

The Ghost of Longswamp

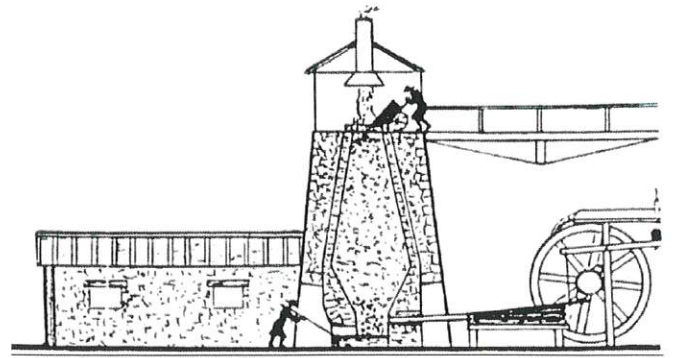
According to an old legend, a ghost is said to live at a place called the *Diehle Kopf*.*

The ghost began life as a nasty man who lived in the old furnace house and was very mean to the men who worked for him. One day, a mysterious fire broke out, and it swept him away. His only escape: Find a broom, a straw hat and a pair of shoes.

As far as anyone knows, the ghost only ever found a broom. Today, if you look very carefully, you can find the spot on the *Diehle Kopf* where the ghost spends his days and nights, sweeping, and sweeping, and sweeping.

This particular spook became famous after John Birmelin, who lived here, a long time ago, when everyone spoke German, wrote a poem called "*Der Schpuk von Langeschamm*." In English, the poem's title is "The Ghost of Longswamp."

* The *Diehle Kopf* (Diehl's Head) is a large shelf of huge rocks in Longswamp Township on land that was owned for many years by the Diehl family. (Look in back for more Longswamp Township trivia.)



Did You Know?

The old furnace in the poem is thought to be the Maryann Iron Ore Furnace, which ran for nearly 200 years in Longswamp Township.

Long ago, the Maryann turned iron ore found in Longswamp Township mines into liquid metal that was then used to make coal stoves to heat homes.

Before this, the iron was used to make cannonballs that the American Patriots used to help defeat the British during the Revolutionary War.

Happy Halloween

From the

Longswamp Township Historical Society