



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

OVERVIEW

STATE OF THE REGION

HISTORY & CULTURE



Historic Places: 6,096 places or objects, up 104% since 2010.

COUNTY PLAN VISION

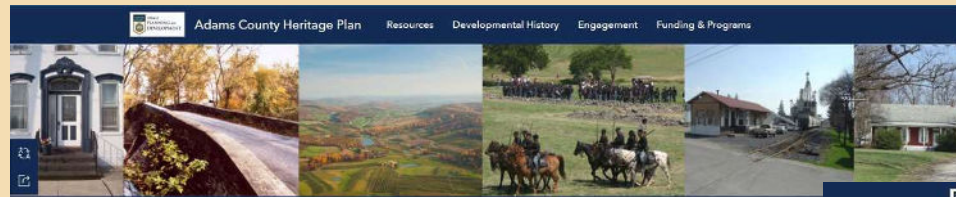
Preservation, Protection,
& Promotion

Telling other Stories

County Role

Engagement

PLAN HUB SITE



Adams County is updating the Heritage Component of the County Comprehensive Plan. Stay involved to help us ensure the preservation, protection, and promotion of historic and cultural resources that are important to you.



Funding Sources

Historic preservation projects of any type may require funding assistance from outside organizations. Please see the list of sources below to see if there may be opportunities for funding your project!

Click on the titles of each grant to view more information on the sponsor organization's website.

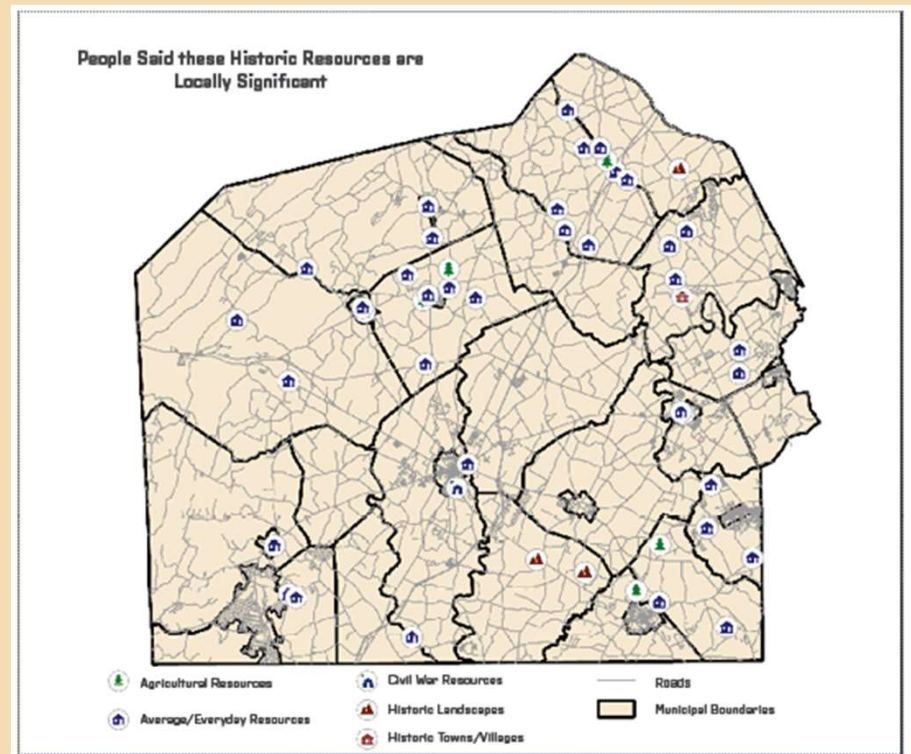
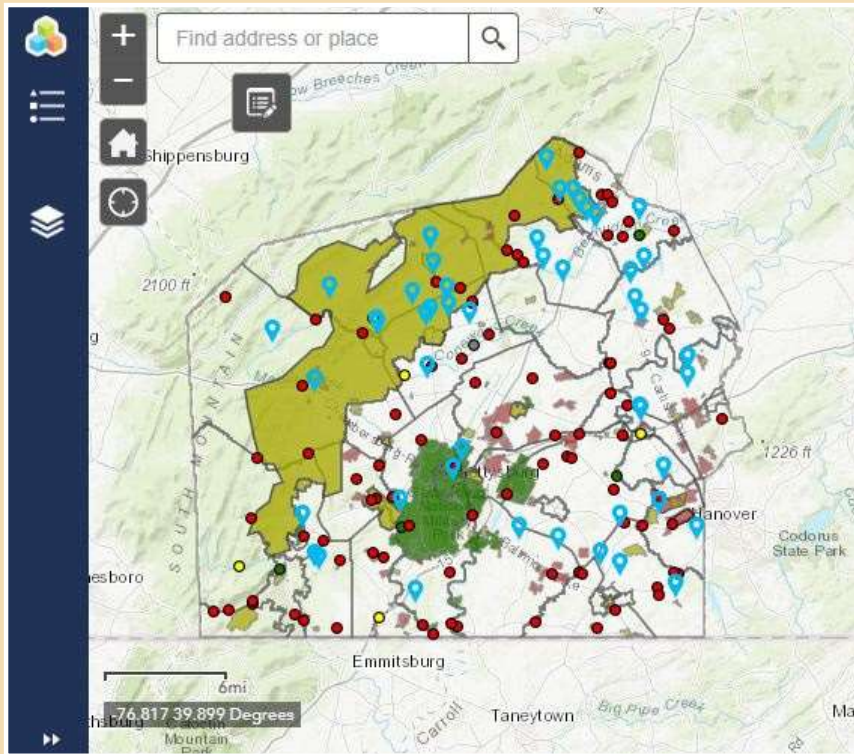
- > Funding for Construction Projects
- > Funding for Planning Projects
- > Funding for Museums, Archives, and other Education Projects
- > Funding Sources for Multiple Types of Projects

