scott (1858); Rebecca Wilson (1831).

Family Notes: According to the *1886 History of Adams County*, Dr. Abraham O. Scott “attended Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, and later Jefferson College, Cannonsburg, from which he graduated in 1850. He read medicine under Dr. David Horner, of Gettysburg [who was the owner of Lot 7E from 1845-1857], attended the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, and graduated with the degree of M.D. in 1853. He began practicing in Hunterstown, this county, but in 1855 removed to Fairfield, where he has built up an extensive practice and acquired the reputation of being a skillful physician.” *Boyd’s Business Directory* (1860), lists A. O. Scott of Fairfield as a physician.

Civil War Notes: At the outbreak of the war, Abraham O. Scott enlisted as a surgeon in Second Pennsylvania Volunteers, a nine-month unit. Robert M. B. Hill, the owner of the property, filed a claim for damages following the war. In the claim there is an affidavit by Joshua Cease (who was operating Swope's Tannery at that time), which states "that he was living in the village of Fairfield in sight of said lots and that he saw the Rebel forces passing to and fro across said lots and also that he saw them (the Rebels) form in line of battle on said lots and . . . he saw a portion of the fencing broken down." Unfortunately, there is no date given, but if such an event did occur it was on either July 3 during the cavalry battle or on July 5 during the Confederate retreat through town.

Sources: ACDB B-4, Y-409; Civil War Border Claims Files for Robert M. B. Hill, PHMC; "Sheriff's Sales," *Compiler*, March 2, 1825; "Sheriff's Sales," *Adams Sentinel*, October 28, 1844; H. C. Bradsby, *1886 History of Adams County*, Reprint (Knightstown, Ind.: The Bookmark, 1992), 446-447; *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #8E: Adam Tawney Residence. **Current Address:** Formerly 26 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Adam Tawney. **Description:** Two-story, frame, dwelling-house. **Recital:** Allen Ferguson, by 1795; William Miller to Allen Ferguson, April 28, 1804; Samuel McCollough, 1807; Amos McGinley, 1816; John Witherow, by 1839; Samuel Eiker, by 1844; Amos McGinley, 1851; John Mickley, Jr. and Maxwell Shields, 1852; Adam Tawney, by 1860; Henry Hull, 1867; Heirs of Henry Hull, March 31, 1905; Lewis E. Krise, August 25, 1905.

History of the Lot: Allen Ferguson is shown as the owner of this lot, as an adjoiner in 1799, and on the 1801 agreement. He also appears in tax lists with a lot as early as 1795, but the deed indicates that he did not gain clear title to the property until 1804. The sale price of the property in the 1804 deed was \$26.67. In 1802, tax records list him with a lot valued at \$300, which indicates that there was already a house there at that time. In 1807, tax records show that Ferguson sold a lot, valued at \$160, to Samuel McCollough. Tax records further indicate that McCollough sold a house and lot valued at \$500, a lot valued at \$80, and a tanyard valued at \$200, to Amos

McGinley in 1816. An 1824 sheriff's sale for the property of Amos McGinley describes Lots 7E and 8E as "two lots of ground situate in Millerstown, adjoining an alley on the west, a lot of McCullough on the east, and fronting on Main Street, on which are erected two frame dwelling-houses, frame barn and frame stable, tanyard and shop." Shortly after, Lot 8E was divided, the rear portion (103 feet, 9 inches) of the lot being associated with Lot 7E, and the front portion (136 feet, 3 inches) with Lot 9. In 1839 this was advertised as the property of John Witherow. "There is a lot and a half of ground; on which are erected a two-story frame house, a stable and slaughter-house;--also, a two-story shop, with a horse-power leather-rolling machine, 32 lay away vats, a bark-mill and bark shed, and all other appurtenances to a tannery." In 1851, this was advertised as "a house and one and a half lot of ground, property of Samuel Eiker, adj. William Johnson and Nancy Seabrooks." In 1852, it was advertised as the property of John Mickley, Jr. and Maxwell Shields: "a lot and a half of ground in Fairfield, Adams County, on which are erected a frame dwelling house, rough-cast and a stable; also a tan yard with 26 vats, 8 leeches, 2 limes, and 4 handlers; also a log shop, in which is a rolling apparatus, and bark-mill." As mentioned in the previous lot history, the rear of Lot 8E was associated with Lot 7E, while the front of Lot 8E was connected with Lot 9E adjoining this property to the east. In it unclear when tannery operations ceased at this site, but there is no evidence that Tawney was engaged in this profession at the time of the Civil War. According to tax records, Adam Tawney transferred his property to Henry Hull in 1867. Hull is shown as the owner of this lot in the 1872 *Atlas*. He owned the property until his death in 1905. In his estate papers, the tract contained "a house and lot of ground in Fairfield Borough fronting on Main Street and adjoining lands of C. E. Glenn and Chas. Musselman and running back to an alley, of the estimated value of -----\$900." A newspaper notice for the estate further described the lot as "fronting 60 feet on Main Street and running back 142 feet to a public alley, adjoining lot of Dr. J. E. Glenn on the east and lot of Charles Musselman on the west, improved with a two story frame house, back building attached,

frame stable, well of water and fruit trees.” Thus, at this time the lot was still divided, the rear portion probably still being associated with lot 7E. This was the site of the original Allison Funeral Home, which operated from about 1917 to 1941, when it was relocated across the street to 27 East Main Street (Lot 9N).

1860 Residents: Adam Tawney (1806-January 14, 1894); Margaret Myers Tawney (1807); Sarah Salina Tawney (July 17, 1836-October 13, 1916); Henrietta Tawney (1838); Van Buren Tawney (May 7, 1840-June 23, 1861); David Tawney (1842); John M. Tawney (1845); Adam M. Tawney (November 11, 1847-July 2, 1880); Mary Tawney (1850).

Family Notes: *Boyd’s Business Directory* (1860), lists Adams Tawney of Fairfield as a mason. The Tawney family left Fairfield in 1866 and moved to Johnstown, Pennsylvania, where they resided at the time of the famous flood in 1889. Initially, Adam and his wife were listed in newspaper reports as being victims of the flood, but they survived the tragedy.

Civil War Notes: Along with his neighbor (Abraham Scott), Van Buren Tawney enlisted in Company E, Second Pennsylvania Infantry in April 1861 at the outbreak of the Civil War. Unfortunately, he also became one of the first local soldiers to give his life for his country when he died of typhoid in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, on June 23, 1861. Today, he rests in Fairfield’s Union Cemetery, with a very patriotic motif on the stone over his grave. His younger brother Adam also suffered as a result of the war. According to the *Adams Sentinel* of June 21, 1864, “Mr. Adam Taney Jr., residing in Fairfield, met with a serious accident a few days ago whilst attempting to open a shell, found in one of the fields. The shell exploded while working with it, and some of the fragments struck him in the feet which may cripple him for life. This is another warning which we think it is time our people should begin to regard.” The younger Tawney was sixteen years old at the time.

Sources: ACDB B-308; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Compiler*, August 11, 1824; “Tanyard for Sale,” *Adams Sentinel*, November 25, 1839; “Tanyard for Sale,” *Adams Sentinel*, November 30, 1840; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Compiler*, September 22, 1851; “Valuable Property,” *Star and*

Banner, November 12, 1852; “Public Sale of Valuable Real Estate,” *Compiler*, August 2, 1905; “Love, Trust Anchor 70 year Marriage,” *Gettysburg Times*, March 23, 2000; “Times a-changing,” *Gettysburg Times*, March 11, 2013; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area’s Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee, Fairfield: 1976), 59; *Boyd’s Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #9E: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 28 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Adam Tawney. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** William Miller, in 1801 and 1804; Amos Maginly, in 1817; William Sidle, by 1829; Andrew Thomson and William Johnson, February 17, 1829; John Witherow, 1831; Adam Butt, in 1845; Shields and Mickley, in 1854; Adam Tawney, by 1856; Henry Hull, 1867; Dr. James E. Glenn, in 1905; Mrs. Ella Glenn in 1947.

History of the Lot: This lot was, for a long period of time, associated with Lot 8E and shares the same early history. It is shown as vacant on the 1858 wall map and also in the 1872 *Atlas*. But there were most likely structures located on the lot associated with the tannery business. The eastern half of Lot 9E, 30 feet along York Street and 60 feet deep, was associated with Lot 10E starting in 1830 and had a separate history for a time. The recital for that portion of the lot is as follows: William Lidle to Andrew Thompson and William Johnston, February 17, 1829; Jehu Hays, April 3, 1830; William Fream, April 1, 1831.

Sources: Jehu Hays to William Fream, April 1, 1831, URD, ACHS.

Town Lot #10E: Joseph Banty Residence. **Current Address:** 30 East Main Street. **1863 Owner:** Joseph Banty. **Description:** Small frame dwelling-house. **Recital:** William Miller, in 1801; Samuel Agnew, by 1814; William Miller, 1817; George McCullough, September 6, 1817; Samuel McCullough, Jr., April 25, 1821; Heirs of Samuel McCullough, December 9, 1829; Jehu G. Hays, April 3, 1830; William Fream, April 1, 1831; Barbara Bennett, April 5, 1839; Nancy M. Seabrooks, January 24, 1848; Joseph Banty, March 6, 1854; Heirs of Joseph Banty, June 18, 1905; Margaret Anna Doneldson, June 3, 1906; Charles B. Harbaugh, in 1919.

