

## PREFACE

Long proud of our Pennsylvania German Heritage we have been wanting to do something special in Wayne Township's celebration of the American Bicentennial to tell about the people whose philosophies and customs have been a notable part of our history.

Wayne Township has received little consideration in any historical publication. The first account appeared in the History of Schuylkill County published in 1881. A second account was written in the History of Schuylkill County published in 1907, by the Hon. D. C. Henning and the Hon. Adolph H. Schalck.

Much material for compiling this book has been obtained from these accounts and from other brief records which are now yellow with age, and memories which have long faded away. Aiding the committee in making this dream come true have been many interested citizens, some who have contributed information and others who have contributed pictures in order to make this history alive and interesting.

We find it particularly appropriate at this time in our nation's history, to attempt to bring together what appears to be a span of time from the 1700's to the present.

Opening with a journey into the wilderness, we cannot determine with certainty when the first settlements were made. The region was wild and mountainous and Indian trails were their only avenues and with limited scant means we do believe that the settlements were slow and gradual.

It can be surmised however, that having come and having seen the nature of the land, settlements were made among the hills and valleys prior to 1750, as is noted from drafts of early land purchases.

An understanding of these brief facts is essential to an appreciation of the development and growth of Wayne Township presently comprising of rich farm lands, interesting communities, hamlets, fine schools and churches—This is our Heritage.

The Committee

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