

Chapter 13

History

Washington Township

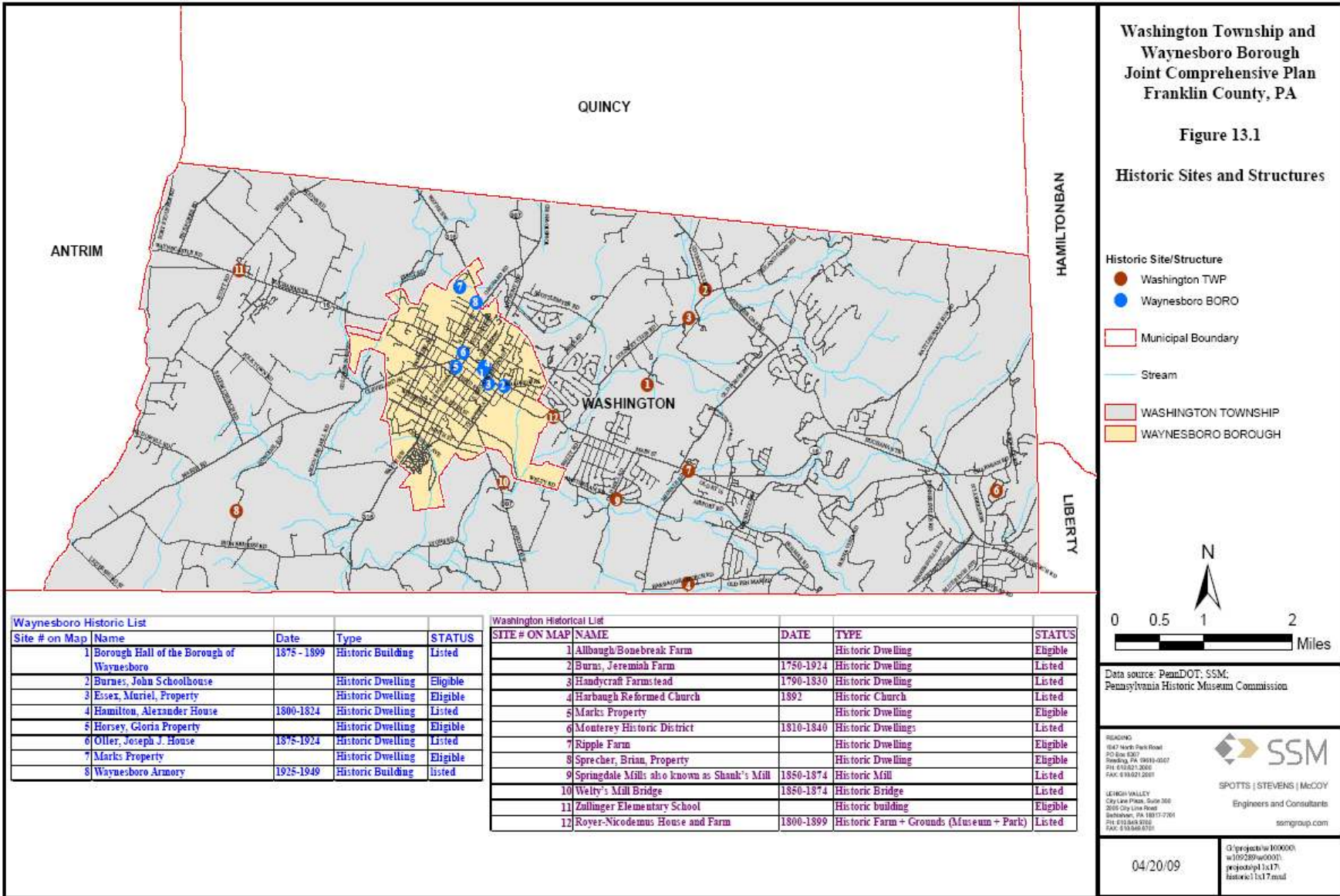
Washington Township is located in Franklin County in Southcentral Pennsylvania. The Township is comprised of the following villages and developments: Beartown, Blue Ridge Summit, Buena Vista Springs, Charmian, Eastland Hills, Glen Forney, Midvale, Monterey, Pen Mar, Roadside, Rouzerville, Wayne Heights, and Zullinger. The Township also surrounds the Borough of Waynesboro. The Southern border of the Township is shared with Washington County, Maryland and is known as the Mason-Dixon Line.