History of the Lot: Tax records indicate that in 1817 this lot was transferred from Samuel Agnew to William Miller and then to George McCollough, all in one year. It seems likely that Miller repossessed the lot. The 1817 deed between Miller and McCollough refers to this as “number ten, southeasterly.” At that time the lot sold for \$100. In 1831 it sold for \$450, indicating that there was clearly some improvement at that time. The 1831 deed also shows that Jehu Hays owned part of the eastern half of lot 9E, 30 feet in front and 64 feet deep. Nancy Seabrooks is shown as the owner of this lot in an 1851 public sale for the adjoining lot. On March 14, 1852, Nancy Seabrooks married William Upton Sprenkle. The 1855 tax list discloses that the property (valued at \$200) was transferred from Sprenkle to Joseph Banty. An unrecorded deed at the Adams County Historical Society indicates that Banty purchased the lot from Sprenkle and his wife Nancy on March 6, 1854 for \$225. An 1856 list of those owing ground rents shows Banty as the owner of one-and-a-third lots. Banty also owned a portion of the Lot 11E, the configuration of Banty’s property being indicated on the map in 1872 *Atlas*. The property was described in the estate papers of Joseph Banty in 1905 as being “a certain lot of ground situate in the said borough of Fairfield fronting on Main Street & adjoining lots of heirs of Henry Hull, decd, heirs of Lewis McGlaughlin & heirs of Jacob Musselman.” Quite likely several dwellings were located across the front of Banty’s property at the time of the Civil War.

1860 Residents: Joseph Banty (January 14, 1818-June 18, 1905); Lydia Banty (July 24, 1826-January 2, 1892); John Banty (1846); Henry Banty (1851).

Family Notes: *Boyd’s Business Directory* (1860), lists Joseph Banty of Fairfield as a carpenter.

Sources: William Miller to George McCullough, September 6, 1817, URD, ACHS; Jehu G. Hays to William Fream, April 1, 1831, URD, ACHS; William U. Sprenkle to Joseph Banty, March 6, 1854, URD, ACHS; Heirs of Joseph Banty to Margaret Anna Doneldson, April 3, 1906, URD, ACHS; Daniel Percy Polley to Lee C. McGlaughlin, April 14, 1947, URD, ACHS; *Boyd’s Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).



*Flood in Fairfield, J. B. Waddle, February 1908, ACHS.
The view is looking east, from the intersection of current
Balder and Main Streets.*

Town Lot # 11E (A): Fairfield Schoolhouse. **Current Address:** 10 Water Street. **1860 Owner:** Directors of the Hamiltonban Township Schools. **Description:** One-story, stone structure, still standing. **Recital:** William Miller to Joseph Hafleigh, April 2, 1814; William McMillan, September 5, 1816; John Grimes, March 22, 1834; School Directors of Hamiltonban Township, April 10, 1837; Jacob Musselman, February 20, 1869; Heirs of Jacob Musselman, June 25, 1884.

History of the Lot: The eastern edge of Lot 11E is also the eastern edge of John Miller's original tract. The designation 11E is not found on the 1801 agreement or on the map in the 1872 *Atlas*, but it is used in an adjoining deed, and I decided to use it to avoid confusion. It almost appears as if Miller had originally intended that the land west of 9E would be included as part of Lot 10E, oddly shaped as it may appear. An 1814 deed from William Miller to Jacob Hafleigh, as recorded in Adams County Deed Book F, page 497, indicates that this is the true Lot 10E, as shown on the original plan of the town. And so the town ended up with two Lot 10Es. This early mistake is carried through later deeds, making the descriptions of the property confusing, especially when deeds for this lot refer to the adjoining Lot 10E as Lot 9E. In 1837, the school directors of Hamiltonban Township purchased the land east of Lot 10E and built a school on the property. In 1839 the school directors divided it into three separate

tracts of land and sold off two lots fronting on Main Street. The 1858 map shows the “School H,” at its approximate location. In 1868, the school directors of Hamiltonban Township purchased Lot 10S and built a new school house on the other side of town. Soon after, they advertised the sale of the old “Pubic School House in Fairfield with the lot of ground upon which it stands.” In November of 1869, the *Compiler* notes that “Jacob Musselman who purchased the old school-house in Fairfield, is converting it into a dwelling--making it two-story and adding other improvements.” The 1872 *Atlas* shows this as the property of “J. Musselman.”

Sources: School Directors of Hamiltonban Township to Jacob Musselman, February 20, 1869, URD, ACHS; “Public Sale,” *Star and Sentinel*, July 31, 1868; “Improvements,” *Compiler*, November 5, 1869.

Town Lot #11E (B): Joseph Banty Rental Property. **Current Address:** 30 East Main Street. **Description:** Small dwelling-house. **Recital:** William Miller to Jacob Hafleigh, April 2, 1814; William McMillan, September 5, 1816; John Grimes, March 22, 1834; School Directors of Hamiltonban Township, April 10, 1837; Robert Campbell (black), April 13, 1839; James Wilson, January 6, 1843; Joseph Banty, April 21, 1845; Heirs of Joseph Banty, June 18, 1905; Margaret Anna Doneldson, April 3, 1906; C. B. Harbaugh, 1919.

History of the Lot: In 1849, this partial lot, which sold for \$175, was described in detail: “Beginning at York Street thence by lot number nine [really 10] (on the west) late belonging to William Fream now Barbara Bennett one hundred and thirty six feet to a stone near a post of the fence about six feet from the school house, thence in an easterly direction along the fence six feet from the school house, forty two feet to a stone near a post of said fence, thence along a division of said lot, now conveyed to Jonas Hemmens in a north direction to York Street one hundred thirty six feet to a stone at York Street and thence along the front twenty six feet to the beginning. And also twenty feet along number nine [really 10] aforesaid commencing at the back alley and ten feet along said back alley. And likewise the use and privilege of a passage of four feet along lot number nine [really 10] at the southwest end of the schoolhouse from the corner stone at the fence aforesaid near the school house to meet the twenty feet

mentioned above.” In the deed, Robert Campbell is referred to as “a man of color.” It is noteworthy that two of the earliest black/mulatto families of Fairfield purchased land from the School Directors of Hamiltonban Township. In 1845, this portion of Lot 11E was lot sold to Joseph Banty for \$150. The 1855 tax list indicates that this was a house and lot valued at \$100. It is unclear whether there were two houses side-by-side owned by Banty, or if this was one structure that straddled both Lot 10E and part of Lot 11E, as seems indicated in the 1872 *Atlas*. It is also possible that this was a duplex with separate histories and that Banty eventually just ended up owning both halves. A 1906 deed describes this as part of two lots fronting 87 feet along Main Street, then 240 feet back to a 12 foot alley, 70 feet along the alley, 107 feet to the corner of a 4 foot alley, 36 feet to the property of Lewis McGlaughlin, then 137 feet back to Main Street. This would seem to indicate that about 17 feet of the front of Lot 11E were associated with Lot 10E.

Sources: Heirs of Joseph Banty to Margaret Anna Doneldson, April 3, 1906, URD, ACHS; Daniel Percy Polley to Lee C. McGlaughlin, April 14, 1947, URD, ACHS.

Town Lot #11E (C): Jonas Hemmons Rental Property. **Current Address:** 32 East Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Jonas Hemmons. **Description:** One-story, log, dwelling-house. **Recital:** William Miller to Jacob Hafleigh, April 2, 1814; William McMillan, September 5, 1816; John Grimes, March 22, 1834; School Directors of Hamiltonban Township, April 10, 1837; Jonas Hemmons (mulatto), 1839; Lewis McLaughlin, 1865; Heirs of Lewis McGlaughlin, by 1905; Daniel Percy Polly, 1907.

History of the Lot: This portion of lot 11E was owned by Jonas Hemmons in 1839 and was likely transferred to Hemmons on the same day that Robert Campbell acquired the other section of the lot fronting on Main Street. However, it is clear from early deeds that a structure sat on lot 11E even before the property’s division in 1839. In 1814, the lot sold for \$120, strongly suggesting that a dwelling occupied the property. At that time, it was described as follows: “the said lot is said to contain half an acre be & is the same more or less containing two hundred & forty feet in depth one hundred on the back alley and fifty feet in front.” Tax records indicate that Hemmons

owned this lot throughout the Civil War. In 1860, the property was valued at \$100. In 1865, Lewis McGlaughlin appears in the tax records for the first time with this lot, which was valued at \$100. In addition, the 1872 map showed this as the property of “L. McLaughlin.” The estate papers of Margaret McLaughlin, describes this property in 1907 as being “a lot of ground, situate in the borough of Fairfield, Adams Co., Pa. at the corner of Main and Water Streets, adjoining lands of John Donaldson on west and land of Jacob Musselman heirs on the south—the same being improved with a one story log house and outbuildings and of the likely value of \$200.” According to the 1908 tax list, Lewis McGlaughlin transferred the property to Daniel Percy Polly. The value of the lot increased to \$800 at the same time, perhaps suggesting that major improvements were made to the house. It is possible that the current structure was built at that time.

Sources: ACDB F-497; Estate Papers of Margaret McLaughlin, ACHS; School Directors of Hamiltonban Township to Robert Campbell, 1839, URD, ACHS; James Wilson to Joseph Banty, April 21, 1845, URD, ACHS.

Southwesterly Lot Histories

Town Lot #1S: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 12 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Peter Shively. **Description:** Vacant lot, orchard. **Recital:** William Miller, in 1801; James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Peter Shively, November 8, 1856; Jacob J. Shoemaker, April 2, 1900.

History of the Lot: The early history of Lots 1S and 2S is associated with the Mansion House property directly across the street. The 1856 deed between Wilson and Shively describes this property as “the lot in front of the improvements above described and lying south of Main Street containing nearly one acre, upon which is an apple orchard, a spring, wash and milk house, said lot bounded on the east and south by Rufus Swope.” These lots are shown as vacant on the 1858 wall map and in the 1872 *Atlas*, and were vacant for many years afterwards. The current house at 12 West Main Street was built by Dr. Ira Henderson in 1931. According to an article in the *Gettysburg Times*, “For the past century a small stream has meandered through the streets of Fairfield, almost at will; in rainy seasons in years gone by it would run wild, overflowing its banks to the extreme discomfort of pedestrians and the delight of bare-foot children. Since the incorporation of the town, however, the stream has been curbed by walls and bridged streets. The last stand of this rambling stream was in the low, water-logged ‘lot’ across the street from the Mansion House Fit only for pasturage, this low bit of land was never considered, even by the most optimistic, as a possible building lot until Dr. Ira M. Henderson looked at it one day in 1922 with a speculative eye. As a result of his vision there stands on that spot today a handsome, perfectly equipped dwelling house.”

