

# **MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL**

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**



# **THE COLONIAL TRAIL**

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## **HISTORIC TRAILS PROGRAM**

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# HISTORIC TRAILS PROGRAM

This historic trails program was developed by the Minsi Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America to provide additional outdoor program activities as well as an insight into our American heritage. Its purpose is to promote citizenship training and physical fitness. This is accomplished through an exciting hiking program that features recognition for achievement.

In order that we might understand the story of our trails we must go back in time and relive the events that shaped our nation over 250 years ago. Our trail emblem is symbolic of those events in history that played such an important role in our nations development.

Upon examining the emblem we see the profiles of three figures, each symbolic of the people that shaped our land. The Native American is a symbol of our earliest history. The Pioneer represents the hardy men who opened up the frontier and the Continental Soldier is a reminder of the sacrifices endured so that we might be free.

The Liberty Bell was housed in Allentown during the British occupation of Philadelphia and is our National symbol of freedom. The Moravian belfry is representative of the Moravian influence in this area and is symbolic of our religious heritage. The Easton flag was the first stars and stripes flag. It was flown at the reading of the Declaration of Independence in Easton, PA on July 8, 1776.

The trail segments symbolize the various aspects of our early history. The tri-cornered hat is representative of the Colonial period and as such is the symbol of the **Colonial Trail**. The Durham boat represents the extensive use of the canal system of the early nineteenth and twentieth centuries and is a symbol of the **Durham Trail**. The Paschal Lamb of the **Moravian Trail** symbolizes the Moravian influence in our valley. The Peace Pipe of the **Uncas Trail** symbolizes our Native American Heritage and the powderhorn of the **Sullivan Wilderness Trail** is symbolic of the early struggles of our country. The hammer and pick ax symbolize our industrial heritage for the **Industrial Heritage Trail**. The Moravian Star is another symbol of our Moravian cultural heritage and represents the **Nazareth Trail**. The bull's eye is the symbol of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. which owned the Lehigh and Delaware canal and represents the **Towpath Trail**. The ore car represents the **Quarries Trail**. The mountains and the river represent the Delaware Water Gap, the gateway to the Poconos and is the symbol of the **Gateway to the Poconos Trail**.

The trail medal features a bronze medallion suspended from a red, white and blue ribbon. The medallion consists of the three figures on the emblem and also a fourth, that of a Moravian woman. This latter figure is in honor of all the Colonial women and their extensive contributions to our land.

Thus, the emblem and medal are symbolic of the men and women who settled our Country and guided its destiny. We are the inheritors of their dream. As you journey along these trails, may you be inspired with the same love for and devotion to our nation as were our forebearers.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAIL AWARDS

1. Only current registered Scouts BSA, Venturers, Explorers, Unit Leaders, Cadette or older Girl Scouts and Leaders may receive the trail medal. For those groups traveling more than 500 miles, a national tour permit is required.
2. Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Brownies, Junior Girl Scouts and any other individuals who hike the trails may purchase the patches and segments only for which they qualify. Any three of the required five trails for a medal may be completed as a Tiger Cub, Cub Scout, Brownie, or Junior Girl Scout.
3. Awards may be purchased at the Minsi Trails Council Scout Shop. Rockers (depicted on the back cover and shaded for the hike in this pamphlet) are available for each hike. Upon completing the first hike you may also purchase the round center patch.
4. Qualifications for the trail medal is to hike, in full, any five of the Minsi Trails Council, B.S.A., Historic Trails. Trail medals may also be purchased at the Minsi Trails Council Scout Shop.

## TRAIL USE GUIDELINES

1. The Scout Oath and Scout Law apply at all times
2. Safety is a major concern. Use proper hiking methods, precautions and common sense (see Scouts BSA Handbook for additional information). Individuals need to check weather and safety conditions prior to hiking the trails. Note that some trails are in hunting areas, please check local hunting dates. Additionally, leaders should be familiar with the [Guide to Safe Scouting \(GSS\)](#) as well as course SCO\_800 Hazardous Weather Training, available at [my.scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org). The BSA also has the S.A.F.E. program which provides a concise checklist for running safe activities: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safe/>
3. No trespassing on private property. Respect the rights of others.
4. All the hikes have been prepared as day long hikes. Toilet and overnight facilities have not been provided.
5. Knowledge of basic compass, map reading and hiking procedures is necessary.
6. Scouts are encouraged to be in uniform and carry their current registration cards.
7. Two responsible adults (21 years or older) are necessary for any group of hikers younger than 21. If the group exceeds ten youths, it is recommended that there be an additional adult for every additional five youths. These adults must be current with BSA Youth Protection Training and Pennsylvania ACT 15 requirements. If female youth are hiking at least 1 female leader must be in attendance on the hike as well per BSA guidelines.
8. Trail lunches and a garbage bag to be carried out should be taken with you.
9. Most of the hikes note museums and buildings which may be visited. The hikes, due to time constraints, do not lend themselves to visitations during a hike. Should you want to visit any of the museums or buildings noted, please make arrangements with the appropriate groups prior to your visit.
10. The Historic Trails Committee has attempted to provide areas where parking should be sufficient at both the beginning and end of each trail. Be sure you have sufficient and safe transportation at both the beginning and end of the trails.

