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Keeper of Inns: The Grape Inn, Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Adam Reigart, son of Ulrich and Marie (Merkel) Reigart, was born in Manheim, Pa., 11 November 1739; married Catherine Carpenter, daughter of Judge Emanuel Carpenter, judge of the Lancaster Court of Common Pleas 7 April 1763. He died 9 May 1813 in Lancaster and his wife died there 10 May 1789.

Before he was 21 years old Adam Reigart served in the French and Indian Wars on the Adjutant's staff and in the Quartermaster' department of the Royal and Provincial army. He participated in several campaigns against the Indians, eventually commanding a military base at Carlisle. He became an active central figure in the local revolutionary movement which was fostered in his home and in his numerous inns. After the war started he became a Lt. Colonel in the militia. A wealthy man, Reigart owned several farms which supplied food to the Americans and inns which became communication points for relay and exchange of news.

The Grape Inn on North Queen Street in Lancaster, its sign marked by a painted large bunch of grapes, became the general headquarters of the revolutionaries. The date of the erection of this building is not now known, but its historic significance and the continuing leadership of its owner are remembered and preserved with the sign of The Grape at the historical society in Lancaster.

- Marjorie E. Gould
#84-11

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