

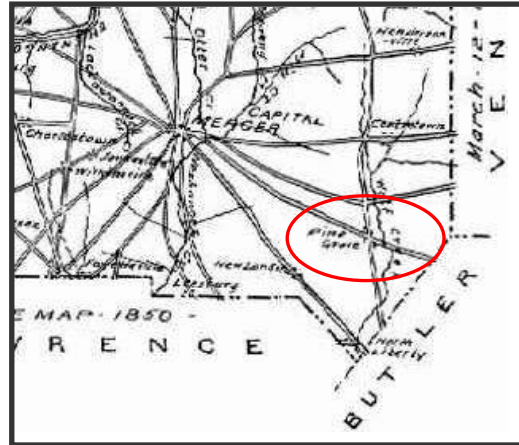
1850

The population of Wolf Creek Township was 2,048.

By 1850, Pine Grove began to appear on maps.

Note:
This 1850 map shows Pine Grove at the crossing of the Road from Mercer and Wolf Creek.

There is only one road intersecting with Pine Grove. However, there is a dotted line indicating an incomplete roadway.



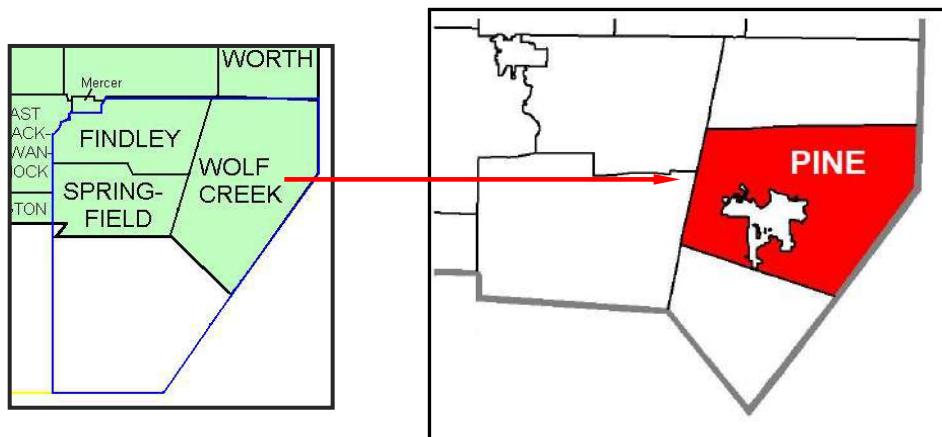
1851

Liberty and Pine Townships were created on February 17, 1851.

Note:

Pine Township
(aka Pine Grove Township)

Pine Township was established from the central part of Wolf Creek Township. The original Wolf Creek Township is outlined in blue in the map on the left.



Among the first settlers of Pine Township were John Sutherland, Philip Hoon, John Perry, John Miller, James Miller, James Glenn, John White, William Daugherty, Thomas McCoy and Andrew Rose.

John Sutherland and Philip Hoon (aka Hune) settled in the area before 1800 and settled on 400-acre tracts adjacent to each other. Sutherland had acquired his land through the Land Law of 1792. (See The Background – Settlement)

In 1796, John Perry (aka Penny) settled in what is now Pine Township. Perry was a Revolutionary War veteran from Lancaster County. Perry bought 200 acres of land in the north of the township from John Sutherland Perry cleared land and built a log cabin for his family.

At about the same time James and John Miller settled in the area. John emigrated, worked in Pittsburgh for a few years before sending for his brother, James. James came from Scotland to join him in Pine Township.

Pine Township was once called "Pine Grove" Township. William Miller was one of the men who named the township Pine Grove Township

James Glenn, brother-in-law of Valentine Cunningham, came from Huntingdon County in 1798 and settled in the area where PA Route 208 crosses Wolf Creek. (See 1806) By 1803 Robert, William and Samuel Glenn had also settled near the others. The Glens had married Cunningham sisters before they left Huntingdon County.

John White (aka Wright) had also settled in the area by 1800.

