



# The Locust Grove Estate Newsletter

A Publication of the  
The Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society

The Locust Grove Estate is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is located alongside the mouth of Conoy Creek, bordering the east bank of the Susquehanna River in Conoy Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. It is home to the 18<sup>th</sup> Century Haldeman Mansion, the birthplace of Professor Samuel Steman Haldeman who "epitomized the early 19th Century generation of scholars who advanced American science and letters to a position of cultural independence from Europe" (Sorenson). The mansion is at the heart of five documented, noncontiguous Native American settlements.

ISSUE 2

November 2021



## "EXTRAGIVE"

Day

November 19, 2021

12:00 AM - 11:59 PM

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**This is the one day each year when you can stretch your donations to the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society. Based on the donations our society receives, we will share in a pool of more than \$500,000 donated by Lancaster County organizations. During the day, 185 individual donations will be randomly selected and increased by \$100 or \$500. See page three for last year's results and this year's particulars.**



## Remarks From the President

A Greek Philosopher once said the "The only constant in life is change". Today, change seems to have speeded up. Change is certainly taking place within our Society and the Haldeman Mansion. In June we welcomed two new Board members: Thomas Burke and Sheila Hunter, both residents of Bainbridge.

More changes: Our Treasurer Dick Keesey has relinquished his position to Sheila. Our Grand Foyer renovations are complete, and attention has turned to the Ballroom and Museum Room . Our grand old Oak Tree, which some suggest is over 275 years old, is succumbing to disease and must soon come down.

One thing that has not changed since the founding of our Society is the Board of Directors commitment to restoring Locust Grove. The Board membership changes for a variety of reasons, but the strong commitment remains. Dick Keesey may have best explained why:

"My first visit to the Haldeman Mansion was in June 2012 for the Strawberry Festival. As I toured the mansion that day and became aware of Sam Haldeman, the Indian settlements in the area, the impact of the river, the canal and subsequently the railroad, and the Haldeman Family involvement in the iron industry, I came to realize what a special place the mansion and the grounds have in local, regional, national and world history."

Dick began his commitment to the Society's mission as a volunteer. He became a Board Member in 2013, recording Secretary in 2014 and Treasurer in 2015. Time does bring about change. We now wish Dick well as he moves on to other commitments.

Fall is here! On October 10th, Board members and over 40 volunteers and donors supported our Fall Festival. The funds generated and November's ExtraGive Day (page 3) will go toward supporting the mansion's restoration.

I encourage you to mark your calendars (November 19) and encourage your friends to support your Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society to preserve Locust Grove Estate and its heritages for future generations.

Ken Beard

President

## ExtraGive is Back

The Lancaster County Community Foundation's (LCCF) annual Extra Ordinary Give is back again for its 10th year on November 19, 2021 (12 midnight thru 11:59 PM). PLEASE mark your Calendars! Last year our much appreciated donors raised \$5,422 to help cover the matching portion of a Pennsylvania Museum and Library Commission grant, helping to restore the mansion's Grand Foyer to its 1811 condition.



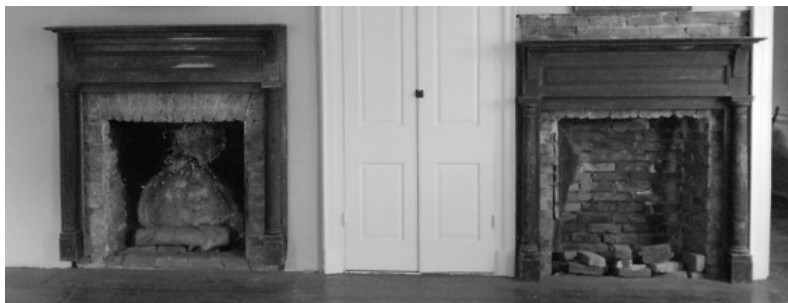
Haldeman Mansion Grand Foyer Before



Haldeman Mansion Grand Foyer After

November 19 is a day when your donations are multiplied. This year throughout the day \$500 will be added randomly 85 times to donors donations. The last minute of the day between 11:19:00 AM and 11:19:59 AM , the first 100 organizations that receive a unique donation will each receive a prize of \$100!

