

The Central Pennsylvania Conference (EV) 1850-1871

compiled from the Conference Archives

I. Annual Conference Records

Because of denominational unions and boundary adjustments, the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church includes congregations with roots in more than a dozen distinct predecessor conferences. In order to service its constituency, the Conference Archives seeks to acquire and maintain as complete a collection as possible of the journals of these various conferences.

Congregations with roots in one of the three primary Methodist Episcopal, United Brethren or Evangelical Association conferences that served central Pennsylvania have access to virtually complete conference records and statistics. Even in these instances, however, conference journals can be incomplete.

Early journals of all the predecessor denominations list only charge statistics. While they clearly identify the pastor assigned to each charge, they do not provide information about individual churches -- nor do they even identify which churches are on which charges. Hidden within the minutes, however, are specific reports that provide valuable primary source information at the congregational level.

Missionary Reports: When conferences began printing their journals, they tried to contain expenses by producing a product that many people would be willing to purchase. Including a detailed report of missionary giving proved to be the key, for people like to see their name in print -- especially when connected with noble causes. Accordingly, many conferences listed the people at each appointment on each charge who contributed to missions -- and often listed the amounts of the individual contributions. These reports not only identify what churches were on what charges, but they also identify which families attended which churches.

Presiding Elder (District Superintendent) Reports: These sometimes named particular persons or churches on various charges in connection with building projects, renovations, tragedies, etc.

Boundary Committee Reports: These typically list churches transferred from one charge to another. They also provide insight into the strength of the various appointments and the dynamics involved in moving from large circuits to smaller stations and charges.

Reports of the Conference Trustees, the Ways and Means Committee and/or isolated resolutions: These often deal with the buying and selling of church buildings, financial or legal problems of churches, etc. In addition, they often go beyond statements of fact to provide interesting details about such matters.

While some indexing of the journals has been done over the years, and continues to be done, there are many omissions. In addition to its collections of journals, the archives also maintains a file on each open and closed United Methodist related congregation within the conference boundaries. Persons wishing to research the early history of a congregation are encouraged to visit the Conference Archives. The following sub-sections describe some of the resources available for the various predecessor denominations and conferences..

A. The Methodist Episcopal Church

The Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church has published annual minutes since its formation in 1869. A complete set of these journals is available for research at the Conference Archives. From 1858 to 1868, central Pennsylvania was included in the short-lived East Baltimore Conference, for which a complete set of journals is also available. Prior to 1858, the region was part of the Baltimore Conference. In general, detailed pre-1858 information is most readily available at the Baltimore-Washington Conference Archives located at Baltimore's Lovely Lane UM Church.

Published Methodist Episcopal national records actually pre-date the 1784 formal founding of the denomination. They begin in 1773 and include information on pastoral personnel (admissions to conference, ordinations, deaths, etc.) and charges (pastoral appointments, membership statistics, etc). A set of these records, which cover every conference, is available for research at the Conference Archives.

Duplicate copies the published minutes since 1869 are available from the archivist for former Methodist Episcopal churches wishing to complete their journal collections.

B. The United Brethren Church

The Pennsylvania Conference of the United Brethren Church began publishing its annual minutes in 1869. A complete set of these journals is available for research at the Conference Archives. Prior to 1869 the minutes were kept in manuscript form, a microfilm copy of which is available -- a complete record of the minutes from the formal founding of the denomination September 25, 1800, to the annual conference of 1868.

In 1901 I.H. Albright hand-copied the original faded records, "making them readable and accessible to all who may be interested in these valuable old records." Most importantly, he translated the 1800-1837 and 1839 minutes, which were originally written in German, and presented the entire record in English. A microfilm copy of Albright's work is also available for research at the Conference Archives.

In 1958 Charles Miller prepared a typed stencil of Albright's work and duplicated copies for general sale and distribution. The material was presented in two volumes, covering 1800-1846 and 1847-1868 respectively. The first volume is a

complete verbatim record of Albright's work. In the interest of economy, the second volume omits the details and personnel involved with such items as opening devotions, closing prayers, the seating of visitors, etc.

Duplicate copies of Miller's 1800-1868 minutes and of the published minutes since 1869 are available from the archivist for former United Brethren churches wishing to complete their journal collections.

C. The Evangelical Association

Annual minutes of the Evangelical Association exist from 1800, seven years prior to that body's November 15, 1807, gathering declared to be "the first regular annual conference session." A microfilm copy of the 1800-1860 minutes is available for research at the Conference Archives, but the text is in the German language.

S.C. Breyfogel, who was elected bishop in 1891, translated the annual minutes into English for publication in 1888 by Eagle Book Print of Reading as *Landmarks of the Evangelical Association 1800-1887*. From 1800 to 1839 there was only one annual conference, and this section of the book is relevant to Central Pennsylvania. His minutes from 1840 to 1887 are for the East Pennsylvania Conference.

The Central Pennsylvania Conference [originally called the West Pennsylvania Conference and renamed by the General Conference of 1859] of the Evangelical Association was created when the General Conference of 1839 divided the "mother" conference. The conference began publishing its annual minutes in 1880.

Summary minutes for 1840 to 1879 may be found in the 1939 *Centennial History of the Central Pennsylvania Conference* by Shortess, Gramley and Peffley. For each year, these give only the appointments, those being admitted or ordained, and very major items of business. The complete minutes for these years have never been published, thus leaving the biggest single gap in the account of Central Pennsylvania United Methodism.

The original record book for 1840 to 1860 is kept at the Conference Archives. It is in German and has never been translated, as the authors of the 1939 conference history simply read the German and produced an English summary. A complete translation of this record book would provide much valuable information and fill in many gaps.

From 1856 to 1860 minutes were recorded in both German and English. And in 1861 English became the sole language of record. The original English language minute book is kept at the Conference Archives and opens with the following "Explanatory Remarks."

Since the year 1846 resolutions have been passed and men appointed at each session to prepare and keep an English Journal -- and up to 1856 the matter has been entirely neglected, save a few extracts which have appeared in the Messenger,

but in no other form. In 1856 the undersigned was appointed by the Conference to procure a suitable record and to translate as much of the German Journal as in his opinion would be desirable. In looking over the German record, notwithstanding its leanness, he has concluded to go back as far as 1850, because of it being the 50th year of the Evangelical Association and the 10th year of the West Pennsylvania Conference -- and further because that year was to be regarded as a kind of Jubilee in the which a subscription in connection with others was to be opened for a church in memory of the founder of the Evangelical Association. (signed) B.F. Hall

And so this first English Journal contains the annual conference records from 1850 to 1871. These minutes have never been published, and to do so would be a great service. Since a complete reproduction of these minutes is beyond the scope of this journal, however, only that of most pressing use to congregational historians is presented here -- viz., those resolutions, boundary reports, and other statements that give information about particular congregations and/or insight into the development of the circuits.

There must also be a second English Journal that records the minutes from 1872 to 1879. While it was apparently available to the authors of the 1939 conference history, its present location is unknown and it may be possible that the information contained therein has been lost forever.

Duplicate copies of Breyfogel's 1888 book (1800-1839 minutes), of the 1939 centennial history (1840-1879 minute summaries), and of the published minutes since 1880 are available from the archivist for former Evangelical churches wishing to complete their journal collections.

II. Selected Information

The following edited items appear in the 1850-71 English record book in the sequence given. An annotated alphabetical list of the circuits and appointments appearing below appears in the next section. These definitions apply to terms used in the minutes.

circuit: a set of preaching places served on a rotating basis with no home base or parsonage

station: a set of preaching places having a base church and a parsonage

mission: a set of preaching places unable to support a pastor and receiving a subsidy from Conference funds

1850 minutes

1. That the part of Columbia circuit which formerly belonged to Luzerne be put back and constitute Luzerne mission.
2. That a mission be taken up in the vicinity of Pittsburgh and called the Allegheny mission.
3. That a mission be taken up in the vicinity of Hollidaysburg.
4. That a mission be taken up in California.

5. That the appointments taken from York circuit and connected with Gettysburg circuit be continued.
6. That Loganville be taken from York circuit and annexed to Shrewsbury circuit.
7. That Somerset circuit be divided -- the part lying in Westmoreland county to be called Westmoreland circuit, the rest to retain the name Somerset.
8. That the part of Venango circuit lying northwest of Franklin shall be annexed to Warren circuit.
9. That Nippenose Valley be put to Clinton circuit.
10. That a new circuit be formed in the western part of Virginia and called Preston circuit.

1851 minutes

1. That a mission be taken up in the city of Baltimore.
2. That several appointments on the northwestern part of Bedford circuit be annexed to Somerset circuit.
3. That a preacher be appointed to collect money to liquidate the debt on the York church.

NOTE: The General Conference of 1851 placed the western two districts (Allegheny and Somerset) of this conference with the eastern part of Ohio Conference to form Pittsburgh Conference. There are now three remaining districts: Baltimore, Centre and Susquehanna.

