



**Finding Aid  
of the digitized records of  
Nazareth Businesses  
1762–1905**

**Lanie Yaswinski  
2025**

**Reference Code**

A (for Archives)

**Title**

Nazareth Businesses (digitized records)

**Dates**

1762-1905

**Level of Description**

Item level, organized chronologically

**Extent and medium of the unit of description**

57 folders found in nine boxes (Box 25 Letters from Various People, Box 28 English Documents, Box 29 German Documents, Box 33 Rose Inn Inventories, Box 34 Nazareth Store Inventories, Box 35 Friedensthal & Nazareth, Box 36 Ledgers & Receipt Books, Box 37 Business Books & Ledgers, and Box 38 Account Books)

**Name of Creator**

This collection of Nazareth business records was created by the Nazareth Diacony, various farm managers and businesses in the Nazareth area, and assembled by the Moravian Historical Society.

**Administrative/Biographical History**

Moravians first arrived in Pennsylvania in 1740, establishing the settlements of Nazareth and Bethlehem, from where they coordinated mission efforts to evangelize Native Americans in the surrounding region. To support these efforts they formed a "General Economy" comprised of members working communally in trades, businesses and farms, which lasted until 1762. After this time businesses became privatized, although the church continued to own the land and regulate business practices within the communities until the 19th century.

The records in this group concern businesses in Nazareth and its surrounding farms and communities of Friedensthal, Gnadenthal and Christian's Spring. In addition, similar to other Moravian communities, Nazareth established a tavern and inn for visitors in 1752, which they called the Rose Tavern or the Rose Inn. The community store was built in close proximity to the tavern in 1763, and operated in this location until a second one was established in the new Nazareth town center around 1772. The tavern was also moved into the new town center around this time and operated as the Nazareth Inn. It was managed by the Moravian community until 1852-53, when it was sold to a private owner.

The Rose Tavern was also subsequently sold in 1771-72, and managed privately until it fell into disrepair and was torn down in 1858.

### **Archival History**

The Nazareth Businesses record group is an artificial collection with unknown provenance assembled and organized to facilitate its management or use. At this time it is not clear how this material came to be deposited at MHS; it may have belonged to the Nazareth congregation and placed here at some point. In the past it seems that the collection was organized at the item level by staff or volunteers according to general subject matter, and then numbered sequentially and placed into boxes according to subject. The collection was digitized with its current numbering system over a number of years, with digitization completed in 2023. In order to improve accessibility and enhance descriptions, Lanie Yaswinski was hired in August 2023 to edit the database entries and create finding aids for these digitized collections.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection is comprised of records pertaining to three groups: miscellaneous Nazareth businesses, the Nazareth Store and the inns of Nazareth (the Rose Tavern and later the Nazareth Inn). The first group includes financial records, primarily 18th-cent. ledgers and daybooks, pertaining to a variety of Nazareth businesses, including six ledgers from the Friendenthal mill and farm. The records are in no way comprehensive, but rather a miscellaneous collection of loosely related Nazareth businesses. The second group of records pertains to the Nazareth Store as it was first established near the Rose Tavern in 1763 and later moved to the new town center ten years later. Records include yearly inventories, ledger and daybook dating from the late 18th cent. The third group of records pertain to the inns of Nazareth, and is mostly comprised of yearly inventories.

### **System of Arrangement**

The records were previously organized at the item level according to general subject groups. Since the records were digitized with a sequential numbering system, the physical system of arrangement remains intact. To improve accessibility and establish intellectual control over the subject group, records are organized chronologically in the finding aid.

### **Conditions governing access**

Unrestricted

**Conditions governing reproduction**

Researchers may access these records in person through appointment at MHS, or alternately may request digital reproductions. Contact MHS for pricing and policies regarding reproduction, copyright and permission to publish.

**Language/Scripts of material**

German, English

**Physical characteristics and technical requirements**

Ink or pencil on paper

**Finding aids**

PDF on website and printed finding aid in reading room

**Existence and location of originals**

Original records stored in Archives Room of the Moravian Historical Society

**Related units of description**

Related material may be found in collections at the following institutions:

- Moravian Archives, Bethlehem, PA (MAB)
- Unity Archives, Herrnhut, Germany (UA)

**Archivist's note**

Finding aid created by Lanie Yaswinski, 2025

**Rules or Conventions**

DACS; ISAD (g)

**Dates of description**

Previously arranged and described by MHS staff or volunteer "A.K." in the past. Digital entries revised by Lanie Yaswinski, 2023-24.

**CITATION INSTRUCTION:**

Moravian Historical Society in Nazareth PA, Nazareth Businesses + A(number) i.e. A123.

For shortened citations use MHS for the repository and the reference number, (i.e. MHS A###).