This year we would like to raise funds to help cover the \$15,000+ costs of restoring the double fireplaces in the Mansion's Ballroom. Anyone with an Internet connection and a credit card can donate.



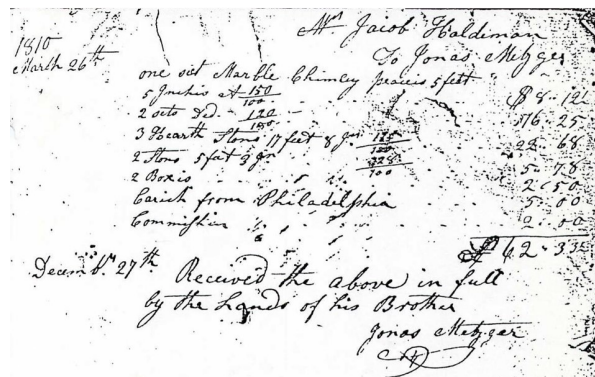
The minimum donation, same as last year, will be \$10. All donations made through the Extragive.org website to our Society will receive a pro-rated portion of a "stretch pool of funds ." The Society's share of the pool will depend on how much is raised in total donations relative to other organizations. Last year our stretch pool amount was \$290!

Please mark your calendars, November 19!

## History of the Haldeman Mansion's Double Fireplaces

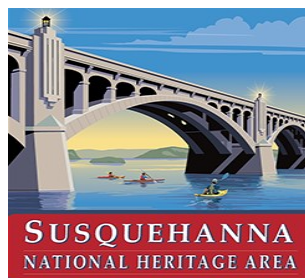
The Architectural Historian John J. Snyder (1946-2013) in his report "Architectural-Historical Research on Locust Grove" wrote the following about the double fireplaces original mantels, now missing: "The very fact that the Baker Company considered these mantels worth removing in the 1930's implies that the mantels were of a quality possessing some value. Of all the thousands of Haldeman papers at Hagley (Hagley Museum, Wilmington, DE), one document might possibly refer to the fittings for the fireplaces at Locust Grove."

The document was an 1810 invoice referencing fittings for fireplaces. It detailed three "Marble Chimney pieces" and other stones bought in Philadelphia. The order was placed by Jacob Haldeman and payment made by his brother. The brother may have been either John B. or Henry Haldeman.



## Partnering With the Susquehanna National Heritage Area

The Susquehanna National Heritage Area (SNHA) celebrated its 20th Anniversary the weekend of August 20-22. Our Society joined in the celebration by holding our annual Geology Walk with geologist Jeri Jones on August 21. The Conoy Café in the Summer Kitchen was open offering refreshments for those attending. On August 22, a special Haldeman Mansion "Tour with Tina (Marks)" was provided.



The Susquehanna National Heritage Area (SNHA) is a non-profit organization and congressionally designated coordinating entity. You can learn more about SNHA at <https://www.susquehannaheritage.org>.



## Samuel Haldeman Polymath

by Iren Snavelly

**Editor's Note:** Dr. Iren Snavelly has provided below a summary of his seven page article appearing in the Pennsylvania's Heritage Magazine's Winter 2020 issue (Volume XLVI, Number 1) entitled “Pennsylvania Polymath: Samuel Steman Haldeman”. We thank Iren for taking the time to provide a summary of his excellent article for our readers who may not have had access to the magazine.