1852 minutes

1. That the German appointments on Baltimore County mission be served by the preachers on the station and mission in the city
2. That an English mission be taken up in the city of Baltimore and its vicinity.
3. That an English mission be taken up in the west, bounds to be determined.
4. That the part of Perry circuit east of the Juniata, including that north of the Tuscarora mountain, be connected with the part of Union circuit in and about Richfield and be called Liverpool circuit.
5. That a part of Centre circuit be connected with Clinton circuit.
6. That the town of York shall be constituted a station.
7. That the part of Gettysburg circuit which was taken from York circuit be returned.
8. That the part of Morgan circuit east of the Potomac be connected with Franklin circuit.
9. That Perry and Liverpool circuits be added to Centre District; and that Lycoming and Block House circuits be added to Susquehanna District.

1853 minutes

1. Whereas this conference cannot conveniently supply Hollidaysburg mission, and there is but little prospect of forming it into a circuit, therefore be it resolved that the Pittsburgh Conference be requested to connect it with their adjoining circuit.

2. That the appointment at New Salem on York circuit be annexed to Shrewsbury circuit.
3. That an English appointment be taken up at the lower end of Dry Valley, by the preachers on Buffalo circuit.
4. That Franklin circuit be divided, and that Shippensburg be the line -- the eastern part to be called Leesburg circuit, and the western part Franklin circuit.
5. That Willo appointment on Union circuit be connected with Liverpool circuit.

1854 minutes

1. That a mission be established on the western part of Franklin circuit to be called Clearfield mission; and in case a married preacher should be appointed, that \$80 be appropriated from the missionary treasury.
2. That a circuit be formed in the vicinity of Baltimore, and that Jarrettsville appointment be taken from Shrewsbury circuit and added thereto; and that it be called Baltimore circuit.
3. That Block House and Cherry circuits be divided.
4. Baltimore mission has been offered a house-parsonage adjoining the church for \$666, and now makes application for the loan of \$500, as long as it remains a mission. Therefore, be it resolved that the conference loans the amount without interest -- providing they raise the balance immediately, pay all the incidental expenses, and give the house as security.
5. That Luzerne mission be converted into a circuit and called Luzerne circuit.
6. That Centre circuit be divided, and that the part taken be Boalsburg circuit.
7. Than an English mission be established between Milton and Danville, to be called Montour mission.
8. Whereas the stationing committee has difficulty supplying the circuits as they now are, therefore be it resolved that the alterations made on Franklin, Centre, Block House and Cherry circuits be recalled; and that those circuits remain as before.

1855 minutes

1. That Centre circuit be divided, providing the stationing committee can supply it.
2. That Shade Mountain and Middle Creek form the line between Union and Liverpool circuits.
3. That York station be connected with York circuit.

1856 minutes

1. That York again be constituted a station.
2. That the classes at Father Herbst's, Bethlehem church, and Fishing Creek be taken from York circuit and added to Shrewsbury circuit; and that York circuit be supplied with one preacher.
3. That the part of Liverpool circuit in Pfoutz Valley, and all south of it, be

added to Perry circuit; and the remaining part of Liverpool circuit be added to Union circuit.

4. That New Berlin, Dry Valley, Fisher's, Shreiner's, and Furnace appointments be constituted a circuit and called Union circuit; and that the remaining part of Union Circuit be called Middle Creek circuit.
5. That Centre circuit be divided, and the upper end be called Boalsburg circuit.
6. That Sweitzer Settlement be taken from Lycoming circuit and added to Lock Haven, Wayne and Nippenose appointments and be called Lock Haven circuit.
7. That Cumberland and Leesburg circuits be united, and called Cumberland circuit.
8. A motion to consolidate the three districts into two did not prevail.
9. Whereas P. Graham, local preacher, took up some appointments in Harford county MD during the past year, therefore be it resolved that those appointments be formed into a circuit and called Harford circuit.

1857 minutes

1. That Cumberland circuit be added to Baltimore District.
2. That Clinton and Lock Haven circuits be united and called Clinton circuit and supplied with two preachers.
3. That Clinton circuit be added to Centre District.
4. That the presiding elder on Baltimore District and preacher in charge on Shrewsbury circuit collect as much as possible to remove the debt on the church in Shrewsbury.
5. That Perry circuit be divided -- the Juniata being the northern boundary of Perry Circuit, and that the appointment at Thompsontown on Middle Creek circuit be added to the part separated from Perry circuit and be called Liverpool circuit.

1858 minutes

1. That Jarrettsville appointment be taken off Baltimore circuit and added to Harford circuit.

1859 minutes

1. That Wilkes Barre mission be united with Luzerne circuit, receive an appropriation of \$150 from the missionary treasury, and be supplied by two preachers.
2. That a mission be established in Hagerstown. Tabled.
3. That Shrewsbury circuit be divided -- Glen Rock, Shrewsbury, Free's, Grove's and Jacob's appointments be supplied with one preacher and be called Shrewsbury circuit; the remaining 8 appointments be supplied with two preachers and be called Loganville circuit.
4. Whereas a petition from Columbia circuit asking to be divided came too late to make an alteration, therefore be it resolved that the presiding elder on

Susquehanna District divide Columbia circuit, provided it be practicable and can be supplied.

5. That the preacher on Shrewsbury circuit collect money to liquidate the debt on the church in Shrewsbury.

1860 minutes

1. That Baltimore mission be continued, but pay one half of the missionary's salary.
2. That Wilkes Barre mission be continued, that three new appointments above Wilkes Barre be added to the mission, and that at least \$100 be raised toward support of the missionary.
3. That Lewisburg be taken up as a mission.
4. That Williamsport be taken up as a mission.
5. That Shrewsbury and Loganville circuits unite and retain the name Shrewsbury circuit.
6. That one appointment be taken from Franklin circuit and added to Cumberland circuit. Defeated.
7. That the presiding elder of Susquehanna District and the preacher in charge of Luzerne circuit be authorized to borrow \$100 to meet the demands on the church at Centerville, provided that said church be deeded according to the discipline to the Evangelical Association.
8. That Leesburg, Kennedy, Springfield, Mifflin and Kochenaur's appointments be taken from Cumberland circuit, with Corl appointment from Franklin circuit, to form a new circuit called Leesburg circuit, with an appropriation from the missionary treasury.

1861 minutes

1. The financial difficulties of the church at New Buffalo, Liverpool circuit, were introduced, but dismissed without action.
2. Whereas the case of the EV church at Centerville has again been presented before Conference, therefore be it resolved that the presiding elder of Susquehanna District and the preachers in charge of Columbia and Luzerne circuits attend to the affairs of said church.
3. That the presiding elder of Baltimore District, the preacher in charge of Shrewsbury circuit, and the preacher in charge of York station be a committee to attend to the financial difficulties of the church at Shrewsbury.
4. That the presiding elder of Centre District and the preachers in charge of Liverpool and Perry circuits be a committee to attend to the financial difficulties of the church at New Buffalo.
5. That the name of Wilkes Barre Mission be changed to Wyoming Mission.
6. That a new mission be established consisting of the Liverpool and Aughenbaugh appointments of York circuit -- to include all the territory west to Hanover, north to the Conewago mountains, and south to the borders of Shrewsbury and York circuits, and that it be called Dover mission.

7. That Clinton circuit be divided -- that all the appointments connected with Sugar and Nippenose valleys be constituted as a one-handed circuit to retain the name Clinton; and that all the appointments in the Nittany Valley, Wayne township, and Sweitzer Settlement be constituted a two-handed circuit and be called Lock Haven circuit.
8. That Clinton circuit be restored to its former boundaries.

1862 minutes

1. That the new Bethlehem church be added to York circuit. Defeated.
2. That the appointments on the lower end of Shrewsbury circuit be added to York circuit.
3. That the class at John Snyder's be added to Dover mission.
4. That Clinton circuit be divided -- that Sugar and Nippenose valleys be a one-handed circuit to retain the name Clinton circuit, and that the remaining part be a two-handed circuit called Lock Haven circuit.
5. That Montour circuit be added to Columbia circuit.
6. That Smoketown class be added to Lewisburg mission.
7. That Centerville appointment on Luzerne circuit be added to Columbia circuit.

1863 minutes

1. Whereas we have no members at New Buffalo, no appointment, poor prospects of accomplishing anything or redeeming the church, the church is involved to the amount of nearly \$600 due to George Dressler (he having assumed the outstanding debts and repurchased the building at a sheriff's sale, sacrificing his own property to hold said church with the expectation that the Association would redeem it, and George Dressler now agrees to accept said church in lieu of his claims, therefore be it resolved that Dressler retain as proposed by himself said church as satisfaction in full of all claims against the Evangelical Association to dispose of at his own option and that all resolutions conflicting with this arrangement shall be and are hereby repealed.
2. That the committee appointed last year in reference to the church at Centerville, Columbia circuit, be continued another year.
3. That the committee on the financial affairs of the church at Shrewsbury consist of the preachers occupying the places occupied by the committee on the same case last year.
4. That the presiding elder of Baltimore District and the preacher on Harford circuit be a committee to investigate the financial difficulties of Lagrange and Tabernacle churches on Harford circuit.
5. That the part of Columbia circuit formerly called Montour circuit be taken from Columbia circuit, including Danville and Hinebach appointments, and resume its former name -- Montour circuit.

