Johan James Strong Jr. And Maria Catherine Hauer



Johan James Strong Jr., no picture available for Maria Catherine Hauer

This biography written by Lewis W. Strong, fourth great grandson to James and Maria

Johan James Strong Jr. b. 1764 d. 5 March 1837

Johan James Strong Jr. was the oldest child (speculation) born to James Strong Sr. and Maria Magdalena Emmenheizer. His birth date is in question because no birth record has been found. For many years it was thought that James was actually John Strong who was born to the same parents on 11 February 1765. However after the advent of DNA testing, it was discovered that John was actually the brother of James Strong Jr. The date 1764 was decided upon after another detailed look at the tombstone. With that in mind James Strong Jr. was the eldest son of James Strong Sr. His siblings were as follows: John b. 11 February 1765 d. 1820; Francis Henry b. 11 January 1768 d. 1833; Adam b. 13 September 1769 d. 28 August 1834; George b. 1772 d. 1851; Female b. abt. 1775 d. unknown; Phillip b. December 1779 d. 1846; Maria Magdalena b. 11 August 1781 d. 1846; and John Jacob b. 18 December 1783 d. 26 August 1853.

Questions have arisen about which James Strong served in the Revolutionary War of 1776 to 1881. The records do not indicate Junior or Senior. James Jr. would have been on the young side of service, 13 years of age to 17 years of age. James Sr. would have been on the older side of serving; 49 years old to 54 years old. During the Revolutionary War the average age of enlisted soldiers was between fifteen and eighteen. Even most of the generals for the Continental Army were only in their early twenties.

George Washington at Valley Forge

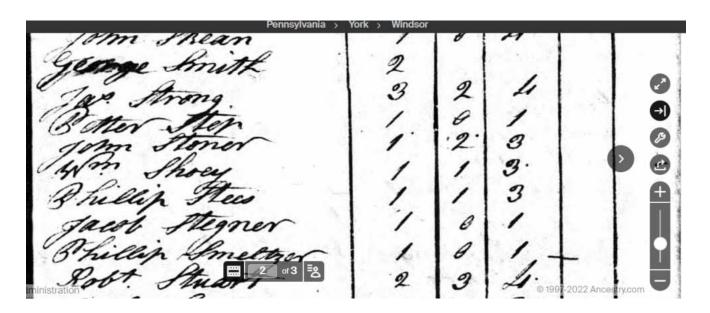


If soldiers volunteered for Revolutionary War service they could opt to join a local militia and only serve part time while living at home. There are two records of a James Strong in the York County Militia, one Windsor Township dated 1775. He was in Captain Jacob Beaver's company as a private in the Seventh Class, first company. This was likely James Senior since he was living in Windsor and would have been 48.

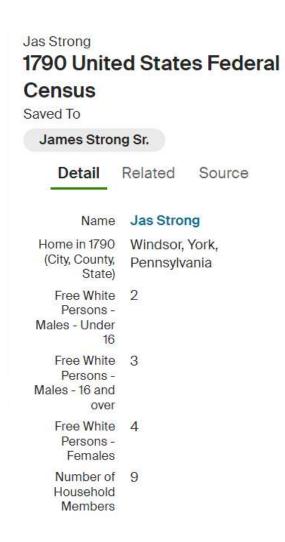
Next was James Strong of Hellam Township dated Ap. 17, 1778. Hellam Township is located right next to Windsor and James Sr. was also located there during this time period. He was listed as a private in the Third Class, Fourth Company, Second Battalion serving under Captain Jacob Heyer. This also was possibly James Strong Sr., he would have been 51.

Lastly was a record for a James Strong, member of the Fifth Class of the Inhabitants of Chanceford Township, classified under an Act of Assembly passed in 1780. This act required the county to complete the quota of the Federal Army, each class was "required to provide in fifteen days from this date (January 30, 1781), one able-bodied recruit for the Continental Army, to serve during the war." Penalty for not providing a recruit was a fine of 15 pounds. This James Strong was most likely James Strong Jr. since he would have been sixteen or seventeen years old at this time. The Continental Army would not even accept recruits after the age of 55 so it is not likely that James Strong Sr. would have filled this quota. Revolutionary War soldiers were required to be able to carry packs weighing over 45 pounds as well.

In the 1790 Census James is possibly still living home with his parents in York, Pennsylvania. He would have been about 26 years of age at the time of the 1790 Census.



