



# Incredible Property



## Grim Road Maxatawny Township



**Doug Frederick**

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# Aerial View of Grim Rd, Maxatawny Township







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## Client Full w/ Photos

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**Grim Road, Maxatawny Township 19530**

LP: **\$895,000**

MLS® #: **702528**

Status: **Available**

County: **Berks**

Area: **225 - Maxatawny**

SubDiv: **Not in Development**



Incredible property with 1675 ft of frontage on Rt. 222 and great access from 1655 ft of frontage on Church Rd. Mostly level property fitting for many uses. Zoning consult necessary to determine approved used by township. Lots of frontage, great location.

Take a look at this property strategically located between Lehigh County and Berks County markets, easy access to major road systems and ideal for individual owner without the congestion of higher density areas. Check it out today.

Directions: **Location right on Rt 222 just south of Village of Maxatawny. Intersection of Rt 222 and Grim Rd**

General Information			
Prop Type:	<b>Commercial</b>	Sub Prop:	
Yr Built:		SF:	
Front:	Price/SF:	Lot SF:	<b>312,761</b>
Avl SF:	Lot Acres: <b>7.180</b>	Cross St:	<b>Rt 222</b>
Occupancy:		School D:	<b>Not Applicable</b>
Spc Cond:	<b>Not Applicable</b>		

SF Src: **Tax Records**  
Lot Src:

Listing Information			
Possesion:	<b>Immediate</b>	Payment:	
Tax ID:	<b>63546402965655</b>	Warranty:	<b>None</b>
Prop Share:	SF 1st year:		
Options:	<b>Sell All</b>		
Restrictions:	<b>Any Builder, Unknown</b>		
Improve:	<b>Cleared, None</b>		

Building/Site Information			
#Stories:	# Doors:	# Unit:	Block:
Blg SF:	CAM SF:	Office SF:	Parcel:
Acreage:	<b>5 - 10 Acres</b>	Lot Dims:	
Surface Typ:	<b>None</b>	Rail Service:	<b>None</b>
Perc Test:	<b>Alternative System, Not Perced</b>	Road:	<b>State, Township</b>
Best Use:	<b>Apartments, General Business, Commercial, Office, Warehouse</b>		

Utility Information			
Heat:		Cool:	
Water:	<b>None</b>	Sewer:	<b>None</b>
Utility:	<b>Electric Overhead</b>		

Financial Information			
Cnty Taxes:	<b>\$471.67</b>	Mun Taxes:	<b>\$145.38</b>
Cnty Asmt:	<b>\$61,600.00</b>	Sch Taxes:	<b>\$184.17</b>
Dd/Dc ID:	<b>2160/710</b>	Poss Finance:	<b>Cash, Conventional</b>
		Zn Cde:	<b>AGR</b>

## Photos



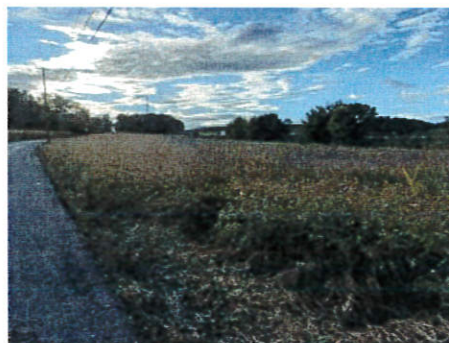


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# MAXATAWNY TOWNSHIP



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## Maxatawny Township Zoning Ordinance of 2012

Adopted July 30, 2012

## ARTICLE IV

### DISTRICT REGULATIONS

#### Section 400

#### AP and AP1- AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION DISTRICT

##### 400.1 Purpose Statement.

The agriculture in Maxatawny Township is a unique non-replaceable natural resource, which needs to be recognized by the community and preserved for the benefit of the residents of the municipality. This proposition of preservation of agricultural farmlands and open space is founded upon the following policy considerations:

- (a) The agricultural farmlands and open space within Maxatawny Township is a valuable natural resource, which is valuable for the health, safety and welfare of the Township residents;
- (b) The soils, topography and historical experience of Maxatawny Township have established Maxatawny Township as a producer of agricultural goods and products;
- (c) The aesthetic value of the agricultural district within Maxatawny Township is of special significance to the residents of Maxatawny Township and its surrounding municipalities;
- (d) The present character of the agricultural district of Maxatawny Township mandates that it be recognized as an economic resource, necessary of preservation

##### 400.1.1 In the interest of public health, safety and welfare, the AP zoning district is further designed and intended to accomplish the following:

- (a) To protect and preserve the agricultural base in the areas of productive soils which is a major component of the economy of the Township.
- (b) To permit only those land uses and activities, which are agriculture related and advance agricultural purposes.
- (c) To encourage the preservation of the prime productive farmland within the Township.
- (d) To prevent adverse effects which may result from the encroachment and commingling of residential and other incompatible development and land uses with agricultural uses.