1864 minutes

1. That Gettysburg circuit be divided and that Bermudian church, Kralltown appointment and all the appointments west and north be formed into a one-handed circuit and retain the name of Gettysburg Circuit.
2. That Dover mission be discontinued and that all the appointments northwest of York be added to the remaining part of Gettysburg circuit, forming a two-handed circuit to be called Conewago Circuit.
3. That the remaining appointments of Dover mission situated in Springfield and Codorus townships be added to Shrewsbury circuit.
4. That all the territory around Middle Creek north of Liverpool circuit and southeast of Union circuit and east of Shade Mountain, including Susquehanna, Chapman, Mahatongo Branch and Richfield classes, be formed into a new circuit called Port Trevorton circuit.
5. That the name of Franklin circuit be changed to Hagerstown circuit.
6. The debt has been liquidated on the church in Shrewsbury.
7. The committee on Centerville church reported that the debt is liquidated and that the church is properly deeded.
8. That we approve of our members building a church at Glen Rock, and that they be allowed to collect for it anywhere within the bounds of this conference.

1865 minutes

1. Whereas a number of the members of the class at Frey's church on York circuit are dissatisfied with the proceedings of several investigations held with regard to their case, therefore be it resolved that we appoint a committee to investigate their affairs, by whose decision they must abide and whose expenses they must bear.
2. That we will make all the efforts we can during this year to build a church in Washington City.
3. Whereas our friends in Baltimore have already organized an English class with the intention of applying to us for an English missionary and our friends in Carlisle desire an English mission, therefore be it resolved that we take up these two missions and send them missionaries as soon as we can raise the funds necessary.
4. That we discontinue Leesburg circuit and add it to Cumberland circuit.

1866 minutes

1. That Cumberland circuit be divided -- that all that east of Carlisle form a one-handed circuit and retain the name of Cumberland circuit, and that Waggoner's appointment belong to the part west of Carlisle to form a circuit called Big Spring circuit.
2. That Lewisburg mission be converted into a station. Tabled.
3. That Baltimore mission be converted into a station. Tabled.
4. That Wyoming mission be converted into a circuit.
5. That Cherry circuit be divided -- the part north of Laporte (including

Hiddleston's, Keeler's, Dushore, Colley, Norcork's and Waltman Hill appointments) to constitute a circuit and be called Cherry Circuit; the part south of Laporte (including Bear Run, North Mountain, Lairdsville, McCarty's, Hughsville, Rabbittown and Muncy) to constitute a circuit and be called Muncy circuit. By an amendment, the mountain was set as the dividing line between these circuits.

6. That the decision on Wyoming mission be reconsidered. Tabled.
7. That Lock Haven be taken up as a mission.
8. [A marginal reference to "division of Cumberland Circuit" with no information.]
9. That the church property in Baltimore at McEldry and Short Streets be sold, with the proceeds used to establish an English mission in that city.

1867 minutes

1. That a committee be appointed to sell the church property on Cumberland circuit known as Dunlap's church, and the proceeds applied to the circuit parsonage.
2. Whereas the committee appointed last year to sell the church property at McEldry and Short Streets and the trustees of said church note the prospects are more encouraging at present and deem it most advantageous not to act as instructed, therefore be it resolved that the resolution above referred to be and hereby is repealed, and the committee discharged with the understanding that the said mission become self-sustaining in one year.
3. That Glen Rock be detached from Shrewsbury circuit and constituted a mission.
4. That Carlisle be taken up as a mission.
5. That Liverpool circuit be supplied with two preachers.
6. That Block House circuit be supplied with two preachers.
7. That Salem church, Union church and Bunker Hill school house appointment be taken from Montour circuit and added to Muncy circuit, to be supplied with two preachers.
8. That the remainder of Montour circuit and Wolf's appointment on Buffalo circuit, together with the regions of country from Turbotville to Northumberland be a mission called Northumberland Mission.
9. That Danville be taken up as a mission.
10. That the city of Scranton be taken up as a mission.
11. That Wyoming circuit be supplied with two preachers.
12. That Columbia circuit be supplied with two preachers.
13. Whereas we believe it to be conducive to the prosperity of the work of the Lord and the salvation of souls to separate our German and English work on Williamsport mission, there are many German inhabitants in that city and others still coming in, and there is no exclusively German congregation in that city, therefore be it resolved that the preacher in charge of Williamsport mission consult with the congregation with a view

- to convert it into a German station and establish an English mission -- with the understanding that until that time the languages continue as at present.
14. That a committee be appointed to borrow money to liquidate the debt on Washington mission church and to erect a parsonage on the lot.

1868 minutes

1. That Shrewsbury circuit be divided -- Paradise, Loganville, Mt. Zion, Oberdorf's and Snyder's appointments forming a one-handed circuit called Loganville Circuit; and the remainder forming a one-handed circuit and retaining the name of Shrewsbury circuit.
2. That Boalsburg circuit be made a two-handed circuit and that the preachers be instructed to take up appointments in Milesburg and Bellefonte.
3. That the preacher on Shrewsbury circuit and the members of Hopewell church be allowed to collect money on Loganville circuit to liquidate the Hopewell church debt.
4. That the missionary at Danville, the presiding elder on Susquehanna District, and the preacher in charge on Columbia circuit procure a suitable lot in Danville, the building of a church not to be undertaken until the lot is paid for and four thousand dollars secured in good subscriptions.
5. That conference approve of the purchase of the church at Milton made during the last year and that the missionary on Northumberland mission be authorized to collect funds wherever he can to liquidate the debt on the Milton church.
6. That the missionary on Glen Rock mission be authorized to collect money on Baltimore District for the erection of a church on Glen Rock mission.

1869 minutes

1. That Glen Rock mission be constituted a station.
2. That Conoway appointment of York station be added to Loganville circuit.
3. That Harford circuit be added to Loganville circuit and supplied with two men.
4. That Marysville, Kellers' church and Shafers' church be taken from Perry circuit and constituted a one-handed circuit called Marysville circuit, with instruction that an appointment be taken up in the Cove.
5. That Clinton circuit be supplied with two men and that an appointment be taken up by them at Jersey Shore Station.
6. That Orangeville, Vallerchamp's, Ferks, Creveling's and New Columbus appointments be taken from Columbia circuit and constituted a mission, called Orangeville mission.
7. That Newberry appointment of Lycoming circuit be added to Williamsport mission and be constituted a German station; and that the English work be detached and an English mission be established in Williamsport.
8. Whereas the quarterly conference of Columbia circuit requests that a mission be established in Bloomsburg but our means will not warrant the undertaking for the present, therefore be it resolved that we regretfully defer

to some more opportune time -- with the understanding that for the time being it be served by the preachers of Columbia circuit to the best possible advantage.

9. That White Hall church be sold. Tabled.
10. That an English mission be established in Baltimore
11. That the resolution respecting the Danville mission church building as passed at the last conference session be and is hereby repealed.
12. That the trustees of Milton church give their obligation as trustees to those holding claims against the church's remaining debt of \$1574.45.

1870 minutes

1. That Jarrettsville, Lagrange and Tabernacle appointments be taken from Loganville circuit to form a one-handed circuit called Jarrettsville circuit.
2. That Liverpool and Aughenbaugh appointments be taken from Conewago circuit and be added to York circuit, and that the remainder of Conewago circuit be made a one-handed circuit.
3. That Wyoming circuit be divided -- the appointments in Susquehanna county to form a one-handed circuit called Susquehanna circuit, and the remainder to form a one-handed circuit retaining the name Wyoming circuit.
4. That Milton be detached from Northumberland mission and constitute a mission called Milton mission.
5. That Sheep's appointment be detached from Danville mission and be added to the remainder of Northumberland mission and be called Northumberland circuit.
6. That Block House circuit hereafter be called Liberty circuit and Gettysburg circuit be called Bendersville circuit.
7. That the Union church and Bunker Hill appointments be detached from Muncy circuit and annexed to Orangeville mission, and that it be constituted a one-handed circuit called Orangeville circuit; and that Muncy circuit be called Hughesville circuit.
8. That the services of the Washington mission be changed from German to English.
9. The committee on the Milton church finds the entire indebtedness of the church to be \$1702.85 and is of the opinion that the trustees should be authorized by Conference to sell Milton church and pay off all liabilities.
10. That Milton mission be reunited with Northumberland circuit.
11. That the circuit formerly called Baltimore County circuit be hereafter called Baltimore circuit.
12. That the presiding elder on Centre District, the missionary on Lock Haven mission, and three others be a committee to devise ways and means to purchase a suitable lot in Lock Haven, and if possible to have a chapel completed thereon within this conference year.