Sources: ACDB T-454; “Frog Pond is Now Fine Home,” *Gettysburg Times*, June 30, 1931.

Town Lot #2S: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 16 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Peter Shively. **Description:** Vacant lot, orchard and spring house. **Recital:** William Miller, in 1801; James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Peter Shively, November 8, 1856; Jacob J. Shoemaker, April 2, 1900.

History of the Lot: This lot is shown as vacant on the 1858 wall map and in the 1872 *Atlas*.

Civil War Notes: This lot was associated with Lot 1S and shares the same early history. According to an affidavit in the border claims file of Peter Shively, during the retreat through Fairfield following the Battle of Gettysburg, Joshua Cease witnessed Confederate soldiers stealing lard from the spring house of Peter Shively across from the Mansion House. This occurred presumably on lot 2S.

Sources: ACDB T-454; “Frog Pond is Now Fine Home,” *Gettysburg Times*, June 30, 1931; Civil War Border Claim of Peter Shively, PHMC.

Town Lot #3S: Trenkle and Rasche Rental Property. **Current Address:** 20 West Main Street. **1860 Owners:** George Trenkle and Rudolph Rasche. **Description:** Two-story, log, rough-cast, house, with back-building. **Recital:** Barnabas Reily, in 1801; Heirs of Barnabas Reily, 1818; Unknown 1829-1844; Patrick Mooney, 1841; Heirs of Patrick Mooney (Ellen Mooney), by 1844; James Wilson, August 7, 1844; George Trenkle and Rudolph Rasche, May 4, 1846; Susan Rasche, September 8, 1886; Martha Byers, April 18, 1899; Martin Byers, March 24, 1905; George M. Neely, April 4, 1914.

History of the Lot: In 1828 this property was described as “a lot of ground with the improvements thereon erected, viz. a two-story log house & log stable, adjoining lots of John Criswell and an alley, situate in Fairfield (Millerstown) . . . the estate of Barnabas Riley, deceased.” George Trenkle and Rudolph Rasche purchased this property in 1846 and apparently lived with their families at this location until they built a house on Lot 5S in 1860. At that point, lot 3S became a rental property, although they still may have retained the blacksmith shop for their own use. This property is shown as an unidentified dwelling and a blacksmith shop on the 1858 map. *Boyd’s Business Directory* (1860), lists “Trenkle and Rasche” as blacksmiths in Fairfield. An 1860 sales notice for the property of George Trenkle and Rudolph Rusk describes this as “a lot of ground, situate in Fairfield, Adams County, in the centre of the town, adjoining Peter Schively [*sic*] and others, thereon a two-story log roughcast house, with back-building, blacksmith shop, wagon-maker shop, stable, well of water, and a

fine lot of fruit trees.” However, the property did not sell, and in 1860 it appears that the tenant of the house and shop on this lot was Samuel Little. Perhaps Little was operating the wagon shop and Trenkle and Rasche the blacksmith shop. Upon the sale of lot 5S in 1864, the Trenkle and Rasche families most likely moved back to this lot. In 1873, the property was valued at \$400, but in 1874 the assessment was increased to \$1200. Most likely, the two-story brick dwelling house standing today replaced the original log structure at that time. The 1872 *Atlas* indicates this lot was still occupied by “Rashe and Trankle” at the time. It also shows a blacksmith shop near the house. According to the 1976 history of Fairfield, “blacksmith shops abounded in the Fairfield vicinity although no trace of the old shops still remains. One of the largest was owned by two German emigrants by the name of Rosche and Trenkel before the Civil War. Another was located along Spring Run and Main Street.” These two shops are actually one and the same. An 1899 deed specifically mentions the blacksmith shop as having been removed.

1860 Residents: Samuel Little, wagon maker (1831); Sarah A. Little (1835); Mary C. Little (1856); Charlotte A. Little (1858).

Civil War Notes: Rudolph Rasche filed a claim for damages following the Civil War. He listed \$188 worth of damage which was mostly to his wheat and cornfields somewhere near the town, but he did indicate the loss of \$30 worth of blacksmith tools, including a “jack screw.”

Sources: ACDB, 140-414; Susan Rasche, et al., to Martha Byers, April 18, 1899, URD, ACHS; Civil War Border Claims Files, Rudolph Rasche, PHMC; “Notice,” *Adams Sentinel*, January 29, 1828; “Houses and Lands,” *Compiler*, November 26, 1860; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area’s Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee: 1976), 57; *Boyd’s Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #4S: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 20 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** George Trenkle and Rudolph Rasche. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** Jacob Feree, by 1801; John Criswell, April 2, 1810; James Wilson, May 8, 1843; George Trenkle and Edward Rasche, by 1860; Abram P. Beaver, 1882.

History of the Lot: Lots 4S and 5S sold in 1810 for \$50, indicating that there were no substantial structures present at that time. Lots 4S, 5S and 6S were three of the nine lots owned by John Criswell and repossessed by James Wilson in 1843 because of non-payment of ground rent. This lot is shown as vacant on the 1858 wall map and in the 1872 *Atlas*. An 1860 public sale described this as “a lot of ground . . . with a variety of fruit trees thereon.” Today, there is a two-story brick dwelling at this site. Tax records list A. P. Beaver with no property until 1883, when he first appears with a lot valued at \$2,500. So it would seem, as far as the tax records are concerned, that the current house at 20 West Main Street was built about 1882.

Sources: ACDB E-180, P-285; “Houses and Lands,” *Compiler*, November 26, 1860.

Town Lot #5S: George Trenkle and Rudolph Rasche Residence. **Current Address:** 24 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** George Trenkle and Rudolph Rasche. **Description:** Two-story dwelling-house. **Recital:** Jacob Feree, by 1801; John Criswell, April 2, 1810; James Wilson, May 8, 1843; George Trenkle and Rudolph (Edward) Rasche, May 8, 1856; J. V. Danner, May 1, 1864; John Biesecker, September 30, 1867; Heirs of John Biesecker; Lewis Artzberger, January 5, 1894; George E. Brown, October 10, 1905.

History of the Lot: Lots 4S and 5S sold in 1810 for \$50, indicating that there were no substantial structures present at that time. Lots 4S, 5S, and 6S, three of the nine lots owned by John Criswell, were repossessed in 1843 by James Wilson because of non-payment of ground rent. This particular lot appears to be vacant on the 1858 wall map. An 1860 public sale describes this as “a lot of ground . . . with a new two-story dwelling house thereon erected. Also fruit trees on the lot.” The 1860 census seems to indicate that this was the residence of both the Trenkle and Rasche families at that time. In 1864 the property was purchased by J. V. Danner. The 1872 *Atlas* shows this as the residence of “J. Beisecker.” It is unclear whether the house standing on the site today is the original structure.

1860 Residents: George Trenkle (1812), blacksmith; Rachel Trenkle (1828); Rudolph Rasche (January 17, 1820), blacksmith; Susan Rasche (April 1817); Mary Rasche (1849); Sarah Rasche (1853-1926).

Family Notes: According to his naturalization record, Rudolph Rasche was born in Oldenburg, Germany, on January 17, 1820. He immigrated to the United States and arrived at the port of Baltimore on August 1, 1841. In 1849 he applied for naturalization. The spelling of Rudolph Rasche's name varies considerably in the various records, several sources giving his surname to Rusk. It should also be noted that in more than one record his first name is given as Edward instead of Rudolph.

Sources: ACDB, E-180, P-285, X-280, 59-458; Naturalization Records, ACHS; "Houses and Lands," *Compiler*, November 26, 1860; "Numerous Sales of Real Estate in Hamiltonban Township," *Compiler*, October 28, 1903.

Town Lot #6S: Israel W. Fraim Residence. **Current Address:** 26-28 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Israel W. Fraim. **Description:** Two-story, log, dwelling-house and frame shop. **Recital:** Barnabus Reily, in 1801; William Miller to John Criswell, May 29, 1820; James Wilson, May 8, 1843; Israel Fraim, 1856; Heirs of Israel Fraim (Mary Fraim), May 6, 1873; Heirs of Mary Fraim, May 28, 1883; Joseph Bigham, 1884.

History of the Lot: Barnabus (or Barney) Reily is shown as the holder of this lot in the 1801 agreement and he appears to be taxed for this lot in early records. The 1820 deed refers to the fact that Barnabus Reily died intestate "before any title to the same" property was made, and so the lot was repossessed by William Miller. Reily never obtained clear title. In 1820 Miller sold this lot to John Criswell for \$46, but that deed makes no reference to an earlier owner. Lots 4S, 5S and 6S were three of the nine lots owned by John Criswell and repossessed in 1843 because of non-payment of ground rent. Lot 6S was clearly vacant at that time. It also appears vacant on the 1858 wall map, but as is the case with lot 6W across the street, there was almost certainly a small house there at the time. In 1857 a house and lot valued at \$125 was transferred from James Wilson to Israel Fraim (also spelled Frame). *Boyd's Business Directory* (1860) lists "Israel W. Frame" of Fairfield as a cabinet maker. The map in the 1872 *Atlas* shows two structures on this lot, the residence of Israel Frame and a building referred to as a "confectionary." The estate papers of Mary Frame describe this property in 1883 as being "a lot of ground

in Fairfield fronting 60 feet on Main Street, improved with a two story log house and one story frame shop worth about--\$600.” The property was sold to Joseph Bigham in 1884 for \$525. It is unclear whether any portion of the current structure on this lot dates from the period of the Civil War.

