



### A. Background

#### Existing Studies

##### A Management Action Plan for the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area (ongoing)

The Steel Industry Heritage Corporation is currently developing a management action plan for the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, which is comprised of Allegheny County, Fayette County, Greene County, Washington County and Westmoreland County. The goals of the plan are to inventory industrial, cultural heritage, tourism and natural resources; identify interpretive themes and opportunities; set priorities for investment; and develop strategies for expanding and promoting heritage tourism throughout the region. In particular, Greene County is part of the “Fueling a Revolution” journey area, which encompasses the areas that are known for river-based production and transportation for steel and related industries and inland supply communities. Some of the historic resources in Greene County identified in the plan are Greensboro, Rices Landing, Waynesburg and Bobtown. The recommendations of the plan include the following:

- Develop tourism hubs
- Strengthen physical connections
- Build awareness of heritage resources
- Build capacity of local heritage groups
- Secure endangered resources
- Reinforce sound resource conservation and restoration practices

##### Greene County Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Trails / Greenways Plan (2008)

The Greene County Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Trails / Greenways Plan demonstrates the potential connections within the County of historic preservation and recreational pursuits. The plan recommends that the County implement a marketing and promotional campaign that divides the County into three Recreation / Tourism Regions: the Rural / Wilderness Region (the western half of the County); the Technology / Recreation Region (the central portion of the County); and the Historical / Cultural Region (the eastern portion of the County along the Monongahela River). While historical and cultural assets can be found throughout the County, a large concentration can be found in the communities along the Monongahela River and thus be coupled with recreational opportunities.

## Historic Resources

### Greene County Historical Society

The Greene County Historical Society was founded in 1925 and is a private, non-profit organization. In addition to operating and maintaining the Greene County Historical Museum and Local History Library, the Society is also involved with other historic sites such as the W.A. Young Machine Shop and Foundry in Rices Landing and the Thomas Hughes House in Jefferson. The Society has approximately 320 members, whose memberships range from \$8 for students and senior citizens to \$99 for donors. Membership provides free admission to all Society-owned historic sites, passes to the Museum, society newsletters and admission to members-only events. Festivals hosted by the Society include the Annual Harvest Festival.

### Cornerstone Genealogical Society

The Cornerstone Genealogical Society (CGS) was formed in 1975 to assist individuals to learn more about their ancestors who may have resided in or around Greene County. The CGS is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 entity and has approximately 530 members who meet monthly. Due to the growing popularity, the CGS constructed an addition to the original courthouse in order to create a library and store genealogical records. The GCS is housed in the original Greene County Courthouse, located one block behind the current courthouse in Waynesburg Borough.

### Nathanael Greene Historical Foundation

The Nathanael Greene Historical Foundation is located in Greensboro Borough and motto is "Preserving the culture that is uniquely South Western Pennsylvania."  
[http://www.natgreene.org/Home\\_Page.php](http://www.natgreene.org/Home_Page.php)

### Tourism

The Greene County Tourism Promotion Agency (TPA) was created to promote and market tourism in Greene County as an economic development tool. The TPA is overseen by a Board of Directors and works in conjunction with the Greene County Department of Recreation to host a variety of festivals and fairs.



### Historic Snapshot

Greene County, the "Cornerstone of the Keystone State," is located in the southwestern corner of Pennsylvania and is bordered by Washington County to the north, Fayette County to the east; Wetzel County and Monongalia County, West Virginia to the south; and Marshall County, West Virginia to the west. The Mason-Dixon Line, one of the most famous boundaries in the United States, serves as the southern boundary of the County and the Monongahela River forms the eastern boundary with Fayette County. The Mason-Dixon Line was originally delineated in the mid-1700s by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon to settle a property dispute between the Calvert and Penn families but is most commonly associated with the division between free and slave states during the 1800's and the American Civil War.

The original inhabitants of Greene County were the Indian Sachem Six Nations (Iroquois Confederacy) and consisted of the following Indian peoples: Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayuga, Senecas, and Tuscaroras. The County as well as the entire state of Pennsylvania was granted to William Penn on March 4, 1681 by King William II. Greene County was established on February 9, 1796 when Washington County was divided into two counties through an act of the Legislature. The southern portion became Greene County, named after the Revolutionary War General Nathanael Greene and consisted of 577 square miles. The first European inhabitants were a mix of the following: English, Irish, Scotch, Scotch-Irish, and German.

Colonel John Minor is considered the "Father of Greene" because he sponsored the bill that made the division of Washington County a reality. Between 1796 and 1860 thirteen separate municipalities were established within the county in addition to the original six municipalities. Permanent settlement began in Waynesburg (named after General "Mad" Anthony Wayne) following a deed sale on October 28, 1796. The Borough of Waynesburg was established as the County Seat in 1816.

Greene County developed its economic base historically through mining and agriculture. Gas wells, coal mining, and wool production provided the early forms of growth in Greene County. At one point the wool industry was so prosperous that the County was the first overall in total Merino wool production and was said to have more sheep than human inhabitants county-wide. Although the agricultural component of the County has diminished, the mining industry is considered the top industry operating in Greene County today. Currently, there are eight coal mines in production in the County famous for a large product turnout each year. Greene County has the largest bituminous coal reserves in the state.

A contributing element of Greene County history is the commitment to pursuits of higher learning. Waynesburg College was established in 1849 from two separate schools in the area: Greene Academy in Carmichaels and Madison College in Uniontown (Fayette County). Situated in the County Seat, Waynesburg College and is a positive component to the growth of the County. In 2007, Waynesburg College became Waynesburg University and offers doctoral, graduate and undergraduate programs in more than 70 programs of study. With 2,300 students, the University provides education at its main campus in Waynesburg as well as three adult centers located in the Pittsburgh regions of Southpointe, North Hills and Monroeville.