13. 1870 Missions Report

- a. Northumberland mission. This mission is enjoying a reasonable degree of prosperity. It consists of the Milton congregation and five appointments in the country and numbers a membership of 69. There is a Sabbath School connected with the Milton congregation, but it is weak and needs the attention of the missionary. The principal embarrassment is the financial condition of the church, yet we feel encouraged as the prospects for the future are good.
- b. Danville mission. Labor in this field during the past year has been with considerable success. A lot was secured and a chapel erected at a cost of \$4600, of which \$2300 has been paid; \$1600 is now on subscription, and a balance of \$700 unprovided for. A number have been converted and the membership numbers 66. The prospects of this mission are promising for the future.
- c. Orangeville mission. This mission was established at our last Annual Conference. It was formerly a part of Columbia circuit. It consisted of five appointments, but two more have been added. It now numbers a membership of 49, with 7 probationers. This mission is in a flourishing state.
- d. Williamsport mission. This mission was formed one year ago of the English part of Williamsport station. During the first part of the year the mission congregation worshiped in a school house on Mulberry Street, but during the year a chapel was built on Bennett Street and dedicated on the 16th of January, 1870. Since which time they have enjoyed a great prosperity -- a revival having been granted them during which 25 have been hopefully converted to God. It has a membership of 76, including probationers. There is also a flourishing Sunday School connected with this mission numbering 8 scholars. The prospects of this mission are bright and encouraging.
- e. Lock Haven mission. This mission, since its establishment, has had to contend with various embarrassments, the greatest of which is the want of a suitable house of worship. A hall was secured at a rent of \$100. Though the congregations were good, yet on account of worldliness on the part of some and others moving away, the number of members has been reduced. In order for permanent prosperity, a church edifice is indispensable.
- f. Carlisle mission. Labors on this new field during the past year have been crowned with success. There is now almost completed a magnificent church edifice, the cost of which is \$11,000. There is a membership of 74. The prospects are encouraging.
- g. Washington mission. Our operations on this field of labor have been connected with some difficulties, owing in part to financial embarrassments. There is a membership of 27 and a Sabbath School connected with the mission. Though it has been attended with serious obstacles, yet the prospects are brightening.

1871 minutes

1. That the conference be divided into four presiding elder districts
2. That Gettysburg and Conewago circuits be taken from Baltimore District and added to Centre District.
3. That Union circuit and all the territory south of it belonging to Centre District be called Carlisle District.
4. That the remainder of Centre District, in connection with Williamsport station and mission and Lycoming and Liberty circuits of Susquehanna District, form a new district to be called Williamsport District.
5. That the name of Susquehanna District be changed to Lewisburg District.
6. That Green Hill church be taken from York station and annexed to Loganville Circuit.
7. That Troxelville, Manbecks, Bakers and Salem churches be taken from Middle Creek circuit to form a one-handed circuit called Troxelville circuit.
8. That Baltimore circuit be supplied with two preachers.
9. That Milton mission be supplied with two preachers.
10. That Germany and Wayne appointments be taken from Lock Haven circuit, Friedens church from Lycoming circuit, and Nippenose from Clinton circuit to form a new circuit called Jersey Shore circuit.
11. That Lock's Mills appointment be detached from Liberty circuit and constituted a mission to be called Lock's Mills mission and, if possible, be supplied by the stationing committee.
12. Whereas an appeal was made from Seneca County NY by 51 members of the Evangelical Association on an appointment abandoned by the New York Conference to send them a minister with the assurance that his salary would be received, therefore be it resolved that this appointment be taken up and supplied by this Conference and annexed to Williamsport District.
13. That a committee be appointed to make arrangements for the transfer of the Washington mission church to the Missionary Society
14. That we establish an English mission at York PA.
15. That Lock's Mills mission be supplied in connection with Liberty circuit.
16. That Sheep's appointment be taken from Danville mission and added to Milton mission.
17. That we recommend Baltimore mission to the sympathy, favorable consideration, and hearty co-operation of Baltimore station.

Finally, reproducing these items from the minutes is consistent with the spirit in which they were recorded. That our Evangelical Association ancestors were concerned about the proper recording and preservation of historical information is shown by a resolution passed in 1869: *That a committee of three be appointed to procure a Church Record for every circuit, mission and station -- properly headed for membership, baptisms and marriages. Said books to be procured within 3 months and forwarded to the various charges. Collections shall be taken of the different fields to procure them severally.*

III. Cited Circuits and Appointments

Many of the Evangelical Association circuits and appointments listed above from the 1850-71 minutes no longer exist, have interesting stories associated with them, or require a word of explanation. The following information for those circuits and appointments historically identified with central Pennsylvania has been taken from materials in the Conference Archives. The abbreviations EV, ME and UB refer to the Evangelical, Methodist Episcopal and United Brethren traditions. When referring to events related to the 1894-1922 EV split, UE and EA are used for the United Evangelical Church and the Evangelical Association respectively.

Aughenbaugh - 61:6; 70:2. An appointment that began in Strinestown and later met in Manchester township. The class may have erected the existing building in the Aughenbaugh cemetery along the Susquehanna trail. More details are given in the vignette beginning on page 89.

Bakers - 71:7. This appointment began with preaching by Jacob Albright in 1803 in the home of William Baker (1765-1863), a Justice of the Peace who wielded a strong influence in the area for the Evangelical cause. They erected a building in 1858 and exist today as Bakers UM on McClure charge. More details are given in the vignette beginning on page 87.

Baltimore circuit - 54:2; 58:1; 70:11; 71:8. The two earliest EV preaching places on this circuit were Elkridge Landing (Dorsey, first church erected 1849) and White Ground (Hebbville, first church erected 1851). Dorsey Emmanuel UM and Hebbville Salem UM are now in the Baltimore-Washington Conference. Dorsey UM has a Web site with excellent local historical information from this time period.

Baltimore County mission - 52:1. The original name of Baltimore circuit.

Baltimore mission (Ger) - 51:1; 52:1; 54:4; 60:1; 66:2; 71:17. EV work began here in 1840. Orwig's 1858 denomintaional history reports that "a considerable number of the members of Otterbein's church there seceded for certain reasons and joined the small mission." This was the Green Street church that was the mother church for most of the area EV work.

Baltimore mission (Eng) - 52:2; 65:3; 66:9; 69:10; 71:17. This work was not permanently established until 1871, when the appointment acquired China Hall on Baltimore Street. A brick structure known as Trinity Chapel was erected at Freemont and Clark in 1873. A green stone church known as Memorial was erected at Edmonson and Freemont in 1886. The congregation rebuilt in the Walbrook section at Gwynns Falls and Longwood in 1927. The congregation relocated again to the Pikesville area in 1953 and is now Milford Mill UM of the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

Baltimore - 66:9; 67:2. These references refer to a church at McEldry and Short whose fate is unknown.

Bear Run - 66:5. An otherwise unknown appointment "south of Laporte."

Bedford circuit - 51:2. The 1851 General Conference placed Bedford circuit in the western conference. Today's former EV churches in southwestern Bedford

county, that trace their roots all the way back to Jacob Albright, are part of the Western PA Conference.

Bellefonte - 68:2. While there was preaching in the area for many years, the first church was not erected here until 1892. The congregation exists today as Faith UM.

Bendersville circuit - 70:6. The work in Adams county began about 1810 when Conrad Bender received early EV itinerants. A class was formed in Bendersville in 1814 and prospered until the work in the area was fatally wounded by the 1894 split. The circuit was discontinued in 1896 and added to Dillsburg -- whose appointments also failed to endure. The only surviving EV work in Adams county is Idaville, which for years was shuttled between Mt. Holly Springs, Wellsville, and being a mission.

Bermudian - 64:1. This appointment met in the Bermudian schoolhouse beginning in 1829. In 1853 they erected the stone Bermudian (a.k.a. Bowers) church, replaced by the present Red Mount UM building in 1888.

Bethlehem - 56:2; 62:1. This is the church in Windsor township that was built by the Oberdorf class and that became known as "Stonepile" after 1871.

Big Spring circuit - 66:1. This circuit existed from 1866 until it was divided in 1902: Mt. Rock and McAllister's to be called Mt. Rock charge; Bloserville, Waggoner's and Mt. Hope to be called Bloserville charge. There was never a EV building at Big Spring, a.k.a. Springfield.

Block House circuit - 52:9; 54:3,8; 67:6; 70:6. This work was begun by John Seybert in 1830, added to Centre circuit, and served from distant points until Block House circuit was formed in 1851. It was renamed Liberty in 1870, supplied by both EA and UE factions during the split, and continues to this day -- using the former UE buildings.