1860 Residents: Israel W. Frame (August 19, 1815--May 6, 1873); Mary Youse Frame (August 12, 1815—May 28, 1883).

Sources: ACDB I-91; Estate Papers of Mary Fraim, ACHS; *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860)..

Town Lot #7S: Daniel King Residence. **Current Address:** 30 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** John Sanders. **Description:** Frame dwelling-house. **Recital:** James Waugh, in 1801; James Agnew April 18, 1795; Francis McCormick, December 31, 1805; Isaac Robinson, 1848; Unknown, 1852-1855; John Sanders, 1856; Jeremiah Stem, by 1861; Daniel King, 1862; Catherine Musselman, 1870.

History of the Lot: The recital in 1805 deed of transfer between James Agnew and Francis McCormick indicates that Agnew purchased the lot from Miller in 1795, but the 1801 agreement shows that John Waugh is the holder of this lot. The 1805 deed refers to this as lot “No. Seventh.” At that time, the property sold for just 7 shillings and 6 pence. In 1856 John Sanders appears in the tax records with this house and lot, which was valued at \$150. The 1858 map shows an unlabeled structure shown here. In 1861, tax records indicate the transfer of this property, valued at \$100, from John Sanders to Jeremiah Stem. Daniel King and his family appear to be living at this location in the 1860 census, and tax records indicate he purchased the lot in 1862. The 1870 tax records note that King sold a house and lot valued at \$300 to Mrs. C. Musselman, a widow. The 1872 *Atlas* identifies lot 7S as the residence of “Mrs. Musselman.” According to the 1976 history of Fairfield, “Newman’s Super Thrift had its beginning in 1927 when E. H. Newman bought the butcher shop and slaughter house of the late Cleve Sieferd at 30 West Main Street, where the Village Wash House is now located. Mr. Newman had as his partner his wife, who ran the shop while her husband did the slaughtering and delivered meat in the nearby communities. In 1941, after Mr. Newman became ill, Bob joined his parents in the

business. In 1945 an addition was built to the butcher shop which housed Newman's Self Service Food Store when Tom, returning from the service, joined the partnership. The present partnership of Tom, Bob and Bill Newman was culminated in 1949, when Bill bought out his father's interest." In 1964, they built and opened a more modern store (still standing) and "Newman's Market," as it was known, was closed.

1860 Residents: Daniel King (1823-November 19, 1895), laborer, born in Maryland; Mary King (1821-February 5, 1902); Sarah King (1843); John W. King (1850); Alice King (1856); Lafayette King (1859); Patrick Bostick(1842), laborer. **Family Notes:** Daniel King bought and sold properties all over the town, and constructed several houses in the area during the years prior to and just after the Civil War.

Sources: ACDB C-222, U-54; James Agnew to Francis McCormick, December 31, 1805, URD, ACHS; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area's Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee: 1976), 65-66; "Newman's Super-Thrift Store at Fairfield to Open Wednesday; Cut Ribbon at 9," *Gettysburg Times*, November 10, 1964.

Town Lot #8S: Mary Marshall Residence. **Current Address:** 100 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Thomas Marshall. **Description:** Two-story, brick, dwelling-house, with a weather-boarded kitchen. **Recital:** Jacob Feree, by 1801; John Criswell, April 2, 1810; James Wilson, May 8, 1843; Jane W. Paxton, October 27, 1849; Alexander Benchoff, March 16, 1857; Thomas A. Marshall, October 7, 1857; Heirs of Thomas A. Marshall, 1863; Daniel King, 1864, Jacob L. Firror, 1867.

History of the Lot: Lots 8S and 9S sold for \$240 in 1810, indicating some structure on one of these lots. Tax records also reflect this sale, but group the two lots together as one. It is difficult to say which one was occupied by a dwelling house at that time. In 1843, lot 8S was repossessed by James Wilson for non-payment of ground rents. Wilson had acquired the ground rents (and for all intents and purposes became proprietor of the town) when he purchased Miller's property in 1823. It appears that Criswell had not paid the ground rent on his properties for quite some time. In 1849, the lot

was transferred by Wilson to the widow Jane W. Paxton. In April 1857, the property was transferred to Alexander Benchhoff and later that year to Thomas A. Marshall. The 1857 deed recorded the sale price as \$700 and described the property as a “brick dwelling house, backbuilding stable &c, said lot not being subject to quick rent.” A September 1863 notice of public sale advertised this property as “a lot of ground in Fairfield, fronting on the public street, and bounded by lot of Daniel Biesecker, on which are erected a two-story brick dwelling house, weatherboarded kitchen, with a spring house, and other improvements.” The property was purchased from the estate of Marshall by Daniel King, and in August of 1867 the *Compiler* announced that Daniel King had sold his house and lot in Fairfield to Jacob L. Firor for \$800. Perhaps there were some complications with the sale for again in November of 1867 the *Compiler* reported that Daniel King had sold a house and lot on Main Street in Fairfield to Jacob L. Firor, again for \$800. The 1872 *Atlas* shows that lot 8S was the property of Jacob L. Firor. In 1914, *Adams County News* reported: “Murice Sheffer, of Hamiltonban Township, has bought the property on Main Street, of Fairfield, known as the Firor place, from John McCleaf for 700. Mr. Sheffer will take down the old house and build a new one. Possession October 1st. The present tenant, Mr. Wormley, will move into the house which will be vacated by C. J. Seifert who expects to move into his new house about that time.” Newman’s Super Thrift opened for business at this location in 1964.

1860 Residents: Mary Marshall (1790); Margaret Marshall (1834); Virginia Marshall (1852); Sarah Butt (1844), domestic.

Family Notes: Thomas Marshall, who died in 1863, was living elsewhere in Hamiltonban Township at the time of the 1860 census. Members of his family occupied the house and lived there during the Battle of Gettysburg.

Sources: ACDB, E-182, K-58; Estate Papers of John Criswell, ACHS; Estate Papers of Thomas Marshall, ACHS; “Public Sales,” *Compiler*, October 5, 1863; “Property Sales,” *Compiler*, August 23, 1867; “Newman’s Super-Thrift Store at Fairfield to Open Wednesday; Cut Ribbon at 9,” *Gettysburg Times*, November 10, 1964; “To Build New House,” *Adams County News*, August 21, 1914.

Town Lot #9S: Daniel Biesecker Residence and Shoe Shop. **Current Address:** 102 and 106 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Daniel Biesecker. **Description:** Frame dwelling-house and frame shop. **Recital:** Jacob Feree, by 1801; John Criswell, April 2, 1810; James Wilson, May 8, 1843; Jane Paxton, 1859; Daniel Biesecker, 1858.

History of the Lot: Lot 9S was one of nine lots owned by John Criswell that were repossessed by James Wilson for non-payment of ground rents. Both the 1858 map and the 1872 *Atlas* show two structures at this site, the residence and shoe shop of Daniel Biesecker. *Boyd's Business Directory* (1860), lists Daniel Biesecker of Fairfield as a boot-and-shoemaker. At some point John McCleaf removed his store to 102 West Main Street and remained there until his death in 1940. Upon McCleaf's death his son continued to run the store for many years. The 1976 history of Fairfield noted that, "This store too remained much as it was when it was built with its high shelves filed with cloth, boots and various articles of clothing on one side and groceries on the other."

1860 Residents: Daniel Biesecker (1831-April 26, 1885); Elizabeth Weigle Biesecker (1833); John N. Biesecker (1857- March 9, 1910).

Sources: ACDB, E-182, K-58; Estate Papers of John Criswell, ACHS; Obituary of John N. Biesecker, *Compiler*, March 16, 1910; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area's Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee: 1976), 64; *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).

Town Lot #10S: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 108 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Rebecca Nunemaker. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** John Miller to Robert Slemmons, February 26, 1787; Hugh McGaughy, 1805; Patrick Mowney, June 10, 1807; David Stewart, 1840; John Stewart and Samuel Boyd, by 1842; Charles W. Stewart, February 5, 1842; John Nunemaker, March 20, 1855; Heirs of John Nunemaker (Rebecca Nunemaker), 1856; Heirs of Rebecca Nunemaker, April 21, 1862.

History of the Lot: Lot 10S was associated with 11S and 12S for much of its early history. The lot is shown as vacant on the 1858 map. Adam C. Musselman, son-in-law of Rebecca Nunemaker, at one time a public school teacher, appears to be the one who sold the ground to the directors of Hamiltonban Township. The public school building at this site, was built during the school-year of 1868-1869. In 1905, the building was torn down and replaced by the current structure. An article at the time relates that “the old school house has been torn down and a new building will be erected on the same ground. The school board purchased a portion of the adjoining lot from the Odd Fellows and a three roomed building one story high will be built.” The 1905 school building served for many years as an educational facility and is today the Fairfield Village Hall, which houses the offices of the Fairfield Borough.

Sources: ACDB C-550; Q-515; T-188; “School House Torn Down,” *Compiler*, May 17, 1905.

Town Lot #11S: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 112 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Rebecca Nunemaker. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** James Burd, in 1801; Hugh McGaughy, 1803; William Miller to Hugh McGaughy, June 6, 1805; Patrick Mowney, June 10, 1807; David Stewart, 1840; John Stewart and Samuel Boyd, by 1842; Charles W. Stewart, February 5, 1842; John Nunemaker, March 20, 1855; Heirs of John Nunemaker (Rebecca Nunemaker), 1856; Heirs of Rebbeca Nunemaker, April 21, 1862.

