

# Mennonite Historians of Eastern Pennsylvania



MHEP Hist. Mss. 1-92 Salford Mennonite Church Collection  
One Archival Box, 27 folders.

The Salford Church Collection was placed on Indefinite Loan with the Mennonite Historians by the Salford Congregation in March of 1986. The collection consists of deeds, agreements, leases & releases, drafts, trustees records and deacons records spanning the years 1718 to 1937, or 220 years. This collection has some of the earliest Mennonite church documents in southeastern Pennsylvania. The original 1738-1739 Declaration of Trust for the congregation has the seventeen names of the original male members listed on it. The trustees records begin in 1818; the deacons records in 1847. Here are deeds signed by some of the earliest Mennonite ministers and bishops in the area: Henry Funk, Dielman Kolb, Abraham Reiff, Christian Meyer, Christian Funk and others. One deed has the signature of Christopher Dock, the noted school master of Skippack and Salford, and Frederick Alderfer, ancestor of all the Alderfers in this area. This is then a most valuable collection of church records covering more than two centuries in the life of a Mennonite congregation.

## Inventory Folder:

1. Feb. 14, 1718 Deed, David Powell to Henry Ruth. Original farm from which the church land was taken.
2. October 4 and October 5, 1738 Lease and Release, Henry & Modlena Ruth to Henry Funk, Dielman Kolb, Christian Meyer Jr., and Abraham Reiff, early ministers and deacons of the Salford Cong. This lease is for 10 acres; a part of the original Ruth Tract.
3. Jan. 25, 1739 Declaration of Trust, between Henry Funk, Dielman Kolb, et.al. and Nicholas Holdeman, Christian Allebach, Henry Ruth et.al., early members of the Salford congregation. This was for the 10 acres and a meetinghouse.
4. August 17, 1747 Deed from Henry & Modlena Ruth to Christian Stauffer for their original farm. Witnessed by Christopher Dock and Frederick Alderfer, Hans Ulrich Bergey.
5. March 25, 1763 Declaration of Trust from Abraham Reiff and Christian Meyer (surviving trustees) to Christian Funk and Jacob Clemens, new trustees and ordained men.
6. May 13, 1799 Deed between Samuel Harley and Conrad Keely. Later became part of the church farm.

Salford Mennonite Church Collection Inventory, cont'd.

7. Feb. 11, 1837 Deed from Margaret Keely to Henry & Jacob Clemens, trustees of the Salford Congregation.

8. March 27, 1837 Articles of Agreement and Draft, Margaret Keely to Henry & Jacob Clemens, trustees.

9. August 11, 1847 Deed from Henry Clemens & wife to John Shutt, Isaac Clemens, and Henry Moyer for a schoolhouse at the Salford Meetinghouse (Meetinghouse School). *This tract came into possession of the congregation in 1937.*

10. Jan. 1, 1853 Deed from Margaret Keely to Abraham Aldefer, John Freed, and Garret Clemens, trustees of the congregation.

11. August 22, 1860 Deed from Daniel Clemens & wife to John Freed, Abraham O. Alderfer, and Garret Clemens, trustees.

12. August 22, 1860 Deed Isaac Clemens & wife to John Freed, et. al., trustees.

13. Nov. 14, 1881 Deed Isaac K. Clemens & wife to Lower Salford School District. Land for the school, which later came into possession of the Salford Congregation, *in 1937.*

14. May 14, 1884 Deed from Isaac Clemens & wife to the Salford Mennonite Congregation.

15. May 14, 1884 Deed from Daniel Clemens & wife to the Salford Mennonite Congregation.

16. Jan. 23, 1890 Deed from Isaac M. Clemmer & wife to Elias R. Landis, Henry N. Clemens, trustees.

17. June 4, 1892 Deed from Isaac Clemens & wife to the Salford Mennonite Congregation.

18. May 25, 1892 Land Draft by Alvin C. Alderfer for land from Isaac Clemens to the Salford Congregation. "No Live or Growing Trees are to be cut from this Tract".

19. June 5, 1900 Release of the Salford Trustees to the will of Benjamin Z. Alderfer of Lower Salford.

20. Feb. 6, 1937 Deed from Lower Salford School District to the Salford Trustees for the schoolhouse and land.

21. 1874 or 1875 Henry S. Bower's account of money collected for the Russian Mennonites.

22. Salford Mennonite Trustees Books, 1818-1830; 1830-1850; 1851-1898.

23. Salford Mennonite Alms (Deacons) Books, 1849-1867, 1878-1889.

24. Alms (Deacons) Books, 1889-1922; Membership Records, 1889-1894; 1910-23.

25. Alms Book, 1923-1955; Membership Records, 1920-1957. (Henry M. Ruth).

26. Trustees & Treasurer's Record Book, 1898-1966.

27. Misc. Deacon's/Mutual Aid Records, 1885, 1901.