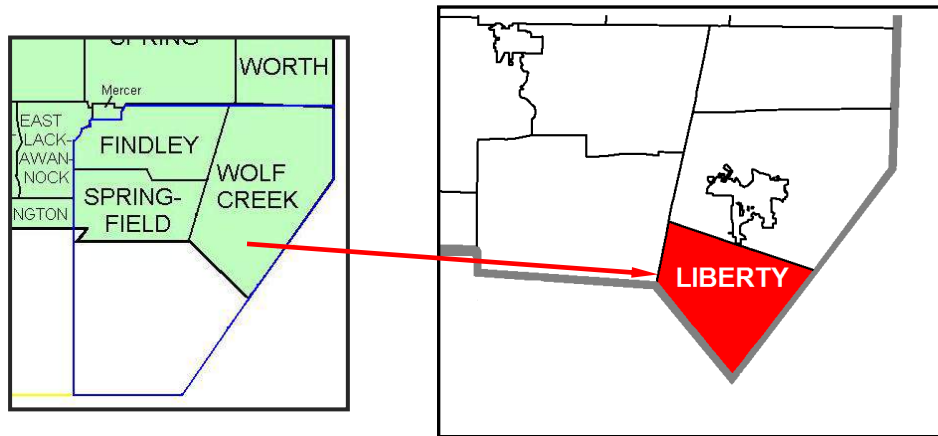
William Daugherty settled in the area in 1801- 1802. Daugherty was Revolutionary War veteran from the Carolinas. He settled upon 400 acres of timbered land. At a Sherriff's sale in 1827, William bought additional land south of his property settled by Charles Fury. Fury had neglected the land and failed to make improvements on it, a requirement for being granted maintaining ownership of land grants.

The 1877 History of Mercer County states that the brothers James and Ephraim Rose were the first of the Rose family to settle in the area. According to this history, James and Ephraim came to the area from Bucks County in October 1798. James was 14 years old and Ephraim was twenty. They settled in the west of the township on 400 acres, cleared an area, and built a log cabin in which they spent the winter. In the spring of 1799, they were joined by their father, Andrew and four additional brothers. However, the census of 1800, the Wolf Creek Tax List of 1802 list only Andrew Rose. The 1800 census lists Andrew Rose as head of household with 2 males under ten, 4 males between 16 and 26, one male over 45, one female between 10 and 16, and one female between 26 and 45.

The Wolf Creek Census of 1810 lists Andrew Rose, John Rose, Jacob Rose, Isaac Rose, James Rose, and Andrew Rose Jr.

Liberty Township

Liberty Township was established from the southern part of Wolf Creek. The original Wolf Creek Township is outlined in blue on the map on the left.



The 1877 History of Mercer County states that William Gill, William Dale, and George Taylor were early settlers in Liberty Township. It states:

William Gill, a Revolutionary War veteran, moved to the area in 1797-98 from Allegheny County. Gill came with his wife and four children (two boys and two girls) and established a farm. After settling they had a daughter and two sons born here, bringing the family to three daughters and four sons.

William Dale settled in the area a short time later purchased two acres of land and opened a blacksmith shop, the first in the township.

George Taylor settled in the area and established a farm.

None of these names appears on the Census of 1800, the Tax List of 1803, or the Census of 1810. The name William Gulliford, does appear on the Census of 1800. The census lists the Gulliford family as having two sons and three daughters.

White's history and the 1877 history record that that in 1796, four Uber brothers John, Michale, Abraham, and Simon came to the western part of Liberty Township where they established orchards. Around 1800 John Uber built a sawmill. In 1807, this saw mill produced the lumber for use in the construction of the first Mercer County courthouse. There are no Ubers listed on the Census of 1800. However, the Census of 1800 does list Abraham Houver, John Hover, and Michal Hover. Abraham, John, and Michael Hoover are also listed on the Wolf Creek Tax List of 1802. Abm Uber is listed on the Wolf Creek Township Census of 1810.