Historic Resources in Adams County

The map below depicts historic resources that are either listed, eligible for, or ineligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Resources that contribute to the significance of listed and eligible historic districts are included as well. These resources include districts, sites, buildings, bridges, and other structures. Important archaeological sites are not depicted on this map as information regarding their locations is usually not publicly available. The intention of the planning process and implementation is to ensure that these resources, as well as others, are preserved, protected, and promoted appropriately now and in the future.

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INTERACTIVE MAPPING



TIMELINE

CHAPTER 2: ADAMS COUNTY'S STORY

COUNTY DEVELOPMENT ERAS

Early Humans (Pre-1736)

Native Americans traveled, traded, and quarried stone on land that would eventually become Adams County. Few European settlers arrived on that land prior to 1736.

European Settlement (1736-1800)

The Penn family acquired a tract of land that included present day Adams County. This led to increased European settlement in the area and early, small-scale development. Settlers undertook small-scale agricultural operations to provide for their families. The French & Indian War and the American Revolution impacted county residents.

Growing Communities (1800-1863)

Adams County was officially established in January of 1800. The size of farms became smaller as mechanization of agricultural operations increased. Experimentation with fruit growing and production methods began to occur. The railroad began to arrive in the County and further development of transportation infrastructure occurred. Residents assisted in the escape of many formerly enslaved individuals from the South on the Underground Railroad and participated in other abolition efforts.

A Turning Point (1863-1883)

Adams County residents experienced the American Civil War and the aftermath. Local and national groups looked to preserve the area where the Battle of Gettysburg took place, and visitors from all over the country flocked to visit the site. Commercialization of the battlefield and surrounding area began to occur as a result of the incoming tourist traffic.

Mobility & Progress (1883-1945)

The construction of the Gettysburg & Harrisburg Railroad and designation of the route of the Lincoln Highway resulted in new ways to access the county's tourist attractions and provided additional, faster routes for commerce. Further developments occurred within the county's fruit growing and processing industry. Adams County residents were impacted by the World Wars.

