

MORAVIAN ARCHIVES

**Finding aid
of the records
of the**

**Bethlehem Store
1756 - 1872**

BethStore

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2012**

Preface

16 boxes, loose volumes

The Bethlehem Store (also "Strangers' Store") began in 1752 as the retail arm of the General Economy to purchase goods for the community and sell goods to people outside of the Economy. The first transactions are recorded in January of 1753. The store was first located in an addition to Timothy Horsfield's house on Market Street. Bethlehem storekeepers include Joseph Powell, William Smalling, William Edmonds, Johann Oberlin, Christian Renatus Heckewelder, and Owen Rice.

The collection contains annual statements, ledgers, journals, daybooks, invoice books, inventories, account books, bills, receipts, documents relating to the building of and sale of the new store, and correspondence relating to the Bethlehem Store. Most of the collection is in English but there are some documents and books in German script.

Arranged in series according to the bookkeeping system (annual statements, ledgers, journals, cashbooks, daybooks, invoice books, inventories), correspondence, and records regarding the building of a new store.

Katherine Carté Engel, *Religion and Profit: Moravians in Early America* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009).

01. Annual Statements	3
02. Ledgers	3
03. Journals	5
04. Cashbooks	6
05. Daybooks	6
06. Invoice Books	8
07. Inventories	8
08. Account Books	12
09. Bills and Receipts	13
10. Other Records	15
10.1 Correspondence	15
10.2 Building of the New Store	16
10.3 Sale of the Store	16

01. Annual Statements

53	Annual Statements. 1 folder eng, ger	1771 - 1777
54	Annual Statements . Orginally wrapped in a folio leaf of a printed book 2 items English/German	1779 - 1780
55	Annual Statements . 1 folder ger, eng	1780 - 1789
56	Annual Statements . 1 folder English/German	1790 - 1794
57	Annual Statements . 1 folder English/German	1795 - 1799
58	Annual Statements . 1 folder English/German	1800 - 1806
59	Annual Statements . 1 folder English	1811 - 1819
60	Annual Statements . 1 folder English	1820 - 1828
61	Annual Statements . 1 folder English	1831 - 1841

02. Ledgers

126	Index to Head Ledger. Ledger unknown 1 item English	without date
97	ledger. 97.1 Ledger Book 97.2 Index, seperate book inside the ledger book 2 items loose binding, sections missing English	1759 - 1761
98	Ledger . 1 item No binding English	1760 - 1781
		1761 - 1763

99	Blotting ledger. 1 volume Back cover missing English	1761 - 1781
100	Summary Ledger . Cover inked with an "A" 1 volume pages cut English	1763 - 1768
101	Store Ledger B. Index in the back 1 volume Cloth cover torn and fragile, loose pages English	1768 - 1777
102	Ledger C. Index in the back 1 volume Loose binding and pages English	1775 - 1791
103	Store Ledger D. Index at the front 1 volume English	1786 - 1791
104	Store Book of cotton yarn deliv. and sundries receiv'd. 1 item English	1791 - 1800
105	Store Ledger E. Index in the front 1 volume English	1794 - 1820
106	Summary Ledger. 1 volume cover torn English	1801 - 1806
107	Ledger F. Index in the front Loose & fragile binding, loose pages English	1806 - 1812
108	Ledger G. 108a. loose index 1 volume (2 items) Loose binding English	1812 - 1818
109	Ledger H. 109a. loose index 1 volume (2 items) index has loose papers English	1818 - 1838
110	Ledger I.	

