

# What happened to Joseph Mumma?

Joseph Mumma, a son of Henry Mumma (1758-1809), was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, but moved to Sharpsburg, Maryland about 1798 with his parents and siblings. Here he was raised, lived, married and raised his own family. After 1831, Joseph disappears from all Washington County, Maryland records.

So what happened to Joseph? - a question posed by his great grandnephew. This report summarizes what is known about Joseph and his family.

by Douglas M. Mumma

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## Joseph Mumma [1786 - ??? ] & his children

### The Problem:

Rather detailed information is known about Joseph Mumma, the son of Henry Mumma (1758-1809) from his early life until about 1831 and then, absolutely nothing more is recorded about him. He simply disappears from all records. His two marriages were recorded in Washington County, Maryland as well as appearing in some newspaper accounts. He and his wife and children appear in the 1820 & 1830 census, suggesting that he had five children. He even filed court papers in Washington county in 1830 because he was the executor of his sister's husband' estate. I believe that I have identified his five children, but I have not been able to fully document and "prove" their relationship to him. I have unsuccessfully attempted to learn what happened to Joseph, his wives and one of his children. Joseph is my great great granduncle.

### Goals and Objectives:

The primary goals of this research project were:

- 1) Determine what happened to Joseph's first wife, Margaret Beckley. Their marriage is recorded in the Washington County marriages. When did she die and where is she buried?
- 2) Verify that the names of the children of Joseph Mumma & Margaret Buckley were John and David Mumma who migrated to Ogle County, Illinois around 1837 along with many other Sharpsburg families.
- 3) Verify that the names of the children born to Joseph Mumma & Elizabeth Shafer, his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife, were Solomon, Mary Elizabeth and Barbara Mumma.
- 4) Determine when and where Joseph & Elizabeth Mumma died and where they are buried.
- 5) Determine what happened to Barbara Mumma, Joseph's youngest daughter. She is not found after the she sold some property in 1861 which she inherited in 1860.

**Background:** [see the end of this document for a descendant chart for Joseph Mumma]

Joseph Mumma [1786-?] was born in Lancaster County, PA, the son of Henry and Juliana Mumma [1756-1809]. Henry, his father, sold his farm in Hempfield township of Lancaster County about 1898 and moved the family to Sharpsburg, Maryland, following the footsteps of his younger brother, Jacob Mumma. Jacob Mumma purchased property from the Orndorff family upon which the Mumma Farm and cemetery are located. Within 11 years of his arrival in Sharpsburg, Henry Mumma died in Sharpsburg, Maryland about 20 October, 1809 probably rather quickly since he left no Will, but did own property which had to be probated. Henry's death and burial, were noted in Christian Newcomer's personal journal in which Christian recorded events while he served as a circuit riding minister with the United Brethren in Christ Church. His Journal was originally printed by John Hildt (Hagerstown MD, printed by F.G.W. Kapp Book Printer, 1834). It was later reprinted in 1996 by the United Methodist Church, Lancaster, PA.

On page 183 of the original printing, the following entry was made by Christian Newcomer in his journal:

*"Sunday 22d (1809) -- We had a Quarterly meeting at Jacob Thomas's in the old church I had to leave the meeting and preach a funeral discourse at the burial of Henry Mumma, in Sharpsburg."*

It turns out that Christian Newcomer and Henry Mumma's mothers were sisters, so they were first cousins. Christian's diary records several meetings that took place between Christian and Henry in Sharpsburg. The diary also records meetings between Christian and George Mumma in Pennsylvania. George was Henry's brother and a devout Mennonite. Some of the meetings between Christian and George were not cordial, which he recorded.

Joseph is identified in the estate settlement papers of his father, his two marriages are listed in the Washington County, MD, marriage records, the 1820 and 1830 census records and he served as the

executor of the estate of his sister's husband, John Verble/Werble. But, Joseph has not been identified in any documents after 1831.

### **Fact timeline for Joseph MUMMA, his parents and his siblings:**

Complete pedigrees and descendants' charts can be created and viewed online using my website for Joseph as well as his parents, siblings and children. The specific page for Joseph is found at:

<http://www.mumma.org/cgi-bin/igmget.cgi/n=mumma?I26567>

**1786** - Joseph was born about 1786 in Hempfield township of Lancaster County, PA. He was a son of Henry Mumma [218]. His birth date is estimated from the known birth dates of his siblings and the birth order listed in his father's estate distribution document. His father was George Anthony Mumma and his mother was Barbara Weber.

### **1790 Census**

1790 Census - Hempfield Twp., Lancaster Co., PA - Henry MUMA  
2 males over the age of 16 (Henry the father & an unidentified male)  
3 males less than 16. (sons John, Henry, Joseph)  
2 females any age (wife Juliana and daughter Barbara)

**1798/99** - About 1798/99, Henry Mumma sold the land he owned in Hempfield township of Lancaster County, PA and migrated to Sharpsburg, MD. This was land that his father, George Anthony Mumma, allowed him to purchase when his father's Will was probated in 1786. Through the terms of the will, he became indebted to his siblings for the value of the land he acquired. However, the land apparently could not produce sufficient income to pay off his debts to his siblings. In one Lancaster County Tax recording, his property was classified as "*poor land*". To satisfy this debt to his siblings, Henry sold the land about 1798 and migrated to Sharpsburg, Maryland. Henry's younger brother, Jacob, arrived first in the Sharpsburg area around 1796 and began purchasing parcels of land. It is known that he made several trips back to Lancaster to borrow money for these land purchases. I speculate that Jacob gave glowing reports of opportunities in Sharpsburg and enticed his brother Henry to sell his "poor land" in Pennsylvania and migrate to Sharpsburg, Maryland with his family. Jacob Mumma, is the one who purchased the land from Christian Orndorff and his wife, including the mill located on Antietam Creek and the farm where the battle of Antietam took place many years later. The "Mumma farm" and Cemetery are now located in the middle of the Antietam National Battlefield

### **1800 Census, MD, Washington Co., Sharpsburg 100, p. 109 - Henry MUMA**

3 males, age 0-10 (Jacob + probably Henry and Joseph, but in the wrong age bracket)  
1 male, age 10-16 (John)  
1 male, age 26-45 (Henry the father - calculated birth year would be between 1755-1774)  
2 females, age 0 -10 years (daughter Maria + unidentified female)  
1 female 16-26 (daughter Barbara)  
1 female 26-45. (Juliana, the wife)

**26 Aug 1803** – Barbara Mumma, the sister of Joseph, married Peter Warble. Barbara, age ~20. Their marriage appears in the Washington county marriage records. They attended the Reformed Church of Sharpsburg and they also appear in the records of the Shepherdstown, VA Reformed Church.

**1803/1804 Sharpsburg 100 tax records** –Henry Mumma, the father, and his brother, Jacob Mumma, are both listed on these tax roles as residing within the Sharpsburg 100 district. They are taxed according to their amount of ownership of land, crops, animals and slaves. Henry was not taxed for owning any land, but he was taxed for his 2 slaves and the animals he owned.

<http://www.whilbr.org/WashCoTaxes1803/index.aspx>

**1807** – John Mumma, the eldest son of Henry Mumma, married Mary Fox in 1807. That marriage record is found in the Washington County marriage records.

**20 Oct 1809** – Henry Mumma, the father, died intestate on 20 October 1809 and was buried on Sunday, 22 October 1809 somewhere in the Sharpsburg, as noted in Christian Newcomer’s Diary, on page 183. The most likely burial location in Sharpsburg for Henry would be the Reformed Church which had burials as early as 1776

<http://usgwarchives.net/md/washington/tsimages/sharpsburg/sharp-ref.html>

Another possibility was the Mount Calvary Lutheran Cemetery, which was an active cemetery.

