



HISTORY

& HERITAGE TOURISM

GUIDE





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The David Bradford House

Do not be fooled by Washington, Pennsylvania's tranquil countryside. The area was once the focal point of political unrest.

In the late 18th century, Washington County Deputy Attorney General David Bradford led frontier farmers in protest of the high federal whiskey excise tax in what would become known as the Whiskey Rebellion. In response, President George Washington sent General "Light Horse Harry" Lee, along with 13,000 troops, to quell the insurrection.

Bradford's house, built in 1788, not only reflected its owner's high social standing but came to symbolize the rebellion. Today, the Bradford House's beauty and heritage are preserved as a museum for visitors to experience. Step back in time in this National Historic Landmark, Washington County's finest 18th century home.

Each year during the second weekend in July, the Whiskey Rebellion Festival is held to celebrate the heritage and unique character of the region by focusing on the historical significance of the Whiskey Rebellion. Community-focused entertainment and family activities create a festival that pays tribute to the past, celebrates the present and looks toward the future. whiskeyrebellionfestival.com



724.222.3604

bradfordhouse.org

Map **1**

Photo by Jim Zaccone Photography



The Duncan & Miller Glass Museum



Whether you are a collector, or perhaps just interested in exploring, the Duncan & Miller Glass Museum presents the unique opportunity to discover and enjoy an extensive collection of handmade glass dating from the mid 1860's to 1955.

The Museum is filled with striking displays: delicate hand-blown stemware; sizable pressed punchbowls; simple candlesticks and impressive candelabras; tiny salt dips and stately vases; Victorian patterns of the 1880's and the "modern" designs of the 1950's; and Duncan & Miller swans in all colors, shapes and sizes. Decorative bowls, console sets, sculptured glass, Victorian novelties, oil lamps, stemware, barware, pitchers and tumblers, and full table services are beautifully presented. Children and adults alike will enjoy a special interactive display titled: "It's OK to Touch the Glass."



724.225.9950

duncanmiller.net

Map **2**



The LeMoyne House



The LeMoyne House is Pennsylvania's first National Historic Landmark of the Underground Railroad. Named for Dr. Francis Julius LeMoyne, whose father built the home in 1812, the house provided a safe haven for slaves en route to the North – and their freedom – prior to the Civil War.

An inventor, physician, and prominent abolitionist, Dr. LeMoyne also built the first crematory in the Western Hemisphere, with the first cremation occurring in 1876.

Acting as the headquarters for the Washington County Historical Society, the LeMoyne House features artifacts telling the rich history of the region. The Historical Society also administers the Norma K. Grimes Research Library and the Washington County Frontier History Center.

724.225.6740

wchspa.org

Map **3**

McDonald Trail Station & History Center



The McDonald Trail Station & History Center is located near the center of McDonald, directly adjacent to the Panhandle Recreational Trail and just 3/4 of a mile from the Panhandle Trail's intersection with the Montour Recreational Trail. The facility, the only one of its kind along the 26-mile Panhandle Trail, serves as a Welcome Center for Panhandle Trail and Montour Trail users and serves as a venue for the preservation and display of McDonald's long and storied history. Volunteer greeters are available to provide visitors with information regarding McDonald and its business community, as well as a full line of brochures and other information pertinent to greater Washington County tourism opportunities.

The Trail Station History Center, using hundreds of vintage photographs and news articles, provides visitors with a comprehensive overview of the long history of the local area and the community. Historical topics include: initial settlement by John McDonald in 1775; the arrival and importance of the railroad; the "Great Oil Boom" of the 1890's; the extent and importance of the coal industry; nationally recognized natives; community cornerstones such as churches and hotels, the school system, the fire department, sports, newspapers, the McDonald & Oakdale Trolley, scenes from "Around Town" in the early & mid 1900's, and much more.