- 1 volume
English
- 1823 - 1842
- 111 **Owen Rice's Store Ledger A (Summary ledger).**
111a. Loose index
1 volume (2 items)
binding fragile of ledger, index very fragile
English
- 1846
- 112 **Ledger.**
1 item
No binding
English

03. Journals

- 1756 - 1763
- 113 **Journal for Bethlehem Store.**
1 volume
fragile binding
German/English
- 1763 - 1776
- 114 **Journal of Bethlehem Store.**
1 volume
English
- 1782 - 1794
- 115 **Journal of Bethlehem Store.**
1 volume
English
- 1784 - 1786
- 116 **Journal of Bethlehem Store.**
1 volume
Loose binding
English
- 1794 - 1799
- 117 **Journal of Bethlehem Store.**
1 volume
English
- 1794 - 1811
- 118 **Journal of Bethlehem Store.**
1 volume
Torn Cover
English
- 1811 - 1824
- 123 **Journal of Bethlehem Store.**
1 volume
note pasted to the last page
English
- 1816 - 1817
- 119 **Journal of Bethlehem Store (no. 22).**
1 volume
English
- 1819 - 1821
- 120 **Journal of Bethlehem Store (no. 25).**
1 volume
English
- 1822 - 1823
- 121 **Journal of Bethlehem Store (no. 27)**
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1 volume

	note pasted to inside front cover English	1823 - 1825
122	Journal of Bethlehem Store (no. 28). 1 volume two notes pasted to the inside back cover English	1824 - 1851
124	Journal of Bethlehem Store. 1 volume note pasted to inside back cover in German English, German	

04. Cashbooks

		1794 - 1800
125	Daily cash sales . 1 item English	

05. Daybooks

		1763
77	Daybook . 1 item No cover, torn pages, fragile English	1787 - 1788
78	Daybook. 1 item English	1789 - 1791
79	Daybook . 1 item English	1817 - 1818
80	Daybook, Number 23. 1 item English	1818 - 1819
81	Daybook, Number 24. 1 item English	1821 - 1822
82	Daybook. 1 item No cover English	1821 - 1822
83	Daybook, Number 26. 1 item English	1825 - 1826
84	Daybook. 1 item English	1826 - 1827
85	Daybook, Number 30. 1 item English	1827 - 1828

86	Daybook, Number 31. 1 item loose pages English	1828 - 1830
87	Daybook, Number 31. 1 item English	1830 - 1832
88	Daybook. 1 item English	1832 - 1833
89	Daybook, Number 34. 1 item English	1833 - 1835
90	Daybook, Number 35. 1 item Loose binding English	1835 - 1837
91	Daybook, Number 36. 1 item loose binding, note pasted to back cover English	1837
92	Daybook, Number 37. 1 item Notes pasted to back cover English	1837 - 1838
93	Daybook . 1 item Notes pasted to back cover English	1840 - 1842
94	Daybook . 1 item English	1842 - 1844
95	Daybook. 1 item English	1845
96	Daybook- Augustus Wolle, Letter A. 1 item English	

06. Invoice Books

70	Invoice Book. 1 item English	1763 - 1774
71	Invoice Book. 1 item English/Gernan	1774 - 1791
		1792 - 1805

72	Invoice Book. 1 item English	1805 - 1813
73	Invoice Book, Number 2. English	1813 - 1830
74	Invoice Book, Number 3. Inside front cover documents pasted in: bank charters in Pennsylvania, bank proxies, Easton bank directors 1 item English	1830 - 1839
75	Invoice Book. 1 item English	1839 - 1845
76	Invoice Book, Number 5. 1 item English	

07. Inventories

1	Inventory. 1 item cover page torn English	1761
2	Inventory. 2 copies 2 items English	1762
3	Inventory. 3 Copies 3 Items English	1763
4	Inventory . 2 copies 2 items English	1766
5	Inventory. 2 copies 2 items English	1771
6	Inventory. 1 item Not Bound English	1780
7	Inventory.	1783

Not the original manuscript but a typed document. The notice reads: The following Inventory is the property of Miss Marian Rau, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and is dated February 28, 1786, and bound in a fragment of contemporary wallpaper. In copying the Inventory, dittos have been eliminated and the items spelled out completely in each line to avoid confusion; and the values of pounds, shillings and pence are expressed in accordance with methods used in the research work at Salem. Questionable items are so marked. The entire Inventory is in English.