Waynesburg: 1897 [Source: US Library of Congress ([www.loc.gov/](http://www.loc.gov/))]



### B. Data & Analysis

#### Culture & Local Identity

The religious character of Greene County is predominantly Protestant with a small percentage of Roman Catholic and other denominations. Politically, Greene County is considered a Democratic stronghold and has a strong degree of patriotism and loyalty to county, state, and country. The County has a strong network of local events and traditions. Long-running annual events provide the citizens of the County with recreational and social events that build a strong sense of community County-wide. It is through these social gatherings that the identity and character of Greene County is strengthened and relationships and family ties are cemented.

Two examples of traditional events held in Greene County are the Jacktown Fair and Rain Day celebration. The Jacktown Fair is known as the oldest continuous fair in the United States. It has been running annually since 1865 and draws close to 15,000 participants each year. The Rain Day celebration is an annual occurrence in Waynesburg since the 1870s. A local man in Waynesburg noted that it rained on his birthday (July 29) every year and a festival was created to note this amazing feat. Recorded history has documented rain on 83 percent of the days ever since. While these two events reflect the strong heritage of Greene County, there are numerous other events that strengthen the framework including the Carmichael's King Coal Show, Greene County Fair, and the Covered Bridge Festival.

Coal mining remains a strong factor of the character of Greene County. The industrial legacy has both negative and positive elements. For instance, environmental concerns include mine drainage, coal refuse piles, and abandoned coal structures. Residential developments built around mining pursuits remain as small "patch towns" or villages. One example is the village of Mather, which was built in 1919 by the Pickins and Mather Mine Company. Mather was built to meet the housing needs for the men who worked in the Mather Colliery Mine. On May 9, 1928, a methane gas explosion killed 198 men at the Mather mine site. This significant event put the region on the map as this event resulted in the most casualties from a mining accident at that time in the nation's history.

The years of mining activity have left significant environmental and economic impacts. Evidence of previous mining activity present to this day can be found in the form of a 'gob pile.' Gob Piles are essentially coal leftovers that were not processed by the mine. There are a number of remediation efforts underway to eliminate gob piles and reclaim usable coal and other products; eventually reclaiming the land for other uses.



Mather Memorial (Mackin, 2004)

Greene County is actively pursuing a public policy to promote community and economic development by encouraging cultural activities that build community identity and cohesion. Greene County is successfully fostering partnerships among community development organizations, social service organizations, and arts/artist and heritage/ preservation groups, as well as economic development agencies. Efforts are underway to identify grants and provide technical assistance to community groups seeking to renovate space for arts and cultural projects, and to integrate arts and cultural programming into community development projects in Greensboro, Rices Landing, Waynesburg and the Jefferson Morgan Region.

Aspects contributing to the concept of "cultural" include the arts, folklife/heritage, historic preservation, and the humanities. Culture is at the essence of community and can serve as a foundation of community development, combating sprawl, revitalizing rural districts and urban centers, and improving quality of life. Culture contributes to the social capital of a community and through historic preservation, cultural tourism, and civic engagement, can have an integral role in economic revitalization efforts. Arts and culture can enliven neighborhoods and enhance the quality of life. Social values and neighborhood bonds are reinforced by participating in cultural activities. The Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area is a model example of collaboration between local, state, regional, and federal agencies to establish and promote the heritage associated with southwestern Pennsylvania communities and related industries.



## Historical Sites

The National Register of Historic Places is the Nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. Table 3-1 lists the 42 sites in Greene County that are contained on the Register (as of May 11, 2006), along with the municipality, address, and date listed for each site. The locations of the historic sites, including covered bridges and historic districts, are shown on *Figure 3-1: Historic Resources*.



John Rex Farm – Jefferson Township (Mackin, 2004)

Table 3-1: Greene County National Register Listed Properties			
Historic Site	Municipality	Address	Date Listed
Carmichaels Covered Bridge	Carmichaels Boro	L.R.30062	6/22/1979
Greene Academy	Carmichaels Boro	314 N Market St	12/12/1976
Neddie Woods Covered Bridge	Center Twp	T-487, North of Oak Forest	6/22/1979
Scott Covered Bridge	Center Twp	T-424, Southeast of Rutan	6/22/1979
Shriver Covered Bridge	Center Twp	T-454, South of Rogersville	6/22/1979
Crawford, William, House	Cumberland Twp	Off Brown's Ferry Rd. & Stevenson's Lane	11/12/1992
Point Marion Bridge	Dunkard Twp	L.R. 451	6/22/1988
Bridge in Franklin Twp over L.R. 268	Franklin Twp	L.R. 268	6/22/1888
Gordon, George W., Farm	Franklin Twp & Whiteley Twp	333 Mary Hoge Rd.	8/24/2000