##### 400.2 Permitted Uses.

Only the following uses are permitted by right in the AP District and AP1 District, provided



that the requirements for specific uses and Section 400.12 are met:

- (a) Agricultural, animal husbandry, horticultural, and forestry uses, including, but not limited to, crop production, dairy, beef, swine, poultry, orchards, forest, flowers, fruit, bees, fish, sod production, or similar type uses.
- (b) Processing of farm products, where such use is designed to be accessory to the raising or growing of such products and is located on the same property on which the products are raised or grown, so long as the basic purpose and design of such use is intended for the processing of products raised or grown on the premises, however, the processing of such products from other local area farms shall also be permitted.
- (c) Forestry and Forest Reserves, Woodland and/or Game Preserve, Fish and Wildlife Refuges, and similar Conservation Uses.
- (d) Single one-family dwellings - detached buildings, per Sections 400.6 and 400.11 of this Ordinance.
- (e) Tourist, Bed and Breakfast and/or Country Inn subject to Section 515 of this Ordinance.
- (f) Farm Occupation subject to Section 502.2 of this Ordinance.
- (g) Farm Market and/or Farm Produce Stand subject to Section 536 of this Ordinance.
- (h) Fire Observation Tower.
- (i) Home Occupation subject to Section 502 of this Ordinance.
- (j) Commercial Livestock Hauling Operation subject to Section 542 of this Ordinance.
- (k) Municipal Use.
- (m) Farm Storage (Back-Behind) subject to Section 400.3 and 502 of this Ordinance.
- (n) No Impact Home-Based Business subject to Section 527 of this Ordinance.

400.3 Permitted Accessory Use - Any accessory use customarily carried on in conjunction with farming and rural life, located on the same lot with the permitted use, or incidental to any dwelling or other main use permitted above, such as:

- (a) Signs pursuant to Section 507.

- (b) Accessory Farm Dwelling subject to Section 530 of this Ordinance.
- (c) Temporary Farm Employee Housing subject to Section 590 of this Ordinance.

400.4 Uses Permitted Only By Special Exception Issued By The Zoning Hearing Board.

- (a) Churches or similar places of worship, Parish Houses, Convents, and other Housing for Religious Personnel subject to Section 539 of this Ordinance.
- (b) Cemeteries subject to Section 539 of this Ordinance.
- (c) Aquaculture subject to Section 537 of this Ordinance.
- (d) Agricultural industry per Section 522 and all structures associated with agricultural industries activity shall not be located closer than three hundred (300) feet from any existing dwelling unit, except on the home premises.
- (e) Farm Equipment Sales and Service subject to Section 553 of this Ordinance.
- (f) Processing of Farm Products subject to Section 577 of this Ordinance.
- (g) Riding Stable, Equestrian Facility, Riding Club and/or Riding School subject to Section 582 of this Ordinance.
- (h) Sawmill subject to Section 599-A of this Ordinance.
- (i) Septage and/or Mushroom Processing Facility subject to Section 585 of this Ordinance.
- (j) Public and Non-profit Outdoor Recreation Areas and Facilities, such as Parks (except Amusement Parks and Clubs), Playgrounds, and Picnic Grounds subject to Section 512 of this Ordinance.
- (k) Elder Cottage Housing (ECH) Units subject to Section 551 of this Ordinance.
- (l) Wind Farm subject to Article X of this Ordinance.
- (m) Wind Energy Conservation System generating equal to or more than 10 kW subject to Article X of this Ordinance.



400.5 Conditional Uses: After recommendation by the Planning Commission and public hearing by the governing body, the governing body may by conditional use, permit the following conditional uses in accordance with the provisions of Article IX of this Ordinance. Conditional uses shall be subject to the requirements specified below and elsewhere in this Ordinance.

- (a) Farm Related Business subject to Section 554 and 522 of this Ordinance.
- (b) Intensive Agriculture subject to Section 513 of this Ordinance.
- (c) Family Day Care Center subject to Section 548 of this Ordinance.
- (d) Fire Station and/or Emergency Services Station subject to Section 570 of this Ordinance.
- (e) Government buildings. Federal, State or other municipal government bodies not defined as a Municipal Use Building pursuant to this Ordinance subject to Section 570.
- (f) Personal Agricultural Warehousing.
- (g) Retail sales of Nursery and Garden Materials subject to Section 580 of this Ordinance.
- (h) Furniture and/or Upholstery Refinishing Shop.
- (i) Kennel subject to Section 525 of this Ordinance.
- (j) Welding/Machine Shop.
- (k) Wind Energy Conservation System generating less than 10 kW subject to Article X of this Ordinance.

400.6 Lot Size. (Pursuant to Section 400.10)

Unless as otherwise set forth in Article V of this chapter which sets forth specific objective criteria for certain uses or is otherwise established in this Ordinance, the following shall constitute the minimum lot size and width requirements for uses within this Zoning District.

- (a) Farm - 10 acres minimum
- (b) One family dwelling - 1 acre minimum/maximum
- (c) Other uses - 2 acre minimum

400.7 Minimum Lot Width.

Unless as otherwise set forth in Article V of this chapter which sets forth specific objective

criteria for certain uses or is otherwise established in this Ordinance, the following shall constitute the minimum lot size and width requirements for uses within this Zoning District.

- (a) One family dwelling - 100 feet minimum
- (b) Other uses - 200 feet

400.8 Yard Dimensions.

Unless as otherwise set forth in Article V of this chapter which sets forth specific objective criteria for certain uses or is otherwise established in this Ordinance, the following shall constitute the minimum yard dimension requirements for uses within this Zoning District.

- (a) Front yard - 40 feet
- (b) Side yard (each) - 20 feet
- (c) Rear yard - 40 feet

400.9 Maximum Building Coverage And Height.

Unless as otherwise set forth in Article V of this chapter which sets forth specific objective criteria for certain uses or is otherwise established in this Ordinance, the following shall constitute the minimum building coverage and height requirements for uses within this Zoning District.

