



BUTLER COUNTY, PA

Museums, Historical Societies
& Historic Sites

Experience History



in Butler County, Pa.
"Just North of Pittsburgh"



Butler County
Create Your Experience!

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Dig into the past in Butler County, Pa.

Our small towns are packed with some big history! Did you know that the first U.S. President, George Washington, set foot here? Or that Butler is the birthplace of the “jeep?” Learn about these and much more through our museums and historic sites.

And it won’t boring! Experience history first-hand through historic reenactments and encampments. Discover what class was like in a one room schoolhouse. Celebrate German heritage through special dinners and festivals. Experience life on the 18th century frontier.

If you’re looking for an overview, visit the numbered sites. Additional sites of interest are complimentary, if you want to dig a bit deeper. The state historical markers will give you even more info along the way.

This key will give you an idea of what to expect at each location:

- H** = Historical Marker
- P** = Public Space
- M** = Museum
- X** = Private Property
- O** = Outdoor Site

Butler County

Dedicated: Friday, June 11, 1982
 Marker Type: City
 Categories: George Washington, Government & Politics, Government & Politics 19th Century, Religion
 GPS Coordinates: LNG: -79.89545, LAT: 40.85857
 Location: County Courthouse, Main St. (Pa. 8), Butler

Marker Text: Formed March 12, 1800, from Allegheny County. Named for Gen. Richard Butler, Revolutionary officer. A young George Washington had crossed this area, 1753. County seat was established at Butler in 1803, and the county was home of the Harmony Society, 1804-15.

General Richard Butler

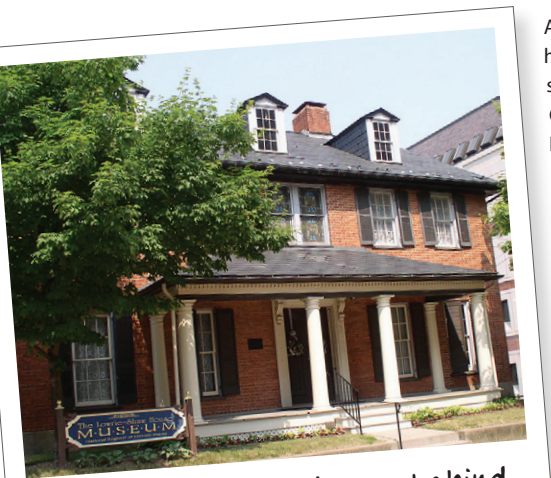
Dedicated: Tuesday, May 1, 1917
 Marker Type: Plaque
 Categories: American Revolution, Ethnic & Immigration, Military
 GPS Coordinates: LNG: -79.89545, LAT: 40.85857
 Location: County Courthouse, Butler

Marker Text: In memory of General Richard Butler. Born in Ireland. One of five brothers, soldiers distinguished for bravery and devoted service. Captain 2nd Pennsylvania Battalion 1776, Colonel 9th Pennsylvania Regiment 1777, Major General United States Levies 1791.

Butler County Historical Society (1)

123 West Diamond Street, Butler, PA 16001, 724-283-8116

www.butlerhistory.com



Lowrie/Shaw House behind the courthouse

As the official historical society of Butler County, the BCHS collects, preserves, and interprets Butler County's historic documents, artifacts, and sites for the educational benefit of the public. The Society preserves and presents

the largest local collection of historical county records, photographs, and artifacts, hosts special events, and maintains a large selection of publications for sale covering all aspects of Butler County's history. This is a great place to visit to discover more about Butler County's rich heritage.

- **A) Lowrie/Shaw House:** Located directly behind the Courthouse. Built in 1828 by Butler's only United States Senator, Walter Lowrie, as the family's summer home. This historic house museum is on the National Register of Historic Places and houses the offices of the BCHS and its reference library. Office open Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 - 4:00. Check our website or call for parking and tour information. Professional researcher/genealogist on staff. **M**
- **B) Little Red School House:** 200 East Jefferson Street. Built in 1838 as Butler's first public school, this living history museum transports visitors back to the time of the early one-room school house. This museum is part of Butler's Historic District. Open to school groups and tours by appointment. Also open during Butler's Cruise-a-Palooza and Fall Festival. **M**
- **C) Cooper Cabin Pioneer Homestead:** 199 Cooper Road, Cabot. Built in the early 1800s, this original county homestead was inhabited by Cooper family descendents until 1961. Nancy Cooper was born and lived in the cabin for one hundred years, from 1861 to 1961. The cabin's furnishings depict the 19th century pioneer lifestyle. The grounds include a spring-house, tool shed, and spinning house. Visit our website for seasonal schedule or call to schedule group tours.