Bloomsburg - 69:8. The work begun at this time took root. The congregation worshiped in schoolhouses and other buildings before erecting a church of their own on Fourth Street in 1880. Their present facility was erected in 1927, and the 1880 structure is now a synagogue.

Boalsburg circuit - 54:6; 56:5; 68:2. This circuit existed from 1854 until it was re-named Center Hall circuit in 1872. There never was an EV building at Boalsburg, the closest one being at Linden Hall.

Buffalo circuit - 53:3; 67:8. This circuit originally covered portions of Union, Lycoming and Northumberland counties. Since White Deer circuit was broken off in 1872, it has included essentially the area covered by its present four northern Union county appointments: Forest Hill, Mazeppa, Pleasant Grove, Sunrise.

Bunker Hill - 67:7; 70:7. This was a schoolhouse appointment about 1 mile northwest of Greenwood in Columbia Co.

Carlisle - 65:3; 67:4; 70:13. Known as St. Paul's, the building erected on West Lowther in 1870 was lost in the split. When the EA could not maintain a congregation, the structure was sold to the Church of God and razed in the 1970's for a municipal parking lot. The continuing UE congregation erected the original part of present First UM in 1897.

Centerville - 60:7; 61:2; 62:7; 63:2; 64:7. This is not the Snyder Co village of Penns Creek that was originally called Centerville because it was at the center of old Union Co, before Snyder Co was broken off in 1855. This is an otherwise unknown appointment that had a church building and was shuttled between Columbia and Luzerne circuits.

Centre circuit - 52:5; 54:6,8; 55:1; 56:5. Formed in 1815 when the original conference was first divided into two districts, this circuit once included all of Centre and Clinton counties. Other circuits were split off until 1898, when it was renamed Millheim charge. Centre and Clinton counties were torn by the 1894 split. While the UE faction generally prevailed numerically, they lost their buildings and had to rebuild. The Millheim structure was the only one to remain in UE hands.

Chapman - 64:4. The present St. John's UM in Chapman was erected by the UB in 1893. This is a reference to EV work that was started by Jacob Albright himself in 1804, made a permanent appointment in 1834, and built Witmer's church in 1835. It was named for the township -- and Union township, where the Witmer's building is located, was part of Chapman township until 1869. That congregation split in 1894 and there were two churches across the road from each other for many years -- Witmer's West (EA) and Witmer's East (UE). They eventually reunited on 1965 and form the present Witmer's UM.

Cherry circuit - 54:3,8; 66:5. This circuit was formed from Columbia circuit in 1847, recombined with its parent circuit in 1848, and permanently established in 1849. It originally included Sullivan Co and the Muncy Creek drainage of Lycoming Co -- the latter portion being split off in 1866, and the former portion renamed Dushore in 1872.

Clearfield mission - 54:1. The decision to establish Clearfield mission was rescinded by item 54:8 because of a lack of preachers. No EV work in Clearfield county was ever established by the Central PA Conference. Forest Emmanuel UM, our conference's only former EV work in the county, was established by the Pittsburgh Conference.

Clinton circuit - 50:9; 52:5; 57:2,3; 61:7,8; 62:4; 69:5; 71:10. Formed from Centre circuit in 1844, it gave rise to several other circuits before being re-named Sugar Valley in 1872.

Codorus township - 64:3. Any EV work existing in either Codorus or North Codorus townships in 1864 did not survive.

Colley - 66:5. This Sullivan county appointment was discontinued in 1931, and its members were transferred to Dushore. The church is still standing.

Columbia circuit - 50:1; 59:4; 61:2; 62:5,7; 63:2,5; 68:4; 69:6,8. Originally formed from Union circuit at the historic 1816 conference in the Eyer barn, this circuit once included all EV work between the West and North branches of the Susquehanna. The circuit exists today, as it has continuously since 1835. Had it not been recombined with Union circuit 1818-1835, it would be the conference's oldest existing EV circuit retaining its original name. The four churches on this historic charge today are Ebenezer, Evansville, Summerhill and Stone.

Conewago circuit - 64:2; 70:2; 71:2. EV work began here in 1810 at the Ettinger home, where UB Christian Newcomer had also preached. The two-man Conewago circuit was formed in 1864 to include most of northern York county. It became a one-man circuit in 1870 when the eastern portion around Manchester was added to York circuit. Early church buildings on the circuit include Salem (1849) and Bethel (1856). Salem, west of Pinchot Park, is now only a cemetery maintained by the Lions Club. Bethel is now New Bethel UM of Wellsville charge.

Conoway - 69:2. This York township class erected Pine Grove church in Leaders Heights later that same year (1869).

Corl - 60:8. An otherwise unknown appointment in the area of western Cumberland county.

Cove - 69:4. It appears that the appointment in Cove did not materialize at this time. An appointment was finally taken up there in 1900 and a church erected. St. John's EV stood on Schoolhouse Lane, behind the present elementary school and directly across from the old one-room school that is now a house. The appointment was abandoned in 1910 and the building sold in 1912.

Creveling's - 69:6. An appointment in Fishing Creek township, Columbia county, that never had a building. Samuel Creveling moved into the area between Zaners and Asbury in the very early 1800's and had numerous descendants.

Cumberland circuit - 56:7; 57:1; 60:6,8; 65:4; 66:1,8; 67:1. Created in 1834, this circuit once included all EV work in Cumberland and Perry counties. It has existed continuously with its original name since 1834 -- and the historic Letort (Kutz) church has been on this circuit that entire time.

Danville - 63:5; 67:9; 68:4; 69:11; 70:5,13; 71:16. The EV work here was named Emmanuel and united with St. Paul's (former ME) in 1969 to form St. Paul's Emmanuel UM, meeting in the former ME building.

Dover mission - 61:6; 62:3; 64:2,3. This included most of northern and western York county. In 1864 the territory was divided: that north of US 30 becoming Conewago circuit, that south of US added to Shrewsbury circuit.

Dunlap's - 67:1. An otherwise unknown appointment that apparently had a church building.

Dushore - 66:5. This class was organized in 1847 and erected the Cherry church south of town in 1849. St. Paul's was erected in the borough of Dushore in 1872 and had to be repurchased from the EA when the congregation became UE in 1894.

Dry Valley - 53:3; 56:4. The valley runs between New Berlin and Winfield. A Dry Valley class was organized in 1806, with Michael Maize as class leader. The first EV camp-meeting, and what might well be the world's first *German* camp-meeting, was held on his land in 1810.

Ferks - 69:6. An otherwise unknown appointment.

Fisher's - 56:4. The identity of this class is not known for certain. [It may have been the class that erected the original Hoover's building south of Selinsgrove -- see the reference to Susquehanna appointment.].

Fishing Creek - 56:2. This may be Salem, near Martinsville, where an EV building was erected in 1840.

Franklin circuit - 52:8; 53:4; 54:1,8; 60:6; 64:5. This very large circuit was formed in 1810 to include all of York, Cumberland, Adams and Franklin counties in PA and Carroll and Washington counties in MD. Various other circuits were split off over the years until it was renamed Hagerstown circuit in 1865..

Free's - 59:3. Probably a reference to New Freedom, founded by the Free family. The EV building here was named St. Paul's and stood in the empty lot at the n.w. corner of Constitution and Main. The existing house next door was the parsonage.

Friedens - 71:10. The oldest EV appointment on the old Salladasburg EV charge, Friedens dates to the 1830's. The property was deeded to the church in 1853. The remaining members were transferred to Mt. Pleasant in 1961, and the building was sold in 1969. It has been since torn down.



Friedens EV Church -- Mifflin township, Lycoming County
property first deeded to "German Evangelical Association" in 1853
deeded to the United Evangelical Church in 1895

Frey's - 65:1. This is Freysville, where the first EV preaching occurred in 1808 and a class was formed in 1810.

Furnace - 56:4. This may be a reference to the class along Furnace Road, at the southern edge of Buffalo Valley, that erected Ebenezer EV church -- now marked by a cemetery site on the north side of the road. It may also refer to the Winfield class, whose first church was erected in 1856 on land from the Winfield Furnace Company.

Germany - 71:10. This is Swisssdale, a.k.a. Sweitzer Settlement.

Gettysburg circuit - 50:5; 52:7; 64:1,2; 70:6; 71:2. Separated from York circuit in 1833, this continued as a distinct circuit (except in 1840 when there was a York & Gettysburg circuit) until it was renamed Bendersville in 1870. The 1871 journal reference is an error of habit that failed to remember the name change. Except for Kingsdale and Mt. Pleasant near Littlestown, all known EV work in Adams county was north of US 30.

Glen Rock - 59:3; 64:8; 67:3; 68:6; 69:1. The first building here was erected on upper Church St. in 1849. A new building was erected on New St. in 1870. The present building was erected in 1927, using a side of the 1870 structure for its rear wall.