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gsr&GScid=2209112>

**1810** – The estate of Henry Mumma is probated – The estate papers can be found in Maryland Archives or viewed/downloaded from my website

[http://www.mumma.org/archives/Estate-MD-Wash-HenryMumma-1809-12-05\\_Admin\\_VolB\\_p74.pdf](http://www.mumma.org/archives/Estate-MD-Wash-HenryMumma-1809-12-05_Admin_VolB_p74.pdf)

[http://www.mumma.org/archives/Estate-MD-Wash-HenryMumma-1809-12-19\\_Inventory\\_VolD\\_pp129-131.pdf](http://www.mumma.org/archives/Estate-MD-Wash-HenryMumma-1809-12-19_Inventory_VolD_pp129-131.pdf)

[http://www.mumma.org/archives/Estate-MD-Wash-HenryMumma-1809-12-20\\_PublicVendue\\_VolC\\_pp327-332.pdf](http://www.mumma.org/archives/Estate-MD-Wash-HenryMumma-1809-12-20_PublicVendue_VolC_pp327-332.pdf)

[http://www.mumma.org/archives/Estate-MD-Wash-HenryMumma-1811-03-30\\_Accounting\\_Vol4\\_pp27-28.pdf](http://www.mumma.org/archives/Estate-MD-Wash-HenryMumma-1811-03-30_Accounting_Vol4_pp27-28.pdf)

[http://www.mumma.org/archives/Estate-MD-Wash-HenryMumma-1811-03-30\\_Distribution\\_p86.pdf](http://www.mumma.org/archives/Estate-MD-Wash-HenryMumma-1811-03-30_Distribution_p86.pdf).

**18 Apr 1810** - Henry Mumma, the son of Henry, married Adelica Staub. Henry is an older brother of Joseph. Henry appears in the 1810 census with a wife, but no children (they married on April 18<sup>th</sup> 1810), so that census must have been recorded after April of 1810.

**1810 Census**, MD, Washington Co, Sharpsburg 100 ED., pages 504 & 506

There were only 56 households enumerated in this election district, so the area was sparsely populated. Jacob Muma [210] is shown in the first column of this enumeration list. He arrived in Sharpsburg in 1796. Henry Mumma’s widow and children appear 43 entries later in the census and they are all living close together. The second column lists Henry’s widow, Juliana and a daughter, Maria. The third column lists Henry’s eldest son, John Muma [2181], followed by son Henry Muma [2184]. The last column lists Peter & Barbara Muma [2186] Warble. Henry's youngest son, Jacob, is not listed because he was only 14 years old at this time and was likely apprenticed to a weaver and probably living with him. Joseph Mumma (age 24) cannot be identified in this census and was likely living with another family.

	Jacob Muma [210]	Juliana Muma [218]	John Muma [2181]	Henry Muma [2184]	Peter Warble & Barbara [Mumma] [2186]
Male < 10	1		1		1
Male 10-15	1		1		
Male 16-25	2		1		1
Male 26-44	1				1
Male >45					
Female < 10					3
Female 10-15	1				
Female 16-25		1	1		1
Female 25-45					1
Female >45	1				1
Slaves	5		1		

**1812** - About 1812, John Mumma, oldest brother of Joseph, joined his wife's family, the Foxes, and migrated to Belmont County, Ohio. John Mumma remained in Belmont County the rest of his life where he raised his family.

**20 May 1816** –Joseph Mumma married Margaret Beckley which is recorded in Washington County, MD. His age is listed as 31, suggesting he was born about 1785. This fits well with the estimated birth year for Joseph from other sources. It is somewhat surprising he waited this long to marry.

**1820 census**, MD, Washington Co, district #1, page 226 – Joseph Mumma

Males under 10 = 2 (John & David Mumma)

10 - 16 = 1 (unidentified male)

26 - 45 = 1 (Joseph was born abt. 1786 so his age would be 34)

Females 10 - 16 = 1 (unidentified female)

26 - 45 = 1 (Margaret was born between 1790-1800, so her age of 20-30 is OK)

[Note: There is a male and female, age 10-16 years, listed with them. Since they have only been married 4 years, these would not be their children. The children are too young to be one of Joseph's siblings. Also, none of his siblings appear to be living nearby.]

**1823** - Peter Warble, the husband of Joseph's sister, Barbara Mumma Warble died in 1823. Letters of administration are filed in February, 1823 in Washington Co., MD for Peter. Joseph is appointed as the executor of Peter's estate. A Will of Peter was not recorded. Most of proceeds of Peter's estate came from the estate of his father, Johannes Werbel, alias Johannes Vervil, alias Johannes Warble.


**11 Mar 1823** – Notice is published in the Hagerstown Torch Light Newspaper that Letters of Administration were issued on the personal estate of PETER WARVEL, late of said county requesting that claims against the estate be filed. [Hagerstown Torch Light Newspaper]

**27 May 1823** – Joseph Mumma filed an inventory of personal property of Peter Warvil which was sold at public sale on 7<sup>th</sup> of March 1823 and \$196.99½ was received. (I have a copy of this document). Also on this date, a notice was published in the Torch Light newspaper that Joseph had found a stray Dark Bay Mare and he would like the owner to take the horse away. Joseph is living near Zigler's Store.

**26 Feb 1824** – Joseph Mumma married Elizabeth Shafer in Washington Co., MD. This suggests that his first wife, Margaret Beckley likely died. The marriage was also recorded in the Torchlight newspaper which stated "*On Thursday the 26th ult. by the Rev. Mr. Geeting, Mr. Joseph Mumma to Miss Elizabeth Shafer, all of this county.*" I have not been able to identify Elizabeth Shafer's parents.

**1827** – Three of the four remaining siblings of Joseph (Jacob Mumma, Maria Mumma, and Barbara Warble, a widow] join a wagon train heading for Springfield and Dayton, Ohio.

**1828** – Joseph's last remaining sibling, Henry Mumma, migrated to Dayton Ohio with his family this year. There are various newspaper accounts of Henry Mumma living at the tavern at the ferry opposite Shepherdstown (John Blackford) and the tavern will soon become available for rent. After this date, Joseph is the only descendent of Henry Mumma still living in Washington County, Maryland.

**Washington county, to wit.**  
**I HEREBY** certify that Jos. Mumma, living near Zeigler's Store, bro't before me, a Justice of the Peace for the county aforesaid, as a stray, a  
**Dark Bay Mare,**  
  
about eight or nine years old, shod all round, fifteen hands high, and a small white spot on her forehead, both hind feet white, some saddle marks, and has the sweney in both shoulders; no other perceivable mark or brand. Given under my hand, this 24th day of May, 1823.  
**GEO. SMITH.**  
**May 27.** 30—3w.  
**N. B.** The owner of the above described stray is desired to come & prove property, pay charges and take her away.  
**JOSEPH MUMMA.**

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Hagerstown Torchlight  
May 27, 1823

**7 April 1829** – An Estate distribution was filed by Joseph Mumma as executor of Peter Warbel's (Vervil) estate on 7 Apr 1829 in the Washington County Courthouse.

**20 April 1829** – A 2<sup>nd</sup> estate distribution was filed by Joseph Mumma for Peter Warbel's (Vervil) estate on 20 Apr 1829 in the Washington County Courthouse. (I have a copy of this document). Apparently additional distributions were made on 20 April 1830 and on 10 May 1831. I don't have copies.

**1830 census, MD, Washington Co, 2nd district, p. 72 - [indexed in Ancestry as *Joseph Munna*]**

Males under 5 = 1 (*Solomon age 4*)  
5 – 10 = 2 (*I assume there was an age grouping error – John age 12 & David age 10*)  
40 – 50 = 1 (*Joseph Mumma was born abt. 1786 so his age would be 44*)  
Females under 5 = 2 (*Mary age 2 & Barbara age less than 1*)  
30 - 40 = 1 (*Elizabeth Shafer, b: abt 1795, age 35*)

This is almost certainly Joseph, the son of Henry. Joseph's uncle, Jacob, did not have a son named Joseph, but did have a younger grandson with that name. Joseph was not a common given name for this particular branch of the Mumma family.

The following excerpt is from a "*Mumma Family History*" written by Joseph's great nephew in Dayton Ohio in 1892. This document identifies all of the children of Henry and what happened to them.