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Two characteristics of Samuel Haldeman always stood out for friends, family and colleagues—his insatiable curiosity and the breadth of his scientific interests. Even as a youth Sam scoured the banks of the Susquehanna River, the forests and fields near his parent’s Locust Grove mansion, collecting freshwater shells, Indian arrow heads, and skeletal specimens of small mammals. These he used to create a small natural history museum in the loft of the family’s carriage house. He also exhibited an early aptitude for languages-especially sounds and pronunciations. Sam’s mother was an accomplished pianist, and before her death, when Sam was 12, she trained his ear to precisely discern musical sounds, a skill he brought to phonological research later in his career. At the age of 14, his father enrolled Sam in Dr. John Keagy’s Classical Academy in Harrisburg, where he learned the classical languages Greek and Latin, as well as modern ones like German and French. Sam was not fond of liberal arts like literature, history or poetry, but was intrigued, instead, by “the infinity of living things”.

When seventeen-year-old Samuel Haldeman matriculated at Dickinson College in 1828, he studied chemistry and geology with Professor Henry Darwin Rogers. Nine years later Rogers, now Pennsylvania State Geologist, recruited him for the first New Jersey and Pennsylvania Geological Surveys. These were his first full-time scientific assignments. Afterward, Haldeman devoted all his free time to scientific endeavors: fieldwork, research and teaching, together with practical

applications. Sam's first publication was an 1835 exposé of Locke's "Moon Hoax" in the Lancaster Journal newspaper. Later in the 1840s and 1850s, he followed up with scholarly monographs and articles on freshwater mollusks (i.e. snails) and coleoptera (beetles). He also published several metallurgical articles on iron smelting with anthracite coal, directly related to the family business. His publications appeared in some of the most prestigious scientific journals of the day, including (Silliman's) Journal of Science and the Arts and the Boston Journal of Natural History articles—an incredible output for a thirty-year-old scientist.

Beginning in the late 1850s, Samuel Haldeman turned his attention to education and language studies. In a biographical memoir his nephew Horace suggested that "his abandonment of this line of investigation" resulted in part from weakening eyesight. His new priority, indeed, passion, became the reform of English spelling and pronunciation. In concert with English linguist Alexander John Ellis and Lafayette College professor Francis March, Haldeman fought for a new phonetic alphabet. To this end he published numerous books and articles—works that he considered his "greatest triumphs". In 1869 Haldeman was appointed the first chair of comparative philology at the University of Pennsylvania. Despite continued academic responsibilities and the cares of old age, Samuel remained busy, ever curious and prolific. One of his best known, if not useful language studies dates from this period, Pennsylvania Dutch: A Dialect of South German with an Infusion of English (1872).

In the autumn of 1880, the seemingly tireless Samuel Haldeman returned home exhausted, to his Chickies mansion after presenting a paper on Aboriginal pottery to the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Shortly afterward he suffered a fatal heart attack and died at the age of sixty-eight.

## Apple Fall Festival

Our Fall Festival was held at the Haldeman Mansion on Sunday, October 10. We had a successful day with cooperative weather, wonderful volunteers, and really great guests. We, also, had many young families here to enjoy the day. The children entered the coloring contest of Johnny Appleseed picture with many receiving ribbons.



Vince Borelli entertained us with his guitar. He played a variety of music for all to enjoy. Ryan Bridges (The Bugman) provided a talk on insects and bugs, live and preserved on display tables.

Below are listed over 40 volunteers and donors who contributed time, energy, and donations for the Festival. I apologize if I missed anyone. Without volunteers, we could not have this event!

-- Volunteers provided set up inside and outside of the mansion, served food, collected money, conducted tours, parked cars, managed kids' games, took photos, and/or cleaned up afterwards. They included: Judy Kay Bard, Ken Beard, Debbie Bowen, Diane Burke, Tom Burke, Mary Conrad, Heather Dunn, Charlie Gible, Dale Good, Georgia Good, Lin Goodman, Jessica Gouse, Joe Hottenstein, Elaine Jackson, Dick Keeseey, Linda Keeseey, Gina Mariani, Dana Mark, Tina Mark, their daughter, Alesha, Clark Merrifield, Diane Myers, Louise Reichert, Ken Shaffer, Peggy Shaffer, Keith Shearer, Kyle Shearer, Donna White, Darl Williams and Heather Williams.