Decentralization & Mid-Century Changes (1945-1970)

The increased ownership of personal automobiles began to provide people more freedom of choice about where to work and live, which allowed increased residential development outside of traditional borough and village settings. Further changes occurred to the local tourism industry. Industrial activity that did occur in the county declined around this time period, as well as the number of overall farmers.

Policy & Preservation (1970-2005)

Local government began to initiate land use controls as a result of new laws and development patterns. The Adams County portion of US Route 15 was constructed, providing even more mobility to residents, businesses, and industrial entities. Preservation of natural and cultural resources became an even more important concept for residents as development patterns continued to change.

Adams County Today (2005-Present)

Prospects for new, speculative residential developments saw a boom in the early 2000s prior to a major decline as a result of the 2008 Recession. Overall, Adams County saw a lack of recovery after the recession in comparison to adjacent counties.

Architecture Historic houses, buildings, and architectural styles that can be found throughout Adams County.
Growth & Development Significant dates and events as the County developed.
Institutions Schools, churches, and other institutional buildings and organizations that contributed to county communities.
Business & Industry Notable businesses and industries that contributed to growth and development in Adams County.
Transportation & Infrastructure Major roads, railroads, and other transportation methods and utility infrastructure that contributed to growth and development.
Communities Contributions, traditions, and culture of various county communities, including different ethnic, religious, and other groups.
Agriculture Development to changes in agricultural production throughout Adams County.

THEMES

Various themes throughout the timeline are indicated by the different colors and descriptions shown to the left. They are also shown at the bottom of each section of the timeline. Single themes can be followed throughout each era in the timeline, or themes can be read collectively throughout the entirety of the timeline.

ICONS & GRAPHICS

Several different icons and graphics are used throughout the timeline to indicate various key events, buildings, or other developments in Adams County's history. Some important icons are shown at the bottom of each section of the timeline.

ABBREVIATIONS

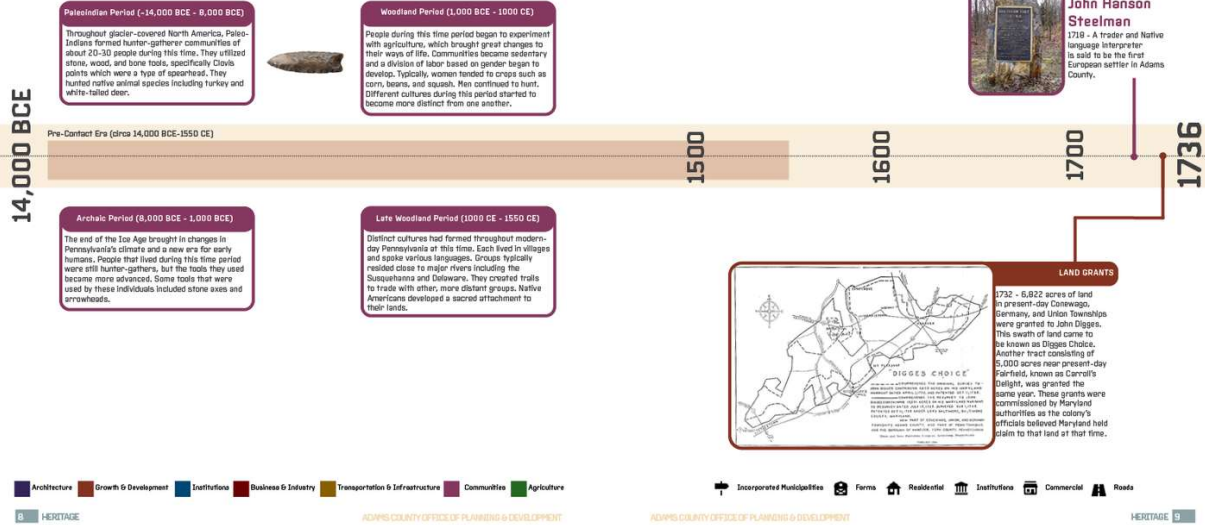
BCE - Before Common Era, or before year 1
CE - Common Era, or after year 1

TIMELINE

PRE-1736: EARLY HUMANS

While it is known that there were people living in what would become Adams County long before European colonization, a great deal is not currently known regarding these people as there are few existing written records and discovered prehistoric archaeological sites. The presence of these groups in this area may have been limited to transient hunter-gatherers that traded with other groups throughout the Susquehanna Valley. Evidence of this can be found throughout the South Mountain landscape where many prehistoric quarry sites have been identified, as well as the thousands of artifacts of various types that have been found along County creeks. Tribes that are known to have frequented the Adams County area include the Nanticokes, Susquehannocks, Shawnee, and Delaware. The first European settlers of Adams County arrived during this era and some early land grants and surveys took place.