- (a) No height limitation for agricultural buildings or structures.
- (b) A maximum height of 35 feet for non-agricultural buildings or structures.
- (c) Maximum Building Coverage (all structures) - 10%
- (d) Maximum Impervious Coverage - 20%

400.10 Requirements For Subdivision Of A Tract.

- (a) Subdivision of land shall be permitted only:
  - (1) When necessary to permit the location of a lot for use pursuant to this Ordinance.
  - (2) Except as permitted for single-family dwelling purposes, pursuant to this Section of the Ordinance, or for Permitted and Special Exception Uses established in Section 400.2, 400.4 and 400.5 of this Ordinance, subdivision of land within the AP and AP1 Districts



shall be limited to the division of land for agricultural purposes of parcels of ten (10) or more acres or to the creation of a parcel less than ten (10) acres for the purpose of transferring the parcel to an adjacent farm, provided, however, that at least ten (10) acres shall be maintained in the original tract.

- (3) To permit a tract of land leased in the AP Zoning District as of January 1, 1996 to be subdivided from the remaining tract not leased as of that date and conveyed to the lessee.
- (4) To permit a tract of land leased in the AP1 Zoning District as of July 1, 2012 to be subdivided from the remaining tract not leased as of the that date and conveyed to the lessee.
- (b) A property owner submitting a subdivision plan will be required to specify on his plan which lot or lots shall carry with them the right to erect or place any unused quota of dwelling rights his tract may have.
- (c) All plans submitted to subdivide land in the Agricultural Preservation District shall contain the following language in conspicuous form:

"Agricultural Nuisance Disclaimer" - All lands within the Agricultural District are located within an area where land is used for commercial agricultural production. Owners, residents, and other users of this property may be subjected to inconvenience, discomfort, and the possibility of injury to property and health arising from normal and accepted agricultural practices and operations including, but not limited to, noise, odors, dust, the operation of machinery of any kind including aircraft, the storage and disposal of manure, the application of fertilizers, soil amendments, herbicides and pesticides. Owners, occupants and users of this property should be prepared to accept these conditions (such inconveniences, discomfort and possibility of injury from normal agricultural operations), and are hereby put on official notice that Section 4 of the Pennsylvania Act 133 of 1982 "The Right to Farm Law" may bar them from obtaining a legal judgment against such normal agricultural operation.

#### 400.11 Single-Family Development.

In the AP Zoning District and AP1 Zoning District, single-family development shall be subject to the following limitations:

- (a) The provisions of this section shall apply to all tracts of land in existence and as determined as of the effective date of this Ordinance as stated in 400.10(a)(3) and (4). Subsequent changes in ownership of any tract shall not otherwise extend or modify the limitations on single-family development as herein provided:

(1) There shall be permitted the following number of single-family dwellings as designated upon the size of the subject tract of land:

- A. Existing tracts less than ten (10) acres in size, shall be permitted a maximum of two (2) additional subdivided lots; provided all area and dimensional requirements are satisfied, as well as all other regulatory provisions of this Ordinance.
- B. Existing tracts in excess of ten (10) acres shall permit subdivision, provided that for each residential lot to be subdivided, there shall be set aside five (5) contiguous acres for non-developmental purposes by means of a conservation easement in perpetuity. All area, dimensional and other subdivision and zoning regulatory provisions must be satisfied.
- C. Regardless of lot size, once a new lot has been created, resubdivision of the newly created lot is not allowed.
- D. A Township Committee will be established under separate ordinance to review, recommend, record and keep track of all conservation easements.

(2) Soil Classification. New single-family detached dwellings shall only be located on soils other than soils identified as Soil Capability Units I and II by the Soil Conservation Service in the Soil Survey of Berks County, or on land which cannot feasibly be used for agricultural purposes due to the land characteristics, slope, or size and/or shape of property. Where, in the opinion of the Board of Supervisors, location on soils other than Soil Capability Units I and II is not feasible, the Supervisors shall permit the location of dwellings on such soils. However, the location shall be on the least agriculturally productive land feasible or such other area that would minimize interference with agricultural production.

(3) Any person who shall claim that the classification of soils on his land is incorrect because the Soil Survey is inaccurate in regard to his property, may appeal the classification to the Board of Supervisors. The burden of proof shall be on the appellant to the Board of Supervisors. The appellant must submit, as part of his appeal before the Supervisors, an analysis prepared by a professional engineer or certified geologist or soil scientist indicating soil types based on field investigation and tests. The Supervisors may, upon review of the submitted report, reclassify the property in



question in accordance with the findings submitted for the purpose of this Ordinance.

- (4) The lot size for all new single-family detached dwellings, as permitted under this section, shall be no greater than one (1) acre. Larger lots may be permitted if the owner can substantiate that increases in the size of the property will not adversely affect the objectives of this Section, or that the physical or soil characteristics require larger lot sizes in order to locate the dwelling, accessory structures, driveway, well, and/or on-site sewage disposal facilities.

- (b) Homestead farming application pursuant to Section 521.

400.12 Requirements Respective To Non-Agricultural Uses Other Than Residential Uses.

- (a) Such uses must be located on the lowest quality agricultural feasible soil, including soils group III through VIII, so as to minimize the loss of farmland and so as to minimize interference with agricultural production.
- (b) Prior to issuing a permit to allow such use the Zoning Officer must certify that the requirements of subparagraph (a) hereof have been complied with.