Additional Historic Sites of Interest

Butler County Courthouse: On the National Register of Historic Places, the county's third courthouse, S. Main at W. Diamond Sts., was designed by James P. Bailey, built 1885-86. Entrance now is through adjacent Government Center, 124 W. Diamond, built 1991. Main St. marker commemorates county's 1800 founding, Gen. Richard Butler for which county was named, George Washington's 1753 mission to region, Harmony Society. Marker at Main St. doors memorializes Gen. Butler (1743-91), soldier, Indian commissioner, judge, legislator, killed by Indians at "St. Clair's Defeat." Exhibits, murals in 2nd floor Kiester Commons and rotunda. **P, H**

Butler Eagle: 114 W. Diamond St., county's only daily newspaper, founded 1869 as weekly, went daily 1902, merged following year with Butler County Observer of Butler attorney and Harmony Mennonites descendant Levi Wise, who took control; Wise family remains owner. Present headquarters built 1924, production center at 514 W. Wayne St. opened 2003. Tours by appointment. 724-282-1859. **X**

Diamond Park: Main St. opposite Courthouse. Silent Defender monument memorialized Civil War veterans, rededicated to all war veterans. Others recognize veterans of World War II, Korean and Vietnam conflicts; fountain symbolizes American way of life preserved by veterans' sacrifices. Marker commemorates military jeep's birthplace. **P, H**

Butler Historic District: Butler County was established in 1800 and land for the county seat was donated by the Cunningham brothers. In 1803 the town's first lots were laid out and sold by auction, and the first log houses built. Two centuries later, several blocks of business, residential and religious properties in Butler's central corridor are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. **P**

Historic Lafayette Apartments: SE corner S. Main and W. Diamond Sts., on National Register of Historic Places, built in 1903 as Butler County National Bank, later housed county offices. Diamond St. entrance plaque commemorates Mechling's Inn, which hosted Marquis de Lafayette in 1825. Closed to public. **X**



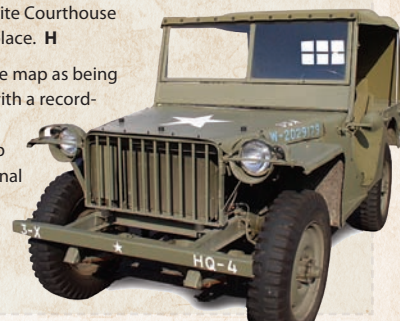
Invention of the Jeep

Dedicated: Sunday, October 17, 1993
 Marker Type: Roadside
 Categories: Business & Industry, Military, Military Post-Civil War, Transportation
 GPS : LNG: -79.9116, LAT: 40.85713
 Location: Hansen Ave. in Butler

Marker Text: *In September 1940 a team headed by Karl Probst delivered to the U.S. Army a prototype for the World War II jeep. This small, four-wheel drive vehicle was produced by the American Bantam Car Co., located one block east. Here, Bantam manufactured 2,675 jeeps. Although larger companies ultimately received the chief wartime orders, it was Bantam—in cooperation with the Army—that originally created the jeep.*

Butler-Made Autos: Russell-Sherman built in 1902. Husetlon Automobile Co. made Husetlons and the Butler truck 1911-15 at N. Washington St. carriage house. Standard Motor Car Co. unit of Standard Steel Car Co. made Standard Eight at Hansen Ave. plant 1914-1923. American Austin built Austins there 1930-1935. American Bantam made Bantams in same plant 1937-40, designed and built first military "jeep" but lost production in 1941 to Willys-Overland and Ford, made trailers until 1956 closing. Markers on Hansen Ave. at Renaissance Dr. and in Diamond Park opposite Courthouse commemorate jeep's birthplace. **H**

In 2011, we put Butler on the map as being the birthplace of the Jeep with a record-breaking Jeep parade and the first annual Bantam Jeep Heritage Festival. Two original Bantams have been preserved by the Butler County Historical Society.





Maridon Museum (2)

322 North McKean Street, Butler, PA 16001, 724-282-0123
www.maridon.org

The Maridon Museum in Butler is the only museum in the western Pennsylvania region with a specific focus on Chinese and Japanese art and culture. The extensive world-class collection features Asian art spanning the 3rd millennium B.C. to the 20th century, including jade and ivory sculptures, as well as an impressive gallery of German Meissen porcelain. This is one Butler County attraction you won't want to miss! Be sure to check the schedule for upcoming special events. **M**



view intricately carved ivory and more



Additional Sites

Pullman Park: Baseball complex established 1934, Pillow St. behind Pullman Square off Hansen Ave., former home of Cleveland Indians, New York Yankees and Detroit Tigers farm teams, hosted Negro League teams 1940s-50s. Joe DiMaggio, Whitey Ford, Lou Gehrig among greats who played there. Now used by school, college, community teams and home of Butler Blue Sox. **P**

Pennsylvania State Police: Lobby exhibits at Troop D headquarters, 200 Barracks Rd., north off New Castle Rd. (Pa. 68 & 356) west of Butler, include historical photos,

artifacts, models, ground and air vehicles, uniforms and patches. Daytime only. 724-284-8100. **P**

Pullman-Standard Co.: John Hansen, "Diamond Jim" Brady, others founded Standard Steel Car in 1902 with Hansen Ave. freight car plant; later added baggage and passenger cars, had automobile subsidiary 1914-1923. Once world's largest freight car plant also made WWI-WWII munitions. Merged in 1930 with Pullman, acquired by Wheelabrator-Frye 1980, closed 1982. Headquarters building survives, much of site now shopping center-business park. **O**