<http://www.mumma.org/archives/aaron.html>

*"In our great grandfather's family there were 4 boys and 2 girls, known as Mrs. Barbara Warble, Henry, Joseph, Maria who married Pefley, John and grandfather Jacob.*

*Of these children, Mrs. Barbara Warble lived in Sharpsburg from whom Kershners of Springfield Ohio, Gordons of Auburn, Indiana and many more sprang.*

*John was killed near Wheeling Va. by a tree falling on him while cutting wood.*

*Henry came to Dayton in 1828.*

*Joseph's career is unknown.*

*Jacob the youngest, our grandfather was but a small boy when his father died, but was put out to learn the trade of weaver, and he did the work of what is known as making home spun cloth. He worked in Sharpsburg, Md. where he was born and where he married Miss Pollie Blessing. He followed his trade here together with the boarding of school teachers, who on Saturdays would try to teach Aunt Mary Ann Bowman to dance, then a girl between 7 and 10 years old.*

*On the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 1827 grandfather together with several other families packed up and in several of the old half moon pioneer wagons started for Dayton, Ohio. "*

The family lost track of Joseph and had no knowledge as to what happened to him after 1830/31 when the final distribution of Peter Warble's estate was made. Joseph is not found in the 1840 or later census of Washington County, MD. His widow and several children are recorded in the 1830 census; therefore, I suspect that Joseph died between 1831 and 1840, probably in the Sharpsburg area.

**General Caution when researching the Mumma Families of Washington County, Maryland.** – Henry Mumma (1758-1809) and Jacob Mumma (1766-1848), the progenitors of the Washington County Mumma families, used almost identical naming patterns for their children. Since Henry died in 1809, many people have confused his children as being the children of his brother, Jacob. In fact, Jacob Mumma, the Washington County progenitor has often been called "*Jacob Henry Mumma*" because people became confused as to whether there were two people named Jacob and Henry or just one person whose name was often recorded differently. As a result, one must use caution in determining to which men a person might descend. Fortunately, Joseph was not a given name used by Jacob Mumma for his descendants, but the names of John, Henry, Jacob, Mary, are repeated in almost every generation.

There was a Joseph Mumma who was shot and killed on April 24, 1850 in Cumberland, Maryland, as reported in the Cumberland newspapers. At one time, I considered that this Joseph might have been Henry's son. After extensively investigating this incident, I determined from various documents that this Joseph Mumma was much younger and descended from Jacob Mumma, the eldest son of Conrad Mumma. Conrad's descendants lived in Cumberland, Maryland in the early 1800s.

### **Possible Children of Joseph Mumma and Mary Beckley -**

Two young boys, John (age 19) & David (age 17) Mumma left Washington County, Md in 1837 and went to Ogle County, Illinois. They have sometimes been incorrectly identified as being descendants of Jacob Mumma, the brother of Henry Mumma. No parents have ever been correctly documented for these two boys. I suspected that they are the children of Joseph Mumma and Mary Beckley which are listed in the 1820 census. These two boys do not fit in the genealogies of any of Jacob Mumma's sons. Only Jacob's eldest son, John, was old enough to have fathered these boys. And, as it turns out, John did name one son, "Jonathan", who was born in 1820 and he too migrated to Ogle county, just as did John Mumma, b: 1818. These two boys have often been confused and misidentified as being one in the same person. The following are some excerpts from some obituaries and Illinois county histories that describe the migration John and David Mumma to Ogle County, Illinois.

[Obituary from an unknown Illinois newspaper & undated]

*John Mumma was born in Washington County, Maryland, January 16, 1818 and died at his home in Adeline, Ogle County, Illinois, November 29, 1890, aged 72 years, 10 months, and 13 days.*

*He first came to this state in 1837 in a party consisting of David Mumma, Benjamin Myers, Samuel Fonts, Samuel Heith, and Jacob Buck. Of this party he was the last surviving member.*

[Excerpt from an Ogle County History----]

*MUMMA, JOHN. Postmaster, Adeline; was born in Washington Co., Md, 1818; located in the State of Illinois in 1837; returned to Maryland in the Fall of 1840; married Miss Susan Huffman in the Fall of 1842; she was born in 1822; they located in this county in the Fall of 1846; they had six children, two girls and four boys - Mary Ellen was born in Washington Co., Md., May 5, 1844; Isaiah S., born Dec. 23, 1845; Catherine, born in this county August 11, 1848; David, born August 13, 1850; Samuel W. born Feb. 26, 1856; Frank L. born August 1, 1866; Mr. Mumma and wife are members of the Lutheran Church; Mr. Mumma has been in office in the church for 18 years, and Postmaster of Adeline for 5 years and Justice of the Peace for 3 years.*

David Mumma first stopped in Ogle County, IL with his brother, but soon move on to Carroll County where he married and established his residence. His obituary establishes his birth date.

[MOUNT CARROLL MIRROR (Illinois) - Friday, August 4, 1882

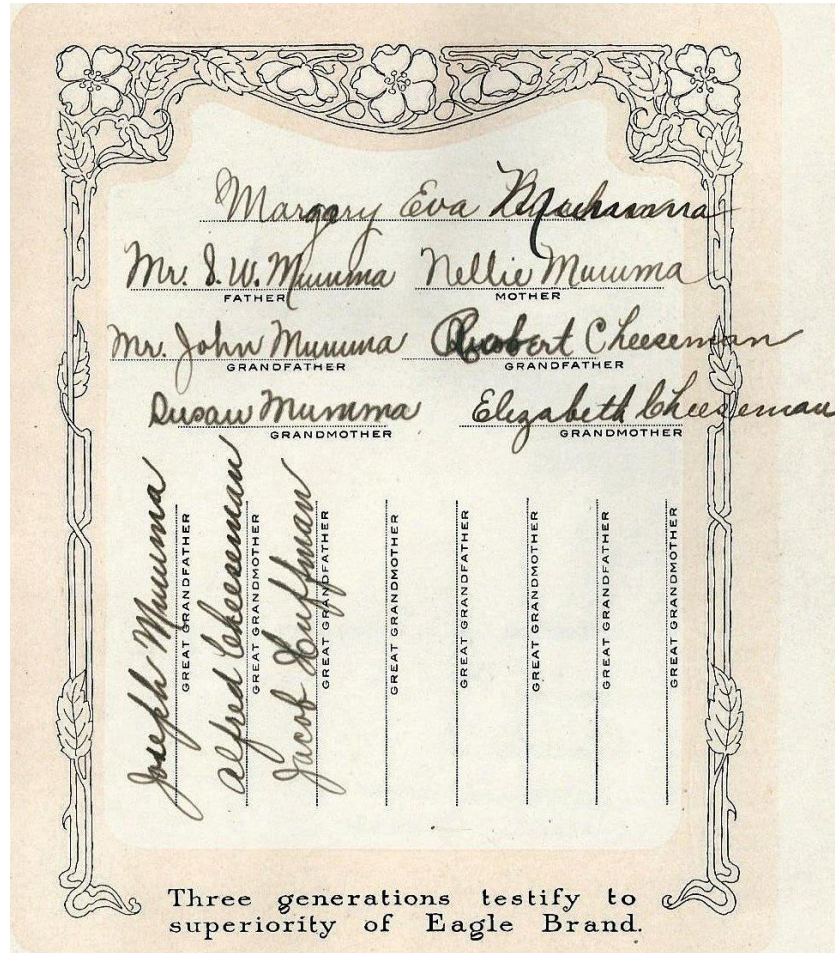
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*At his residence in this city, on Thursday evening, July 27, 1882, of Mountain Fever, Mr. David Mumma, aged 61 years, 9 months and 26 days.*

*The deceased was born in the state of Maryland, October 1, 1820, and came to this city in 1848, where he has since resided. Mr. Mumma was an industrious, hard-working man, generous, open-hearted, a kind and loving husband and father, and was honored and respected by all who knew him. Some months ago he went to Colorado to look after some silver mines which he owned, and there contracted the mountain fever. He came home several weeks ago thinking that the change of climate and home surroundings would hasten his recovery. But alas - how fickle is life. Instead of recovering, he rapidly grew worse and died as above stated. He leaves a wife and seven daughters to mourn his departure.*

What is very frustrating is that there is no mention of the parents of John or David in any obituaries or Illinois county histories. Even though the evidence presented as to Joseph's children is speculative, I believe that John Mumma [1818-1890] and David Mumma [1820-1882] were the sons of Joseph

Mumma and Mary Beckley. A few family bibles have been discovered in Illinois, but none of them identified the names of any parents. Death records have been reviewed, but no parents were listed.

Recently, a baby book of, Marjory Eve Mumma (1907-1970), great granddaughter of Joseph Mumma was discovered in which her great grandfather's name was recorded as "Joseph Mumma". The baby book (page 10 shown below) was filled-in by Susan Mumma, Marjory's twenty four year old sister on 29 Dec, 1907, about a year after Marjory was born. This is the only known document in which Joseph Mumma is recorded as the father of John Mumma who migrated to Ogle County, Illinois. Since John's mother died when he was very young and he was raised by his step-mother, Elizabeth Shafer, his actual mother's name he may not have shared with the family. This document is in the possession of Susan Ann Swift who lives in Forreston, IL.