400.13 Additional Requirements.

Buffer Yard and Evergreen Screening pursuant to Section 517.

Section 401 A-R - AGRICULTURAL - RESIDENTIAL

Purpose Statement: This Area represents a mixture of residential uses, agricultural uses, conservation uses which complement the existing agricultural character of the District. Low densities of development would be expected due to soil conditions and surrounding agricultural uses.

401.1 Permitted Uses

- (a) The following Commercial Agriculture Operations, including crop farming and animal husbandry, and accessory uses thereto, but excluding intensive farming, provided that there shall be no stable or similar animal housing or the storage of manure or other odor or dust-producing substance or use, except spraying and dusting to protect vegetation, within 100 feet of any lot or street line, unless permitted at a lesser distance by special exception.

- (1) The raising of field and garden crops, vineyard and orchard





# Maxatawny Township

Incorporated 1742

Berks County, Pennsylvania

127 Quarry Road, Suite 1  
Kutztown, PA 19530  
Phone: (610) 683-6518  
Fax: (610) 683-3518

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## History

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### "Maxatawny is a Township Rich with History"

This article reprinted from the HISTORY OF BERKS COUNTY IN PENNSYLVANIA by Morton L. Montgomery, member of the Berks County Bar, dated 1886, published by Everts, Peck & Richards.

The Indians loved the Maxatawny country, and lingered there long after they had left other parts of the county, maintaining a friendly attitude towards the settlers. They had a place of burial in what is now a field of the Charles Deisher farm, and a tradition prevails that many hundreds of them were buried there, including their implements of warfare. Many relics were taken from that place in years gone by. Frequent cultivation of the ground has almost entirely obliterated the evidences that it was once their burial-place. There is a tradition that a stalwart Indian remained several years after the others had gone, as if loath to leave the scenes of his childhood. He was known by the unpoetic name of "Kneebuckle," and he lived on the banks of the Sacony, subsisting on the fish and game, which his skillful hands enabled him to capture. He was kind in his dealings with the early settlers and beloved by those who knew him. He suddenly disappeared.

### Township Erected

A petition was presented to the Court of Quarter Sessions of Philadelphia County on September 6, 1742, praying for the erection of a new township out of a part of said county. George Boone, Esq., a draft of which was attached to the petition; and William Parsons, surveyor-general of the province, certified that the survey did not interfere with any other township, made the survey of the tract of land proposed for the township. And the township was erected on the same day. The following statement is a copy of the record in the office of the court mentioned. The petition could not be found.

"Upon the Petition of several of the Inhabitants of the County of Philadelphia, situate at a Place called Maxatawny, setting forth that they had been settled in that part of this County for several years and paid Taxes and County Levies, and that the said Place is now become very populous, praying this Court would be pleased to view and examine a Draught of a Tract of Land to the said Petition annexed, and would erect the same into a Township by the following Bounds, viz.: Beginning in Bucks County Line and from thence running South West one thousand seven hundred and sixty perches; thence North West one thousand three hundred and sixty perches; thence North East one thousand seven hundred and sixty perches to Bucks County Line; thence along the same South East one thousand three hundred and sixty perches to the place of Beginning, containing fourteen thousand nine hundred and sixty Acres of Land."

"The Court having taken the said petition into consideration and the Surveyor-General of this province having certified to the court that the several Courses and bounds of said Township petitioned for do not interfere with any other Township, The said Tract of Land bounded as aforesaid, containing fourteen thousand nine hundred and sixty Acres of Land, is now erected by the Court into a Township by the name of Maxatawny."

The name of the Township was derived from an Indian word, Machksithanne, meaning Bear's Path Creek.

### Early Prominent Families

During the early history of the township the most prominent public men were the Levans, the Zimmermans, the Gehrs, the Gros cups, and the Hottensteins. Jacob Levan was one of the county justices from 1752 to 1760; Sebastian Levan was a member of the Provincial Committee for Pennsylvania in 1775. Sebastian Zimmerman was a county justice from 1767 to 1771, and again from 1778 to 1784. Baltzer Gehr held numerous public offices, as is elsewhere shown, and Paul Gros cup was scarcely less prominent; he was one of the best penmen in his day. The Hottensteins are of noble origin and came to America in 1727, settling first in Oley, but three years later in Maxatawny, where they leased from the proprietors upwards of five hundred acres of land. The Levans became a numerous family, and owned many tracts of land. Jacob and John Levan lived near Kutztown, where some of their descendants still own the original settlement. Others lived in the western part of the township, where they had the first mill, and intermarried with the

## History continued...

[250th Anniversary News Article](#)

### Furnaces

The East Penn Furnaces, at Lyons, were built in the summer of 1871, on sixteen acres of land, secured from the farm of Daniel Angstadt, by the East Penn Iron Company, which had among its members John Deisher, William Grim, David Kern, Benjamin Helfrich, Amos Barto, Daniel Angstadt, Levi Kutz and Jacob Haag. John T. Noble, of Pottsville, Pa., was the contractor and builder. This large establishment cost over two hundred thousand dollars. Franklin Brownback was the first manager for the company. It was operated for four years and then the property passed into the hands of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, which still controls it. A fire destroyed the engine-house and damaged the furnace to such an extent that it has been out of blast the past five years.

At Bower's, a small furnace was erected in the summer of 1883, by S. Good and Jacob Smith. Before it was put into a blast a storm destroyed the casting-house and otherwise damaged the property so that it has never been repaired. Subsequently Smith became the sole owner.

