

THE PERRY COUNTY HERITAGE TRAIL

*In 2020 Perry County will celebrate
its bicentennial after being formed
out of Cumberland County on March
22, 1820.*

*To highlight historical sites across
the county a walking/biking/driving
tour is being established.*

*This trail will eventually include
dozens of historical markers to
celebrate the rich heritage of the
region.*

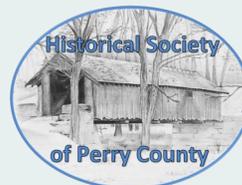
www.PerryCountyHeritageTrail.com

Thanks to:

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Other assistance provided by:



Perry County Heritage Trail

Duncannon



A walking /biking tour of historical
sites in Duncannon, PA

A Trail Through Time starts just north of Sherman's Creek and extends about 1.25 miles to the Duncannon Sled Works at the north end of town.

Marker #1 Iron Works

40°23' 09.55" N 77° 01' 53.97W

You are standing in the middle of a once great industrial complex called the Duncannon Iron Works. The railroad was just across Main St. As you proceed north the original railroad station was at the corner of Main and Fisher Sts. A huge blast furnace was opposite near the exit ramp underpass. As you pass the American Legion be sure to look for the old town fountain—now a gigantic flower pot!

Marker #2 & 3 Entering Duncannon

40°23' 18.35" N 77° 01' 53.46 W

This is where the Pennsylvania Railroad crossed the Little Juniata Creek into town. Before the four-lane highway was built in the 1950s, this was a busy commercial district. Also from this point the Perry County Railroad followed the creek to New Bloomfield. It existed from 1889 to 1939. Continue into town along Market St.

Marker #4 The Square

40°23' 22.46" N 77° 01' 49.82 W

The town square has always been the commercial center of Duncannon. Stores of all types, hotels and restaurants have always been common sights here. Until the 1920s the village green was also here with tree-lined streets. A public well and watering fountains for horses were in the center of the intersection.

Proceed north one block and turn right toward the train station. This beautifully restored station was once the transportation center of town.

Marker #5 The Railroad

40°23' 23.27" N 77° 01' 46.81 W

The railroad came to town in 1849 and ran through town on Apple Tree Alley one and a half blocks west. It was relocated to the present location in 1904.

Marker #6 Clark's Ferry Bridge

40°23' 23.27" N 77° 01' 46.81 W

Gaze out across the scenic Susquehanna River as it passes through Peter's Mountain. In the distance you can see the Juniata River to the left and the Susquehanna to the right. The bridge that crosses the river was first built in 1828 as part of the Pennsylvania Canal. At the time it was the longest wooden covered bridge in the world. A total of seven bridges have crossed the river at the same location. Follow Cumberland St. two blocks to the corner of High St.

Marker #7 First National Bank

40°23' 25.57" N 77° 01' 54.10 W

This unique structure was built in 1889 and was the first building devoted entirely to banking in Perry County. To the left is the Fire House, once the town hall. Just past that is an historic iron truss bridge crossing the creek. It is one of the few remaining Berlin Bridges in the state.

Proceed north one block. High Street was once lined with beautiful shade trees on both sides.

Marker #8 The School

40°23' 26.72" N 77° 01' 53.43 W

A two-story brick school was built at this location in 1873 and was the education center of the town for 50 years. After that it served many purposes before being removed in 1965.

Marker #9 Churches

40°23' 31.84" N 77° 01' 50.73 W

The first church in town was built in 1804. As you walk through the streets you'll notice many different denominations that served the community. Continue north to Clarks St. and turn right.

Marker #10 Clark's Ferry Tavern

40°23' 45.40" N 77° 01' 23.99 W

This is the oldest structure in town—built around 1788. It was the landing point of Clark's Ferry on the Philadelphia—Pittsburgh Pike. It was the gateway to the west. Conestoga Wagons once parked here before heading west to follow the Juniata.

Duncannon Sled Works

40°23' 53.92" N 77° 01' 21.52W

We end our trip at what once was the largest producer of sleds in the world. Here are other markers from the Susquehanna Greenway highlighting the river that passes just to the east.