1790 U.S. Census



The first census of the United States gives very little information, however, we will try to interpret what was provided. In the James Strong Sr. family, the census recorded two males under 16 years of age. Those two would have been Phillip age 11 and John Jacob age 7. Three males over sixteen were counted, they could have been James Sr. who was 63, James Jr. who was 26, and Francis Henry who was 22. John and Adam were married by 1790. Females in the household were listed as four. Maria Magdalena was 45, another female would have been about 15 and Maria Magdalena would have been 9. Two problems remain with the 1790 Census; who was the fourth female that was counted and what happened to George. If he was still living there, he would have been 18. Or was George home and one of the other sons not living there or counted. It will probably never be known. James Jr. does appear on a tax list for 1790, perhaps he was the one that was elsewhere for the 1790 census.

Charal 16 Jorks Man 16 Man 16 Jonnes Township

John County

James Strong Sourch

James Strong Sr

Met July 11 1864

Sawy 20 1835

483, Jan 15 1845

James Strong Sr

Ret July 11 1864

James Strong Sr

Ret July 11 1864

Jany 20 1835

483, Jan 15 1845

Jany 20 1835

Gin at 1 B, John 1845

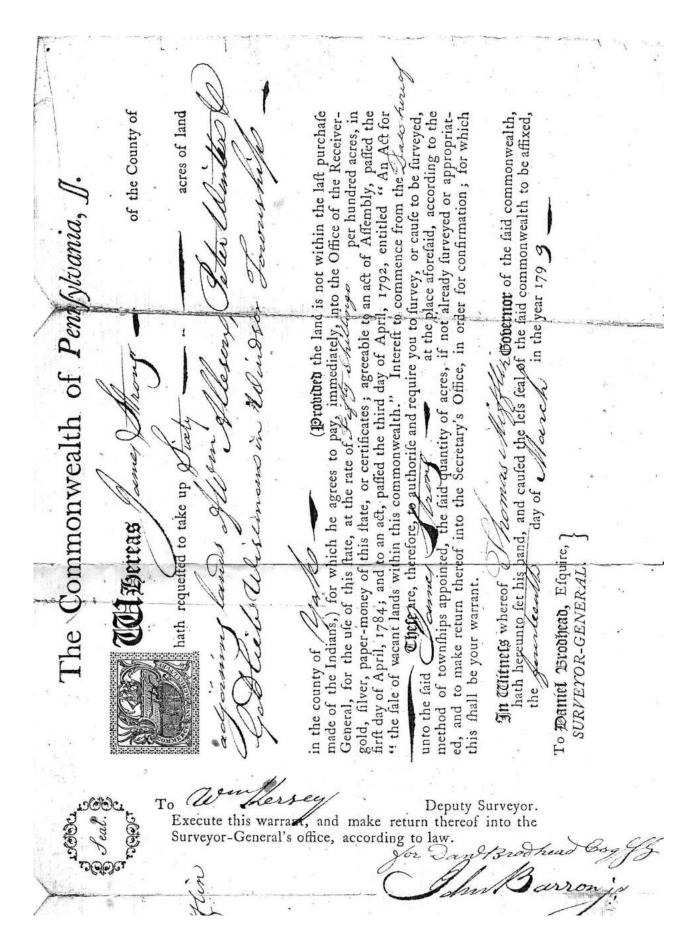
Jan 10 24 110 a

Jan 2 B

Land Deeds of 100 Acres to James Strong Sr. and James Strong Jr. 1790

Even though it is hard to know who was actually in the Strong household for the 1790 United States Federal Census it can be certain that James Strong Jr. and James Strong Sr. were either living together or at least in close proximity to each other. They purchased land in Windsor, York, Pennsylvania and set to farming. This land, plus 60 acres more purchased by James Jr in 1793, would eventually be sold by them to give them the money to move west to Indiana County and set up the new settlement of Strongstown.

C ON THE WARRANT SITUATE IN WINDSOR TOWNSHIP IN THE COUNTY OF YORK, SURVEYED THE 12TH JANUARY 1799 IN PURSUANCE OF М K 14th MARCH 1793. THE PIECES DATED 15th DAY OF MAY 1790 WARRANT TO JAMES STRONGSR & JAMES STRONG JR. THE PART INCLOSED BY THE TWO DOTTED TWO WARRANTS FOR 100 to JAMES STRONG SR. & JAMES STRONG JR. AND ONE OTHER WARRANT TO JAMES STRONG JR. FOR 60 DA. TED THE \boldsymbol{A} TO JAMES STRONG JR. WHERE DETANDS an m.