**Possible children of Joseph Mumma's 2<sup>nd</sup> marriage to Elizabeth Shafer -**

The 1830 census lists a Joseph Mumma with a wife, three young children (one boy and two girls) as well as two older boys probably from his first marriage. It appears that the older boys were recorded in the wrong census age group, which is not unusual. I believe the three younger children are named Solomon, Mary Elizabeth and Barbara.

**1830 census, MD, Washington Co., 2nd district, p. 72 -**

- Males under 5 = 1 (Solomon Mumma, b. 1826)
- ..... 5 - 10 = 2 ( Probably David, b. 1820 & John b. 1818, but are listed in the wrong age group)
- .....40 - 50 = 1 (Joseph was born abt 1786 so his age would be 44)
- Females under 5 = 2 ( Mary Elizabeth, b. abt 1828 - & Barbara b: abt 1830)
- .....30 - 40 = 1 (Elizabeth Shafer, born between 1790-1800)

Joseph has not been discovered in any census after 1830. The 1840 census lists an Eliza Mumma with young children which are of the correct ages. I believe this was Joseph's wife and his three children by her. The two boys from his first marriage, John and David, decided to leave for Illinois in 1837, even though they would have been about 17 and 19 years old. Perhaps it was not a happy household with a step-mother. It is unclear whether Joseph is deceased or not in the household. His age would be 54.

**1840 Census, Hagerstown, Washington, Maryland**

Eliza Mumma  
 Free White Persons - Males - 10 thru 14: 1 (Solomon?)  
 Free White Persons - Females - 10 thru 14: 1 (Mary Elizabeth? or Barbara?)  
 Free White Persons - Females - 40 thru 49: 1 (Elizabeth age 41-49?)  
 Free White Persons - Under 20: 2  
 Free White Persons - 20 thru 49: 1  
 Total Free White Persons: 3

It was difficult to identify the potential names of the three children from his second marriage. I started by looking for names of Mummas who lived in Washington County, but were not attached or connected to any descendants of Jacob Mumma, the brother of Henry Mumma (Joseph's father). The descendants of Jacob Mumma have been well researched, identified. I speculated that anyone not listed as a descendant of progenitor Jacob Mumma may well be one of the children of Joseph and Elizabeth Mumma. I started by looking at the marriage and census records of Washington County and seeing which ones were not descendants of progenitor Jacob. Three such individuals were identified who were the correct age, etc. and after researching them in detail, I am confident that they are Joseph's children.

**Solomon Mumma [1826-1886]**

A Solomon Mumma married Susan C. McMinn on 16 Nov 1847, as recorded in the Washington County marriage records. This is the only record I could find for Solomon in Washington County, MD, so I cast my search net beyond Maryland. A Solomon Mumma, with a wife named Susan, appears in the 1850 census of Pittsburg, PA with a 1 year old daughter, Sarah, born in Pennsylvania (1849). Solomon's age fits with that recorded in the 1830 and 1840 census. It also suggests they left Maryland not long after their marriage. Apparently, Jane McMinn is Susan's sister who is living with them.

**SCHEDULE I. — Free Inhabitants in** *St. 3 Wood of Pittsburg* **in the County of** *Allegheny* **(State)**  
**of** *Penna* **enumerated by me, on the** *4* **day of** *Sept* **1850.** *W. Magill* **Ass't Marshal** 234

Dwelling-house numbered in the order of visitation.	Family numbered in order of visitation.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	PLACE OF BIRTH. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.		
			Age.	Sex.	Color (White, black or mulatto).								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
5	1417	Solomon Mumma	23	M		D. Sawyer		Maryland					13
6		Susan	21	F				"					16
7		Sarah C.	1	F				Penn					17
8		Susan McMinn	20	F				Maryland					18

Further research revealed that Solomon and Susan lived in Pittsburg for the remainder of their lives. I was able to recreate Solomon's family from the census records and the burial information in the Homewood Cemetery in Pittsburg. Memorials had been created for them on Find-A-Grave:

<https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=91004393> - Solomon Mumma

and

<https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=91004394> - Susan McMinn Mumma

I was able to find Solomon's death information recorded on the Internet and was hopeful that his death certificate would list his parent's name, but unfortunately that information was not asked nor recorded when he died in 1886. However, his death certificate, which can be viewed on Find-A-Grave, did state his exact death date, age at death and that he was born in Sharpsburg, Maryland which was significant. The detailed information found for Solomon and his descendants can be viewed at:

<http://www.mumma.org/cgi-bin/igmget.cgi/n=mumma?I68289>

Solomon's wife's death certificate yielded much more information since Susan didn't die until 1916 when standardized death reporting was required in Pennsylvania. Her record nicely states the names of her parents. The one entry that was wrong on her death certificate, however, was her birth date. It listed her birth date as 12 July 1838 which can't be right for several reasons. One is she married Solomon on 16 November, 1847 and it is highly unlikely that she was only 9 years old. The other compelling argument is her mother died in 1834. I was able to determine her mother's death date because the tombstone of her mother, Sarah McMinn, is located in the First Methodist Cemetery in Sharpsburg. It states that she died 3 May 1834. Susan seemed to shaved a few years off of her birth year each time the census was recorded. <https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=21634682>

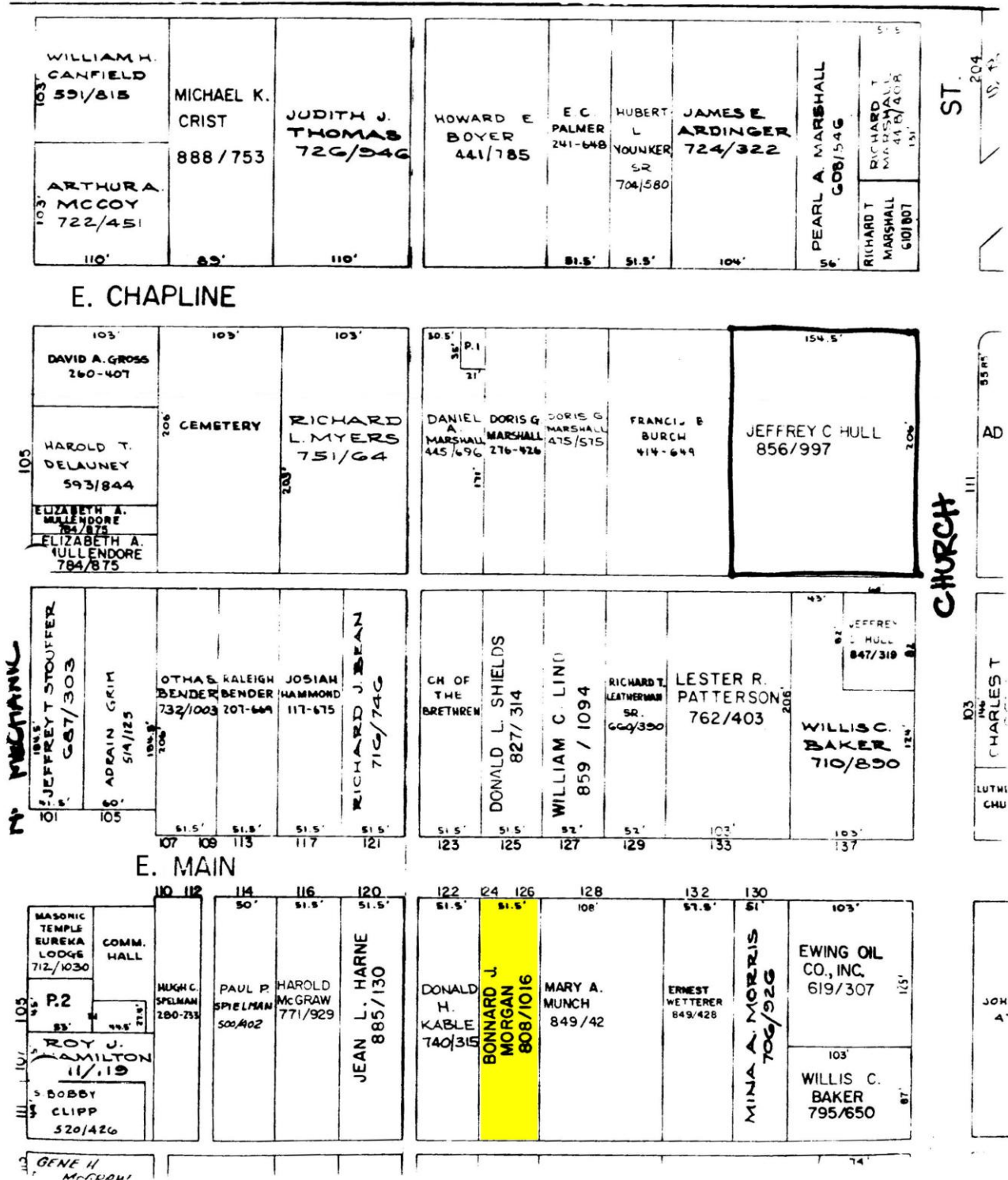
### **Mary Elizabeth Mumma [1828-1901]**