# THE COLONIAL TRAIL

(Approximately 11 miles)

Lechauwekink, the anglicized version of the Lenni Lenape (Delaware Indian) name meaning “where the waters fork”, was the title given to the Lehigh River thus describing it as being a fork of the Delaware River. At times it was called the Lecha River and finally it became the Lehigh. It is from this river that Lehigh County takes its name.

The Colonial Trail covers a portion of Lehigh County beginning in Emmaus, originally called Macungie (Mauch Chunk) “eating place of the bears” and extends to Allentown originally called Northampton Town and renamed in honor of its founder William Allen, Chief Justice of the Colony of Pennsylvania’s Supreme Court.

## Start of Trail

- Start from the southern end of parking lot at the end of Fairview Street
- Proceed east down a lane (top left corner of parking lot). You will come to a structure on your left known as ...



**The Shelter House - 1743**

## The “Shelter House”

It was not originally called the shelter house; that name is of recent origin. It is a rather fine English translation of the original German name, “Zufluchtshaus,” which literally means “a house or structure to which one flees” (in danger). The pioneers in this area were predominantly Germans, therefore the German name.

It was erected as a place of refuge or shelter in case of an Indian attack, which never materialized, as far as is known. It is assumed that this

building was also used for social gatherings and as a temporary shelter for early travelers and new pioneers in search of home sites. The size of the original building, which could hold relatively few at the most, proves that the locality was not heavily populated when the building was erected.

This site was selected because of the close proximity of two springs and an old Indian trail along the northern slope of South Mountain. A spring was considered the best source of water and was essential for any home site. Before roads were built, Indian trails, by necessity, were used for travel and communication. These were too narrow and rough for wagons so the only alternative was horseback or foot - usually the latter because horses were too scarce and expensive. This trail eastward was heavily traveled after Bethlehem was founded in 1741, the first town in this area. It became a road open to vehicles finally in 1760.

Who erected the Zufluchtshaus? It is impossible to pinpoint or name the individual or group of individuals. They were too busy making history to record it. It is not even certain who owned or donated the land on which it was built. They may very well have been squatters - people who came and took possession of the land without bothering to get any legal right or title.

The structure is a medieval type horizontal hewn-log structure - approximately 40' x 25'. It is the oldest log building of record in Lehigh County. It was erected over several years, 1734-1741, before the "Walking Purchase" by which the Penn Proprietors imposed legal control over this whole section of Pennsylvania. Thereafter they issued land warrants to the German colonists then flooding into the Port of Philadelphia.

The building is constructed of exposed horizontal logs with masonry chinking, the gables are closed with random width vertical boarding. The windows, as in most early germanic buildiilgs, are both infrequent and small. A central chimney breaks the roof ridge. The structural timbers which span the house protrude on the exterior where they are visibly pegged, stabilizing the structure. The house was built in two periods.

- Return to the lane and back to the parking lot and onto Fairview Street.
- Turn right onto S. Fourth St. and proceed north to Minor St.
- Turn right and walk 0.2 of a mile and look for a small park-like Moravian cemetery on left (God's Acre) - enter at 360 degrees and proceed to the white gate.
- Standing in front of the gate look for a stone marker on your left

The history of the Moravian church in this area dates back to 1742 when a small log church was built on land donated for that purpose. A small

marble shaft marks the northeast corner of the old grave yard. Here a group of early settlers gathered and received spiritual administration from the Moravian Brethren in Bethlehem. They were organized as a congregation on July 30, 1747. This was the first burial ground of the Moravian Brethren of Emmaus, 1742-1856.

- **Leave the cemetery by way of Adrain Street and head northeast to S. Second St. Turn left, go across railroad tracks and proceed to Main St. Make a right onto Main Street.**

*The building on the right is the present location of the Moravian property.*

The second **Moravian Church** was built on the southeast corner of the present parsonage. Within a few years it was outgrown and in 1766 a third church was erected. It stood east of the present church. These first church buildings have long ago yielded to time. A beautiful new stone structure, the fourth, was constructed in 1834 with an adjoining parsonage - at a cost of \$4,000. Behind the Moravian Church is the 1803 House, built by Jacob Ehrenhart, Jr. It can be visited.

A school house of log construction was opened east of the present church on February 6, 1747. Forty children were enrolled. By June of the same year, the day-school was extended to include a boarding school. An Indian boy was among those early pupils. The cost of board and schooling was six pound sterling per year (about \$14-\$15).



**Emmaus Moravian Church**

In 1758, the elders of the Moravian Church in Bethlehem considered laying out a Congregational Village in Salisbury. Such a village was to be closed to all but members of the congregation. The first two houses were built in 1759. In 1761, the new village was named Emmaus. A very complete set of “Town Regulations” was prepared. It contained 45 separate articles which were to control all phases of life in Emmaus. Any person who expected to live in the village had to sign these “Regulations.” It necessarily followed, therefore, that strictly speaking, nobody could live in Emmaus but those who belong to the Moravian Church and those who earnestly desire to live a peaceful and quiet life in all godliness and honesty.

