ROEDER'S HOTEL

SOUTH WAYNE TOWNSHIP #1
STONE MOUNTAIN-MOYERS STATION

Early settlers along the ridge of the Blue Mountain west of Route #183 were the Woll's, the Miller's, The Nagle's, the Trumbo's, the Schaeffer's, and others. They, came to better their condition in life.

Clearing the land, building houses, and barns was hard work, but pleasant because friends and neighbors usually formed a "raising bee," to erect the frame-work of the building.

A large table was then set with an incredible quantity of food, prepared by the women folks. This was not only a treat, but a true spirit of neighborliness.

According to the Mengel Family History, Manasses Mengel, and his wife Angelina Seltzer Mengel moved to the farm south of the Stone Mountain in 1862. This farm was bought from William Matz, a timber dealer who had dug the large oak trees up by the roots to obtain the bows for making Canal boats, which were built at Auburn. The Mengel's erected the barn first using the threshing floor as their living quarters, while the house was being built. This farm belonged to the Mengel family for many years.

In this locality, during the early 1920's, a tomato cannery operated on the "Blue Mountain Creek," now the old "Boy Scout Dam," at which time farmers in this area produced large crops of tomatoes for processing.

Some early craftsmen in the Moyer's Station area were: the shoemaker and harnessmaker, Levi Roeder; and the casket maker, Samuel Tobias. It is said, that at "Public Auction," by the Tobias family-J.Levi Manbeck, then a neighboring undertaker, purchased eight walnut caskets at fifty cents each. There being no demand, or immediate need for this purchase, until the out break of the flu in 1918. J. Levi Manbeck, then had real bargains to offer simply because the living do not bid on caskets.

Store & Post Office - Moyers Station - Dow, Pa.

JOSEPH R. and CATHERINE NEY

MOYER'S STATION

The general store at Moyer's Station, and the Dow Post Office were conducted by Joseph Ney and wife Catherine, until their retirement, when their son Howard D. and Family took over the business, and then established the first delivery service from this store.

In 1925, the property was purchased by Horace and Ellen Fisher. They conducted the post-office until it was discontinued, and operated the store business until 1971, when it became the residence of Paul Fegley.

ELLEN FISHER IN HER STORE

SUMMIT STATION

This village is located between the Summer Hill, and the foot of the Blue Mountain. It derived its name from a division of waters-"spring" having an east and west current found west of intersection Routes #895 and #183.

The broad farm lands, the rolling hills, and valuable timber lands, appeared as a land of opportunity, so these early settlers were mainly engaged in agriculture, lumbering, and the various trades related to these early industries.

There were the Strause's, the Moyer's, the Roeder's, the Peiffer's, the Fessler's, the Bressler's and others. They all came with the common object of bettering their condition in life, and securing homes. Also, in the early 1800's the Daniel and Catherine Brensinger family, carrying their house-hold necessities, and children in a heavy farm wagon moved from Longswamp, Berks County, Pa., to their beautiful valley North of the Blue Mountain. They too, were tillers of the soil, who endured the hardships, and shared the interests of this early community.

Mrs. Charles V. (Susan) Strause, who is one of Summit Stations oldest residents, is a descendant of the Brensinger family.

The original tract of land composed of 200 acres was granted by the proprietaries of Penna. to Egidions Moyer, December 6, 1774. He then built the first house in 1775.

Isaac Hummel, built the second house and opened in it the first tavern in the village, also, a tailor shop, later used by Mr. Binner, the undertaker. Among the early proprietors in this tavern were; Isaac Hummel, Solomon

Bensinger, and Mr. Tasig and this property was later owned by Casper Roeder. During this time the third floor was used as a Lodge Hall, and the first floor was divided into a feed store, and a social hall. This property is presently the residence of Mary Fox.

Washington Hotel, was located on the south side of the railroad. Among the early proprietors were Solomon Bensinger, Levi Wagner, Elias Roeder, C.H. Krammes, Charles Roeder and George Reichert. The third floor of this hotel was used as a lodge hall. This property has been converted into a residence.

Farmers Hotel, was built by; Frank Strause. Its early proprietors were Abraham Roeder, Samuel Strause, Charles Roeder, Frank Strause, Irvin Eckert, Robert Webber, Isaac Hand, John Fessler, and most recently the Frank Sweitzer family. It is now the residence of Frank Sweitzer, Jr. .