1793 land document for James Strong Jr., Windsor, York, Pennsylvania

James Strong Jr. and Maria Catherine Hauer stayed in Pennsylvania after their marriage and lived in the county of York. There they began their family. The following ten children were born to them during their marriage. Maria Barbara b. 3 June 1793 d. unknown; Michael b. 4 October 1794 d. 8 September 1862; Elizabeth b. 16 June 1796 d. 1899; Jacob b. 9 October 1799 d. 18 February 1872; John b. 1 September 1801 d. 14 April 1879; Catherine b. 29 August 1803 d. 1868; Susanna b. 1805 d. 1855; Sarah b. 1 March 1806 d. 9 July 1833; Margaret b. 3 May 1809 d. 22 January 1889; and Mary b. 1814 d. unknown. The first eight children were born in York Country Pennsylvania, the last two children were born in Strongstown, Indiana County Pennsylvania.

James Jr. appears on the 1800 US Census in Pennsylvania.

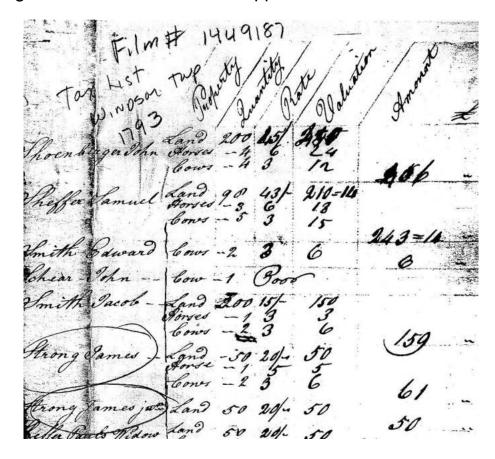
Samuel Christy	1			,	1		1	
George abelly hard	2	1		1	in Society	;	1	20
Widow Levelinght Chart S Neight	1	,	2	1	1	1	1	100
George Paulos	1	2	7		1	1	2	4
Michael Heavy Michael Evans ann Menges	15	1	18.	1	1			1
	123	67	59	76	HA	124	52	66

On the following page is an interpretation of this census record. It needs to be noted here that we have the birth records of Maria Barbara, Michael, Elizabeth and the Christening record of Jacob. There has been no death record found for Maria Barbara, but she does not appear on any census record after her birth is recorded in 1793. Elizabeth grows to maturity, marries and appears living with her son William Schultz in 1880. Her age is listed as 84, this meant she was born in 1796. The name Schim Strang appears a few times in these old Pennsylvania records. It must be stated that both James Strong Jr. and James Strong Sr. went by the name Schim Strang or one of it's variances during their life times.

No actual marriage records have been found for James Strong and Maria Catherine Hauer. We have two conflicting dates for their marriage. One comes from their great grandson William H. Strong, who gave their marriage year as 1793. The other is offered from a family data file as 1792 in the Saint Johns Church in Lancaster, Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Neither can be verified absolutely, but a picture of St. Johns Church is below.



James Jr., along with his father James Sr., appear on the Windsor tax list for 1793.



Ancestry.com - 1800 United States Federal Census

Name:	James Strong Jr [James Strong Junior]
Home in 1800 (City, County, State):	Windsor, York, Pennsylvania
Free White Persons - Males - Under 10:	2 Michael-6, JALOB-1
Free White Persons - Males - 26 thru 44:	1 James Je 33
Free White Persons - Females - Under 10:	1 Elizabeth - 4
Free White Persons - Females - 26 thru 44:	1 Maria Catherine - 25
Number of Household Members Under 16:	3 Michael-L, Elizabeth-4, JALOB =1
Number of Household Members Over 25:	2 James JR-33, Maria Cotherine - 25
Number of Household Members:	5

Interpretation of 1800 US Census for the James Strong Jr. Family.

More needs to be said here about Schim Strang being James Strong. Both James Strong Sr. and James Strong Jr. used the name Schim Strang at various times of their lives. We have already mentioned Elizabeth Strong. Her father is listed as Schim Strang, no mother was listed. She marries Henry Schultz, she ends up living with her son William Schultz in the 1880 census, she lists her age as 84, this meant she was born in 1796, the same as the daughter born to Schim Strang (James Strong Jr.). Also Jacob Strong, Elizabeth's brother, does a baptism for the dead for his brother in law Henry Schultz in Nauvoo. This would be Elizabeth's husband. In the Canadochly Church record a Johannes Strong is listed as being born September 1, 1801

And Christened June 27, 1802. His father is listed as Schim (James) Strang and his mother as Cadarina. The birth records for James Strong Jr.'s son John Strong show him born September 1, 1801 and christened June 27, 1802 in the Canadochly Church. His father is listed as James Strong Jr. and his mother as Catherine (Hauer). James Strong Jr.'s will is signed Achim or Joachim (it's hard to read). After counseling with a linguist who specializes in old German, Chim, Joachim, Achim and Schim are all the same name. There is no doubt James Strong Jr. was also known as Schim Strang while alive.