AK Steel Butler Works: 1,300-acre complex south of Butler, west side Pa. 8, began in 1908 as Forged

Downtown Butler



Steel Wheel railroad wheel plant, became Columbia Steel Co. in early 1920s, was bought in 1927 by American Rolling Mill Co. (ARMCO) and developed as specialty steels facility. Many expansions later, it makes flat-rolled carbon, stainless and electrical steels, and pipe and tubular products. ARMCO purchased by AK Steel in 1999. Not open to public. **X**

Butler County Airport/Scholter Field:

Airport Rd. west of Pa. 8, 6 miles south of Butler, opened 1929, named for Kenneth W. Scholter who managed then-private Pittsburgh-Butler Airport, operated aircraft repair service, taught pilots. Preparing for 1932 solo flight across Atlantic, Amelia Earhart took instrument training, had fuel tanks installed in Lockheed Vega here. Clarence G. Taylor, whose Lock Haven aircraft firm was taken over by partner William Piper, built prototype Taylorcraft plane here 1936. Monument east end of field and Cobra helicopter at restaurant honor war veterans. Public access to field restricted. **P**

Rev. Richard C. Christy

Dedicated: 2004
Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Civil War, Religion
Location: At church, 455 Clearfield Road, Fenelton

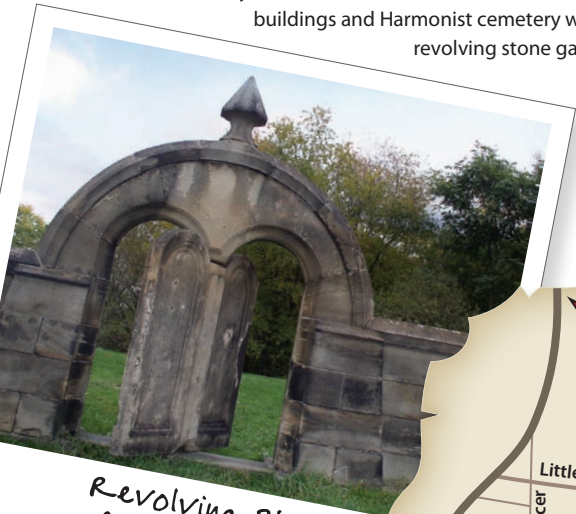
Marker Text: Chaplain, 78th Regiment, Pa. Volunteers, 1861-64. He was credited as Pennsylvania's first Catholic Civil War chaplain and the only one serving a chiefly non-Catholic regiment. Despite the anti-Catholic prejudice of the era, he gained a reputation for bravery and was known as the "Fighting Chaplain of the Army of the Cumberland." Father Christy had been the first permanent pastor of this church. Hundreds of veterans attended his funeral in 1878.

Harmony, Zelienople & Evans City

Harmony National Historic Landmark District (3)

724-452-7341

Harmony National Historic Landmark District: Pa. 68 east of U.S. 19, west of I-79 exits 87-88, among Western Pennsylvania's most important historic places and its first National Landmark District. Site of Delaware Indian village, Murdering Town, visited by George Washington on 1753 mission sparking French & Indian War. Town founded 1804 by Harmony Society of German Lutheran Separatists, 19th century America's most successful communal group, area resettled 1815 by Mennonites. District includes more than 50 buildings and Harmonist cemetery with huge revolving stone gate.



Revolving Stone Cemetery Gate



Harmony

Dedicated: Friday, October 3, 1947
Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Religion
GPS Coordinates: LNG: -80.12785, LAT: 40.80267
Location: Main St. at Mercer St. in Harmony

Marker Text: First home of Harmony Society, founded 1804, by George Rapp and German followers. In 1814 moved to New Harmony, Indiana, and settled at Economy in present Ambridge, Beaver County, in 1825.

Harmonist Cemetery

Dedicated: Friday, October 3, 1947
Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Religion
GPS Coordinates: LNG: -80.1237, LAT: 40.80177
Location: Pa. 68 west of I-79

Marker Text: Burial place of Harmonist Society, 1805-15. Graves were not marked. The stone wall was built in 1869, after the Harmonists had returned from Indiana and settled at "Old Economy," in Beaver County.

Additional Harmony Sites:

Harmonist-Ziegler-Wise Barn: 303 Mercer Rd. near Vineyard Hill, region's oldest barn built in 1805 to shelter Harmony Society's sheep, modified ca. 1850 by David Ziegler, son of Harmony's "second founder" later was part of extensive Wise farm. **M**

Harmony Society Cemetery: Pa. 68 west of I-79 exit 87 at Edmond St., part of Harmony National Historic Landmark District where commune members were buried 1805-1814. Stone wall with one-ton revolving stone gate built 1869, markers interpret the site. **H**

Mennonite Meetinghouse & Cemetery: 114 Wise Rd. between U.S. 19 and Mercer Rd., ½ mile north of Harmony. Cemetery established 1815, meetinghouse built 1825, closed 1902. The oldest Mennonite church west of Alleghenies is open on special occasions or by appointment. Markers at site and at U.S. 19 describe 19th century Mennonite community. 724-452-7341. **M, O, H**

