

A Report on Samuel Green

By Jack Wooldridge

Samuel Green was one of the first European settlers in our area. In fact, he founded our area! He came from Long Island up to the area then known as West Jersey (now New Jersey), surveying land for the British Government. He found, as one of the books we used for research said, “thousands of acres of prime unoccupied land in the area that would become New Jersey”. Of course, that land was probably occupied by the Native Americans, but the book doesn't mention anything about that. He settled, according to some books, near Mountain Lake, which was then called Green's Pond, although this is debatable. He was a wealthy man, and he owned almost all of Hope Township (which then encompassed Liberty township, where we live) and a bit of the south of Oxford township.

Sam Green died before the Revolutionary War, but he and his descendants were staunch British supporters. When the war between America and Britain broke out, some of his descendants journeyed to Canada, a British province. They came back, however, after independence was achieved.

However, we had some trouble when we tried to figure out some things about Green's house. The books didn't seem to agree. One said the Greens owned the house, and it was built in the first half of the 1800s. Another said it was built earlier, in the late 1700s, and was sold to J. Parks by the Green family in 1860. Yet another says it was bought by M. Parks (what happened to J. Parks?) in 1874. As you can see, we still have some research to do!

Resources:

Old Hope by Frank Dale

Liberty Township 75th Anniversary, compiled by Kathy Bohm

Driving Tour of Historic Homes and Buildings in Warren County by Kathy Bohm