

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.



Mason-Dixon Historical Marker, Perry Township (Mackin 2005)

GREENE COUNTY HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The original inhabitants of Greene County were the Indian Sachem Six Nations (Iroquois Confederacy), and consisted of the following Indian peoples: Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, Senecas, and Tuscaroras. First permanent settlement is believed to have been the Swan-VanMeter-Hughes party from Virginia, in 1767. The first European inhabitants were a mix of English, Irish, Scotch, Scotch-Irish, and German.

The County has a rich and diverse history that can still be seen throughout the County, whether in the rural countryside, boroughs, or coal patch towns. Early industries in Greene County were mining and agriculture. Gas wells, coal mining, and wool production provided the early forms of income 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.



Farms along State Route 21, Cumberland Township (Mackin 2006)

Bituminous coal mining began in 1902 and in recent years Greene has been Pennsylvania's highest producing county, nearly all from subsurface mines. Coal mining remains a strong factor of the character of Greene County.

Residential developments built around mining pursuits remain as small "patch towns" or villages. Examples of these can be seen throughout Southeastern Greene County, including Crucible, Nemaquin, Bobtown, and others. Unfortunately, the years of mining activity has left significant environmental and economic impacts. Environmental concerns include mine drainage, coal refuse piles, and abandoned coal structures.



Former Crucible Mine Site, Cumberland Township (Mackin 2005)

Timeline

February 9, 1796: Greene County was established 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. Colonel John Minor is considered the “Father of Greene” because he sponsored the bill that made the division of Washington County a reality.

1781: Greene and Cumberland Townships were formed originally as part of Washington County. They were two of the original six municipalities in Greene County (the other four municipalities included Franklin, Morgan, Richhill, and a small portion of Finley).

1798: Dunkard Township was one of the first new townships established after Greene County split from Washington County. Originally settled in 1764, it was incorporated from Greene Township in 1798.

1808: Wayne Township was incorporated from Franklin Township.

1822: Monongahela Township, first settled in 1764, was incorporated from Greene Township.

1842: Perry Township was incorporated from Greene Township.

1855: Carmichaels Borough was incorporated from Cumberland Township. The town itself was originally laid out in 1768.

1879: Greensboro Borough was incorporated on January 13 from Monongahela Township. The town was originally laid-out in 1781.



Carmichaels Town Square & Hartley Inn Restaurant (Mackin, 2006)

LOCAL CHARACTER

The local character of the communities has long been defined by the industries which precipitated their founding. Coal, transportation, and artesian industries such as glass and pottery have each been prominent to the history of Southeastern Greene County. Although, the importance of these industries have ebbed and flowed through the years, the residents pay homage to them through a series of history themed festivals and celebrations.

Heritage Festivals

Art Blast on the Mon

Art Blast on the Mon is a celebration of the arts and their importance to the history and future in Greensboro Borough. The festival began in 2006 to promote the importance of arts in the Greensboro community. The two day celebration and conference also pays homage to the glass and pottery industries, which played such an important role in the founding of the community.

Covered Bridge Festival

The Covered Bridge Festival is a celebration of the abundance of historic covered bridges in Greene and Washington Counties. The festival is held every September and includes music, food, old fashioned games and covered bridge history. An abundance of the activities takes place in Garards Fort and Carmichaels.

Bituminous Coal Show

The Bituminous Coal Show is an annual event founded in 1953 that showcases the cultural heritage of coal and its importance in to the entire Southwestern Pennsylvania region. The week long celebration includes the King Coal Parade, Coal Queen Pageant, State Mine Rescue Contest, car show, and other fun and commemorative events.

HISTORICAL RESOURCES

National Register

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: National Register Listed Properties* lists the sites in Southeastern Greene County that are contained on the Register (as of May 11, 2006). These sites are shown on *Map 3-1: Historical Resources*.

Table 3-1: 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
Crawford, William, House	Cumberland Twp	Off Brown's Ferry Rd. & Stevenson's Lane	11/12/1992
Marion Bridge	Dunkard Twp	L.R. 451	6/22/1988
Corbly, John, Farm	Greene Twp	L.R. 30027 (Garard's Fort)	5/3/1984
Red, Neils, Covered Bridge	Greene Twp	L.R. 30129 over Whiteley Creek	6/22/1979
White Covered Bridge	Greene Twp	L.R. 30129, west of Garard's Fort	6/22/1979
Boughner, Alexander V., House	Greensboro Boro	Junction of 2nd & Minor Sts.	3/9/1995
Glassworks--Core House	Greensboro Boro	Rt. 451	7/27/1995
Greensboro Historic District	Greensboro Boro	County, Water, Clear, Front St.	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
Crawford, John Minor, House	Monongahela Twp	State Route 2014	7/27/1995
Glassworks/Gabler House - Building 302A	Monongahela Twp	State Route 2014	7/27/1995
Peters-Graham House	Monongahela Twp	Monongahela River	3/9/0995
Reppert/Gabler House - Building 314-A	Monongahela Twp	State Route 2014	7/27/1995
Sugar Grove Petroglyph Site	Monongahela Twp		3/20/1986
Mason & Dixon Survey Terminal Point	Perry Twp	Brown's Hill, Pa-W.VA. Boundary	00/00/1973
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