Mercer St. Log House: Early 19th century structure relocated across town to 245 Mercer St. in 1998 to assure its preservation. Open on special occasions. **M**

Vineyard Hill/Rapp's Seat: Overlooks Connoquenessing Creek and Mercer St. bridge, site of communal Harmony Society's sandstone quarry, vineyard, music pavilion. Leader George Rapp meditated on seat carved in rock near hilltop. The site is partially accessible from Evergreen Mill Rd. by difficult trail, marker interprets site. **O, H**

Wagner House: 222 Mercer St., duplex housed families of two Harmonist sisters, houses exhibits and Museum Shop. Bake oven, herb garden, grape arbor, mill stones in yard. **M**

Ziegler Log House: 546 Main St., built mid-19th century at nearby Middle Lancaster by Andrew Ziegler whose parents were daughter and son-in-law of Harmony's "second founder" Abraham L. Ziegler. Relocated in 1976 as Harmony Museum annex where youngsters learn pioneer crafts. **M**

Harmony Mennonites

Dedicated: Friday, October 3, 1947
Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Religion
GPS Coordinates: LNG: -80.12942, LAT: 40.80927
Location: U.S. 19 N of Zelienople

Marker Text: Church organized 1816 by Abraham Ziegler, purchaser of the Harmonist property. The Rev. John Boyer was the first pastor. Present stone church built 1825.

Cemetery established 1815, meetinghouse closed 1902. The oldest Mennonite church west of Alleghenies. Open on special occasions or by appointment. 724-452-7341. **M, O**

Additional Sites

Bassenheim Furnace: Old Furnace Rd. at Route 288, 2 miles west of Zelienople, markers at ruin describe one of region's first iron furnaces, built in 1813 by Zelienople founder Dettmar Basse; a foundry made household and other iron goods. **H**

Grace Church of Harmony: On diamond; county's oldest church in continuous use. Was 1809-1814 Harmony Society church, then served Mennonites. Was purchased in 1826 by German Evangelical & Reformed church, which evolved to present independent congregation. Sanctuary fronting Main St. built 1929. Tours by appointment. 724-452-7270. **X**

Harmony Borough Building: 217 Mercer St. at Liberty St., was Harmony Public School 1882-1957, now houses borough offices and was also Post Office until 2009. Facade restored late 20th century. **P**

Minetta Spring: South side Pa. 68, 1 mile west of Evans City, built in 1931 at natural spring by Harry Ethridge, general superintendent of interurban railway in memory of his mother, Monetta Walsh. Closed 1958 because of contamination. **X**

Shantz School: Old Little Creek & Mercer Rds., 2 blocks north of Mercer St. bridge. One-room ca. 1900 schoolhouse was closed in 1931, adapted in 1999 as private home. **X**

Zelienople: Marker on west side U.S. 19 at north end of Main St. Bridge commemorates town's 1802 founding by German Dettmar Friedrich Basse, who bought 10,000 acres in Butler and Beaver counties. Town named for daughter Zelie, who with husband Philippe Passavant became lifelong resident although Basse returned to Europe in 1818. Basse sold land to Harmony Society which founded adjacent Harmony. **H**

Zelienople Historical Society (4)

724-452-9457

www.zelienoplehistorical
society.com

Zelienople Historical Society, founded in 1975 to preserve and share the history of the Zelienople area, operates two historical house museums and the Lester Mohr Library.

Year-round guided tours begin at 9:30 A.M. Monday-Friday; Saturday tours are offered seasonally. Office hours are 9:00-noon Monday-Friday at Passavant House.

- **Buhl House:** 221 S. Main St. The 1805 Buhl House is a museum for the Buhl family and for the town of Zelienople. Collections include artifacts related to Zelienople schools, commerce, and daily life, as well as items commemorating the Buhl family's beginnings in Zelienople and significance in history. The Buhl House also contains the Museum Shop. **M**

- **Passavant House:** 243 S. Main St. The 1808 Passavant House contains a large collection of items relating to the Passavant Family and its place in Zelienople's history. Collections include clothing, furnishings, household items, family portraits, and several thousand letters written by and to the Passavant family. The Lester Mohr Library and Society offices are located there. **M**



Historic Passavant House

Evans City Area Historical Society (6)

204C S. Jackson Street, Evans City, PA 16033

724-538-9846

www.evanscity
history.com

The Evans City Area Historical Society Museum contains artifacts and memorabilia of the area's oil boom and railroads. The museum also houses records on local families, education, cultural events and natural disasters. Open seasonally. **M**



Learn about oil heritage

Zelienople

Dedicated: Friday, October 3, 1947
Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Buildings, Cities & Towns
GPS Coordinates: LNG: -80.13795,
LAT: 40.8
Location: West side U.S. 19 at north
end of Main St.

Marker Text: Founded by Baron Dettmar Basse in 1802. Named for his daughter Zelie. On the hill overlooking the town, he built Bassenheim, a palatial wooden "castle," which burned in 1842.