# "Strategy for a *Greene* Tomorrow"

Greene Hills Farm	Franklin Twp	Alt. Rt. 21, 2-1/2 miles east of Waynesburg	4/23/1973
Heasley, Charles, House	Franklin Twp	75 Sherman Ave.	2/21/1991
Kent, Thomas, Jr., Farm	Franklin Twp	208 Laurel Run Rd.	8/16/2000
Corbly, John, Farm	Greene Twp	L.R. 30027 (Garards Fort)	5/3/1984
White Covered Bridge	Greene Twp	L.R. 30129, west of Garards Fort	6/22/1979
Boughner, Alexander V., House	Greensboro Boro	Junction of 2nd & Minor Sts.	3/9/1995
Glassworks--Core House	Greensboro Boro	Rte. 451	7/27/1995
Greensboro Historic District	Greensboro Boro	County, Water, Clear, Front Sts.	11/7/1995
Greensboro Public School	Greensboro Boro	Junction of 2nd & Clear Sts.	3/9/1995
Jones, James, House	Greensboro Boro	Junction of Front & Stone Sts.	3/9/1995
Parreco, James, House	Greensboro Boro	Junction of 3rd & Clear Sts.	3/9/1995
Foley, Richard T., Site	Jackson Twp	Holbrook	5/10/1984
Cree, William & Jane, House	Jefferson Twp	L.R. 30057, just north of Rt. 21	7/15/2002
Hughes House	Jefferson Twp	Hatfield St.	12/27/1972
Rex, John, Farm	Jefferson Twp	Rt. 188, 1/2 mile east of Jefferson	5/8/1998
Crawford, John Minor, House	Monongahela Twp	Pa 2014	7/27/1995
Glassworks/Gabler House - Building 302A	Monongahela Twp	Pa 2014	7/27/1995
Peters-Graham House	Monongahela Twp	Monongahela River	3/9/0995
Reppert/Gabler House - Building 314-A	Monongahela Twp	Pa 2014	7/27/1995
Sugar Grove Petroglyph Site	Monongahela Twp		3/20/1986
Colver-Rogers Farmstead (Rogers, Norval P., House)	Morgan Twp	East of L.R. 30055 at T-159	11/21/2003
Lippincott Covered Bridge	Morgan Twp	T-568	6/22/1979
Mason & Dixon Survey Terminal Point	Perry Twp	Brown's Hill, Pa-W.VA. Boundary	00/00/1973
Rices Landing Historic District	Rices Landing Boro	119 High St. Carmichaels to Bayard	12/24/1992
Fisher Site	Richhill Twp	West Findley	11/15/1982
King Covered Bridge	Wayne Twp	T-371, Southwest of Kuhntown	6/22/1979
Thralls, Ernest, House	Wayne Twp	Rt. 218 at T.R. 353 & T.R. 522, Spraggs	5/12/1999
Hanna Hall	Waynesburg Boro	College St. Waynesburg University Campus	4/19/1979
Miller Hall	Waynesburg Boro	51 W College St.	4/14/1978
Waynesburg Historic District	Waynesburg Boro	2nd Alley; East St.; Cherry Ave.; Bowlby St.	3/1/1984
Hamilton-Ely Farmstead	Whiteley Twp	1055 Sugar Run Rd.	3/2/2006

Source: Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission, Bureau for Preservation, May 11, 2006



As of May 11, 2006, there are 24 properties in Greene County that are eligible to be listed on the National Register. Table 3-2 lists each site, along with the municipality, address, and date of eligibility of the site.

Table 3-2: Greene County National Register: Eligible Properties			
Historic Site	Municipality	Address	Date of Eligibility
Huss, H. & Graham, P. Property	Center Twp	S.R. 4027	8/10/1993
McQuay Property	Center Twp	S.R. 18 East of Holbrook	9/6/1995
Smith, D.H. & J.K, Property	Center Twp	S.R. 18, Sec. 0417	7/2/1993
Strawn, Stephen, Farmstead	Center Twp	T-478	8/10/1993
Wilson Property	Center Twp	Oak Forest	9/6/1995
Crucible Historic District	Cumberland Twp	5th Ave., River View Ave.	12/3/1991
Crucible Mine	Cumberland Twp	S.R. 1017	7/15/1991
Nemacolin Historic District	Cumberland Twp	Pershing Blvd. S.R. 1004	10/4/2005
Allison Farm	Franklin Twp	Gorden Hill Rd. South of U.S. 19	9/1/2000
Paul, Randall S., House	Franklin Twp	Star Rte.	5/29/1986
County Bridge No. 53 over Township Road 379	Gilmore Twp	T-379	10/3/1994
Monongahela House (Demolished)	Greensboro Boro	County St.	1/25/1985
Foley Farm	Jackson Twp	Both sides T-381, 400ft west of S.R. 3007	10/29/1999
Eberhart/Gabler House - Building 224	Monongahela Twp	Rt. 451	8/2/1995
Old Lock & Dam 7	Monongahela Twp	Monongahela River	10/20/1992
Mather Collieries & Town	Morgan Twp	Southeast of Town of Mather	8/28/1996
Chess Farm	Richhill Twp	T-356	5/25/1995
County Bridge No. 57	Richhill Twp	T-356	5/26/1995
County Bridge No. 68	Springhill Twp	T-345	6/5/1995
Penn Manufacturing & Supply Company	Waynesburg Boro	E 1st & S Washington Sts. Lts 22, 23 & Pt Lt 2	1/11/1996
Sayers, W.W., House	Waynesburg Boro	S Morgan St. W/S Lt 14 Sayers Addition	1/11/1999
South Ward School	Waynesburg Boro	Park St.	7/26/1991
Waynesburg U.S. Post Office	Waynesburg Boro	120 S Morris St.	7/3/1984

Source: Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission, Bureau for Preservation, May 11, 2006

## Covered Bridges

Greene County is actively involved in a very successful heritage tourism event with Washington County. The Covered Bridge Festival is an annual event that celebrates the architectural heritage of covered bridges. The Covered Bridge Festival was organized in 1970 by residents in adjacent Washington County and has grown to include the covered bridges in Greene County. There are seven covered bridges that remain standing in the County.

### The Lippincott / Cox Bridge over Ruff Creek

This covered bridge is located off State Route 221 in Morgan Township. The bridge was constructed in 1943 and is noted for its unusual design of white horizontal clapboard siding on both exterior sides, part of the interior sides and the portals. The roof is covered with sheet metal and the deck is covered with crosswise planking. Dimensions of the bridge are 27'8"Lx15'W.