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

Eligible Sites

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

Table 3-2: Greene County National Register, Eligible Properties

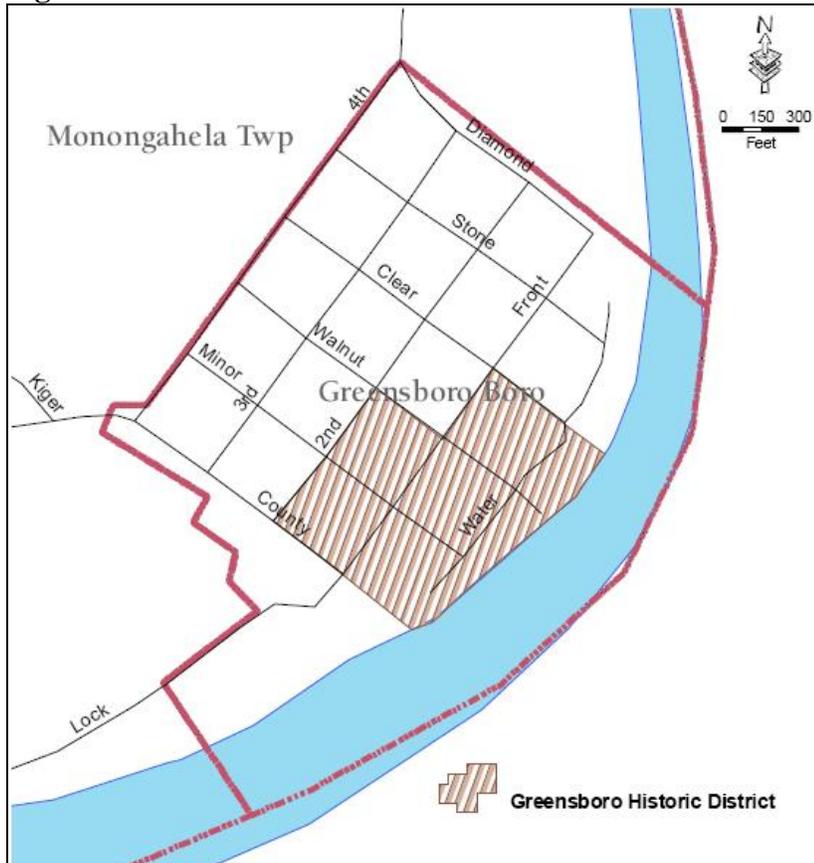
Historic Site	Municipality	Address	Date of Eligibility
Crucible Historic District	Cumberland Twp.	5th Ave., River View Ave.	12/3/1991
Crucible Mine	Cumberland Twp.	State Route 1017	7/15/1991
Nemacolin Historic District	Cumberland Twp.	Pershing Blvd.	10/4/2005
Monongahela House	Greensboro Boro	County St.	1/25/1985
Eberhart/Gabler House - Building 224	Monongahela Twp.	Route 451	8/2/1995
Old Lock & Dam 7	Monongahela Twp.	Monongahela River	10/20/1992

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

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 Boundaries* displays the current historic district boundaries within Greensboro Borough.

Figure 3-1: Greensboro Historic District Boundaries



Historic Monon Center, Greensboro Historic District, Greensboro Borough

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 – of which three are found in the Project Area.

The Carmichaels Bridge over Muddy Creek (Carmichaels Borough)

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 and was completely restored in 1998. Dimensions of the bridge are 64’Lx15’W.



Carmichaels Covered Bridge
(<http://www.co.greene.pa.us/secured/gc/depts/rec/tourinfo/cb/carm-No38-30-21.htm>)

The White Bridge over Whitely Creek (Greene Township)

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.



White Bridge, Greene Township (Mackin 2007)

The King Bridge over Hoover Run (Wayne Township)

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.



King Covered Bridge

<http://www.co.greene.pa.us/secured/gc/depts/rec/tourinfo/cb/king-No38-30-24.htm>

Historic Markers

The Historical Marker Program has been managed by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) since 1946 to commemorate people and places that have had a significant historical impact. The sites need not be listed on the National Register of Historic Places and historical persons and events are preferred over buildings and sites. The most recent guidelines revisions in 1987 added “that significant subjects that 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.”