Special program at the Plantation

Providence Plantation (7)

300 Textor Hill Road,
Evans City, PA 16033
724-538-8818

www.frontier-history.org

Providence Plantation features the Frontier History Center, which enables you to experience all five periods of our region's remarkable 18th century history. Through interaction with dramatic character interpreters, you participate in the experiences of people (Euroamerican,

Black and Indian) who first created American independence and democracy on the Ohio River Valley frontier. Come learn from the people who made America, what it means to be an American today! **P**



Additional Site

Evans City Cemetery:

1 mile

south of Pa. 68 on ridge above Franklin Rd., incorporated 1891, seen in "Night of the Living Dead," much of which was filmed in area. Monument honors veterans of Civil, Spanish-American Wars. **O**

Lancaster Township History Center (5)

Rt. 19 behind Sally's Cider Press,
Harmony, PA 16037, 724-368-8362

Run by the Lancaster Township Historical Records Committee, the History Center provides facts, photos, old items and plenty of information, as well as local genealogy to visitors interested in Lancaster Twp. Its goal is to research, restore and preserve the local history of early settlers' genealogy. Available

for sale are Lancaster Twp. souvenirs

as well as barn and one-room schoolhouse books. Open

Tuesday and Thursday 1-3 PM or by appointment. **M**



Threshing machine and Farmers in 1912

Washington's Trail, Prospect & Slippery Rock

Washington's Trail (8)

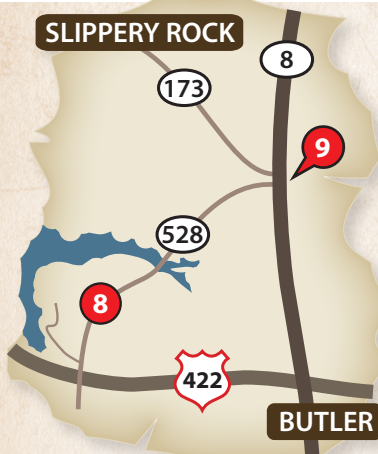
724-287-5238, www.washingtonstrail.com

Washington's Trail is a driving route through Western Pennsylvania. The route commemorates young George Washington's first military and diplomatic venture in the fall and winter of 1753-1754. The route traverses modern highways, primarily following major roads. However, there are alternate historic and scenic back roads in some areas, which follow Washington's actual route more closely. **O, H**

Butler County Tourism has created a special brochure about Washington's Trail. Call 866.856.8444 to request a free copy!



SLIPPERY ROCK



George Washington

Dedicated: Sunday, February 15, 1970

Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Forts, French & Indian War, George Washington, Military, Native American
Location: Pa. 68, 1.8 miles NE of Evans City

Marker Text: Returning to Virginia from his historic visit at Fort Le Boeuf, Washington used the adjacent Venango Indian Trail. In this locality, on Dec. 27, 1753, he narrowly escaped death, being shot at by an Indian less than fifteen paces from him.

George Edward Waddell

Dedicated: Saturday, July 26, 2003
Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Baseball, Sports
Location: Route 488, next to Fire Hall, Prospect

Marker Text: One of the greatest pitchers in baseball history. With the Philadelphia Athletics "Rube" Waddell led the American League in strikeouts 6 straight years, topping 20 wins in each of his first 4 years. During his career he won 193 games. He was known for his colorful & eccentric personality and was one of baseball's first true matinee idols. Born in Bradford, PA, and raised here in Prospect, Waddell was named to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1946.

Additional Sites

Biddle Boys & Mrs. Soffel:

Condemned killers Ed and Jack Biddle fled Pittsburgh's Allegheny County Jail on Jan. 31, 1902, aided by warden's wife, Kate Soffel. Lawmen caught trio in shoot-out 2 miles west of Mount Chestnut on Old 422 at high point between Cashdollar and Dick Rds., brothers died of wounds. Soffel recovered, after prison term portrayed herself in play; 1985 film "Mrs. Soffel: A True Story" was based on escapade. Marker planned. **O**

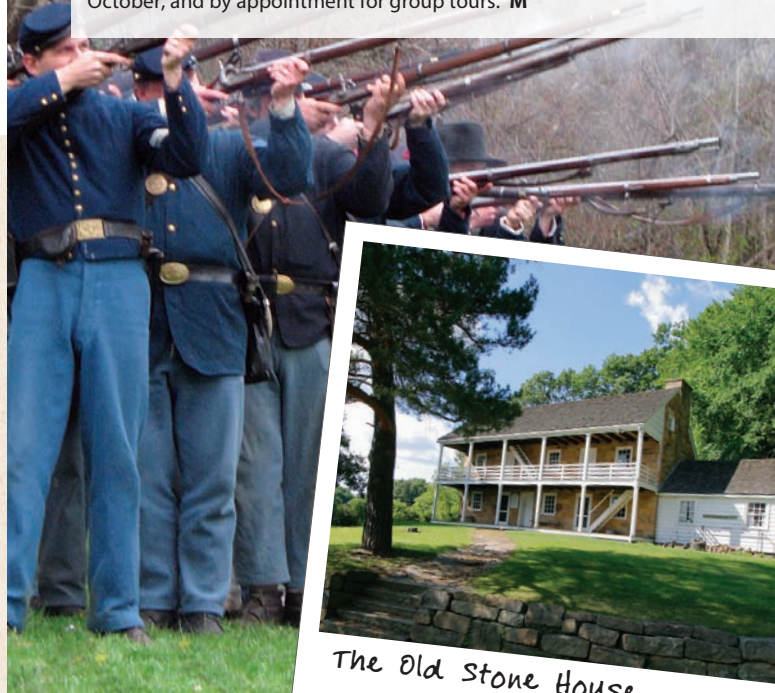
Prospect Area Preservation

Society Museum: Main (Pa. 488) and Lafayette Sts., exhibits relating to local history. Open on special occasions. 724-865-2181. **M**