Lippincott / Cox Bridge (Mackin, 2004)

### The Carmichaels Bridge over Muddy Creek

This covered bridge was constructed in 1889 and remains open to vehicular traffic to this day. The Carmichaels Bridge is noted for its status as the only covered bridge to be within a borough. The bridge is constructed of white vertical board and batten siding, with a sheet metal roof with planking on the deck. The bridge rests on cut stone-and-mortar abutments. Dimensions of the bridge are 64'Lx15'W.



### The White Bridge over Whiteley Creek

The White Bridge was constructed in 1919 and is the longest Queenpost Bridge in Greene County. The Bridge is noted for the height of the structure with a clearance of 17 feet, 6 inches and heavy weight bearing limit of ten tons. The bridge is covered with white vertical tongue-and-groove board siding on both sides and has a sheet metal roof. Dimensions of the bridge are 66'6"Lx15'W.

### The King Bridge over Hoover Run

The King Bridge was constructed in 1890 and remains open to traffic with a three ton weight limit. The bridge is of a Queenpost construction and is unpainted and covered with random-width vertical board siding with a sheet metal roof. Dimensions of the bridge are 46'6"Lx15'W.

### The Shriver Bridge over Hargus Creek

This covered bridge was constructed in 1900. The bridge is of a Queenpost construction and is covered with random-width unpainted vertical board siding on both sides with a sheet metal roof. The weight limit is unknown. Dimensions of the bridge is 40'Lx14'W.

### The Scott Bridge over Ten Mile Creek

This Queenpost Bridge was constructed in 1885 and is open to traffic. The bridge is 41'Lx15'W and is covered with random-width unpainted vertical board siding and has a sheet metal roof. The weight limit is unknown.

### The Neddie Woods Bridge over Pursley Creek

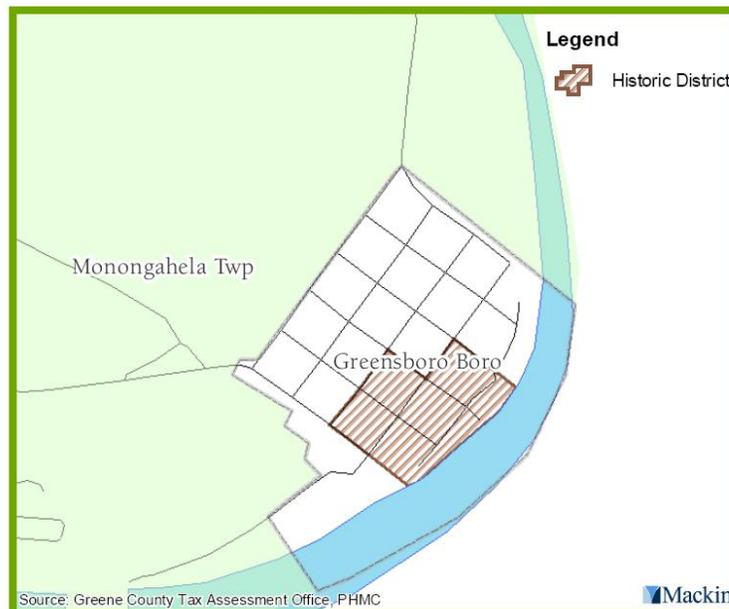
The Neddie Woods Bridge was constructed in 1882 and is the oldest covered bridge in Greene County that remains open to traffic. The bridge dimensions are 40'Lx15'W with unpainted vertical board siding with a corrugated sheet metal roof and has a weight limit of four tons.

## Historic Districts

### Greensboro Historic District

The Greensboro Historic District was added in 1995 and is roughly bounded by County, Second, Walnut, Front and Clear Streets and the Monongahela River. The Greensboro Historic District is comprised of 14 acres and contains 29 contributing buildings. The historic significance to this district is the Architecture, which is primarily Queen Anne and Italianate in style. The period of significance for this district is 1750 to 1949. The structures contain a mix of commercial business, religious uses, a theatre, and residential dwellings.

**Figure 3-1: Greensboro Historic District**



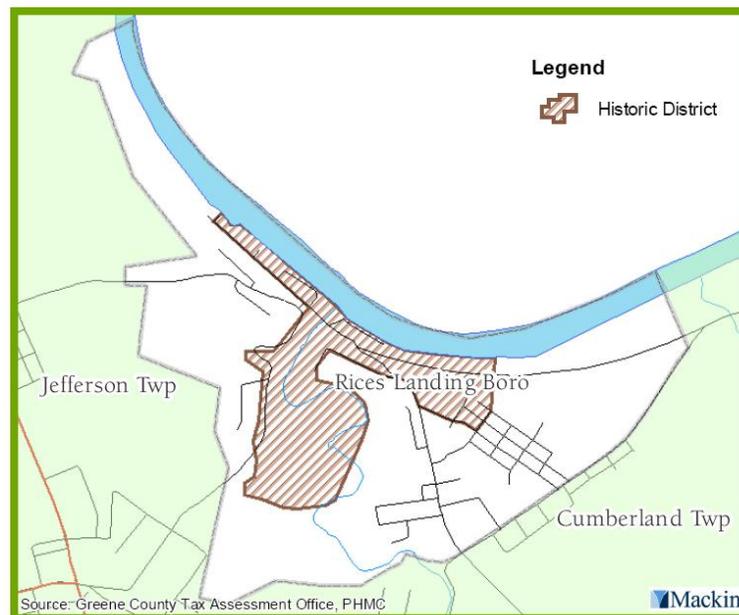
The Borough of Greensboro was first known as Delight by local Indians. The early settlement by European traders was facilitated by the presence of Indian trails along the Monongahela River. Greensboro evolved from a trading center to an industrial center first associated with the glass industry and later the pottery industry. The town was a social and commercial center for the surrounding region. The historic district contains a contributing structure built around the Civil War period. The structure is a Wharf where boats would access the town for distribution of goods. There is also an archeological site that was once the location of the James and Hamilton pottery, which was widely distributed and a means of economic prosperity for the Borough.



