

Huntingdon County Heritage Plan 2015

**Huntingdon County Heritage Committee • Huntingdon County Planning Commission
Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department**



Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania

Huntingdon County Heritage Plan

Prepared for Huntingdon County by Ilona Ballreich.

The Plan has been supported in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and
Museum Commission.

Huntingdon, March 23, 2015

Table of Contents

Huntingdon County Planning Commission Resolution	i
Transmittal Letter	ii
Acknowledgements	iii
Introduction	iv
Executive Summary	v
Historic Resources	1
Huntingdon Borough	1
Mount Union	2
Greenwood Furnace National Register Historic District	3
Goals & Objectives	4
Natural Resources	7
Forestry	8
State Parks	9
State Game Lands	11
National Landmarks, Historic Sites, Recreation	11
Goals and Objectives	12
Agricultural Resources	15
Huntingdon County's Agricultural History	16
Huntingdon County Fair	17
Granges, Farm Bureau, Cooperative Extension	18
Goals and Objectives	18
Art and Cultural Resources	19
Religious Activities and Churches	20
Libraries	21
Cultural Organizations	23
Juniata College	24
Museums	24
Fine Art	26
Performance Venues and Movie Theaters	27

Folk and Traditional Arts and Crafts	28
Music	29
Pottery	30
Fiber Arts	31
Blacksmithing	31
Public Art	31
Reenactments, First Person	
Interpretations, Oral Histories	32
Festivals and Celebrations	33
Goals and Objectives	34

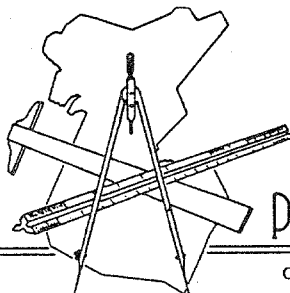
Management; Promotion & Marketing; Education	36
Management	36
Goals and Objectives	36
Promotion & Marketing	37
Goals and Objectives	37
Education	38
Goals and Objectives	39

Heritage Plan Goals Table	
Historic Resources	41
Natural Resources	42
Agricultural Resources	44
Cultural Resources	45
Management, Promotion & Marketing	46
Education	47

Methodology	49
Bibliography	50

Appendices

Huntingdon County Historical Markers Map	
Huntingdon County Historical Sites Map	
Huntingdon County Historical Societies	
Huntingdon County Museums & Exhibits Table	
Huntingdon County Community Organizations	
Huntingdon County Community Events	
Historic Sites List	
Survey	
Sample Interview with musicians about musical traditions	
Additional Resources	



RESOLUTION 2013-01
ENDORSEMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA'S STATEWIDE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN 2012-2017

WHEREAS, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission understands that the irreplaceable historical, architectural, archaeological, and cultural heritage of this Commonwealth should be preserved and protected for the benefit of all the people, including future generations;

WHEREAS, Section 301 of the Municipalities Planning Code requires local governments to identify a plan for historic preservation and the adoption of relevant goals of the Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan is a step in fulfilling that requirement;

WHEREAS, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission has expressed interest in the endorsement of Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan and will assist in the implementation at the local level;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Huntingdon County Planning Commission, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania endorses Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan and will take the following actions to implement relevant goals and objectives:

Local Action:

A. Update the *Huntingdon County Heritage Plan*, which contains an inventory of historic resources and local heritage. This information will be shared with the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission's Bureau for Historic Preservation (BHP).

B. Assist with identification of ways that cultural and historic resources can (or do) contribute to local community character, quality of life, and economic growth potential.

C. Assist Municipalities with evaluating local planning policies and regulations to ensure that these policies address Huntingdon County's historic preservation needs to the greatest extent possible, as requested. The evaluation can include, but, should not be limited to, zoning ordinances, planning procedures and other regulatory mechanisms, which are essential to advancing preservation and making the highest and best use of historic resources.

D. Identify significant historic resources that need to be protected through a local historic preservation ordinance (seeking technical advice from the BHP community preservation coordinator). For resources that are threatened by demolition or neglect, the County Planning Commission will apply to be included on the annual *Pennsylvania at Risk* list.

E. Provide technical assistance upon request to local governments who own, occupy, or manage historic buildings.

F. Offer technical assistance for preparation of a historic preservation plan for communities upon request, if consensus is needed regarding historic preservation actions and priorities.

Training:

A. Alert municipal staff and local partner organizations to the requirements of the Pennsylvania History Code, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and consultation obligations required when State and Federal funding are used for projects and request training from the BHP staff when necessary.

B. Assist interested persons in training for the municipality's Historic Preservation Commission or Historic Architectural Review Board to ensure that the review process is professional and fair.

Signs and Markers:

A. Assist those interested and eligible with submission of a historical marker application to BHP for persons, places, or events that have Statewide or national significance.

B. Partner with local preservation advocates where possible to interpret history in public spaces (public gathering areas, parks, and trails) that would benefit from the addition of a sign, marker, or media tag to educate people about community history.

Outreach and Funding:

A. Alert property owners of income-producing buildings (stores, offices, rental housing, etc.) that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places or are located in Historic Districts to the federal Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit (RITC) program for historic building rehabilitations. Contact the BHP tax credit manager for assistance in preparing RITC applications where needed.

B. Seek active, preservation-related, grassroots advocacy groups, and reach out to them to support in working toward preservation goals and priorities.

C. Assist with outreach programs to local school districts and preservation advocacy organizations to identify ways to provide traditional and non-traditional (outside the classroom) learning opportunities.

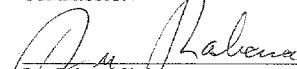
D. Assist Certified Local Governments, municipalities with grants to receive federal funding through the National Park Service as needed, as well as soliciting for philanthropic donations to conduct historic preservation projects.

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Huntingdon County Planning Commission at their meeting held October 17, 2013.

ATTEST:


Ginny Gill, Secretary

HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING
COMMISSION


Ron Rabena, Chairman

Huntingdon County Planning Commission
Annex 1
205 Penn Street
Huntingdon, PA 16652

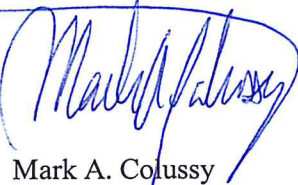
March 9, 2015

Citizens of Huntingdon County:

The Huntingdon County Heritage Committee presented the Huntingdon County Heritage Plan in July of 1996, in cooperation with the American Industrial Heritage Project. It was through this plan that the Allegheny Traveler introduced the community to the County's guide to preserving, interpreting, and developing the community's heritage sites. In the 20 years since the plan was unveiled, it has become increasingly more evident that the County's Heritage is much more than the bricks and mortar that create the buildings that are identified in the plan. Heritage also includes intangible cultural resources as well. It is the entire fabric that made our communities what they were and are today. The heritage sites are just a piece of the puzzle that explains our communities' heritage.

Due to this pressing understanding of a comprehensive look at the County's Heritage, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission has embarked on updating the Heritage Plan to include more information to add to the existing plan to make a richer resource. We believe that our Heritage will be preserved by empowering those that embrace our County's Heritage. We feel confident that you will find this plan a resource, and ask that you share it with others. This document is a lot about the past, but also a lot about our future.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Colussy

Huntingdon County Planning Director

Acknowledgements

This update of the 1996 Huntingdon County Heritage Plan has been initiated by the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department and is supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and the Huntingdon County Commissioners.

Ilona Ballreich was employed by the County as the lead researcher and consultant to the project based on her expertise relating to art and cultural traditions in the County and her prior involvement in the 1996 Heritage Plan as a committee member.

The Huntingdon County Historical Society has convened all Heritage Committee meetings, which were advertised in the Daily News, the local newspaper.

The findings included in this Plan have been collected at public Heritage Committee meetings, through research, and in individual stakeholder interviews, and have been reviewed by experts in their respective fields.

We wish to thank the following for their support and insights, and applaud the engagement of all community members.

The Huntingdon County Commissioners:

Gary A. O’Korn

Jeff Thomas

R. Dean Fluke

The Huntingdon County Planning Commission:

Ron Rabena, Chairman

Larry Mutti, Vice Chairman

Ginny Gill, Secretary

Cindy Anderson

Ray Barley

Jeremy Crouse

Wendy Melius

Ann Reynolds

Bryan Yingling

Brian Young, Huntingdon County Mapping Director

The Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department:

Mark Colussy, Planning Director

Laurie Nearhood, Planning Secretary

Danielle Roslevich, Intern, Huntingdon County Land Use Plan

Juniata College Library:

Hedda Durnbaugh, Special Collections

Janice Hartman, College Archivist

John Mumford, Librarian

Huntingdon County Heritage Committee:

Kelley Kroecker, Chairperson, Exec. Director, HCHS

Ron Morgan

Bruce Lane

Lee Rainey

Elaine and Murray Africa

Denson Groenendaal

George John Drobnock

Teresa Smith

Lonnie Smith

Guy Croyle

Michael Dimoff

Nin Hiles

Roy Stevens

Sally Love

Vince Brown

Additional thanks to:

William Bow, Forester, Rothrock State Forest, Bureau of Forestry

Paul Fagley, Greenwood Furnace State Park Cultural Educator

James Davis, President, Huntingdon County Agricultural Association

Betty Grove, Pomona Grange

Rebecca Berdar

Dr. Jonathan Burns

Nancy Shedd

Karen Nichols

Introduction

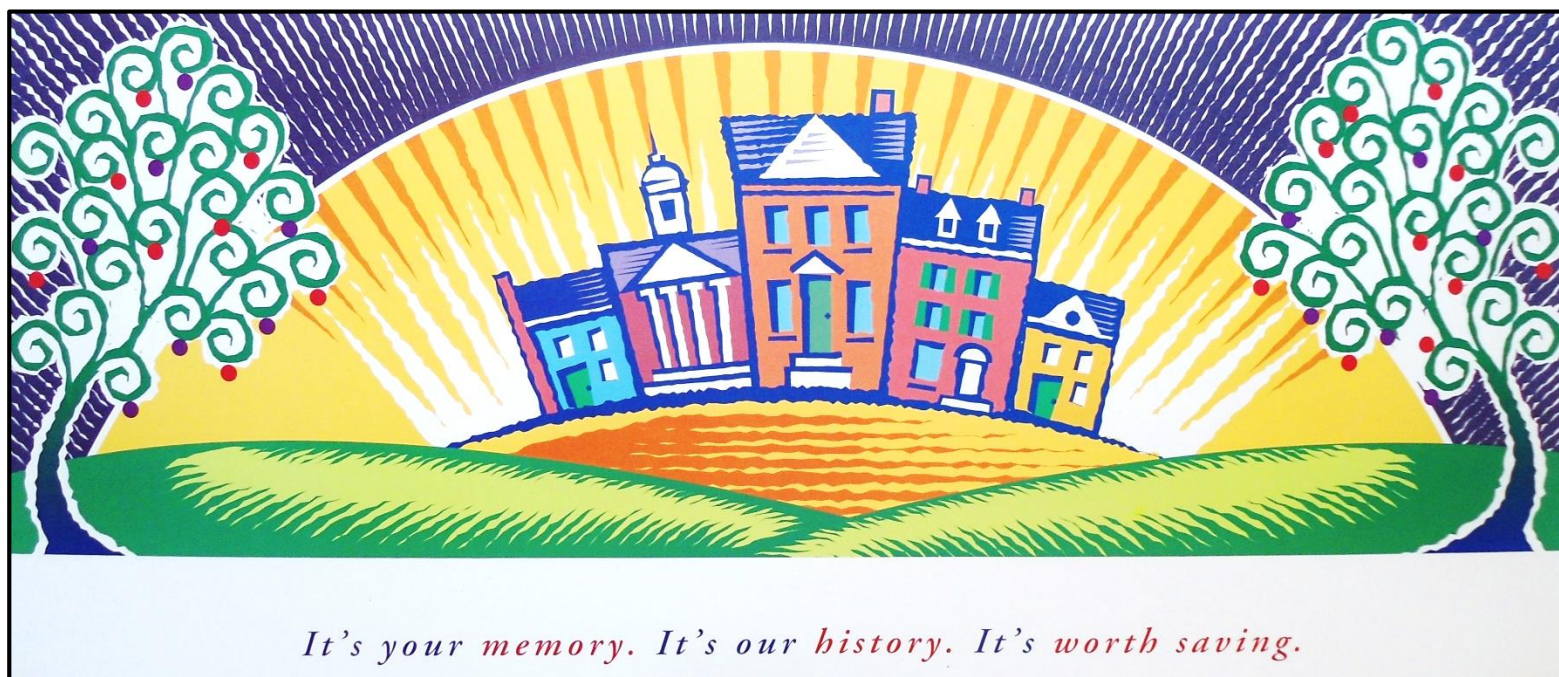
Industry and innovation played a pivotal role in the making of this great nation, and have been an essential and significant source for prosperity in Huntingdon County. The “Path of Progress” endeavors of the 1990s, including the 1996 Heritage Plan for Huntingdon County, focused to a large degree on significant developments in Huntingdon’s industrial and transportation history. Aided by the prospect of progress towards the establishment of the EBT as a tourist attraction, the 1996 Heritage Plan explored the opportunities and challenges presented by physical remnants of the past.

This plan is the continuation of the County’s heritage planning efforts. It provides updates to the previous Heritage Plan and includes expansion into cultural heritage themes. Building on the 1996 Heritage Plan and based on input from Heritage Committee members, local organizations and citizens concerned with heritage related issues, the plan will update, revise and add new and/or alternative recommendations based

on activities and changes that have occurred since the previous plan was unveiled.

A major, new focus of this plan will address components of the County’s history that were not specifically identified previously but that are nonetheless indicative of local culture: our natural environment, especially forestry and agriculture, and our “cultural” heritage as it reveals itself in our community’s character and is celebrated in festivals, art and other forms of creative expression. In concert with our physical environment, our cultural heritage defines a sense of self and of place.

The updated Heritage Plan shall serve as a resource guide for local organizations with varied missions, inspire partnerships towards the completion of projects, and ultimately seeks to improve our community, to honor and preserve our heritage and to plan effectively for the future.



Executive Summary

The Huntingdon County Heritage Plan is part of the broader planning efforts of the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department, which reviews components of its Comprehensive County Plan, “Continuity through Conservation II”, on a regular basis. These components or individual plans include: Land Use, Housing, Economic Development, Community Facilities, Cultural Heritage, Natural Resources, and Transportation. Plans provide guidance to action for local government, organizations and other applicable entities. Identified goals and objectives not only constitute components in the larger picture of County development, but provide justification for future projects and related applications for funding.

This document intends to fulfill numerous goals of varied constituencies. First and foremost, it is the continuation of the 1996 Huntingdon County Heritage Plan. Most of the information provided in the 1996 Plan remains true and factual, and therefore provides an appropriate basis for this update. This Heritage Plan update aims to address the following objectives:

- Update 1996 Plan information that is not current, including physical and organizational information.
- Evaluate the priorities established in the 1996 Plan; add new priorities, concerns, or actions that have emerged.
- Add a cultural resource inventory of the ‘intangible’ cultural heritage to give the plan more depth, lend more definition to the place and community, and encourage investment in all of Huntingdon County’s heritage and preservation efforts.
- Develop a network of collaboration among community organizations, local governments, stakeholders and the public that is conducive to a comprehensive approach that fosters preservation, investment and economic growth in Huntingdon County.

Existing plan goals have been modified and new goals and objectives associated with the plan’s thematic components have been added. The

existing inventories have been updated and expanded to include cultural resources and new organizations, adding to and reviving the institutional memory of the County.

This plan has been prompted by the continued need and desire to protect and maintain the heritage of Huntingdon County. Unlike the 1996 plan, this plan does not fit into a current, larger, regional initiative that promises resources towards plan development efforts. While today’s trends towards outdoor recreation and multi-modal transportation provide partnership and creative opportunities to advance heritage goals, this plan cannot prescribe the action, rather suggest collaboration. This plan therefore identifies and discusses goals and objectives but refrains from assigning specific action items unless the ‘who’ and ‘how’ has been identified. However, while working on this plan, a number of initiatives and action items related to the goals of this plan have emerged.

The development of partnerships, networking among organizations, and the sharing of information are the overarching goals of this plan. The Heritage Committee has been fulfilling the role of facilitator among heritage minded organizations, and should continue to provide a county-wide framework to keep conversations going, to coalesce plans and join resources to address the needs of heritage preservation. A shared awareness may result in a shared solution which, in turn, supports the overall goals of this plan.

Promotion of partnership also includes organizations, initiatives and resources outside the spectrum of historical societies, heritage organizations and related activities. This document hopes to inform and inspire collaboration with partners who are traditionally not involved in heritage themed activities. e.g. include industrial heritage information in outdoor recreation signage or guide publications. Conversely, this document acknowledges the efforts of other entities in support of heritage preservation.

Summary of Plan Goals and Objectives

Heritage Plan Goal: *Preserve the Historic Resources of Huntingdon County.*

- Objective 1. *Encourage preservation, restoration and adaptive reuse of the built environment.*
- Objective 2. *Focus heritage activities on Huntingdon County National Register Districts, Landmarks and Sites.*
- Objective 3. *Expand historic preservation to residential neighborhoods.*
- Objective 4. *Protect our historic resources through hazard mitigation planning.*

The built environment continues to be the most visible and commonly recognizable historic feature in many County communities, and continues to offer opportunities for development sensitive to historic contexts. This plan endorses a comprehensive education campaign about historic preservation of structures, Main Street Programs, and further establishment and development of historic districts.

Heritage Plan Goal: *Conserve the Natural Resources of Huntingdon County*

- Objective 1. *Encourage the preservation of the rural landscape.*
- Objective 2. *Encourage the conservation of the natural resources.*
- Objective 3. *Plan for sustainable trail development throughout Huntingdon County.*
- Objective 4. *Encourage collaboration towards historic interpretation in recreation development.*
- Objective 5. *Commemorate natural resource extraction history in Huntingdon County.*
- Objective 6. *Distinguish the existing forest camp, hunting and fishing culture.*
- Objective 7. *Identify local landmarks.*

The County's natural resources continue to be a source for industries past and present, local pride and culture, and a potential partner in heritage interpretation. While other agencies are concerned with the health of our natural environment, this heritage plan encourages the memory of what the natural environment contributed to the County's development: recognition of its value as an industrial resource; its continued importance to recreation and associated local culture; and its continuous presence in and around our communities worthy of identification and partnership activities.

Heritage Plan Goal: *Conserve the (Natural) Agricultural Resources and Rural Landscape of Huntingdon County*

- Objective 1. *Encourage preservation of traditional farmsteads; especially main farm houses and historic barns.*
- Objective 2. *Support local and traditional agriculture.*
- Objective 3. *Record farming history in the County.*

Agriculture not only predates the industrial development of the County, but continues to be a major County industry. As it defines much of what Huntingdon County looks like, this Heritage Plan urges measures to preserve our rural and agricultural landscape by making information and resources available that encourage preservation of farms and farmsteads and that support traditional family farms.

Heritage Plan Goal: *Identify and preserve the County's cultural traditions as manifested in events, customs and artifacts as the basis for community character and identity.*

- Objective 1. *Identify and continue to inventory our County's cultural heritage and traditions.*
- Objective 2. *Create more awareness of local traditions through events, promotion and specific activities to encourage, celebrate and educate about cultural traditions.*
- Objective 3. *Support institutions engaged in preservation and education about cultural heritage and traditions.*

This new section to the Heritage Plan addresses the intangible cultural attributes and history. A sense of urgency is particularly felt in regards to recording and inventorying oral histories and traditional art and craft forms. Collaboration between cultural, historical organizations and institutions with specific skills and resources to facilitate promotion and inventorying may unveil new opportunities, not only for partnerships but for program development, economic benefits and research opportunities.

Heritage Plan Goal: *Provide coordination and support to agencies, organizations and individuals towards the implementation of the Heritage Plan.*

- Objective 1. *Educate about and provide resources to local organizations to effectively fulfill their missions in support of the County Heritage Plan.*
- Objective 2. *Facilitate partnerships among County agencies and local groups.*

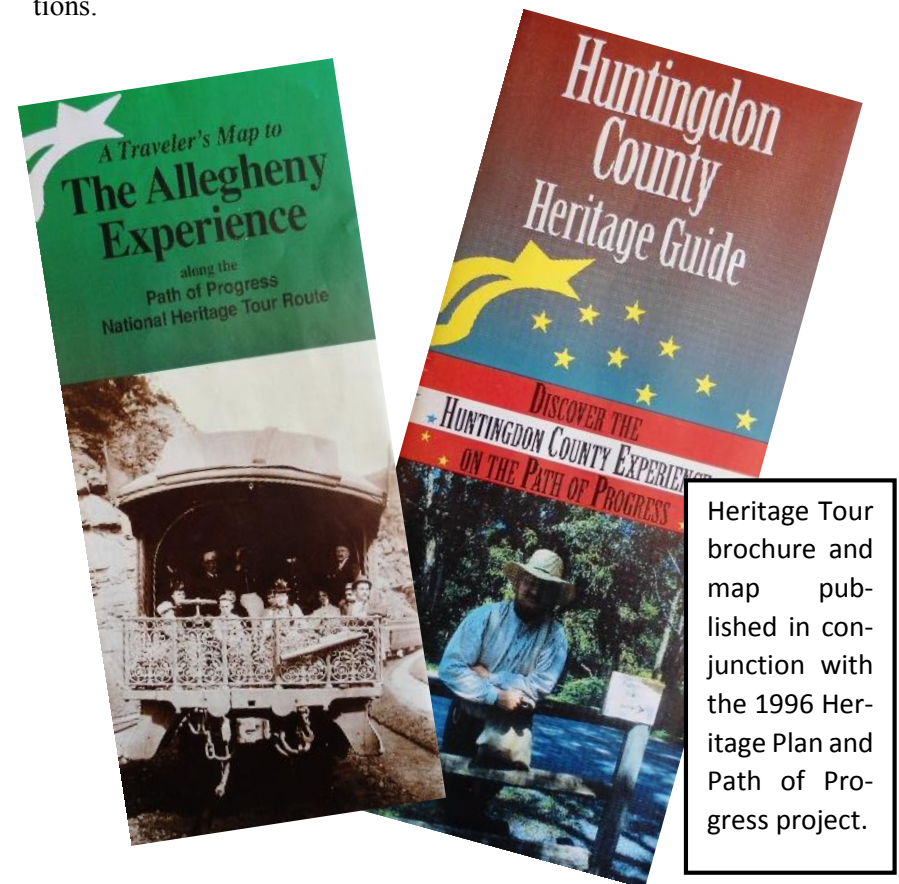
Heritage Plan Goal: *Promote Huntingdon County's Heritage resources through interpretation, education, signage and marketing efforts.*

- Objective 1. *Coordinate interpretation with marketing and promotion strategies.*
- Objective 2. *Utilize technology and social media for promotion and interpretations.*
- Objective 3. *Create information clearing house for events and activities, Heritage sites and resources.*

Heritage Plan Goal: *Develop and provide educational opportunities and resources to further Heritage Preservation.*

- Objective 1. *Encourage residents to better understand Historic Preservation.*
- Objective 2. *Ensure adequate support and coordination for proper training, venues, staffing and artifact preservation.*
- Objective 3. *Explore educational opportunities through schools and educational institutions.*

The above goals in the areas of management, marketing, promotion, and education fall under the umbrella of administrative activities applicable to most [heritage] organizations. Although specific activities will differ according to the individual organizational missions and resources, there exists a great opportunity for collaboration and centralized activities with benefits to all. County-wide leadership through the Planning and Development Department or the Heritage Committee can plan and implement educational sessions on topics such as creating inventories and new technologies applicable to most local organizations. As with other plan goals, the opportunity for sharing resources and partnering may greatly benefit all involved. Similarly, county-wide coordination of promotional activities, possibly involving the Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau or the County Mapping Department will leverage resources and skills not available to singular heritage organizations.



Historic Resources

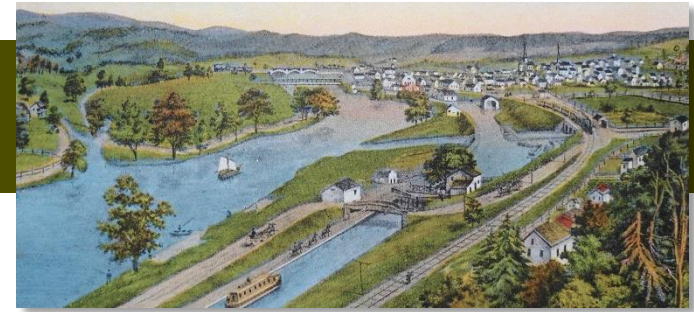
In the 1996 Heritage Plan *Historic Resources* primarily encompassed the built environment with particular focus on historic districts and activities related to historic districts, sites and landmarks. *Historic Resources* also included resources housed within local organizations, activities in state parks and resources within the agricultural community. For the purposes of this Heritage Plan update and review, *Historic Resources* will primarily focus on a review of the goals and objectives established in the 1996 plan, with natural resources, agriculture, and organizational capacities as separate topics with analysis in later chapters in this Heritage Plan.

In the late 1990s, the historic physical environment and industrial remnants afforded timely incorporation of these elements into the concept of Heritage Tourism and the Path of Progress project. A National Heritage Tour Route, the Path of Progress promoted the ‘Allegheny Experience,’ as a tribute to the role of industry in the development of our region and country. The East Broad Top Railroad (EBT) was the only major destination site identified in Huntingdon County. The Path of Progress traverses the County along Routes 22 and 522, and was considered an opportunity for further development in the County. The Heritage Committee, in collaboration with the Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau, published a Huntingdon County Heritage Guide, promoting the “Huntingdon County Experience along the Path of Progress.” The brochure contains still relevant information on over 40 sites and may serve as a model for digital adaptation. From the beginning, the Heritage Committee acknowledged that implementation of many Heritage Plan goals depended on the cooperation from private property owners. The East Broad Top Railroad, as anchor to many of the proposed historic preservation initiatives and activities, continues to provide a critical element that is still subject to changes in ownership and vision. The

recently established East Broad Top Preservation Association, Inc. obtained ownership of the EBT’s Mount Union section and is active in the area though a heritage or tourism focus is currently not strongly promoted. The EBT operated its last public excursion in 2011. While the EBT is still viewed as a major historic resource, and proposed redevelopments as recommended in the 1995 “Full Steam Ahead” study, are still seen as relevant, EBT enthusiasts, including the Friends of the EBT organization, concede that the 1996 Heritage Plan goals of restored service from Rockhill to Mount Union and from Rockhill to Robertsdale have to be recognized as very long-term goals.

