

# the NAFZGER Heritage News

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## *Peter Lands in America in 1749*

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Peter Nofsger emigrated to America in 1749. He sailed on the ship "Phoenix" from Rotterdam and arrived in the port of Philadelphia. It would appear that he was born somewhere between 1700 and 1710. He was married to Sophronia Wise in Germany. He was naturalized in 1771 at Baltimore. After landing in Philadelphia, Peter settled in Berwick Township, York County, Pennsylvania. The land was in Lancaster County from 1729 to 1749, in York County from 1749 to 1800 and today, part of the land is found in Adams County and part in York County, Pennsylvania.

Apparently, Peter lived his entire life in Berwick township and died in 1783. He is probably buried somewhere in that area although several searches for the burial site by the publisher have failed to locate the exact site.

According to the records of Mrs. B. J. Hundley of Reston, Virginia, his children are Peter, Jacob, David, John, Samuel, Daniel, Joseph, and Hannah. There may have been other children but the above named children are to be found in Virginia courthouse records. Some may have remained behind although later York County records do not seem to indicate this fact. However, Virginia courthouse records would seem to indicate that the migration of Peter's family began just a few years after his death and continued until 1800.

One son of Peter; SAMUEL bought land in Botetourt County, Virginia from 1788 to 1824. He appeared in the 1810 Census with a family of six children. The 1820 Census would seem to indicate a family of five sons and three daughters. By 1830 Census, it would appear that only two daughters remained at home and the rest had moved from home. Samuel died in 1839. His children: Elizabeth Bilbro, Mary Nace, Polly Nace, Isaac, Abraham, Sally and Sarah.

PETER NOFFSINGER, Jr. must have been born around 1745 and died in 1795. He was married to Salome. Peter, Jr. must have been the first Noffsinger to enter Virginia. He bought land in Botetourt County in 1784. Children: Peter III, Jacob, Hannah Snider, Elizabeth, Polly, Heddy, Cadey, Susan, and Maria.

Another son of Peter, JACOB was born around 1762 and died in 1808. According records in Harrisonburg, it would appear he owned land in Rockingham County, Virginia in 1789. James and Ann Breckinridge of Botetourt County sold part of their military grant (1000 acres) in Humlenberg, Kentucky to Jacob. Thus, the family moved to Kentucky. He was married to Susan Stoner (1764-1836) in Botetourt County. Children are: Nancy, Mary, Samuel, Elizabeth, Jacob Jr., Catherine, Hannah, Susannah, Rebecca, Sally, Rachel, Joseph, and John.

DANIEL NOFFSINGER, another son of Peter, Moved to Kentucky with his brothers, Jacob and John. He had one daughter who married Wilson Turner.

Dr. JOHN NOFFSINGER is the third son of Peter to move to Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. Like brother Jacob, he too, purchased a part of the military grant from

the Breckinridges of Botetourt County, Virginia on the Mud River, Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. John was born in 1755 and died in 1835. He was from Franklin County, Virginia. He had a family of daughters: Hannah, Mary, and other children whose names are not known and one son named John.

There must have been another son named JOSEPH who died in 1815. He was married to Betsy who died in 1836. The children were young when he died. Little is known about the movements of his children but it would appear that they could have been named David, John, William, Joseph and perhaps others.

There is no available information on daughter, HANNAH NOFFSINGER, to date.

A great deal of the above information on the children of Peter who entered in 1749 is in the formative stages and stand to be corrected if proven otherwise. Some of the information has been put together with only a thread of evidence which is only slightly better than no evidence at all. I hope our readers will join together to help clarify the early heritage of Peter Nofsker's family.