### Iron-Ore

Iron-ore abounds in the township and is usually of a good quality, yielding about forty per cent. of pure metal. On the Jacob Glasser farm, east of Kutztown, some of the first mining operations were carried on. Some of this ore was supplied to "Sally Ann" and "Mary Ann" Furnaces many years ago. Since 1870 mining has been carried on more extensively, with the aid of modern methods and machinery, about sixty men are employed at the mines. At Rothrocksville profitable mines are worked. At Bower's extensive shipments are made by Schweyer & Leiss, the Thompson Iron Company, Isaac Bieher, C. W. Kutz and Kauffman & Eckert, the ore being mined within a radius of a few miles of that place. Extensive limestone quarries are operated by the Clymer Iron Company, of Temple, averaging fifty tons per day. The stone quarried there is superior for smelting purposes.

### Schools

In 1852 Maxatawny accepted the common-school system and organized its first board at the house of David A. Hottenstein, May 16th, of that year. The first directors were Sam. Kutz, Dan. Hinterleiter, Sam. Bernhart, Peter Deysher, Henry Wagenhorst and Henry Heffner. At the first examination, held October 8, 1852, certificates were granted to Jacob Gehr, Benneville Stimmel, John Humbert and Jonas Hoch; on October 23, 1951, to William Levan, Isaac Fisher and Samuel Bernet; on November 13th to a Mr. Fisher and Benjamin Dornblaser. Many of the districts have been provided with good school buildings and supplied with the necessary books and charts for conducting the schools successfully. The school-house at Lyons is the largest one outside of Kutztown. It is a two-story brick, erected in 1876, and cost one thousand two hundred and forty-seven dollars. In it are maintained two well-attended schools.

### Churches

*Maxatawny Church (Reformed and Lutheran)* is located at the village of Bower's. It is, next to the St. John's Church, at Kutztown, the oldest in Maxatawny, and one of the oldest in the eastern part of the county. For the first one hundred years of its existence it was the exclusive property of the Reformed congregation, the union not having been formed until 1859. The first house of worship was a log building, erected in 1759, on three acres of ground which had been donated for that purpose by John Sharadin, Peter DeLong and Andreas Haag, each giving one acre, "to be used as long as the sun and moon shine." Subsequently additions were made to the church property until it now contains about eight acres. Most of this is included in the cemetery, which is well inclosed and contains some fine monuments. The first church stood on this donated land. The second building was constructed of stone was located very nearly on the site of the present edifice. It was erected in 1808 and served its purpose until 1871, when it was demolished to make place for the imposing structure which is now the spiritual home of the two congregations. It is of brick, fifty by seventy feet, and has a stately steeple containing a bell weighing one thousand six hundred and ninety-four pounds. A smaller bell, of three hundred and twenty pounds weight, is used by the Sunday-school. These bells were provided in 1872.

The Reformed congregation had the Rev. M. J. Schalter as its first minister, although he did not sustain a pastoral relation. Others who preached from 1759 to



Siegfried family, also early settlers and large land-owners, in what is still known as Siegfried's Dale. At one time the two families had more than a thousand acres of the choicest lands, lying in different tracts. The Biebers, from Chester County, were early settlers near Kutztown, John Bieber being one of the older members. Another family by that name, having among them John and Dewalt, came from Montgomery County and settled north of the Kemp tavern. On the opposite side lived Nicholas Kutz, and his son Nicholas, who were not of the same family as George Kutz, founder of Kutztown. Members of both families still remain in the township. At Kemp's tavern Daniel Levan and his son Daniel lived until 1788, when George Kemp became the owner, continuing the tavern already opened. He was a justice of the peace thirty-four years, and his son John for twenty years, living still on the homestead at an advanced age. The former was the grandson of Dewalt Kemp, who settled on the farm now owned by Nathan Kemp about 1730. His daughters married into the Hottenstein and Bieber families.

Casper Wink, married to Gertrude Kemp, was also one of the early settlers. They reared six children; Catherine, the eldest daughter, born in 1728, and Theobald, the eldest son, in 1733. The latter was the father of sons named Philip, John, Peter, Jacob (a Revolutionary soldier) and Dewalt. His daughters married Isaac Roberts, Jacob Levan, John Heidenreich (father of Judge Wm. S. Heidenreich), John Hausman and Daniel Kemp. A brother of Theobald Wink, John Peter, born in 1745, went to the Revolutionary War and never returned. Dewalt Wink, son of Theobald, born in 1776, was married to a daughter of George A. Fister, also a Revolutionary soldier, and who was the grandfather of Colonel Thomas A. Fister. He was the father of eleven sons and two daughters, among the former being John G. Wink, of Kutztown. Casper Wink was a Catholic and a faithful colonist, having his allegiance certified, which reads as follows:

"I hereby certify that Casper Wink, of Berks County, State of Pennsylvania, hath voluntarily taken and subscribed the oath of allegiance and Fidelity, as directed by an Act of General Assembly of Pennsylvania, passed on the 13th day of June A.D. 1777."

"Witness my hand and seal, the 26th day of May, A.D. 1778.

Peter Trexler, Esq."

A similar paper was procured by Davold (Theobald) Wink November 3, 1777, and was attested by Samuel Ely. These interesting papers are now in possession of John G. Wink. Casper Wink was buried on his farm, which is still owned by a member of the family in the sixth generation.