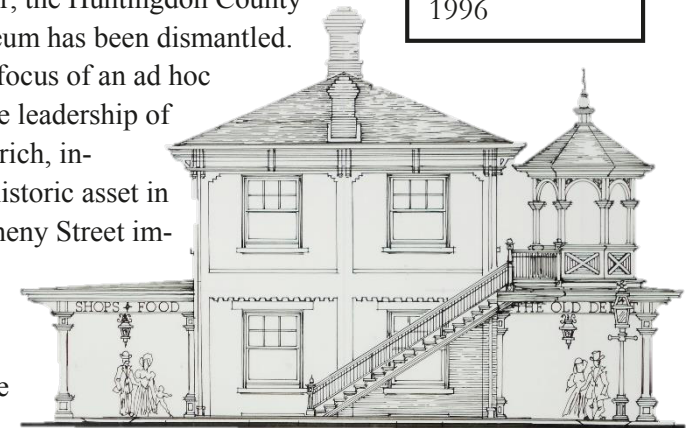
Huntingdon Borough

Two properties in Huntingdon Borough, the Union Depot and HUNT Tower, had high hopes for redevelopment as historic tourism destinations in 1996. Once owned by HRDI (Huntingdon Revitalization and Development, Inc.), the HUNT Tower and its Railroad Museum on the second floor are now owned and occupied by HRDI’s successor, the Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce. The museum has been dismantled. The Union Depot was the special focus of an ad hoc “Boomtown” committee, under the leadership of then Huntingdon Mayor Foster Ulrich, intended to ensure its survival as a historic asset in the Borough. As part of the Allegheny Street improvements in Huntingdon the sidewalk along Union Station incorporates a historic selection of bricks and pavers and vintage style lamp posts. The building itself is



Union Depot, Huntingdon

Architectural restoration design illustration, *Endangered Building Study*, 1996



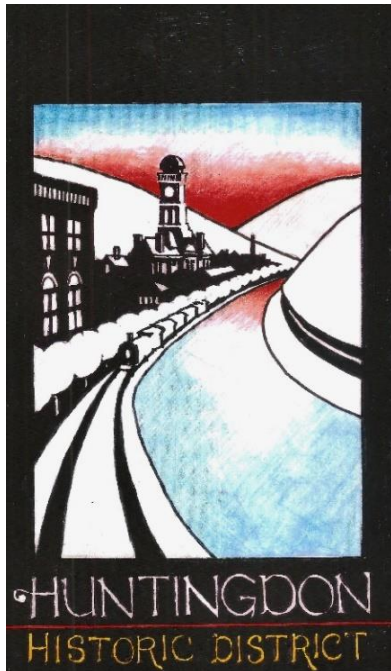
now in private ownership and houses a second-hand/antique store and deli. The current owners have fully stabilized the building and have expressed genuine interest in the maintenance of the historic fabric and historically appropriate historic rehabilitation.

Proposed activities in the 1996 Heritage Plan had been delegated in part to Huntingdon Revitalization and Development Incorporated (HRDI). In 1998 this organization became the Greater Huntingdon Chamber of Commerce, now named the Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce. Its Appearance Committee addressed heritage goals until that committee was dissolved in 2014 because of the wider focus of the organization. The Chamber may resume

administration of the Façade Program, when reinstated for the Borough, which may have future positive impacts on historic restoration efforts in the Huntingdon Borough Historic District as it did in the past. Expansion of the Historic District was proposed and researched, but eventually abandoned due to lack of leadership and manpower to compile necessary documents.

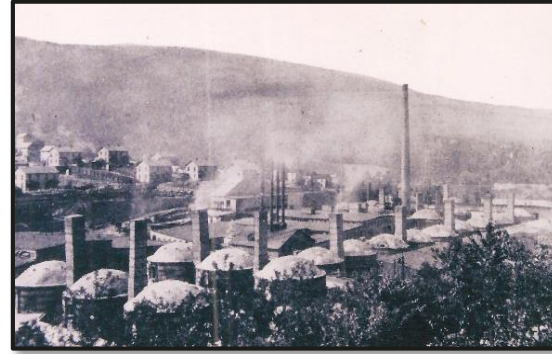
Section 312 of Huntingdon's zoning ordinance, *Additional Provisions within the HD Historic Overlay District*, meets the definition of a preservation ordinance and therefore supports the currently proposed application for a Certified Local Government status. This is an important first step towards preservation efforts as it facilitates preservation training and education of the general public, organizations, and even more importantly, of

public elected officials. As preservation needs and goals are aligned, future actions may include Huntingdon Historic District specific ordinances and priorities.



Many of Huntingdon Borough's historic revitalization efforts are based on the *Allegheny/Penn Street Museum and Business District Study*, prepared by Huntingdon Revitalization and Development (HRDI) as the long-term guide for many downtown improvements.

Mount Union



Mount Union had been a proud centerpiece to the industrial heritage of Huntingdon County. Its legendary brickyards and employment opportunities with the railroad and canal created a multi-cultural community that continues to be unique

among Huntingdon County towns. For a period of time following the 1996 Heritage Plan, its suggestions had energized the community and led to the establishment of a commercial façade revitalization program in the historic district, a loan program to encourage economic development in the Borough, and a feasibility study for adaptive reuse of the historic Shapiro Theater and a key bank building. The Mount Union Area Historical Society developed exhibits in the Sharrar House and later adopted the Paymaster Office of the General Refractories as its Industrial Museum, which had been restored as a National Park Service funded restoration project, just as the Mount Union Freight Station, now the Bricktown Senior Center. Early plans ensued to create a linear park on Pennsylvania Avenue in collaboration with the development of the EBT Railroad linkage. Unfortunately, the issue of private ownership and changes in community leadership undermined some of the visions of the heritage plan. The Shapiro Theater, recorded as part of the Endangered Building Study was demolished in 1997. The façade program was poorly administered, and both the Harbison Walker and North American Refractories brick yards were fully dismantled and their structures removed.

Current efforts through the Blue Print Community program of the Federal Home Loan Bank, administered by the PA Downtown Center, have focused renewed planning attention on Mount Union's Historic District, Mapleton and Shirley Township. A related survey established that local heritage is considered the

number one strength and asset of the communities. Community members have expressed a desire to physically identify historic properties and/or develop a digital walking tour and guide. The Linear Park in Mount Union along the EBT corridor is being pursued as a significant project in the Borough.

Greenwood Furnace National Register Historic District

Greenwood Furnace State Park follows the Park's own Interpretive Plan which is updated every three years. Heritage Plan goals and Park goals have been in concert, and successful implementation has included first person interpretive programs, the establishment of a Friends Group and ongoing updates to the Park's internal planning efforts.



Charcoal wagon returning to the Greenwood Furnace Old Home Days in 1930. The wagon was originally built at Greenwood Works, ca. 1870.

While the Park attempted to address the renovations of the Iron Master's Mansion some years ago, this project was abandoned during times of severe budget cuts that threatened Park closure. On the other hand, the Park has been home to the Greenwood Furnace Folk Gathering, a music heritage event organized by the Huntingdon County Arts Council since 2004. It also continues to conduct Old Home Days and started the restoration of an old

charcoal wagon with help from the Friends Group. The Park's Cultural Interpreter and Environmental Educator identified historic rehabilitation of the Iron Master's Mansion and stabilizing the second furnace stack for future use as goals. Accessibility issues and aging infrastructure at the Park require investment in the near future, including the blacksmith shop museum facility. Plans for further implementation of the Whipple Dam State Park Interpretive Plan are on hold due to current issues with the lake's sediment conditions and therefore reduced visitation.

The 1996 Heritage Plan included communities across the County whose leadership and residents expressed a strong interest in the development of heritage resources.

In concert with the Heritage Plan, the Heritage Committee had selected four endangered buildings to conduct existing conditions and pro forma redevelopment feasibility studies: the Bayer Beaver Warehouse and the Union Depot in Huntingdon Borough, the Shapiro Theater in Mount Union, and the Company Store in Robertsdale. The latter two structures were already in a highly compromised and deteriorated condition, and both were razed as alternative options for any redevelopment were cost prohibitive and the buildings posed a public hazard.

General recommendations included focus on and rehabilitation of neighborhood housing, enforcement of local codes and ordinances and further development of historic attractions. Of the extensive list of potential historic districts and sites, none were added to the National Register of Historic Places in Huntingdon County as historic districts, and only two properties were added to historic sites: The Robb Farm, Walker Township; and the Hugh D. and Martha S. Seeds Farm near Tyrone.



Dudley Borough
HB&T Railroad
Historic Site.

Ownership

'Ownership' of historic and culturally significant properties continues to be the most significant determinant in the future of their preservation. Mike Toner states in his book "The Past in Peril", a collaboration with the National Park Service, "Ownership is the best protection". Naturally that assumes ownership by a preservationist. As Toner elaborates on ancient sites being lost and bulldozed daily, we are reminded of the historic resources lost in Huntingdon County. The disappearance of the brickyards in Mount Union have left a void more significant than the loss of a paycheck – a loss of identity. This Heritage Plan encourages education, collaboration and the employ of technology to complete the story and preserve our heritage.

Heritage Plan Goal: Preserve the Historic Resources of Huntingdon County.

This Heritage Plan goal continues to be first and foremost, "the preservation of historic resources". This chapter has been modified from the 1996 plan goals to address the physical environment, buildings and industrial artifacts in community settings.

Objective 1. Encourage preservation, restoration and adaptive reuse of the built environment.

Objective 2. Focus heritage activities on Huntingdon County National Register Districts, Landmarks and Sites.

The aesthetic, cultural and economic benefits of designation as a historic district and historic preservation have been promoted in the 1996 Plan. This vision had been the focus of local Main Street programs in Huntingdon and Mount Union. Both have since ceased and the communities and County have not invested in establishing a position to coordinate these efforts. The lack of leadership towards historic preservation through either a paid position and/or an active spokesperson has been evidenced in a notable decrease in preservation minded or historic district integrated projects in our communities. A 2012 effort by the County tried to address the limited capacity of individual communities, and suggested a county-wide approach of a regional Main Street-like, staffed position. The attempt failed due to lack of local support as communities struggled with the

fiscal demands of aging infrastructure, an economic recession, limited tax base and significant changes and attitudes in leadership.

Although the vision of well maintained, historically preserved, vibrant downtowns with historic structures utilized in traditional and innovative ways, and the associated benefits of increased property values and jobs, is shared by many local residents, the desired level of investment or development has occurred in only isolated instances. Huntingdon Borough has successfully developed parks and streetscapes within its historic district, but continues to struggle with deteriorated and/or structurally unsound buildings, and increasing blight issues. Similar issues have topped the list of concerns in other communities.

In Huntingdon County heritage tourism is still a viable and attractive complement to the existing attractions, especially outdoor recreation and Raystown Lake. Increasingly, quality of life issues have been associated with historic preservation, including a noticeable shift towards maintaining downtowns, creating alternative housing above stores, walkable communities and greenspaces. To this end, preservation goals and objectives in Huntingdon County should explore the following action steps.

- This Heritage Plan recommends as its most imperative action item, broad education about historic preservation: its benefits, including financial benefits to the investor such as tax credits, incorporation of preservation strategies in local, municipal ordinances, design ideas and innovative adaptations and technical support. An immediate action following the Plan's release will be informational and educational sessions already being planned by the Heritage Committee and County Planning office. Individual communities will be encouraged to explore their own initiatives and strategies, including application for a Certified Local Government status.



Huntingdon's historic Gage Mansion has been refurbished after a devastating fire and now serves as a Bed & Breakfast.

- Local governments need additional tools and inspiration to effectively devise and implement preservation strategies. These include: networking with state and other agencies to identify available resources; sharing of information between communities, including communities who have successfully implemented historic preservation as economic engines; visioning and partnership building to develop a community-wide action plan that incorporates historic preservation as a central theme; addressing deterrents such as assumed to be complicated permitting processes; and arbitrating solutions for neglected or abandoned properties.
- For individual projects or community-wide projects, partnerships can bridge gaps evident in small communities with limited resources and provide inspiration for alternative use. In addition to historical organizations, other cultural and community organizations often provide the impetus for a cornerstone development project, such as an art center, a performance venue or community facility. Institutions such as Juniata College in Huntingdon, hospitals and professional businesses have a vested interest in seeing the community as an attractive and safe location for clients and employees. Social service agencies and organizations like Habitat for Humanity have access to resources particular to their mission.
- The County should continue to play a coordinating role in preservation and other community initiatives. This is particularly appropriate as the County Planning Office is the lead applicant for state and federal grants on behalf of local townships and Boroughs. This may afford leveraging of funds as projects are coordinated, and a ‘big picture’ approach for community development is pursued.
- Historic preservation can and most often should be seen in the context of the larger community. A dominant theme, for example such as the East Broad Top Railroad has given the twin boroughs of Orbisonia and Rockhill a railroad focus. The 1996 Plan explored industrial heritage, but outdoor recreation and our natural assets have since enjoyed increased attention. The Mainline Canal Greenway which includes Huntingdon County, has successfully married the industrial

history to the outdoors. Partnerships with the Greenway have already resulted in river access points to historic districts, information kiosks and park development. Similar partnerships with organizations, institutions or businesses rooted in a community can provide a focus and identity as well as funding to historic preservation, historic district and development projects.

- The Juniata River Blueprint Communities Initiative (JRBC) in Mount Union, Mapleton and Shirley Townships is actively seeking to assess and remedy blight issues, and has identified action steps in its five year plan; including a community/ies-wide inventory of blighted properties; neighborhood advocacy and training of volunteers. JRBC further plans to implement an interpretive sign plan within the Mount Union Historic District and as applicable on trails connecting the communities. Mount Union specific initiatives include:
 - Completion of the Linear Park Project.
 - Inventory endangered properties in Historic District.
 - Sidewalk and building repairs to the Industrial Museum of the Mt. Union Historical Society.
 - Historic District signage.
- This Heritage Plan encourages local stakeholders to revisit the process of formally nominating potential historic sites, buildings, and districts for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In particular, those districts and sites that have already been identified as eligible should complete the registration process.
- Huntingdon Borough (and other communities) will amend ordinances to deal with set-backs that are not conducive to infill housing and construction within a historic district. Allowing new or adaptive construction within the confines of historic districts and neighborhoods with narrow lots, contributes to maintaining a healthy tax base within the borough while deterring vacant lots and associated blight issues.
- McAlevys Fort, Jackson Township, is organizing a civic committee to address the proposed PennDOT project through the historic district and the expected negative impact of the project on the community. The community is at

the intersection of Route 26 and State Route 305, close to Greenwood and Whipple Dam State Parks and the McCann School of Art. The Committee is exploring alternatives, and adjunct projects, such as sidewalks and period lighting to improve the economic conditions by attracting new and complementing existing businesses, including a historic Bed & Breakfast, a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Farm, an antique store, a craft store and a charter school/community building.



Flood Scene,
Huntingdon,
1889

- As many of Huntingdon County's communities are settled along rivers and creeks, flooding continues to be a threat to these historic towns, settlements and other archeological resources. Hazard mitigation planning should consider and integrate these historic resources in its regular plan and plan updates

Objective 3. *Expand historic preservation to residential neighborhoods.*

Expanding the Historic District to include residential neighborhoods follows very similar arguments as for historic downtown areas. Stabilization and appreciation of real estate is coupled with a well maintained neighborhood and established, long-term residencies which also make for family-friendly, safe neighborhoods. Historic neighborhoods support a broader community appreciation and effort toward historic preservation and (regional) heritage tourism goals.

- Identify and designate unique residential neighborhoods and, as applicable, apply for National Register of Historic Places designation.
Huntingdon County communities offer a variety of historic perspectives on residential neighborhoods. In Mount Union,

the Flats have traditionally been the African American neighborhood, and includes the local high and junior high schools as examples of mid-century architecture. Robertsdale is a small community and consists primarily of workers' homes, a tribute to the former coal mining industry. Huntingdon's unique neighborhoods include the (old) Taylor Highlands, Juniata College and some adjacent residences, the Oneida Heights neighborhood including Judge Orlady's home, Warm Springs Avenue between 6th and 12th Streets as well as the proposed extension of the current historic district.

- Work with organizations concerned with housing needs to assist in the development of historic properties to meet housing needs.

As the costs of maintaining old and often large homes increase, it will be imperative that owners are educated about feasible alternatives and resources, and receive good and appropriate design suggestions to efficiently and effectively maintain their historic homes. Larger residences and buildings common in residential neighborhoods, such as school buildings, have been successfully redeveloped to meet housing needs. Human service agencies such as the Center for Community Action in Huntingdon are likely candidates for partnership in development projects.



The J.C. Blair Building has been one of the most successful adaptive reuse projects in downtown Huntingdon. Constructed in 1889 by Huntingdon entrepreneur J. C. Blair, the building was once the tallest between Pittsburgh and Philadelphia and was the factory hub for Blair's paper tablet making business. The former industrial building now houses residential apartments.

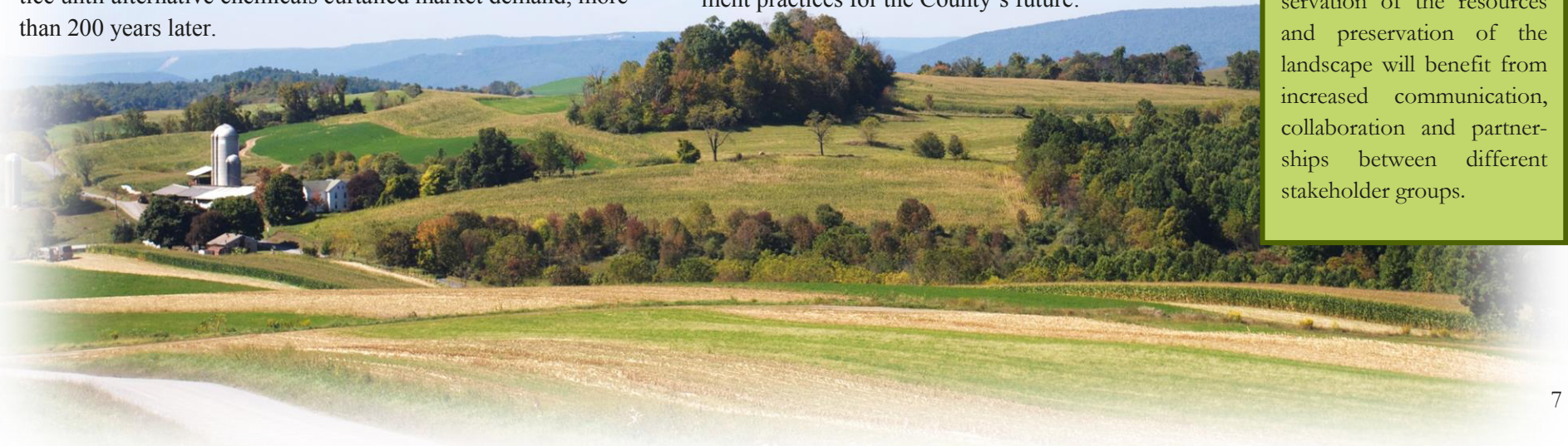
Natural Resources

Huntingdon County's history and heritage cannot easily be described or defined by its migration patterns or industrial development alone. Its people and development are set squarely on the land which provides the tangible and measureable foundation of the County. People have interacted with the given resources, used them for survival, exploited them for personal and national gain, cultivated them and preserved them in equal measure as their actions have consumed them.

Modern day conservation practices may appear to be the product of technological advances and increased study and education, but have been used since before the European settlement of this country. Devastation and loss of resources provide an urgent impetus for actions to this day, and may have been even more important before when natural resources did not have synthetic alternatives. For example, the practice of harvesting tree sap, a valuable chemical commodity until the second half of the 19th century, has been observed in central Europe since the middle ages and possibly before. The destructive method of harvesting involved peeling the bark and cutting the wood of live trees and often led to the demise of the tree. A 1614 German edict forbade the destruction of wood, but did not effectively combat the practice until alternative chemicals curtailed market demand, more than 200 years later.

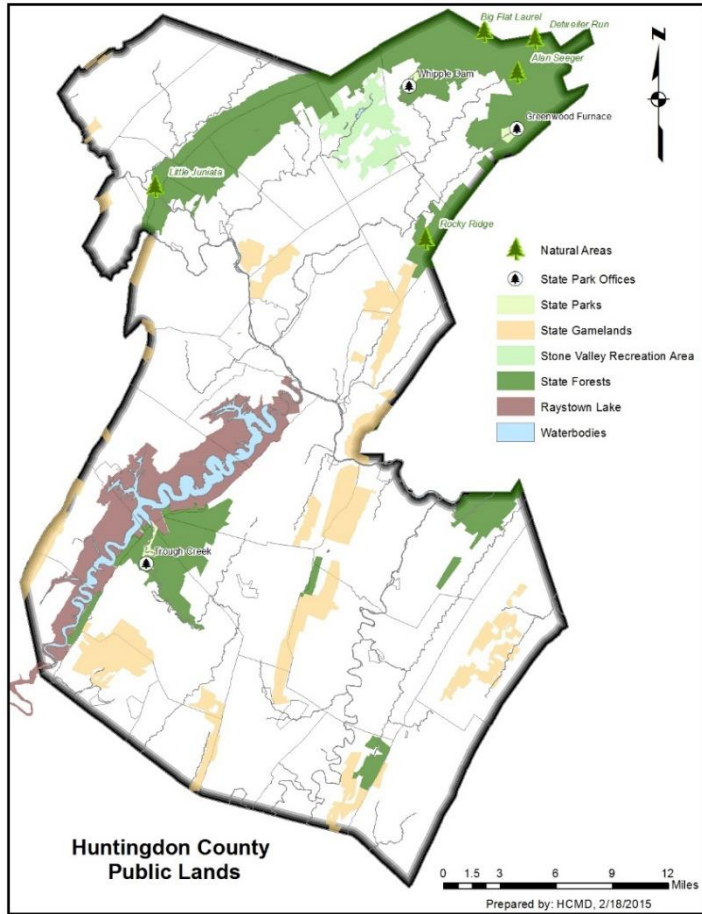
This Natural Resource component of the Heritage Plan provides further context as we look at Huntingdon County's heritage. The natural resources, both cultivated for harvest or 'wild' in their original or near original state, have played a significant role in the settlement of the County and continue to provide an evolving basis for new development and the attitudes of its residents towards these resources. The history of local forestry is both inspiring and devastating, and turning the clock back to the late 19th century practices of deforestation is hardly a goal worth aspiring to. Today, in order to have a true understanding of our heritage and history, we need to reconcile an often romantic notion of the past with the prevalent, destructive and imprudent practices of days gone by. Long before heritage planning became a consideration, the necessity for guidance and preservation had been recognized. County, state and federal agencies and private initiatives have already provided resources to address sensible land management techniques. This Heritage Plan hopes to further provide perspectives for best management practices for the County's future.

The 1996 *Heritage Plan* Natural Resources Goal: Conserve the Natural Resources of Huntingdon County and the associated objectives (Encourage Preservation of Rural Landscapes; Encourage Conservation of Natural Resources; and Encourage Development and Conservation of Trails) still hold true today. Natural resource issues are traditionally addressed by the agencies of DCNR and the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department and Planning Commission, as well as the County Conservation District. As the natural environment becomes the focus of recreation and tourism and continued industrial development, conservation of the resources and preservation of the landscape will benefit from increased communication, collaboration and partnerships between different stakeholder groups.



Forestry

As the frontier and thus settlement pushed westward in the late 1700s, the seemingly endless forests of what is now Huntingdon County, gave up their bounty to farms, and even more so to the rapid exploitation of tree harvesting. Ancient timber stands filled a need for east coast and European shipbuilders. Within less



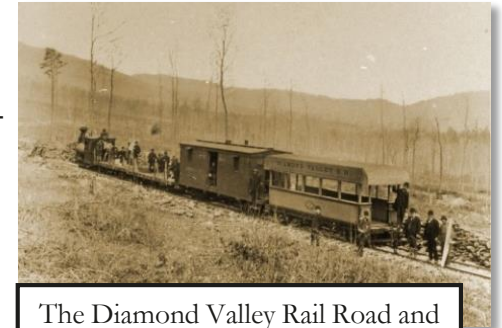
Note: Forest boundaries as set by various State of Commonwealth departments extend into neighboring counties, including Centre, Mifflin, Blair and Fulton Counties. Specific areas and sites listed in this report are limited to Huntingdon County and conversely do not include those sites that have been categorized to lie within other counties. However, even from the county perspective, it is essential that we will consider the contiguous forest area region for planning purposes.

than 100 years, railroads, furnaces and associated charcoaling operations, the tanning and lumber industries joined in the extensive harvesting of forest lands. Fortifications during the Civil War, the securing of mine shafts and later pulp wood and chemical industries required immense quantities of wood products. Not very far north of Huntingdon, Williamsport, PA on the Susquehanna River became the unofficial lumber capital of the world in the mid-19th century.

Huntingdon County suffered a similar loss of forests with its early iron furnace industry as much of Pennsylvania, with clear cutting practices followed often by fires, left soils bare and exposed to erosion. The devastation did not go unnoticed by Dr. Joseph Trimble Rothrock, a native of nearby McVeytown, Mifflin County. From 1876 until his death in 1922, the medical doctor, botanist and the Commonwealth's first forestry commissioner made it his life's mission to reforest Pennsylvania. Now recognized as the "Father of Forestry", he developed forest fire control, scientific forestry and reforestation. He was greatly aided by the efforts of Gifford Pinchot, 1898 forester in the U.S. Department of Agriculture and later two-time Governor of Pennsylvania. Pinchot helped lead the national campaign for the conservation and rational use of the nation's forests and became head of the new United States Forest Service in 1905.