-- Food and desserts were donated by Judy Kay Bard, Debbie Bowen, Diane Burke, Georgia Good, Lin Goodman, Roslyn Hurley, Elaine Jackson, Tina Mark, Masonic Farm Market, Louise Reichert, Doris Sites, Donna White, and Heather Williams.

-- Apple Dumplings were made at Gigi's Ice Cream Bar in Bainbridge. Volunteers Included: Linda Brosey, Diane Burke, Jessica Gouse, Elaine Jackson, Gina Mariani, Louise Reichert and Kitty Retallack.

-- Cider the old fashioned way was provided by Darl Williams and Ben Williams. Free samples were enjoyed by many.

-- Donations of money and silent auction items included: Charlamay's Trinkets, Lin Goodman, Elaine Jackson, M&M Mars, Marietta Pizza & Grill, Tina Mark, Jean Moyer, and Natural Creations Salon.

The Festival Committee included Judy Kay Bard, Debbie Bowen, Roslyn Hurley, Elaine Jackson, Tina Mark, Doris Sites, and Donna White.



Looking Ahead: Need several people to run the events. One could run the three main events of the mansion or three people could each do one event. The events are: 1. The Strawberry Festival on the first Sunday in June. 2. The Victorian Tea in either July, August or September. 3. The Apple Fall Festival on Sunday of Columbus Day weekend. Please contact one of the board members if you are interested. Elaine Jackson is willing help you get started. It would be SAD to see these events end. I need YOU!

written by Elaine Jackson, Events Coordinator

## Part 7

### Locust Grove Heritage Series

#### Early American Heritage, The Haldeman Family

We learned in Part 6 of our Locust Grove Heritage Series that John Haldeman's 1798 Direct Tax Assessment combined three properties' land area and buildings, including his Locust Grove property and a neighboring property purchased from his father-in-law. The only stone house listed on the three properties was located on the neighboring property known as the Haldeman Homestead.<sup>1/</sup> This finding raises the question:

#### When Was the Locust Grove Haldeman Mansion Built?

Horace Leander Haldeman (1847-1920), Haldeman Family historian, reported John and his wife Maria moved to Locust Grove when the mansion was built about 1811.<sup>2/</sup> Horace must have based this on the date stone located on the south gable wall of what is called the Federal Addition. Which reads: "*Er Bauet Bei John Haldeman 1811*". Architectural Historian John J. Snyder dispelled this based on the architectural characteristics of the mansion. He believed it was built in several stages, beginning with the northern most structure (north wing) and concluding with the Federal Addition facing the river. Snyder suggests the Federal Addition construction could have begun as early as 1809, given the time needed back then for stone construction.<sup>3/</sup>

#### For Whom Was The Locust Grove Mansion Built?

The discussion provided below supports John building the mansion in stages. The initial stage, and possibly the complete mansion, may have been intended for his oldest son John Brenneman Haldeman (1779-1836). Considering Snyder's stone construction estimates and real estate tax assessments the construction of the initial stage could have begun as early as 1802.

Horace mentioned in his report that John, intending his oldest son (John B.) to be the future patriarch of the family, wanted him to have the Locust Grove property. We know from Horace's report John B. moved to Locust Grove, however, he does not mention a date. It may have been sometime between 1804 and 1806. Tax data is not available for 1804 and 1805. By 1806, he was assessed on 185 acres and one house. In 1808, the year he married Ann Steman, his house assessment increased from 1 to 2.<sup>4/</sup> Could one of these houses have been the present day Summer Kitchen and the second the north wing of the Locust Grove Mansion, or part there of, built for the newly weds?