Object ID	Name/Title	Date/Notes
<b>Businesses in Nazareth and surrounding communities</b>		
A735	Memorandum and price book of Nazareth and the Upper Places	June 30, 1762 - May 31, 1776
A730	Daybook of the Friedensthal Mill	June 1, 1762 - June 1, 1765
A731	Daybook of the Friedensthal Mill	June 1, 1763 - October 1, 1764
A736	Daybook of Andreas Kremser in Nazareth [Friedensthal farm]	June 1, 1764 - August 3, 1765
A732	Daybook of the Friedensthal farm	October 1, 1764 - March 28, 1767
A733	Daybook of the Friedensthal mill	Marked "B" May 31, 1765 - July 3, 1776
A734	Daybook of the Friedensthal mill	July 3, 1776 - July 30, 1788
A745	Ledger of Gnadenthal [Gracedale]	1762 - 1769, 1772 Includes inventory of Gnadenthal, June 1, 1762
A746	Sawmill ledger, Christian's Spring	1763 - 1769
A755	Daybook of the cooper, distiller and fertilizer manufacturer, [Christian's Spring?]	1766-1772
A737	Ledger of community expenses in Nazareth	Marked "A" June 1, 1764 - May 30, 1772
A758	Daybook of Nazareth Economy, 1765	Marked "B" 1765
A750	Ledgers	1. Friedensthal?, 1765-1766 2. Extracts from the Nazareth diacony ledger, 1772-1784
A757	Solomon Heil's Account Book	n.d.
A684	Receipt Book of Ferdinand Detmers, Nazareth	1772-77
A576	Copybook of letters composed by Johann L. Youngberg	Mostly regarding trade matters 1780-81
A751	Ledger Book	1790-1793
A752	Account Book	1793-1798
A756	Friederich Signmund Hoeckley, Germantown, receipt book	1791-1823
A742	Ledger of Nazareth Town Expenses and Water Works	1841-1859
A620	Memoranda of Articles, Keystone Zinc Mines	1864-65
A743	Receipt Book of Nazareth Boro Treasurer, Jacob H. Beck	1869-1870
A759	William H. Trein's Account Book [butcher at Cherry Hill]	1881-1885 Additional Description: Typed pages, "William H. Trein born August 15, 1854; departed June 19, 1916" includes copies of handwritten funeral records
A754	Farm account daybook, John C. Beisel, Jr., Nazareth	1886-1894
A623	Bill from F.P. Hahn, Builder and Contractor, Nazareth, to Robert Henry, Boulton, Nazareth	June 1, 1905
<b>Nazareth Store</b>		
A719	Inventory of the Nazareth Store	May 30, 1764
A720	Inventory of the Nazareth Store	May 31, 1765
A721	Inventory of the Nazareth Store	May 31, 1766
A722	Inventory of the Nazareth Store	May 28, 1767
A723	Inventory of the Nazareth Store	May 31, 1768
A724	Inventory of the Nazareth Store	May 31, 1769
A725	Inventory of the Nazareth Store	December 31, 1771
A726	Inventory of the Nazareth Store	December 31, 1771
A727	Inventory of the Nazareth Store	May 31, 1773
A728	Inventory of the Nazareth Store	May 21, 1774
A738	Ledger for the Nazareth Store	April 25, 1763-May 31, 1775, and then continued at the "new store" in town, June 1, 1775-1802
A739	Daybook for the Nazareth Store	Marked "A" September 4, 1771-May 23, 1775 [1780]
A618	Articles of Agreement between Philip H. Goepp, Bethlehem, and Comenius Senseman, Nazareth, for the purchase of Nazareth Store buildings	May 11, 1849

<b>Rose Tavern and Nazareth Inn</b>		
A702	Inventory of the Rose Tavern	April 17, 1765
A703	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	May 6, 1775 Includes list of debts, May 31, 1775
A704	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	Two separate inventories dated May 31, 1781 and May 31, 1783 respectively
A705	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	March 18, 1784
A706	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	March 18, 1790
A707	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	January 1795
A708	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	April 20, 1798 and April 9, 1799 Includes list of outstanding debts and credits
A709	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	October 1800 Includes letter from Joh. Chr. Reich to Roth
A667	Instructions for Innkeepers in Moravian communities	January 12, 1801 Copy for the Innkeeper in Nazareth
A710	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	November 1808 Copy of A711
A711	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	November 1808 Copy of A710
A712	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	June 25, 1811
A718	Receipt from the Rose Tavern	December 22, 1811 Includes tavern description/advertisement printed by Christian Jacob Huetter
A729	Account of the Farm annexed to the Nazareth Inn	May 1, 1820 - May 1, 1821
A713	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	April 30, 1821 Includes list of debts. Copy of A714
A714	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	April 30, 1821 Includes list of debts. Copy of A713
A715	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	April 30, 1822 Includes list of debts
A716	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	April 30, 1823 Includes list of debts
A717	Inventory of the Nazareth Inn	April 30, 1824 Includes list of debts