Summit Station, and its surrounding area had more hotels than any other village in the township. They served two important functions. First, it was a place of lodging and refreshments for travelers. Second, it was the center of the community, sports, social gatherings, and other activities centered at the hotels. In rural areas the hotel keeper and his family likely were to be among the most influential citizens of their community.

The building to the left of the Farmer's Hotel was used for social functions, annual band fairs, and rural school entertainments. For many years it served as the polling place for the precinct of southern Wayne Township. Voting is now done at the local Fire House.

The Summit Station post-office was established about 1855. A room in the store, at the present a residence, served as the post-office, ticket and express office of the Hammond Railroad Station. All of these have been abandoned except the post-office which is maintained in the residence of Mr. & Mrs. William Krammes.

There was a early shirt factory operated by Mr. Harvey Kline, in the early 1900's provided employment for some local residents, this factory was then sold, and operated by the Auburn Knitting Mills, they continued operation until sometime during the late 1920's, at which time minimum salaries were ten cents per hour, and a ten hour day. The writer of this article received $12.45 for the first two week's pay. Salaries increased as the employee became more proficient. This factory was most recently owned by the Summit Station Dress Manufacturing Co., they presently operate in Pine Grove. The building was later purchased by the late Wilson Rhine, Sr., who then converted it into apartments.

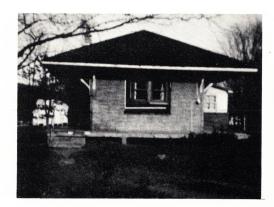It was the Farmers Hotel

ROEDER'S STATION

Roeder's Station, is a small settlement in the southeastern part of the township along Route 895.

Early settlers of the village were attracted by the sand mines on the Stone Mountain. The crushed sand stone was transported on a narrow gauge railroad to the siding for shipment.

For sometime, a stone quarry was in operation at Roeder's at the time the Pennsylvania Railroad was built between Philadelphia and Pottsville, this quarry furnished the stone for the abutments of bridges. These early industries have been abandoned.

At present large quarries in operation here supply stone for highway construction.

ROEDERS STATION

RAILROAD

The year 1854 was one of importance when the railroad extending from Dauphin, on the Susquehanna River, to Auburn in the Southern part of Schuylkill County was connected to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. It was chartered in 1826, and opened in November, 1853. Then in the late 1850's due to great financial distress the Dauphin and Susquehanna railroad went bankrupt.

On April 1, 1858, the railroad was reorganized by Public Law 837 and became the Schuylkill and Susquehanna. August 8, 1859 when the Schuylkill and Susquehanna was built Henry W. Tracy served as superintendent for the division. His son, Harry W. Tracy, was a passenger conductor, and upon the resignation of his father, he served as superintendent until his death Oct. 31, 1897.

The first Schuylkill and Susquehanna locomotive to make the run was an occasion for a celebration in Pine Grove. Nearly one thousand people gathered here to greet the wood burning locomotive "Judge Higgins". By August of 1861, however, the Schuylkill and Susquehanna was being operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. On June 22, 1871, the Philadelphia and Reading completed a merger with the Schuylkill and Susquehanna. Ownership remained with the Reading Railroad Company.

The coal trains started from Auburn early in the morning carrying strings of empty cars to be distributed among the; collieries. The cars were nearly all of wood construction with an occasional one of steel. Most of them held five to eight tons. These cars were inspected upon their arrival in Pine Grove.

It is interesting to note that with the expansion of passenger, freight, and mail service about 1882, more trains were scheduled.

Four railroad stations were established in Southern Wayne Township, these were: Moyer's Station, Stone Mt., Hammond, and Roeder's Station.

JACOB BABB

For many years, Jacob Babb, served as freight agent, and telegrapher at Roeder's Station.

Rairoad activities gradually decreased, due to a decline of the coal business, the advent of the automobile, trucks and improved highways in the early 1930's. In 1936 the trains made weekly trips to retain the right of way. Tracks were removed and the railroad dismantled by the year 1950.

Forest-brush fires were frequent along the S.&S. Railroad, due to the sparks from the wood-fired locomotives, often destroying vast areas. These burned areas serveral years later produced an abundance of "Huckleberries". Thus naming the passenger train the "Huckleberry."