The Washington County Marriage records list the marriage of a Henry C. Rohrer to Mary Mumma on 20 Dec 1849. This was another person that no one had attached as a descendant of Jacob Mumma. So, I speculated that she could have been one of the young girls identified in the 1830 census as a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Mumma. I discovered that Henry and Mary Rohrer lived at 124 East Main Street, Sharpsburg, from the time of their marriage in December of 1849 until Mary died in 1901. That house sold in June of 2014 and is shown below. The picture to the right was taken at a much earlier time before modern siding was added to the original log walls. It may be Mary Rohrer in the photograph.



The house was built as a duplex and Hannah Kretzer probably lived in one unit and Mary and Henry Rohrer lived in the other. The sales information stated: *"The first original log structure on East 1/2 Lot #4 was the Frederick Fox House circa 1783. Hannah Kretzer lived in this house prior to the Civil War and died there in 1860. The Henry Rohrer family lived here during the Civil War and until 1901. The additions to the house (in the rear) were added around 1880."* The picture shown on the left shows a larger, stone building abutting Hannah Kretzer's house. Actually, the larger stone house is known as the

"Kretzer" house and was owned by a John Kretzer. John was a blacksmith and it is unclear as to his relationship to Hannah Kretzer or her husband, Leonard. I speculate that John was Leonard Kretzer's nephew. John Kretzer and his family lived in this house at 128 E. Main Street, Sharpsburg until his death in 1901. It has Civil War significance in that a large number of towns people of Sharpsburg took refuge in this stone home when the battle of Antietam took place, the stone walls affording protection. The lot highlighted in yellow below is Hannah's house with recent owner's names. The Kretzer lot at 128 Main Street is on the right.



When Hannah Kretzer died in 1860, she Willed the Reformed Church \$100. She also Willed her house and its contents in Sharpsburg to Mary Elizabeth Rohrer and the balance of her estate to Mary's sister, Barbara Mumma. The Will nicely connects Mary and Barbara together as sisters and that they are the daughter of Elizabeth Mumma. An extraction of the important wording in Hannah's Will (provided to me by Rebecca Fitzgerald, a descendant of Mary Elizabeth Mumma Rohrer) is as follows:

"Second. To the German Reformed Church in Sharpsburg I give One Hundred Dollars to be applied to the repairing of said Church by the direction of my Executor hereinafter Named, during the period of five years. The House and Lot I now reside in, in the town of Sharpsburg, being the same that I purchased from David Funk, lying and being on the Main Street of said town, I Will and bequeath to **Mary Rohrer, Wife of Henry Rohrer (and Daughter of Elizabeth Mumma)** during her Natural Life, after her death the same to go to her Children, that may be living.

And further I give all my household property to **Mary Rohrer, Wife of Henry Rohrer. To Barbara Mumma, daughter of Elizabeth Mumma, the balance of my Estate I give unto her, which balance will show upon my Executor settling his final account with the Orphans Court.**

Lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my friend, Jacob H. Grove Executor of this, My Last Will and Testament, revoking and cancelling all former Wills by me heretofor made, ratifying this and none other, to be my Last Will and Testament.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this 8th day of September, 1860

Hannah (her "X" mark) Kretzer

Making such a large bequeath to the Mumma girls is rather puzzling in that it would have been a very unusual bequeath to have been made to perfect strangers. I have been unable to determine that any relationship existed between Hannah Kretzer and the Mumma girls, either through their mother or father. Hannah died 27 November 1860 and is buried in the Reformed Church Cemetery in Sharpsburg along with her husband, Leonard, who died in 1841 along with their only son, Solomon Rohrer, who died in 1823 at age 18. Information about them can be viewed, along with their tombstones, at:

<http://usgwarchives.net/md/washington/tsimages/sharpsburg/sharp-ref.html>

They also appear on Find-A-Grave at:

<https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=21634765>

Leonard Kretzer married Hannah Perry, in June, 1804 in Hagerstown per Washington County Records

A copy of the 1850 census is shown below with Mary & Henry Rohrer living with Hannah.

**SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in** *Subdivision No 3* **in the County of** *Washington* **State**  
**of** *Maryland* **enumerated by me, on the** *15<sup>th</sup>* **day of** *August* **1850.** *G. M. S. T. & Co.* Ass't Marshal.

Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	PLACE OF BIRTH. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 yrs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
			Age.	Sex.	Color (White, black, or mulatto).							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
6	567	588	<i>Hannah Kretzer</i>	66	<i>F</i>		16.00	<i>Pa</i>				
7			<i>Henry Rohrer</i>	35	<i>de</i>	<i>J Cooper</i>		<i>M<sup>o</sup></i>				
8			<i>Mary "</i>	22	<i>F</i>							

In the 1860 census, Hannah Kretzer is living with Kate and Mary Slosemans in one half of the house and the Henry and Mary Rohrer in the other half. I have not determined whether there was any relationship between the Slosemans, Kretzers, Rohrers or Mummans. Mary Sloseman continued living with Mary Rohrer in the house and they both appear in the 1900 census.

SCHEDULE 1—Free Inhabitants in Sharpsburg District in the County of Washington State of Maryland enumerated by me, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 1860. Wm. Biesching Ass't Marshal Post Office Sharpsburg

Dwelling-house—numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	VALUE OF ESTATE OWNED.		Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 yrs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
			Age.	Sex.	Color, (White, black, or mulatto.)		Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1631	1743	Kath. Stevenson	64	f				50					
		Wm. A.	48	f									
	1744	Hannah Kridger	27	m			800	75	Pennsylvania			1	
1652	1745	Wm. C. Rohrer	33	m		Cooper		50	Maryland				
		Wm. A.	31	f									
		Henrietta A.	9	f								1	
		William A.	5	m								1	
		Joseph A.	6	m								1	
		Charles A.	1	m									

Since Mary Mumma Rohrer didn't die until 1901, I was hopeful that her parent's names would be identified in her death certificate. Her death certificate is on file in the Maryland Archives. Rebecca Fitzgerald gave me a copy of the death certificate and unfortunately, the space for the parent's names is blank. So, an unknown relationship existed between the Mumma girls and Hannah Perry Kretzer.

The tombstone for Mary Mumma Rohrer can be viewed at:  
<https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=100612716>

**Barbara Mumma [1830 - aft 1861]**

A search of the 1850 census reveals a Barbara Mumma, age 19, living in the household of Jacob H. Grove. She is the correct age to be Elizabeth's daughter. Also of interest, Jacob H. Grove was the executor of Hannah Kretzer's Will, so there maybe another connection of some type.

SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in Subdivision No. 3 in the County of Washington State of Maryland enumerated by me, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of Sept 1850. Edw. S. Tuttle Ass't Marshal 36

Dwelling-house—numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	PLACE OF BIRTH. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 yrs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
			Age.	Sex.	Color, (White, black, or mulatto.)							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	"	Lavinia Coffman	18	f				MD				
2	"	Sarah "	16	f				"				
3	"	Mariah "	14	f				"				
496	513	Jacob H. Grove	45	m		Farmer	20000	"				
5	"	Mary "	20	f				Pa				
6	"	James "	16	m		Student		MD		1		
7	"	Allace "	13	f				"		1		
8	"	Juliet "	10	f				"		1		
9	"	Thomas "	8	m				"		1		
10	"	Robert "	4	m				"				
11	"	Barbara Mumma	19	f				"				
12	"	Juliet Buckley	15	f				Pa		1		

Barbara Mumma also appears in the 1860 census and is the correct age - shown below. The surname was transcribed on Ancestry.com as "Werimma", but a careful examination of the census record reveals that the surname was written as "Mrimma", or something similar. I don't believe it is a large stretch to believe this surname is "Mumma".