Early settlers of Washington Township can be traced back to as early as 1735. At that time, it was known as the wild or western frontier of the American Colonies. Washington Township was incorporated in April of 1779 out of Antrim Township by the Cumberland County Quarter Sessions Court. The Township was named after General George Washington. In 1837, the northern part of Washington Township was used to create Quincy Township.

The first major transportation route was begun around 1768 with the construction of a road between Fulton eastward to Baltimore which was authorized by Cumberland County. This was built as a shipping route for locally produced flour. It eventually developed into a turnpike and is now known as PA Route 16, or the Buchanan Trail.

Washington Township was very pivotal during the Civil War, and was the site of the second-largest Civil War Battle in Pennsylvania, the Battle of Monterey Pass which took place in the 1860's. Although neighboring Adams County is the focal point of most of the local civil war history, Washington Township was the site of critical activity and it is said that there are cannons still buried near Pennersville Road.

The Township developed slowly during the early 19th Century; however, there was significant growth towards the end of the 19th Century in the southeast corner near the village of Blue Ridge Summit. This area became a popular summer resort area. Excursion trains soon found their way to this area and also nearby Pen Mar Park which featured amusements and an outdoor dancing pavilion. Large summer hotels were erected which attracted many guests and celebrities to the area. President Wilson and Admiral Dewey were said to frequent these resorts. The Monterey Inn sat in the center of a summer resort colony and served as host to many visitors during the resort era.



The Monterey Historic District is located in the Village of Blue Ridge Summit. This District is now listed on the National Historic Site Registry and serves as an example of a summer resort community from the 19th Century. Aside from hosting famous people and celebrities, a prominent birth also occurred there. Bessie Wallis Warfield, Duchess of Windsor was born in Square Cottage at the Monterey Inn, at the resort of Blue Ridge Summit.

The area is located on Charmian Road which was part of the Baltimore/Pittsburgh Turnpike. This area was attractive because of the climate and the natural springs, both pure and mineral. By the end of the 19th Century, the Clermont House was built to the East of the Monterey Inn. As an increasing number of affluent guests were attracted to the area, they bought land and built summer homes of their own along Charmian Lane.

The arrival of the Western Maryland Railroad to Pen Mar in 1873 directly impacted the growth of these resorts. The Amusement park and the 600 room Blue Mountain House lured many visitors to the area. This area thrived as a summer resort prior to World War II, but declined during World War II, as a result of the U.S. Army taking over the area. There is also some speculation that reliance on the automobile and decline of railway excursion business also affected the business. Many of these hotels were razed or destroyed by fires. The grandest of the hotels, Buena Vista Springs Hotel, which burned to the ground in 1967, was the last of the resort hotels in the area

Washington Township Historically Significant Sites and Structures

SITE # ON MAP	NAME	DATE	TYPE	STATUS
1	Allbaugh/Bonebreak Farm		Historic Dwelling	Eligible
2	Burns, Jeremiah Farm	1750-1924	Historic Dwelling	Listed
3	Handycraft Farmstead	1790-1830	Historic Dwelling	Listed
4	Harbaugh Reformed Church	1892	Historic Church	Listed
5	Marks Property		Historic Dwelling	Eligible
6	Monterey Historic District	1810-1840	Historic Dwellings	Listed
7	Ripple Farm		Historic Dwelling	Eligible
8	Sprecher, Brian, Property		Historic Dwelling	Eligible
9	Springdale Mills also known as Shank's Mill	1850-1874	Historic Mill	Listed
10	Welty's Mill Bridge	1850-1874	Historic Bridge	Listed
11	Zullinger Elementary School		Historic Building	Eligible
12	Royer-Nicodemus House and Farm	1800-1899	Historic Farm + Grounds (Museum + Park)	Listed

Source: www.phmc.state.pa.us

Borough of Waynesboro

Waynesboro is situated in the southern part of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, about 2 miles north of the Mason-Dixon line. The community, with a current population of 9,614 (2000) had its beginnings about 1749, when John Wallace, a Scotsman, settled by a spring located a few hundred yards west of the Antietam Creek (East Branch).