Old Stone House (9)

2856 William Flynn Highway, Slippery Rock, PA 16057
724-738-2409, www.oldstonehousepa.org

The Old Stone House is a reconstructed 19th-century inn and stage-coach, operated as a museum by Slippery Rock University. Between 1822 and 1885, the Stone House offered weary travelers a meal and a bed, and little else! The inn was about as tame as the black bears, bandits and horse thieves that roamed in those days – a sign out front told travelers "No more than five to sleep in a bed" and "Organ grinders to sleep in the wash house." During its long history, the house also served as a local post office and was used as a muster point during the Civil War. The Old Stone House is furnished with authentic antique furniture and historical artifacts, as well as exhibits about local history. Free admission includes a guided tour. Open Saturdays, 10-5 and Sundays, 12-5 from May through October, and by appointment for group tours. **M**



The Old Stone House
graces Route 8

Old Stone House

Dedicated: 1968
Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Buildings, Business & Industry, Houses & Homesteads
Location: At site, Pa. 8 at junction Pa. 173, Stone House

Marker Text: A haven for lumbermen, drovers and travelers, this important landmark and once famous hostelry was built in 1822 at the crossroads of the old Venango Trail and Butler to Mercer Pike by John K. Brown of Oliver. The Marquis de Lafayette may have stopped here on June 1, 1825.

Old Stone House

Dedicated: 1968
Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Buildings, Business & Industry, Houses & Homesteads
Location: At site, Pa. 8 at junction Pa. 173, Stone House

Marker Text: Pioneer wayside inn. Built in 1822 and reconstructed in 1963.

Historical Groups

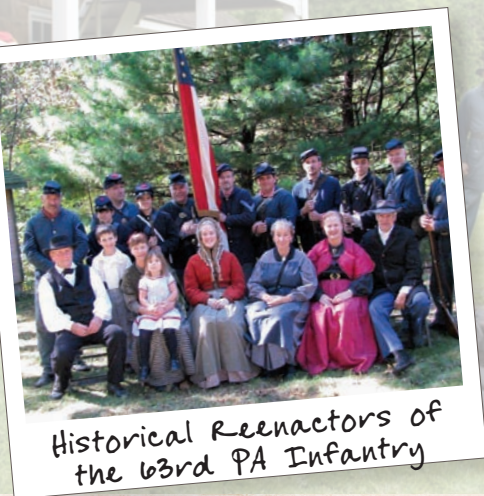
63rd Pennsylvania Infantry, Company C

724-774-5728, www.63rdpvi.com

The 63rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, Company C, is a Civil War living history organization. Its members participate in parades, battle reenactments, and "living history" encampments. The 63rd Infantry is dedicated to presenting the lives of the common Pennsylvania soldier and his experiences at war. All the uniforms and equipment used are exact reproductions of surviving originals. This is an organization where you can be immersed in history one weekend at a time.

The 63rd Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment was recruited from the various counties of Western Pennsylvania during the summer of 1861. In its three years of active service, the regiment participated in almost every battle in the eastern theater of war. Of the over one thousand men who left the region in 1861, less than one hundred remained at muster out.

If you or someone you know eats and sleeps the American Civil War, this just might be the organization for you. "Because books and movies are not enough, you just have to DO history for yourself."



Historical Reenactors of the 63rd PA Infantry

Additional Sites

Davis Cabin: In Moraine State Park on Glacier Ridge/North Country Trail near Davis Hollow Marina, built late 1700s of hewn logs and cut stone, was 20th century summer home of sisters Katherine Davis and Eleanor Holt. North Country Trail Assn. regional headquarters. **X**

Christian Frederick Post-King Beaver: Marker 2 miles west of Slippery Rock, south side Miller Rd. (extension of W. Water St.), about 200 feet west of Wolf Creek Bridge/Wolf

Creek Narrows Natural Area, commemorates 1758 treaty negotiated by Moravian missionary and colonial government emissary Post with King Beaver and other chiefs, withdrawing Delaware's allegiance to France during French & Indian War. **H**

Hickory Corner School: Ca. 1891 furnished one-room frame school, relocated in 1989 from Franklin Twp. to Slippery Rock University campus, moved again in 1998 to McKay Education Building at SRU's Maltby Ave. entrance opposite Main St. Post Office. Open on special occasions. **M**



1909 Huselton

Butler Old Stone House Region AACA

www.aacabosh.org

A non-profit antique automobile club dedicated to maintaining and preserving Butler-built cars, which include the Huselton, American Bantam Car Company (Jeep and Bantam) and

American Austin. See these cars on display at special events around the county.