724.926.4617 mcdonaldtrailstation.com Map 4





Meadowcroft Rockshelter & Historic Village



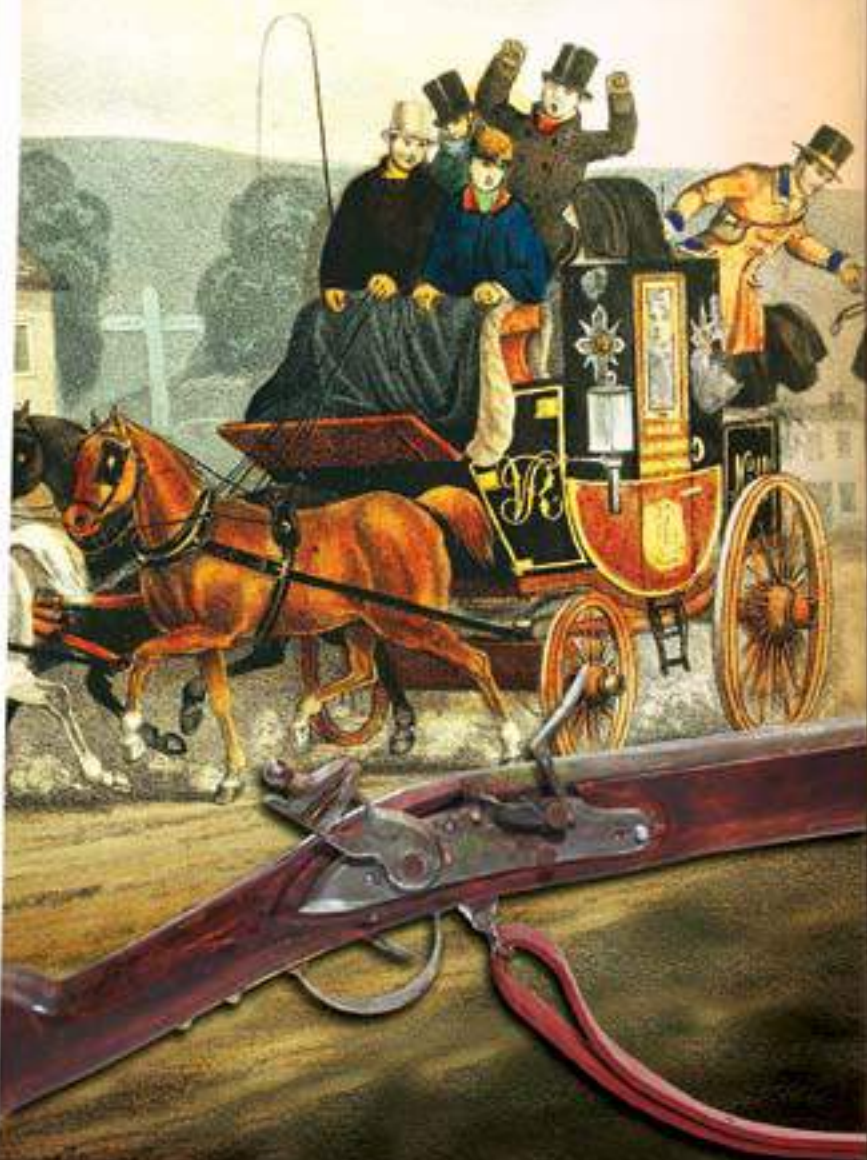
If not for the curiosity of a farmer six decades ago, Meadowcroft Rockshelter – the oldest site of human habitation in North America – might have never been discovered.

In 1955, Albert Miller stumbled upon a groundhog hole on his family's farm and uncovered a prehistoric flint knife. Decades later, research and excavation of the site yielded nearly two million artifacts and ecofacts, including ancient stone tools, pottery fragments and evidence of ice-aged fire pits. Testing concluded that the site was used by prehistoric hunters and gatherers 16,000 years ago.

Now a National Historic Landmark, Meadowcroft was named one of the “Five Great Places to See Evidence of First Americans” by the *Smithsonian* magazine. In addition to the archaeological site, visitors experience recreations of a 16th century Eastern Woodland Indian Village, an 18th century Frontier Trading Post and a 19th century rural village. 16,000 years of history in just one day!