John B., according to Horace, grew tired of the active business life at Locust Grove and decided to return to the Homestead Farm.<sup>2/</sup> Again, he does not indicate a time frame. Could it have been by 1811 when his real estate tax assessment decreased to 147 acres and one house. Unfortunately, tax data is not available for 1809 and 1810, allowing for the possibility his acreage and house

We know Henry Haldeman (1787-1849) was placed in charge of Locust Grove after his brother John B. moved back to the Homestead Farm. We have no record of when this exchange took place. Henry married Francis Steman on October 29, 1811. Federal Census 1810 house occupancy and age data allows for the possibility Henry may have moved to Locust Grove before his marriage to Francis.

Could the two families have shared the Locust Grove Mansion as the transition took place? Henry is described as a miller and John B. as a distiller in a deed they signed together on March 27, 1813<sup>5/</sup>. Henry became the legal owner of Locust Grove September 7, 1813<sup>6/</sup>. His first real estate tax assessment occurred in 1813 on 185 acres<sup>4/</sup>, acreage identical to John B.'s first known assessment in 1806.

John Haldeman, the father, and his wife Maria moved to Columbia by September 7, 1813.<sup>6/</sup>

### **Postscript**

The above exploration of when and for whom the mansion was built is intended to shed additional light on the Haldeman Family's Locust Grove ownership. As a final word, John J. Snyder, Jr. wrote in 1967: " These (building) theories are perhaps more important for academic purposes than for an appreciation of the Mansion as it now stands."<sup>3/</sup>. This statement rings true when you consider HMPS is restoring the mansion to its Federal Period glory.

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Our Locust Grove's Heritage series has attempted to reveal the rich historic depth and breadth of Locust Grove, from its Native American to Early American Heritages. Undoubtedly there is more to be learned. Perhaps additional research will bring to light answers to questions posed in this article. For more information contact Dale Good, Tel: 717-641-3435, Email: [dale\\_good@hotmail.com](mailto:dale_good@hotmail.com).

*1/ Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society, The Locust Grove Estate Newsletter, Issue 1, May 2021, Bainbridge, PA.*

*2/ Horace Leander Haldeman; Haldeman And Brenneman Families of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania And Their Connections, the Steman, Snyder and Lindemuth Families With Notes on the Early Settlers of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania'; c1912.; Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society; Bainbridge, PA, Page 149, 164, 229.*

*3/ John J. Snyder, Jr.; (1) Architectural-Historical Research on Locust Grove, Before 1967, Page 7 & (2) Architectural History (Revision), 1967, Page 3.*

*4/ Real Estate Tax Assessment Records, Donegal Twp., Lancaster County, PA; 1802-3, 1806-08, 1811-16; LancasterHistory, 230 North President Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17603.*

*5/ Recorder of Deeds, Lancaster County, PA; Deed 7-629.*

*6/ Recorder of Deeds, Lancaster County, PA; Deed 7-636.*

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Newsletter Editors—Elaine Jackson & Dale Good

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2021

Name _____	Circle	Your Amount	Benefits*
Address _____	Student	\$ 10	1
_____	Individual	\$ 25	1
Telephone _____	Family	\$ 40	1
Email _____	Patron	\$100	1,2
	Sponsor	\$250	1,2
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	Associate	\$1,000	1,2,3,4

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Donations: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contribute to HMPS Matching Fund for grants requiring a match

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contribute to HMPS Property Maintenance Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contribute to HMPS Endowment Trust for preserving its artifacts

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Donations made to the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society are tax deductible under Section 55 C (3) of the Internal Revenue Service. The official registration and financial information of the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not mean endorsement.

Return this form with your check to:

HMPS

P.O. Box 417

Bainbridge, PA 17502

\* Benefits by Type of Membership Fee:

1/ Free Newsletter Subscription

2/ Free Parking at Events

3/ Two Personal Tours for Family and Friends

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