History of the Lot: Throughout its early history, Lot 11S was associated with lot 12S. This lot is shown as vacant on the 1858 wall map and in the 1872 *Atlas*. In 1885, Adam C. Musselman, husband of Lucinda Nunemaker Musselman, “built a commodious store,” at this site “rendered necessary by his increasing trade, the result of enterprise and integrity.” He had formerly operated a store on Lot 12W. It was reported in November of 1885 that “The new store room of A. C. Musselman is about completed and he will occupy it in a few days.” Eventually, this store was taken over by John McCleaf. According to the 1976 history of Fairfield, this “general store in Fairfield had its beginning about ninety years ago [ca. 1886] when Mr. John McCleaf and Samuel Barton entered into a partnership at 112 West Main Street in the first floor of the old Odd Fellows Building

(now the Village Apartments). Soon the partnership was dissolved and Mr. McCleaf built his own store at 102 West Main Street.” Sometime subsequently, the Fairfield Odd Fellows organization moved into the old store building on the lot. The Gettysburg School Board purchased the Odd Fellows Hall in 1958, and for a time it was used as a kindergarten until the completion of the elementary school.

Sources: ACDB C-548; C-550; Q-515; T-188; “Miscellaneous,” *Compiler*, November 13, 1900; “Fairfield Items,” *Compiler*, September 14, 1904; “Out of the past, 50 years ago,” *Gettysburg Times*, November 19, 1935; “Fairfield Lodge takes Court Action,” *Gettysburg Times*, February 21, 1953; “Board Will Sell Building in Fairfield,” *Gettysburg Times*, March 17, 1964; “Times a-changing,” *Gettysburg Times*, March 4, 2013; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area’s Past* (The Fairfield Bicentennial Committee: 1976), 64; *Tariff of Rates for Adams County* (Philadelphia: 1908), 52; *1886 History of Adams County*, 446.

Town Lot #12S: Rebecca Nunemaker Residence. **Current Address:** This site is vacant today and as a result has no current address. **1860 Owner:** Rebecca Nunemaker. **Description:** Two-story, frame, dwelling-house. **Recital:** James Burd, in 1801; Hugh McGaughy, 1803; William Miller to Hugh McGaughy, June 6, 1805; Patrick Mowney, June 10, 1807; David Stewart, 1840; John Stewart and Samuel Boyd, by 1842; Charles W. Stewart, February 5, 1842; John Nunemaker, March 20, 1855; Heirs of John Nunemaker (Rebecca Nunemaker), September 12, 1856; Heirs of Rebecca Nunemaker, April 21, 1862.

History of the Lot: The 1801 agreement indicates that lots 11S and 12S “southeasterly,” were owned by James Burd at the time. The 1802 tax list reveals that Burd (also spelled Beard or Bird in various records) owned a house and two lots, valued at \$300. And the 1803 tax list indicates that this property, a house and two lots, were transferred to Hugh McGaughy. But the earliest known deed indicates that William Miller sold Lots 11S and 12S directly to Hugh McGaughy for 200 pounds with no mention of Burd. The deed also establishes that the lots were sold to McGaughy for \$5 each, leading one to believe that they were vacant. It would seem that Burd owned the property with a dwelling on it, but that he never obtained clear

title to the lots. So Burd sold McGaughy the property, and then McGaughy purchased the title to the lots from Miller. McGaughy also purchased Lot 10S from Robert Slemmons. Patrick Mooney (or Mowney) owned the lots until 1840, when they were transferred to David Stewart. The lots are consistently valued as three lots at \$300 (except that the 1833 tax list shows Mooney with 1 lot at \$250 and 2 lots at \$60). There is strong evidence that the dwelling-house was always on lot 12S and that lots 10S and 11S were vacant until after the Civil War. But as of yet, I have found no early description of the house. The 1858 map shows this as an unnamed structure, and the 1872 *Atlas* identifies a building on lot 12S as owned by “A. C. Musselman.” Adam C. Musselman had married Lucinda Nunemaker, daughter of John and Rebecca in 1859, so the property basically stayed in the family. In 1914, the property is described in a sale notice as the property of A. E. Rentzel: “fronting 61 feet on Main Street, adjoining odd fellows’ hall on the east, public school on the east, a public alley on the south, improved with two-story log and frame weatherboarded dwelling house, butcher shop, stable ice house, buggy shed, corn crib, chicken house, well of water, slaughter house, summer house.”

1860 Residents: Rebecca Nunemaker (October 4, 1795-April 21, 1862); Margaret Dentler (1822).

Sources: ACDB, C-548, C-550, Q-515, T-188; “Bankrupt Sale,” *Star and Sentinel*, 1914; “J. Elmer Musselman, Vice president of First National Bank, Expires today at 88,” *Gettysburg Times*, February 8, 1951.

Town Lot #13S: Zephaniah Herbert Residence. **Current Address:** 118 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Zephaniah Herbert. **Recital:** William Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Nancy Robinson, December 20, 1839; Zephaniah Herbert, September 22, 1841; heirs of Zephaniah Herbert, April 9, 1864; Mary Alice Rodgers (wife of Washington C. Rodgers), April 19, 1879; heirs of Mary Alice Rodgers, March 14, 1887; Mahlon Reynolds, March 30, 1915.

History of the Lot: Although the house at this site is obviously very old, and it undoubtedly stood at the time of the Civil War, very little is known of its early history. In 1951, the *Gettysburg Times* related that “probably the oldest house in Fairfield is that which is owned and occupied by Mrs. Nettie Riley. A perusal of an early deed indicates that there must have been some opposition to the naming of Fairfield or at least indecision, because the area is referred to as Waynesburg The lot on which Mrs. Riley’s house stands, however, was not part of the town originally, but was on part of the land secured by John Miller from Charles Carroll. From William Miller, who inherited it from his father, it passed into the hands of James Wilson and his wife Mary, a granddaughter of John Miller.” I have not seen the deeds referenced in the newspaper article, but the chain of ownership is probably correct. From what we know about other houses in Fairfield, the lot was most likely sold by Miller, a house built, and then the property was likely repossessed or reacquired by Miller or Wilson. But who owned it for a time or when it was built is hard to say. The fact that one of the deeds is said to refer to Waynesburg is likely a mistake. That name undoubtedly refers to another group of lots that laid out a couple of miles west of Fairfield, along Jack’s Mountain Road, by John McKesson. The proposed town never took shape, but in early deeds it is referred to as McKessontown or Waynesburg. An unnamed structure is shown on Lot 13S on the 1858 map, and the building is labeled as being the residence of “Mrs. Herbert” in the 1872 *Atlas*. Obviously, this refers to Mrs. Zephaniah Herbert, whose husband died on April 9, 1864. A 1908 listing of the buildings in Fairfield describes this as a rough-cast dwelling-house owned by W. C. Rodgers. In 1915, the property sold for \$800.

1860 Residents: Zephaniah Herbert (May 3, 1778-April 9, 1864); Mary Herbert (February 11, 1788-March 17, 1879); Matilda Robinson (1844). **Family Notes:** Zephaniah Herbert was a veteran of the War of 1812, having served in a company commanded by Alexander Cobean. A story concerning Zephaniah Herbert and his rival Thaddeus Stevens was related by D. A. Wilson in the *Gettysburg Compiler* in 1911: Thaddeus Stevens “was an orator with few superiors, fluent in speech, graceful and not devoid of elegance, his argument was strong and his sarcasm biting. He possessed a good

degree of dry wit, and his tongue cut like a razor. He despised the use of intoxicants, and boarding at Thompson's Hotel, it was said that persons coming there for drinks refrained in his presence, rather than incur his stinging maledictions. A gentle criticism in explicating the case of Zephaniah Herbert of Fairfield I remember. Herbert was a man of more than common learnings. He had been a teacher and had represented the district in the State Senate. In the spring of '42, I taught the school in Millerstown, I boarded at the hotel kept by Isaac Robinson, who married my kins-woman, Agnes the daughter of Hon. James Wilson, and as Herbert was a frequent customer, I got to know him well, he was than a sophomore in mathematics; and he used to try my attainments in that study by plying me with some pretty tough problems in mensuration. Early in the morning he would come for a dram his hand trembling like an aspen. A good still gill of gin would steady them pretty well for the day though the talk was that he was helped to his bed every night for years by his patient, kind and uncomplaining wife. Soon after that when a Mr. Pollard kept the hotel, it was said that one summer he drank at the hotel the price of a valuable equine animal, and the saying became common that he has swallowed a horse. But notwithstanding this costly habit, he was still a man of considerable property. He dressed up well; was gentlemanly in his manners, and beside his country home in Fairfield, owned a large brick in Gettysburg . . . on Chambersburg Street, for some time in the forties used as a temperance house. Well, after this huge portico for so small a dwelling, I come to Steven's witticism. A gang of men were talking to Herbert and were wondering how a man who for so long had been an excessive drinker, was yet alive. 'Why,' said Stevens, 'that is easily accounted for, he's pickled.'"

Sources: ACDB 75-253; James Wilson to Mary Robinson, December 20, 1839, Abstract of URD, ACHS; Isaac Robinson to Zephaniah Herbert, September 22, 1841, Abstract of URD, ACHS. "Town was Designated Waynesburg in Deed," *Gettysburg Times*, September 11, 1951; D. A. Wilson, "In his Ninetieth Year," *Compiler*, August 30, 1911.

Town Lot #14S: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** 120 and 122 West Main Street. **1860 Owner:** Alexander Benchoff. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** William Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Nancy Robinson, December 20, 1839; Zephaniah Herbert, September 22, 1841; Alexander Benchoff, April 2, 1859; Washington C. Rodgers, April 3, 1874; Heirs of Washington C. Rodgers, March 26, 1915; H. B. Slonaker, March 14, 1918.

