

Story of Joseph Flory and Elizabeth Beeghley

Joseph Flory 1769-1823 m Feb. 17, 1778 Elizabeth Beeghley 1776/78-1823 (?) Joseph was born in Washington township, Franklin Co., Pa. and migrated with his father Abraham Flory to Brothers Valley, Elk Lick Township, Somerset Co., Pa., in 1795. Elizabeth was born at Barro Inken, Pa.

They did live at another residence (the original homestead), I am not sure of where, for more information see "The Flory Book".

What I do know is Joseph Flory 1769-1823 built a wonderful home in 1821. It was a 10 room house and sat on 35 acres and is described by the Ohio Historical Society thus: This T-plan country federal farm house sits on a knoll on bedrock. It has a high front foundation of stone with a recessed cellar door. The facade is of Flemish bond brick and there is a three-panel door with a Colonial revival broken pediment front piece. It is located on an outstanding rural site.

The original section of the home is of brick and a frame addition was added in 1861. A spring house with a lattice- enclosed section is an attractive feature of the property. The spring is still used by the current owners. (Hopfengardners.) The house stands on the west side of Diamond Mill Rd., just south of Rt. 440.

The kitchen was originally in the basement when the house was first built and the spring flowed across the floor, providing water for the household.

Sycamore logs, supporting the roof, can be seen from the attic and the Hopfengardners report that bark is still intact. Four fireplaces are in the house, one in the basement, two in the living area and one in the master bedroom.

The original land the house stands on was bought by Jacob Worman in 1806 after the Northwest Territory was established. Joseph Flory, a Revolutionary War veteran, who had moved from Pennsylvania in 1806 "took up" land in Montgomery County near Liberty, then moved to Clay Township about 1817.

Flory built the home in 1821 and then died in 1823, just as the house was completed. He worked as a farmer and blacksmith and had a son, Jacob, who was a cobbler. An old cobbler's bench, which was found in one of the outbuildings, now stands at the Hopfengardner's front door.

Jacob 1797 the son of Joseph bought out the other two heirs. He later became the proprietor of Brookville as he established the first plat of 15 lots, laid out in 1850.

Jacob 1797 has four children who are buried along the creek on the property-Mary, Susanna, John, and Margaret. (saw these headstones and do not agree with the identification of Mary. What I believed to be Hannah may well have been Susanna).

John Saylor (or Saylor) bought the property in 1872 and it is believed he made a small addition.

When the home was built in 1821, an old Indian trail ran from Salem to Union and the only roads in the area were what is now Route 49 and the Salem-Brookville Rd.

Doc 11