Nominations for historical markers may be submitted by any person or organization. Nominators often share the cost of the marker as there are limited matching grants available (PHMC, 2006). Four historical markers are located in Southeastern Greene County, all of which are detailed in this section.

Garard's Fort

Date Dedicated: May 23, 1958

Marker Type: Roadside

Location: SR 2011, .6 miles east of Garard's Fort

Category: Military, Native American, American Revolution

Marker Text: Site of frontier refuge in Revolutionary War and 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.



Corbly Massacre Monument (Mackin 2006)

Greene Academy

Date Dedicated: May 22, 1953

Marker Type: City

Location: State Route 88, Carmichaels near intersection of Greene & Vine

Category: Education

Marker Text: Established in 1810 by Act of Legislature, aided by a State grant of \$2,000 and public subscriptions, until 1860, it was a leading academy west of the mountains.



Greene Academy, Carmichaels Borough (Mackin 2007)

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.



Glassworks Historic Marker (Mackin 2006)

Rev. John Corbly

Date Dedicated: November 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, Corbly returned here and remained active in the ministry.

Other Historical Resources

Other sites were identified by the Steering Committee as historical resources that should be considered a priority for preservation and promotion. The following is a list that the Steering Committee gathered.

Cumberland Township

- Village of Crucible
- Village of Nemaquin

Dunkard Township

N/A

Greene Township

- Corbly Massacre Monument in Garards Fort Cemetery
- Garards Fort Monument
- White Covered Bridge
- Warrior Trail
- Catawba Trail

Greensboro Borough

- 3rd Street Cemetery
- Monon Center
- Stone house located on Front and Diamond Street
- Lock House
- Log Cabin
- Lock Master Property
- Ferry Landing

Monongahela Township

N/A

Perry Township

- Mason-Dixon Park
- Warrior Trail
- Catawba Trail

HISTORIC PRESERVATION EFFORTS

Steel Industry: Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area

The Steel Industry Heritage Corporation was created by Congress in 1996 to preserve, interpret, and manage the historic, cultural, and natural resources related to the steel industry as well as its related industries. The Steel Industry Heritage Corporation encompasses 3,000 square miles in seven counties: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Westmoreland, Greene, Fayette, and Washington. The Steel Industry Heritage Corporation (SIHC) manages the River's of Steel program and provides technical assistance, grants and grant workshops, and marketing support to the five "Journey Areas" identified in SIHC's Management Action Plan (MAP).

- ❖ *Mountains of Fire*: Includes the City of Connellsville and communities along the Youghiogheny River. Thematic elements include the regions wealth as being the coal and coke capital of the world.
- ❖ *Fueling a Revolution*: Includes the Upper Mon Valley and communities along the Monongahela River. Thematic elements include the river as the transportation artery for the coal industry.
- ❖ *Mosaic of Industry*: Includes the communities of New Kensington, Tarentum and Kittanning. Thematic elements are cultural and industrial diversity and steel related industries - aluminum, glass.
- ❖ *Thunder of Protest*: Includes Ambridge and Aliquippa along the Ohio River. Thematic elements include the story of the labor unions and their struggle with the steel industry during the 1930s.
- ❖ *The Journey Areas* are designed to relate the story of the steel industry and thus promote economic development, tourism, and revitalization efforts in a manageable fashion.

A Management Action Plan is currently under development for the Fueling a Revolution Journey Area, which directly affects portions of the Southeastern Greene Planning Area. The Management Action Plan will include an inventory of industrial, cultural heritage, tourism and natural resources; as well as identify interpretive themes and opportunities; set priorities for investment; and develop strategies for expanding and promoting heritage tourism. The Fueling a Revolution Journey Area encompasses areas that are known for river-based settlements, coal production and transportation, and inland supply communities.

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 (under development)

The Greene County Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Trails / Greenways Plan was presented in draft form in 2006. While the plan has yet to be adopted by the County Commissioners, it does demonstrate the potential for economic development based upon historic preservation and recreational pursuits within the Southeastern Greene Region. A marketing component included in the Recreation Plan establishes three recreational/promotional zones: the Rural / Wilderness Zone (the western half of the County); the Technology / Recreation Zone (the central portion of the County); and the Historical / Cultural Zone (the eastern portion of the County along the Monongahela River).