ERAS OF NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY IN PENNSYLVANIA



Architecture Growth & Development Institutions Business & Industry Transportation & Infrastructure Communities Agriculture

Incorporated Municipalities Farms Residential Institutions Commercial Roads

TIMELINE

1736 - 1800: EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT

This era marked a transition from a Native Landscape to the beginning of European settlement after the Penn's acquired the land containing Adams County in 1736. This era was characterized by the development of small settlements and some necessary infrastructure, as well as subsistence farming by settlers. This era ended with the official founding of Adams County upon its separation from York County.



LAND PURCHASE

The Penn family acquired the tract of land that includes present day Adams County. The Proprietary that claimed the territory prior to the acquisition. While there were of course some individuals who settled this territory prior to this date, these individuals and future settlers were eventually provided proper titles to their land.

FIRST TOWN

Abbottstown was the first town laid out in Adams County. It would not become an officially incorporated borough until much later.

FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR 1754 - 1763

The French and Indian War was a conflict between British and France over territory in North America. In 1752, the French and Native Americans began to raid Adams County settlements as the war progressed.

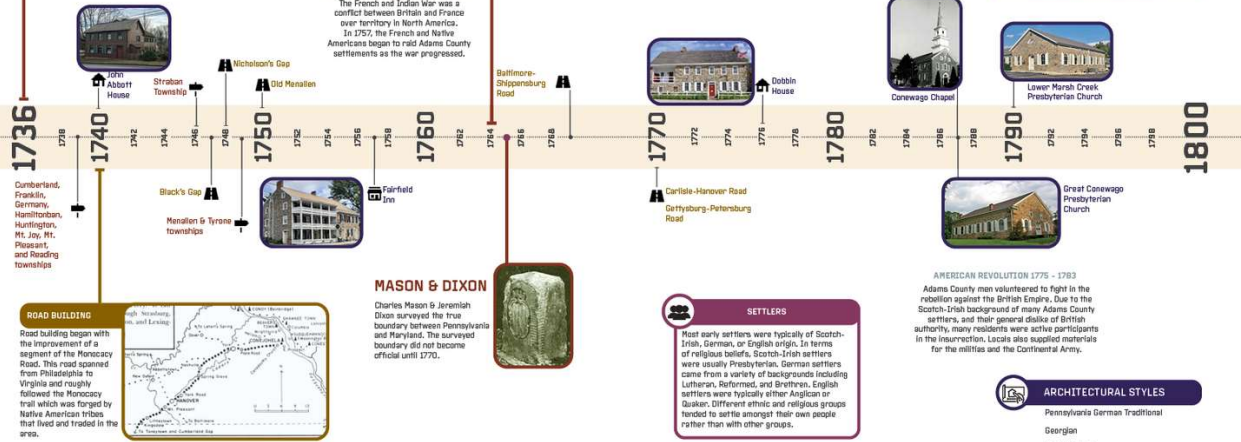
MARY JEMISON

Mary Jemison (or Jenkinson according to some sources) and her family settled near Marsh Creek in the 1740s. They experienced a raid by the Shawnee related to the French and Indian war in 1758. While some of her family members and neighbors were killed during and after the raid, Jemison, who was a young girl at the time, was spared and eventually assimilated into Native American culture. She died in 1833 while living at the Buffalo Creek Reservation in New York.