GEORGE W. BUMM, AGT. SALT Delaware Ave., Race and Water Sts., PHILADELPHIA

READING DIVISION — (Lebanon & Tremont Branch)

	STATIONS	NORTHBOUND TRAINS—Weekdays						Sun.	
Miles	Train Nos.	30	204	20	258		208	302	306
	Leave	a m	a m	p m	p m		p m	a m	p m
	Philadelphia	4.30	10.30				4.35		
	Reading	7.00	12.25				5.55		
.0	Lebanon	8.55	1.35				f6.40		
2.3	Westmont	f9.00	f1.40				6.49		
3.8	Heilman Dale	9.04	1.44				6.54		
6.0	Bunker Hill	9.09	1.49				6.57		
7.2	Jonestown	9.12	1.51				7.04		
10.5	Lickdale	9.19	1.56				f7.08		
12.5	Inwood	9.23	2.02				7.08		
13.2	Trout Run Siding						f7.16		
13.6	Green Point	9.26	f2.04				f7.13		
14.6	Murray	9.29	f2.06				7.20		
16.9	Suedburg	9.37	2.13				f7.23		
20.1	Irving	f9.40	f2.16				f7.26		
21.4	Exmoor	9.43	f2.19				7.31		
23.5	Pine Grove {Arrive	9.48	2.23				7.31		
	{Leave	10.03		5.55			f7.35		
25.7	North Pine Grove	f10.08		f5.59			f7.35		
26.6	Lorberry Junction	10.11		6.02			7.38		
30.7	Tremont {Arrive	10.23		6.10			7.41		
	{Leave	10.23			6.15		7.45	4.20	
32.1	Donaldson	10.27			f6.18		7.49	4.24	
33.1	West End	f10.32			f6.23		f7.53	f4.28	
34.7	So. Good Spring				f6.24		f7.57	f4.32	
36.0	Good Spring	10.39			6.32		8.01	4.36	
37.1	Keffers	10.45			6.37		8.07	4.42	
40.9	East Brookside						f8.13	f4.48	
42.5	Williams Valley Jc.	10.59			6.47		8.17	4.52	
42.9	Brookside	11.00			6.48				

	STATIONS	SOUTHBOUND TRAINS—Weekdays					257	208	307
Miles	Train Nos.	203	3		9				
	Leave	a m	a m		p m		p m	p m	p m
					3.25		6.55	9.34	6.10
.0	Brookside								
0.4	Williams Valley Jc.							f9.38	f6.14
2.0	East Brookside				2.36		7.06	9.45	6.20
5.2	Keffers				2.40		7.11	9.50	6.25
6.9	Good Spring							f9.53	f6.28
8.2	So. Good Spring				f2.47		f7.19	f9.57	f6.32
9.8	West End				2.50		7.21	10.00	6.35
10.8	Donaldson				2.53		7.25	10.05	6.40
12.2	Tremont {Arrive				2.58				
	{Leave	5.44	6.25		2.58				
16.3	Lorberry Junction	f5.53	6.34		3.02				
17.2	North Pine Grove		f6.35		f3.06				
19.1	Pine Grove {Arrive	6.09	6.40		3.10				
	{Leave	6.00	7.30		3.35				
21.5	Exmoor		f7.34		f3.40				
22.8	Irving		f7.36		f3.43				
24.1	Suedburg	f6.08	7.39		f3.47				
28.3	Murray	f6.15	f7.46		f3.54				
29.3	Green Point	f6.17	f7.48		f3.57				
29.7	Trout Run Siding								
30.4	Inwood	f6.19	f7.51		4.00				
32.4	Lickdale	6.25	7.56		4.05				
35.7	Jonestown	6.29	8.02		4.12				
36.9	Bunker Hill	f6.32	8.08		4.15				
39.1	Heilman Dale	f6.36	8.11		4.21				
40.6	Westmont	f6.40	f8.14		f4.24				
42.9	Lebanon Arrive	6.45	8.20		4.30				
	Reading Arrive	7.55	9.17		5.46				
	Philadelphia Arrive	9.30	10.50		7.30				