History of the Lot: No structure is shown at this site on the 1858 map. This lot is difficult to trace in tax records, but Benchoff is taxed with a lot valued at \$100 in 1862. In 1865, the lot value is increased to \$500, perhaps indicating that a house had been constructed there. The 1872 *Atlas* shows a single structure in the middle of the lot owned by "A. Benchoff." In 1874 the value of this lot increased from \$500 to \$2,000, making it clear that a major improvement had been made. This increase probably reflects the appearance of the property today. In 1875 the lot was transferred to Washington C. Rodgers. A listing of the buildings in Fairfield in 1908 describes Lot 14S as it appears today -- a brick dwelling-house on the west and a brick building containing an agricultural implements store to the east, both owned by W. C. Rodgers. The estate sale of Washington C. Rodgers in 1917 describes this property as "fronting seventy-five (75) feet on the south side of Main Street and running back two hundred forty (240) feet to a public alley, adjoining lot of Mahlon Reynolds on the East, and a public alley on the West. This lot of ground is improved with a two story brick dwelling house, situated on the southwest corner of the lot and containing eight rooms; a two story brick store building situated on the southeast corner of the lot and containing three rooms on the first floor and one large room on the second floor; a large brick ice house; wagon shed; large frame barn, with wagon shed attached; and other outbuildings. There are large and well drained cellars under both the dwelling house and the store building, and the buildings are all well repaired and in good condition. There is a well of water conveniently located in rear of the house, and a large cistern at the store building."

Sources: James Wilson to Mary Robinson, December 20, 1839, Abstract of URD, ACHS; Heirs of Washington C. Rogers to H. B. Slonaker, March 14, 1818, URD, ACHS; “Public Sale,” *Gettysburg Times*, August 14, 1917; Estate Papers of Washington C. Rodgers, ACHS.

Town Lot #15S: Henry Overdeer Residence. **Current Address:** 126 West Main Street. **Description:** Dwelling-house, carpentry shop. **Recital:** William Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Nancy Robinson, December 20, 1839; Zephaniah Herbert, September 22, 1841; Alexander Benchoff, April 2, 1859; Henry Overdeer, June 13, 1860; Charles J. Sefton, April 2, 1862; Heirs of Charles J. Sefton, June 15, 1900; Annie E. Waddle, by 1904.

History of the Lot: Lots 15S, 16S and 17S are mentioned in the 1823 sheriff’s sale for Miller’s property and were probably laid out prior to his 1810 advertisement for the sale of lots. There are no lots shown at this site on the 1858 map. The 1861 Hamiltonban Township tax records list Henry Overdeer with a “new house” valued at \$300. This house was likely constructed around the time of the 1860 census, as Henry Overdeer and his family appear to be residing on the property at that time. Lot 15S and 16S were sold to Charles J. Sefton in 1862, and in about 1870 he purchased Lot 17S. These three lots are shown as two lots on the 1872 *Atlas*, and all are listed as Sefton’s property. The estate papers of Charles J. Sefton describe this land[Lots 15S and 16S] in 1900 as “fronting on the south side of Main Street, adjoining W.C. Rodgers and John Manherz: improved with a two story frame dwelling house, implement, wagon-maker and furniture shop, stable and other outbuildings.” In another document, this is described as a lot “fronting on Main St. and adjoining Washington Rogers on the East, John Manherz on the West and running back to a public alley.” The 1905 tax records indicate the transfer of this lot, valued at \$1600, from the heirs of C. J. Sefton to Annie Waddle. A 1908 listing of the buildings in Fairfield describes this as a frame dwelling house, owned by H. J. Waddle. There are several early photographs that show this property. The current house at this site could, in fact, may be the original structure.

1860 Residents: Henry Overdeer (1834), master carpenter; Matilda Overdeer (1838); Peter Overdeer (1837), carpenter; Uriah Mickley (1840), carpenter's apprentice.

Family Notes: Henry Overdeer and later Charles J. Sefton operated a well-known carpenter's shop at this location. The following passage is from Fairfield's 1976 history: "A variety of woodworking shops were established in Fairfield—some very early, others during the Civil War, and others more recently One of the boosters of Fairfield industry after the Civil War was Captain C. J. Sefton who established a woodworking shop at 124 to 128 West Main Street. The home that is there was originally the shop. Here Captain Sefton manufactured wagons, farm implements, cabinets, coffins, as well as conducting an undertaking business." *Boyd's Business Directory* (1860), lists Henry Overdeer of Fairfield as a carpenter. Following his death a statement was published that "the undersigned administrators of the estate of Charles J. Sefton, deceased, late of Fairfield, this county, offer at public sale the valuable undertaking, furniture and farm implement business of the deceased, located in Fairfield."

Civil War Notes: Charles J. Sefton purchased this property in April 1862 from Henry Overdeer. It October of that year, both Sefton and Overdeer were drafted and, along with other men from Hamiltonban Township, served as members of Company C, 165th Pennsylvania Drafted Militia, from November 1862 until July 1863. Charles J. Sefton served as 1st Lieutenant, under Captain Ebenezer McGinley.

Sources: ACDB, HH-273; James Wilson to Mary Robinson, December 20, 1839, Abstract of URD, ACHS; "Town Lots for Sale," *Centinel*, January 16, 1810; "The Draft," *Gettysburg Compiler*, October 20, 1862; "165th Regiment, P. M.," *Star and Banner*, February 19, 1863; "Public Sale," *Gettysburg Times*, August 14, 1917; Estate Papers of Washington C. Rodgers, ACHS; *Tariff of Rates for Adams County* (Philadelphia: 1908), 52; *Glimpses of Fairfield Area's Past* (Fairfield Bicentennial Committee: 1976), 57; *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).



*View of Fairfield lots 15S, 16S, and 17S, J. B. Waddle,
c. 1910, ACHS.*

Town Lot #16S: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** No current address. **1860 Owner:** Henry Overdeer. **Description:** Vacant Lot. **Recital:** William Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Nancy Robinson, December 20, 1839; Zephaniah Herbert, September 22, 1841; Alexander Benchoff, April 2, 1859; Henry Overdeer, June 13, 1860; Charles J. Sefton, April 2, 1862; Heirs of Charles J. Sefton, June 15, 1900; Annie E. Waddle, 1904; Henry Waddle by 1909.

History of the Lot: No dwellings are shown at this site on the 1858 map. The 1872 *Atlas* shows this as the property of Charles J. Sefton, but no structures are present. However, circa 1910 photographs by J. B. Waddle reveal a long frame structure at this site. The same structure is featured in a photograph in the *Gettysburg Times* in January 1978, when the building “collapsed under the weight of extra wet snow.” According to the article, “the building had been a machine shop, a feed store and an egg store which was operated by J. B. Waddell before being converted to a storage area.”

Sources: ACDB HH-273; James Wilson to Mary Robinson, December 20, 1839, Abstract of URD, ACHS; Estate Papers of Charles J. Sefton, ACHS; “Fairfield Building Collapses,” *Gettysburg Times*, January 26, 1978.

Town Lot: #17S: Peter Musselman Rental Property. **Current Address:** 130 West Main Street. **Recital:** William Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Nancy Robinson, December 20, 1839; Zephaniah Herbert, September 22, 1841; Peter Musselman by 1860; Alexander Benchoff, 1861; Daniel Musselman, in 1862; Charles J. Sefton, 1870; Harry Lawrence, 1880; William H. Low, 1889; John Manhertz, by 1896. **Description:** One-and-a-half story frame, weather-boarded, dwelling-house.

History of the Lot: Being 75 feet by 240 feet in size, this is probably one of Miller's "grass lots" as described in 1810. There are no buildings shown at this site on the 1858 map. In December of 1860, this lot was described in an assignee sale as the property of Peter Musselman as being "a lot of ground in Fairfield, adjoining Henry Overdeer and Maj. John Musselman, fronting on the public street, on which is erected a one and a half story frame weatherboarded house, with a well of water near the door." The 1870 tax records indicate the transfer of this property to C. J. Sefton valued at \$130. The 1872 *Atlas* shows two small structures at this location, owned by C. J. Sefton. This is the western edge of the town on the south side of Main Street as shown in the *Atlas*. In April of 1880, it was reported that "Mr. Harry Lawrence is about erecting a new dwelling house on the lot recently purchased by him from C. J. Sefton, to be of brick with a 30 foot front." So, it seems likely that the house standing today at 130 West Main Street was built in 1880. Lawrence encountered some financial trouble and his property was assigned to William H. Low in 1889 for the benefit of his creditors. At that time, the property was described as being improved with a two-story brick dwelling with frame back-building, two-story frame shop, and large frame stable. By 1897 it is clear that John M. Manhertz, a Civil War veteran, occupied the property, listed as a lot valued at \$1,050. A 1909 public sale describes the property of John Manhertz as No. 1, "situated in west end of Fairfield Borough having frontage of about 75 feet, on Main Street extending back to public alley, bordered on east by property of Henry Wadell, on the west by vacant lot of John Manherz, containing about 70 perches, improved with a 2-story brick house, and a 2-story frame back building, containing 7 rooms, hall and pantry in good condition with well drained cellar, wash house, wood shed, 4 horse barn and wagon shed, hen house and hog pen,

2 never failing wells of water, 1 with improved iron force pump, cistern, fruit trees and grapes, also elegant garden.”

Civil War Notes: John Manhertz was born in Baden, Germany, on July 12, 1838. He lived in Fairfield at the time of the 1860 census. Manhertz was a renter, his place of residence being unknown. It is possible that he lived on this lot and rented the house from Peter Musselman. The census also shows Manhertz as a farm hand. Perhaps he was working for the Musselman family on their farm. On August 26, 1863, at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, John Manhertz enlisted in Company C, 149th Pennsylvania Infantry. According to his record of service in the Fairfield GAR book: “The first engagement in which he participated was at the Wilderness, and then at Weldon Railroad and Hatchers Run. In the fall of 1864 he was detailed to drive a team in division train and continued to drive until the winter of 1864-1865 when they were transferred to Elmira, New York. In the winter of 1863, he was shot in the right shoulder by a guerilla at Bristow Station, Va.—he was in the division hospital in the field and removed from thence to hospital at Washington D.C., where he remained one month and from thence to Chestnut Hill Hospital at Philadelphia where he remained until July 1864.” Manhertz died on July 20, 1913.