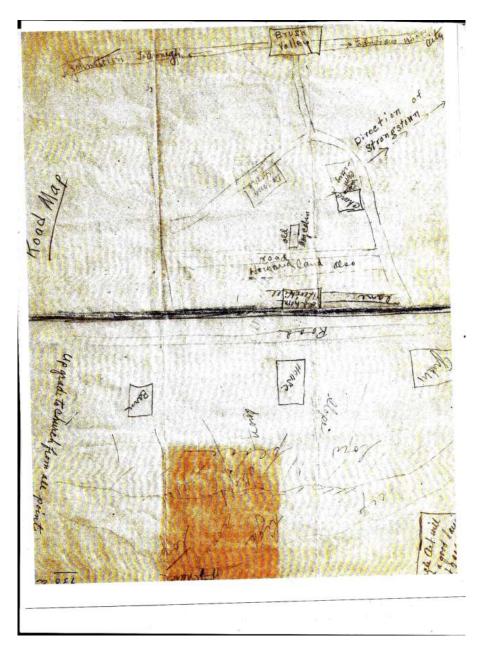
By 1803 James Strong is planning to move to Indiana County, Pennsylvania. He purchases 400 acres of land from James Patterson. James Jr. is still living in York County at this time but clearly is planning on moving west.

Thomas Patterson This Indinture made this twenty ninth day of thumber Lames Strong ight hundred and three between Thomas Satterson of Township and county of Westonoveland and state of Tennsylvania of the one and James Strong of the place aforesaid of the other part Witnessth that wh Thomas fatherson obtained out of the land office of tennsy wania a certain bearing date the 2 day of August 1000 four hundred aires of land and six purches and has caused the said place to be divided so that there is a arres in that division or wall fones and Gallaher . . Now this Industries in that the said Thomas fathers on for and in consideration of the sum of and therety three dollars and thirty three cents to him in hand paid by Lames Strong at the scaling delivering hereof, the wealt where of I do arknowledge, hath granted bargained and sold, aliened, enjeoffed when confirmed; and by there presents doth bargon and sell alien engroff relia confirm unto the said dames strong his heirs and assigns, the agoresaid dis of one hundred aires. Beginning at a Beach oak, on John Shyles, them swenty jugues west two hundred perches to a Chestnut. South thirty god one hundred and thirty five purches to a Chronil pak. youth eighty digo one hundred and sixty four prevenes to a Maple South fifty six degrees & an hundred and seventy five purches, thence through the original survey som digrees west seventy two grevelies to the beginning to ontaining on hund and the usual allowance. Together with all and singular rights liberties hereditaments and apperntenances whatsaever thereunto belonging as in any apper laining and the reversions and reversions, remainders & remainders, no and profits thereof and every part and parcel thereof, and all the estate ? property claim and dumand whatsower of him the said Thomas table him or arigns of in and to the same and every part and parel thereof and to hald the said within mentiones and desiriled tract of land; toy the improvements hereditaments and premises hereby granted borge sold and mentioned or intended so To be, unto the said James Strong his hi assigns, to the only proper use and behoof of him the said lames strong and arright for ever. And the said Thomas Fathers on covenants for and his heir the said bargained and oold premese, and every part this against him, his heirs, and against every other person or persons whats lawfully claiming or to claim by from or under him them or any of them. I James Strong his heirs and assigns shall and will warrant of or were then presents. In withing whereof the said Thomas fathers on hath him