Today, Rothrock State Forest comprises about 95,000 acres that spread across the rugged ridges of Huntingdon, Centre and Mifflin counties. Its establishment followed a similar recipe as Dr. Rothrock employed in other areas: the Commonwealth bought up abandoned, harvested tracts of land from their industrial owners. Shortly after Greenwood Furnace in Huntingdon County closed, the Commonwealth bought the first 35,000 acres with additional purchases to follow in the area of the county. This practice of acquisition-

ing land continues today, and explains varying/increasing acreage figures within short and recent time periods. Within the six county Southern Alleghenies Region, Huntingdon County now has the largest area of public and quasi-public forest lands of almost 140,000 acres.¹



The Diamond Valley Rail Road and logging operations near Petersburg.



State Parks

Note: Huntingdon County State Parks are also covered in the Historic Resources section of this plan document as some contain historic districts and sites on the National Register of Historic Places.

Greenwood Furnace State Park

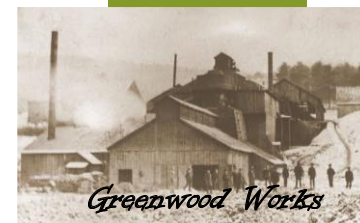
Greenwood Furnace State Park sits amidst Rothrock State Forest with its history spanning the industrial developments of the 19th century that led to the demise of the forest and eventually to 20th century conservation practices and successful reforestation.

The namesake furnace and its associated village were established in 1834 and produced both in quality and quantity some of the finest iron in the U.S. The community included an iron-master's mansion, gristmill, school, stores, church and tenant housing for the workers. During the Civil War, demand was so great that a second furnace stack was added in 1864. The innovations of iron and steel production of the late 19th century along with the depletion of the surrounding forests for charcoal increasingly left Greenwood Furnace behind. The furnace ceased production in December of 1904 resulting in the abandonment of the village. In 1906 the Commonwealth purchased the land and established a tree nursery to contribute to reclaiming the depleted forests. The nursery produced millions of seedlings until its closure in 1993, healing forests across the state. Greenwood Furnace State Park played a significant role in the 1996 Heritage Plan as it asserted itself as one of the best preserved Iron Industry remains in Huntingdon County and in the central Pennsylvania region. As a State Park, it is unique in its emphasis on historical and environmental education and interpretation, honoring its industrial heritage with programs, demonstrations and exhibits that include a blacksmith shop and museum artifacts of its past. A Cultural Educator at the Park conducts programs and research, and volunteers such as the *Friends of Greenwood Furnace State Park* are engaged in events like the Old Home Days Celebration, the Charcoal Burn and restoration efforts and other outreach activities.

The National Park Service established the Greenwood Furnace National Historic District, placed on the National Register in 1989. In 1995, Greenwood Furnace was designated a Historic Landmark by ASM International (formerly the American Society for Metals), the 95th site so honored, to recognize its contribution of high quality iron to the westward expansion of America. These actions provide some protection as well as an acknowledgement for the importance of the continuation of strong emphasis on history within a state park system whose overall mission and goals are not well focused on history but on the environment, recreation and conservation. While the Park continues its efforts towards historic preservation and interpretation, funding for historic restoration efforts have been limited. The volunteer group, *Friends of Greenwood Furnace State Park* is filling a need not only in taking on projects outside the Park's plan, but also as a potential financial and grant conduit resource. During 2014/15, the Friends contributed to the restoration of a charcoal wagon which was originally built and used at the Greenwood Works.

Greenwood Furnace, as all other state parks, reviews its own Resource Management Plan every three years. Concurrently, a similar review of the Interpretive Plan occurs. Included in current goals are improved displays in the Visitor Center, wayside signage, preservation and maintenance of existing structures, and protection from the elements of significant items, such as the soon-to-be newly restored charcoal wagon.

History 'based' events are experiencing challenges related to years of budget cuts, dwindling audience numbers, availability of volunteers, insufficient venues (no amphitheater or performance venue), and reliance on outside groups to come to the Park. The Park's partnership with the Huntingdon County Arts Council in hosting the Greenwood Furnace Folk Gathering has had a very successful run since 2004. The event annually honors a local "Heritage Musician".



Natural Areas in Huntingdon County

Definitions and Guidelines:

- (1) Human habitation will not be permitted, except that primitive-type, back-pack camping may be permitted in designated areas only.
- (2) Access for all but essential administrative activities will be restricted to foot trails.
- (3) Buildings and other improvements will be restricted to the minimum required for public health, safety and interpretive aids.
- (4) Timber harvesting will not be permitted except as may be required for maintenance of the public safety.
- (5) Rights-of-way, leases and mineral development will be prohibited; provided, however, that subsurface oil and gas rights may be leased where no surface use or disturbance of any kind will take place on the Natural Area.

Alan Seeger Natural Area includes 390 acres north of Greenwood Furnace State Park. A loop trail winds through rhododendron, under towering Eastern Hemlock, White Pine, and Yellow Birch along Standing Stone Creek. Alan Seeger is one of the few areas with old growth forest left in the State today.

Big Flat Laurel Natural Area is in Huntingdon and Centre Counties, four miles south of Boalsburg. Adjacent to Bear Meadows Natural Area, these 184 acres include large stands of Mountain Laurel, Pennsylvania's state flower.

Detweiler Run Natural Area is in Huntingdon County, southeast of Boalsburg. This 463-acre portion of Detweiler hollow supports old growth White Pine and Eastern Hemlock with a dense rhododendron understory.

The above 3 areas are monitored for the Pennsylvania Important Bird Area Program, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Audubon Society.

Little Juniata Natural Area is located at a water gap in Tussey Mountain, west of Barree. This 624-acre natural area is of specific geologic interest for its talus slope of hard, white, Tuscarora sandstone and a horizontal thrust fault.

Rocky Ridge Natural Area is located south of Martin Gap. These 150 acres of rich, mixed-oak woodland supports numerous wildflowers among exposures of Oriskany sandstone and limestone.

Trough Creek Wild Area is located on the slopes of Terrace Mountain above Raystown Lake, these 1,703 acres protect the aesthetics of this popular recreational area while providing additional opportunities for hiking and observing wildlife.



In 1921, Pennsylvania's state legislature authorized the Bureau of Forestry to protect special wild and natural areas considered unique or unusual biologic, geologic, scenic and historical features, or which showcased outstanding examples of the state's major forest communities. Initially called *Forest Monuments*, they were later renamed *Natural Areas*.

Whipple Dam State Park

Originally part of the Monroe Furnace operation (ca. 1840-65) supplying charcoal and ore, Osgood

Whipple and Piersol Lytle purchased the land in 1868 for timbering and establishment of a sawmill. A dam was constructed for the sawmill operation. Following its abandonment in the late 1890s, locals used it as a swimming hole, and called it "Whipple's Dam." In the mid-1920s, the site came under ownership of the Commonwealth. It became a recreational area, and a new dam was built. Between 1928 and 1940, a camp for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Campfire Girls existed on the north side of the lake. In the late 1930s, additional development by the Civilian Conservation Corps took place, including new pavilions and the third and present dam. In 1987, the 32-acre park day use area was designated the Whipple Dam National Historic District and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Trough Creek State Park

Paradise Furnace, established in 1827 (predating the furnaces of northern Huntingdon County) was paired with a forge in 1832 and stayed in operation until 1856 and for a brief period during the Civil War. The early closure allowed for a second timber harvest by the early 1900s and a logging railroad that passed through Trough Creek from Aitch (Marklesburg) to Jacobs (Rocky Ridge coal mining area) was known as the Juniata and Southern Railroad. In 1913, the railroad extended to the coal fields of the Broad Top region. Again, once the

timber was harvested, the operations ceased and left a denuded landscape in its wake. Trough Creek State Park features attractions identified as part of the Pennsylvania Trail of Geology, established by the PA Department of Conservation Natural Resources, Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey. The Ice Mine, often misunderstood as a man-made storage, is rather a natural geological/physical phenomenon that allows moist air movements during spring and early summer to freeze water near the mouth of the opening.

The Balanced Rock, as its name implies, gives the appearance of balancing precariously on the edge of a cliff, but in reality is an erosion remnant.

State Game Lands

Hunting and trapping have always played a significant role in our Pennsylvania culture. Penn's charter in 1683 allowed hunting on his lands and as early as 1721 game laws tried to control and curtail exploitation of wild resources. In 1895, State Legislature established the Board of Game Commissioners, renamed the Pennsylvania Game Commission in 1937, to manage acquired State Game Lands. The Game Commission, like its counterparts the Fish and Boat Commissions, pursues a mission to protect Pennsylvania's resources. Its history of conservation parallels the tradition of hunting and trapping in the once densely wooded state. The outline of the Commission's history reads like a health chart of native species and later efforts of restoration and conservation. It also journals the long established practice of hunting in Pennsylvania woods. A 1996 poll shows that 83% of Pennsylvanians support public hunting, and a 2011



survey indicates that 99% of the over 700,000 Pennsylvania hunters hunt in their home state.² The Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Dan Ashe, states in the preface to the nationwide 2011 US Fish and Wildlife Survey that “a resurgence of embracing the outdoors” is evidenced in that more than 38% of Americans are enjoying the outdoors. Game may not rank high as a food source, but the economics of hunting continue to be significant. As early as 1721, limits on hunting and trapping attempted to curtail exploitation of available game. Conservation efforts in more recent decades have become more sophisticated as the level of human threats increase and natural threats to wildlife persist.

The traditions of hunting and trapping run deep in Pennsylvania. They

are part our heritage, especially in rural communities like Huntingdon County. This heritage is recognized by the Pennsylvania Game Commission and its 2009-14 Strategic Plan which calls for more public awareness through outreach and edu-

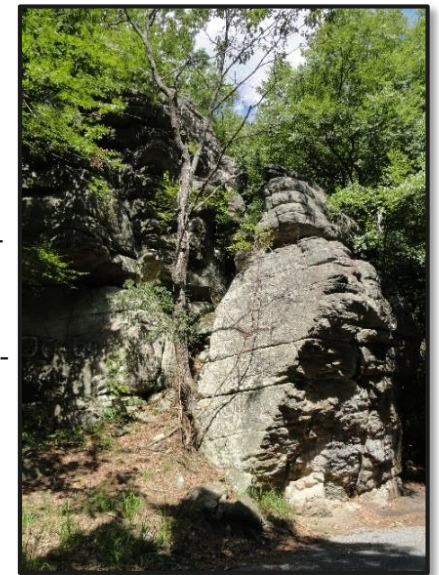
cation. Huntingdon County has ten public game land areas totaling almost 39,000 acres. The Southcentral Region's Game Commission headquarters are located in Smithfield Township along the William Penn Highway (US Route 22).

Natural Landmarks, Historic Sites and Recreation

Huntingdon County's natural landscape provides a lush backdrop to individual sites of historic significance. Pennsylvania Historical Markers tell a story of the County's history (see attached map of markers). As roadside ‘attractions’ of sort, they provide a foundation



East Branch
Rod & Gun
Club

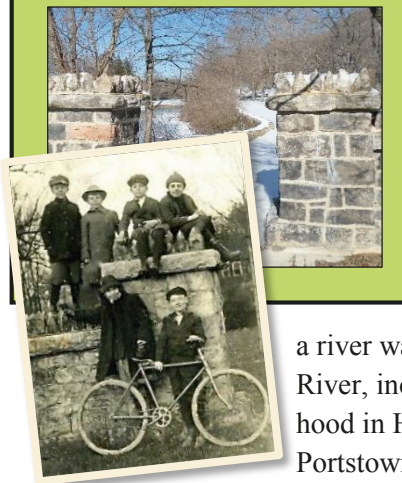


Pulpit Rocks,
National Historic
Landmark, Hun-
tingdon

² US Fish and Wildlife Survey 2011

Huntingdon entrepreneur J.C. Blair and his wife Kate have left an indelible mark on the community. One of their generous contributions was the gift of Blair Park in 1896. Their vision for a park begins on the south tracts on the east bank of the Stone Creek in Huntingdon and extends to the Simla Tract high on Stone Creek Ridge four miles north of Huntingdon. The Huntingdon Park and Road Association was incorporated in 1898 and developed the Park, although it never quite extended to connect to the Simla Tract.

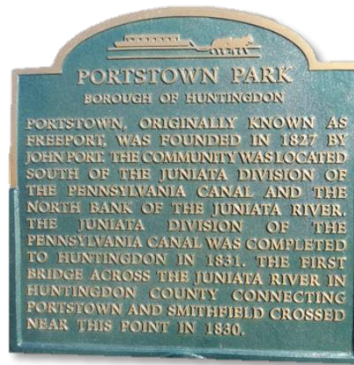
Over the years, the still existing Carriage Way has deteriorated, but recent efforts have revived the Association in hopes to restore, refurbish and improve the Park in harmony with its physical, historical and cultural assets.



for a historic driving tour through the county or added points of interest for visitors.

In addition to established sites, historic landmarks, waymarks, recreation areas, parks and scenic overlooks complement Huntingdon's natural outdoor scenery. With the advent of technology-based activities such as geocaching, and generally increased outdoor recreation, the opportunity to educate about our heritage is significant. Natural and heritage conservation efforts can provide opportunities for new audiences, collaborations and volunteers. The economic impact of coordinated activities is not only mutually beneficial but increasingly recognized as a major economic development component. Our 'natural environment' is not limited to the expanses of forests surrounding residential communities. The current emphasis of community development is on recreational opportunities, including parks, boat launches and hiking and biking trails within and between neighborhoods and communities. Huntingdon Borough has a tradition of promoting personal well-being through outdoor recreation since the late 1800s when entrepreneur J. C. Blair and his wife Kate donated tracts of land for the establishment of Blair Park. Huntingdon Borough and Smithfield township continued this trend almost a century later with the development of

a river walk and parks along both shores of the Juniata River, including the commemoration of a former neighborhood in Huntingdon Borough with the designation of Portstown Park. The Flagpole Hill trails are a rich resource for further development in the Borough of Huntingdon, and



a river walk trail is being established with community volunteer efforts in Mount Union.

Heritage Plan Goal: Conserve the Natural Resources of Huntingdon County

This Heritage Plan's goal for *Natural Resources* follows the recommendations of the 1996 Heritage Plan, but incorporates additional, significant emphasis and focus on agricultural heritage, outdoor recreation and natural resource extraction. The Natural Heritage

Goals depend to a large degree on other County strategic plans as well as local, state and federal government plans, regulations and ordinances. Other state departments relevant to natural resources, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and its Bureau of Forestry and the Game Commission, as well as the Department of Agriculture, provide guidance and resources for the benefit of conservation. Their own strategic plans include reference to the heritage and the history of their given areas of concern. These existing resources in support of this Heritage Plan's goals imply what is a common tenet of this Heritage Plan: collaboration and coordination among various stakeholders towards a common goal.

Objective 1. Encourage the preservation of the rural landscape, and Objective 2. Encourage the conservation of the Natural Resources as stated in the 1996 Plan, are carried forth and expanded by five more objectives for Natural Resources and three specific objectives towards the goal of conserving the Agricultural Resources and Rural Landscape of Huntingdon County. **Objective 3. Plan for sustainable trail development throughout Huntingdon County, and Objective 4. Encourage collaboration towards historic interpretation in recreation development.**

Trail planning and development has been on the forefront of outdoor recreation planning since the previous Heritage Plan,



with significant successes in line with 1996 Plan goals. The Lower Trail extension from Williamsburg in Blair County to Alexandria is a well-established hiking and biking destination. While the trail project successfully expanded further into Blair County connecting to Canoe Creek State Park, the Huntingdon County development had stalled and has only recently received renewed attention.

- This Plan supports the continued efforts towards expansion of the Lower Trail into Huntingdon County, in particular connecting the Lower Trail gateway to Huntingdon communities Alexandria, Petersburg, Smithfield and Huntingdon Borough.

Raystown Lake has expanded its trail system and now features a nationally acclaimed bicycle trail and event focused on the increasingly popular bicycle culture. The Thousand Steps near Mapleton have been acquired by the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy and provide a critical link to the former Link Trail, now Standing Stone Trail, between Greenwood Furnace and Cowans Gap State Parks.

- The Thousand Steps have gained in popularity and provide excellent opportunity for heritage education directed toward this physically active, younger audience. Interpretive signage could tell the story of this industrial remnant and associated industry in Mount Union.

The initial two miles of the over 10 mile proposed Huntingdon and Broad Top Mountain Rail Trail (H&BT Rail Trail) was opened from Riddlesburg to Hopewell. Following the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River in Bedford County, the trail's name comes from the Huntingdon and Broad Top Mountain Railroad, which was founded in 1852 to carry coal. Historical landmarks along this section include the Hopewell Train Station and the Keystone Foundry Museum, which opened in 1857 as a railroad repair shop and place to produce mining tools and equipment. Most of the planned development is in Bedford County.

- Significant portions of the old rail right of way have potential for development in Huntingdon County on lands owned by the Game Commission.

Outdoor recreation provides the opportunity to engage in local history education at a specific location that has historic significance. Whether through signage or digital media, the outdoor enthusiast can be alerted to and learn about sites, events and personalities that contributed to Huntingdon County's heritage.

- Existing routes/trails, such as the Path of Progress can be repurposed for biking, and digital information, from GIS location to extensive historical data, photos, and recordings, can be made available online. New and renewed partnerships with regional initiatives such as the Mainline Canal Greenway and Blueprint Communities have provided incentives for leveraging local resources and professional services. This Heritage Plan supports continued work to diversify, expand and promote the trail offering in Huntingdon County and in its individual communities, and to apply professional design and best practices in the establishment of new trails and outdoor recreational facilities.



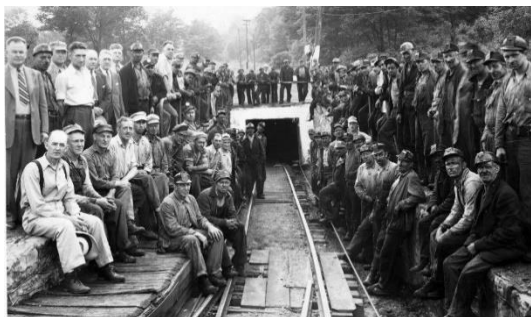


Photo provided by Ron Morgan

Robertsdale Coal Miners at Slope No. 5 Coal Mine



Sculpture by: Dale Rogers, US 522, Orbisonia

Objective 5. Commemorate natural resource extraction history in Huntingdon County.

Natural resource extraction of coal, iron, wood, sand, limestone and clay has provided the basis for many Huntingdon County industries, some of which continue in operation today. The industrial remnants of now obsolete industries exist in ever increasing danger of being further obscured or forgotten in their entirety.

- GIS mapping of sites can be an effective first step in documenting and commemorating our industrial heritage. Signage, markers and brochures can augment identification.
- The Broad Top Coal Miners Museum and Greenwood Furnace State Park continue to offer a perspective

on the past through their displays, reenactments and programs. This programmatic, tangible approach is attractive to a more casual audience, including children, but also lends itself to living history demonstrations and further exploration via lectures, literature and special events.

Objective 6. Record the existing forest camps, hunting and fishing culture.

Outdoor recreation based on hunting and fishing traditions has a long history in Huntingdon County and is probably one of the most important, yet least identified, attributes treasured by local residents. Rural life, the extensive, forested landscape, and clean trout streams have coalesced in annual rituals that include opening day of trout season and an extended Thanksgiving holiday and school vacation at the beginning of deer season. Hunting camps still abound on Huntingdon County state game lands and private land holdings.



Associated areas of interest include firearms, marksmanship, fly tying, and hunting and fresh water fishing techniques of all types.

- This Heritage Plan proposes to secure funding to document and inventory camps and the broader hunting and fishing culture in Huntingdon County. These activities should include a historic perspective on hunting and fishing, documentation of camps, camp architecture and sportsmen clubs in the County.
- Opportunities further exist to promote adjunct activities and areas of interest, some of which have already been explored by the Huntingdon County Historical Society with their annual firearms show. Identification of our local hunting and fishing culture can provide appropriate measures to protect and balance preservation and economic development that may impact these traditions and our natural environment.

Objective 7. Identify local landmarks.

- This Heritage Plan proposes to further identify, inventory and map natural and historic landmarks, including remnant sites with no remaining artifacts. This objective complements the efforts of additional identification and inventorying of Historic Resources and the preservation of the cultural landscape in the County.

Agricultural Resources



‘Landscape’ as the physical backdrop to Huntingdon County has been ill-defined as recent surveys show and is often used synonymously for natural and geological features, forests, agriculture, gardens, parks and other elements grounded in land or soil. Huntingdon County with its forested hills, green pastures and tilled fields, farms and small towns is the idyllic community both residents and visitors value. This appearance is neither ‘all natural’ nor permanent and will change in the wake of settlement, commerce and industry. Agriculture is assumed to be one of the most stable elements in the mix of what we refer to as our landscape in recent history, that is, since the settlement of the County in the late 1700s, and it has been and continues to be a significant economic base of the county.³ Agriculture in tandem with rural culture seems to have received far less attention than the significant and often explosively developing industries and adjunct advances in transportation and technology. The 1990 Huntingdon County Plan supported the Southwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Preservation Commission’s vision in the *America’s Industrial Heritage Project* and the subsequent 1996 Huntingdon County Heritage Plan further expanded on telling the story of America’s industrial heritage and the

people who have lived it as part of the *Path of Progress*. These plans therefore focused on the industrial heritage and its remnants (historic resources), which are updated and discussed in a previous chapter. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission partnered with the Federal Highway Administration, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and The Pennsylvania State University to develop a comprehensive planning document that provides guidance to help state and federal agencies with modern land development. The plan seeks to protect historic open space, farmland, and natural historic resources, and to assist in determining significant rural historic resources for interpretation. Released in 2013, this document, the *Pennsylvania’s Agricultural History Project*, also provides the basis for this Huntingdon County specific document as a compendium for identification, and with specific guidance on questions of National Register eligibility, defining standards for significance and integrity according to the National Register Criteria and guidelines for Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) for Pennsylvania’s historic agricultural resources.⁴

³ US Department of Interior, National Park Service, *Industrial Resources of Huntingdon County between 1780 and 1939*

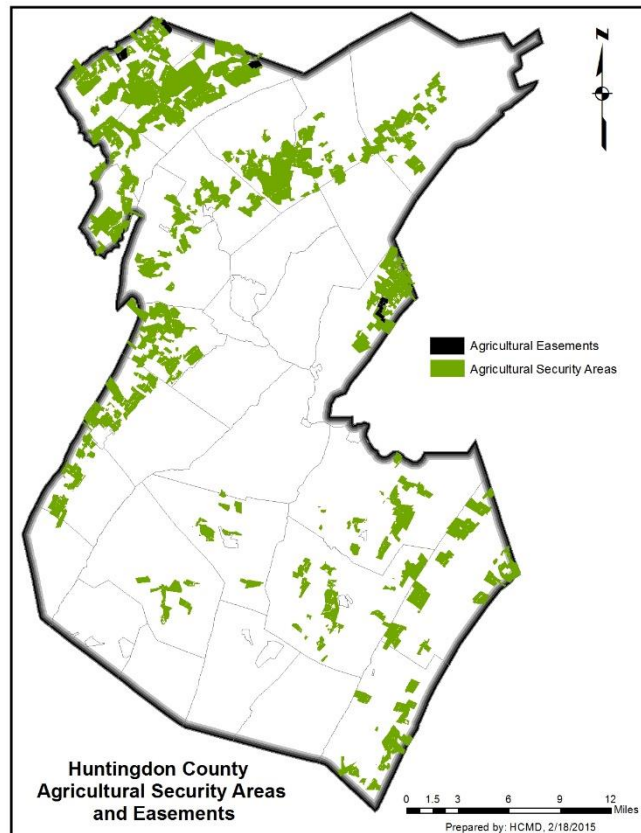
⁴ Historic Agricultural Resources of Pennsylvania, c. 1700-1960; National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form

Property Types are defined in the *National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form* as follows:

Farmstead: A farmstead is defined here as encompassing the farm dwelling[s]; barn; out-buildings; and the immediately surrounding land on which these buildings are situated. It normally excludes cropland, meadow, pasture, orchard, and woodland, but would include such landscape features as yards, windbreaks, ponds, gardens, ornamental trees, decorative fences, driveways, etc.

Farm: the farmstead plus crop fields, meadows, pastures, orchards, woodlots, etc., including landscape features such as fences, tree lines, contour strips, streams, etc. and circulation networks.

Historic Agricultural District: a group of farms which share common architectural and agricultural landscape features; are linked together by historic transportation corridors, including roads, railroads, paths, and/or canals; and together express characteristic features of local historical agricultural patterns.



The concept of inventorying and preserving agricultural elements ranging from farmsteads to farming implements to land use can be likened to the focus on folklore and folk arts; neither are extinct but continue to exist to the present. Farming practices changed relatively slowly until the first half of the 20th century, and conservative, rural attitudes provide continuity of tangible resources as well as diagnostic features for cultural research.

Huntingdon County's Agricultural History

Farmers were the first settlers of Huntingdon County in the mid-1700s along with additional settlement and establishment of towns and the county towards the end of the 18th century. Today's Huntingdon County boundaries lie within the Central Limestone Region, as identified in the PHMC Pennsylvania Agricultural History Project. In this region high quality limestone soils occur in some long and narrow, level valleys between sandstone ridges that generally stretch in a northeast-to-southwest direction. Waterways had provided plenty good mill sites, and the first grist mill was established in 1774. Agriculture in the County has been described as diversified, until post WWII, with an integrated grain and livestock system, i.e. cash and feed crops and animals and their

products. From 1830 until about 1880, improvements in transportation (turnpikes, canal and the railroad after 1850) and early industries (iron furnaces) reached new markets, and farming production was expanded. Farms in the central valleys of Pennsylvania were more mechanized during this period than their counterparts in other parts of the state, and not surprisingly, the central valley farmers produced the highest wheat crop in the state. Over 40% of farmers were tenant farmers, although often tenancy agreements were between family members. 'Retirement' of elderly farmers led to the establishment of small communities, later towns, with amenities, such as granges, fraternal orders and churches that still survive in rural areas.

By 1880, Huntingdon County had about 2,600 farms. As competition from the Midwest grew, the production of wheat fell as corn increased, and beef production remained as a central commodity. Improved transportation (railroad) and new industrial towns (Altoona) further provided markets locally, and the number of farms decreased only slowly in the early 20th century.

