

BEAVER TOWN HISTORY

First used by the Seneca, Iroquois, Delaware and Mingo Indians as their hunting grounds, the site of modern-day Beaver, throughout the early 18th century, was the very essence of the eastern frontier. Although French trappers founded outposts on the banks of the Ohio and Beaver rivers, along with Mingo and Iroquois clansmen in the 1740s, this territory was closely guarded by the native peoples and was, at best, a risky proposition.

The French effort to establish a settlement at Fort Beaver in 1754 was aborted and no further traces of official occupation are chronicled until General Lachlan McIntosh who was sent by General George Washington, established Fort McIntosh in 1778. The fort served as a haven for early pioneers and trappers against the threat of Indian attack, the constant power struggle between the French and English over the Ohio Valley and as a designated United States Continental Army Fort. In 1794, Beaver became incorporated and lots were put up for sale, with some land given to Revolutionary War veterans in return for services rendered. In 1795, with the signing of the Treaty of Greenville between the United States and the Chiefs of local Indian nations, Western Pennsylvania was free from the "Indian threat" and was open for colonization. Finally, in 1802, the town of Beaver was officially founded.

As residents of the newly founded county found it more convenient to transact their civil business in Beaver rather than traveling to Pittsburgh, Beaver's first courthouse was erected in 1810. Later, in 1877, a new structure was built just a short distance to the west. Tragically, this Victorian marvel was destroyed by fire in 1932. The third courthouse, built in 1934, was razed in 2002 to make way for the present structure.

Today, Beaver is still proud of its heritage, and it is reflected in its wonderful historical museum, tree-lined streets, amazing Victorian architecture, beautiful public parks and friendly faces that greet you as you travel through this charming 200-year-old town.

The Ohio and Beaver rivers have played an important part in the development of Beaver County, spawning many unique river towns, each with a personality and character all its own. Today, each of these river towns shares a common focus on family values, hometown pride, economic growth and historic preservation.

The purpose of the Beaver County Community Walking Maps project is: 1) to promote health and exercise among the residents of the various river towns; 2) to highlight points of interest within each community; and 3) to promote community pride among all residents of the county. Through these maps, we hope people will see Beaver County as a collection of welcoming neighborhoods, all connected by common goals of economic progress, community pride and historical preservation.

THE RIVER TOWNS OF BEAVER COUNTY



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COVER PHOTO

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BEAVER COUNTY RIVER TOWN Walking Maps



BEAVER

PENNSYLVANIA

BEAVER WALKING MAP

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1** BOUQUET SQUARE
Corner of 5th Street and Beaver Street (NW)
- 2** CLARK SQUARE
Corner of Buffalo Street and 5th Street (NW)
- 3** LINN SQUARE
Corner of River Road and Buffalo Street (SE)
- 4** WAYNE SQUARE
Corner of River Road and Beaver Street (SW)
- 5** AGNEW SQUARE - BEAVER COUNTY COURTHOUSE
3rd Street and Market Street (NW)
- 6** MCINTOSH SQUARE
3rd Street and Market Street (SW)
- 7** QUAY SQUARE
3rd Street and Market Street (NE)
- 8** IRVINE SQUARE
3rd Street and Market Street (SE)
- 9** FORT MCINTOSH
River Road

- 10** HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND LOG HOUSE
1 River Road
- 11** 1897 TRAIN STATION
250 East End Avenue
- 12** BEAVER AREA MEMORIAL LIBRARY
100 College Avenue
- 13** 1845 STONE RESERVOIR - aka "WATER LOT"
5th Street and Wayne Street

- 14** MATTHEW STANLEY QUAY HOME
College Avenue & Second Street (NW corner)
- 15** OLDEST HOUSE IN BEAVER
River Road & Market Street (NW corner)
- 16** JOHN DRAVO HOUSE
River Road & Dravo Avenue (NW corner)
- 17** BEAVER CEMETERY (1863)

1 Mile Route

2 Mile Route

3 Mile Route