- ❖ The western half Wayne Township, including the communities of Brave and Kuhntown, is the only part of the Planning Area included in the Rural / Wilderness Zone. The strategies for this zone are based on the best use of its natural and rural assets.
- ❖ The western portions of Cumberland, Greene and Dunkard Townships, the eastern portion of Wayne Township and the entirety of Perry Township are included in the Technology / Recreation Zone. Centered on the I-79 Corridor, this zone builds upon the development potential of the highway.
- ❖ The Historical / Cultural Zone encompasses the Southeastern Greene communities of Crucible, Carmichaels, Nemaocolin, Greensboro, the mining villages of Dunkard Township, and other areas that played a vital role in the development of culture and industry in Western Pennsylvania.

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 who want 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.

Greene County Tourism Promotion Agency

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.

THREATS TO LOCAL HISTORICAL RESOURCES

Pennsylvania at Risk is published annually by Preservation Pennsylvania, though the most recent was 2003. The list contains a number of historic properties that are facing threats to their continued preservation, 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). The following properties in Southeastern Greene County have been included in past listings of Pennsylvania At Risk:

- ❖ Glassworks community, Monongahela Township and Greensboro Borough.
- ❖ Lock & Dam 7, Monongahela River, Monongahela Township, which is eligible for listing as an historic site on the National Register. It was constructed between 1923 –1926 and replaced the original timber and stone structure built in the late 1800s.



Lock & Dam 7, Monongahela Township (Mackin 2006)

Other Threatened Sites

The heritage of coal mining has not only left its mark on the land of Southeastern Greene but also on its settlements. Villages such as Bobtown, Nemaocolin, and Crucible were constructed to provide housing for the workers who extracted coal from nearby mines. These villages still retain the characteristics of classic company towns (often referred to locally as “patch towns”), but few steps have been taken to preserve their uniqueness. As the economic relevance of coal mining wanes, threats of depopulation and abandonment could lead the loss of these important cultural and historic settlements.

GOALS AND STRATEGIES

Assessing public opinion regarding the historic and cultural resources in Greene County was undertaken during the public participation process conducted for the County Comprehensive Plan. This process confirmed that residents cherish their heritage and want to capitalize upon the remaining historic resources. Southeastern Greene County and the Monongahela River corridor, in particular, were noted as having numerous historic resources to implement heritage tourism efforts.

GOAL: Ensure that historic sites in Southeastern Greene County are protected for future generations.

The member municipalities of the Southeastern Greene Cooperative Communities Multi-Municipal Plan should take efforts to protect and preserve the threatened sites identified in this plan. Additionally, the Greene County Recreation Plan should be used as a guide for preservation as many of the communities of Southeastern Greene County are identified in that document as part of the, to be established, Historic and Cultural Zone.

GOAL: Capitalize on and support the Covered Bridge Festival.

The Municipalities of Southeastern Greene County together contains three of the seven covered bridges remaining in Greene County. Currently, a part of the annual Covered Bridge Festival is held in Garards Fort, but there is little participation from surrounding Townships and governments. Elected officials should make efforts to support the festival in any way possible to best capitalize on the economic benefits from that come from increased tourism.

GOAL: Continue and strengthen efforts to preserve the historic and culturally significant Greensboro Historic District.

- ❖ Greensboro Borough should conduct a historic building survey of all structures in the Borough, including those outside of the current historic district, and examine whether or not the boundaries of the district should be expanded to include the entire Borough.
- ❖ Establish gateways entrances by erecting signs at State Route 88 alerting motorists of Greensboro's location and historic significance.
- ❖ Develop an historic district ordinance in Greensboro Borough that provides local enforcement of properties located within the established district. Determine the local support of creating a

Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) to administer and enforce the ordinance by regulating the demolition of buildings, style of rehabilitation and new development that occurs within the Historic District boundaries.

- ❖ Install historic markers and interpretive signs along the newly designated Historic Greensburg Trail along Front Street that tell the story of Greensboro's founding as well as its cultural importance.
- ❖ Preserve the Monon Center, Lock House, Ferry Landing, Lock Master Property, and the Third Street Cemetery.

GOAL: Preserve the unique character of the villages and company towns of Southeastern Greene County.

The villages of Bobtown, Nemaocolin and Crucible have unique locations and development patterns based upon their founding as residential centers for coal mine workers. Although, they are relatively stable settlements the decline of other such villages throughout Appalachia should give notice that extra steps should be taken to raise awareness of their unique nature and the role they played in the history of the region.

- ❖ Nemaocolin and Crucible are both eligible for historic district status with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Local leaders should identify local support for perusing designation for both of these villages.
- ❖ Bobtown has many of the same historic attributes of both Crucible and Nemaocolin however, its eligibility for historic status has never been determined. Local leaders should partner with the Greene County Historical Society and conduct a survey to determine eligibility.