724.587.3412 heinzhistorycenter.org/meadowcroft Map **5**





National Road



The first thoroughfare built entirely with Federal funds, the National Road, or Route 40 as it is commonly referred, began to take shape in 1811 in Cumberland, MD. Paralleling the military road forged by George Washington and General Edward Braddock in the mid 1700's, the 600-plus-mile highway traverses through Pennsylvania, which boasts 90 of those miles. After leaving Washington County, PA, the National Road travels through West Virginia, Ohio and Indiana, ending in Vandalia, Illinois.

The National Road was designed to accommodate travelers, for which stone and brick taverns lined its path. Some original structures still stand and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, while others have been reconstituted as private homes, restaurants and stores. Notable landmarks include the Madonna of the Trail in Beallsville, one of several statues along the route which commemorate pioneer mothers; the S-Bridge near Taylorstown; and many cast iron obelisk mile markers citing the distances between Cumberland, MD and Wheeling, WV. The National Road itself was designated a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark in 1976.

The annual National Road Festival is held the third weekend in May. It is known as the "world's longest festival" happening along 300 miles of Route 40 through Washington, Fayette and Somerset Counties. It is organized by volunteers from several communities along the historic corridor which includes an authentic wagon train making its way from town to town.

724.437.9877

nationalroadpa.org

Map **6**

Pennsylvania Trolley Museum

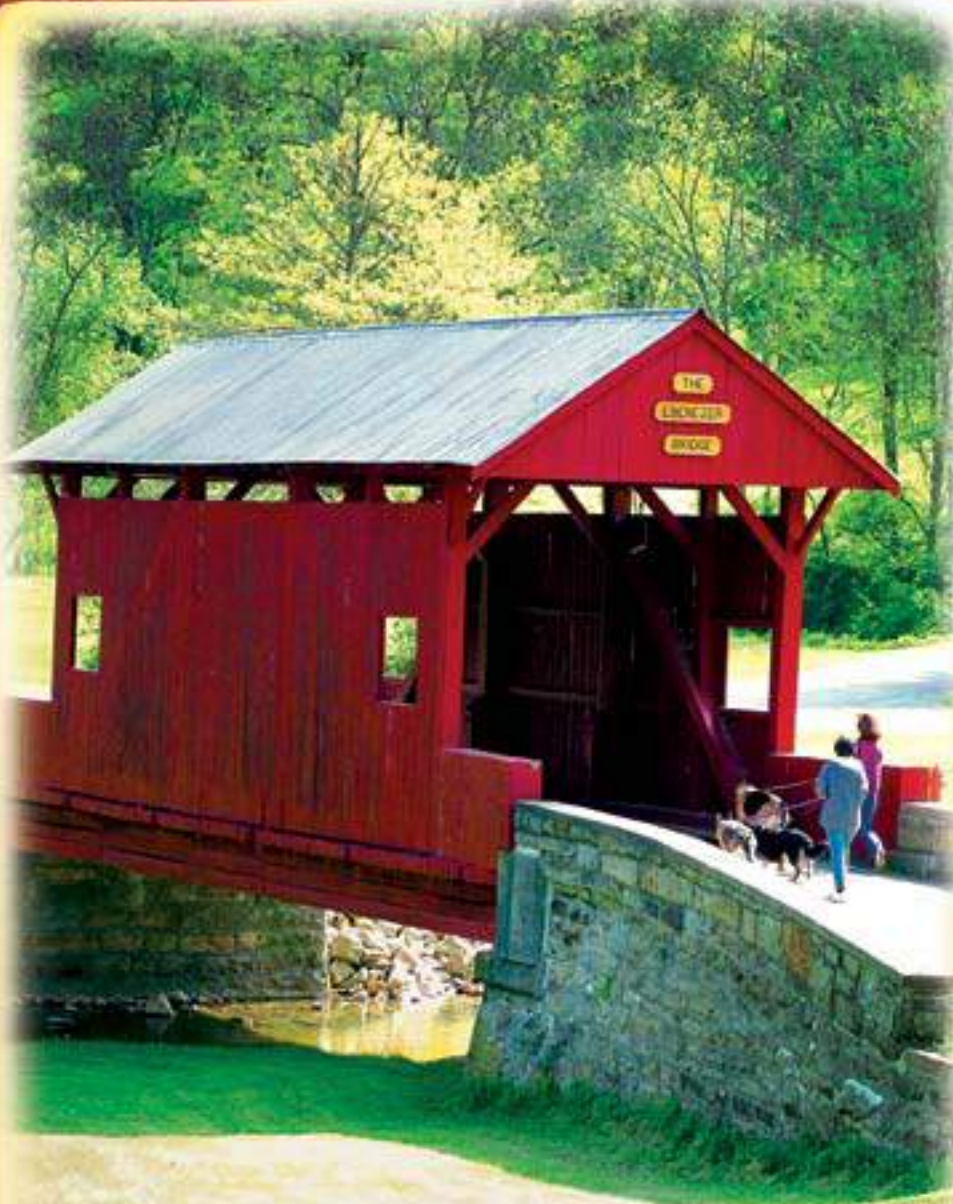


Take a ride into the past at the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum! Imagine a museum where visitors are actually encouraged to touch the exhibits and ride in them too! Visitors will experience a lot more than a trolley ride; the museum guides will put the trolley in its historical context and explain what life was like 50 - 100 years ago.