Green Hill - 71:6. This building was erected on Green Hill Rd. in 1870. Now Bethany UM, the congregation relocated to 554 Ogontz in 1905 and to their present location at Mt. Rose and Ogontz in 1925. The 1870 site is marked by a cemetery and the 1905 building, including the stained glass windows, is now a restaurant.

Grove's - 59:3. An otherwise unknown appointment.

Hagerstown - 59:2. Permanent EV work did not begin here until 1884.

Hagerstown circuit - 64:5. This charge was renamed Cearfoss in 1917 and Potomac in 1959.

Harford circuit - 56:9; 58:1; 63:4; 69:3. Named for the MD county where its appointments were, this circuit was temporarily annexed to Loganville circuit in 1869 and reconstituted the following year as Jarrettsville circuit.

Herbst's - 56:2. This may refer to the Glen Rock class, where David Hebrst was a leader and whose circuit affiliation from 1850 to 1859 is unclear.

Hiddleston's - 66:5. An otherwise unknown appointment "north of Laporte."

Hinebach - 63:5. An otherwise unknown appointment.

Hollidaysburg - 50:3; 53:1. The 1853 action delivering Hollidaysburg to the Pittsburgh Conference effectively ended the conference's activity in the area for over 40 years. Except for attempts to supply Altoona in 1874 and 1875, it wasn't until UE efforts in 1896 that the present EV work was established in the Altoona area. The EA did have one church in Altoona, Emanuel -- which continued to be supplied from the west after the 1922 re-union, including future Bishop Hermann Kaebnick 1927-30, and left the EUB denomination in 1956.

Hopewell - 68:3. This may refer to St. Paul's at Winterstown, the only EV building known to exist at this time in that township -- which split in 1885 into Hopewell, North Hopewell and East Hopewell townships. It united with Emanuel UB at Winterstown in 1959 to erect the present Winterstown UM.

Hughesville - 66:5. This class was organized in 1865 following a protracted meeting with conversions. This success was probably one of the key factors that led to the splitting of Cherry circuit in 1866.

Hughesville circuit - 70:7. This circuit continued until 1907 when Hughesville became a station appointment. The remaining appointments at Pennsdale and Glen Hope were placed with Ebenezer (a.k.a. Fribley -- formerly on Hughesville circuit) from Unityville circuit to form Pennsdale charge.

Jacob's - 59:3. Otherwise unknown, this could be a reference to an EV class meeting near Brodbeck's in the union Lutheran and Reformed church known as (St.) Jacob's, a.k.a. Stone church.

Jarrettsville - 54:2; 58:1; 70:1. EV work began here in 1842 and a church was erected soon thereafter. This congregation remained with the EA during the split. They had a parsonage, but their dwindling membership could not support a pastor. In 1913 they were placed with Cresswell, Lancaster county PA, some 30 miles distant. Salem church was sold in 1928. The pews were donated to St. Mark's EV in Bethlehem PA, and the proceeds were placed in a fund to perpetuate the cemetery. The present Jarrettsville UM was formerly ME.

Jarrettsville circuit - 70:1. Never very strong, this northern MD circuit was severely hurt by the 1894 split.

Jersey Shore - 69:5. Permanent EV work was not begun here until 1872.

Jersey Shore circuit - 71:10. This circuit was split in 1885. Farrandville, Swisssdale, McElhattan, Pine and Caldwell were named Lock Haven circuit; Friedens, Mt. Pleasant, Safe Harbor, Jersey Shore and Nippenose continued under the name Jersey Shore.

Keeler's - 66:5. An otherwise unknown appointment "north of Laporte."

Kellers' - 69:4. This 1856 building was replaced in 1905 and is now Salem UM of the Keystone-Perry charge.

Kennedy - 60:8. An otherwise unknown appointment in the area of western Cumberland county.

Kochenaur's - 60:8. An otherwise unknown appointment in the area of western Cumberland county.

Kralltown - 64:1. A union EV-Mennonite building was erected in this community southwest of Wellsville in 1888, to replace the old school-church on the site that had been used for many years. By 1950 the EV congregation had dwindled away and not held services there for several years, and its half of the property was sold to the Mennonites.

Lagrange - 63:4; 70:1. This otherwise unknown appointment is in MD. It may be the predecessor of Goodwill EV church, which housed a congregation until the 1968 union and was torn down in 1975. A cemetery remains at the site, about 6 miles south of Jarrettsville between MD 146 and MD 152 -- on the north side Hess Rd.

Lairdsville - 66:5. It is believed that this Franklin township, Lycoming county appointment never had an EV building. There was actually a Lairdsville circuit, however, from 1873 to 1878.

Leesburg - 60:8. This appointment, a.k.a. "The Pines" and Lees Cross Roads, erected a building in 1868. A class was formed at this early EV center in 1810. Abraham Buchman entered the ministry from this charge in 1813 and his camp-meeting ground about 1 mile s.w. of town was the scene of great revivals that established the EV work in the Cumberland Valley.

Leesburg circuit - 53:4; 56:7; 60:8; 65:4. Leesburg circuit existed from 1853 to 1865 before being permanently established in 1872. It exists today, having traded its Jacksonville (Walnut Bottom) church to unite with the former ME work there for the former UB Hays Grove

Lewisburg mission - 60:3; 62:6; 66:2. The first building was erected here in 1861 and the present structure, St. Paul's UM, in 1916.

Liberty circuit - 70:6; 71:4,11,15. The renamed Block House circuit.

Liverpool (York Co) - 61:6; 70:2. When this community was incorporated in 1869, it was renamed from Liverpool to Manchester -- which had been the name of the post office since it had been established in 1827.

Liverpool (Perry Co) circuit - 52:4,9; 53:5; 55:2; 56:3; 57:5; 61:1,4; 64:4; 67:5. This circuit originally included Juniata Co and that part of Perry Co north of the Juniata. The rugged terrain made this a difficult circuit and the area was divided among neighboring circuits and then reformed several times over the years. The Liverpool EV building, erected in 1867 and called St. Mary's, is now an apartment building. The congregation joined with their Liverpool UB counterparts immediately following the 1946 EV-UB denominational union.

Lock Haven - 56:6; 66:7; 70:12,13. Enduring EV preaching began here in 1866. The first building was erected on the present site in 1871. The congregation became a self-supporting station in 1896 and is now Covenant UM, having received the members of Lock Haven Trinity (former ME) in 1988.

Lock Haven circuit - 56:6; 57:2; 61:7; 62:4; 71:10. After a few false starts, this circuit was created in enduring form in 1862 to include Nittany Valley and the appointments around Lock Haven. The circuit was dissolved in 1872, reconstituted in 1885, and permanently dissolved in 1972.

Lock's Mills - 71:11,15. This appointment is otherwise unknown. It may be a reference to the Locke mills located on Pine Creek west of Wellsboro, but these were not owned by the Locke family after 1850.

Loganville - 50:6; 68:1,3. Preaching here was began in 1810 at the home of John Reber, one of the converts from the work at Mt. Zion.

Loganville circuit - 59:3; 60:5; 68:1; 69:2,3; 70:1; 71:6. Over the years this circuit included various appointments from Maryland to York -- but primarily consisted of Jacobus, Loganville, Mt. Zion and Pine Grove. It existed from 1859 until 1995, when Loganville and Mt. Zion each received their own pastor.

Luzerne circuit/mission - 50:1; 54:5; 59:1; 60:7; 61:2; 62:7. This circuit was renamed Wapwallopen in 1912. Slocum, the only remaining appointment was added to West Nanticoke in 1921. Ransom and Bethel, two other churches that had been split off from Luzerne circuit at an earlier date, began being served from West Nan-

ticoke in 1943. Following the 1968 union, all these appointments were transferred to the Wyoming UM Conference.

Lycoming circuit - 52:9; 56:6; 71:4,10. Formed in 1832, this is the oldest EV circuit in the conference existing continuously with its original name. It once included all the Lycoming county EV work north of the Susquehanna between Pine and Muncy creeks.

Mahatongo Branch - 64:4. Probably the class that erected a church in Aline in 1869. The building was originally known as Troutman's, and the cemetery still bears that name. The first church was struck by lightning and burned in 1890, and a new structure was erected. Most of the congregation became UE in 1894 and were forced to construct a second building. The former EA building was eventually sold and removed, and the 1894 UE building is now Aline UM.

Manbecks - 71:7. This appointment erected a building about 1850. After the congregation dwindled and the church had not been used for several years, the property was sold to the Mennonites in 1960.

Marysville - 69:4. This church was erected on Valley Street in 1866. Prior to that there was an EV church, erected about 1839, approximately one mile west of town at the Sitterly graveyard, and its membership became the nucleus of the Marysville congregation

Marysville circuit - 69:4. This circuit was formed in 1869 from Perry circuit and disbanded in 1881, when Marysville was placed with Newport and the remaining appointments named Fishing Creek Valley circuit. Fishing Creek Valley circuit was renamed Keystone circuit in 1904.