Jacob Hinterleiter was a large landowner near Topton. He was the father of Daniel Hinterleiter, of Kutztown, born in 1800, and grandfather of W. C. Hinterleiter. George, another son, moved to New York. At Eagle Point, the Kroningers were early settlers. One of the family, Daniel, became a very old man. John George Sell, living near Kutztown, also became very aged. At Bowers the DeLong family were early and prominent settlers, the church at that place being often called by that name.

Southeast of Kutztown lived Peter Wanner (born where Fleetwood now is), who also became very old, dying at the age of ninety-two years. He was the father of sons named Peter, Daniel, Samuel, Thomas, and John, the latter being the father of J. Daniel Wanner and Dr. Charles H. Wanner of Kutztown, and of Amos B. Wanner, of Reading. Numerous other settlers in the Township attained a great age, bordering on a century.

#### Revolutionary History

In reference to the Revolutionary history of the Township, Professor Ermentrout says

"In the War for Independence, Maxatawny was not passive. From John G. Wink, one of the most intelligent citizens of Maxatawny, we learn that Washington's army marched through Kutztown. Eye-witnesses informed him that it came from Easton, and encamped for a time in the valley between the present residence of John Kemp, Esq., and the farm of Daniel Zimmerman in Maxatawny. Washington and his wife were with the soldiers. Mrs. Sassaman, for some years deceased, used to delight in telling her visitors that Mrs. Washington, who lodged in the house of her father, John Gross, lifted her on her lap, and soothed her with caresses. On their way from Trenton, by way of Easton, to the well-known camp at Reading, the captured Hessians were marched through Kutztown."

"It is interesting also to know that, whilst the battle at Germantown, 1777, was raging, the thunders of the cannon fell upon the ears of the inhabitants Kutztown and vicinity; that after the battle of Brandywine, 1777, a regiment of the American army encamped on the farms now owned by the Hottensteins, and, on leaving, impressed the horses and wagons of the people; and that George Kemp, Esq., was one of the wagon-masters who were present at the battle of Germantown."

"In Maxatawny there were still living in 1840 the following Revolutionary pensioners: Henry Grim, aged seventy-five; Frederick Bower, eighty-three; Jacob Wink, eighty-two; Philip Noyes, eighty-four; Christian Schmick, seventy-six. To this list we add the names of William Marx, Sr., and son William, Casper Wink (buried on Squire Kemp's farm), Jacob Esser, Peter Kutz, George Pfister, Peter Wink, Philip Wink and Doldridge. On January 7, 1857, Matthias Roth died in Rockland Township, aged seventy-eight years. On the last Monday of November, 1836,

1772 were the Revs. Fritz and Philip J. Michiel, neither of whom succeeded in building up the congregation spiritually, and it is said "left it in a wretched condition."

As specimens of these leaders of the people, may be mentioned a Mr. Fritz, who, on one occasion, ascended the pulpit of DeLong church in a state of beastly intoxication! He announced his text: 'if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.' Repeating his text, with emphasis, he lost his balance and tumbled down the high pulpit stairs, with the last words, 'follow me,' in his mouth! One of the elders arose in his seat, and earnestly addressing the people, exclaimed, 'No brethren, we will not follow him!' He was immediately sent away."

The real history of the church begins with 1772, when the venerable Rev. John Henry Helfrich became the pastor. His Christian piety and exemplary life exerted a great influence for good in the many years of service which he gave to the church. He died December 5, 1810, and his remains repose in the Sassamashausen burial-ground, in Maxatawny. His successor was the Rev. Charles G. Herman, beginning his ministry in August, 1810, and also served the congregation until his death, in 1863, a period covering fifty-three years.

He was recognized as one of the ablest ministers in this section of the State. His son, the Rev. Alfred J. Herman, had previously begun to officiate as the pastor and he still faithfully serves the congregation. The membership is about four hundred. The Lutheran congregation had as its first acceptable pastor the Rev. Alfred D. Croll. He left the old Synod and connected himself with the East Pennsylvania synod, in consequence of which St. Paul's Church at Lyons was built. His successor was the Rev. S. R. Boyer and since the fall of 1872, the present pastor, the Rev. David K. Humbert. The congregation has about one hundred and ten members.

*Zion's Church (Lutheran and Reformed)*, commonly called Siegfried's from those who took an active part in its erection, is in the northern part of the township. It was built in 1828, on one and a half acres of land, a part of which is set aside for cemetery purposes. Lately, half an acre more was donated to the church by Mrs. Matilda Kohler. The building is of stone.

The Lutheran congregation had for its first pastor the venerable Rev. Gottlob F. J. laeger, who was succeeded by the Rev. Isaac Roeller, and, since 1862, by the present Rev. B. E. Kramlich. The congregation numbers about two hundred and fifty members.

The first pastor of the Reformed congregation was the Rev. Charles G. Herman; the next the Rev. A. J. Herman, under whose ministrations the congregation flourished. The membership is about two hundred.

Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, of the East Pennsylvania Synod, at Lyons, is an offspring of the old Maxatawny Church. It was erected in 1868, being a brick edifice with an auditorium and basement-rooms, having a capacity for three hundred persons. Those active in building it were Levi L. Springer, Jacob Rohrbach, Reuben Grim, David Fisher, Solomon Yoder, Willoughby Fenstermaker, William L. Grim, Charles G. Cline and John Deisher.