The advent of refrigeration and new, urban milk markets (the 'eastern milk shed') changed agriculture significantly. By 1950 the number of farms in the county was down to about 1,550 and within another ten years, to 1,200, although the farm sizes increased.⁵

The 2012 census indicates that today Huntingdon County is home to 833 farms with an average size of 190 acres covering a total of 158,300 acres of agrarian land. For not quite half of the farm residents, farming is a full-time occupation, and livestock farming comprises the vast majority.

The physical evidence of our farming heritage survives in the form of buildings, structures and implements in support of the farm operation, both past and current. While a number of early manor houses survive due to their more substantial construction, Huntingdon County's still active, extensive farming community has preserved many examples of most farm dwellings.

⁵ Agricultural Resources of Pennsylvania, c. 1700-1960. Central Limestone Valleys, c. 1830-1960, PHMC

Huntingdon County Fair

The Huntingdon County Fair enjoys a reputation as one of the largest in Pennsylvania, with active youth participation and a livestock show and sale to rival the Pennsylvania Farm Show. The success story of this community event that draws tens of thousands of visitors to the Fairgrounds in August every summer, has a history that also commemorates the Huntingdon County Fair as one of the State's Century Fairs.

In 1829, the first Huntingdon County Agricultural Society was formed, and within two years the first agricultural fair was held in Huntingdon. The one-day event lasted but two years and disbanded in 1832 due to a lack of interest, location and, most likely, internal strife. In 1854, the Society was reorganized and enjoyed great success with increased entertainment and popular sideshows, horse races, and displays of agricultural wares and manufactured goods until the dawn of the Civil War in 1861. In the years following the Civil War, the Fair struggled to regain its earlier status as farmers felt disenfranchised by the organizing business community. Financial difficulties in part aggravated by the depressed economy, forced the ensuing 23 year hiatus for the County Fair. Its comeback in 1899 organized by Carl M. Gage, general manager of the Huntingdon and Broad Top Mountain Railroad, was a rousing success. In addition to an exceptional agricultural exhibit, the Fair included baseball, a gas filled balloon, calliope, merry-go-round and a horseless carriage. The following year, the Huntingdon County Fair Association was formed, and until 1906 the Huntingdon County Fair was a popular summertime event. In 1906, the location of the Fair in Smithfield along the Juniata River (Riverside Park) was sold and since no other suitable location was available, the organization and therefore the Fair disbanded. Interest in continuation was great, but it was not until a 1914 partnership between the Huntingdon Business Men's Association, the Huntingdon County Commissioners, the Pennsylvania State College, and the Granges of Huntingdon County that the Fair found a new home along 7th Street in Huntingdon. The new Huntingdon County Agricultural

Association was formed in 1915. Until 1922 the Fair was held at various locations, including the Woolverton Farm in Alexandria and Kephart's Grove in Smithfield. The ongoing change of location with few facilities and varying focus from education to entertainment eventually ushered in the desire to find a permanent home for the Fair. A 69 acre site between Crooked Creek and the Long Siding of the Huntingdon and Broad Top Mountain Railroad (now Fairgrounds Road) was chosen and readied with the help of volunteer labor from the farming community. Following the extraordinary success of that year's Fair, the site was purchased in October 1922. As a community event, the Fair entertained and informed and brought thousands of residents from throughout the county together for fun competitions in sports and agricultural products, beauty pageants and sideshows. The Fair became a showcase for local businesses and fund-raising sites for organizations, very much as it is today. Since 1922 the only interruption was during World War II from 1943 to 1946, but it has since been held annually.

Annual highlights vary and include social events, for example weddings and dances, as well as technological novelties, such as moving pictures and the automobile. In 1954 a former HB&T Railroad building (now the Art Station, right) became home to the fair office and in 1988 to the Fair Museum. The volunteer efforts of Fair board member James McMath and his wife Barb soon outgrew the small space, and the Fair erected a larger building in 1992 to house Huntingdon County-related farm implements and artifacts with another addition in 2003. (Also see *Museums*)

HUNTINGDON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
WILL HOLD ITS FIFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION
ON THE OLD GROUNDS
AT HUNTINGDON,
On Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 4th, 5th & 6th of October, 1899.

The Exhibition will embrace a display of Horses, Goat Stock, Swine, Sheep, Poultry, Grains, Fruits, Agricultural and Mechanical Implements, Fancy articles, as well as every article of Household Manufacture, Mechanical or Artistic Skill. The Grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

OVER FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS
WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN CASH PREMIUMS.
COMPETITION IS INVITED
FROM THE NEIGHBORING COUNTIES.

REGULATIONS:

1. The Exhibition of all live stock, from horses to the smallest fowl, will be accepted for entry on the 4th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and will be held on the 5th and 6th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and 2 o'clock, P.M. respectively. The grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

2. The Exhibition of all live stock, from horses to the smallest fowl, will be accepted for entry on the 4th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and will be held on the 5th and 6th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and 2 o'clock, P.M. respectively. The grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

3. The Exhibition of all live stock, from horses to the smallest fowl, will be accepted for entry on the 4th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and will be held on the 5th and 6th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and 2 o'clock, P.M. respectively. The grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

4. The Exhibition of all live stock, from horses to the smallest fowl, will be accepted for entry on the 4th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and will be held on the 5th and 6th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and 2 o'clock, P.M. respectively. The grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

5. The Exhibition of all live stock, from horses to the smallest fowl, will be accepted for entry on the 4th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and will be held on the 5th and 6th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and 2 o'clock, P.M. respectively. The grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

6. The Exhibition of all live stock, from horses to the smallest fowl, will be accepted for entry on the 4th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and will be held on the 5th and 6th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and 2 o'clock, P.M. respectively. The grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

7. The Exhibition of all live stock, from horses to the smallest fowl, will be accepted for entry on the 4th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and will be held on the 5th and 6th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and 2 o'clock, P.M. respectively. The grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

8. The Exhibition of all live stock, from horses to the smallest fowl, will be accepted for entry on the 4th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and will be held on the 5th and 6th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and 2 o'clock, P.M. respectively. The grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

9. The Exhibition of all live stock, from horses to the smallest fowl, will be accepted for entry on the 4th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and will be held on the 5th and 6th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and 2 o'clock, P.M. respectively. The grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

10. The Exhibition of all live stock, from horses to the smallest fowl, will be accepted for entry on the 4th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and will be held on the 5th and 6th of October, 1899, at 10 o'clock, A.M. and 2 o'clock, P.M. respectively. The grounds are extensive and will be supplied with a ring for the training of horses, stalls for the accommodation of live stock, and sufficient shade for the proper display and ample protection of all articles on exhibition.

AN ADDRESS will be delivered on Thursday at 8 o'clock, P.M. by some able speaker, after which the Reports of the Judges will be read.

A TROTTING MATCH
will take place on Thursday at 11 o'clock.

Music will be Discouraged by the EXCELSIOR CORNET BAND of Huntingdon.

Excursion Tickets will be issued at all the stations on the Pennsylvania Rail Road between Harrisburg and Johnstown, and at all the stations on the Huntingdon & Broad Top Rail Road.

A VIGILANT POLICE will be on the ground during night and day, to preserve order and to protect the articles on exhibition. The committee will endeavor to accommodate every article properly entered with sufficient room and a conspicuous place in the exhibition, and protect as much as possible, the exhibitors and their property from any loss or damage, but will not be accountable should any occur. All exhibitors and visitors will be required to conform with the Regulations. Trespassers upon the rights of the Society will be rightly dealt with. Hay and straw will be furnished gratis to all animals properly entered.

Committee of Arrangement: A. W. REHNHART, ALEX. FORT, THOS. P. LOVE, J. F. RAMEY and J. STIMPSON AFRICA.

JOHN C. WATSON, President.
GEO. JACKSON, Treasurer.

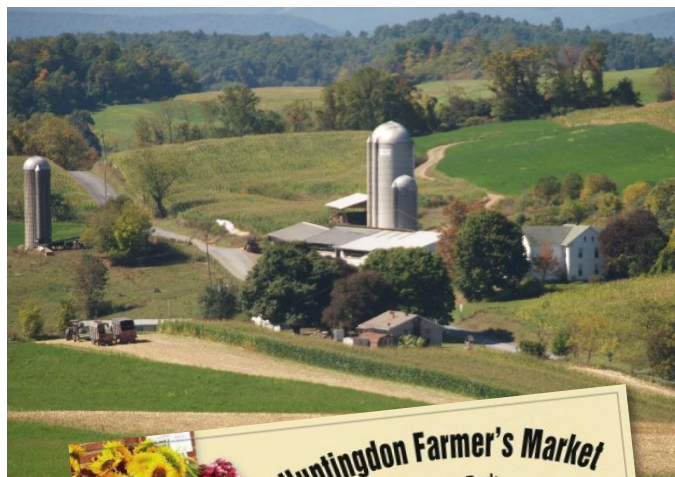




Protected Under
18 U.S.C. 707

Granges, Farm Bureau and Penn State Cooperative Extension

Granges have been part of the agricultural community since 1867. This fraternal order has been dedicated to improving the quality of rural life through educational, social and legislative activities. Advancing the cause of agriculture and rural leadership, granges have been catalysts in bringing about the rural electricity cooperative, agricultural extension service, interstate highway system, soil conservation, education and the Farmers Home Administration (now the USDA). Today Granges compete with the demands of modern life and have experienced significant decrease in their membership. Huntingdon County's Pomona Grange has about 150 members. Granges have displays at the Huntingdon County Fair and encourage membership among farming families.



Since 1950 the needs of the farming community are also advocated through the Farm Bureau. Today the Huntingdon County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is replacing the local Grange as the voice for modern county farmers, offering legislative support, information and services.

Penn State Extension provides important services to the agricultural and larger Huntingdon County community, ranging from animal health concerns, to business administration, and youth and family programs. The Huntingdon County office coordi-

nates 4-H activities with one of the largest youth livestock shows in the state during Fair week.

Heritage Plan Goal: Conserve the (Natural) Agricultural Resources and Rural Landscape of Huntingdon County

Objective 1. Encourage preservation of traditional farmsteads; especially main farm houses and historic barns.

- Farms and farmsteads as examples of our built environment and as a tribute to our local heritage and history should be preserved as built structures of historic significance in the County. Owners of rural properties should be made aware of opportunities for preservation, appropriate techniques, and programs such as the Bicentennial and Century Farm Program, and exemplary efforts should be recognized.

Objective 2. Support local and traditional agriculture.

- Efforts of this Heritage Plan have already been incorporated in County land use discussions in order to address the eventuality of interest in large scale, industrial style farming with its associated environmental impact. The Heritage Plan encourages preservation of farmland and the establishment of appropriate ordinances to prevent unwanted, negative impact on our rural landscape.
- This plan encourages support of local farms, especially those growing and supplying produce and consumables through outlets such as farmers markets and CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) initiatives. They are an important resource in maintaining diversity in our agricultural community.

Objective 3. Record farming history in the County.

- The history of multi-generational farming families and farming organizations, such as local Granges, should be recorded in an oral history project. The Huntingdon County Fair may provide a suitable partnership, and 4-H clubs, especially non-animal clubs, may consider projects concerned with farming history. Farms and farmsteads could be inventoried and owners educated about appreciation and preservation of the farming culture and attributes. The Fair Farm Museum should be promoted as an outstanding regional resource and collection of farming implements and artifacts.

Art and Cultural Resources

Culture is defined in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary as: The beliefs, customs, arts, etc., of a particular society, group, place, or time; a particular society that has its own beliefs, ways of life, art, etc.; a way of thinking, behaving, or working that exists in a place or organization (such as a business).



Watercolor by Thomas Moran

A local cultural landscape, defined as ‘the way of life’ embraced by local residents, in part manifests itself in regular events, monuments and places dedicated for particular activities. The physical environment combined with established cultural values has provided the basis for our ‘common wealth’. Our civilization’s understanding of heritage elements and values have been deemed insurance for the survival of liberty and democracy.⁶

Churches, Libraries, Cultural Organizations, Juniata College, Museums

Huntingdon County’s cultural and social heritage is manifested in part in its institutions. The institutions evidence a long-term commitment to their visions and missions and have created the physical and organizational structures to house and support their institutional missions. Based on the definition of cultural history, including art, literature, science and religion, we cannot discuss the County’s heritage without acknowledging the importance of the cultural institutions that continue to serve the County’s communities and residents and afford opportunities to further heritage education and historic research in Huntingdon County and elsewhere.

Churches and social clubs or organizations are defined and bounded by their individual formal doctrines, and while their outreach activities are often significant, public access is sometimes restricted to membership and membership conditions. Public institutions and those organizations established with a mission of outreach serve the county and its residents without or with limited exceptions as long as institutional rules are followed. These institutions include schools and libraries, publicly supported organizations such as the Huntingdon County Historical Society and the Huntingdon County Arts Council; and Juniata College, unique to Huntingdon County,. Some of these institutions are obvious and apt partners to this Heritage Plan, while others may present yet unrealized opportunities, and yet others, including public schools, are bound by the prescribed objectives from outside agencies. In all cases, individual leadership and engagement, board vision, and available resources strongly influence the effectiveness of outreach and partnership towards heritage preservation goals. This plan can neither prescribe nor suggest action by others, but hopes to create broader awareness for potential collaborations

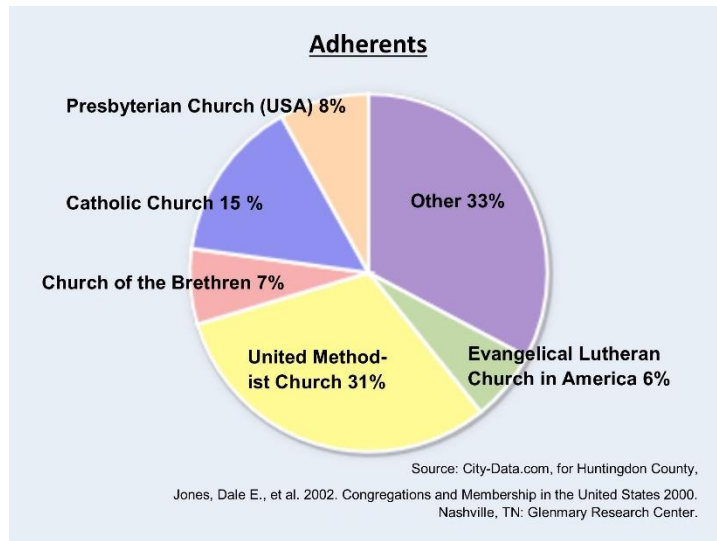


Huntingdon Baptist Church

⁶ Roy F. Nichols, *A History* (Harrisburg: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1967) 42.

among community organizations, institutions, individuals and governments towards common goals. (See also Management)

Religious Activities and Churches



Huntingdon County's churches mirror the early settlement patterns and beliefs of early European settlers. The colonial province of Pennsylvania granted religious liberty of conscience and worship to all⁷ and this is evidenced in the variety of churches found throughout the County. Religious beliefs are primarily of Christian faith, with the majority aligned with the different protestant faiths. In addition to the protestant faiths, the Roman Catholic Church has four active congregations in the County, the Orthodox faith has churches in Huntingdon, Mount Union and Wood, and a synagogue in Huntingdon serves the Jewish faith. Church beliefs and traditions extend their influence beyond the parishioners' homes into the

community. Unlike European towns that clustered around a dominant church at its center, communities in Huntingdon County bear witness to the American diversity of religious institutions. A popular 1878 print of Huntingdon Borough depicts six church buildings, some of which survive today, while others were expanded, replaced and modernized at a later date. This physical evidence of the importance of church in the lives of local residents provides a legacy of impressive buildings representing various stylistic periods of architecture. Additional adornments such as stained glass windows and decorative iron work add to the rich fabric of local (church) history. "Christian principles" as a broad concept for societal standards also provided the basis for widespread movements that brought about social and political change. The Women's Christian Temperance Union movement, recognized for their stand and fight against alcohol consumption, had a noticeable membership in Huntingdon County. Their influence can still be observed in townships throughout Huntingdon County where alcohol sales are not permitted.

Today churches in Huntingdon County continue to serve more than the spiritual needs of their congregations. They provide community outreach and services to those in need, share cultural traditions with the community at events (including ethnic foods and holiday traditions), and often provide a gathering space for non-church related events. The local newspaper, The Daily News, publishes a weekly two-page *Religion News* section that includes a calendar of events and contact information.

The historic significance of church buildings in the County transcends denominations. Both the Huntingdon County Historical Society and the Mount Union Historical Society are owners and caretakers of the Manor Hill Presbyterian Church and Mount Nebo Church respectively. These church buildings are recognized as historically significant to the area by their act of 'adoption' by the secular organizations.

Manor Hill Church – Shaver's Creek Presbyterian Church

In 1970 the Huntingdon County Historical Society accepted the gift of Manor Hill Presbyterian Church, the oldest within the 52 congregations of the Presbytery that covers the surrounding counties. Built in 1823, it served the congregation in form of a meeting house. Its simplicity in design is reflective of the values of early Presbyterians that set them apart from Roman and Anglican faiths. With shifts in populations and new churches built, Manor Hill fell into disuse in 1880. Current efforts include a capital campaign to stabilize and maintain the building.

⁷ George P. Donnehoo, *Pennsylvania A History* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1926) 1616

During the research portion of this document, it has become evident that finding resources plays a critical role in the preservation of the physical structures associated with the church history of the County. Maintenance costs for existing and operating churches are an ever increasing burden as some congregations shrink, aging infrastructure requires repair or replacement, and third parties, such as local historical societies struggle with a perceived obligation and their own limited resources. While there is not a one-fix-fits-all remedy, the problem of maintenance is universal. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has published a toolkit for church preservation, and both grass roots efforts and established organizations provide resources and ideas for creative solutions. Huntingdon County residents have on more than one occasion demonstrated that their churches are part of their community and deserving of their support. Idea exchange, education about preservation and creative partnerships among churches and the community may provide viable and innovative solutions for heritage conservation of these resources. The County Historical Society is also working on an inventory of County churches, including photographic documentation. In addition to the churches, the Society has also initiated expanded research into County grave sites and cemeteries. These activities support the strong genealogical program for the County Historical Society.

Libraries

Public libraries are an important part of the cultural mosaic of a community. They are gathering places for diverse populations; they are an inventory and resource. Advances in technology have forced libraries to re-examine their position and purpose in the community. Nationally, some libraries have emerged as community builders and centers. Lending has expanded into non-traditional areas, such as tools, in addition to the traditional library services of books, magazines, research materials, and more recently film, recordings, computer access and e-books. Huntingdon County libraries continue to deal with issues more

A private investigation into a local cemetery recently presented a valuable opportunity to examine existing attitudes and regulations towards cemeteries. Maintenance of cemeteries by local governments often provide a significant burden on budgets, and have proven to be labor-intensive for their summer maintenance. Contracted services focus on cost with no specifications. To ease the difficulty of mowing around headstones, some cemetery caretakers have moved headstones, especially those of older, unmaintained gravesites. Loose headstones are often damaged or disposed. In one case, the cemetery also was the location of another historical remnant that could have aided in the general restoration of the grounds. Cemeteries are a source of important information about our communities, their settlement, genealogy, religious practices and historical events. In addition to inventorying local cemeteries, guidance should be provided to those charged with the care of our gardens of the interned. A variety of resources, discussions, best practices are available on the internet and through preservation organizations.



Photo by: Rebecca Berdar

or less unique to the rural nature of the County as well as the broader, modern day shifts in library services. Funding cuts by County Commissioners and loss of other government support resulted in the closing of Huntingdon County Branch Libraries in **Mount Union** and **Orbisonia** in 2011. These communities have since reopened their libraries outside the County Library system with community and volunteer support. The **Huntingdon County Public Library** continues to be housed in the historic McMurtrie House with a 1969 constructed annex on the corner of Penn and Fourth Streets in Huntingdon.

Huntingdon County is home to other, non-state public library system affiliated libraries. The **Alexandria Memorial Public Library** was constructed in 1906 and was paid for and endowed by William Woolverton and William Thomas, great-grandsons of Elizabeth Gemmill, who originally laid out the town. Originally, the second floor of the Library was an auditorium with several hundred seats designed to fulfill the need of the local school which did not have an auditorium of its own. Today, this second floor houses the Hartslog Heritage Museum.

Alexandria
Library and
Heritage
Museum





The **Juniata College Library**, originally the Juniata Carnegie Library and relocated to the L.A. Beeghly Library building in 1963, is open to area residents through membership in the Friends of the Library. As a college library, its primary purpose is to serve its student, faculty and staff as a research library, and therefore it offers unique and significant collections to its patrons. The Treasure Room of the Library contains a major collection of early and rare books, bibles and manuscripts; it includes rare scientific books, first editions and early German American manuscripts from the large collections of 19th century collector Abraham Harley Cassel and later gifts from W. Emmert Swigart, Sr., the Mutual Benefit Group, and Karl Shreiner. The Treasure Room holdings have been claimed to rank sixth among the German-American Collections of rare books in the country. Beeghly Library also features an archive of county newspapers for reference research. Recently, the Loyal F. Ramsey Science Fiction Collection was added. This collection is comprised of 12,000 volumes of core works in the field, as well as many books by more obscure writers, volumes of shorter forms, an element science fiction excelled in, and books on history and criticism of science fiction. In addition to a permanent display of printing presses, current library efforts promote Juniata College's history with displays of artifacts and special exhibitions.

The Huntingdon County Library and the Juniata College Library offer interlibrary loan and borrowing opportunities through larger networks of

libraries. Both have research tools on computers for internet research and retrieval.

Local historical societies also contribute to the depth in research materials available concerning local history and genealogy. The Huntingdon County Historical Society Library has been recognized as the center for genealogical research in the County and also owns the most comprehensive collection of local history books, including atlases, family histories, manuscripts, documents and photographs. The website www.ancestry.com and research tools by way of computer indexes are available to Huntingdon County Historical Society members and patron guests. Other County historical societies own similar collections that are more specific to their locale, or have specialized in specific interest areas. For example, the Civil War Round Table, a loosely organized discussion group meets monthly in Three Springs. They own significant research documents related to the Civil War, and the Three Springs Historical Society has a most impressive collection of photographs.

The Pennsylvania Room in the Huntingdon County Library offers a variety of books on state, regional and local traditions, local stories, history and writers, and Pennsylvania history.



Huntingdon County libraries offer not only their existing resources towards the preservation of local heritage, but are well situated to serve as examples in building preservation and adaptive building use. An early 1990s project proposed the adaptive re-use of a former bank building in

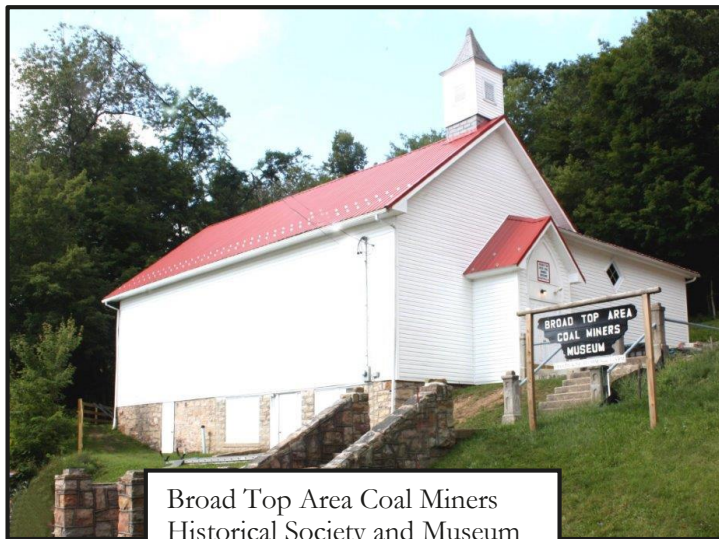
the center of Mount Union for the library as a cornerstone of the community. Unfortunately, the project did not materialize and the building is now marginally used as a privately owned community center. In Huntingdon, the County Library has made a concerted effort in maintaining the McMurtrie House, including the installation of locally handcrafted bike racks along the Penn Street entrance that complement the historic feel in the heart of downtown Huntingdon. The challenges of new technology and accessibility continue to present major obstacles to organizations housed in historic buildings.

Cultural Organizations

The number of cultural organizations and especially the historical societies in Huntingdon County speaks to the deep commitment of the community to its local heritage and history. A list of the current (circa 2015) organizations with contact information is included in the appendices.

Historical societies and organizations range from informal groups to subcommittees of larger community organizations, which may administer significant programs and real property. Many of the local historical societies focus primarily on their immediate community, a borough or township, its residents, local past industries or a special project, for example, the brickyards in Mount Union, the coal mines in the Broad Top, the restoration of a historic train site in Dudley, or the East Broad Top Railroad.

Similarly, other cultural organizations, including the Huntingdon County Arts Council, the Civil War Round Table, Standing Stone Art League, Aughwick Poets and Writers, and Mount Union Art League have diversified offerings in the visual and performing arts, literature and history. The Huntingdon County Arts



Broad Top Area Coal Miners
Historical Society and Museum



Council and the Huntingdon County Historical Society have 'county' designations, a remnant once necessary for state funding, that now neither obliges to service nor affords special status.