Sources: ACDB OO-431, V-256; James Wilson to Mary Robinson, December 20, 1839, Abstract of URD, ACHS; “Town Lots for Sale,” *Centinel*, January 16, 1810; “Assignees’ Sale,” *Compiler*, December 3, 1860; “Out of the Past, 50 Years Ago,” *Gettysburg Times*, April 29, 1930; “Public Sale,” *Compiler*, July 7, 1909; Fairfield GAR Book, ACHS.

Outlying Properties

Outlying Lot A: Daniel Musselman Farm. **Current Address:** 203 East Main Street. **Description:** Two-story, brick, dwelling-house. **1860 Owner:** Daniel Musselman. **Recital:** Charles Carroll to Andrew Hart, December 19, 1755; Heirs of Andrew Hart, by 1787; James Brice, Sr., August 26, 1793; James Brice, Jr., May 31, 1798; Frederick Myers, April 2, 1801; Reverend William Paxton, March 1, 1809; James Dunlop Paxton; May 7, 1845; Daniel Musselman; November 10, 1854.

History of the Lot: The Musselman property was adjacent to Miller's original 247 acre tract of land and never owned by the latter's family. In 1809, the farm at the property was purchased by Reverend William Paxton, the Presbyterian Minister for many years at the Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church. In 1845 the property was purchased by one his sons, James Dunlop Paxton, and during his ownership a terrible fire destroyed the original home. According to the *Gettysburg Star and Banner* of September 29, 1848: "It is with feelings of the deepest regret, that we announce the total destruction, by fire, on Friday last, of the large brick residence of Col. James D. Paxton, at the east end of Millerstown, in this county, and for many years the residence of the venerated Rev. Dr. Paxton. The roof took fire from a spark from the kitchen chimney, and before it was discovered, had made such progress, as to render any attempt to save it entirely fruitless. The Colonel was in Gettysburg at the time, with many other citizens of Millerstown, and none but his aged mother [Jane Dunlop Paxton] and his wife [Sallie Slemmons Paxton] were in the house at the time." It is not clear whether the house was entirely rebuilt, or if some of the original structure is still retained in the modern house, but in 1854 the property was the property of about 100 acres was sold to Daniel Musselman. Among the joiners listed in that early deed were Maria Loudon and the Presbyterian and Reformed Church. It is evident that at this time there were no houses between the Musselman Farm and the above described properties. As well, no houses are shown between those structures on the 1858 map. About 1864, Daniel Musselman encountered some financial difficulties, and his land was assigned to Jacob Musselman and George W. Wortz. Shortly after, portions of the farm were subdivided into building lots,

and as time passed they were slowly improved and sold off. Speaking of these improvements to Fairfield, the 1886 *History of Adams County* specifically mentions George W. Wortz as “adding largely to its growth and prosperity,” being responsible or partly responsible for “twenty-eight houses in the town.” The development of the eastern edge of Fairfield along Main Street, Water Street and Centennial Street (on what was the Musselman Farm) greatly increased the size and population of the town, between the time of the American Civil War and the official incorporation of the borough in 1897. These post-civil war properties are beyond the scope of this study, but in conducting the research for the early lots of Fairfield, the histories of many of these later properties were uncovered and placed in the files of the Adams County Historical Society.

1860 Residents: Daniel Musselman (1826); Sarah H. Wortz Musselman (July 4, 1833-- 1903); Agnes Musselman (1856); Louisa E. Musselman (1858); Clayton M. Musselman (1860).

Family Notes: Captain John Paxton, only child of John and Grazell Paxton, was born in Ireland, apparently in 1736. He came with his parents to Bart Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1740. This family was among those who did not move on to Virginia but chose to stay in Pennsylvania. John married Jane McNeely, about 1759. She died in 1823. During the Revolutionary War, a battalion was newly raised in the vicinity of his home. John was elected, by ballot, Captain of Company D, 2nd Battalion, York County Militia. Among other engagements, the Battalion participated in the battle of Brandywine and of Germantown. Captain John was severely wounded in the latter battle. After the war he returned to his mill. John and Jane had several children. Reverend William Paxton was the first (April 1, 1780-April 16, 1845). “On January 20, 1794 he married Jane Dunlop who died in 1862. He was ordained October 3, 1792 and served two Presbyterian Congregations -- Lower Marsh Creek and Tom’s Creek -- for 49 years. They had 6 daughters and 2 sons: John and James. John had at least 1 son, William who was thought to be a professor at Princeton....” Other children included: Dr. John Paxton, who married Sallie Slemmons; James Paxton [see lot 1E]; Grace Paxton, who married John Coughy; Jane Paxton, who married Joseph McGinley; Mary Paxton; and Samuel Paxton, who married Martha Kerr

Civil War Notes: Daniel Musselman had a horse taken during J.E.B. Stuart's Raid and was a witness for Daniel Mickley in his claim for the loss of a horse that day.

Sources: Frederick County Deed Book, F-956, O-394; YCDB II-544, 2N-332; ACDB C-406; Civil War Border Claims Files, Daniel Mickley, PHMC; "Fire," *Star and Banner*, September 29, 1848; "More about the family of the Rev. Dr. William Paxton," *Gettysburg Times*, March 8, 1963; Lillian and Walton Leedy, *The Samuel J. Paxton Family History*; Paxton Family File, ACHS; H. C. Bradsby, *1886 History of Adams County*, Reprint (Knightstown, Ind.: The Bookmark, 1992).

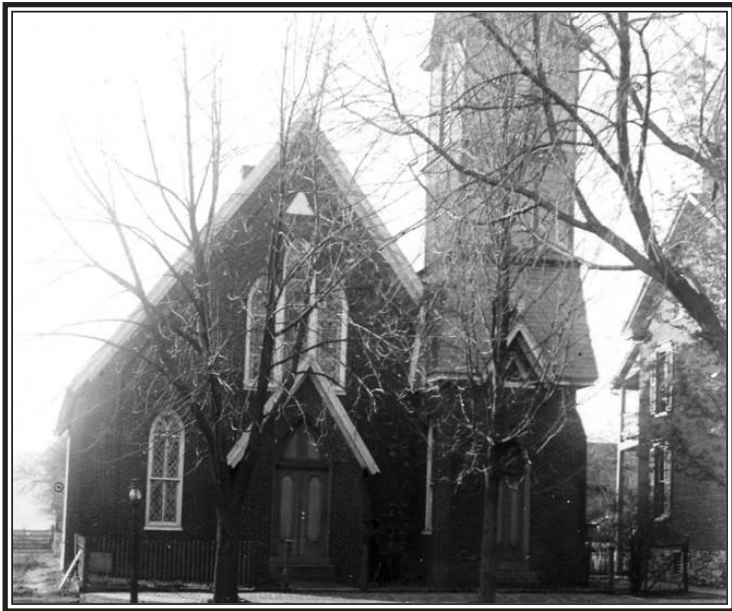
Outlying Lot B: Saint John's German Reformed Church. **Current Address:** No current address. **1860 Owner:** Congregations of the Presbyterian and German Reformed Congregations. **Description:** Large brick structure, no longer standing. **Recital:** James Brice, in 1796; James Brice, in 1800; Frederick Myers, in 1806; Reverend William Paxton, March 1, 1809; Daniel Musselman, 1854; Congregations of the Presbyterian and German Reformed Congregations, June 17, 1878; Charnita Inc., November 28, 1969; Borough of Fairfield, 1978.

History of the Lot: *A History of St. John's Reformed Congregation* (1880) noted that "the first church was built about 1824 at the east end of the town, on lands donated by Rev. Paxton. This church was used by the Presbyterian and German Reformed congregations. When the church was built, the scaffolding had been put up on some large locust trees, then growing nearby, and when the walls were almost ready for the roof, a terrible storm came up and shook the trees so that the walls were thrown down. They were rebuilt in the following spring." Among the prominent members of the two congregations were Alexander Mock and John Hoke (reformed) and James McGinley, William McMillan, Daniel Witherow and Joseph and Martin Hill (Presbyterian). About 1878, a new brick church was built on the site of the original. It was built by the Reformed Congregation, but by mutual agreement, "the Presbyterians were allowed to hold services in the building for ten years, in lieu of the claim they held against the old church." The new church was dedicated in December 1878. According to an article at the time, the church is an

ornament to the town and a credit to the congregation. The style is gothic.” It appears that the land that the original church sat upon was never actually deeded over to the congregation, and so in 1878 a deed was issued to the church by Daniel Musselman and his wife to the Reformed Congregation. In the 1960s that church was removed, the Reformed Congregation merging with that of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran church in 1967.

Notes: As mentioned, Lot 10N was the original eastern boundary of the Miller property and the edge of the original town. The Reformed Church was the only structure known to have been standing on the north side of the road between the town property and the Paxton/Musselman Farmhouse (current 203 East Main Street) at the time of the Civil War.

Sources: ACDB 58-590; 187-74, 188-371; 339-587; *History and Directory of the Boroughs of Adams County* (1880), 153; “Out of the Past, Fifty years ago,” *Gettysburg Times*, November 27, 1928; *A History of St. John’s Reformed Congregation* (1880).



*St. John’s Reformed Church (Outlying Property B),
J. B. Waddle, c. 1910, ACHS.*

Outlying Lot C: Maria L. Louden Residence. **Current Address:** 100 East Main Street. **1860 owner:** Maria L. Louden. **Description:** Dwelling-house, built in 1820. **Recital:** Rev. William Paxton to Reuben B. Carley, May 1, 1820; Peter Zollinger, March 20, 1822; Henry Newcomer, September 11, 1824; John Marshall, April 1, 1827; Mary Leckrone, March 15, 1842; Maria L. Louden, April 8, 1854; Sarah Musselman, April 10, 1864; John S. Rider, April 9, 1869; Abraham O. Scott, March 11, 1873.

