mountain glacier ever existed here. The more probable explanation is that the Bake Oven has been produced by differential weathering, principally alternate freezing and thawing of rain water that entered the cracks in the firm sandstones. The loosened rocks fell down the slope by gravity and in time found their way to the talus slope at the base of the mountain. The knob of rocks rising above the general mountain crest is also a result of differential weathering and erosion.

**Bear Rocks.** Another heap of Tuscarora conglomerate rocks on the top of the mountain about two miles southwest of the Bake Oven has been called Bear Rock or Bear Rocks (Plate 13). They likewise represent a small portion of these hard rocks that have resisted erosion somewhat better than the other rocks of the ridge.

**Bauer Rock (Big Rock).** At the summit of South Mountain a short distance southeast of Allentown is a mass of dark-colored Pochuck gneiss rising about 40 feet above the average level of the ridge. It is a prominent feature when the trees are bare and from its summit a gorgeous view can be had of Saucon Valley to the south and Allentown and surrounding region to the north. It has been variously designated as Bower’s Rock, Big Rock, Mammoth Rock or the present name, and has long been famous as a picnic spot. Its top is 1,088 feet above sea level.

Occasionally one hears the feature explained as a collection of ice-borne boulders. This is definitely false, as the rocks are in place and represent part of the basic gneiss forming the mountain. Less abundant cracks or joints seem to explain the greater relative resistance to erosion. (Plate 13.) There are several other slightly less conspicuous but similar knobs of the same rocks in the vicinity. Some of the joint planes in the gneiss are beautifully coated with a thin layer of epidote.

An appreciative description by I. Daniel Rupp (1845) is quoted:

Numerous and interesting as the natural curiosities in this country are, there is none that so amply repays the adventurer as the Big, or Mammoth Rock, on the Lehigh hills, or South mountain, in this township. It is about three miles southeast from Allentown, and a jaunt to the hills forms a pleasant hour’s walk. The Rock is easily ascended, though elevated a thousand or twelve hundred feet above the surrounding country. The spectator, while standing on this rupic eminence, has a commanding view of one of the most variegated sceneries imaginable. As far as the eye can reach, except on the north, where the vision is bounded by the Blue mountain, are spread before the eye, well cultivated farms, dotted with buildings; and the scene is greatly enlivened by the limpid stream of the Lehigh, as it winds its way down the Kittatinny valley. On the south, east and west, lie before you as a lawn, Saucon, with its rich limestone farms. Language fails to deliniate the scenery with any degree of graphic accuracy. (pp. 139-140.)