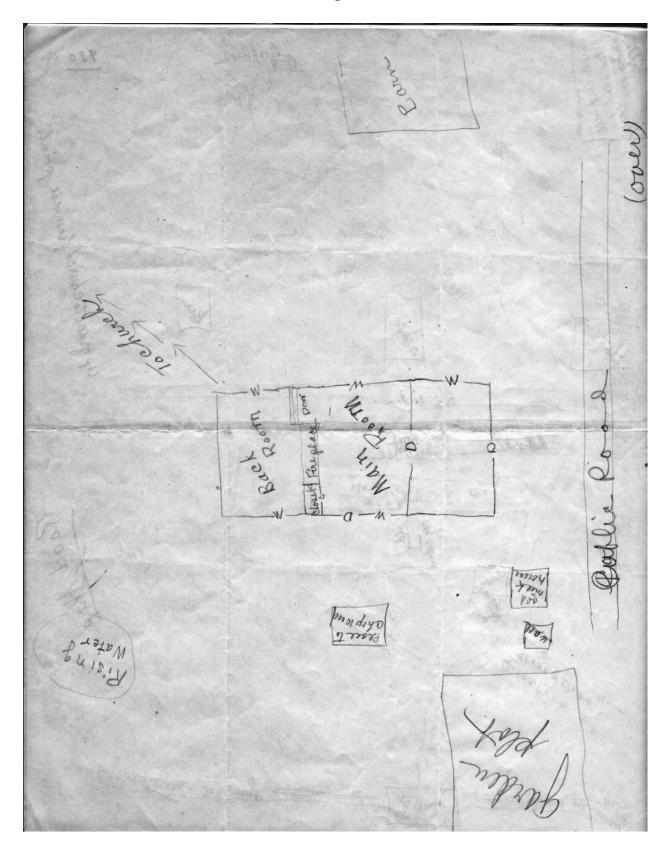
Sometime between 1806 (birth year of Sarah Strong who was born in York County) and 1809 (birth year of Margaret Strong born in Indiana County), James has moved his family to Indiana County, Pennsylvania.

Before the birth of Margaret, Strongstown is legally formed. Family legend says that James Strong and James Hill, who founded the town together, drew lots to see what the town would be named; Strongstown or Hillstown, James won the draw and the town was named Strongstown.

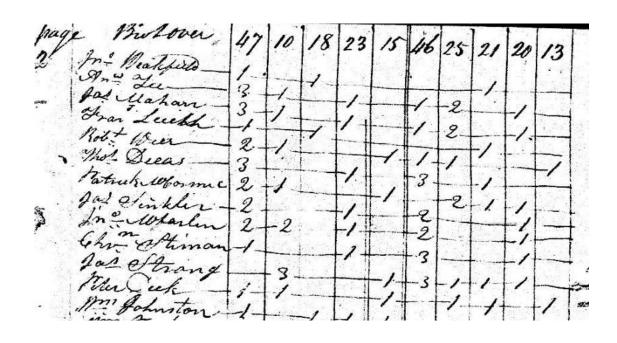
Below is a hand drawn map of what the Strong farm looked like in Strongstown. The map was drawn in the early 1900's from memory by Jacob Strong, son of James Jr..



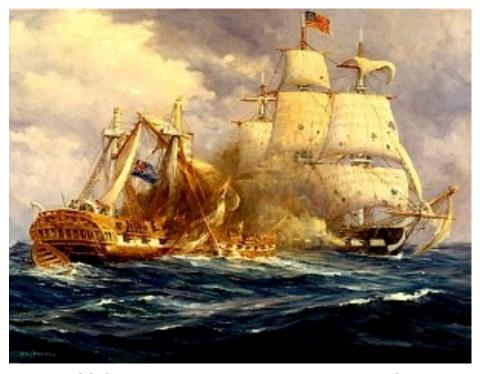
Below is a rendition drawn by Jacob Strong of what the house of James Strong Jr. and Maria Catherine Hauer looked like in Strongstown.



In 1810 James Strong Jr. appears on the 1810 U.S. Census living in Wheatfield Township, Indiana Country, Pennsylvania.

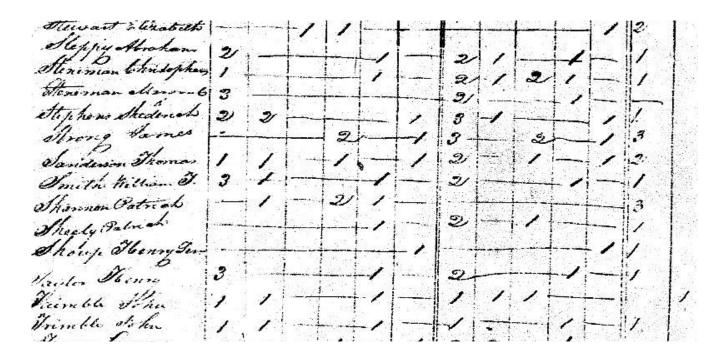


By 1812 the United States had declared war on Great Britain and thus began the War of 1812. Most of the successes of this war were won on the seas or on the Great Lakes, most of the land battles were lost by the Americans. Nonetheless the Treaty of Ghent in 1814 ended the war and was mostly advantageous to the United States.