Funding of and for the cultural in-

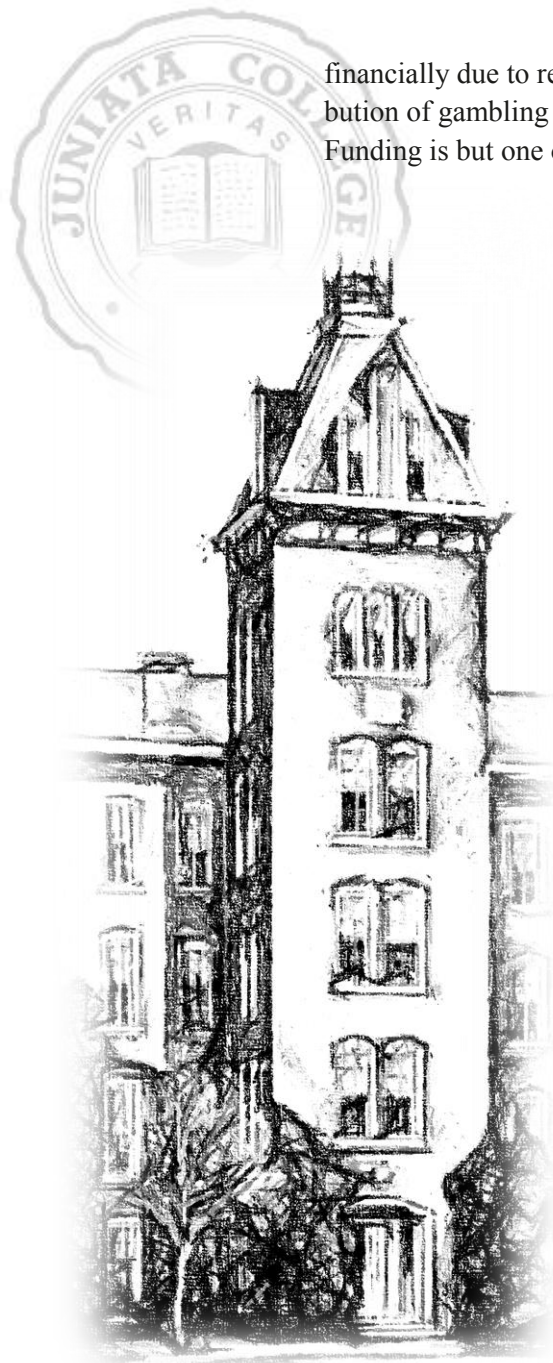
stitutions in the County varies. Those fortunate to receive an endowment and have trust funds are often limited in the use of the endowed funds. Atti-

tudes vary towards grant money. While some are almost vehemently opposed, others bemoan the fact that once regular funding from state and local governments has ceased. Among Huntingdon County organizations a few have managed to effectively leverage income, including grants, receipts from events and fundraisers, membership dues and creative partnerships to provide a larger degree of financial security, and to expand program delivery. The vision of this plan's author is to encourage organizations across the County to work together in order to more effectively use and leverage their limited resources and to build expanded capacity within the individual organizations to achieve their goals.

Fundraising efforts have delivered us some of our most cherished local traditions. Hartslog Day in Alexandria is the annual fundraiser for the Hartslog Heritage Committee. It has become a destination for thousands from in and around Huntingdon County. Arts and crafts, pancake breakfasts and pumpkin poles bring a historic downtown to life and celebrate the arrival of autumn in the county. Production and sale of apple butter funds much of the Shirleysburg Historical Society's budget, and an annual book sale supports a dwindling library budget. Other local endeavors seek the support from service clubs, including for example, the American Legion or VFW to erect or maintain local memorials. Service and fraternal organizations support local efforts as part of their regular programming and, more recently,



A volunteer serves up baked goods during the annual Canal Era Day in Mount Union.



financially due to required legal changes that prescribe the distribution of gambling receipts.

Funding is but one of the challenges facing our County organizations. Volunteers and leadership vary in skill level and commitment, and many historical societies, in particular, are concerned with aging volunteers. A survey prepared for this Heritage Plan indicated that many organizations struggle with an aging volunteer pool, lack technical skills, and few organizations are active in social media or familiar with the breadth of technology available as are younger populations. On the other hand, Petersburg and Mapleton, for example, have experienced a renewed interest in local history and participation by young people in events such as holiday reenactments has increased.

In preparation for this Heritage Plan, meetings had been called, groups convened and individual visits with organizations, stakeholder interviews and field research were conducted. Despite the varying or sometimes common needs of the organizations, two important facts emerged: the cultural landscape in Huntingdon County is rich in volunteer spirit, appreciation of the local history and desire to perpetuate its heritage. Conversely, organizations are keenly aware of limited resources: time to accomplish their goals, preserve their heritage, skills and manpower to work effectively. This plan will recommend as its first action

item to develop a strategy that will educate and empower local organizations to face these challenges.

Juniata College

What sets Huntingdon County apart from other rural counties is Juniata College. The small liberal arts college has been an institution in Huntingdon since 1876 and alongside its growth from Normal School to highly rated, accredited College, has influenced the surrounding community. Located 'up-town' on the hill in Huntingdon, the College straddles several blocks in Huntingdon Borough, its open campus traversed by Moore Street, a major thoroughfare. The campus was once considered for inclusion in the Huntingdon Borough Historical District but has since been altered to include an LEED certified renovation of Founders Hall in 2009, and a modern annex to Oller Hall, the Suzanne von Liebig Theater. The linkage to the community exceeds the physical environment: Student enrollment, around 1600, faculty and staff, programs and opportunities for public engagement make Huntingdon a more diverse and culturally rich community. The skills and resources in terms of performance venues, museums, expertise and programs offered through the College present opportunities of mutual benefit: outreach to the community, enrichment of the community and tangible work experiences for their students.

Museums

The majority of museums in Huntingdon County are affiliated with institutions whose mission is related to the items on exhibit in the museum. Most historical societies have parts of their collections on display in the buildings they own or operate, or have created house museums within their real estate holdings. Displays vary in theme and duration of exhibit, but generally offer a broad spectrum of historic artifacts and archived documents, manuscripts, letters, family papers, newspapers, postcards and photographs.

The Huntingdon County Historical Society opens its **Victorian House Museum** by appointment and on special occasions. They have and host short-term exhibits in their gallery space or at other locations. These exhibits are often combined with special

programs, lectures and presentations. Sometimes, they may rely on items on loan from other organizations and individuals rather than Society property.

The **Broad Top Area Coal Miners Historical Society and Museum** in Robertsdale has extensive collections and local histories of the Broad Top area. They also created a full-scale representation of a coal mine as part of their museum display, which is often augmented with presentations by a period reenactor and visitor guide.

The **Huntingdon County Fair**

Farm Museum shares an affiliation with the Huntingdon County Agricultural Association but operates independently from the County Fair with its own board of directors. In homage to agriculture of the County, the Museum has thousands of artifacts related to rural living, agriculture and farm practices. All are catalogued and on display in their building located on the Huntingdon County Fairgrounds. The museum has been lauded as one of the premier collections of agriculture related items in the region, and its records and inventory follow museum guidelines and employs appropriate software, documentation and indexing.

The **Juniata College Museum of Art** was established as an art museum in 1998 after serving as an exhibition hall named “Carnegie Hall” on the college campus during previous decades. Upon acquisition of the Stottlemeyer collection, Carnegie Hall (right) was fully renovated with state-of-the-art museum technology.

Isett Acres, located outside of Huntingdon Borough on Stone Creek Ridge, is by far the largest museum in the County. Three large buildings display over 40,000 items that represent the distant and not so distant past, everyday life in Huntingdon. The personal collections of Museum founder Mel Isett comprise the majority of exhibits, and



on loan collections follow other themes, including photography and the Civil War. The museum is open year-round and charges a nominal admission fee.

The **William E. Swigart, Jr., Automobile Museum** just east of Huntingdon on Route 22, was opened in 1957 and is believed to be one of the oldest automotive collections in the country. Born out of the passion for automobiles by William Swigart, Sr., in 1920, and adopted by William Swigart, Jr., in 1949, the Museum features mostly American made classics and antique automobiles and other automotive related items, including one of the largest license plate collections. Today, 30 to 35 of the remaining 150 antique automobiles rotate on exhibit in the museum. An annual event ‘meet’ in August for the Allegheny region of the

Antique Automobile Club of America provides additional opportunities for antique automobile enthusiasts. The **Rock-**

hill Trolley Museum in Rockhill features a collection of restored trolleys and runs special events throughout the year.



McMurtrie House Museum



Fair Farm Museum



Coal Miners Museum



Swigart's Antique Auto Museum



Isett Acres



Rockhill Trolley Museum



In rural communities, the ‘arts’ are often viewed as work by outsiders and, aided by sensationalism about creative works that intend to shock, are sometimes misunderstood. Understanding local art and craft is the first step in greater appreciation and visibility for our local culture and traditions. For example, those involved in fiber arts can usually discern an exceptional quilt or weaving from a mediocre one. This value judgment in art as well as craft can in part be attributed to experience and skill the artist and/or craftsman demonstrates in his or her chosen genre. Whether educated in the fine arts at a University or accomplished as a craftsman through training, working and learning from masters in the craft, mastery provides the foundation to the creative expression. In communities as Huntingdon County with limited access to the arts and cultural venues, it is important that the local audience is exposed to and educated about the creative process and skill requirements for execution of a particular method, craft or application. At the intersection of skill and creativity, new works are formed, new audiences engaged, and broader recognition sheds new meaning and life onto traditional art form or craft.

Inspiration is unique and personal, but creativity can also be inspired by the work of others. A tree burl becomes the inspiration

for a carved wooden vessel, while the antique sketches by a young Thomas Cole become the basis for scholarly work and a book. This dynamic of creating and sharing continues socially and is interwoven in the fabric of our community.

Fine Art

The only consistent source for fine art in Huntingdon County has been Juniata College in Huntingdon. The Juniata College Museum of Art located in Carnegie Hall on campus serves as the permanent exhibition gallery for the Stottlemeyer collection and traveling and student exhibits. The 1907 building, designed by New York architect Edward Tilton, was funded by Andrew Carnegie and citizens of Huntingdon. The Stottlemeyer collection has been a rich resource for scholarly research and exhibitions, including a unique miniature portrait collection and works by Thomas Moran, his wife Mary Nimmo Moran and his brothers Edward and Thomas Cole.

Juniata College is also home to the only professional performance venue, the Halbritter Center for the Performing Arts. It contains a large stage with auditorium and a smaller black box theater, and provides for performances across the performing arts spectrum.

The Huntingdon County Arts Council was established in 1972 with a mission to provide art and cultural opportunities to the residents of the County. Service has varied over the years, dependent on the non-profit’s administration, collaboration with other institutions, and/or support from local government. Among notable accomplishments are: the first arts festivals in the region, outreach activities in local schools, public art installations,



Local master quilter Jessie Copeland was not only known as the only male member of the Redbud Quilt Guild but also as a nationally recognized quilter. Excelling in the technical execution of quilting, Jessie started to design his own patterns and his design “Spinning Colors” was featured in a national magazine.

tion of a particular method, craft or application. At the intersection of skill and creativity, new works are formed, new audiences engaged, and broader recognition sheds new meaning and life onto traditional art form or craft.

Inspiration is unique and personal, but creativity can also be inspired by the work of others. A tree burl becomes the inspiration

The Standing Stone Art League and the Mount Union Art Guild are locally organized groups that provide opportunities for residents to paint, share and learn together. Meeting locations have varied, but are currently at Westminster Woods weekly and the Lion's Barn for a weeklong summer program in Huntingdon, and the Senior Center in Mount Union.

The rural character of Huntingdon County and its relatively small population are not conducive to the establishment of commercial performance venues. With the exception of Juniata College, whose facilities are designed to primarily serve its student population, most [performance] venues in Huntingdon County have a tradition of serving multiple purposes or are relatively small to accommodate smaller, rural audiences. Community establishments, particularly fire halls and churches have traditionally accommodated somewhat larger gatherings. In recent years the Huntingdon County Fair and the Army Corps of Engineers at

Movies have enthralled audiences since their advent in Huntingdon County. They were a popular attraction for the local populations until television brought film and entertainment to the home. Stories abound about now obscure theater locations, such as on the second floor of the Shirleysburg town hall, and great community perseverance when fire decimated existing theaters. The Reality Theater in Robertsedale, received its name after the former Liberty Theatre burned down, and the theater owner made the new theatre a 'reality'. Huntingdon Borough also suffered multiple cinema fires. Today, only the Clifton 5 Movie Theater has weathered the ravages of time, including floods, storms, relocations, technical industry requirements, and renovation efforts. The theater now has five screens in smaller auditoriums instead of the original single screen with one large auditorium. Most recently, the industry-required distribution and switch to digital media was successfully supported by a community/Landmark, Inc. led campaign to keep the theater open in Huntingdon. Less fortunate were attempts for adaptive reuse of the Shapiro Theater in Mount Union, which was completely razed in 1997.



27

Folk and Traditional Arts and Crafts



Above, a cooper demonstrating his craft at Mount Union's Canal Era Days.

Below, musicians at the Lions' Club Hootenanny in Huntingdon.



In the context of a Heritage Plan for a rural area, folk art rather than fine art provides insights into the local cultural heritage. Definitions for folk art vary; ranging from home-spun, adorned utilitarian objects to those created by skilled and trained artisans. A study in 1996 by the National Endowment for the Arts, repeatedly links folk art to the setting in which it is produced or performed. Generally folk artists and their art are an integral part of the social, economic and cultural life of a given community.⁸ Pennsylvania's former Director of Folk Life Programs, Dr. Shalom Staub, gives the definition an additional dimension: "time". He acknowledges that folk art adapts and changes through time and it does not always remain a static practice.⁹

Despite the breadth of definitions, the term 'folk art' continues to conjure images of old-fashioned crafts of colonial times or it questions the worthiness of an item as an object of (folk) art. In an effort to understand the local folk art traditions, the Huntingdon County Arts Council conducted a regional folk art inventory in 2005. With assistance from the Pennsylvania based Institute for Cultural Partnership, and following traditional guidelines prescribing multi-generational family connections for artists to be included, the Arts Council staff and consultant interviewed, photographed, documented and reported on eleven artists in Huntingdon and neighboring Mifflin Counties. Later work by the Arts Council includes an annual Heritage Musician event and award that is video recorded at their Greenwood Furnace Folk Gathering. The Arts Council's work confirms that Huntingdon County's ethnic roots have been weakened

over time through intermarriage and migration, and few traditions continue to exist that perpetuate any particular identifiable or unique ethnic or cultural identity. "Artists" who practice a traditional art or craft are often employed in another field. Others, in particular traditions practiced in a family setting, are commonly celebrated in private or community settings familiar to the artists, such as his or her church congregation. A 2003 study by the Urban Institute confirms the common practice and preference by audiences to observe and participate in art and cultural events in their community settings rather than in more formal performance venues. This linkage of a cultural event to a physical place and space underlines the importance of a broad approach to heritage conservation.

The Folk Art Inventory and Study by the Huntingdon County Arts Council points to the widespread appreciation of 'community', which by definition extends beyond family and is based on common beliefs and interests. These attitudes help perpetuate and share traditions, sometimes with outsiders who may have specific interests, skills or knowledge that aid in the learning and recording of specific traditions. Organizations such as the Arts Council or historical societies are well situated to take an active role in documenting traditions on the local level.

"Quality" should be the foremost determinant for outreach activities with additional emphasis on the process and intent. "Quality" becomes a source of respect for the local artist and craftsman and can provide the basis for much broader recognition in terms of heritage planning, cultural outreach and economic opportunities. The following summaries by genre, and objectives and goals by this Huntingdon County *Cultural* Heritage Plan are not inclusive of all the opportunities and traditional cultural expression, but highlight areas that have shown promise and/or can serve as a model for similar activities.

⁸ Elizabeth Peterson. *The Changing Faces of Tradition*; (National Endowment for the Arts, 1996)12.

⁹ Georg R. Sheets. *Pennsylvania Heritage*; (Harrisburg, 2001) 4.

Music

Of all art forms, music is probably the most commonly recognized and appreciated. Music is played for private enjoyment and performance, in community settings such as churches and civic clubs providing the venue for more regularly timed performances, at family gatherings and public parades. Musical inspiration has been provided by the surrounding landscape and local livelihoods and has borrowed from old-time musical traditions, gospel and contemporary music. Professional performance venues are limited in the County, and frequently coincide with special events, such as the County Fair or festivals. Local musicians with professional ambitions often seek opportunities outside the county. Most famously, Broad Top residents Vaughn and Roy Horton, both coal miners, went on to become pathfinders in the field of Country Music. Vaughn Horton gained fame for his million-seller, smash hit *Mockin' Bird Hill*, leading to a substantial career in the country music industry.

The County was a crossroad for other national performers including African American performing groups such as the Ink Spots and Mills Brothers, and stories exist about rock 'n roll great Bill Haley having had social connections here.

Privately, music is shared by those who enjoy playing and learning from one another. Gatherings are often in private homes in the form of a jam session. The Huntingdon County Arts Council has worked with musicians Linda Littleton and Karen Hirshon from neighboring Centre County to identify old time music in the County. Their journey has taken them from the County Fair to the Lions' Club Hootenanny, to private homes and social halls at senior centers and other rural venues.

An interview about their findings is in the appendices.

Organized band music by comparison requires a more formal approach. Bands have been recorded photographically since the late 1800s in the county, and some county historical societies own collections of band paraphernalia that document an active, local band music scene.

Marching bands have been popular in Huntingdon County communities in the past as today. The music programs of Huntingdon County public schools play a significant role for formal music instruction and music outreach to the community. In addition to marching bands and other band ensembles, local school districts support choral music programs, organize musical performances and provide specific instrument instruction. Beyond football games, student musicians compete nationally, perform in and for the community and have travelled internationally. Juniata College since its earliest days has offered music programs and engagement in choral or band settings that included students and residents. The Raystown Wind Orchestra under the direction of Dr. James Latten, Director of Instrumental Music at the College, is a most recent endeavor to provide performance opportunities to advanced musicians in the County and shows promise for future growth and community engagement in classical, orchestral music.

Big Band era music became the trademark of the 'Big Band Sound' orchestra, founded by Bob Goodman of Mount Union. Community and church choirs, a Community Summer Band and holiday music programs (Festival of Song, Festival Chorus) offer many opportunities for musical engagement in the community.



Mapleton Band photo, band instruments and paraphernalia on display in the Mapleton Historical Society Museum.

Pottery

As historic artifacts, pottery or its remnants have the distinction of being the only surviving records of some ancient races and civilizations. As a craft, pottery has been deemed as “second only to that of rock-chipping”.¹⁰



Jack Troy examining a crock after his lecture on Huntingdon pottery

In Huntingdon County, ‘pottery’ as a craft and art form is held in high esteem. Interest in historic pottery, primarily functional crocks and pots used in everyday life until the advent of more economically produced glass and tin containers towards the late 1800s, is evidenced in local collections and research, including Jeannette Lasansky’s “Made of Mud - Stoneware Potteries in Central Pennsylvania 1834-1929” (1977). A later edition revised the start date to 1831. “Glazier Stoneware Huntingdon PA.” by Nancy Shedd with a letter to Henry Glazier by Jack Troy is a book written and produced in Huntingdon. Growing interest in collecting traditional, regional arts and crafts in the late 1970s

sparked a lasting appreciation for local pottery, and Huntingdon County is well situated to perpetuate honoring this skill and art form. Huntingdon can lay claim to the first stoneware pottery in central Pennsylvania in 1831, and has found in Henry Glazier not only a skilled potter with a certain artistry in his glazing, but



Glazier crock, private collection
Photo by Carolanne Currier

also an elusive one whose life is more on record as a public servant than as a potter by trade.

Today, ‘pottery’ in Huntingdon is more closely linked to Jack Troy, teacher, potter, writer and Huntingdon resident. His books on Salt Glaze Ceramics (1977) and Wood-Fired Stoneware and Porcelain (1995), and his anagama kilns speak to his deep respect for pottery heritage world-wide. His letter to Henry Glazier helps heighten our awareness of local traditions: “...Until I stood among the hundreds of [Glazier] pots Dean [Reynolds] owned in the late 1960s, I never felt quite so grounded in what I do; never had the sense of carrying on something important that had been almost lost.”¹¹

Jack Troy continues to share his knowledge and his art with collectors and students through his teaching, writing, and expression in clay. His wares are available in galleries and at his annual sale in the woods near his home. His appreciation for the craft of pottery has inspired many students during his 39 year career at Juniata College, and the 200+ workshops he has led have helped raise the awareness of a local audience as well as other makers to appreciate and understand both contemporary and historical ceramic art.

In the context of a heritage plan, the opportunities are multifold; presentations about pottery traditions are usually well attended; Juniata College offers community workshops in their ceramic department; a former resident potter regularly taught high school classes using local clays dug out of creek banks; private kilns have been built and anagama

firings are rituals in pottery circles. These activities could be expanded upon and/or linked to the physical environment. For example, the location of Glazier’s pottery shop or other known former potteries such as in Cassville or Alexandria, could be identified with a marker or on a walking tour.

¹⁰ Scott Graham Williamson, *The American Craftsman*, (New York, 1940) 53.

¹¹ Nancy Shedd, Jack Troy, *Glazier Stoneware Huntingdon PA.*, (Huntingdon) 23.

Fiber Arts

The fiber arts have experienced a renaissance in recent years which has led to the invigoration of existing guilds and formation of several new groups of like-minded practitioners and newcomers to the craft. Existing guilds include a Spinners and Weavers' Guild, the Red Bud Quilting Guild, and a chapter of the National Embroiderers Guild. Less formally organized groups operate today under the organizational umbrella of the Library (The Knit Wits) and Huntingdon County Arts Council (First Fiber Thursday). The Huntingdon County Fair includes fiber arts in their Fair Premium competition and is poised to host a Sheep to Shawl event.

National as well as local interest in the fiber arts have created economic and educational opportunities that serve broad populations, including artisans, fiber growers/agriculture, small business/retail, festivals, events and educational instruction. The Huntingdon County Arts Council conducted its first Fiber ArtsFest in 2013, showing potential for future growth and development as an annual event for fiber arts.

Blacksmithing

Iron work and blacksmithing have a special connection to Huntingdon County that lends itself to further promotion and incorporation into heritage planning.

Bedford Furnace located in southern Huntingdon County was the first furnace in the Juniata Iron District, and today it is commemorated with a Pennsylvania Historic Marker. Juniata region iron was considered the best charcoal iron produced between 1790 and 1850. Near the former Bedford Furnace location outside of Orbisonia on Route 522, the modern sculpture 'IRON' by artist Dale Rogers memorializes the heritage and importance of this first industry in the County. Greenwood Furnace State Park is the only state park that focuses

significantly on its iron industry heritage and operates a blacksmith forge on special occasions. Greenwood Furnace State Park also owns extensive artifacts from the Greenwood Works and former village.

The art of blacksmithing has been perpetuated locally by Huntingdon County residents Judy Berger and her son David Berger who operate the Blue Moon Farm and Forge, and Blue Moon Press. The work of Blue Moon Forge deserves special attention because of their community involvement, active business model and extensive international research and blacksmithing connections. As a publisher, Blue Moon Press is devoted to researching and translating the best books on metal available. They are dedicated to producing the finest reference materials for blacksmiths, sculptors, jewelers and all metal artists globally. Locally, their commitment is evidenced in the installation of handcrafted public art and historically sensitive adaptations for items of modern use, such as bike racks.

Public Art



Huntingdon Gateway Arch by David Berger

Art in public places, including the outdoors and public buildings, has experienced a revival in recent years. Art works are commissioned, created and installed by professional artists. They have increasingly become part of economic development and downtown beautification efforts. Public art, however, is not a new concept, rather a new name. The presumably oldest public art installation in Huntingdon County started as a way sign for Native Americans and traders: the "Standing Stone", is now in replica at the corner of Penn and William Smith streets in Huntingdon. Monuments

Huntingdon County has been a muse to professional and amateur artists.

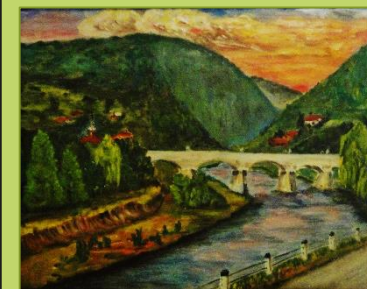
Thomas Moran's "The Juniata" is housed in the National Gallery of Art.



Thomas Cole's "Head Waters of the Juniata" is immortalized on Staffordshire china.



The cliffs in Huntingdon are featured in the murals by David Guinn and Phillip Adams in Huntingdon, and Mount Union's stone arch railroad bridge has been captured by many aspiring artists.





"THE STANDING STONE"
SYMBOL OF HUNTINGDON
REDEDICATED MARCH 29, 1996
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OPENING TO
THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO HAVE COME AND GONE;
AND IN HONOR OF THOSE HERE NOW AND
THOSE WHO ARE YET TO COME.

commemorate significant, sometimes global events that are often felt on a very personal level in small, rural communities. Honor Roll memorial monuments remember the sacrifices made by military service personnel.

In addition to the memorial and monument art categories, including cemetery and related sculptural art, there are newer public art installations that are more decorative in nature and serve beautification purposes. Huntingdon Borough centered many of its public art installations on historic themes to create a relevance in the community and critical mass for a thematic walking trail: the Paper Trail is based on the work of early 20th century entrepreneur J.C. Blair who invented and produced the first commercial paper tablet in Huntingdon. Collaboration between the Borough of Huntingdon and the Huntingdon County Arts Council created beneficial funding partnerships and allowed the Arts Council to permanently display the works of professional artists.

Historic themes or the mission of a particular organization may lend themselves to incorporation of public art and often may address special funding requirements.

In 1988 Juniata College commissioned famous Vietnam Memorial sculptor and architect Maya Lin, to design the Juniata Peace Chapel on College grounds of the former Baker Farm in Huntingdon Borough (right). Since 1989, the simplistic outdoor

sculpture invites one to meditation and honors the vision of the Peace and Conflict Study program supporter Elizabeth Evans Baker.

Public art installations in form of murals, sculptures, fountains, temporary environmental art, adornment of utilitarian elements



such as bike racks, or installation art have created landmarks and points of interest and beautification, which may emphasize a given community theme or create a new or renewed focus. They may lend themselves to be incorporated in other projects, such as nature based outdoor recreation or lesson

plans, and can support themes outside the arts in general. They may stand alone as a singular or grouped attraction.

Reenactments, First Person Interpretations, Guided Tours, Oral Histories

The 'stories' embedded in our history provide an important connection between local history and the audience. Whether the story is of personal significance or presented in a way that engages the participant, oral histories, first person interpretations and reenactments bring history alive and are especially effective with younger and more casual audiences. The 150th anniversary

of the Civil War has focused renewed attention and commemoration on this most significant event in American history. Both Civil War reenactment and research have a long tradition in Huntingdon County, through reenactment groups, including the Logan Guard Band of Mount Union, reenactment events, and during the monthly discussions at the Augh-

wick Civil War Roundtable in southern Huntingdon County. Greenwood Furnace State Park's cultural interpreter Paul Fagley has, among others, provided first person interpretations as collier during annual reenactment charcoal burns. Other living history demonstrations coincide with events such as the Mount Union Canal Era Day, the Greenwood Furnace Old Home Days and presentations at the Coulter School House Museum in southern Huntingdon. The Orbisonia Rockhill Historical Society has successfully adopted historic periods for its holiday programs.