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**SCHEDULE 1—Free Inhabitants in Hagerstown in the County of Washington State of Maryland enumerated by me, on the 9th day of June 1860. Samuel Seckert Ass't Marshal. Samuel Seckert**

Post Office Hagerstown

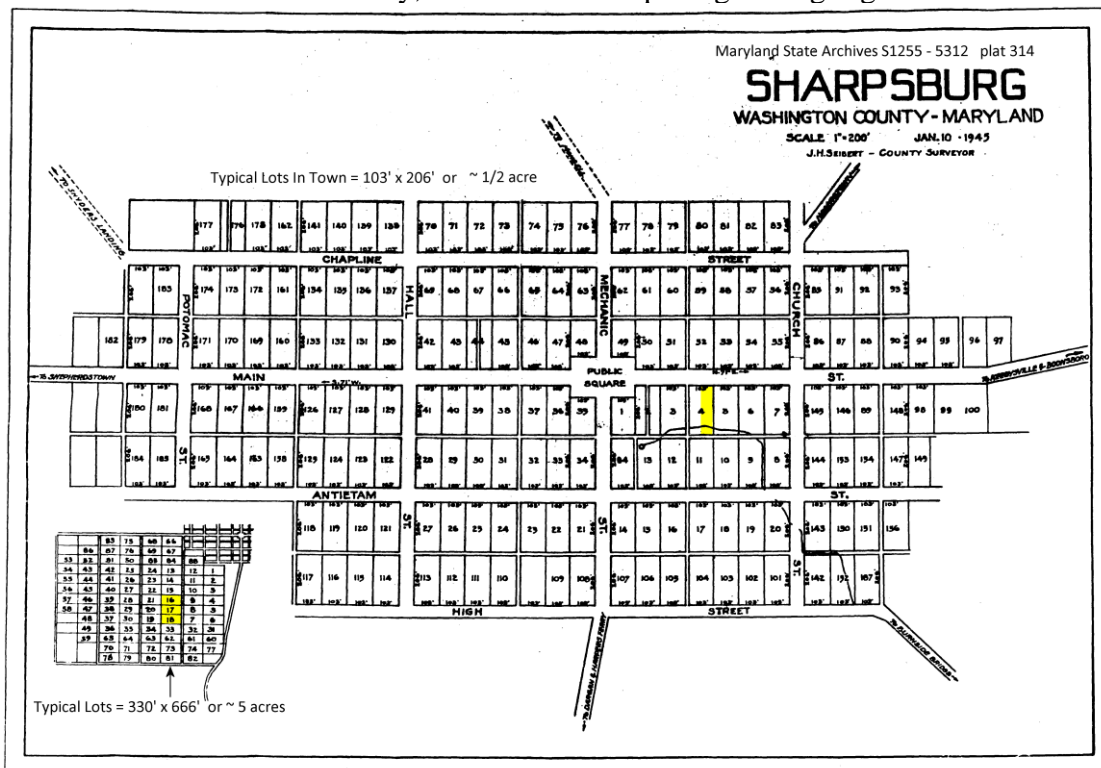
Dwelling-house in order of valuation.	Families numbered in the order of valuation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	VALUE OF ESTATE OWNED.		Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 yrs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
			Age.	Sex.	White, Colored, or Inhabitant.		Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
37	317, 363	Elizabeth Mrimma	57	F				100	"				
38		Barbara "	29	F		Seaman			"				
39	364	Sophia Marteny	62	F			2000	1000	"				

If this Elizabeth is Barbara's mother, then it is curious that Hannah Kretzer did not Will her property directly to Elizabeth instead of to Elizabeth's children unless the relationship is through their father..

As previously described, the Will of Hannah Kretzer also stated the following:

**"To Barbara Mumma, daughter of Elizabeth Mumma, the balance of my Estate I give unto her"**

Initially the distribution didn't appear to be very equitable, but I deed was discovered which shows that Hannah Kretzer also had additional property that was included in Barbara's "balance of my estate". On April 19, 1861, Barbara Mumma is the grantor of a deed in which she sold 15 acres of land to John Kretzer (Land Record Vol 15 - 60, page 548) for the sum of \$975. The land consisted of 3, 5 acre lots, (lots #16, #17 & #18), which were originally owned by Joseph Chapline, the founder of Sharpsburg. It states that Barbara inherited these lots from Hannah Kretzer (who died in 1860). These lots that Barbara inherited and the house and lot that Mary, inherited in Sharpsburg are highlighted below.





I believe that John Kretzer (1813-1901), was the son of Frederick Kretzer and was the John Kretzer who lived next door to Hannah Kretzer. John and Hannah's relationship has not been identified. John and his family lived in this house in Sharpsburg until his death in 1901. He is buried in Sharpsburg.

It is unknown what happened to Barbara Mumma who was 31 years old when she sold the 15 acres to John Kretzer. It is unknown whether she ever married, where and when she died or where she is buried. No obvious entries exist for a Barbara Mumma after the filing of the 1861 deed.

All of these documents nicely connect Mary and Barbara as the daughters of Elizabeth Mumma. By the wording that Hannah Kretzer used in her Will, I also speculate that Elizabeth was still living when it was written. This is confirmed by Elizabeth's name appearing in the 1860 census. Elizabeth, however, has not been identified in the 1850 census.

**Research of Marsha L. Fuller** - To assist me trying to determine what happened to Joseph Mumma and his wives, I employed the services of Marsh L. Fuller, a certified genealogist who resides in Hagerstown, MD. A copy of her September of 2015 report is attached to this document, which includes a listing of all the sources she examined. She essentially uncovered no new additional information about Joseph Mumma or his wives. Her conclusion was as follows:

*"Unfortunately, although an exhaustive search of the Washington County, MD records was conducted by researcher, no death date or burial place can be found for Joseph Mumma. It is theorized by researcher that Joseph Mumma died somewhere other than in Washington County, MD, due to the fact that he does not appear in any of the records where he is likely to be found."*

### **Comments and Conclusions:**

Many records have been examined trying to learn what happened to Joseph Mumma after 1830. It is extremely puzzling that nothing is found which bears his name. It is likely that he didn't own property or have a substantial estate, so there would be nothing to probate if he died or disappeared suddenly. If he didn't leave an estate, then there would have been no need to have a guardianship established for his three, under age, children. Guardianships were only created to protect monies that a child inherited from their father. I suspect that Joseph either died or left Washington county sometime between 1831 and 1840, since his name does not appear in the 1840 census.

None of his children ever recorded their parent's names in any documents or newspaper accounts. Both of the older boys had rather extensive write-ups printed about them after they moved to Illinois around 1837, but their parent's names are never mentioned. Most biographies printed in County history books at least list the names of the individual's parents, but not so for John or David Mumma who migrated to Illinois. No such biography or obituary has been found for Solomon Mumma. While Mary Mumma Rohrer had an obituary published, it did not mention her parent's names.

The youngest daughter, Barbara, received a substantial amount of money (\$975) from the sale of the property left to her by Hannah Kretzer, but Barbara's name never appears again on any recorded documents. It is as if she and her parents just vanished!

I have examined all of the obvious resources and have run out of places to look, so will stop any further research and hope for a hidden family bible or other document to surface some day and be shared.

