

**A Study of
Men Named Martin Sommer/Summers
in Philadelphia Area
1750-1830**

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Work in Progress

Draft 4.1

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Introduction

My ID System

- F = Freistett clan
- H = Hoch-Weisel clan
- G = George
- M = Martin
- #1-#2 = where #1 is Generation, starting with first generation to arrive in America, and #2 is Birth Order (i.e. first born in that generation, next born in that generation, etc.). In some cases, there is no second number, meaning only one person of that name was born in that generation.

Note 12/2015: Thanks for being patient with my numbering scheme; I know it isn't perfect and probably makes things more confusing for some. The numbering in this revision has changed slightly from the last version to make it more consistent. It was previously confusing because Hermann, the progenitor of HW clan, came to America, whereas Matthias Sr., progenitor of Freistett clan, did not; and my numbering between the two clans was not consistent. In this version, the progenitors – Matthias Sr. and Hermann – are not included in the numbering, and the “1” generation applies then to the next generation of their descendants to arrive in America.

Revision Changes

14 December 2015

- I added Matthias Sommer of Freistett and his descendants, which could include Martin-Oxford.
- I added some color to the tables to more easily differentiate Freistett from HW clans.
- I added info gleaned from deed research in SLC, November, 2015.
- I have moved my analysis off to different articles or my blog, using this article now only for reference.
- I really have only studied up to 1830 so far, so changed title to reflect that.

February-May 2017

- I've added some new records to the tables as I find them.
- Correction to Martin-Blacksmith's line

Basic Family Outline

Note: This outline focuses only on those of the name George and Martin in the first four generations of both the Freistett and Hoch-Weisel (HW) family groups. Those of the name MARTIN are highlighted for this article.

Freistett Sommer family:

The oldest brother of our Freistett family has now been added to this document, which does change the picture somewhat.

- Matthias Sommer, b 1715; arrived in PHL before 1752, migrated to Nova Scotia in 1766.
 - **Martin Sommer [FM2-1], b 1737**; arrived in PHL before 1752; m. Maria <unk>
 - **Martin Sommer [FM3], 1772-1824**; purportedly m. Sarah Copart¹; lived in Oxford Twp.
- Georg Sommer [FG1] 1722-1785, arrived in PHL 1752; migrated to Sussex, NJ around 1774.
 - George Summers [FG2-1], 1745-1825, served in Revolution, m. Anna Newswanger, lived in Warrington, Bucks, PA.
- **Martin Sommer [FM1] 1729-1799**, arrived in PHL 1752, m. Margaretha <unk>
 - **Martin [FM2-2], 1770-1811**, m. Maria Sommer in 1792; blacksmith
 - George Sommer [FG3]
 - George [FG2-2], 1777-1810, m. Sarah Ehl in 1797; blacksmith & grocer

HW Sommer family:

- Hermann Sommer 1699-1767, arrived in PHL with 5 sons 1754. Hermann's 3 sons Henry, Matthew, and Peter did not have any sons named Martin or George that we know of (but Matthew we don't really know). Hermann's other two sons:
 - Phillip 1735-1814 + Salome; arrived in PHL in 1754
 - **Martin Summers [HM2], 1764-1845**. He married Els. Haupt in 1785.
 - George [HG3-1], 1789-1862 + Sarah Hilkerd
 - **Martin [HM4]**
 - **Martin [HM3-1], 1792-1820**; m. Elis. Freed and left orphans
 - George [HG2] 1766-<unk> + Els Dotts
 - George [HG3-2] 1798-1860
 - **Martin [HM1] 1740-1804** + AB Geis; arrived in PHL in 1754
 - Philip 1770-1824 + Susannah Schmidt had sons
 - **Martin [HM3-2] 1797-1860**
 - George [HG3-3] 1799-1870

¹ I've since realized this surname was also Capehart, Kephart, and probably originally Gebhardt! There is also evidence that this Martin had more than one wife, the other named Catharina, and very possibly her maiden name was Oberdorf.

(orange = Freistett clan)

Known Martin's in PHL area before 1800

ID	Years	Son of	Wife	Year Married
FM1	1729-1799	Matthias Sr. – Freistett	Maria Marg. <unk>	Abt 1763
FM2-1	1737-<unk>	Matthias Jr.- (later Moncton)	Anna Maria <unk>	Abt 1763
HM1	1740-1804	Hermann - Hoch-Weisel	Anna Barbara Geis	1769
HM2	1764-1845	Phil-1	Els. Haupt	1785
FM2-2	1770-1811	FM1	Maria Sommer	1792
FM3	1772-1824	FM2-1	<unk> maybe Sarah Copart	<unk>
HM3-1	1792-1820	HM2	Els. Freed	1816
HM3-2	1797-1860	HM1/Phil	Henrietta Sharpe	1818

Known Martin's Age Chart (based on birth year)

ID	1770	1780	1790	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840
FM1	41	51	61	-	-	-	-	-
FM2-1	33	43	??53?? ²					
HM1	30	40	50	60	-	-	-	-
HM2	6	16	26	36	46	56	66	76
FM2-2		10	20	30	40	-	-	-
FM3		8	18	28	38	48	-	-
HM3-1			-	8	18	28	-	-
HM3-2			-	3	13	23	33	43

Known Martin Locations

Year	Place	Source	Household	Occ	Possible ID
1760	PHL	StM&Z	Joh. Martin	Lives w/ Johannes Somer	FM-1
1767, 69	Moreland	Tax List	Martin	Also svt Thomas Whitten	FM2-1
1774	Upper Merion	Tax List	Isaac Hughes	1/3 servant	FM2-1
1774	Lower Dublin	Tax List	Martin	Also svt to Saml Jones	FM1 or FM2-1?
1774	North Ward	Tax List	Martin	Poor	??