### Rices Landing Historic District

The Rices Landing Historic District was officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places on December 24, 1992. The district is 81 acres and bounded by the Monongahela River, Water Street, Second Street, Bayard Avenue, Carmichael Street, High Street, Main Street and Ferry Street including Pumpkin Run Park. Within the district, there are 63 buildings and four archaeological sites including the remains of the Dilworth Mine Complex, the company housing on Red Row, the Hughes Grist Mill and the Union Supply Store. Contributing structures include the Monongahela Navigation Lock #6 and lock-houses, concrete wall for the ferry and boat landing, the original Rices Landing Jail, and the W.A. Young & Son's Foundry and Machine Shop. The architectural style is reminiscent of a Colonial Revival and Bungalow/Craftsman style. The period of significance is 1850 to 1949.

**Figure 3-2: Rices Landing Historic District**



Located on Water Street, the Machine Shop and Foundry was built in 1900 by William A. Young. All of the equipment dates from 1870 to 1920 with the only modernization occurring in 1928 when electricity was connected to the building. The Machine Shop and Foundry contain a fully operational system of belts and pulleys that manipulate 25 pieces of machinery, each being fully independent of the other. The entire belt and pulley system is operated by one motor. The Foundry produced items that could be cast in molten metal by the coke-fired furnace, which still remains. The Foundry closed its operations in 1965 and sat idle until 1985 when the Greene County Historical Society purchased the facility for restoration. Ownership is currently being negotiated to transfer to Steel Industry Heritage Corporation.



W.A. Young & Son's Foundry and Machine Shop (Rices Landing, Mackin 2005)

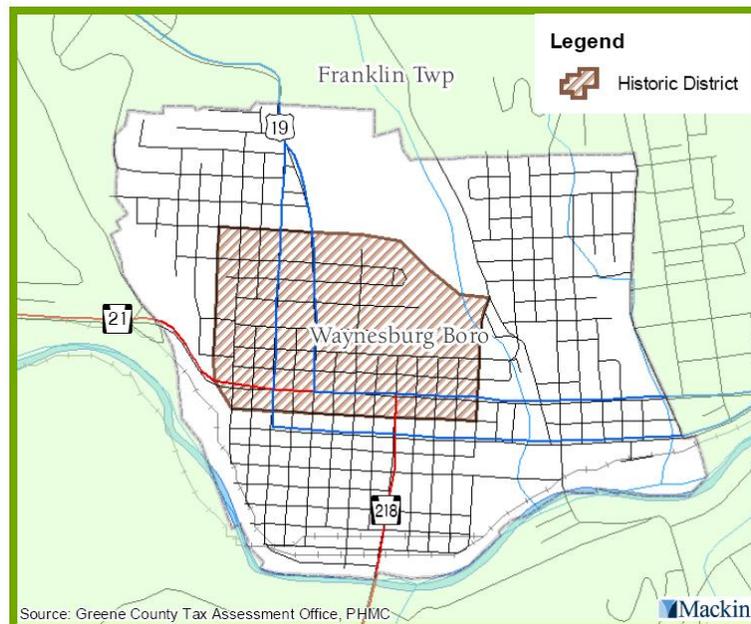
Rices Landing Borough is bordered by Jefferson Township on the west and south, Cumberland Township to the east, and the Monongahela River to the north and northeast. Rices Landing was first settled in 1786 by John Rice and soon became an industrial and commercial center due to its proximity to the river. The Monongahela River was improved for year around transportation by the Monongahela Navigation Company in 1837 when a series of seven locks and dams from Pittsburgh towards the West Virginia state line were built. Lock #6 was built in 1856 at Rices Landing. The construction of a new lock system began in 1960 with the construction of the Maxwell Lock and Dam, which resulted in the removal of the old Lock and Dam #6 at Rices Landing, PA in 1965. Rices Landing and the surrounding region profited from the presence of the natural resource, bituminous coal, which was extracted by the Dilworth Mining Company. The Mining Company served as a major employer for Rices Landing and other communities along the Monongahela River.



### Waynesburg Historic District

The Waynesburg Historic District was added to the Register in 1984 and is roughly bounded by Second Street, Cherry Avenue, East Street, and Bowlby Street. The district covers 61 acres and has 183 contributing structures. The architectural style is from the late 19th Century, the 20th Century Revival, and late Victorian. Waynesburg has served as the County-seat of Greene County for over two centuries. It has also functioned as the commercial center primarily due to its historical commerce dominance in the wool/sheep industry and due to the discovery of natural gas. The physical layout of Waynesburg is a grid pattern with Waynesburg University to the north, a central residential hub, and the commercial area to the south. The area is comprised of 224 structures of which 41 are considered intrusive.

**Figure 3-3: Waynesburg Historic District**



## Pennsylvania At-Risk: 1992-2003

*Pennsylvania at Risk* is published annually by Preservation Pennsylvania. The list contains a number of historic properties that are facing threats to their continued preservation. The list is compiled from recommendations made by members, local heritage organizations, the board and staff of Preservation Pennsylvania, and the Bureau for Historic Preservation, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC). In addition to the annual listing released each spring, Preservation Pennsylvania will occasionally add to the endangered list in its newsletters in response to threats to significant historic properties.