While the debate over reenactment versus guided tours and academic study will undoubtedly continue, oral histories and first-hand accounts have a significant value and limited life unless preserved appropriately. Efforts have been made in the Broad Top region to record stories, although available technology is often dated. It should be imperative to ensure that these stories and other recordings are transcribed in formats that will survive technological changes and become truly long-term archived. Similarly, historical societies and cultural institutions should be encouraged and supported in efforts to record people and their stories about cultural traditions, historic events and life experiences.

Festivals and Celebrations

The ‘intangible’ of local culture, the people and their leisure activities, the celebrations of what is important to local life, may be best observed in local festivals and special and annual events. Many of the County’s special celebratory events are held in the fall, following a long tradition of fall celebrations within the agricultural community. For example, a bountiful harvest provides apples for the apple butter making festival in Shirleysburg and pumpkins for the pumpkin pole at the Hartslog Festival in Alexandria. Summer events take advantage of school vacations and afford visits, reunions and homecomings of family members who have moved away. In a general sense, the Huntingdon County Fair is the largest such event, with a weeklong encampment of 200 camping families. And the Christmas season offers a variety of festive activities to celebrate the holiday season. Competition and service to country and community are common themes in local celebrations. From the regional annual firefighters’ convention to the parades that celebrate holidays, homecomings, sports teams and the arrival of Santa Claus, volunteer fire departments, our U.S. Service personnel and marching bands remind an enthusiastic community audience of the values held in high regard.

Many of the events fulfill an important function for local organizations: fundraising. The independent spirit that abounds in

Huntingdon County prides itself in supporting and providing for local needs. Fire departments, social clubs and charitable organizations benefit from the exposure and economic opportunities presented by these festival events and/or they organize their own. While some wish to achieve a balanced budget for a particular event, others have utilized event revenue as their primary income source to fund year-round services.

These celebrations tell the stories and provide community; they perpetuate the organizations who are the caretakers of traditions, history and artifacts; they provide exposure to audiences beyond their immediate community and may serve economic goals. The overarching goal of inventories and coordination of events suggested in this Heritage Plan becomes even more important as we consider other leisure activities competing for time and resources.

Sports, immensely popular in Huntingdon County, have not been discussed in this heritage context. They have their own history with a Hall of Fame, memorial fields and traditions in our County’s communities.

More importantly, they compete for limited resources of time, volunteers and funding. The author of this heritage plan suggests that sports, their supporting organizations and local history should be captured in separate inventories, possibly as part of an outdoor recreation inventory. Sport activities are, for example, already incorporated in homecoming events at Greenwood Furnace, the Broad Top and in Orbisonia, and provide additional opportunities and new audiences.



Paul Fagley, Cultural Educator at Greenwood Furnace State Park in the role of William Hall, furnace founder and ‘shop boss’ in charge of furnace operation and employees.



Boys watching baseball at Blair Park in Huntingdon, 1941

Heritage Plan Goal: Identify and preserve the County's cultural traditions as manifested in events, customs and artifacts and as the basis for community character and identity.

Freeman Tilden, whose book "Interpreting Our Heritage" has been an exemplary guide and teaching tool for generations of conservationists and the National Park Service, advocated extensively for 'a whole'. His

argument, applied to visitors of historic or natural sites, suggests that the essence of a place transpires when the visitor understands a place as a 'whole' rather than faceted individual facts. Similarly, our communities are 'whole' if we consider not only the built environment or individual events, but consider what the inhabitants do and have done for work and leisure, their ethnic backgrounds, traditions and celebrations. The introduction to *Art and Cultural Resources* includes places, theaters, museums and churches. In conjunction with the other elements that make Huntingdon County 'a whole', its natural environment, its industrial history and historic buildings, and the cultural heritage provide additional perspectives and strengthens our communities' identities.

Objective 1. Identify and continue to inventory the County's cultural heritage and traditions.

This Heritage Plan has already provided a general overview of the local cultural heritage and a current list of events in the appendices. However it does not provide in depth research about the events, their origins, as well as past events that may no

Story Telling

David Isay's *StoryCorps* has captured over 55,000 interviews in just over ten years, some of which have been broadcast by National Public Radio, and all of which have been archived at the U.S. Library of Congress. StoryCorps has propelled his career to unforeseen heights, but most importantly, StoryCorps has captured authentic stories about all walks of life, situations and people. The stories represent a sliver of life in America.

To tell the story, StoryCorps suggests five basic steps:

1. Set the stage. Where and when did your story take place? Who is it about? Establish a clear protagonist at the heart of the story.
2. Introduce the 'tension point'. Describe the moment when something unexpected or difficult occurred.
3. Explain what happened next and what changed.
4. Show how the change affected the main characters.
5. End the story. Check that it illustrates the message you want to convey. Don't make a grand statement but connect your story to the bigger picture.

longer exist but were significant and could provide inspiration for future events. Similarly, artifacts related to the cultural heritage should be assessed as to their significance and condition. Current events and institutions should be identified and entered in the County's GIS databases as appropriate. For example, collaboration between the County Mapping Department, Council of Churches in Huntingdon County and the Huntingdon County Historical Society can produce an up-to-date inventory of churches and graveyards in the County. Similar inventorying activities can incorporate GIS data and should be coordinated by the County in partnership with the appropriate organizations. More demanding is an inventory of oral histories. Existing recordings should be evaluated and transcribed into formats that ensure future use and survival. New topics and personalities for recordings of oral histories should be identified. Appropriate storage including the State Archives for existing and new recordings should be explored and centrally noted.



This poster advertising Chautauqua Week in Huntingdon is on display in the Fair Museum but little is known about the event in Huntingdon.

As with all activities recommended in the Plan, the ‘who’ and funding for these activities present a major obstacle. This plan suggests that the County, through its Planning and Development Department, will help coordinate execution of applicable Heritage Plan goals. The County Mapping Department will be instrumental in sharing data through GIS mapping. Communications between the plan’s authors and the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission will help further coordinate these initiatives, and a newly formalized Heritage Committee should assist in coordination among groups with similar needs.

Objective 2. Create more awareness of local traditions through events, promotion and specific activities to encourage, celebrate and educate about cultural traditions.

Most organizations hope to educate and create awareness about their particular missions and successfully plan presentations, exhibits and special events. Creating ‘awareness’ of events and programs, however is probably the greatest challenge for local organizations. How many and who may be interested in their activities, what conflicting activities are happening, and how to have concerted and consistent promotion efforts are questions that are often not effectively addressed. Increasingly, time seems to be a most valuable commodity while offerings on how to spend time increase. Centralized promotion of events through the Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau is an already existing possibility. Combined community efforts like “Four and More” lunch presentations and walking tours involve multiple organizations and allow for coordination of events and shared publicity. Coordination and collaboration with other existing events increases audiences and reduces promotion expenditures. Thematic approaches create breadth and depth, and offer new opportunities for partnerships and leveraging of resources.





Telling the Stories

The Four and More Cultural District in Huntingdon is a loosely organized group comprised of four non-profit organizations located along Fourth Street and businesses in historic downtown Huntingdon. Initiated by the Huntingdon County Arts Council in an effort to coordinate its activities with the very similar audiences of other non-profits, representatives from the organizations and community volunteers now organize monthly public Lunch & Learn sessions and conduct successful walking tours during peak summer months. The group utilizes press releases, handbills and facebook, and is now more formally housed with Huntingdon Landmarks, Inc.

Objective 3. Support institutions engaged in preservation and education about cultural heritage and traditions.

Unlike most events, organizations and institutions require year-round resources for building maintenance, staffing and collections. While event receipts often support the organization, additional resources can potentially be garnered from leveraging facilities (rentals), sale of organization specific items, and fee-for-services, such as genealogical research contracts. Coordinated efforts through the County Heritage Committee may expand the available pool of volunteers outside individual organizational memberships. Organizations can be supported in their mission through auxiliary activities by partners and others, including local governments, social clubs, and volunteer activities. For example, public art installations can showcase local heritage. Heritage sites and histories can be included on outdoor recreation trails, and digital media can reference sites and the work of various organizations.

Left: Hands-on activities such as corn doll making at Canal Era Day in Mount Union are popular activities for all audiences.

Management; Promotion and Marketing; Education



Pennsylvania
Historical & Museum
Commission



preservation
PENNSYLVANIA



PHC | Pennsylvania
Humanities
Council

Heritage plan goals require management, promotion and marketing, and education on various levels. While these elements have to be addressed internally by organizations, a survey of local heritage organizations indicated significant opportunities for sharing of resources and common needs. This Heritage Plan proposes an active role at the County level and as appropriate through the Heritage Committee, in assisting with management, promotion and marketing and educational initiatives. It is important in today's political and funding landscape that projects which look to public funding as part of their support coordinate with other agencies, groups and initiatives to ensure success. This type of creative collaboration and coordination is best facilitated through the Huntingdon County Planning Office with its representation on numerous County and regional boards, involvement in County-wide projects and vested interest in the accomplishments of Plan goals.

In preparation of this Heritage Plan, the Huntingdon County Heritage Committee has provided significant insights and volunteer efforts towards the compilation of this Plan. The Committee is well poised to continue the communication among local organizations and to initiate partnerships for actions. Its leadership should be formalized in order to ensure continuity. This section also addresses internal, administrative functions of any organization, and survey results have indicated that needs among County organizations are similar. The objectives and projects under the general goals in this section reiterate the need for communication among local groups and agencies and provide specific recommendations that the Plan's author hopes will lead to almost immediate action items.

Management

The management of an organization as represented within the heritage community is rarely discussed, neither within the organization itself as efforts are more often focused towards the completion of specific projects, nor with an outside perspective through education on management styles and solutions as presented by, for example, outside consultants. Management varies for staff, volunteers or interns, and is often dependent upon personalities within an organization and leadership on the board or among staff. The organizational capacity, including its financial resources may affect management choices and issues. For any organization, sound management is necessary to organize its activities, whether in form of volunteer schedules or grant management and to ensure continuity and effective delivery of the organizational mission.

Heritage Plan Goal:

Provide coordination and support to agencies, organizations and individuals towards the implementation of the Heritage Plan.

Heritage Plan goals overlap with other County Comprehensive Plan goals, including land use and land management, protection of natural and agricultural landscape and features, and community and economic development. The County Planning Office and in association, the Heritage Committee are well suited and have access to central facilities to provide county-wide training and make referrals among groups and agencies for collaborative opportunities.

Objective 1. Educate about and provide resources to local organizations to effectively fulfill their missions in support of the County Heritage Plan.

The survey of historical societies and similar organizations conducted for this Heritage Plan indicated a high level of technical inexperience among local organizations; few historical societies have websites or participate in social media for promotional purposes. Technology is considered cost-prohibitive to acquire. The question of what is needed for what purpose, how can resources among organizations be coordinated and where to go for cost-effective solutions is addressed by a variety of resources. These may include state agencies, high school or college students and/or staff, museum professionals, community volunteers or professionals hired for technical assistance. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) provides many resources, networks and suggestions towards preservation training and archival activities. Preservation Pennsylvania is a valuable partner in historic preservation endeavors with an office in nearby State College. The State Archives or PHMC's 'Trails of History' address issues regarding artifact storage, display and archival strategies. State agencies encourage inquiries from their local constituency. Non-profit organizations may also be eligible for funding through private foundations and other state or national organizations, such as the PA Humanities Council. Community/county-wide workshop(s) should be organized to provide an overview of possibilities and services available.

On the local government level, the "Certified Local Government" (CLG) status through PHMC allows access to additional resources, including training. Currently, the Huntingdon Borough is applying for recognition as a CLG.

Objective 2. Facilitate partnerships among County agencies and local groups.

Partnership building is the current theme in many grant funded projects. Leveraging limited resources and expertise allows organizations to participate and fulfill their mission as part of another organization's larger project. For example, educate about a

historic event through a mural that is incorporated in a new public walkway design.

The Heritage Plan hopes to educate the general public as represented in community groups. The Plan shall be distributed in print and digitally to reach and inspire community partners.

Promotion and Marketing

Promotion and marketing are critical to the success of any event or activity, and yet continue to present significant challenges to local organizations. From timely delivery to understanding the audience and shifts in the market place, promotion and marketing efforts require significant and ideally long-term planning and coordination.

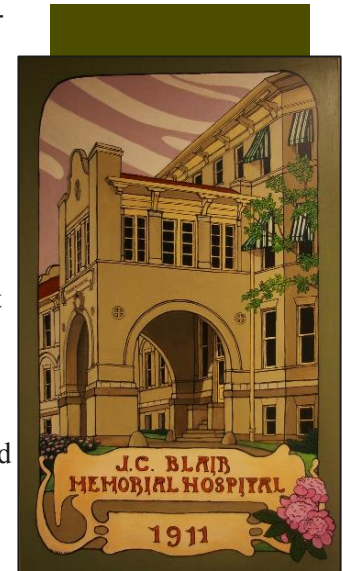
Heritage Plan Goal: Promote Huntingdon County's Heritage resources through interpretation, education, signage and marketing efforts.

Promotion and marketing has to be differentiated for the County versus individual organizations; for identification and promotion of permanent history-based activities and sites; and promotion of programming as organized by individual organizations as part of their mission and outreach.

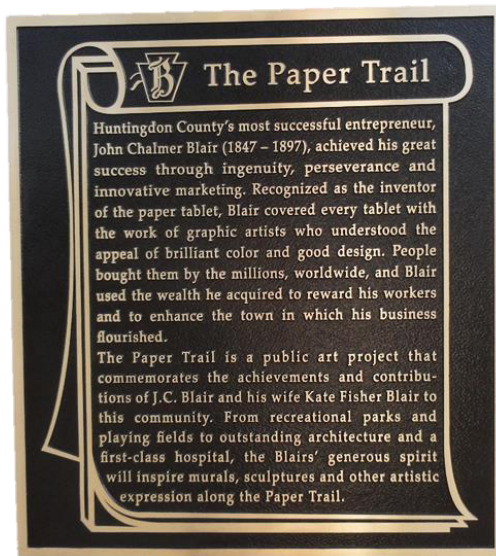
Objective 1. Coordinate interpretation with marketing and promotion strategies.

Many of Huntingdon County's marketing efforts have been based in the tourist promotion business, and the Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau continues to play a crucial role in promoting our rich heritage. The Visitors Bureau has been highly accommodating of promotion of events, both in the annual publication as well as on-line on the website, www.raystown.org. Open and timely communications between the Visitors Bureau and organizations ensure good coverage, and membership arrangements with the Visitors Bureau should be explored.

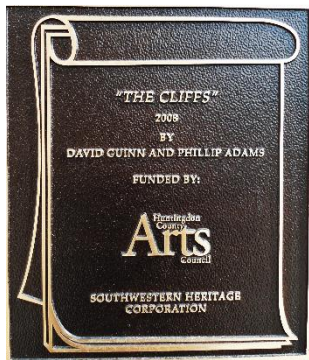
Our heritage provides ample opportunities to 'tell the story'. The cases featured in this plan only briefly highlight unique sites, events and features. Other and in-depth stories may have to



Local artist Don Dietz created a series of paintings in 2011 celebrating the 100th anniversary of J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital. Paid for by a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the paintings are based on historic photos and are on display in the public spaces of the hospital.



A brief synopsis of J.C. Blair's legacy in Huntingdon provides the basis for artistic interpretation. The unique, custom designed shape of the sign is used for all Paper Trail art identification.



be uncovered or written yet, and will add to the variety in the way we promote our local history. A blog on the Visitors Bureau's website may attract tourists, while a book or research project may lead to an author's presentation and book signing and local interest; a brochure and mailings through the organizational channels of historical and cultural societies deepens local understanding, and augment publicly posted information in the press.

Huntingdon Borough and the Huntingdon County Arts Council currently collaborate on the creation of a walking tour brochure

focused on the public art installations along Penn Street in the Huntingdon historic district, many with historic themes. Other brochures featuring, for example, nature walks or stained glass windows, may follow suit. The historic districts in Huntingdon, Mount Union, Robertsdale, Greenwood Furnace, Orbisonia and Marklesburg have published walking tour guides as the Path of Progress initiative which continue to be re-printed on an as-needed basis. Visual coordination of printed materials and public kiosks can provide an attractive approach to featuring the culture and history of our community.

Signage creates its own challenges, and lessons learned from past initiatives stress the importance of coordination and design. Directional signage intended to direct traffic or travelers follows different design criteria than signs that identify sites or buildings. Consistency within a region or topic, such as Pennsylvania Historical Markers, indicate purpose or theme. Local sign ordinances and the built environment provide further guidance how to adequately identify sites and buildings. In historic districts in particular, sensitivity to the historic surroundings should influence sign design. For example, brightly lit modern signage should be discouraged in historic districts.

Objective 2. Utilize technology and social media for promotion and interpretations.

Today, identification, promotion and interpretation can be neatly linked through digital media. QR codes, apps and web addresses can provide instantaneous links to more information. The proliferation of smart phones may have made reliance on localized internet service unnecessary. The County's GIS system and Mapping Department are outstanding partners for providing Heritage Plan-related information online and as a potential guide for tourists, auto-touring and outdoor recreation. Audio tours have been incorporated in tourism initiatives in the past and promise future application as well.

Objective 3. Create information clearing house for events and activities, heritage sites, and resources.

The recurring request in community meetings is for a single source of information in the County. The discussions are usually concerned with promotion of events, but a clearinghouse site should include other information: sites, organizations, resources, activities, etc. Currently at least three similar websites contain similar information. Clear identification and promotion of a singular County site would be beneficial beyond the Heritage Plan. Such a site should include Heritage Plan enclosed lists of organizations and events, GIS mapping for touring and identification purposes, and standard information such as state agencies and partners or commonly used forms.

Education

Education about local history and the County's heritage is the mission of most local historical and heritage organizations. Artifacts are collected and preserved with the goal to educate future generations about their relevance to development or former ways of life. Educational outreach to the public includes lectures (example: Winter Lecture Series of the Huntingdon County Historical Society); exhibitions, both ongoing and as special events; demonstrations and living history exhibits; publications; and research assistance.

The National Park Service has been in the business of ‘interpretation’ as a way to educate and engage visitors, and to protect national treasures since the early 1900s. “We need to help people gain an empathetic understanding of the past. That is the goal of all good teaching about history.”¹² is the mantra of the National Park Service interpretive programs and initiatives. Freeman Tilden, who wrote “Interpreting Our Heritage” in 1957 which effectually became the bible for generations of National Park Service interpreters, guides and students of outdoor recreation and history, stresses that we need to build a relationship between the facts and the observer to engage him, ‘provoke’ him, and lead him to learning that leads to understanding and protection of the heritage in question.

Many Huntingdon County historical sites and organizations have intuitively applied Tilden’s theory; the coal mine in the basement of the Coal Miners Heritage Museum allows the visitor to imagine the work environment more vividly; the most engaging presenters and lecturers fill meeting halls, and students engaged in hands-on learning and field trips to historic sites will bring home stories of their experience.

Today, especially our school-aged students have less opportunities to engage in local history lessons than what we had hoped for in the 1996 Heritage Plan. Outreach is limited as curricula are standardized, and with the consolidation of schools, walking trips to the local historical society are only an option where proximity allows. The exception is Southern Huntingdon County School District which in partnership with the local historical society has adopted a one-room school house for educational purposes on district grounds.

Heritage Plan Goal: Develop and provide educational opportunities and resources towards Heritage Preservation.

¹² US Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, National Register Bulletin *Telling the Stories: IV. What is Interpretation?* 2000

Education is enjoyed by people of all ages, especially if it relates to and enriches the audience’s/student’s own environment or area of interest. Teaching may employ hands-on learning techniques, signage and may engage interpreters for effective delivery. Our historic places, traditions and histories already provide the material, and in many instances, the location for teaching. This Plan supports a multifaceted approach to heritage education that excites multi-generational audiences and encourages preservation.

Objective 1. Encourage residents to better understand Historic Preservation.

The first step in engaging our local residents in historic preservation is to educate them about the benefits, resources and options available. A historic preservation workshop for the general public can provide the basis for future activities and be a distribution point for contact and resource materials.

Objective 2. Coordinate and support those involved with heritage education through proper training and resources.

Train and educate those whose mission involves heritage education for more effective delivery; including storage, display and inventory of artifacts; methodology for heritage education; signage and interpretation and related community activities. Coordinate not only programs but consider a sharing resource library of for example, projectors, display cases, etc. to create engaging displays and presentations.



The Friends of the East Broad Top offer a variety of hands-on learning opportunities in their machine shops and facilities.

Non-traditional, educational opportunities through AXIS Research, Inc.

AXIS Research, Inc. stands for Archaeological EXcavation and Interdisciplinary Science and is a registered Pennsylvania non-profit organization formed to conduct scientific research of cultural remains and past environments and to scientifically investigate, interpret, and preserve the rich cultural history of Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic region.

AXIS is interested in past human interaction with natural and cultural landscapes from prehistoric occupation by aboriginal groups, to colonial settlement by Europeans, and the Industrial Revolution. AXIS aims to educate the public, to create learning opportunities for students, and to encourage modern interpretations of Pennsylvania's prehistoric and historic past in light of recent advances in various scientific fields.

AXIS partners with other nonprofit and federal organizations, like the Smithsonian Institution, for collaborative curation, reporting and dissemination of information about sites and artifacts. They are registered with the National Park Service IDIQ Contract list.

In the past, AXIS has participated in excavating, mapping, cataloging, curating, analyzing and publishing the history of sites like Camelback Rockshelter, Fort Shirley, and Justice William Smith's House. The work was published in peer-reviewed journals and national and international conferences.

The organization is devoted to outreach including presentations and engagement of local students.

Currently, the project of interest is the conclusion and publication of work at the Fort Shirley site in Shirleysburg, PA - the site of George Croghan's trading post, early fort, and Native American refugee village.

In the next few years, AXIS will focus on excavation and research projects on significant sites in and around Huntingdon County and the landscape evolution and climatic changes through the Late Pleistocene and Holocene on the Delmarva Peninsula in Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia in conjunction with the Chesapeake Watershed Research Foundation and the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History.

AXIS is open to engage interested volunteers, high school and college students. Their website is: www.axisresearchinc.org

Right: AXIS volunteers and organizers at the Fort Shirley dig

Objective 3. Explore educational opportunities through schools and educational institutions.

The skills and knowledge represented within our heritage organizations are significant – not only on the 'history' but also in the realm of techniques, mechanical skill sets and artistry. Collaboration between for example, the Friends of the EBT and the Huntingdon County Career and Technology Center or local school district, can benefit a highly specialized skill development. Conversely, Museum Management students at Juniata College may assist in the inventorying process of a local historical organization, and general intern placement of college students has been a mutually beneficial tradition in the community that could be expanded beyond Huntingdon Borough.



Heritage Goal 2015	Objectives (1996 Plan objectives in italics)	Projects/Tasks	Action Items
Historic Resources (Built Environment) Preserve the Historic Resources of Huntingdon County.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Encourage preservation, restoration and adaptive reuse of the built environment.</i> <i>2. Focus heritage activities on Huntingdon County National Register Districts, landmarks and sites.</i> 3. Expand historic preservation to residential neighborhoods. 4. Protect historic resources through hazard mitigation planning. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educate about historic preservation, methods, benefits, resources and applications through workshops with technical assistance from local, state and private heritage preservation organizations and innovative tools strategically available online. 2. Facilitate historic preservation education and networking between local and state governments, agencies and organizations to utilize historic preservation for economic and community development. 3. Develop and support historic themes through partnerships with other local or regional initiatives. 4. Examine existing conditions and inventory blight and deterioration of historic properties and districts. 5. Amend local ordinances and encourage blight remediation techniques. 6. Conduct hazard mitigation planning for historic resources as part of county plan. 7. Formally nominate eligible historic districts, sites and landmarks in the county on the National Register of Historic Places. 8. Identify and designate historically unique residential neighborhoods. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct a series of workshops on archival techniques, museum software and hardware, preservation techniques and benefits, and resources available to organizations. (Hunt. Co. Planning Dept./Heritage Committee; spring/summer 2015). 2. Inventory historic districts, sites and landmarks on a GIS-based map and website (Hunt. County Mapping Dept., 2015) 3. Distribute Heritage Plan to community organizations, local governments and businesses. (spring 2015) 4. Address heritage elements in Blueprint Communities Plan (2015). 5. Encourage activities towards historic preservation of the McAlevy's Fort village.

Heritage Goal 2015	Objectives (1996 objectives in italics)	Projects/Tasks	Action Items
Natural Resources Conserve the Natural Resources of Huntingdon County	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Encourage the preservation of the rural landscape.</i> <i>Encourage the conservation of the Natural Resources</i> Plan for sustainable trail development throughout Huntingdon County. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Develop community water and sewer services to encourage efficient land use and protect water quality</i> <i>Encourage the use of creative land development and management techniques such as: transfer of development rights; cluster development and planned residential development to conserve rural land</i> <i>Encourage local municipal land use, zoning and subdivision ordinances</i> <i>Engage and support agencies working with land conservation issues</i> <i>Encourage donation of scenic conservation easements</i> <i>Initiate a county-wide sign ordinance to regulate the development and placement of advertising billboards and small signs.</i> <i>Protect flood plains and wetlands through appropriate land management ordinances.</i> <i>Encourage conservation practices in farming, mining, logging and other natural resource industries to protect the natural environment from degradation.</i> Educate about and engage in sustainable forestry practices and stewardship on wooded private and public lands. Support forest and wildlife management through education and coordination of DCNR planning and implementation strategies. Promote landscape sensitive natural resource extraction. <i>Support the development and maintenance of trails.</i> <i>Coordinate regional trail planning and development with regional trail initiatives.</i> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Further develop trails within municipalities, including Flag Pole Hill Trails in Huntingdon; parking, entrance, signage and maintenance.