### 3 Generations of Joseph Mumma's Descendants

**2187 Joseph Mumma b: Abt. 1786** in Hempfield Twp., Lancaster Co., PA d: Aft. 1830  
+ **Margaret Beckley** b: Bet. 1790 - 1800 d: Bef. 1824 m: 20 May 1816 in Washington Co., MD  
.....**21871 John Mumma b: 16 Jan 1818** in Keedysville, Washington Co., MD d: 29 Nov 1890 in Adeline, Maryland Twp., Ogle Co., IL  
.....+ **Susanna Huffman b: 01 Feb 1822** in Washington Co., MD d: 08 May 1902 in Adeline, Ogle Co., IL m: 06 Dec 1842 Washington Co., MD  
.....218711 Mary Ellen Mumma b: 05 May 1844 in Keedysville, Washington Co., MD d: 26 Nov 1923  
.....+ Levi L. Kerns b: 06 Aug 1842 in Clark Co., OH d: 20 Jul 1900 m: 18 Jan 1865  
.....218712 Josiah S. Mumma aka: Joseph S. Mumma b: 25 Dec 1845 in Washington Co., MD d: 08 Apr 1923 Rockford, Winnebago Co., IL  
.....+ Sarah Emma Schoffstall b: 03 Dec 1853 White Eagle near Adeline, Maryland Twp., Ogle Co., IL d: 25 Jan 1938 Rockford, IL m: Abt. 1875  
.....218713 Catharine Mumma b: 11 Aug 1848 in Ogle Co., IL d: 23 Jan 1935 in Assumption, Christian Co., IL  
.....+ Anthony Omelia b: 17 Jun 1847 in Ireland d: 14 May 1925 in Assumption, Christian Co., IL m: 26 Feb 1871 in Ogle Co., IL  
.....218714 David Mumma b: 13 Aug 1850 in Ogle Co., IL d: 19 Oct 1906 in Forrester, Ogle Co., IL  
.....+ Pamela Ellen "Pinty" Grimm b: 06 Oct 1857 in IL d: 17 Mar 1937 Chicago, Cook Co., IL m: 28 Dec 1876 Polo, Buffalo Twp., Ogle Co., IL  
.....218715 John Henry Mumma b: 31 Oct 1853 in Mt. Morris, Ogle Co., IL d: 23 Dec 1853 in Mt. Morris, Ogle Co., IL  
.....218716 Samuel Walter Mumma b: 20 Feb 1856 in Ogle Co., IL d: 11 Oct 1939 in IL  
.....+ Nellie Alice Cheeseman b: 07 Jun 1865 d: 1957  
.....218717 Frank Luther Mumma b: 01 Aug 1866 in Adeline, Maryland Twp. Ogle Co., IL d: 08 Jan 1940 in Rockford, Winnebago Co., IL  
.....+ Dora Ellen Steck b: 03 Oct 1870 in Greencastle, PA d: 04 Sep 1897 in Oregon Twp., Ogle Co., IL m: 30 Oct 1889 in Oregon, Ogle Co., IL  
.....\*2nd Wife of Frank Luther Mumma:  
.....+ Myrtle Lourene Erickson b: 01 Jan 1893 in Whitewater, WI d: 25 Mar 1975 in Rockford, Winnebago Co., IL m: Abt. 1913 in IL  
.....**21872 David Mumma b: 01 Oct 1820** in Washington Co., MD d: 27 Jul 1882 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL  
.....+ **Mary Catherine Harris b: 21 Jun 1826** Washington Co., MD d: 06 Aug 1918 Cleveland, Cuyahoga Co., OH m: 19 Sep 1844 Carroll Co., IL  
.....218721 Margaret M. Mumma b: Aug 1846 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL  
.....+ William W. Van Dyke b: Sep 1839 in IA m: 13 Dec 1869 in Carroll Co., IL  
.....218722 Arabella E. Mumma b: Abt. 1848 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL d: 24 Sep 1942 in Rock Island, Rock Island Co., IL  
.....+ Amos A. Skinner b: Jun 1841 in PA d: Bet. 1900 - 1910 in Rock Island, Rock Island Co., IL m: 02 Feb 1871 in Carroll Co., IL  
.....218723 Caroline E. "Carrie" Mumma b: Jan 1850 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL d: Aft. 1930  
.....+ William A. Stripe b: 1849 in IA d: Bef. 1900 m: 17 Jun 1874 in Carroll Co., IL  
.....218724 William Mumma b: 14 Oct 1851 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL d: 20 Nov 1852 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL  
.....218725 Alice Mary Mumma b: Abt. 1854 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL d: 23 Aug 1915 in Los Angeles Co., CA  
.....+ James Henry Machomich b: 23 Jan 1842 Eastport, Washington Co., ME d: 12 Jan 1899 Boca, Nevada Co., CA m: 02 Jul 1872, Sierra Valley, Plumas Co., CA  
.....218726 Jennie B. "Nellie" Mumma b: Abt. 1856 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL  
.....+ Solon W. Wiley d: Bet. 1876 - 1880 m: 03 May 1876 in Henry Co., IL  
.....\*2nd Husband of Jennie B. "Nellie" Mumma:  
.....+ Bennajah Colvin m: 27 Apr 1898 in Cook Co., IL  
.....218727 Lula Maud Mumma b: 18 Feb 1863 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL d: 20 Nov 1958 in Orange Co., CA  
.....+ William Andrew "Will" Kirkd: Bet. 1896 - 1900  
.....\*2nd Husband of Lula Maud Mumma:  
.....+ Mark Heber Taylor b: 16 Jul 1872 in IA d: 11 Jan 1950 in Orange Co., CA  
.....218728 Celia Mumma b: 11 Feb 1865 in Mt Carroll, Twp., Carroll Co., IL d: 11 Sep 1867 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL  
.....218729 May Lamaraiscygn Mumma b: 01 Oct 1867 in Mt. Carroll Twp., Carroll Co., IL d: 19 Dec 1958 in Los Angeles Co., CA  
\*2nd Wife of Joseph Mumma:  
+ **Elizabeth Shafer** b: Bet. 1790 - 1800 d: Aft. 1830 m: 26 Feb 1824 in Washington Co., MD  
.....**21873 Solomon Mumma b: Abt. Jan 1826** in Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD d: 11 Apr 1886 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., PA  
.....+ **Susan Catherine McMinn b: 12 Jul 1832** Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD d: 16 Oct 1916 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., PA m: 16 Nov 1847 in Washington Co., MD  
.....218731 Sara E. "Sadie" Mumma b: Aug 1849 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., PA d: 17 May 1925 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., PA  
.....+ William L. Simpson b: 05 Jan 1847 in Allegheny Co., PA d: 04 Jan 1931 in Harmer, Allegheny Co., PA m: 1882  
.....218732 Alice Mumma b: Abt. 1855 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., PA d: 09 Jan 1878 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., PA  
.....218733 Izetta Mary Mumma b: 06 Jun 1859 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., PA d: 01 Sep 1908 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., PA  
.....+ Robert J. Thorne, Jr. b: 05 Oct 1860 in Clarion Co., PA d: 23 May 1906 in Wilkinsburg, Allegheny Co., PA m: 1881 in Allegheny Co., PA  
.....**21874 Mary Elizabeth Mumma b: Jun 1828** in Washington Co., MD d: 22 Feb 1901 in Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD  
.....+ **Henry Charles Rohrer b: 28 Aug 1826** in Rohrsersville, Washington Co., MD d: 10 Dec 1874 in Keedysville, Washington Co., MD m: 20 Dec 1849 in Rohrsersville, Washington Co., MD  
.....218741 Harriett M. Rohrer b: 29 Oct 1850 in Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD d: 29 Jan 1909  
.....+ Otho C. Keedy b: Jul 1858 in Washington Co., MD d: 13 Feb 1939 m: 25 Jan 1879 in Washington Co., MD  
.....218742 William Henry Rohrer b: Abt. 1852 in Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD  
.....+ Barbara Ellen Domer b: 30 Nov 1854 in MD m: 07 May 1874 in Washington Co., MD  
.....218743 Joseph Edward Rohrer b: Feb 1854 in Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD d: 04 May 1943 in Hagerstown, Washington Co., MD

.....+ Ann Rebecca Helferstay b: Oct 1859 d: 18 Dec 1960 m: 14 Dec 1880 in 1880  
.....218744 Francis Marion Rohrer b: 13 Jun 1855 in Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD d: 10 Apr 1858 in Washington Co., MD  
.....218745 Charles Biggs Rohrer b: Oct 1858 Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD d: 1940 Harrisburg, Dauphin Co., PA m: Bef. 1885  
....\*2nd Wife of Charles Biggs Rohrer:  
.....+ Jennie Hinton b: Oct 1867 in OH d: 14 Jul 1948 in Springfield, Clark Co., OH m: 05 Oct 1885 in Clark Co., OH  
.....218746 Anna E. Rohrer b: 1862 in Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD d: 16 Nov 1885 in Washington Co., MD  
.....218747 Lillie Rohrer b: Dec 1869 in Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD d: 12 Aug 1901 in Sharpsburg, Washington Co., MD  
.....**21875 Barbara Mumma b: Abt. 1830** in Washington Co., MD d: Aft. 1860

**Contact:**

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[doug@mumma.org](mailto:doug@mumma.org)  
<http://www.mumma.org/mumma.html>



**Marsha L. Fuller, Certified Genealogist<sup>SM</sup>**  
P.O. Box 3623  
Hagerstown, MD 21742

Client Douglas Mumma  
2123 Farmington Pl.  
Livermore, CA 94550-6423  
doug@mumma.org

Date 11 September 2015

Subject Joseph Mumma

Problem What is the death date and burial place of Joseph Mumma?