Wallace held title to 633 acres, 119 perches almost a square mile. He called his land holdings Mt. Vernon. Upon his death, the land was conveyed to a son Robert, who later conveyed it to his brother George. George owned it a short time when he conveyed it to brother John, who had recently returned from fighting the war. The Wallace's lands were often referred to as Wallace's Town or Wallacetown, as they were the largest land holdings in the area.

In 1797, John decided to lay out a town and placed 90 lots on the market. He named the town Waynesburg, after General Anthony Wayne, his commanding officer in the war. There were several other communities in the state with similar names and in 1831, when the Federal Government ruled that the names of post offices in any one state could not be duplicated, our town was rechartered and took for its corporate title the name of Waynesboro.

Waynesboro, because of its location on the frontier at the time of the French & Indian War (1755-1764) was in a particularly vulnerable position and was the scene of some of the Indians' most barbarous raids. Two victims of such were the Renfrew sisters, who lived just east of Waynesboro along the Antietam Creek. Today, there is a museum and park, named for the girls, at the site of their massacre. The museum, an outstanding exhibit of decorative fine arts, dates to 1812.

When the Civil War came along, Waynesboro was again cast in the role of a "Frontier town", this time because of its close proximity to the Mason-Dixon Line. Historians tell us that residents of the area spent half their time burying and digging up their possessions and fleeing north toward Harrisburg. Among those fleeing when the confederates entered Waynesboro was John Phillips, cashier of the local bank. Mr. Phillips made it to safety with the bank's cash and valuables, his wife and son, all loaded into one carriage. Most residents stayed on, watching apprehensively, as 75,000 Confederate Soldiers headed north to Gettysburg. Waynesboro was under Confederate rule for 15 days.

The Foundation for Waynesboro's Industrial activity was laid by George Frick, who operated at a number of locations in the Waynesboro area. His invention of a steam engine, small enough for farm use, replaced cumbersome horse-powers. He founded the Frick Company in 1873. The firm switched to making refrigeration and air conditioning equipment and is now part of York International. They are still one of the leading employers in the Waynesboro area.

Shortly after Mr. Frick established the Frick Company, two brothers, Abraham and Franklin Landis, came to the area from Lancaster County. With their inventive minds they manufactured the first cylindrical grinding machine in 1883. They formed a partnership in 1889 to manufacture and market the grinder, and six machines were sold in the first year of operation. A patent was granted to Abraham B. Landis in 1890, based on the 1883 design. The partnership was succeeded by the Landis Tool Company in 1897 and is now a division of Litton Industries.

A. B. Landis then turned his attention to the problems of threading bolts, and his solution to the problem was a new and unique screw cutting die head for a turning machine, with one being built in 1887. A patent was granted in 1889, but the product was not marketed until 1903 when the Landis Machine Company was organized. This company now is known as Teledyne Landis Machine.

Education and religion have played a vital part in the cultural activity of the community. The first church and school, built somewhere between 1770 and 1780, still stands on Bourns Hill overlooking a school complex of three modern buildings. The log structure, often referred to as Bourns Cabin was used as a school on weekdays and as a church on Sundays. Early records of one schoolmaster indicated he had 17 pupils who were charged about \$5.00 each for a 6 month session. Today, the Waynesboro School District consists of four elementary school buildings, one middle school building, and one senior high building, all with a total enrollment of about 4,300.

Borough of Waynesboro Historically Significant Sites and Structures

SITE # ON MAP	NAME	DATE	TYPE	STATUS
1	Borough Hall of the Borough of Waynesboro	1875 - 1899	Historic Building	Listed
2	Burnes, John Schoolhouse		Historic Dwelling	Eligible
3	Essex, Muriel, Property		Historic Dwelling	Eligible
4	Hamilton, Alexander House	1800-1824	Historic Dwelling	Listed
5	Horsey, Gloria Property		Historic Dwelling	Eligible
6	Oller, Joseph J. House	1875-1924	Historic Dwelling	Listed
7	Marks Property		Historic Dwelling	Eligible
8	Waynesboro Armory	1925-1949	Historic Building	Listed

Source: www.phmc.state.pa.us