Heritage Goal 2015	Objectives	Projects/Tasks	Action Items
	<p>4. Encourage collaboration towards historic interpretation in recreation development.</p> <p>5. Commemorate natural resource extraction history in Huntingdon County.</p>	<p>3. Follow established guidelines, best practices, and obtain professional support in trail design and maintenance.</p> <p>4. Diversify and promote trail offering.</p> <p>1. Include historic sites and historical information in outdoor recreation literature, including: Blair Park; Portstown Park; PA Canal remnants; Warrior's Path; Raystown Path; Jack's Narrows; Pulpit Rocks; Colerain Picnic Area.</p> <p>2. Recognize milestones in local (commercial) recreation history with historic markers; including establishment of Raystown Lake; Indian Caverns; Lincoln Caverns; local summer camps; Golf Course(s); Phillips Fly Company.</p> <p>3. Create historically thematic trail for hiking or biking.</p> <p>4. Recognize and inventory local sports history.</p> <p>1. Identify historic natural resource extraction sites through interpretive signage, markers, GIS mapping and in brochures.</p> <p>2. Encourage preservation of historic industrial sites.</p> <p>3. Promote reenactments and museums.</p>	<p>2. Develop hiking and/or biking connector trails between communities, for example: the Fireman's Trail between Mapleton and Mount Union.; Lower Trail development to connect Alexandria, Petersburg, Smithfield and Huntingdon; the HB&T Trail.</p> <p>3. Explore pedestrian bridge over Juniata in Huntingdon/Smithfield</p> <p>1. Provide additional information and signage at recreation and historic sites, such as the 'Thousand Steps'.</p> <p>2. Update industrial site information.</p> <p>1. Engage in talks with Game Commission regarding Minersville Coke Ovens.</p>

Heritage Goal 2015	Objectives	Projects/Tasks	Action Items
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Record the existing forest camp, hunting and fishing culture. Identify local landmarks. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Inventory, record and document existing forest camps and hunting and fishing culture. Inventory (incl. narrative), GIS-map and identify natural and historic landmarks, including remnant sites and sites with no remaining artifacts and those important to the cultural landscape. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Seek funding to: inventory and develop historic context for hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation culture; to document camps and related activities (gun smithing, archery).
<p>(Natural) Agricultural Resources Conserve the agricultural resources and rural landscape of Huntingdon County</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage preservation of traditional farmsteads; especially main farm houses and historic barns. Support local, traditional agriculture. Record farming history in the County 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Educate about historic preservation opportunities, techniques, benefits. Reward exemplary restoration and preservation efforts annually. Support and promote the Bicentennial and Century Farm Program (PA Dept. of Agriculture). Encourage planning efforts and ordinances that protect our rural landscape. Support establishment of farmers market(s). Explore ag-tourism as supplemental/alternative activities on traditional farms. Conduct an oral history project, including senior Grange members and multigenerational farm families. Inventory historically and architecturally significant farmsteads in the county. Support the work of museums which preserve farm implements and artifacts. 	

Heritage Goal 2015	Objectives	Projects/Tasks	Action Item
<p>Cultural Resources Identify and preserve the County's cultural traditions as manifested in events, customs, and artifacts, and as a basis for community character and identity.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and inventory the County's cultural heritage. 2. Create Awareness of local traditions through promotion and specific activities to encourage, celebrate, and educate about cultural traditions. 3. Support institutions engaged in the preservation of and education about cultural traditions. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a centralized database and repository for recordings, oral histories, documents, digitized records. Inventory events and artifacts, including their conditions and histories. 2. Ensure adequate support for proper funding, venues, staff and artifact preservation. 3. Educate in museum technology and partner with organizations, museums and institutions to conduct inventory and preservation activities. 4. Train volunteers in conservation and conservation-specific skills, for example, the work program of the FEBT. 5. Establish guidelines to ensure maintenance and continuity of art installations. 1. Integrate festivals and events in economic development activities and broader promotion. 2. Showcase cultural traditions in the community, including in displays represented in public art and at community events. 3. Hold seminars, workshops, speaker events to educate about cultural traditions. 4. Encourage and engage reenactments, guided tours and first person interpretations. 1. Include institutions and their resources, including research materials, technical knowledge, in promotion about county heritage. 2. Assist local festivals and events by enlisting volunteers, coordinating promotion and scheduling. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore funding opportunities for inventory activities 2. Work with the FEBT on developing training partnerships and intern opportunities. 3. Continue the Heritage Music Awards at GFSP. 4. Make guidelines for public art installations and maintenance available to local organizations and governments.

Heritage Goal 2015	Objectives	Projects/Tasks	Action Items
Management Provide coordination and support to agencies, organizations and individuals towards the implementation of the Heritage Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educate about and provide resources to local organizations to effectively fulfill their missions in support of the County Heritage Plan. 2. Facilitate partnerships among County agencies, state agencies and local groups. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold information sessions and provide technical assistance through state and other agencies, including PHMC; Preservation PA; etc. 2. Conduct grant writing workshops. 3. Promote Heritage Plan goals across County to encourage partnership building. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue working with the county-wide Heritage Committee and the County Planning Department to coordinate efforts and open communication among county organizations. (Spring 2015) 2. Host presentation of the updated County Heritage Plan to county agencies and organizations.
Promotion & Marketing Promote Huntingdon County's Heritage Resources through interpretation, education, signage and marketing efforts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate interpretation with marketing and promotion strategies. 2. Utilize technology and social media for promotion and interpretations. 3. Create information clearing house for events and activities, Heritage sites; and resources. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish brochures and more comprehensive writings about Huntingdon County's Heritage. 2. Coordinate with visitor promotion. 3. Ensure information and signage is current and in good order. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create GIS mapping for historic sites in the County. 2. Create digital walking and driving tours. 1. Create county-wide website for information distribution 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish walking tour brochure on public art in Huntingdon (spring/summer 2015, HCAC and Huntingdon Borough).

Heritage Goal 2015	Objectives	Projects/Tasks	Action Items
<p>Education</p> <p>Develop and provide educational opportunities and resources to further Heritage Preservation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage residents to better understand Historic Preservation. 2. Ensure adequate support and coordination for proper training, venues, staffing and artifact preservation. 3. Explore educational opportunities through schools and educational institutions. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide workshops on Historic Preservation benefits and methods. 1. Educate in museum technology. 2. Partner organizations, museums and institutions to conduct inventory and preservation activities 3. Train volunteers in conservation and conservation specific skills (for example; the work program of the FEBT). 4. Establish guidelines to ensure maintenance and continuity of art installations. 	

Methodology

The Huntingdon County Heritage Plan update 2015 set out to accomplish the following goals in line with the overarching goal of continuity and new energy towards heritage endeavors:

- updating Plan information that is not current, including physical and organizational information, and appropriate contact information;
- evaluating the priorities established in the existing Plan relating to the areas of the physical and industrial heritage; adding new priorities, concerns, or actions that have emerged as priorities since 1996;
- adding a cultural resource inventory of the ‘intangible’ cultural heritage to give the plan more depth, lend more definition to the place and community, and encourage investment in all of Huntingdon County’s heritage and preservation efforts;
- developing a network of collaboration among community organizations, local governments, stakeholders and the public that is conducive to a comprehensive approach that fosters preservation, investment and economic growth in Huntingdon County.

The proposal closely followed the *Pennsylvania’s Statewide Historic Preservation Plan’s* goals. This Heritage Plan update has been funded in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission and the Huntingdon County Commissioners.

Public input has been received primarily through the Heritage Committee which has been convened by the Huntingdon County Historical Society (HCHS) via email, mail invitation and public announcement in The Daily News. HCHS records show about 30 members on the committee with the average attendance between 10 and 15 community volunteers. The committee met at numerous locations, including the Lane Homestead in Todd, The Coal Miners Museum in Robertsedale, Isett Acres, the Courthouse Annex and the Huntingdon Historical Society Gallery. The Committee reviewed draft copies of the plan, distributed in January 2015.

Public Meetings dates and locations:

June 19, 2013	Huntingdon County Historical Society Gallery
August 21, 2013	Huntingdon County Historical Society Gallery
October, 15, 2013	Coal Miners Museum, Robertsedale
January 15, 2014	Lane’s Country Homestead, Todd
April 1, 2014	Courthouse Annex
May 8, 2014	Huntingdon County Historical Society Gallery
June 10, 2014	Isett Acres, Huntingdon
November 11, 12, 2014	Bailey Building, Huntingdon
December 18, 2014	Courthouse Annex
March 30, 2015	Bailey Building, Huntingdon

In addition to the meetings, information was collected via a survey (see appendices). The survey primarily sought insights as to the needs of historical and heritage organizations. The survey was distributed at the meetings and made available by mail and email. Nine surveys were returned, representing Mount Union, the Broad Top, Huntingdon, Petersburg, St. Michael’s Orthodox Church, Isett Acres Museum, Hartslog Heritage Museum, Friends of the East Broad Top, Inc, and Dudley.

Additional stakeholder interviews, meetings and site visits produced site specific information including but not limited to: DCNR Bureau of Forestry; Ron Morgan, Broad Top Area Coal Miners Historical Society and Museum; Sally Love, Fort Shirley Historical Society; Hedda Durnbaugh, Treasure Room, and John Mumford, Beeghley Library, Juniata College; Mount Union Historical Society at its regular December meeting; Paul Fagley, Greenwood Furnace State Park; Fred Lang, Huntingdon County Historical Society; James Davis, Huntingdon County Fair; Barb McMath, Fair Farm Museum; and ongoing consultations with PHMC.

Bibliography

Cree, Robert H. Bigger and Better Huntingdon County Fair. Huntingdon: Huntingdon County Historical Society, 1995

Donnehoo, George P., Editor in Chief. Pennsylvania A History. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1926

Fergus, Charles. Natural Pennsylvania: Exploring the State Forest Natural Areas. Mechanicsburg: Stackpole Books, 2002

Glass, Joseph W. The Pennsylvania Culture Region – A View from the Barn. Ann Arbor: UMI Research Press, 1986

Knudson, Douglas M., Cable, Ted T., Beck, Larry. Interpretation of Cultural and Natural Resources. State College: Venture, 2003

Lasanky, Jeannette. Made of Mud Stoneware Potteries of Central Pennsylvania 1834-1929. Lewisburg: Union Co. Historical Society, 1977

Miller, Randall; Penacak, William, Editors. Pennsylvania; University Park: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2002

Nichols, Roy F. A History. Harrisburg: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1967

Peterson, Elizabeth. The Changing Faces of Tradition. Washington: National Endowment for the Arts, 1996

Siegel, Nancy. Along the Juniata. Huntingdon: Juniata College, 2003

Shedd, Nancy. Glazier Stoneware Huntingdon PA. Huntingdon: Huntingdon County Historical Society.

Speakman, Joseph. At Work in Penn's Woods. University Park: Penn State University Press, 2006

Sheets, Georg R. Pennsylvania Heritage. Harrisburg: Seitz & Seitz, 2001

Tilden, Freeman. Interpreting Our Heritage. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1977

Toner, Mike. The Past in Peril. Tallahassee: National Park Service, 1999

Williamson, Scott Graham. The American Craftsman. New York: Crown Publishers, 1940

The Harper Dictionary of Modern Thought, 1977. "culture", page 149-150

Plans and Studies:

Investing in Creativity: A Study of the Support Structure for U.S. Artists, Urban Institute. 2003

Southern Allegheny Greenways and Open Space Network Plan, 2007

2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-associated Recreation, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2011

Huntingdon County Natural Heritage Inventory. Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, 2001

Folk Art Inventory. Institute for Cultural Partnership. 2005

Additional Reading:

Lasansky, Jeannette. To Draw, Upset, & Weld. Lewisburg: Union Co. Historical Society, 1980

Shedd, Nancy S. An Architectural Study of the Borough of Huntingdon. Huntingdon, 1976

Shedd, Nancy S. 1887-1987 Second Century. Huntingdon: Huntingdon County Historical Society, 1987

Shedd, Nancy S. Two Centuries in Huntingdon. Huntingdon: Huntingdon County Historical Society, 1996

Appendices

Huntingdon County Historical Markers Map

Huntingdon County Historical Sites Map

Huntingdon County Historical Societies

Huntingdon County Museums and Exhibits Table

Huntingdon County Community Organizations

Huntingdon County Community Events

Historic Sites List

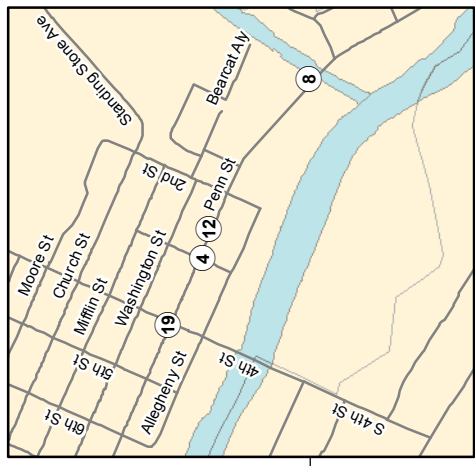
Historic and Heritage Asset Survey 2014

Sample Interview with Musicians about Musical Traditions

Additional Resources



Huntingdon Borough Inset

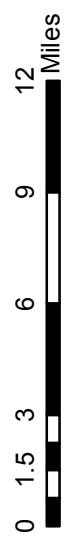


Marker Title

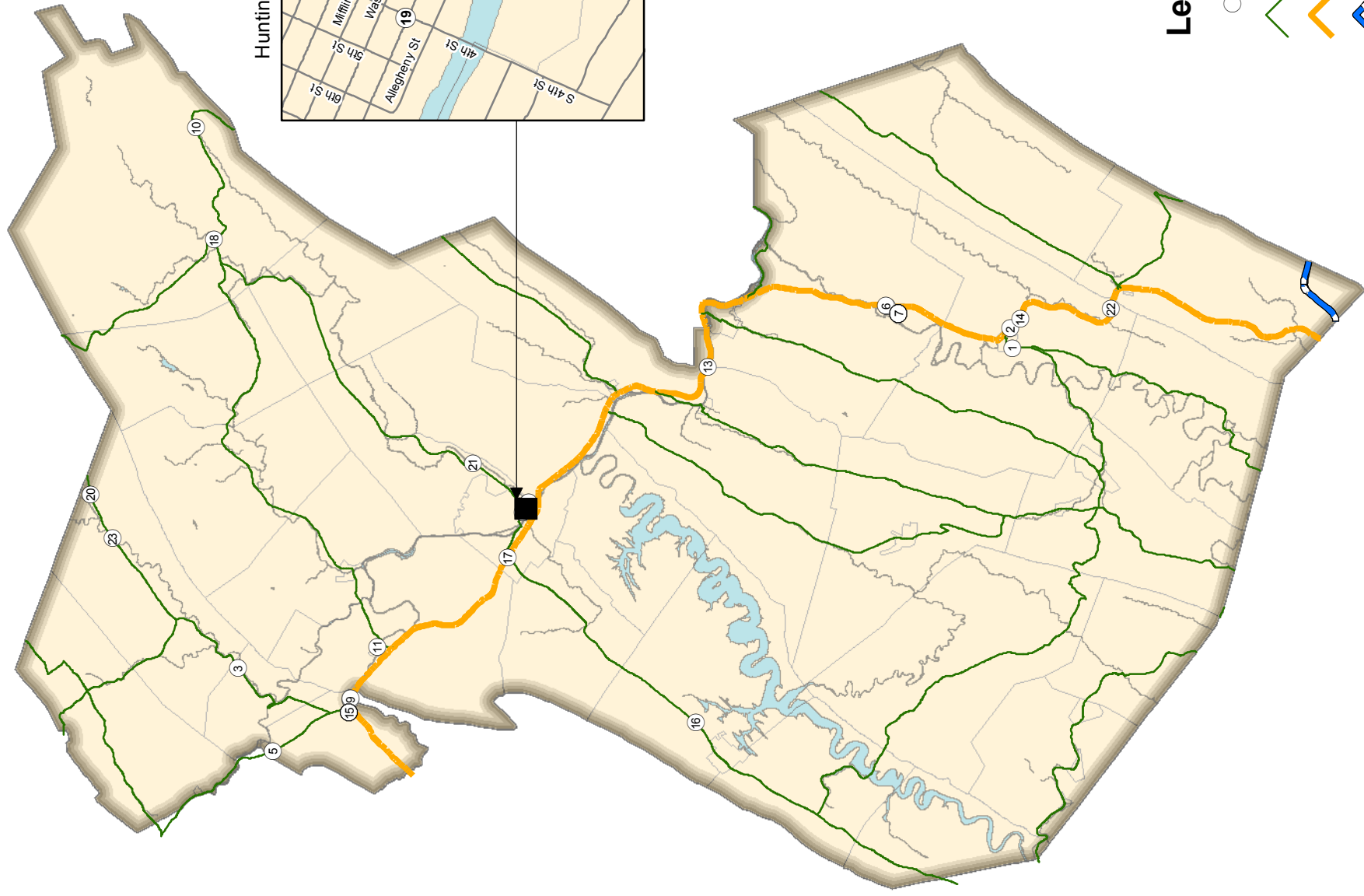
- 1 Admiral Wm. Sims
- 2 Bedford Furnace
- 3 Coleraine Forges
- 4 David R. Porter
- 5 Fort Roberdeau
- 6 Fort Shirley
- 7 Fort Shirley - PLAQUE
- 8 Fort Standing Stone
- 9 Frankstown Path
- 10 Greenwood Furnace
- 11 Hart's Log
- 12 Huntingdon County
- 13 Jack's Narrows
- 14 Juniata Iron
- 15 Juniata Iron
- 16 Martin G. Brumbaugh
- 17 Martin G. Brumbaugh
- 18 McAlevy's Fort
- 19 McMurtrie Mansion
- 20 Pennsylvania Furnace
- 21 Rural Electrification
- 22 Shadow of Death
- 23 Spruce Creek Church

Legend

- Historical Markers
- State Highway
- Federal Highway
- Turnpike
- Waterbodies



Huntingdon County
Historical Markers





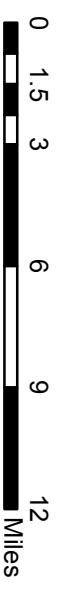
Huntingdon Borough Inset



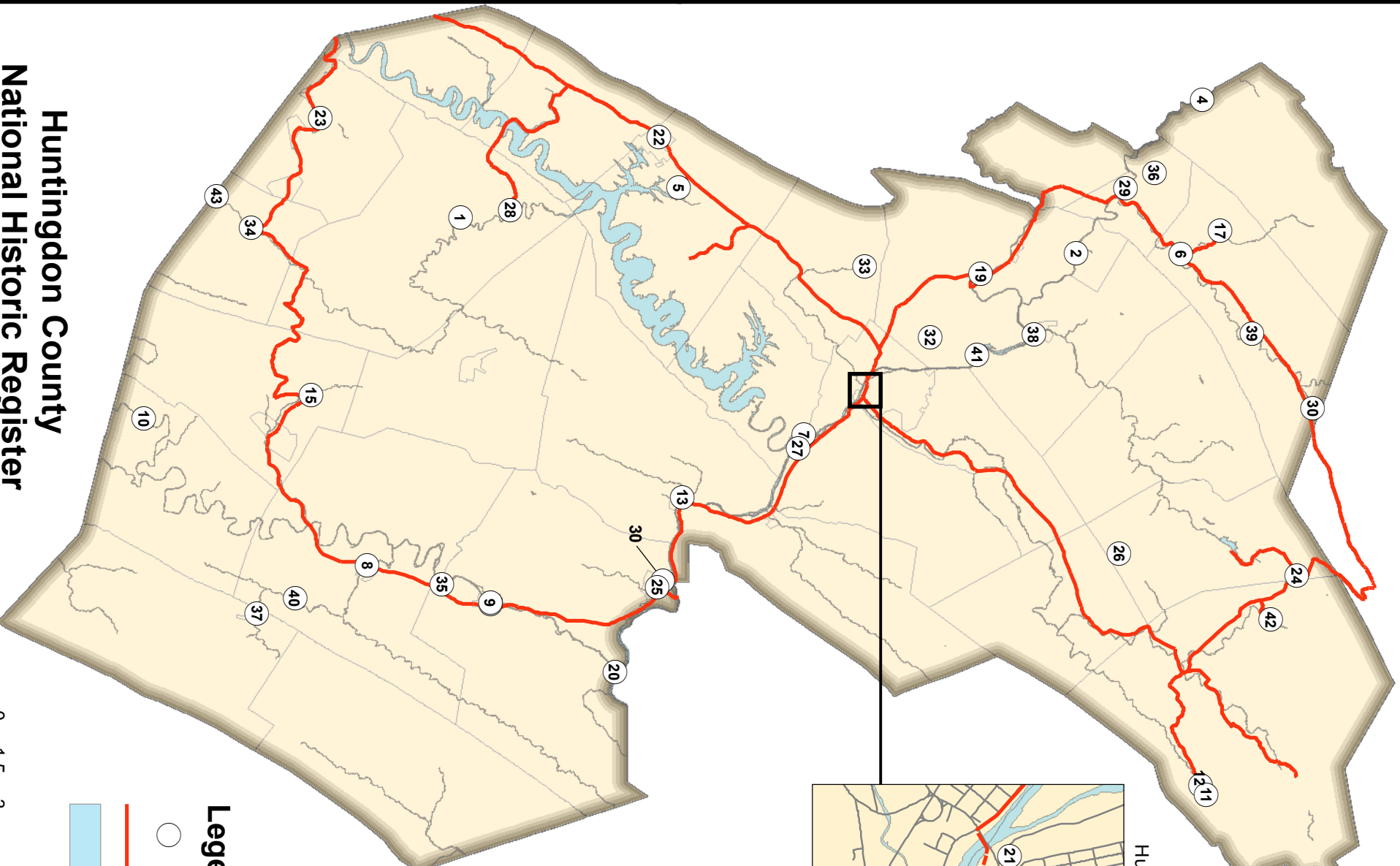
- 1 Baker Bridge
- 2 Barre Forge & Furnace
- 3 Benjamin B. Leas House
- 4 Birmingham Bridge
- 5 Brumbaugh Homestead
- 6 Colerain Forges Mansion
- 7 Cobbin Bridge
- 8 East Broad Top Railroad
- 9 Fort Shirey Historic Site
- 10 Frehn Bridge
- 11 Greenwood Furnace Historical District
- 12 Greenwood Lake Dam
- 13 H.O. Andrews Feed Mill
- 14 Harbison-Walker Refractories Historic District
- 15 Hudson Grist Mill
- 17 Huntingdon Furnace
- 19 Juniata Iron Works
- 20 Lewis Smaley Homestead
- 22 Markesburg Historical District
- 23 Minesville Coke Ovens
- 24 Monroe Furnace National Historic Site
- 25 Mount Union Historical District
- 26 Oyer Mansion
- 27 PA Feeder Canal and Guard Lock
- 28 Paradise Furnace
- 29 Pennsylvania Railroad Historical District
- 30 Pennsylvania Furnace Mansion
- 32 Pulpit Rocks National Historic Landmark
- 33 Robb Farm
- 34 Robertsdale Historical District
- 35 Runk Bridge
- 36 Seeds, Hugh D. and Martha S., Farm
- 37 Shade Gap Feed & Flour Mill
- 38 Shaver's Creek Railroad Bridge
- 39 Spruce Creek Road & Gun Club
- 40 St. Mary's Covered Bridge
- 41 Warrior Ridge Dam
- 42 Whipple Dam Historical District
- 43 Woodvale Historical District

Legend

- National Historical Register
- Heritage Routes
- Waterbodies



Huntingdon County National Historic Register Heritage Routes



Organization Name	city	website	Museum	Library	other structures
Huntingdon County Historical Society	Huntingdon	www.huntingdonhistory.org	McMurtrie House Museum	yes	Gallery; Manor Hill Church
Mount Union Historical Society	Mount Union	facebook	Sharrar House; Price House; Industrial	yes	
Friends of the East Broad Top, Inc.	Robertsdale	www.feht.org	Robertsdale Depot Museum	yes	EBT Paint Shop, Rockhill
Dudley Historical Site Committee	Dudley				
Broad Top Area Coal Miners Historical Society	Robertsdale	www.broadtopminersmuseum.com	Coal Miners Museum;	yes	
Fort Shirley Heritage Association	Shirleysburg		Museum	yes	
Mapleton Depot Historical Society	Mapleton Depot		Museum		
Aughwick Civil War Roundtable	Three Springs				
Three Springs Historical Society	Three Springs		School House		
Orbisonia-Rockhill Furnace Historical Society	Orbisonia		Bedford Furnace House		
Cassville					
Dublin/Tell					

Museums			
	Swigart Antique Auto Museum	Huntingdon	www.swigartmuseum.com
	Hartslog Heritage Museum	Alexandria	
	Trolley Museum	Rockhill	www.rockhilltrolley.org
	Isett Acres Heritage Museum	Huntingdon	www.isettacresmuseum.com
	Huntingdon County Fair Farm Museum	Huntingdon	www.huntingdoncountyfair.com
	Juniata College Museum of Art	Huntingdon	www.juniata.edu
	Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum	Robertsdale	www.broadtopminersmuseum.com
	Petersburg Heritage Museum	Petersburg	http://petersburgheritagemuseum.webs.com/
Permanent Exhibits/non-museum			
	Raystown Visitors Center	Seven Points, Hesston	
	Greenwood Furnace State Park Blacksmith Shop; Visitor Center	Huntingdon	
	Bricktown Model Railroaders Association	Mount Union	
	Shavers Creek Environmental Center	Shavers Creek	

Community Organizations			
Petersburg Community Development Assoc., Inc.	Town Hall, Petersburg	facebook	Petersburg Heritage Museum
Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce	Huntingdon	www. Huntingdonchamber.com	
Mount Union Chamber of Commerce	Mount Union		
Friends of Greenwood Parks	Huntingdon	www.friendsofgreenwoodparks.org	
Huntingdon County Business and Industry	Huntingdon	www.hcbi.com	
Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau	Seven Points, Hesston	www.raystown.org	
Huntingdon Landmarks, Inc.	Huntingdon	www.huntingdonlandmarks.org	
Art, Craft and Cultural Organizations			
Huntingdon County Arts Council	The Art Space, Huntingdon	www.huntingdoncountyarts.com	Public fiber arts programming, first Thursdays
Standing Stone Art League	Huntingdon		Westminster Woods, Mon., 6-8 pm; Summer Art Week
Mount Union Area Art Guild	Mount Union		Bricktown Senior Ctr. Thurs., 6 pm
Redbud Guild Guild	Mill Creek, meeting	facebook	2nd Tuesday
Hills and Hollow Handspinners	Orbisonia	www.fiberarts.org/directories/guilds/Hills_and_Hollow_Handspinners	
The Playhouse at McConnellstown	McConnellstown	www.littletheater.com	
Barton C. McCann School of Art	Jackson Twp.	www.mccannart.org	
Photo Club	Huntingdon		meets in Art Space
Embroiderers Guild Chapter	Huntingdon	www.marega.org/huntingdon.html	2nd Tuesday, 10 am
Juniata College Community Outreach	Huntingdon		community classes in pottery, painting