	1 item English	1784
8	Inventory. 1 item English	
		1785
9	Inventory. 2 items English	
		1786
10	Inventory. Originally wrapped in a sheet of paper with hymns for children. 2 items loose papers German/English	
		1787
11	Inventory. 2 copies 2 items torn binding English	
		1788
12	Inventory . 2 copies 2 items loose binding English	
		1791
13	Inventory . 2 items English	
		1794
14	Inventory . 1. Feb. 1794 2. Oct. 1794 2 items Loose binding, ripped pages English	
		1796
15	Inventory. 1 item English	
		1798
16	Inventory . 1 item English	
		1800
17	Inventory. 1 item English	
		1802
18	Inventory .	

	1 item Water damage English	1804
19	Inventory . 2 copies 2 items English	1806
20	Inventory. 2 copies, hand painted cover 2 items English	1808
21	Inventory . 21.1 Feb. 1808 21.2 Feb. 28, 1808 2 items Back cover missing, ripped pages, loose binding English	1810
22	Inventory. 1 item English	1812
23	Inventory. Hand painted cover 1 item English	1814
24	Inventories. 1 item English	1822
25	Inventory . 1 item Pin removed English	1823
26	Inventory . 1 item English	1824
27	Inventory . 1 item torn cover and pages English	1825
28	Inventory . 1. Small account of dry goods 2. Large Inventory Book 3. Loose records, April-May 3 items English/German	1826
29	Inventory . 1 item Not Bound German	1827

30	Inventory . 1 item English	1829
31	Inventory . 1. March-April 1829 2. April 1829 3. Inventory 1829 3 items English	1831
32	Inventory . 1 item English	1833
33	Inventory . 1 item English	1835
34	Inventory . 1 item English	1837
35	Inventory . 1 item Damaged front and back cover English	1839
36	Inventory . 1 item Torn Front and Back Cover English	1840
37	Inventory . 1 item (3 with pins removed) No front or back cover English	1841
38	Inventory . 1 item English	1843
39	Inventory . 1 item Cover ripped English	1845
40	Inventory. 1. large account book 2. small account book with n.d. 1 item Loose pages English	

08. Account Books

1794 - 1812

68	Accounts with the store. misc. documents
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	1 folder English	1794 - 1845
67	Balance Accounts. 1807: 2 copies 1808: 2 copies 1809: 2 copies 1810: 2 copies 1842: 2 copies 1 folder English	1813 - 1833
69	Accounts with the store. misc. documents 1 folder English	1823 - 1837
66	Outstanding Debts.	

1 item
English

09. Bills and Receipts

		without date
138	Bills and Receipts. date unknown 2 items ger	1762 - 1773
42	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder torn pages English	1780 - 1789
130	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder ger, eng	1783 - 1793
129	Bills and Receipts- Bound book. Copies of letters and itemized lists 1 item ger,	1786 - 1794
127	Bills and Receipts- bound book. Itemized lists and copies of letters 1 item eng, germ	1790 - 1799
131	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder ger, eng	1794 - 1803
41	Bills and Receipts- Bound book. Itemized lists and copies of letters	

	1 item English/German	1795 - 1805
128	Bills and Receipts- Bound Book. 1 item eng, ger	1800 - 1809
132	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder ger, eng	1810 - 1819
133	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder ger, eng	1823
134	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder eng	1825
43	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder torn pages English	1826
44	Bills and Receipts . 1 folder torn pages English/German	1827
45	Bills and Receipts . 1 folder Torn pages English	1828
46	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder Torn pages English	1829
47	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder Torn pages English	1830
48	Bills and Receipts . 1 folder Torn pages English	1831
49	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder Torn pages English	1832
50	Bills and Receipts . 1 folder Torn pages English	1833

51	Bills and Receipts . 1 folder Torn pages English	1834
135	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder eng	1835
52	Bills and Receipts. 1 folder Torn pages English/German	1844
136	Bills and Receipts. 1 item eng	1872
137	Bills and Receipts. 1 item eng	