Remarks The last known record for Joseph Mumma that client has found was dated 10 May 1831<sup>1</sup>, and client has theorized that he died in the 1831-1840 range. The research was done at the Western Maryland Room at the Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown, Maryland, by telephone, and on the Internet. Researcher and client met on 11 Sep 2015 to review the information.

Findings (Summary) Unfortunately, although an exhaustive search of the Washington County, MD records was conducted by researcher, no death date or burial place can be found for Joseph Mumma. It is theorized by researcher that Joseph Mumma died somewhere other than in Washington County, MD, due to the fact that he does not appear in any of the records where he is likely to be found.

Findings (Itemized)

1. If Joseph had died in the 1830s (while he still had young children by the 2<sup>nd</sup> wife), there should have been an entry in the Orphans Court records, but there was not.<sup>2</sup> The following entries were for other family members:

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<sup>1</sup> Peter Nervill estate, Maryland Register of Wills Records, 1629-1999, Washington, Administration accounts 1830-1833, 9:48, online <<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1942-24313-31462-74?cc=1803986&wc=SNYZ-T3D:146536101,146632201>>, downloaded 3 Sep 2015.

<sup>2</sup> Orphans Court Minutes & Proceedings 1806-1833, Register of Wills office, Washington County, MD, online <<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1942-30009-4959-41?cc=1803986&wc=SNYV-168:146536101,149214901>>, downloaded 10 Sep 2015.

Orphans Court Minutes & Proceedings 1834-1847, Register of Wills office, Washington County, MD, online <<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1961-30009-3228-49?cc=1803986&wc=SNYV-BZQ:146536101,149222101>>, downloaded 2 Sep 2015.



**Marsha L. Fuller, Certified Genealogist<sup>sm</sup>**  
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**Hagerstown, MD 21742**

- 6 Mar 1810: “Jacob Mumma age 15 Years comes into Court and Makes choice of Henry Mumma as his Guardian. Joseph Shank & Jacob Mumma, Securities”<sup>3</sup>
  - Jacob Mumma, 15 yrs., Henry Mumma, guardian; Joseph Shank and Jacob Mumma, sureties, 6 Mar 1810<sup>4</sup>
  - 7 Jan 1814: Benjamin T. Hamm aged Seventeen Years the twenty Seventh of November last, Margaret[sic] Hamm, aged 11 Years on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November 1<sup>st</sup>, Mary Hamm aged 12 years, on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November last, Eliza Hamm aged 10 years on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October last, appear in Court here, and Make choice of Jacob Mumma as their Guardian. Henry Witmer and George Heddrick, Securities.”<sup>5</sup>
  - 13 Jun 1815: “Richard Wade & David Showman vs. Jacob Mumma & John Beard Exrs. Petition, The parties appear in Court, the plaintiffs by their Counsel pray a Continuance until the Wednesday in August Next. Plaintiffs Witnesses, John Wade and Jonathan Edwards.”<sup>6</sup>
  - 21 Jan 1823: “Ordered by the Court that Jacob Mumma Guardian to Elizabeth Hamm pay to the husband of the Said Elizabeth the Sum of [blank] the balance due the said Elizabeth, as per Settlement of accounts by the Orphans Court”<sup>7</sup>
2. Joseph Mumma’s marriage to his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife was conducted by Rev. Geeting, a minister of the United Brethren Church. This denomination morphed into the United Methodist Church. In the hope that a death record could be found at the church, the UM church in the Keedysville/Sharpsburg area was contacted, but the records held at the church don’t begin until 1895.<sup>8</sup>
  3. Entries were shown for the deaths of seven family members in a private register of deaths in the Sharpsburg area which covers the period from 1 Jan 1831 until after

<sup>3</sup> Maryland Register of Wills Records, 1629-1999, Washington, Minutes and Proceedings 1806-1833 vol 1806, p. 48, online <<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1942-30009-5001-80?cc=1803986&wc=SNYV-168:146536101,149214901>>, downloaded 2 Sep 2015.

<sup>4</sup> Russell, C.G., F.A.S.G., Donna Valley, editor. “Washington County Guardians, 1786-1834.” *Western Maryland Genealogy Magazine*. New Market, Maryland: Catocin Press, 1985-1998, WMD Gen. v. 5, no 2., p. 121.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, p. 70.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid, p. 80.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid, p. 131.

<sup>8</sup> Patsy Campbell, secretary at Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church, 134 S Main St, Boonsboro, MD 21713, 301-432-8741, telephone conversation with researcher, Hagerstown, MD, 11 Sep 2015.



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1900. One was for the 10 Mar 1831 death of Joseph's uncle, Jacob Mumma. It seems reasonable to assume that, if Joseph had died in this county, his death would have been recorded in this journal.<sup>9</sup>

4. In summary, researcher finds no evidence to suggest that Joseph Mumma died in Washington County, Maryland. There are no listings for him in:
- Wills & Estate settlements
  - Obituaries
  - Church records
  - Census records<sup>10</sup>
  - Orphans Court Minutes & Proceedings
  - Land records (index checked for 1776-1885)
  - Newspapers
  - Deaths in the Sharpsburg area
  - Medical records
  - Bible records
  - County histories
  - Published family histories
  - Cemetery records
  - Court records

Note: Joseph Mumma's home church is unknown. In searching for records which might list his death, an unexplained abnormality was found - the absence of a church record for his 1<sup>st</sup> marriage. According to his marriage license, the ceremony was performed by the minister of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hagerstown. Yet, there is no record of this marriage in two different published transcriptions of these records. All other known Lutheran and Reformed church records in the county for this time period were checked, but without success.

Recommendations:

- Client was referred to the Index to Chancery Records at the Washington County Courthouse in hopes that an equity case might be located for the settlement of his father-in-law, Peter Verbill's, estate. Joseph was the executor of this estate, which

<sup>9</sup> *Register of Persons Who have died in Sharpsburg. Washington County Maryland and surrounding neighborhood From the year 1831.* Bound photocopies. Western Maryland Room, Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown, Maryland.

<sup>10</sup> Census searches provided by client.



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settlement went on for almost eight years, and further information about Joseph's whereabouts may be contained in it.

- In case client wants to check records himself, online sources for Washington County records are:
  - Digital images of court records can be viewed at:  
<<http://guide.mdsa.net/pages/series.aspx?action=viewSeries&ID=C3004>>. Each book is indexed individually, generally in the front of the book.
  - Digital images of court dockets and minutes can be viewed at:  
<<http://guide.mdsa.net/pages/series.aspx?action=viewSeries&ID=C3004>>
  - Digital images for the Washington County Register of Wills records can be seen at:  
<<https://familysearch.org/search/image/index#uri=https%3A%2F%2Ffamilysearch.org%2Frecapi%2Fsord%2Fwaypoint%2FSNYC-YWG%3A146536101%3Fcc%3D1803986>>
  - Digital images of the land records can be viewed at:  
<<http://guide.mdsa.net/pages/series.aspx?action=viewSeries&ID=CE247>>
- Early records for the United Brethren church in the Keedysville region could be searched for. They may be held by a central church repository, and unknown to the local churches.
- Client may wish to look into records in Somerset County, PA; researcher is aware that other people from the Keedysville/Sharpsburg area moved there during the early part of the 19th century.
- Reading the wills and/or estate settlements of Joseph's two fathers-in-law may yield useful information.
- Although it is a long shot, records kept by Elder John Kline (a traveling minister in the Brethren church) could be searched. Information on his published diary can be found at:  
<<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~varockin/kline/introduction.htm>>
- Another long shot for finding general information about Joseph - in the absence of a death record for his 1st wife, the possibility of their divorce should be considered. This was not common during that time period, but it was not unheard of, either.

End of Report



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