Libraries			
Huntingdon County Library	Huntingdon	www.huntingdon.net	Pennsylvania Room
Beeghley Library/Juniata College	Huntingdon	www.juniata.edu	Treasure Room; rare book collection
Friends of the Huntingdon County Library	Huntingdon	facebook	
Alexandria Memorial Library	Alexandria		
Mount Union Library	Mount Union	facebook	
Southern Huntingdon Area Library	Orbisonia	www.shalibrary.com	
Other Heritage related Organizations			
Axis Research	James Creek	www.axisresearchinc.org	non-profit
Huntingdon Research Network	online	www.huntingdonresearchnetwork.net	
Heberling Associates, Inc.	Alexandria	www.heberlingassociates.com	Cultural resource management and heritage resource services company.
Aughwick Civil War Roundtable	Three Springs		
Agricultural Organizations			
Huntingdon County Agricultural Association	Fairgrounds, Huntingdon	www.huntingdoncountyfair.com	
Huntingdon County Grange		www.pagrange.org	
Penn State Extension/4-H	Huntingdon	www.extension.psu.edu/huntingdon	
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, Huntingdon County		www.pfb.com	

Event Name	Date	Location	Organizer	Description
Maple Harvest Festival	Late March	Shavers Creek Environmental Center	Shavers Creek Environmental Center	Sugaring in colonial times and present day
Mayfest	Last Saturday in April	Huntingdon Borough	Mayfest of Huntingdon	Street fair with art and craft vendors, community organizations, performances in downtown Huntingdon featuring different historic themes on different blocks; founded 2004
Quilt Show	Last Friday/Saturday in April	Huntingdon Community Center	Redbud Quilt Guild	Display and competition, for awards, of handmade quilts; founded 1990
Folk College	Memorial Day weekend	Juniata College, Huntingdon	Huntingdon County Arts Council	Folk music workshops and performances; founded 2005
Shade Gap Picnic	Last week in July/first week in August (before Fair)	Harpers Memorial Park, Shade Gap	Shade Gap Area Fire Company	Week long homecoming celebration with parade, carnival, performances, camping; established 1884
Old Home Days	First weekend in August	Greenwood Furnace State Park	Greenwood Furnace State Park	Originally a homecoming celebration featuring old-time games; now includes re-enactments, demonstrations and performances; founded in 1929
Huntingdon County Fair	First full week in August (with adjustment)	Huntingdon County Fairgrounds, Huntingdon	Huntingdon County Agricultural Association	County Fair in celebration of agriculture; livestock, competitions, performances; Founded in 1831
Orbisonia Rockhill Homecoming	August	Orbisonia Lions Park		Homecoming celebration
Swigart Antique Automobile Museum Meet	Second weekend in August	Swigart Museum, Rt. 22, Huntingdon	Swigart Antique Automobile Museum	Meet and competition for antique and classic automobile enthusiasts
Rockhill Trolley events	Regular operating hours Memorial Day - October weekends plus special days	Rockhill	Rockhill Trolley Museum	Trolley rides with special themes: Easter; Fall spectacular; Ice Cream Social; Christmas; founded in 1963
Broad Top Homecoming Celebration	Labor Day weekend	Broad Top City, RW&BT Firemen's picnic Grounds		Rides, concessions, parade, entertainment; founded in 1965

Cassville October Fest	Last weekend in September	Cassville	Trough Creek Valley Fire Company	Fall celebration in support of Fire Company; arts and crafts, performances and exhibits; founded in 1976
Huntingdon Fiber ArtsFest	September	Huntingdon	Huntingdon County Arts Council	Fiber arts instruction, vendors and displays; founded in 2013
Central Pennsylvania Ragtime Festival	September	Orbisonia	David Brightbill	Live ragtime music performances
Mount Union Canal Era Days	First Saturday in October	Mount Union	Mount Union Area Historical Society	Demonstrations of old-time arts and crafts, historical society exhibitions and performances
Hartslog Day Heritage Festival	Second Saturday in October	Alexandria	Hartslog Heritage Museum	Celebration of Alexandria's Heritage Museum with arts, crafts, food vendors, and performances; founded in 1975
Broad Top Coal Miners Heritage Days	Columbus Day weekend	Robertsdale; Coal Miners Museum	Broad Top Area Coal Miners Historical Society	Special activities and displays on coal mining and railroad; founded 1989
Greenwood Furnace Folk Gathering	Late September or early October	Greenwood Furnace State Park	Huntingdon County Arts Council	Folk Music workshops and performances; heritage musician dedication; founded in 2004
Shirleysburg Heritage Days	October	Shirleysburg	Fort Shirley Heritage Society	Traditional apple butter making and tractor show
Huntingdon Community Center Craft Bazar	First weekend (Thurs. – Sat) in December	Huntingdon	Huntingdon Community Center	Art and Craft show
Festival of Trees	First weekend in December	Huntingdon Historical Society	Huntingdon Garden Club	Display of Christmas Trees
Festival of Song	First Saturday in December	Huntingdon Presbyterian Church	Community volunteers	Holiday music performance
Holiday Gathering	First Sunday in December	Greenwood Furnace State Park	Greenwood Furnace State Park	Holiday crafts, Santa and horse carriage rides
Festival of Trees and Wreaths	Second weekend in December	Methodist Church, Mount Union	Kiwanis and private organizers	Display of Christmas trees, craft show and chorus; founded 1994

Site	PA Historic Marker	State Park	National Register Listed Resources and Landmarks	Eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places	comments
Admiral Sims	Hist. Marker				
Alan Seeger Natural Area					
Alexandria Brickworks					
Alexandria Historic District				district, eligible	
Alexandria Public Library					
Ardenheim (feeder dam)					
Baker Bridge			Bridge		
Balancing Rocks		State Park			
Barree Forge & Furnace			Site		
Bedford Furnace	Hist. Marker				
Benjamin B. Leas House			Site		
Berwick Forge Property					
Birmingham Bridge			Bridge		
Blacklog Narrows Historic District				district, eligible	
Blair Park					
Bollman Filling Station				building, eligible	
Bouquet Spring					
Brewster, Henry, House				building, eligible	
Brown Massacre Site					
Brumbaugh Homestead			Site		
Burdge, Samuel, House				building, eligible	
Caldwell, Samuel, Residence				building, eligible	
Camp Blue Diamond					
Carbaugh Farm				building, eligible	
Cassville Clayworks					
CCC Camps					
Colerain Forges Mansion			Site		
Colerain Picnic area		State Forest			
Coleraine Forges	Hist. Marker				

Corbin Bridge			Bridge		
Cornpropst Mill Public School				building, eligible	
David R. Porter House, Govenor	Hist. Marker				
Donnelly Farm				building, eligible	
Dudley Historic Site					
East Broad Top Railroad National Historic Landmark		Historic EBT	Landmark		
East Broad Top Railroad: Shade Gap Branch (Orbisonia to Neelyton)				district, eligible	
Ennisville Methodist Episcopal Church				building, eligible	
Ewing Store and Post Office				site, eligible	
Finley Farm				site, eligible	
Focht Farm Historic District				district, eligible	
Fort Shirley Historic Site	Hist. Marker		Site		
Frankstown Path	Hist. Marker				
Frehn Bridge			Bridge		
Ft. Standing Stone	Hist. Marker				
Greenwood Furnace	Hist. Marker				
Greenwood Furnace Historical District			District		
Greenwood Lake Dam			Site		
Grubb's Diner					removed
H.O. Andrews Feed Mill			Site		
Harbison-Walker Refractories Historic District			District		removed
Hart's Log	Hist. Marker				
Hatfield & Philips Fire Clay Company				building, eligible	
Hudson Grist Mill			Site		
Huling Farm				building, eligible	
Hunt Tower					in hist. district
Huntingdon Armory			Site		
Huntingdon County	Hist. Marker				
Huntingdon County Bridge No. 12				bridge, eligible	
Huntingdon County Courthouse					in hist. district
Huntingdon Furnace			District		
Huntingdon Historic District Boundary Increase				district, eligible	
Huntingdon Historical District			District		

Huntingdon Mural					
Huntingdon U.S. Post Office				building, eligible	
Huntingdon, Cambria & Indiana Turnpike				site, eligible	
Huntingdon, Cambria & Indiana Turnpike Remnants				structure, eligible	
Ice Plant site, Huntingdon					
Indian Caverns					
Isett, John S., House				Site, eligible	
J.C. Blair Building					in Hist. District
J.C. Blair Co.					
J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital					
Jack's Narrows	Hist. Marker				
Jo Hays Vista					
Juniata College					
Juniata Iron	Hist. Marker				
Juniata Iron Works			Site		
Juniata Peace Chapel					
Juniata River					
Lake Raystown Resort					
Lauder (Lowder, Louder), Jacob, Farmstead				building, eligible	
Lewis Smalley Homestead			Site		
Lincoln Caverns					
Lloyd & Henry Warehouse			Site		
Log Cabin, Jackson Township				building, eligible	
Lower Trail					
Shavers Creek Presbyterian Church at Manor Hill				site, eligible	
Marklesburg Historical District			District		
Martin G. Brumbaugh	Hist. Marker				
McAlevy's Fort	Hist. Marker			district, eligible	
McConnellstown Playhouse					
McMurtrie Mansion	Hist. Marker				in hist. district
Methodist Parsonage				building, eligible	
Minersville Coke Ovens			Site		
Monroe Furnace National Historic Site			Site		
Morris Township Building and Shaffersville School				building, eligible	
Mount Nebo Church					

Mount Union Freight Depot				building, eligible	
Mount Union High School					
Mount Union Historical District			District		
Mount Union Post Office Mural					
Mytinger Hotel				building, eligible	
Mytinger House				building, eligible	
Neff Bridge				bridge, eligible	
Oburn Farm				building, eligible	
Old Crow Natural Area					
Oneida Heights neighborhood, Huntingdon					
Orbisonia Historic District				district, eligible	
Oyer Mansion			Site		
PA Canal					
PA Correctional Institutions					
PA Feeder Canal and Guard Lock			Site		
Paradise Furnace			District		
Pennsylvania Railroad Historical District			District		
Pennsylvania Furnace	Hist. Marker			building, eligible	
Pennsylvania Furnace Mansion			Site		
Pennsylvania Railroad Old Bridge over Standing Stone Creek			Bridge		
Pennsylvania Railroad: Main Line (Harrisburg to Pittsburgh)				district, eligible	
Pennsylvania Turnpike (Carlisle To Irwin)				district, eligible	
Phillips Fly company					
Phillips Store & Garage				building, eligible	
Portstown Park					
Price House, Mount Union					in hist. district
Pulpit Rocks National Historic Landmark			Landmark		
Raystone Lake & Dam					
Raystown Path					
Robb Farm			Site		
Robertsdale Historical District			District		
Rockhill Historic District				district, eligible	

Rockhill Iron & Coal Company: Rockhill Furnace No. 2				structure, eligible	
Rockhill Iron and Coal Company houses					
Rockhill Trolley Museum					
Runk Bridge			Bridge		
Rural Electrification	Hist. Marker				
Russian Orthodox Church					
Saltillo					
Saltillo Chair Co.					
Seeds, Hugh D. and Martha S., Farm			Site		
Seven Points Marina					
Shade Gap Feed & Flour Mill			Site		
Shadle-Kope Farm				building, eligible	
Shadow of Death	Hist. Marker				
Shaffer, Peter				building, eligible	
Sharrar House/Warehouse				building, eligible	
Shavers Creek Environmental Center					
Shavers Creek Railroad Bridge			Bridge		
Shirley Township Elementary School				building, eligible	
Shirleysburg Historic District				district, eligible	
Showalter, Jacob, Property				building, eligible	
Spruce Creek Church	Hist. Marker				
Spruce Creek Rod & Gun Club			Site		
Spruce Creek village					
St. John Episcopal Church and manse					in hist. district
St. Mary's Covered Bridge			Bridge		
Standing Stone					in hist. district
Standing Stone Golf Course					
Swigart Automobile Museum					
Swope Lime Kiln & Quarry				building, eligible	
The Cliffs					
Thompson Property				building, eligible	
Thousand Steps (Jack's Mountain)					
Three Springs					
Todd Township School				building, eligible	

Trough Creek State Park		State Park			
United Brethren Church				building, eligible	
Upper Spruce Creek Presbyterian Church					
Upper Stone Valley Historoic District				district, eligible	
US Silica, Keystone Works					
Walker Farm				building, eligible	
Wallace, Michael, House				building, eligible	
Warrior Ridge Dam			District		
Warriors Path					
Water Street/Schaffersville Historic District				district, eligible	
Whipple Dam Historical District		State Park	District		
Whitaker House					
William Smith House					in hist. district
Winchester Furnace				structure, eligible	
Wolverton Masion					
Woodvale Historical District			District		

Historic and Heritage Asset Survey 2014

Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____ website: _____

Physical location/facility address: _____

Date Established: _____

non-profit status: yes no

Membership Organization: yes no

If yes, how many members _____

Number of Paid Staff: _____

Number of Volunteer Staff: _____

Mission Statement:

Region served: _____

Services your organization offers: _____

Activities your organization conducts regularly; please indicate frequency (annually, seasonally, monthly, weekly, daily):

Resources

Source of your organization's financial support (please check all that apply):

- ☐ Memberships
- ☐ Endowment/trust
- ☐ Donations
- ☐ Grants
- ☐ Admission fees
- ☐ Earned Income (sales, for services provided)
- ☐ Events
- ☐ Government/local government

Has your organization participated in any planning event/strategy (y/n): _____ If yes, when: _____

To what extent has your organization followed planning recommendations:

Has your organization experienced changes that impact its effectiveness and service? Please describe.

Assets

Please provide the following information about your physical assets (real estate; landmarks; significant artifacts)

Name	Owner	Address	Importance Rate from 1-5; 1= not important; 5= very important	Current use	Constraints to current use Internal/external	Open to public (Y/N)	ADA Accessibility	Needs Immediate needs pertaining to physical asset	Other Indicate any special circumstance or activity, such as existing grants or plans
<i>EXAMPLE: Exhibit Gallery</i>	<i>HCHS</i>	<i>4th & Allegheny Streets, Huntingdon</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Gallery; meeting place; storage</i>	<i>Staffing; parking</i>	<i>For programs only</i>	<i>limited</i>	<i>Improved ADA and restrooms;</i>	<i>2010 feasibility study</i>

Attach additional pages if necessary

Activities and Events

Name of activity	Location of activity	Date(s)/duration	Attendance	Income (Y/N)	Income supports	Issues (internal and external) affecting the activity	#of volunteers
<i>EXAMPLE: Hartslog Days</i>	<i>Alexandria, Main Street</i>	<i>2nd Sat. in October</i>	<i>10,000</i>	<i>Yes; booth fees</i>	<i>Hartslog Museum</i>	<i>weather</i>	<i>30</i>

Attach additional pages if necessary

Does your organization collaborate with other organizations, businesses, local governments, etc. Please elaborate.

Please elaborate on the following. If you prefer, use a Strength/Weakness, Opportunities/Threats analysis. *Use additional pages if necessary*

What do you see as your greatest assets and opportunities?

What are your greatest concerns and needs?

What do you value most about your work and mission?

Technology*:

*Note: This section refers to all kinds of technology, including but not limited to websites; e-mail communications, data collection; inventories; sales and events involving monetary exchanges; hardware and software needs;

Please check all that are applicable to your organization:

- ☐ We have a static website
- ☐ We have a website that requires updating
- ☐ We publish an e-newsletter
- ☐ We provide e-mail invitations and updates to our members and supporters
- ☐ We have an electronic data base of (for example; inventory)_____
- ☐ We have a facebook page
- ☐ We twitter
- ☐ We have staff or designated volunteer dealing with technology
- ☐ We utilize online resources
- ☐ We utilize cloud computing

Please rate the following statements on a scale of 1 to 5 (please check)

	1 (strongly disagree)	2 (disagree)	3(neutral)	4(agree)	5 (agree strongly)
I feel comfortable with technology					
We need all the help we can get					
Technology offers new opportunities to our organization					
We don't need technology					
Maintaining technology is overwhelming					
We reach our membership effectively by way of technology					
We cannot afford the technology we would like					

Other issues pertaining to technology:

Promotion:

This section addresses your promotional strategies in addition to the above identified internet-based technology. Please check all that apply.

- We publish and mail a newsletter ; if so, how often_____
- We have a brochure with general information about our organization
- We design our own posters and flyers and other print materials
- We hire a professional designer for print materials; if so, which ones _____
- We write and submit our own news releases
- We pay for advertising for our events
- We get sponsors for advertising
- We raise money through advertising
- We utilize radio and/or TV advertising
- We engage in outreach opportunities; what kind (for ex.; at local events)_____

Please rate the following challenges your organization may be facing, from 1 – 5; 1 = our most urgent concern to 5 = not a significant concern

_____ Volunteers (circle all that apply: not have enough volunteers; volunteers are aging; lack volunteers with specific competencies; other)

_____ Money (we are financially stressed; without additional resources we cannot operate)

_____ Facilities (circle all that apply: our facilities need urgent care; we need more space; we cannot afford our facilities; other)

_____ Community Interest (there's little local support for our activities and organization)

_____ Internal/organizational issues

WISHFUL THINKING:

If time, money and other issues were of no significance, what one thing would you like to do, implement or see done to improve your organization and/or service.

Note: *The following interview is an example of recording cultural traditions. In this case, the interview is with 'outside experts' who provide their perspective and comparison as it relates to their experience of folk music in Huntingdon County. The questions and answers relate to more than just music, but include observations on social activities and meeting places. Ideally this interview would include a recording of the music gatherings and tunes mentioned in the interview.*

Interview with Folk Musicians Linda Littleton and Karen Hirshon, December 8, 2014

Folk musicians Linda Littleton and Karen Hirshon of the State College based folk music group Simple Gifts have had a longtime professional interest in traditional Pennsylvania music. The opportunity to explore Pennsylvania musical traditions further presented itself in form of a collaboration with the Huntingdon County Arts Council funded by grants from PA Performing Arts on Tour. In an almost ten year partnership, Simple Gifts and the Arts Council established two folk music programs in Huntingdon County, Folk College and the Greenwood Furnace Folk Gathering with additional community activities that sought out old-time musicians in the community. As part of the Greenwood Furnace Folk Gathering, an annual Heritage Music Award has been established which honors the lifetime musical contributions to the community by the identified musician.

In a 2014 interview, the musicians who are classically trained, familiar with folk traditions and educated in American history and anthropology, shared their experience in Huntingdon County public, private and semi-private music settings.

1. How did you get interested in exploring local music and seeking out local music gatherings?

Karen H.: I learned from an old-time fiddler in Iowa and experienced folk music through an old-time tune collector, so I have been reared (musically) in this tradition. And because I was in school when the Foxfire Books were published and met Sam Bayard, I recognized the opportunity as well as the urgency to explore the music of Central Pennsylvania.

Linda L.: I was so impressed by the excellent West Virginia efforts to preserve musical heritage, that I asked myself, what is Pennsylvania Music?

2. What did you expect/hope to find/learn?

Linda L.: Naturally we hoped to discover a unique repertoire, and actually ended up with two tunes informally recorded by Albert Steinbeiser whose sons Leo, Skip and Cletus now play at the Hootenanny and the Hoedown (Tyrone). The Steinbeiser family had three family recordings that feature their father, and we were able to transcribe several of the tunes from these recordings. We called them the "Steinbeiser Jig" and "Steinbeiser Waltz".

3. Where/how did you engage in music in Huntingdon County? How important is a personal introduction or connection?

Karen H.: Before we became involved with the Hootenanny, we just sought out other musicians or were introduced to them through the work with the Arts Council. You have to be very patient and sensitive, you can't rush this. And you have to respect both the musicians and their audience.

4. How is music played?

Linda L.: The majority of musicians we've met at these gatherings sing and play guitar, usually acoustic guitar but on occasion we've seen electric guitar as well. There is usually one bass player, and it's electric rather than upright bass. People at the gatherings we've attended sing mostly country music, though it's classic country rather than modern country. Drums are generally not used, although we have encountered a snare drum at one gathering. We have seen more harmonicas here than elsewhere, and banjos are usually bluegrass style.

5. How are music gatherings structured? Does everyone there know the music and are they familiar with the terminology?

Karen H.: The musicians take turns leading a song, and others in the group play along. The musician whose turn it is starts by telling the group the key the song is in, and others follow either by observation or from memory. Generally there is a kind of musical formula. Because people are familiar with the genre, they are able to play along, even if they don't know the particular song. The 'band sound', as in playing well together is really important. A sound system is used, but because there are generally more musicians than mics, not everyone is mic'd. However the person leading the song will always use a mic, and the musicians who play instrumental leads will be mic'd as well.

Linda L.: There is a unique 'back room' phenomenon, or in another setting it's the kitchen, where musicians relax, chat, and sometimes work out arrangements. Generally the event organizer determines a rotation of who leads a song when, and the person leading the song determines when instrumental breaks are played. There is an unspoken etiquette that songs do not get repeated and certain songs 'belong' to certain musicians.

6. Do local musicians play primarily by ear or read music? From whom have they learned?

Karen H.: There is almost no sheet music, except for sometimes the lyrics. We suspect that some of the musicians read music but the most common way of learning songs is by ear either from other musicians or from recordings. Many of the participants say they've been around the music as long as they can remember, and that they learned from family members.

Linda L.: People have learned the music at church also, and often they include hymns in their performances.

7. *In your estimation, is 'local' music rooted in any particular (ethnic) tradition, or church?*

Karen H.: I'd say in classic country music, white gospel and old time tunes. Ethnically it's Anglo-Saxon, protestant.

8. *Are the local musicians aware of their musical heritage? Where it comes from (geographically, family)?*

Karen H.: Yes, if you ask them. They know from whom they learned and with whom and where they played growing up.

9. *How can traditional music be perpetuated, or in the least recorded for posterity?*

Linda L.: We have transcribed the unique tunes we've found and made them available to attendees at Folk College and the Greenwood Furnace Folk Gathering. Through this avenue, we've been able to share music that is now being played by musicians hundreds of miles away. Transcribing the sort of music these groups play could be handled by a first or second year college level music student, though recording is important too.

Karen H.: Recording the music should be a priority. When it's gone it's gone.

10. *Is the music static or is it changing over time? What influences the music/changes it?*

Karen H.: It's definitely not static but affected by commercialism and technology. We have experienced musicians pulling up YouTube videos for instruction. We need to stand back and record before this music is gone or has been altered too much.

11. *Are local musicians fearful that their music will disappear?*

Linda L.: In a way I think there's an awareness or sense that younger generations are not interested. They really welcome youngsters who want to participate and learn.

12. *Is recognition as in the heritage music event at Greenwood important? How so? Are there other ways of recognizing musicians?*

Karen H.: We are amazed by how important the Heritage Award is to some of these musicians as a form of self-definition. We've heard of one in particular who took his award to the hospital along with family photos.

Linda L.: It's important to recognize and honor people who have been musical leaders in the community, to thank them for what they've done, and to call attention to the importance of their contributions.

13. *How important are opportunities to perform? How important are the venues or audience?*

Linda L.: Performing is key and if a venue was not available, they'd look for another.

Karen H.: The venue would probably have to be free of charge.

14. *As 'outsiders' how are you received? Is it difficult to be accepted in these musical communities?*

Karen H.: As fiddlers, we have received a great welcome; we're the "Fiddle Girls". In general though, you have to be cautious or better, respectful, or your welcome wears out immediately.

15. *Is the traditional music of Huntingdon County different from surrounding or other communities in PA or the mid-Atlantic region?*

Karen H.: The music is pretty much the same although we have noticed more women participating here than in other places.

Linda L.: Every event has its own 'flavor' or feel to it since each group evolves independently as they play together.

Helpful Resources

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has a wealth of information available online. The website is: **www.phmc.state.pa.us**

Particularly relating to the topics of this Heritage Plan the following sites provide key information:

Cemeteries -

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/cemetery_recording_and_preservation/1875

Agricultural History -

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/pennsylvania_agricultural_history/2584 (This includes the agricultural context that was prepared for the Central Valleys Region and digitized agricultural census data for Huntingdon County from 1850, 1880, and 1927.)

Oral History -

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/oral_history/4351

Links to these three online resources can be found by clicking on “History” on the PHMC website sidebar menu:

<http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/history/1592>.

The History webpage also has links to online information covering a variety of statewide topics that we posted over the years:

- Archaeology
- Architectural Field Guide
- Historic Bridges
- Education and Schools
- Religious and Spiritual Diversity
- Railroads
- Postwar Suburban Development

<http://explorepahistory.com/> provides a particularly good general reference for a number of key themes in Pennsylvania’s history.

General information, guidance, and resources for historical organizations, museums, and historic property owners can be found on some national websites as well:

- American Association for State and Local History (AASLH): <http://www.aaslh.org/>
- American Alliance of Museums (AAM): <http://www.aam-us.org/>
- Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS): <http://www.imls.gov/>
- National Park Service (information on preserving historic buildings): <http://www.nps.gov/tps/education.htm>
- National Trust for Historic Preservation: <http://www.preservationnation.org/>
- National Alliance of Preservation Commissions: <http://napcommissions.org/>

Finally, there is a good publication entitled *Standards and Practices for Historic Site Administration* available from the Tri-State Coalition of Historic Places, a Philadelphia-area association. For more information, see their website at <http://www.tristatehistory.org/resources>.

The Texas Historical Commission has an excellent guide on Cemetery care available at:

<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/public/upload/publications/preserving-historic-cemeteries-2011.pdf>

The Museums of Victoria, Australia have published a guide for small museums on cataloging their collections. It is available at:

http://www.mavic.asn.au/assets/Small_Museums_Cataloguing_Manual_4th.pdf

Printed by: **Huntingdon Offset Printing**

1431 Oneida Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652

(814) 641-7310

www.huntingdonoffsetprinting.com