² We don't know when this Martin died; age listed here is how old he would have been if still alive and still in PHL area in 1790.

Year	Place	Source	Household	Occ	Possible ID
1779, 80	Moreland	Tax list	80, for J. Northrop's est.		FM2-1
1779-1785	Northern Libs W	Tax list	79, for Geo Bender's est.	Smith (80) Innkeeper (81)	HM1
1785-1787	Northern Libs E	Tax List	For H. Frailey's est, prob. 400 blk of N. 2 nd St.		FM1
1787-1789	Horsham, MontCo	Tax List			HM2?
1790	#46 7th St, East Side, PHL	US Fed. Census	3, 1m/2f		FM1
1791, 93, 96, 98	46 N 7 th St.	City Directory		Laborer	FM1
1793	South Mulberry Ward, PHL	PA Septennial Census		Blacksmith	FM2-2
1793	Middle Ward, PHL	PA Septennial Census		Porter	See 1800; HM1?
1793	Gwynedd	PA Septennial Census			HM2
1794	PHL, Waggoners Alley	PHL Deeds	Martin of PHL from Mark Rodes, carpenter	blacksmith	FM2-2
1794	PHL	City Directory	1 Carpenter St.	Brewer	HM1
1794	PHL	City Directory	40 N. 7 th	Carter	FM1
1796	PHL	City Directory	Carpenters St	Laborer	HM1
1796	PHL	City Directory	N. 7 th near Arch		FM1
1797	PHL	City Directory	Btn Race & Arch on 7 th		FM1

Note about 1800 Census: This census was taken over the period of 9 months, starting 4 August 1800. The enumeration was to include all people who were alive on 4 August 1800. So, for example, if the enumerator arrived in April, 1801 and somebody in that household had died between August 1800 and April 1801, that person was still to be enumerated. Conversely, if a baby was born after 4 August, it was not to be enumerated.

Year	Place	Source	Household	Occ	Possible ID
1798	South Mulberry Ward, PHL	Tax List			FM2-2
	PHL	City Directory	Waggoners Alley	Blacksmith	FM2-2
	PHL	City Directory	Near Arch, 7 th St		FM1
1798	Norriton, MontCo	Tax List	For Garret Stauver's est.; he had stone house on 1 ac, & addl 101 acres		HM1 or HM2 or both?
1800	Norriton	PA Septennial Census		Farmer	HM2
1800	Norristown	US Fed. Census	7, 3m/4f (ads 26-44)		HM2
1800	Middle Ward, PHL	US Fed. Census	3, 1m/2f, older adults, 1 teenager		HM1
1800	South Mulberry Ward, PHL	PA Septennial Census	(Martin Simmons)	Smith	FM2-2
1800	South Mulberry Ward, PHL	US Fed. Census	6, 2m/4f (ads 26-44)		FM2-2
1800	Moreland	US Fed. Census	6 2m/4f (ads 26-44)		Maybe FM2-2 (enum. twice)
1802	PHL; Cherry St. btn 7 th & 8 th	PHL Deeds	To Martin from Jacob Apple of NL	yeoman	HM1
1803	PHL, 151 Cherry St.	City Directory	Martin	Laborer	HM1
1803	Providence (now Upper Providence)	MontCo Deeds	To Martin from Rees		HM2
1803	Philadelphia, 11 Waggoners Alley	City Directory		Blacksmith	FM2-2
1806-1807	Philadelphia, 131 Cherry	City Directory		Mrs. Summers, widow of Martin	AB, wid/o HM1
1807, 1810	Philadelphia, 11 Waggoners Alley	City Directory		Blacksmith	FM2-2
1807	Upper Providence, MontCo	PA Septennial Census		Farmer	HM2

Known Martin Locations – Continued

Year	Place	Source	Household	Occ	Possible ID
1810	South Mulberry Ward, PHL	US Fed. Census	9, 5m/4f (ads 26-44)	Blacksmith	FM2-2
1810	Oxford ³	US Fed. Census	11, 5m/6f; ads 26-44, 1f > 45		FM3
1810	Lower Providence, Montco	US Fed. Census	10, 5m/5f; male > 45		HM2
1810	Norriton, Moncto	MontCo Deeds	To Martin from Brown, 104 ac		HM2
1820	Norriton, MontCo	US Fed. Census	7, 4m/5f; ads > 45		HM2
1820	Middle Ward, PHL	US Fed Census	3, young couple 16-25 + child		HM3-2
1820	Chestnut & Sch 7 th , PHL	Directory	Father Philip nearby, Chestnut Sch 6th	Planemaker	HM3-2
1820	Oxford Twp	US Fed. Census	12, 6m/6f, ads over 45		FM3
1820	South Mulberry, PHL	US Fed. Census	Widow > 45, 2m/1f		FM2-2 ⁴
1830	Middle Ward, PHL (only first init)	US Fed. Census	6, 2m/4f, ads 30-39		HM3-2
1830	Norriton, MontCo	US Fed Census	4, 2m/2f, oldest m = 60-70		HM2

³ Now defunct twp in PHL county; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxford_Township,_Philadelphia_County,_Pennsylvania

⁴ The head of household is “Widow Summers” and there were at least two and maybe three Summers widows in 1820. But I think this is widow of Martin because the 1820 City Directory lists Mary Somers widow at 12 Wagner’s Alley.