The Rev. Alfred D. Croll, was the first pastor, continuing until his death, June 19, 1876, at the age of thirty-seven years. He was a native of Albany township, but was reared in Maxatawny. He was an eloquent minister, and under his pastorate the church flourished. The next pastor was the Rev. W. I. Cutter; afterward the pulpit was filled by supplies for a number of years. The later ministers were the Revs. Edward E. Baron, J. H. Singmaster and the present Rev. George W. Fritch. The congregation numbers sixty members.

Mr. Reed is superintendent of a Sunday-school which numbers eighty-five teachers and scholars.

East of the village is a cemetery of two acres, well improved, which is the property of St. Paul's Church.

*Zion's Church, Evangelical Association*, in the village of Lyons, is a plain frame building, twenty-eight by forty feet, which has as its trustees, in 1885, David Fegeley, Solomon Fegeley and Charles Parks. The members number only twenty-three, and the ministerial service is supplied by ministers in the Kutztown Circuit. A Sunday-school is connected with the church, consisting of one hundred and twenty-three members, with David Fegeley as superintendent.

#### Towns and Villages

*Bower's* is a pleasant village in the southern part of the township, on a branch of the Sacony. It is a station on the East Pennsylvania Railroad, with about two hundred inhabitants, a church, and a number of very fine residences. The place was named after Jonas Bower, the owner of the farm on which the village was laid out by him in 1859. That year he converted the farm-house, which had been built in 1820, into a hotel, which was afterward kept by Amos Bower, Jacob Hill, James Fegeley, Geo. B. Yoder and Henry P. Schoedler. The first new building was put up in 1859 by E. J. Knoske, a part of which became the store of the place, being first occupied for mercantile purposes by Boyer and Knoske. A large number of persons have traded there, among others being Levi H. Leiss and William Seidel. In it was established the Bower's Station post-office, in June 1860, with E. G. Knoske as the



another died, Peter Klein, Esq., of Greenwich Township, aged seventy-seven years, who was buried at Dunkel's Church."

"On the farm of J. Bieber, Jr., in Maxatawny, stands the Mammoth White Oak of Berks. It may be justly called the Centennial White Oak of Pennsylvania. On the 15th of September 1877, one hundred years will have passed by since the baggage train of General Washington's army, on its retreat from the battlefield of Germantown, sought and found protection under and around this Revolutionary tree. It is said that two centuries have looked upon this oak; and competent judges assure us that it is now sturdy enough to defy the storms of another hundred years, and may wave its branches in honor of the Centennial of 1976. One foot above the ground it measures twenty-eight feet in circumference, and ten feet above it begins to stretch forth twenty-seven limbs, some of which are three feet in diameter."

#### Taverns

The oldest tavern in the Township and first opened to the public is the "Kemp Tavern," one mile from Kutztown, on the Easton Road. It was opened probably as early as 1740, by Daniel Levan, and since 1788 has belonged to the Kemp family. George Kemp kept the tavern fifty-two years and was succeeded by his son, John, who still owns the property. For many years, the Half-Way House" in Richmond township, and this one were the only public-houses on the State road between Reading and Allentown. Part of the present house was built by George Kemp in 1795, and the addition by John Kemp in 1852. It is a long stone building, and though large, was often taxed to its uttermost to accommodate the many travelers who visited or passed through that section before the era of railroads. Not only were all the sleeping rooms occupied, but the bar-room was frequently filled with sleeping teamsters and peddlers. In this part of the township, Dr. David Hottenstein was a practicing physician many years and was followed by his grandson, Oscar Hottenstein, now in practice at that place. Farther up the State road, in the Zimmerman neighborhood, George Bohn had a store from 1817 on for the next eighteen years, when the place was converted into farm property. Soon after 1800, when the State road was extended through this section, the Siegfried Inn (north of Kroningersville) was opened to afford entertainment for the public. It has been maintained since.

#### Mills

On the Sacony, below Kutztown, the Bieber family had a pioneer mill, John W. Bieber being for a long time the owner. In a repaired condition this grist-mill (with saw-mill attached) is now operated by Charles Kutz. The first mill in Maxatawny was on Mill Creek, near the hamlet of Eagle Point, and owned by Jacob Levan. A new mill, on the same site, is now the property of Charles Levan. Near by was formerly a tannery, also carried on by the Levans, but long since discontinued, John Levan having been the last to operate it. Another mill, on the same stream, was built by Daniel Siegfried and after a time also became the property of the Levans and is now owned by George Levan. That locality is locally known as Siegfried's Dale, on account of the early improvements made there by members of that family. North of Bower's, on a branch of the Sacony, the Grims had a good grist-mill, long operated by Daniel Grim, and which is still carried on by the family of Charles Trexler. The present is the second mill, a substantial stone building.

Maxatawny is a Township Rich with History  
Township Erected | Early Prominent Families | Revolutionary History  
Taverns | Mills | Furnaces | Iron-Ore | Schools | Churches  
Towns and Villages

first postmaster. The office is at present kept by Wm. F. Seidel. The ground for the railroad station was donated by Jonas Bower and Daniel Grim, and the station-house was built by the first agent, E. G. Knoske, who occupied it, in part, as a warehouse to carry on his business as a coal and grain dealer. It has since been used in the same way by the successive agents. C. W. Kutz is the present agent.