AGRICULTURE

Most early settlers survived through simple subsistence farming. Once families settled, small local market farming (or diversified small scale production) of primarily small grains such as wheat, oats, and rye began to occur. Flour and gristmills were also commonly found around the County during this time. Other crops such as corn, turnips, cabbage, and hemp could have been found on an early farm. Many early farms also had a small orchard that produced apples, peaches, or cherries.



ROAD BUILDING

Road building began with the improvement of a segment of the Manocacy Road. This road spanned from Philadelphia to Virginia and roughly followed the Manocacy trail which was forged by Native American tribes that lived and traded in the area.

MASON & DIXON

Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon surveyed the true boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland. The surveyed boundary did not become official until 1770.

SETTLERS

Most early settlers were typically of Scottish-Irish, German, or English origin. In terms of religious beliefs, Scotch-Irish settlers were usually Presbyterian. German settlers came from a variety of backgrounds including Lutheran, Reformed, and Brethren. English settlers were typically either Anglican or Quaker. Different ethnic and religious groups tended to settle amongst their own people rather than with other groups.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

- Pennsylvania German Traditional
- Georgian
- Log Buildings

OTHER TOOLS

FUNDING FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

KEYSTONE HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONSTRUCTION GRANT

Eligible Applicants: Non-profit organizations and local governments

Sponsor: Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

Description: Supports projects that rehabilitate, restore, or preserve historic resources listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Funding is only eligible for construction related activities.

Amount: \$5,000 - \$100,000, requires a 50/50 cash match

Website: <https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Preservation/Grants-Funding/Pages/Construction-Projects.aspx>

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION INCENTIVE TAX PROGRAM

Eligible Applicants: Qualified Taxpayers

Sponsor: Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development

Description: Supports organizations in which one of the primary purposes is the preservation of historical records for the public. Can be awarded for surveying, inventorying, preserving, arranging, and describing historical records relevant to Pennsylvania.

Amount: Tax credits will not exceed 25% of qualified expenditures in connection with a project

Website: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/historic-preservation-tax-credit-htpc/>

FEDERAL REHABILITATION INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT

Eligible Applicants: Owners and some long term leases of income-producing properties

Sponsor: PA State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service

Description: This program covers certain expenses incurred in connection with rehabilitating historic buildings. The building must be listed on the National Register, operated by the same owner for five years, and meet other specific requirements

Amount: 20% Tax Credit

Website: <https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Preservation/Grants-Funding/Pages/Federal-Tax-Credits.aspx>

BARN PRESERVATION GRANT PROGRAM

Eligible Applicants: Any barn owner who is a member of HGAC

Sponsor: Historic Gettysburg - Adams County

Description: Supports projects to restore historic barns in Adams County that are over fifty years old, are facing demolition by neglect, and retain historical significance

Amount: Variable

Website: <https://www.hgaconline.org/barn-preservation>

LOG BUILDINGS

1718-1880



Ickes House - Abbottstown

BUILDING MATERIALS	ROOF	IDENTIFYING DETAILS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Log Clay and/or Mud Brick Stone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Side gabled roof 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horizontal log construction Small, irregularly spaced windows Clay or mud between logs
BUILDING TYPES	OTHER FEATURES/NOTES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houses Barns Taverns Churches Mills 	<p>It is important to note that not every log building is of earlier construction. Some later log style buildings were constructed during the 1930s and 1940s by the Civilian Conservation Corps for public parks and recreation areas.</p>	

PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN TRADITIONAL

1718-1870



Fox House - East Berlin

BUILDING MATERIALS	ROOF	IDENTIFYING DETAILS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stone Brick Log Wood framing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steeply pitched, gabled roof 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gable and chimneys Summer kitchen behind main home Two and a half stories
BUILDING TYPES	OTHER FEATURES/NOTES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houses Agricultural Outbuildings Mills 	<p>These types of buildings are concentrated in areas of the county, such as East Berlin Borough, where individuals of German ethnicity settled. However, they can be found scattered throughout other areas of the county as well. One common expression of this style is a farmhouse with four second floor windows and two front doors flanked by two additional windows on the first floor.</p>	

... AND MORE!