In 1798, Hugh Foster moved to Liberty Township and established a farm. Foster, an Irish immigrant, had lived in Franklin County and Westmoreland County before moving to Liberty Township. (Hugh Foster is listed on all three enumeration documents.) His son, James, is also listed on the documents. James served in the War of 1812 in the "Wolf Creek Rangers". James married Catherine Moore, daughter of James Moore an early settler in Pine Township. The community of North Liberty was planned by his son James in c1821 after the Mercer and Butler Turnpike was completed.

An early settlement in the area, Georgetown, was located near a swamp and did not survive.

William Craig settled in 1798. He is listed on all three enumeration documents.

William Ward settled early and had established a sawmill by 1825. Ward is also listed on all three enumeration documents. (The 1877 history states that Ward was a squatter on George Taylor's land.

James George emigrated from Ireland to Liberty Township before 1800. His land was surveyed in 1805 and deeded July 15, 1807. His farm was adjacent to the property of Hugh Foster and the property of James McKee. (Both Foster and McKee are listed on the Census of 1800, the Township Tax List of 1802, and the Wolf Creek on Census of 1810.) George was an early Mercer County Commissioner and a volunteer in the War of 1812. He was also involved in a number of business ventures.

In 1805, John McGee aka McKee purchased land and settled in the area with his father and brothers, James, George, and Hugh.

The 1877 History records that:

David and Thomas Courtney emigrated from Franklin County and settled a large tract (500-600 acres) of land on Wolf creek. David Courtney established a log mill and a gristmill in 1802. In 1803 Davis built a gristmill and a sawmill, the first mill on Wolf Creek below Pine Grove.

David and Thomas Courtney are not listed on the Mercer County Census of 1800 or Tax list of 1802. They are listed on the Wolf Creek 1810 Census.

This photograph (date unknown) shows Courtneys Mill. The dam can be seen to the right of the mill.



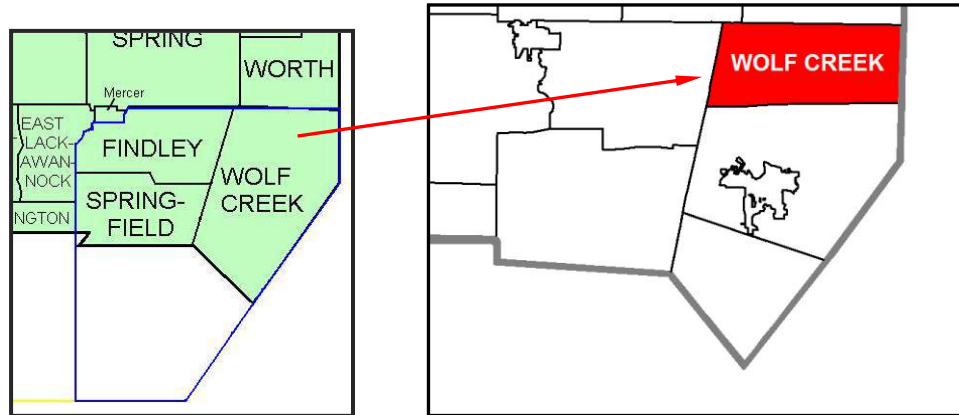
Dam



The mill was destroyed in a flood (date unknown) The damaged building is pictured at the left.

Wolf Creek

Only the northern section of the area remained Wolf Creek Township. The original Wolf Creek Township is outlined in blue on the map on the left.



1853

Context:

On March 1, 1852, the cartoon figure "Uncle Sam" symbolizing the United States debuted in the New York Lantern newspaper.

Adam Scott Black was born on his father's farm, in Pine Township, December 7, 1853.

Note:

He was raised and educated in the area and became an early successful farmer in the area.

William A. Young bought the tannery on Liberty Street along Wolf Creek from James Tidball.

Note:

James Tidball was the husband of Elizabeth Cunningham.

The Tidball property was located northwest of Pine Grove. The area was later developed as a residential neighborhood and Tidball Avenue was named after the family.

This tanning business ended in a few years (dates vary from 1881 to 1896) due to the advent of the chemical tanning processes.

In February 1881, William A. Young opened W. A. Young and Son, a harness and saddlery manufacturing business. (See 1881)

1854

Context:

On July 6, 1854, the Republican Party held its first official Convention.