The only active industry of the village is the marble-yard of Schweyer & Leiss, established in 1863, by D. H. Schweyer. That year he purchased the Sell mill, in Rockland township, and fitted up the same for sawing marble into shapes for dealers and cutters. In 1865, Levi H. Leiss became a partner. Three years later they formed a connection with the Easton Marble Company, which is still maintained. In 1882, they purchased the blue marble quarries at "King of Prussia," in Montgomery County, and marble-mills at that point, which gave them facilities for carrying on business on a very extensive scale. The quarry is one of the best in the State. The shipments at Bower's amount to about twenty-five thousand dollars per year. Ten men are employed at the Bower's yard and at the mills in Rockland.

*Kroningersville* is a small hamlet, about three miles from Kutztown, near the Greenwich line. It derived its name from Daniel Kroninger, a land-owner at that point, who also carried on the coach-maker's trade. The shop is still kept open by the family. A store and tavern were started at that point, about twenty years ago, by J. P. T. Haas. The former has been discontinued, but the tavern is still carried on by James Mertz. In August, 1862, a post-office was established there with the name of "Eagle Point." Since that time the locality is frequently called by the same name.

*Monterey.* The first improvements of a business nature were made about 1830 by Israel and Jonathan Wertman, who opened a store, when the place became known as Weisport. At a later day Isaac L. Bieber built a tavern, which was first kept by one of the Wertmans. In May, 1847, The post-office was established, with the name of Monterey, and Joshua Miller as postmaster. The present store building was put up by Henry Lowe. At present James Fisher is engaged in trade, and he is also the inn-keeper and postmaster. A cabinet-shop was formerly carried on by David Zimmerman. The hamlet contains but a few houses. Ten years ago a cooperative store was opened under the auspices of the Patrons of Husbandry, but it was kept up only a short time. At present a regular store is carried on by John G. Shofer. The place has a few houses and a shop.

*Rothrocksville* is situated in the township, near the Lehigh County line, and took its name from its founder, Dr. Jonas Rothrock, and eccentric physician, who located there about 1830. He followed his profession and at the same time kept a public-house. Afterwards he was a justice of the peace. It is said that he had a quarrelsome disposition and that his neighbors lived in dread of him. In the later years of his life he moved to Reading, where he was an object of public charity on account of his having become a cripple. He frequently visited the courthouse and afforded the clerks much amusement. He was a devoted Democrat and was earnest in his expressions for the party. The village has about thirty dwellings, several mechanic-shops, a store and a tavern. At one time there were two public-houses, both having been built by Rothrock, who kept the new one at the same time that Christian Swoyer had the old one. The inn-keeper in 1885 was Stephen Rohrbach. In this house is kept the Maxatawny post-office. It is supplied with a daily mail. The first store was kept by Daniel Clader. The present merchants are Stephen Smith and Martin Croll (Smith & Croll), who do an extensive business. Dr. Milton Richards is the physician of the village, having located there several years ago.

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#### Maxatawny Township

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## **KUTZTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

50 Trexler Avenue Kutztown, PA 19530

(610) 683 - 7361

The Kutztown Area School District is a combination of three municipalities and three townships. Germans who arrived in the area during the eighteenth century settled all the boroughs of Kutztown, Lyons, and Lenhartsville; as well as the townships of Maxatawny, Greenwich and Albany. The German people came from the southern regions of Germany in the 1700's for many reasons including agriculture, the crafts and intellectual endeavors.

There is a long history of schooling in the area. Many of the schools, including St. John's Parochial School in Kutztown Borough (the first school), were church schools. Kutztown accepted the Public School Law (passed in 1834), which required each community to have free school supplied by a tax on property in 1938. The Pennsylvania Germans opposed the free schools because they feared English would take the place of German as the language of the school and community. The parochial school continued to serve as the major school for several years.

Although the township school directors erected a four-room building in 1862, the movement toward a greater acceptance of public education in Kutztown began in 1892 with the construction of another school in Kutztown Borough. This structure was utilized by the school district until 1977. Today the district is comprised of four elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school.

There are numerous other examples of a strong educational stimulus within the community. Kutztown University was established in 1866 and continues to be a valuable part of the area's educational program. In addition, the district is "dotted" with one-room schoolhouses, some of which are open to tours. Although there is an appreciation of the past on the part of residents, there is also a feeling that future educational programs should allow students to compete with those of other districts.

Educational programs in the elementary schools provide all students with a solid academic and social foundation. In addition, specialists are employed to provide students with valuable experiences in special subject areas. All levels of curriculum incorporate manipulatives and resource materials.

The middle level curriculum utilizes the team teaching approach and flexible grouping emphasizing Language Arts, Reading, Science, Math and Social Studies. In addition, all students receive instruction in Music, Art, Family & Consumer Science, Technology Education, Wellness & Fitness, and Career Explorations.

The senior high school offers a wide selection of courses. Individuals can choose from programs in college preparation, business education, agricultural science and vocational-technical education. The high school program includes courses in Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Languages, Business Education, Art, Music, Industrial Technology, Family & Consumer Sciences, Wellness & Fitness, Agricultural Science, and Computer Applications. Accelerated / Honors Courses are available across the curriculum for students seeking further academic challenges. In addition, students have the option to enroll in Advanced Placement Courses in Language Arts, Calculus, Chemistry, Art, Physics, Environmental Ed., History and Government.



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40 Normal Avenue  
Kutztown, PA 19530  
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**Kutztown Area Middle School  
10 Deisher Lane  
Kutztown, PA 19530  
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**Kutztown Area High School  
50 Trexler Avenue  
Kutztown, PA 19530  
610-683-7346**