The USS Constitution captures the British warship Guerrier

The United States had another national census taken in 1820. James Strong Jr. and his family are shown residing in Wheatfield Township, Westmoreland County (now Pine Township, Indiana County), Pennsylvania.



It was shortly after this census that Strongstown was officially patented in 1823. It had been referred to as a town for years before this time. The history of Strongstown recorded that "the first three houses were erected by Mr. Strong. The first was occupied by Thomas Stophel as a cabinet shop. The second was used by Miss Fannie Douthard as a residence and the third was owned by T.H. Cresswell."

1830 saw many inventions take hold in the World. In Britain, the first lawn mower is invented and put into use. In France a Frenchman patents the sewing machine. In Baltimore, Maryland the first U.S. railway station is opened for service, and in New York Joseph Smith Jr. organizes the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This church will greatly affect the future of some of the Strong family living in Pennsylvania.



Joseph Smith Jr.

In 1830 another US National census was taken. James Jr. and Catherine were living in Wheatfield Indiana, Pennsylvania. James Jr. and Catherine are still listed as living there as well as their daughter Mary. A small male child under the age of five is also being counted as there, perhaps a grandson.

1830 United States Federal Census

	1030 0111100 0111110
Name:	James Strong
Home in 1830 (City, County, State):	Wheatfield, Indiana, Pennsylvania
Free White Persons - Males - Under 5:	1
Free White Persons - Males - 60 thru 69:	1 James JR - 63
Free White Persons - Females - 15 thru 19:	1 mary -16
Free White Persons - Females - 50 thru 59:	1 Maria Catherine - 55
Free White Persons - Under 20:	2
Total Free White Persons:	4

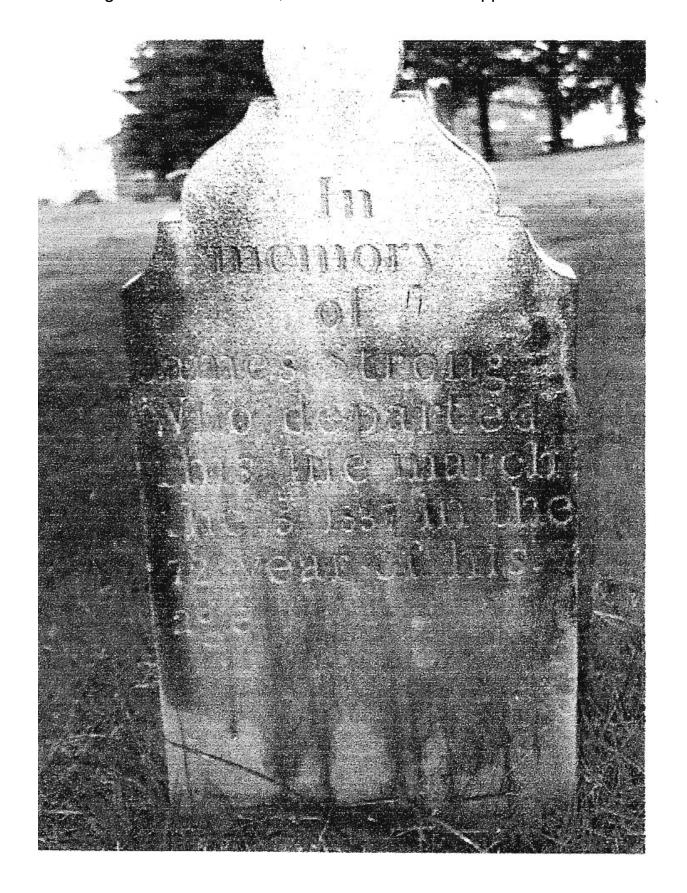
Religion played a central role in the Strong household. James and Catherine Strong were charter members of the Brushvalley branch of the Lutheran Church. Strongstown church records were poorly kept. Services were held by the Brushvalley Pastorate in private homes in Strongstown. On July 1, 1827, Reverend Nicholas G. Sharretts became Pastor of the Indiana Lutheran Church and became interested in the shepherd less Strongstown Lutherans. He preached for them first in the home of James Strong and later in a clapboard school house. In 1832 a log church was built in Strongstown and opened to all Christian denominations. The two plots of land for this church were purchased from James Strong and James Hill by Jacob Strong for ten dollars each. On January 1, 1833 a list was made of those who took sacrament in the church, James and Catherine Strong are two of those on that list. In the Fall of 1856, the Lutheran and Presbyterians of Strongstown agreed to build a union church and purchased the ground from Michael Strong Jr., deed dated 25 February 1861. This church still stands and is still being used as a Lutheran church.