### Criteria for Listing

- the property is listed on, or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, or
- the property is considered a contributing structure in a National Register Historic District, or
- the property is designated historic by local government, and
- the property is faced with imminent, recognized endangerment either from overt action, neglect, incompatible use, or loss of context.

The following properties in Greene County have been included in past publications of *Pennsylvania At Risk* (<http://www.preservationpa.org/files/publications/Risk05.pdf>):

- Glassworks and Greensboro, Greensboro Borough (1993)
- Lock & Dam 7, Monongahela River, Greene & Fayette Counties (1995)
- Thomas Kent, Jr. Farm, Franklin Township (1999)

## Historic Pennsylvania Agriculture Project

A Historic Pennsylvania Agriculture Project for Washington and Greene Counties is underway and is a partnership between local, state, and federal government agencies, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions. Its purpose is to document the agricultural history and resources of Pennsylvania. Its intent is to create a comprehensive resource that will support efforts to preserve working farms, develop heritage education and tourism, and raise awareness of Pennsylvania's agricultural industry. The Washington and Greene County survey is funded by the federal Preserve America program, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, and Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

From July 2007 through August 2008, project teams will be in Washington and Greene Counties to document the farms and landscapes of this important farming region. The project will consist of a survey documentation (identifying the buildings and landscape features of farms and farmsteads to illustrate how our agricultural resources historically developed); a web page to make the components of the entire project available online; oral histories intended to capture the voices of



Pennsylvania farmers telling their own histories; federal and state agricultural census manuscripts for 1850, 1880, and 1927 collected to make original data at the farmstead level available to researchers; and regional narratives to produce a comprehensive analysis of the evolution of agricultural regions across the state.

### Historic Markers

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) has operated the Historical Marker Program since 1946 in order to commemorate people and places that have had a significant historical impact. The guidelines, as adopted by Resolution of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission on December 2, 1987 require:

- That the person, event, or site to be commemorated have had a meaningful impact on its times and be of statewide or national rather than only local significance.
- That only historical subjects (rather than current events) be considered.
- That significant subjects which have hitherto been given less attention by the Historical Marker Program receive more favorable consideration (other factors being equal) than subjects which have already had fuller coverage.
- That people and their activities receive more favorable treatment than buildings or sites.
- That historically recognized personages shall no longer be living, and that the place of their accomplishments in history shall have become established.
- That churches, schools, headquarters of societies, organizations, institutions, etc., be encouraged to erect their own signs or markers (consistent with legal requirements) if the subject does not meet the requirements of these guidelines.
- That requests for graveyard markers for war veterans be referred to the Director of Military Affairs within the county concerned.
- That requests for marking geographical or topographical features be referred to an appropriate agency.
- That locations or individuals already commemorated with existing monuments or markers receive less favorable consideration than those not previously recognized.
- That subjects that have been nominated, reviewed, and disapproved by the Commission in three consecutive years shall become ineligible for Commission consideration for a period of three years.
- That any person who served as Governor of Pennsylvania shall be approved as the subject of a historical marker (subject to Guideline #5).
- That any historic site or property owned by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission shall be approved as the subject of a historical marker.

The following historical markers are located in Greene County:

### Fort Jackson

Date Dedicated: February 23, 1955

Marker Type: Roadside

Location: E High St. at Woodland Ave., Waynesburg (Missing)

Category: Military, American Revolution, Forts

Marker Text: Refuge from Indians during Revolutionary period. In 1774, it was a stockade cabin; later it became a square-shaped system of settlers' cabins joined by palisades.

### Fort Swan

Date Dedicated: unknown

Marker Type: Roadside

Location: Pa. 88, S of Dry Tavern (Missing)

Category: Military, Forts

Marker Text: Site of early fort is 1.3 miles east of here. It was built in 1774 as a protection against Indian raids. Seven years before, 1767, the first settlers -- Swan, Van Meter, Hughes, Hupp -- crossed the Monongahela River into this area.

### Garards Fort

Date Dedicated: May 23, 1958

Marker Type: Roadside

Location: SR 2011, .6 miles E of Garards Fort

Category: Military, Native American, American Revolution

Marker Text: Site of frontier refuge in Revolutionary War. Station of a small detachment of Virginia militia in 1777, when this area was claimed as part of Monongalia County, Virginia. Near here, on May 12, 1782, the wife and three children of the noted Baptist minister, Rev. John Corbly, were killed while on their way to church; two of Corbly's other children were wounded in the same Indian attack but survived.

### Greene Academy

Date Dedicated: May 22, 1953

Marker Type: City

Location: Pa. 88, Carmichaels near intersection of Greene & Vine Sts.

Category: Education

Marker Text: Established in 1810 by Act of Legislature, aided by a State grant of \$2000 and public subscriptions, until 1860, it was a leading academy west of the mountains.



### Greene County

Date Dedicated: May 3, 1982

Marker Type: City

Location: County Courthouse, High St., Waynesburg

Category: Government & Politics, Government & Politics 18th Century

Marker Text: Formed February 9, 1796 from Washington County. Named for Gen. Nathanael Greene. Waynesburg, the county seat named for Gen. Anthony Wayne, was incorporated in 1816. Site of Waynesburg University, founded 1849. Near Ten Mile is birthplace of Gov. Edward Martin.