Tri-State Hart-Parr Oliver Collectors

P.O. Box 353,
Zelienople, PA 16063,
724-865-9472
www.tri-stateoliver-club.com

We are a non-profit club available and free to the public with interest and/or those who seek knowledge in the preservation, repair, collection, and promoting of the agricultural farm machinery of the Hart-Parr Oliver Cooperation. We are a chapter under the National H.P.O.C.A. covering PA, OH, and WV. We attend and participate in local fairs, parades, antique machinery shows, and host related events. "Oliver The Finest in Farm Machinery"



Collectible Tractor

Jennings Environmental Education Center: Five miles north of Moraine State Park's Lake Arthur, 4 miles south of Slippery Rock, on Prospect Rd. (Pa. 528) at Pa. 8., includes remnants of grassland prairie from base of Wisconsin glacier of 24,000-14,000 years ago; trails, educational resources. 724-794-6011. **P**

Six Points School: South side Pa. 58 (Foxburg Rd.), 3 miles east of Eau Claire at McKees, Sandy Point, Slaters & Maple Furnace Rds. Restored, furnished 1875 one-room

frame school, closed 1948, owned by Allegheny Twp. Tours by appt. 724-791-2163. **M**

Wigton Massacre: Marker at entrance to Muddy Creek Cemetery, west side Pa. 8 north of Pa. 138 and Muddy Creek Presbyterian Church, 8 miles south of Slippery Rock and 8 miles north of Butler, memorializes James Wigton's wife and five children murdered nearby in 1843 by Seneca Indian Sam Mohawk, first person sentenced to death in Butler County. **H**

Saxonburg



Learn this quaint town's big history

Saxonburg Historical & Restoration Commission (10)

North Rebecca & Water Streets, Saxonburg, PA 16056
724-352-3024

Saxonburg Historical & Restoration Commission

operates Saxonburg Museum, Roebling Park and Cooper Hall. The museum exhibits include Roebblings, communications, blacksmith, general store, and laundry. Open seasonally or by appointment. The commission offers group or individual tours, weddings and wedding receptions, and an annual Festival of the Arts the weekend following Labor Day. **M**



Additional Sites

Cooper Cabin: 199 Cooper Rd., one mile east of Pape or Hannahstown Cemetery (Pa. 356 & Cooper Rd.), 1810 pioneer homestead and Winfield Twp.'s oldest house is museum of Butler County Historical Society, open seasonally. 724-283-8116. **M**

Influenza Epidemic of 1918: Marker at wooded site called Wooden Cross Cemetery, Sasse Rd. north of West Winfield, commemorates unmarked graves of many Eastern European immigrants. Employed at area mines and industries immigrants died in worldwide Spanish influenza pandemic that killed 550,000 in the U.S. alone. **H**

John Roebling House: 110 W. Main St., 19th century home of wire cable inventor and Brooklyn Bridge designer, birthplace of his son Washington, who completed bridge. Marker commemorates both. On National Register of Historic Places, owned by Saxonburg Memorial Presbyterian Church. **X, H**

John Roebling Workshop: Next to Saxonburg Museum in Roebling Park, Rebecca and Water Sts., 1840 shop where suspension bridge pioneer Roebling made first wire cable is on National Register of Historic Places. Open by appointment. 724-352-3024. **M**

Massey Harbison Trail: In 1792 Native Americans abducted 22-year-old Mrs. Harbison and infant from home near Freeport, killed two other sons; she escaped near present day Butler. Self-directed automotive tour begins at Saxonburg Area Library, 240 W. Main St., ends at Fox Chapel Yacht Club. Purchase guide book and audio tape at library. 724-352-4810. **O**

Saxonburg Historic District: Town named for German state of Saxony, founded 1832 by immigrants Karl F. and John A. Roebling, later the steel cable and suspension bridge pioneer. A sizeable model of the bridge can be found in Roebling Park in homage. Saxonburg's Main Street is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is lined with 1835-1880s buildings, with markers identifying 40 structures. A self-directed walking tour begins at Saxonburg Area Library, 240 W. Main St. 724-352-4810. **P**

The Roebblings

Dedicated: Monday, October 6, 1947
Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Bridges, Business & Industry, Invention, Professions & Vocations, Transportation
GPS Coordinates: LNG: -79.81798, LAT: 40.75503
Location: Butler Rd. (SR 2010) near High St., Saxonburg

Marker Text: John A. Roebling, inventor of steel wire rope and designer of the Brooklyn Bridge, began business at Saxonburg, founded by him in 1832. His son, Washington A. Roebling, who built the Brooklyn Bridge, was born here in 1837.

William A. Smith

Dedicated: Saturday, January 1, 1955
Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Business & Industry, Oil & Gas, Professions & Vocations
GPS Coordinates: LNG: -79.78732, LAT: 40.7684
Location: N Pike Rd. (PA 356) between Saxonburg and Marwood, 9 miles SE of Butler

Marker Text: Known as "Uncle Billy" Smith. In 1859, he drilled the world's first successful oil well with tools that he made in his blacksmith shop near Tarentum. The well, 69 1/2 ft. deep, was drilled near Titusville for Col. Edwin Drake. "Uncle Billy" died in 1890. He lies buried about 120 ft. southeast of marker.