INDIANA, GA. INDIANA COUNTY COURTHOUSE The mount fred and as prote acknowledged! this about Indentional to his his act and deed for the form. The formal thereing should recorded as probe according to law. In festimony where, I have thereing to here the many to have the festimony where I have the many to have the festimony to have the festimony to have the festimony to have the sent the formation pet, may have and affined my peaks the Chemithe day of marchich. A. our thousand eight How Buch G. C. Bills . (Neverded of Mosel 11the 18/6 This Quedentine made the thirteenthe day of while of A. A. out 1833 thousands . James Strong of at biff Sames thick and Barbras his wife all of Mohal fill downshift of the Shoung et at Sound church of the second porte Wilnessettes that the said portes to the first Devolves Union therete for the strings.

Shoungelowed therete pode for and in considerations of the second paid the said portes to the first proposed the control of the stand of the second paid by the said portes to the stand in hand paid by the said portes to this proceed parte at a before the ansealing and deliving hereof the weeft withneof is here by asknowledged home granted bargained sold aliened enfer feed released and on firmed and by these presents de grant bargain selle alien enferff pelasel and confirm unto the said parties of the accound parte and their successors for the porpos of Keeping a church breeded therew for this fire land out the North Gusterly side of the humpike and third and fourthe Sols from the Auth Gast comes of the said down out which this new church is mow at alling and being east airly feet in front and Buildings in framewords woods ways under courses rights liberties printeges hereditaments and apparete monores Whaterna the ments helenging or in anywar apputationing and the revisions and remain does tents is every and profits thereof and also all the estate pight title interest, profesty claims and demand polistenewed of thems the said portion to the first porte and in law or equity or otherwise howevery of the into out of the same to have and to hold the said described have later of ground heudet amounts and firmies hereby granted or openhaned or intended so to by will the aformaliances unto the said porties of the account porte and their processors Do and for the only proper well benefit and their of the said Church of house of Monship forever and this said parties to the first porte for themself forest There hair exocitores and administrators dathe Growant formula and agree to and with the said forten their heir by order and their precessors by these presents that the suit perhies to the first post and their heir being granted suitable their heir by granted suitable abburluouses unto the said points of the seems porte and their precessors against them the said portes 1833 Land deed sold by James Strong and James Hill to the Lutheran Church

A small cemetery was located around the Union Church and that cemetery is still in use today. James Strong Jr. and Catherine Hauer Strong are both buried in this cemetery. More of the deceased family of James Strong and Catherine are buried in this little cemetery than any other family.

James Strong Jr. died on March 5, 1837. His tombstone appears below.



WILL OF JAMES STRONG, FOUNDER OF STRONGSTOWN, PA.

In the name of God Amen, I James Strong, of Brushvalley Township, Indiana County and State of Pennsylvania, considering my self of sound mind and memory, Blessed be Almighty God for the same, do make and publish this my Last will and Testament revoking all others by me heretofore made. That is to say I first commit my soul to Almighty God who gave it me and my body to be buried in a Christian manner at the discretion of my friends and Executors I next will that all my just debts as shall be by me owing, at my death together with my Funeral Expenses and all charges touching, the proving of or other concerning, this my will shall in the first place be paid out of my personal Estate and Effects and from and after the payment thereof and subject thereunto then it is my will that all the residue of my goods, stocks, chattles and household and kitchen furniture shall be indefimty apprised and sold one third part thereof, I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Kathrin Strong, the other two shares to be equally divided share and share al like vis. Michael, Jacob and John Strong, to receive equal shares and my real estate to be rented for the use of my wife so long as she remains my widow and at her death or marriage the same to be sold and one hundred dollars of the proceeds of said sale I give and bequeath unto my three sons that is to say to my eldest son Michael Strong, I give the sum for forty dollars and to my second son Jacob Strong, I give and bequeath the sum of thirty Dollars and to my youngest son John Strong, I give and bequeath the sum of thirty Dollars and the residue I give and bequeath to my five daughters share and share allike (That is to say) I give and bequeath unto my eldest daughter Elizabeth Shultz a one fifth share of the same and unto my daughter Kathrin Michael I give and bequeath a one fifth part of the same and to my daughter Margrett Miller I give and bequeath a one fifth part of the same and to my daughter Susana Bennet I give and bequeath the one fifth part of the same and to my daughter Mary Laypole I give and bequeath the one fifth part and I do hereby Michael Strong and John Strong my two eldest sons sole Executors of this my Last will and Testament. In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the sixth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty sevin.