### Monongahela College

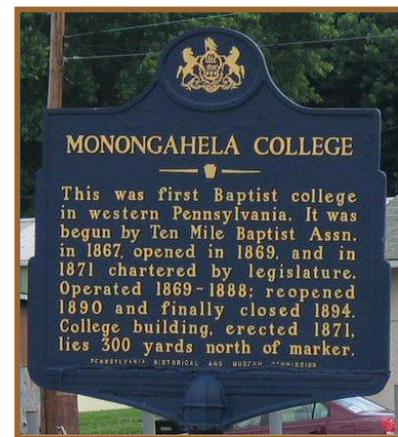
Date Dedicated: May 8, 1960

Marker Type: Roadside

Location: Pa. 188 in Jefferson at Green & Pine Sts.

Category: Education, Religion

Marker Text: This was first Baptist college in western Pennsylvania. It was begun by Ten Mile Baptist Assn. in 1867, opened in 1869, and in 1871 chartered by legislature. Operated 1869-1888; reopened 1890 and finally closed 1894. College building, erected 1871, lies 300 yards north of marker.



Monongahela College Marker (Mackin, 2004)

### Old Glassworks

Date Dedicated: March 28, 1955

Marker Type: Roadside

Location: SR 2014, Greensboro

Category: Business & Industry, Glass

Marker Text: On this site, the first glass factory west of the Monongahela River was established in 1805 through the stimulating influence of Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury under Thomas Jefferson. Glass was made here until 1849.

### Rev. John Corbly

Date Dedicated: November 15, 1994

Marker Type: Roadside

Location: SR 2011 between Fordyce and Garards Fort

Category: Government & Politics, Religion, Government & Politics 18th Century, Military, Whiskey Rebellion

Marker Text: A noted Baptist minister serving area congregations, Corbly was among some 150 men arrested by federal troops on the "Dreadful Night" of November 13, 1794. A vocal opponent of the U.S. excise tax on whiskey, he was this area's best known participant in the Whiskey Rebellion and was seen as a threat by the Federalists.

Imprisoned for a time in Philadelphia, Corby returned here and remained active in the ministry.

### Ryerson's Blockhouse

Date Dedicated: October 17, 1960

Marker Type: Roadside

Location: Pa. 21 at Wind Ridge

Category: Native American

Marker Text: Near here stood one of three blockhouses erected by Captain James Paul's company in 1792, during the State's last troubles with the Indians. On April 17, 1792, soldiers carrying supplies from the Thomas Ryerson mill clashed with an Indian war party attacking the white settlements.

### Waynesburg College

Date Dedicated: January 6, 1949

Marker Type: Roadside

Location: U.S. 19 in Waynesburg

Category: Education, Religion

Marker Text: Founded in 1849 by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Chartered by the State in 1850. One of the first two colleges in Pennsylvania to grant degrees to women, in 1857.



### Historical Museum

The Greene County Historical Museum is located on Rolling Meadows Road in Franklin Township, just outside of Waynesburg Borough. The brick building that houses the Museum was originally the county's poor farm, which was a home and workplace for indigent men. Constructed in the 1860's, the museum has 52 rooms and is located on 19.6 acres of land. The Greene County Historical Society operates the museum and leases the property from the County. Over 10,000 artifacts are on display inside the Museum and offer a tangible history of Greene County, including art, period furniture, and old clothing. Outside of the museum are an old train, cannons, and log cabins; which are used for educational classes.

The Museum is also home to the Harvest Festival, Spring Festival, Civil War re-enactment, Whiskey Rebellion re-enactment and other special events. Funding for the Museum is sustained through a \$10,000 annual gift from the County and a \$10,000 match, as well as through endowments and small trusts. It is estimated that approximately 6,000 visitors come to the Museum yearly.



Greene County Historical Museum (Mackin, 2004)

## Courthouse

The original Greene County Courthouse, located one block behind the current courthouse in Waynesburg Borough is a two-story log house that was built in 1797. This has become one of the biggest tourist attractions in Greene County and approximately 1800 to 2000 visitors come each year to research their ancestry. The historic log courthouse is also used by various community organizations and groups for meetings as well as home to school programs in May. During the summer, visitation reaches over 200 people daily.

## United Mine Workers Coal Heritage Park

Building upon the history of coal mining in Greene County, the County in collaboration with the United Mine Workers, have received a First Industries Tourism grant to establish a nationally significant Coal Heritage Park that that would be co-located with the UMWA Training Center. The grant paid for a study, released in April of 2008 by Economics Research Associates, that evaluated the market potential for such an attraction in Greene County. A second report is due that will focus on the financial and economic analyses portions of the study and implementation recommendations.

The proposed site for the UMWA Training Center and Coal Heritage Park is the old Gateway mine portal, land, and buildings near Ruff Creek. Ruff Creek is located off Interstate 79 in Greene County, 30 miles from West Virginia and 40 miles from Pittsburgh. The Park will require a building of roughly 44,000 square feet; of which 24,000 would be devoted to exhibits. There would be additional outside exhibits, including relocated coal patch structures. Preliminary cost estimates are around \$23.9 million (2008 dollars). Initial concepts for Park exhibits include a mining timeline that will simulate a coal mine (lighting, temperature, smells, machinery, etc.) and a recreation of a company town and Company Store. The center will also house a museum store and a food court.

The Coal Heritage Park project, if fully developed, would be a regional draw and potentially a national draw for southwestern Pennsylvania. The project would generate significant demand for overnight accommodations and would draw tourists from well outside a 100-mile radius of the proposed site. It would employ several people for the technology integrated into the Coal Heritage Park, developers, machine operators, management and marketing staff would additionally be required. Additionally it would provide a range of opportunities for small businesses to engage in activities around and in the park and provide additional minimum wage jobs on an on-going basis related to operational aspects of the park.