10. Other Records

Language:

10.1 Correspondence

		1760 - 1779
65	Correspondence . 65.1 From Edward Barnard (6/3/1760) 65.2 To Brother Oberlin from Abraham (?) (12/17/1770) 65.3 From F. Bagge (Salem, 1/8/1779) to Christian Heckewelder and G. Bretzel 3 items Torn pages English/German	
139	Correspondence to Christian Heckewelder. 139.1 from F. Linebach (Philadelphia, 6/17/1783) 139.2 from William Barton (Philadelphia, 5/10/1784) 139.3 from John Arndt (Near Easton, 5/27/1785) 139.4 from John Sitgreaves (Philadelphia, 10/12/1785) 139.5 from F. Marschall (Salem, 10/13/1788) 139.6 from F. Bagge (Salem, 11/22/1789) 1 folder eng, ger	1780 - 1789
140	Correspondence. 140.1 To Christian Heckewelder from James Gill (Emmaus, 7/2/1792) 140.2 To Christian Heckewelder from John Schneider (Salem, 8/13/1792) 140.3 To Christian Heckewelder from Peter Yarrell (Salem, 8/14/1792) 140.4 To Christian Heckewelder from John Heckewelder (Marietta, 12/21/1792) 140.5 From Christian Heckewelder to Brother Hantsch (1792-1793) 140.6 To Christian Heckewelder from Matthew Michler (Jacobsburg, 1/16/1794) 140.7 To Christian Heckewelder from Samuel Stansbury (New York, 4/10/1794) 140.8 To Christian Heckewelder from James Gill (Emmaus, 5/11/1794) 140.9 To John Reich from W. MacPherson (Allentown, 4/4/1799) 1 folder eng, ger	1790 - 1799
141	Correspondence to Owen Rice. 11/8/2013	1812, 1815

141.1 from John Jordan (Philadelphia, 2/20/1812)
 141.2 from John Jordan (Philadelphia, 5/7/1812)
 141.3 from John Jordan (Philadelphia, 3/10/1812)
 141.4 from E. Ruhe (Allentown, 5/13/1812)
 141.5 from John Jordan (Philadelphia, 5/13/1812)
 141.6 from John Cunow (Bethlehem, 6/11/1815)
 1 folder
 eng

1828, 1848

142 **Correspondence.**

142.1 To John Wolle from Sylvester Wolle (Nazareth Hall, 1/18/1828)
 142.2 To Mr. Reichel from Philip Goepp (Bethlehem, 11/20/1848) and copy
 142.3 draft, unknown
 3 items
 eng

10.2 Building of the new store

1792 - 1794

64 **Bills.**
 1 folder
 Torn pages
 English/German

1792 - 1794

63 **Receipt Book.**
 1 item
 Torn pages, loose papers pasted to book
 English/German

10.3 Sale of the Store

1842 - 1845

62 **Sale of the Store.**
 62.1 Balance Accounts and other financial records
 62.2 Correspondence
 62.2a Augustus Wolle's proposal to purchase the store (8/27/1844) to Rev. John Brickenstein
 62.2b From Charles Bishop, Matthew Krause, and Philip Goepp (3/3/1845)
 62.2c From August Wolle (3/10/1845) to Rev. John Brickenstein
 62.2d From G. Yates (Easton, 3/20/1845) to Rev. John Brickenstein
 62.2f From G. Yates (Easton, 3/19/1845) to Rev. John Brickenstein
 62.2g Draft of a letter securing payment from John Jordan (Philadelphia, 1845)
 62.2h From A. E. Brown (Philadelphia, 3/19/1845) to Rev. John Brickenstein
 62.2i From Augustus Wolle (Bethlehem, 2/13/1845) to Rev. John Brickenstein
 62.3 Proposal to Purchase the Bethlehem Store
 1 folder
 Torn pages
 English/German