SCHUYLKILL & SUSQUEHANNA BRANCH

	Read Down				STATIONS			Read Up	
p m	a m	a m*	Miles	Leave	Arrive	a m	p m	
1.36	7.21	4.30		Philadelphia		9.30	1.45	8.19
4.33	11.18	7.05		Pottsville		8.21	11.30	5.38
4.39				Connor		8.14	11.22	5.30
4.44	11.22	7.13		Schuylkill Haven		8.11	11.19	5.26
4.49				Landingville		8.06	11.13	5.19
5.15	11.40	8.02	0.0	Auburn		7.15	11.03	4.48
5.20	11.46	8.09	2.3	Jefferson		7.09	10.46	4.39
f5.26	f11.54	f8.17	4.8	Aucheys		f7.05	f10.35	4.33
6.30	11.59	8.21	6.3	Roeders		7.02	10.27	4.29
5.32	12.03	8.25	7.0	Hammon		7.00	10.23	4.26
f5.35	f12.45	f8.32	8.0	Stone Siding		f6.58	f10.20	f4.22
f5.38	f12.09	f8.35	9.6	Moyers		6.55	10.17	f4.18
5.44	12.16	8.41	12.5	Rock		6.51	10.08	4.08
f5.50	f12.28	f8.47	16.1	Stanhope		f6.46	f9.57	f3.59
5.55	12.40	9.10	17.8	Pine Grove {Arrive		6.40	9.50	3.50
			17.8	{Leave				3.50
	f9.19	20.9		Beuchler				f3.11
	9.25	23.0		Ellwood				f2.58
	f9.36	26.6		Gold Mine				f2.43
	9.46	30.4		Rausch Gap				2.36
	9.53	32.7		Cold Spring				2.30
	9.59	34.9		Yellow Spring				f2.30
	f10.09	38.2		Rattling Run				f3.11
	f10.17	41.9		Water Tank				f2.00
	f10.31	45.9		White Spring				f1.57
	f10.40	48.0		Ellendale Forge				f1.50
				Stone Glen				f1.42
	10.52	50.7		Dauphin				1.35

PARSONAGE

The Summer Hill U.C.C. Parsonage was constructed in 1907. The Rev. Dennis Sipple, had chosen to live in Summit Station for here the S. &S. line (Hammond Station) provided convenient transportation.

The Sipple family lived in the house now owned by Mr. Charles Emerich, until the new parsonage, which was being built, was completed. This house served as a parsonage for the Friedensburg charge until 1967, when it was sold to the Summer Hill U.C.C. .

An item of note which cannot be overlooked is the fact that the parsonage was constructed by the "donated talent" of many members of the "then" Friedensburg Reformed Charge. This was a cherished event for it provided a way to serve "in the faith."

GENERAL STORE

For many years this area had been served by two general stores. Charlee Strause, conducted the business from his early boyhood days. His father Frank Strause, started him in the store business at the age of twelve, he served his customers after school, and on Saturdays, accepting full responsibility after he had completed his education.

Charles and Susan, served the community for many years. After their retirement the business was conducted by their daughter and son-in-law John and Erma Ferrence until 1968, Erma presently resides in the Strause Homestead.

Elias Roeder, and his son Joseph also conducted a general store here, with their store they had established a route service.

The Joseph Roeder's, then sold their business to William and Vera Krammes in November 1948, they continued in business until Oct. 1974. They presently reside at this residence.

FRATERNAL ORDERS

From an early day in its history, Summit Station had fraternal organizations. No. 649, The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 145, The Patriotic Sons of America, and No. 507, The Patriotic Order of America.

For many years, these lodges maintained an active and healthy life in community affairs, but have faded out of existence during the past three decades.

SOCIAL LIFE AT SUMMIT STATION

Social functions centered around friendly visits with neighbors, or friends, also attending school and church activities. Family reunions, and family dinners were in vogue. During the winter months square dances, ice skating, coasting, and sleighing parties were occasions enjoyed by the younger and older folks.

The "Gravel Bank" across the street from the early school, was the community park where children, and youth found much enjoyment, after chores at home were done.

Modern transportation, too, aided in change of activities and interests in the social life of rural communities.

EARLY TIMBER DEALERS

Among the early timber dealers were: Roeder and Fessler, Elias Wert, Casper Roeder, Charles V. Strause and Frank Strause. These dealers employed many local wood-cutters during these early days of lumbering. Much of the timber was converted into lumber at local saw mills. David Fessler, operated a steam powered saw mill on his farm in the area.

An Article from an early paper
AND THIS IS HOW IT WAS!

Frank Strause, lumber dealer who recently bought the Jonathan Schwartz farm and timber, and has Clinton Cooper in the tract with his saw-mill, cut and sawed a white oak tree which was the largest tree ever grown around here. He made two 16 ft. logs which he cut into planks, and they cut 1228 feet from these two logs. The tree also gave nine large railroad ties, and 6 ties 6 in. x 6 in. x 6 ft. and 8 ties 5 in. x 5 in. x 5½ ft. and a lot of miner planks, besides.

Mr. Strause, has been in the business for the past twenty years and never had a tree that gave so much lumber. Mr. Cooper has a long experience as a sawmill operator and never before saw a tree that gave so much lumber.