The Pennsylvania Trolley Museum was founded in 1953 and opened to the public in 1963. Its collection has grown to 50 historic trolleys including the original "Streetcar Named Desire" from New Orleans and a vintage 1911 open trolley from Rio de Janeiro. The museum is staffed by enthusiastic volunteers who enjoy sharing their knowledge of days gone by when the streetcar took you everywhere!

Admission includes a four-mile scenic trolley ride, exhibits, guided tours, theater, museum store and picnic area. Free parking is provided as well. Great for families and young and old alike!

724.228.9256 patrolley.org Map **7**



Covered Bridges



Pennsylvania boasts 211 covered bridges, and Washington County happens to be home to 23 of them. In fact, Washington County is ranked second among all counties in Pennsylvania for its number of covered bridges!

Originally, Washington County was known to have had 129 covered bridges; most primarily built between 1875 and 1889. All were painted red, taken from a formula derived from a natural insect-proof oxide in the local soil. The primary reason for covering the bridges was to protect the deck from the environment, though back in their heyday, covered bridges earned the nickname “kissin’ bridges” as they provided the perfect setting for a smitten suitor to steal a kiss from their unsuspecting object of affection. On June 22, 1979, all of the bridges in Washington County were listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

A Covered Bridge Driving Tour Book is available to those seeking specific directions, interesting statistics and fun facts on each bridge. While visitors may enjoy venturing out to view the beautiful countryside amidst each covered bridge anytime during the year, Washington and Greene Counties host a Covered Bridge Festival at several of the covered bridge sites during the third weekend in September each year. This event serves as a kick-off to the fall festival season with arts and crafts, homestyle food, live entertainment, children’s activities, demonstrations, reenactments and more.

724.225.3010

Visit WashingtonCountyPA.com

Map



Washington County Historical Associations

In addition to these great sites, we would also recommend these historic associations and other points of interest.

