

**BERKS HISTORY CONFERENCE**  
SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2016  
READING, PA



***SPEAKERS:***

KIMBERLY R. BROWN  
PATRICK J. DONMOYER  
CANDACE KINTZER PERRY

*For More Information:*  
Berks History Center

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www.berkshistory.org

**Into the Woods: European Civilization  
Meets Colonial America**

*Kimberly R. Brown*

*Immigration to America brings to mind the famous quote at the Statue of Liberty, “Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free... , as images of “depressed-looking” (physically, emotionally, financially) people, dressed in rags stepped onto the streets of New York. The immigrant experience in America is not just a 20<sup>th</sup> century phenomenon. Pennsylvania became America’s first melting pot of different ethnicities, religions and languages, roughly 200 years prior to the opening of Ellis Island. While there are many different nationalities coming to Pennsylvania during the 18<sup>th</sup> century, **Into the Woods: European Civilization Meets Colonial America** focuses on the German Immigrants: reasons why they left, the trials they faced during their travel down the Rhine and across the Atlantic and how they had to walk into the woods to begin carving out a future in a New World.*

**The Pennsylvania Dutch Landscape: A  
Legacy of Belief, Identity, and Persistence  
in the New World**

*Patrick J. Donmoyer*

*Program explores the significance of the historic structures that characterize the cultural landscape shaped by the Pennsylvania Dutch. Based on 8 years of extensive photographic field work, the historical landscape will be presented through four types of early buildings: Houses, Schoolhouses, Churches and Barns. These structures will demonstrate the domestic, educational, spiritual, and agricultural legacy of the Pennsylvania Dutch and their lasting impact on American Culture.*

**Beyond Taufscheine: An Exploration of Berks  
County Fraktur from Bethel To Hereford**

*Candace Kintzer Perry*

*Berks County is best known in the study of fraktur – Pennsylvania German decorated manuscripts – as the center of the printed Taufschein (Birth and Baptismal Certificate). The county, however, was also home to a wealth of fraktur made by schoolmasters, pastors, and itinerant scribes that has been far less studied and celebrated. Join Candace Kintzer Perry, a Berks native and Curator of Collections at the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center in Pennsburg on a journey through the county’s fraktur traditions from Bethel Township to Hereford Township with many stops in between.*

**Snyder Exhibit**

*The Pennsylvania Germans (also known as the Pennsylvania Dutch) descend from the approximately 80,000 German-speaking people who had immigrated to Pennsylvania by 1775. Most settled in the counties of Berks, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland, and York, although a sizeable number also lived in Philadelphia. At the time of the 1790 U.S. Census, Berks County was approximately 85 percent German.*

*Many colorful examples of folk art were made by the Pennsylvania Germans, including decorated manuscripts (known collectively as fraktur), painted and inlaid furniture, bold ironwork, elaborate needlework, and intricate pottery. Embellished with hearts, flowers, parrots, horses, lions, and other traditional motifs, these objects reveal a love of color, design, and whimsy. Most are functional, but others were made “just for nice” and attest to the Pennsylvania Germans’ penchant for decorating virtually everything.*

### Conference Schedule

- 8:30-9:00** Registration (tea and coffee will be served)
- 9:00-10:00** **Into the Woods: European Civilization Meets Colonial America**  
*Kimberly R. Brown*
- 10:00-10:30** Break
- 10:30-11:30** **The Pennsylvania Dutch Landscape: A Legacy of Belief, Identity, and Persistence in the New World**  
*Patrick J. Donmoyer*
- 11:30-1:00** Lunch and 2 Guided Tours of the Snyder Exhibit
- 1:00-2:00** **Beyond Taufscheine: An Exploration of Berks County Fraktur from Bethel To Hereford**  
*Candace Kintzer Perry*
- 2:00-2:30** Break
- 2:30-3:30** Curator's Tour of Collections Areas  
Guided Tour of the Snyder Exhibit

The Berks History Center would like to thank the following for sponsoring the Berks History Conference:

- Berks Packing
- The Reading Eagle
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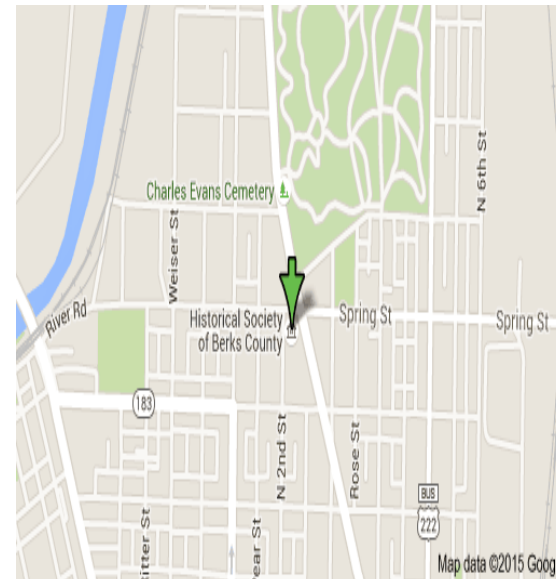


### Location of Conference

The Berks History Conference will be held in the Connor Auditorium at the Berks History Center, Reading, PA. Parking is available behind the Berks History Center, at the Henry Janssen Library. Street parking is also available. Facilities are accessible for physically challenged persons.

See our website for directions to the Berks History Center. We are located at 940 Centre Ave., Reading, PA 19601.

### Map



610-375-4375

[krichards@berkshistory.org](mailto:krichards@berkshistory.org)  
[www.berkshistory.org](http://www.berkshistory.org)

### Registration Form

Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration Fees:

<b>Students</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>BHC Member</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Non-Member</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>
<b>New Member and Conference Fee</b>	<b>\$95.00</b>

*Price is per person*

*Lunch is included with fee*

**Amount Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to  
Historical Society of Berks County*

DETACH THIS FORM AND SEND WITH CHECK TO:

THE BERKS HISTORY CENTER  
940 Centre Avenue  
Reading, PA 19601

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations must be in writing and received by April 2, 2016. A \$35.00 administration fee will be charged. No refunds after April 2, 2016.

**Registration Reservation requested by  
April 2, 2016**