McCarty's - 66:5. An otherwise unknown appointment "south of Laporte."

Middle Creek circuit - 56:4; 57:5; 71:7. Formed from Union in 1856, this circuit was renamed Middleburg in 1874.

Mifflin - 60:8. This appears to refer to an appointment in the area of western Cumberland county and not to the town on the Juniata river, where the EV work was started later and which is geographically removed from this context.

Milesburg - 68:2. There eventually was a circuit by this name, but the class here apparently never had its own building. Bellefonte circuit was re-named Milesburg in 1898, and in 1916 it was disbanded and added to Howard circuit.

Milton - 68:5; 69:12; 70:4; 70:9,10,13; 71:9,16. EV work begin here in 1867 in conjunction with the establishment of Northumberland mission circuit.

Montour mission/circuit - 54:7; 62:5; 63:5; 67:7,8. This mission existed as documented 1854 to 1867.

Morgan circuit: 52:8. The 1946 union creating the EUB church also created overlapping conferences within the same denomination. When the Central PA Conference absorbed the eastern circuits of the disbanding Allegheny (former UB) Conference in 1951, it transferred Morgan circuit [and Berkley Springs circuit] to the Virginia Conference (former UB).

Mt. Zion - 68:1. Now Mt. Zion UM, this congregation was organized in 1810 at the home of John Seitz as the Zelten EA class and erected a building in 1827 -- the

second in the entire denomination, being preceded only by the 1816 structure in New Berlin.

Muncy - 66:5. The present Muncy UM is formerly ME. Nothing more is known of this EV appointment.

Muncy circuit - 66:5; 67:7; 70:7. This circuit was renamed Hughesville in 1870.

New Berlin - 56:4. The class here was established by Jacob Albright in 1805. The first EV church in the entire denomination was erected here in 1816.

New Buffalo - 61:1,4; 63:1. This building stood on the east side of Mill St., on the third lot north of Walnut St.

New Columbus - 69:4. In Huntington township, Luzerne county. While there was an ME church here, one of 7 ME congregations that united in 1971 to form Town Hill UM, nothing more is known of this EV appointment.

New Salem - 53:2. This EV appointment never had a church building and the work did not endure.

Nippenose Valley - 50:9; 56:6; 61:7; 62:4; 71:10. The only known EV work here was St. Elizabeth church near Rauchtown. The building was sold in 1897 to the ME, who dropped the "St." from the name. The membership dwindled and the ME sold the property in 1918. Only a neglected cemetery remains today.

Nittany Valley - 61:7. EV church buildings here at this time included Clintondale (1840), Mackeyville (1844) and Zion (1859). Buildings were erected later at Hublersburg (1873), Rote (1877) and Nittany (1896). In December 1883 the ME erected the first building of the present Mackeyville UM, and the EV work there was eventually discontinued. The 1883 EV journal reports "that we instruct the trustees of Hamburg (Mackeyville) Church to grant the use of their church to the ME church for the consideration of 12 dollars per year provided that their services shall in no wise interfere nor conflict with ours and they shall furnish their own light, fuel and sexton."

Norcork's - 66:5. This appointment was on the southern edge of Bradford county and never had a church building.

North Mountain - 66:5. This was the Franklin church, now Franklin Bethel UM of Unityville charge.

Northumberland mission/circuit - 67:8; 68:5; 70:4,5,10,13. Milton, the strongest appointment, was split off as a mission in 1870. Later that same conference it was decided to place the remaining appointments there also, effectively renaming this work Milton mission/circuit.

Oberdorf's - 68:1. In 1871, after only 16 years, the 1855 field stone church erected for this class was considered unsafe for use. While being torn down, one wall fell by itself and looked like a stonepile. The colloquial name "Stonepile" for the church was inherited from that incident. This class is today's Bethlehem UM south of Red Lion.

Orangeville - 69:6. The present Orangeville UM was formerly ME. Nothing more is known of this EV appointment.

Orangeville mission/circuit - 69:6; 70:7,13. This was renamed New Columbus in

1877 and Waller in 1885 -- probably reflecting shifting concentrations of EV strength within the circuit over the years.

Paradise - 68:1. This is another name for Jacobus, where the first EV building was erected in 1862.

Perry circuit - 52:4,9; 56:3; 57:5; 61:4; 69:4. Formed in 1844, this circuit originally included all of Perry county. Over the years, various appointments were split off -- those north of the Juniata, those in Fishing Creek Valley, Newport. The circuit was disbanded in 1931 -- Milford (Wila) and Donnelly Mills added to Newport; Elliottsburg and Stony Point added to Keystone, that charge being renamed Keystone-Perry. Of the four churches on the final Perry circuit, only Milford survives to the present -- its 1844 building being the oldest EV structure in continuous use in the entire conference.

Pfoutz Valley - 56:3. The present Pfoutz Valley UM was formerly UB. Any EV work that existed in the Pfoutz Valley did not survive.

Port Trevorton circuit - 64:4. This circuit existed until its appointments were distributed to other charges in 1933. It was reformed as a six point charge in 1940 by taking Richfield and Daniels from Middleburg, Port Trevorton and Aline from Selinsgrove, Hunters Valley and Liverpool from Newport. After a few intermediate changes, and the Central PA Conference's 1951 acquisition of the eastern circuits of the disbanding Allegheny Conference (former UB), it attained its present form as an EUB charge in 1952 -- Port Trevorton Grace (a union of the Olive EV and Markwood UB congregations), St. John's (former UB), Paradise (former UB).

Rabbittown - 66:5. An otherwise unknown appointment "south of Laporte."

Richfield - 64:4. The Pine Swamp church that stood east of Richfield by the present Evangelical Methodist cemetery was a union church. The UB left to build the present Richfield UM in 1876. The EV relocated to Richfield in 1914 and erected the building that is now the UM Parish House, having been acquired by the UB in the 1930's when the EV work dwindled.

Salem (Lycoming Co) - 67:7. This 1845 building is the second oldest EV structure in continuous use in the entire conference. This is one of the very few locations where the UE congregation kept the original building during the split and the EA was forced to erect a new structure. The congregation is now Salem UM on Unityville charge.

Salem (Mifflin Co) - 71:7. This is not present Salem UM in Snyder county on PA 104, as that EV church was not erected until 1873. This is present Lawver's UM church on McClure charge. Founded by Jacob Albright as the Thomas appointment in 1803, this class met in homes and did not erect a building until 1865. The church was named Salem, but was popularly called Lawver's. Even though the church was not erected until 1865, the land had been given for an EV cemetery from the very beginning. This appointment claims the oldest continuously held real estate and the oldest continuously existing class in the entire EV denomination.

Scranton - 67:10. The Central PA Conference tried to establish a mission here in 1867, and the East PA Conference tried in 1870. No enduring EV work was

established here until the Central PA Conference finally succeeded in 1891. Isolated from the rest of the conference, however, the work dwindled. It was served from Ransom until 1943, when Ransom began being served from West Nanticoke and Scranton was left "to be supplied." Beginning in 1945 it isn't listed with the appointments at all, although its statistics were carried for a few more years.

Seneca - 71:12. EV work here was first attempted by the conference in 1812, when several families migrated there from PA. Because of the distance from other EV work and the small number of families involved, however, it was deemed better to concentrate mission efforts elsewhere. The fate of the Seneca (a.k.a. Seneca Falls) appointment, some 60 miles into NY and even farther from the conference's closest work (Liberty circuit), is unclear -- it is listed as "to be supplied" beginning in 1890 and not at all beginning in 1894.

Shafers' - 69:4. This church was erected in 1846 and replaced in 1889 by the present Bethel UM of the Keystone-Perry charge.

Sheep's - 70:5; 71:16. This appointment in West Hemlock township, Montour county, met in Sheep's school house. The congregation erected a church (a.k.a. St. John's) in 1886. The membership had completely dwindled away before the 1968 union, and the building was reported sold to the Sheep's (St. John's) Bible Church in 1975.

Shreiner's - 56:4. This class erected a building in 1882. St. Paul's EV in Hummel's Wharf was begun in 1912, and these two congregations united in 1976 to erect the present Christ Community UM north of Hummel's Wharf. The Shreiner's building is now owned by an independent congregation.

Shrewsbury - 57:4; 59:3,5; 61:3; 63:3; 64:6. The first church here, erected in 1821 as a EV-ME union structure, is considered the second church building of the entire denomination (after the 1816 structure in New Berlin). It was destroyed in an 1840 storm. The last church was sold in 1926 when the congregation had dwindled to 11 females and it was impossible for them "to provide fuel, build fires, and maintain the church in a suitable condition for worship."