### C. Development Strategies

The public participation process for the comprehensive plan revealed that Greene County residents cherish their heritage and that a major focus should be placed on preservation and promotion. The County has a rich and diverse history that is can still be seen throughout the County, whether in the rural countryside, boroughs, or coal patch towns. It is vital that the County take on an active role in the preservation and promotion of these sites and encourage heritage tourism to stimulate the local economy. Southeastern Greene County and the Monongahela River corridor, in particular, were noted as being areas suitable to implement heritage tourism efforts.

Greene County has a wealth of historic resources, however during the inventory and analysis it was evident that the organizations in charge of preserving and promoting the sites are lacking in capacity. The County needs to identify responsible parties to take on some of the development strategies that have been identified to fulfill the historic and cultural goals of the County. Collaboration among a variety of organizations will be one of the most important tools that can be utilized.

Assessing public opinion regarding the historic and cultural resources in Greene County was undertaken during public and focus group meetings. The most important issues regarding historic / cultural assets were identified as follows:

1. Offer more youth oriented programs (theaters, arts programs and community centers)
2. Offer more cultural programs such as museums, music, arts, theater
3. Advertise to encourage tourism
4. Preserve / promote historical sites (buildings, covered bridges, communities, etc.)
5. Preserve / promote cultural and historical features along the Monongahela River

Greene County is actively pursuing a public policy to promote community and economic development by encouraging cultural activities that build community identity and cohesion. Greene County is successfully fostering partnerships among community development organizations, social service organizations, and arts/artist and heritage/ preservation groups, as well as economic development agencies. Efforts are underway to identify grants and provide technical assistance to community groups seeking to renovate space for arts and cultural projects, and to integrate arts and cultural programming into community development projects in Greensboro, Rices Landing, Waynesburg and the Jefferson Morgan Region.

**GOAL: Provide youth-oriented cultural opportunities**

**Strategy:** Waynesburg University should work with school districts to provide youth oriented cultural events that include aspects of local history

**Strategy:** The Greene County Historical Society should develop programs that focus on historic and cultural topics of the County that would serve as the basis for the college and school district programs

**Strategy:** The Greene County Department of Recreation should work with the County Fair Board, the Nathanael Greene Historical Foundation, and Tourist Promotion Agency to develop arts and learning programs for youth that would be hosted at County fairs and events

**GOAL: Enhance the quality of life for Senior Citizens**

**Strategy:** Charge the Greene County Tourist Promotion Agency to develop senior-friendly tourist events and bus tours

**GOAL: Protect & enhance the historic and cultural character of "hub" communities**

**Strategy:** Develop and distribute model ordinances for municipalities to use in site design

**Strategy:** Provide education sessions or informational packets to each municipality on how these model ordinances may be enacted and the benefits they provide

**Strategy:** Host educational workshops sponsored by the Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission (PHMC) for "Hub" Communities

**Strategy:** Encourage local historic district ordinances as implementation measures



### GOAL: Preserve historical & cultural assets

**Strategy:** The County of Greene Department of Economic Development, the Greene County Historical Society, and representatives of each historic district should create a commission to identify resources and a responsible party to implement a historic preservation plan to include:

- PHMC criteria to identify sites and preservation methods
- Create and manage a geographical information system (GIS) database of historical and cultural sites/resources
- Prioritize sites/resources as to their status (i.e. protected or at-risk) and action strategies
- Identify capital funds for promotion, preservation, rehabilitation of historic sites/resources
- Assist museums and other organizations with letters of support and efforts to secure funding
- Investigate which properties listed as "eligible" should be formally listed on the National Register of Historic Places and provide technical support necessary to attain this status
- Develop an informational packet on historic preservation funding sources and tax incentives.

### GOAL: Promote historic & cultural assets

**Strategy:** The Greene County Tourist Promotion Agency should implement a historic and cultural promotion strategy to include:

- Identify and maintain a list of sites or resources accessible to the public that support public visitation and exemplify the intrinsic qualities of Greene County
- Develop and publish a marketing piece to increase awareness of the sites targeted for visitation
- Distribution should be broad enough to include (but not limited to) outreach through chambers of commerce, realtors, economic development organizations, and the Pennsylvania Welcome Center at the Kirby Interchange on I-79.

## GOAL: Maximize the economic development potential of tourism

**Strategy:** Develop a lobbying campaign directed to state and federal agencies and representatives and legislators to promote the tourism industry

**Strategy:** Identify tax revenue sources such as the hotel tax and amusement tax and allocate this to best serve Greene County

**Strategy:** Establish a unique identity for "Hub" communities that represents historic and/or cultural characteristics inherent to each

- Suggested themes include:
  - Greensboro is established as the Arts Center for Greene County due to its heritage as the historical center for the glass and pottery industry as well as the number of existing structures that retain historic significance
  - Rices Landing / Crucible could focus on river-oriented recreation and its importance as a historic center for industry and commerce
  - Waynesburg is promoted for its historic relevance to the County's formation, thriving main street, and home to Waynesburg University
  - Ruff Creek is home to the United Mine Workers Coal Heritage Park

## GOAL: Capitalize upon the economic & recreation potential of the Monongahela River

**Strategy:** Identify communities that are interested in completing a riverfront development plan and acquire money to support this effort from a regional perspective

**Strategy:** Extend the Greene River Trail

- Complete a feasibility study to identify steps to connect to Washington County, Fayette County, and hub communities along the Monongahela River

**Strategy:** Collaborate to coordinate festivals for the communities along the Monongahela River

- Promote the theme of festivals along the river
- Coordinate dates and promotion activities

**Strategy:** Encourage the towns with public river access (Rices Landing) to attract businesses that are supportive of boaters, etc. and maximize the designation of the Upper Mon River Water Trail.