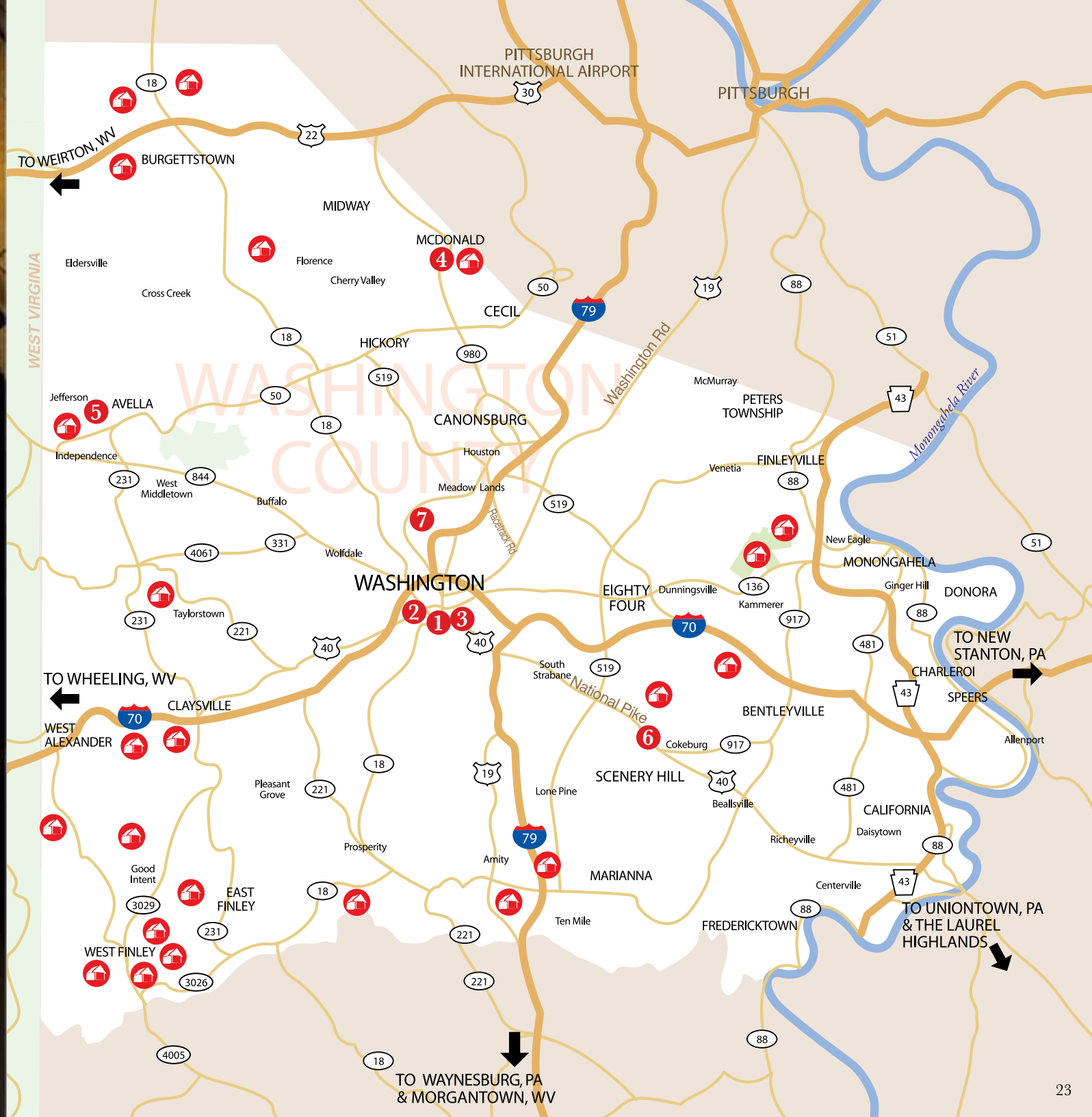
Visit heritageallianceswpa.com for the most current list and additional information.

A.D. White Research Society
 Amwell Township Historical Society
 Beallsville Children's Historical Society
 Bentleyville Area Historical Society
 California Area Historical Society
 California University of Pennsylvania - Library
 Cecil Township Historical Society
 Charleroi Area Historical Society
 Citizens Library
 Claysville Area Preservation & Revitalization Initiative
 Donora Historical Society & Smog Museum

Family History Center / LDS
 Fort Vance Historical Society
 Genealogical Society of Southwestern PA
 Jefferson College Historical Society
 Jefferson Township Historical Society
 McKeever Study Library
 Monongahela Area Historical Society
 Monongahela River Buffs Association
 Monongahela River, Railroad & Transportation Museum
 Morris Township Historical Society
 Mount Pleasant Township Historical Association
 National Pike Chapter of DAR
 National Pike Steam, Gas & Horse Association
 Peters Creek Historical Society /
 Wright House Museum of Western Expansion
 Washington & Jefferson College Library
 Washington County History & Landmarks Foundation



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-  Covered Bridges



Map not to scale



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