Shrewsbury circuit - 50:6; 53:2; 54:2; 56:2; 57:4; 59:3,5; 60:5; 61:3; 61:6; 62:2; 64:3; 67:3; 68:1,3. Formed in 1845 as Strasburg (the old name for Shrewsbury) circuit, this was re-named New Freedom circuit in 1904 and disbanded in 1932 -- with the 3 remaining churches scattered to other circuits.

Smoketown - 62:6. This appointment is otherwise unknown.

Snyder's - 62:3; 68:1. This otherwise unknown class was apparently among the "Springfield and Codorus township appointments" transferred from Dover circuit to Shrewsbury as per 64:3. It may be related to the Snyder schoolhouse in Manheim township that lies within a mile of Codorus township.

Springfield (Cumberland Co)- 60:8. This EV appointment, a.k.a. Big Spring, never had a building. Big Spring UM was formerly UB.

Springfield township (York Co) - 64:3. There were four EV classes in Springfield township at this time -- Pine Grove, Jacobus, Loganville and Mt. Zion. Possibly only the first two were part of Dover mission and moved to Shrewsbury

circuit at this time, as the other two seemed to have on remained on Shrewsbury circuit when the extended Dover mission was formed.

Sugar Valley - 61:7; 62:4. This EV stronghold once boasted 13 UE or EA churches. Detailed stories of these congregations appear in THE CHRONICLE V:63-72.

Susquehanna - 64:4. The identity of this class is not known for certain, but it may have been the antecedent of Hoover's church, located by the Middle Creek electric dam. That congregation split in 1894, the UE faction erecting what is now Faith (Hoover's) UM across the road from their former chapel . The EA faction kept the original building but was isolated from other EA congregations and disbanded. They apparently formed the nucleus of a Lutheran congregation that began using the former EA building in 1900 and dismantled it in 1903 to erect a new structure at the same site.

Susquehanna circuit - 70:3. Formed from Wyoming circuit in 1870 to cover the preaching places in Susquehanna county, it drops from appointments in 1878 and then re-appears in 1879 as two circuits: Lenoxville (renamed West Clifford in 1879) and Susquehanna (renamed Tunkhannock in 1883). This area was on the northeast fringe of the conference, and the work could not be sustained. Tunkhannock was returned the name Susquehanna in 1898 and what was apparently its only remaining appointment (West Brooklyn) was added to West Clifford in 1906. West Clifford was left TBS in 1907 and disappeared without explanation in 1908.

Sweitzer Settlement - 56:6; 61:7. This is Swissdale, a.k.a. Germany. The congregation split in 1894 and re-united in 1922 to worship in the UE building, now Swissdale UM. The original EA building across the street has since been removed.

Tabernacle - 63:4; 70:1. This church continued until the 1968 union when it had 35 members. Being in Maryland, it should have been taken by the Baltimore Conference, but it seems to have fallen through the cracks and was not listed at all in the official *Basis and Plan of Union* document. In 1981, the Conference was surprised by a request from a Baptist group to purchase the building. The York district superintendent was even more surprised to find that the Delta-Bryansville charge still had trustees for the property -- even though no services had been conducted there since union. The property was finally sold in 1983.

Thompstontown - 57:5. The present Thompstontown UM was formerly ME. This is the only reference to EV work in Thompstontown, and it may be a loose reference to that general area. Tuscarora (Mexico) mission was established in 1848 but only formally supplied for that one year. The congregation claims a continuous existence since then, but the preachers listed in their records appear to have served without specific appointment there. An EV church was erected at Locust run in 1862.

Troxelville - 71:7. This appointment erected a building in 1875 and exists today as Troxelville UM on Beavertown charge..

Troxelville circuit - 71:7. This circuit existed for just one year. In 1872, the appointments were returned to Middle Creek. In 1873 a church was erected in McClure, and approximately these same appointments were re-gathered as McClure

circuit.

Union (Columbia Co) - 67:7; 70:7. This was an 1854 union church erected in Waller in 1854. Because it was a non-denominational facility, it was used by both the EV and EA during the split. It now stands empty, and the present UM church there was formerly ME.

Union circuit - 52:4; 53:5; 55:2; 56:3; 56:4; 64:4; 71:3. This name first appears as an assignment in 1814 and included all the work north of the Juniata and west of the Susquehanna the Susquehanna. Including the denomination's headquarters at New Berlin, it was a strong circuit. It gave birth to Columbia, Centre and other circuits over the years until it encompassed only the area around New Berlin. It was renamed New Berlin circuit in 1885. The circuit was discontinued in 1920 and the 6 appointments dispersed as follows: Grace (a.k.a. Hummel's EV or Boyer's) and Dice to Penns Creek; Kreamer to Middleburg; Mt. Chapel to Mifflinburg; Ebenezer (on Furnace Rd) to Buffalo Valley; New Berlin to Winfield.

Vallerchamp's - 69:6. Probably in Huntington township, Luzerne county, the home of Rev. Azima Vallerchamp's family.

Waggoner's - 66:1. Taken from Cumberland circuit in 1866, Waggoner's was associated with several other circuits (Big Spring, Mt. Rock, Bloserveville, etc) before being returned in 1922 -- where it stayed until becoming a station in 1985.

Waltman Hill - 66:5. An otherwise unknown appointment "north of Laporte."

Washington - 65:2; 67:14; 70:8; 70:13; 71:13. These early efforts failed to establish an enduring work in Washington DC. The Central PA Conference finally successfully planted Albright Memorial EV church in 1926.

Wayne - 56:6; 61:7; 71:10. Name of the McElhattan appointment prior to 1902. The EV congregation worshiped in the 1853 union church, of which they assumed complete control sometime after the ME erected their own building in 1873. In 1975 the congregation (renamed Linwood following the 1968 union) joined with the McElhattan and Pine ME congregations to become the present McElhattan UM and erect a building on that town's former ME site. The former EV building is still standing by the Linwood cemetery.

west mission - 52:3. Possibly a reference to Clearfield mission, attempted again in 1854.

White Hall - 69:9. This may refer to the White Hall known to be on Cumberland circuit at one time.

Wilkes Barre mission - 59:1; 60:2; 61:5. This work, begun in 1853, apparently included the entire valley and was renamed Wyoming mission in 1861. The work in Wilkes Barre proper was not permanently established until the East PA Conference began a mission there in 1871.

Williamsport mission - 60:4; 67:13; 70:13; 71:4

Willo - 53:5. An otherwise unknown appointment.

Wolf's - 67:8. About 1796 George Wolf (1733-1823) settled about 3 miles s.w. of Lewisburg. He opened his home to Jacob Albright. His sons Christian and Andrew (who married a sister of John Dreisbach) became EV preachers -- as did

Andrew's sons Aaron and Simon. Salem EV church was erected near the Wolf home in 1849, closed in 1946, and is now a private home.

Wyoming mission/circuit - 61:5; 66:4,6; 67:11; 70:3. The strongest congregation of this circuit, and the only one to maintain continuous existence from this period, was at Ransom -- where the work began in 1858, was transferred to the Wyoming Conference as a result of the 1968 union, and continues today in that conference.

York (Ger) - 51:3; 52:6; 55:3; 56:1; 61:3; 69:2; 71:6. This is York Bethlehem, the namesake of Bethlehem Farm. Jacob Albright preached in the court house here 1806-07. An EV congregation was organized in 1810 and worshiped at the court house until 1836. The appointment was separated from York circuit in 1842, and the congregation erected a building on Queen Street in 1844. Bethlehem remained with the EA during the split, erected a building at State and Wallace in 1903, and united with Ridge Avenue (former ME) in 1970. The new congregation is named Bethlehem and uses the Ridge Avenue building.

York (Eng) - 71:13. This is York Trinity. The congregation erected its first building when it was formed by 57 English-speaking members of Bethlehem in 1871 and the present structure at the same site in 1897.



original Trinity EV Church -- York, PA
erected 1871

York circuit - 50:5,6; 52:7; 53:2; 55:3; 56:2; 61:6; 62:2; 65:1; 70:2. York circuit was formed from Franklin circuit in 1812. Over the years it gave birth to most of the work in York county. It ceased to exist in 1901 when the seven remaining appointments were divided to form:

Hellam charge - Hellam (new appointment), Fairmount, Stony Brook and Green Hill.
Emigsville charge - Emigsville, Manchester, Strinestown and Center Square.

Early Central Pennsylvania Conference (EV) Vignettes

by Ammon Stapleton, 1908

These three vignettes are taken from Ammon Stapleton's 1908 *Flashlights on Evangelical History*. Rev. Stapleton was chairman of the ecumenical committee that organized the highly successful 1916 Evangelical Centennial Celebration. He died one week before the event took place, and the book compiled to commemorate the occasion was presented

*in memory of
Rev. Ammon Stapleton, M.S., A.M., D.D.
soldier, preacher,
presiding elder, author, historian, who,
more than any other person,
contributed
to the historic interest and success of the
Centennial Celebration.*



Rev. Ammon Stapleton (1850-1916)