all the signatories were dead. The common belief is that the entire instrument was a forgery or an altered copy.

At sunrise on the morning of September 19, 1737 three trained walkers started from a place near Wrightstown. They walked until sundown and resumed the next morning. At noon they had walked about sixty-seven miles, to a point a few miles east of Lehighton. A line later surveyed to the Delaware River gave the Proprietaries a large part of Carbon and Monroe counties as well as all of Northampton County. The walkers probably spent the night near an Indian village on Hokendauqua Creek just east of the present borough of Northampton, although some claim that they passed Blue Mountain before the end of the first day and slept in the woods near an Indian village called Meniolagomeka in the valley of Aquashicola Creek. The route is also in doubt but it seems that they crossed the Lehigh River just below the present site of Bethlehem and proceeded northwest across Monocacy Creek, passing near the sites of Northampton and Walnutport. Most writers state that the walkers passed through Lehigh Gap but others claim that the trail followed passed over Blue Mountain through Smith Gap. Although the records disagree, the writer is convinced that the route was through the Lehigh Gap.

Regardless of whether the purported deed of 1686 was genuine or not, the Indians felt that they had been cheated in that the area covered in the walk was excessive and far greater than intended. One Indian expressed his indignation by saying that the walkers “no sit down to smoke, no shoot a squirrel, but lun, lun, lun all day long.” Accordingly the Indians resented the amount of territory covered and refused to vacate the region. However, by 1742 all of the Indians, with the exception of a few individuals, who were granted the privilege to remain, had removed from the present confines of Northampton County. This was accomplished with the assistance of the Iroquois Indians who lived to the north. Resentment against the whites on account of the injustice done to them continued, however, and later culminated in the Indian uprisings in 1755-1758 and 1763-1764, during which times there were many massacres of white settlers in the northern part of the county.

As the region became settled, a movement developed to have a new county formed and by an Act of the Assembly the County of Northampton was formed by separation from Bucks County on March 11, 1752. The new unit embraced not only what now constitutes Northampton County but the area included in the counties of Lehigh, Carbon, Monroe, Pike and Wayne, and parts of Luzerne, Wyoming and Susquehanna. By subsequent acts in 1812, 1836 and 1843 Northampton County was reduced to its present limits.