Mars & Cranberry Township

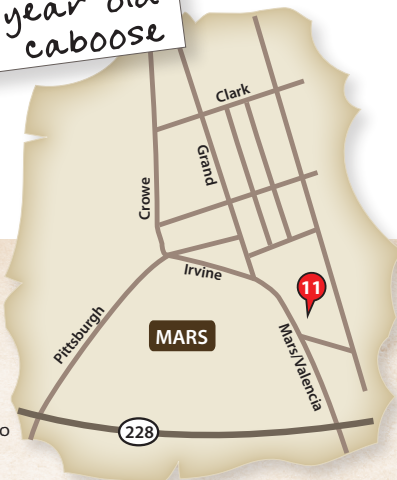
Mars Area History & Landmark Society, Inc. (11)

Behind 111 Brickyard Road, Mars, PA 16046, 724-816-7147
www.marshistory.org



Tour a 100+ year old caboose

Stop by to tour the remodeled train station, constructed in 1897; the circa 1906 red caboose; the Adams Station of the Butler Shortline Interurban Route and the gift shop. Get your own piece of Mars history! Visit by appointment. **M**



Additional Sites

Crider's Corner: Marker, west side of Dutilh Rd. north of Pa. 228, describes crossroads community at old Perry Hwy. and old Mars/Freedom Rd. that until late 1960s was area's business district named for landowner Jacob Crider. Was also station on interurban Pittsburgh, Harmony, Butler & New Castle Railway 1908-1931. **H**

James Glover Grave: 200 Union Church Rd. at Stoup Rd., 1 mile east of Mars-Evans City Rd. south of Gallery. Revolutionary War veteran and Butler County's first (1792) permanent white settler is buried in middle of 7th row of graves in cemetery behind Old Union Presbyterian Church. **O**

Johnston School: One-room brick schoolhouse, old Mars-Freedom Rd., north of and parallel to Pa. 228, behind Cranberry Commons Mall 1/2-mile east of I-79. **X**

Mars Flying Saucer: Town center triangle, Main St. & Grand Ave., popular object for photography. **O**

Ogle: Marker, east side U.S. 19 1/2-mile north of Pa. 228, describes township's 1850 first post office on old Perry Highway (Dutilh Rd.). Place name and post office relocated 1885 to marker site, post office closed 1902 with Rural Free Delivery introduction. **H**

Plains Presbyterian Church: Marker at church, east side Franklin Rd. 2 1/2 miles north of Pa. 228 near Plains Church Rd., identifies first Cranberry Twp. church, organized 1806 using tent, then log and later brick building, present structure built 1879. **H**

Cranberry Township Historical Society (12)

2525 Rochester Road, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066, 724-612-5730
www.explorecranberry.org

Founded in 1988, the Cranberry Township Historical Society offers free, periodic historical programs to the public. The society provides docents for the one-room Sample School, located next to the township building on Rochester Road. Special programs are presented yearly at the schoolhouse for third grade students in the township and the building is open throughout the summer for visitors. Come see what it was like to attend school 125 years ago. **M**



Each grade was held in the same room!



Venango Path

Dedicated: Saturday, February 18, 1995

Marker Type: Roadside
Categories: Forts, George Washington, Military, Native American, Paths & Trails, Roads, Transportation

GPS Coordinates: LNG: -80.07512, LAT: 40.6856

Location: Franklin Rd. at Mars Crider Rd. (Rt. 228), Cranberry Twp.

Marker Text: A major Indian path between the Forks of the Ohio (now Pittsburgh) and the Seneca town of Venango (now Franklin) passed through here. On Dec. 27, 1753, George Washington came this way with frontier scout Christopher Gist as they returned from Fort LeBoeuf on a mission for Virginia's Gov. Robert Dinwiddie. The Franklin Road, the first wagon road northward from Pittsburgh, was opened over this route in 1796.

Valencia Area Historical Society Museum:

Borough Building, 61 Almira St., artifacts and memorabilia of local history. Valencia Area Historical Society, open by appointment, 724-625-1195 or 724-898-1683. **M**

Valencia War Memorial:

Monument, Three Degree Rd. north of railroad crossing, honors World War I veterans. **O**



Welcome to Butler County!

You're invited to explore
our fabulous historical sites!

During your time spent here, we hope you'll get out and explore the 790 miles we call home. From rustic and rural, to festive and friendly, experiences await visitors of all types.

Museums, parks, art galleries, specialty shops, festivals, wineries, historic sites and golf courses can be found around every turn. The four seasons bring delightful changes, so you'll find something to fall in love with any time of the year. One of the best parts is – it's easy to get here! The Pennsylvania Turnpike, I-79, I-80 and Routes 422, 19 and 8 all run through the county. So stop reading and book a hotel, B&B or campground stay today!

Treasure the Experience!

Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau

310 East Grandview Ave.
Zelienople, PA 16063
866.856.8444

www.VisitButlerCounty.com