Signed, sealed and published in the presents of us who have at the request of the said James Strong have subscribed our names as witnesses.

A note about the signature of James Strong. Shim, Achim, Joachim, Schims, and James are all interchangeable and considered the same name.

As a post script. For years the family looked for written proof of the relationship between James Strong Sr. and James Strong Jr.. Finally in the 1990's a hired family history researcher was sitting in a Pennsylvania library looking at Strong records. The person sitting across the table mentioned that the home in which he lived used to be owned by Strong's and he had an old deed that mentioned the Strongs. The following copy was produced to verify that James Strong Sr. and James Strong Jr. were indeed father and son.

Land Deed of transfer from Jacob Strong to John Stoufer Windsor, Pennsylvania August 7, 1810

... made the seventh Day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight-hundred and ten between Jacob Strong of Windsor Township in the county of York and state of Pennsylvania, farmer and Catherine his wife of the one part and John Stoufer of the same place of the other part witnesseth that whearas James Strong Senior, Father of Jacob Strong and James Strong Junior, obtained a warrant for one hundred acres of land in Windsor Township foresaid dated the sixteenth day of March in the year one thousand and seven hundred and ninety investure where of they had surveyed to them on the twelfth of January one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine Ninety six acres and fifty two perches of land in the afore mentioned said township of Windsor. Including an improvement made thereon which the said James Strong Senior had previously purchased unconnected with any claim of James Strong Junior. And whereas the said James Strong Senior being so seized and possessing the said land and premises, did by his last Will and Testament bearing date the twelfth day of March Anno Domini One Thousand Eight hundred and four (which will stand recorded in the registers office at York) did constitute and appoint his son Jacob Strong to be the sole executor of his said Will and Testament. Now this indenture witnesseth that the said Jacob Strong and Catharine his wife for and in consideration of the sum of One Hundred and Eighty Five Dollars and fifty cents good and lawful money to them the said Jacob Strong and Catherine his wife well and truly in hand paid by the said John Stoufer at and before the ensealing and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged. Have granted bargained sold a leined released. Enfeoffed and confirmed and by their presents do grant bargain, sell, alien, release enfeoff and confirm unto the said John Stoufer and to his Heirs and assigns all that the following described part of the afore mentioned tract of land and premises with the apertenances and bounded and lineth as followeth (Vez) Beginning at a marked white oak and thereby land the widow Howard North sixty ** degrees West Forty five perches to a post and thence on a line dividing it for in the residue of the whole tract South seventy five degrees West twenty five perches to a post thence North eighty six degrees West twenty three perches to a post & South twenty nine degrees West eighteen perches to stones and South thirty four degrees East sixty nine and a half perches to a post on the line of the whole tract and thence by land of Jacob Klenetetter North sixty one

degrees East fifty seven perche and a half to a hickory grub and thence North twenty one degrees and three fourths West twenty three perches to a chesnut and thence North sixty six and a half East thirty two perches to the place of beginning containing in all twenty six acres and a half and allowance togather with all and singular the houses, buildings and improvements thereon erected and made or to be made as also all the right title interest possesion, claim and dem and of, into or out of the same of them the said Jacob Strong & Catharine his wife and their heirs to the only proper use benefit and behoof of him the said John Stoufer and his heirs forever subject nevertheless residue of the purchase money, interest and quit rents due and to become due. And the said Jacob Strong and Catharine his wife and their heirs do covenant, promise and agree to and with the said John Stoufer and his heirs that they the said Jacob Strong and Catharine his wife and their heirs the said described tract of twenty six acres and a half of land with the appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining unto the said John Stoufer and his heirs against them the said Jacob Strong and Catharine his wife and their heirs and against all and every other person or persons lawfully lawfully claiming the the same by from or under them.

Shall and will warrant and forever defend by these present

In witness where of the said Jacob Strong and Catherine his wife have herein to set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first above written.

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of Anthony Hines, Sarah Hines

Jacob Strong Catharine (X) Strong (mark)

York County. Personally came before me one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said county Jacob Strong and Catharine his wife parties to the within Indenture and the being of full age and by me examined apart, testifys her willingness to sign the same. Anthony Hines

Received the day of the sale of the within indenture of the within name John Stoufer the full of the consideration money therein mentioned. Jacob Strong, Anthony Hines, Sally Hines