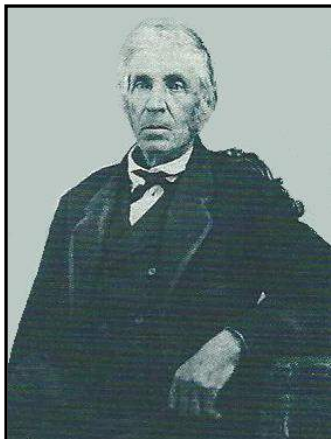
The first pasteurization test was completed by Louis Pasteur and Claude Bernard on April 20, 1864.

James Glenn Cunningham, Valentine Cunningham's son, built a home near Wolf Creek.

Note:

The home is located on what is now the lower campus of Grove City College. It is known today as Cunningham Hall.

The home is a brick Greek Revival style home. It was built to replace a frame house that had been built in 1840.



J. G. Cunningham was referred to as "Squire" Cunningham. James and his brother Charles laid out the original plan for Pine Grove.

1855

George W. Washabaugh opened the “Washabaugh House”, the first hotel in Pine Grove.

Note:

Wasabaugh built the “Washabaugh House” and operated it as a hotel.

Although the hotel was later known as the Union Hotel, the oldest register of the house records the name of the business as the “Washabaugh House” with G. Wasabaugh as proprietor. Entries begin on July 23, 1880 and end on September 31, 1882.

This hotel was acquired by Joseph H. Filer and his wife Rachael Oakes Filer. The second register begins on February 28, 1898 in which the business is recorded as the “Filer House.”

Nicholas W. Van Eman, a graduate of Cincinnati Medical College, began practicing medicine in Pine Grove.

Note:

Van Eman had practiced for about two years in Harlansburg, Pennsylvania before coming to Grove City.

Van Eman practiced as a rural physician for thirty years, retiring in 1886.

1857

The Presbyterian Church (now the Tower Presbyterian Church)

Charles Cunningham donated land on Broad Street for a building around 1847. A church was built in 1857. The church remained unfinished for several years with no ceiling, loose floorboards, and no pews. Seating was provided by simple slabs supported at each end by logs.

A second church was built in 1878 was built near the first church on the corner of South Broad and West Main Streets

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This facility was later acquired by Grove City College and became known as “Ivy Chapel”. Ivy Chapel is pictured at the right. To the left of the chapel Colonial Dorm can be seen. The Carnegie Building sat to the right of the chapel.



1858

On June 5, a severe countywide frost killed crops throughout Mercer County.

The Rev. Dr. Richard M. C. Thompson, D. D. conducted college preparatory classes for men and women.

Note

In a history of Grove City College written by Isaac Ketler in 1902 for the United States Bureau of Circular, Ketler wrote:

As early as 1858 an effort was made to provide instruction in college preparatory and other studies for young men and women who were desirous to have better advantages for education than the public schools afforded. Rev. Richard M. C. Thompson, DD, now deceased, was perhaps the first one to give instruction in the higher branches of learning. Quite a good many young men and women were fitted thus for teaching in the public schools and others were prepared for college.

Classes were held in a private house owned by Mr. William A. Young.

These classes were the precursors of Rev. William T. Dickson's private academy and the Pine Grove Academy, which eventually became Grove City College.

James Hunter established a farm on Greenwood Drive.

Note:

James Hunter established a homestead of 65 acres in 1858. Hunter farmed and operated a wagon shop on the property. (Another source dates this wagon shop as 1845.) His son, James Wilkin Hunter, enlarged the land holdings to about 300 acres.

In c1904 James began dairy farming on the homestead.

The Hunter Farm retailed milk for twenty years.

The Hunter farm became a key issue in the establishment of the community sewage system. (See 1917)

1859

Pine Grove as it appeared on the map in 1859.

Note:

There is only one major road indicated that accesses Pine Grove. That road connects Mercer, Pine Grove, and "Harris V.". Roads lead from Pine Grove to North Liberty and Perrin'

The incomplete roadway shown on the map of 1850 does not appear on this map.

New roadway