History of the Lot: In 1820 this lot was sold by the Reverend William Paxton to Reuban B. Carley for \$100. In 1822, Carley sold it to Peter Zollinger for \$1,000, indicating that a structure was built on the lot by Carley. An 1842 deed notes the sale of the property for \$650. The 1864 tax list shows this property as a house and lot valued at \$400. In 1869, John S. Rider of Waynesboro purchased this lot from Sarah and Daniel Musselman, and Rider is shown as the owner of this house and lot in the 1872 *Atlas*. Current Water Street is the boundary of the Miller and Paxton properties and the boundary of the original town. This lot, laid out in 1820, is the first known addition to the eastern edge of Fairfield. The early deed references for this lot describe it as being a rectangle, 60 feet by 240 feet, likely an attempt to match Miller's configuration. But the angle of Miller and Paxton's properties with the public street made this difficult and the orientation shown for this lot on the map in the 1872 *Atlas* does not match the description in the early deeds. In an 1869 deed the road to the west of the lot is referred to as "Chestnut Street," and not Water Street.

1860 Residents: Maria L. Louden (1810-1877); Sarah M. Knox (1832); Euphemia Knox (1835); Charles M. Knox (1837); Elizabeth Knox (1842); Virginia Knox (1844).

Civil War Notes: Following the Civil War, Maria Louden filed a claim for "one falling top buggy worth \$80" taken by Confederate army during their retreat on July 4, 1863. Sarah Amanda Blythe, Lot 5E, was a witness to the claim, it being her shed where the buggy was being stored and from where it was taken.

Sources: ACDB K-31, K-32, L- 13, P-325, AA-73; AA-75; 57-62, Civil War Border Claim of Maria Louden, PHMC.

Outlying Lot D: Henry Landis Residence. **Current Address:** 23 North Miller Street. **1860 Owner:** Henry Landis. **Description:** Two-story, brick, dwelling-house. **Recital:** John Miller to James Wilson, October 31, 1823; Isaac Robinson, September 27, 1845; James Wilson, October 7, 1852; Henry Landis, March 29, 1854.

History of the Lot: In 1854, much of the original Miller property, described as 142 acres, was sold by James Wilson to Henry Landis for \$6,500. According to Landis Family legend, the house that once stood on Lot 3N (the Lutheran Church lot), was removed to this site around 1854.

1860 Residents: Henry Landis (1831); Ann E. Landis (1838); Mary B. Landis (1856); Rebecca Mehring (1845); Solomon Buamgardner (1839), farmhand; Henry Terrell (1844), farmhand. **Family Notes:** According to his obituary, Henry Landis was a native of Lancaster County and lived the early part of his life in Littlestown. At the age of 24, he moved to Fairfield, where he farmed until his retirement.

Sources: ACDB K-269; II-45; “A Valuable Limestone Farm,” *Compiler*, September 27, 1841; “Fairfield being prepared for reception of former residents at celebration,” *Gettysburg Times*, June 28, 1926; Obituary of Henry Landis, *Compiler*, February 19, 1913.

Outlying Lot E: Jonas Hemmons Residence. **1860 Owner:** Rufus C. Swope. **Recital:** Sheriff’s Sale to James D. Paxton, January 9, 1847; Rufus C. Swope, March 21, 1848; Stephen Butler, March 3, 1870; Jonas Hemmons, April 25, 1871; Heirs of Jonas Hemmons, July 10, 1875; Washington C. Rogers, April 1, 1878; Charles Bramen, January 23, 1880.

1860 Residents: Jonas Hemmons (1807-July 10, 1875); Cynthis A. Hemmons (1818-November 23, 1890); Mary Cole (1847).

Family Notes: Jonas Hemmons and his family were one of two “mulatto” families who lived in Fairfield at the time of the Civil War. Hemmons owned part of Lot 11E but apparently lived at this site as shown in the 1860 census. They were from Virginia, and the will of Jonas Hemmons refers to Rockingham County, Virginia. Hemmons

and his wife are buried in Fairfield Union Cemetery. Today, this tract which was described as 68 perches, is a vacant lot, but it retains its historic configuration.

Sources: Estate of Cynthia A. Hemmons, ACHS; Heirs of Jonas Hemmons to Washington C. Rogers, April 1, 1878 and Washington C. Rogers to Charles Bramen, January 23, 1880, abstracts of unrecorded deeds, ACHS.

Outlying Lot F: Rufus C. Swope Tannery. **Recital:** James Hill, by 1821; David Blythe, by 1846; James D. Paxton, 1846; Rufus C. Swope, March 21, 1848; John Artzberger, March 22, 1882; Louis Artzberger, March 22, 1882.

History of the Lot: A sheriff's sale from January 1821 describes this property as "a certain two-story log dwelling-house, stable, tan-house, & tan-yard, situate in Millers-town, Hamiltonban Township, Adams County. Seized and taken in execution as the estate of James Hill." Again, in June 1821, it was advertised as "a lot of Ground in Millers-town . . . containing about one acre, adjoining lands of James Wilson Esq. and town lots, on which are erected a log dwelling house and tanyard, with necessary buildings, late the estate of James Hill." An 1846 deed describes the property as "10 acres of limestone land . . . on which are erected a one and one half story log dwelling house, and frame stable, with sheds and corn cribs attached thereto—also a tan yard with about 30 vats, bark shed, mill house, currying shop with a machine for rolling leather—there is also a never failing well of water with a pump in it—with a never failing stream of water running through the premises with a variety of fruit trees . . . adjoining the lands of John McGinly, James Wilson and others." An 1848 public sale for the property of James D. Paxton, describes this as "a valuable tan yard, to which is attached all the necessary vats, pools, bark sheds, tan shops, bark mill and leather roller. Also a log dwelling house, and good stable, together with about one acre of ground. There is running water through the premises." The tannery was located partly on Lot 1E and extended onto the land south of the town, through which "Spring Run" passes. Rufus Swope acquired the property in 1848. At the time of the Civil War, Joshua Cease (or Ceas) was foreman of the tannery and as indicated by the census, he was living with his family in a house at this location. This property is shown as

“J. Arzberger” on the 1872 map, so he must have leased the property from Swope following Cease’s departure in 1866, finally gaining title to the property in 1882.

1860 Residents: Joshua Cease (1829-December 29, 1905); Hannah Miller Cease (1837- December 1908); Henriette Cease (1857-July 7, 1932); Charles W. Cease (1859).

Family Notes: In 1866 Joshua Cease purchased the tannery property at Lots 3W, 4W and 5W, and started his own business at that location.

Civil War Notes: According to a claim filed after the war, the Confederates visited Swope’s Tannery at least twice during the Gettysburg Campaign. An affidavit given by Joshua Cease, “foreman in the tannery,” indicates that on June 30, the Confederates absconded with 17 sides of leather at \$7.20 per side and 20 gallons of oil at \$1 per gallon. On July 5, they took one sorrel mare. The items were taken in Cease’s presence. Swope’s total loses were given as \$192.40. Cease also filed an affidavit in the claim of Peter Shively, stating that he was an eyewitness to the theft of lard from the latter’s spring house (presumable located on lot 2S). Along with other residents of the town, Joshua Cease served in Company G, 209th Pennsylvania Infantry, in 1864-1865.

Sources: David Blythe to James D. Paxton, 1846, URD, ACHS; “Sheriff’s Sale,” *Adams Sentinel*, January 30, 1821; “Sheriff’s Sales,” *Adams Sentinel*, July 21, 1821; “Valuable Tan Yard Property,” *Star and Banner*, February 4, 1848; Adelaide Paxton Doran, *The Paxton Family, A Genealogy* (Glendale, CA; 1987); Civil War Border Claims Files for R. C. Swope and Peter Shively, PHMC; Obituary of Joshua Cease, *Compiler*, January 10, 1906; Obituary of Hannah Miller Cease, *Compiler*, December 30, 1908; Adelaide Paxton Doran, *The Paxton Family, A Genealogy* (Glendale, CA; 1987).

Outlying Lot G: Vacant Lot. **Current Address:** No current address. **Recital:** William H. H. Low, by 1872; Mary H. Low, April 2, 1912; Fairfield Fire Department.

History of Lot: No structures are shown at this location on the 1858 Adams County wall map. In 1872 this is shown as the property of W. Low, so the dwelling at this site was built by that time. William H. H. Low was the son of Andrew Low. Andrew was a justice of the peace at the time of the Civil War, and was one of those unfortunate civilians taken prisoner by J.E.B. Stuart and his men when they passed through the area on October 11, 1862. *Boyd's Business Directory* (1860) lists Andrew Low of Fairfield as being the owner of a brickyard. William H. Low is listed in the tax records with no property for several years following the Civil War. In 1871, he is listed for the first time with a lot valued at \$100, transferred from G. W. Wortz. In 1872 he is listed with a lot valued at \$150. In 1874 the value of the lot was increased to \$400. The 1919 Fairfield tax records describes this as a lot still valued at \$400, the property of Mary H. Low (daughter of William), with an additional 11 acres nearby valued at \$825. This property, which was located along the south side of what is now Steelman Street, is today the site of the Fairfield Fire Department. According to descendants, the house was a two-story log-and-frame structure.

Civil War Notes: According to his record of service in a book associated with the Fairfield GAR, William was born in Fairfield on March 18, 1839. Obviously, he was named for William Henry Harrison, the hero of the Battle of Tippecanoe who was running for President at that time of his birth. In the fall of 1862, William was mustered as a second lieutenant of Company C, 165th Pennsylvania Drafted Militia and served until July of 1863. "His most intimate comrades while in service" were listed in the G.A.R. book as "Captain E. McGinley, Quartermaster Evan T. Rinehart, Lieut. C. J. Sefton, Peter Overdeer, Maj. Nash G. Camp, Captain Warren, Lieut. Stonesifer & Captain Webb." One can only imagine what thoughts were going through William's mind at the time of his service while his father was being held in a Confederate prison. William H. Low died on July 3, 1913, fifty years after his service in the Union Army during the Civil War.

Sources: ACDB 73-39; Fairfield GAR Book; *Boyd's Business Directory* (Philadelphia, 1860).



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