Section 17 of the “Town Regulations” states that if anyone has an opinion peculiar to himself, he should not spread that idea. Section 20 - no meeting, either public or private shall be kept without lights, on any account whatsoever. Section 23 - no dancing, no beer-tappings, feasting at weddings, christenings or burials, common sports and pastimes, gaming with dice, cards, etc. (including the playing of the children in the streets) shall be so much as heard of among those living in Emmaus. Section 32 - goods which are to be used in Emmaus, shall not without “urgent” necessity be bought elsewhere. Section 41 - no marriage shall be made without approval of the church. Under these regulations, the village grew slowly but steadily.

During the years 1778 and 1779, this little village was affected by the Revolutionary War. For it was in those years that the people of Pennsylvania were required to take an oath in order to achieve solidarity. This caused great consternation among the Moravians, since many of them had conscientious scruples against the taking of oaths. During April 1778, twelve members of the church were imprisoned at Easton and kept on bread and water for 25 days. When the congregation was 59 years old, it consisted of 146 members. Besides the church, the village had 13 family dwellings.

- **Cross Main Street (with caution) and proceed north on Keystone Ave. (which becomes Iriquois St.) for 1.1 miles until you come to Wenner St.(on your right) - Keystone makes a left turn here.**

*The house on the left (3 Iriquois St) is the:*

**Iron Gate House (Kemmerer House)** - This sizeable brick masonry structure dates from 1840- 1850 but retains many of the characteristics of similar structures two generations earlier. The main front has \_\_\_\_\_equally spaced windows. The door is transomed. On the interior, it is evident from the height of the ceilings, the type of fireplace and the millwork, that the date of its construction predates the Civil War. A small wing (once a detached summer kitchen) is definitely of an earlier period and suggests that the main house is a



later day replacement of an earlier one that used the same stone foundations. In the cellar of the present house is an 18th century root cellar (a further deeper excavation beneath the basement floor), entered by a flight of steps and closed with wood doors. The oldest house still intact in nearby Emmaus has an identical sub-cellar for for the storage of food and wine.

- **Continue north on Keystone St. for 0.3 of a mile until you come to a creek (Little Lehigh).**

*on your right is the ...*

**Keck House (1711 Keystone Rd) -1815** - This surviving farmhouse retains all the earmarks of the 18th century -2 ½ stories, the gable on the narrow ends, opening across the front with a rear wing (1840) at right angles to the main structure. The trimmed limestone masonry was coated with a lime pebble-dash stucco probably applied when the wing was constructed. The brick chimneys are centered on the roof ridge at both gable ends of the house. The existing front porch was an early 20th century addition. The arched entrance door and trim with its fanlight is still intact, all its hardware except the box lock are in place. Most of the windows have been resashed, but one or two original sash-in-place indicate the glass size; there was probably a fixed upper unit of nine panes and a lower one of six. Henry and Malle Keck were among the earliest families to arrive aboard the ship “Pink John and William”. They arrived October, 1732, and were sold into bondage to a man in Chester County. In 1734, the Kecks settled on this tract where they found an existing log cabin, barn, and a planted apple orchard.

- **Proceed across the bridge to small parking area on the right.**

*Facing east, looking across the Little Lehigh Creek is a group of buildings of the:*

**Edgar Fink Homestead - 1817** - This farmhouse is constructed of native limestone. The original 2-1/2 story house with its main entrance faces west apart from the main house and located to the northeast is a “summer kitchen” building. The in-ground foundations are of fieldstone masonry, the upper portion covered with random width siding. From the springhouse by the river, a stone arched connecting tunnel goes to the house. The barn nearby is also of fieldstone, and the timber is pegged.

This farm valley is part of the area known to the Lenni Lenape Indians as “Maguntsche” (Macungie), or “feeding place of the bear”. It is typical of the camp sites selected by the Indians with many springs, fishing streams and nearby the South Mountain for hunting. Numerous artifacts found on the Keck

and Fink farms represent six historic periods - Paleo, Early and Late Archaic, Transitional, Woodland and Colonial. The physical characteristics of the site, its closeness to the Indian Jasper Quarries and the large variety and number of discovered artifacts indicated this served the Indians as an encampment and possibly a village for thousands of years. Among the artifacts found here are:

- ❁ 3 Paleo Indian spear points - 8 to 12 thousand years old
  - ❁ 78 Early archaic period spear points - 6 to 8 thousand years old
  - ❁ 84 Late archaic period points - 4 to 6 thousand years old
  - ❁ 1 Banner stone - archaic period
  - ❁ Transitional period - 12 broad spear points, 3 fishnet weights - 2 to 3 thousand years old
  - ❁ Woodland period - 400 to 2,000 years old.- 94 arrow points, one core drilled stone bead, 4 drills - stone, and 6 gravers
  - ❁ Colonial period - 28 Kaolin clay trade pipe fragments, 3 lead rifle balls, 2 gun flints, 1 cast silver shoe buckle, 1 forged iron axe, hand made copper button, 2 English copper coins (dated 1743), Spanish silver coins
- **At the end of the small parking area, continue on Keystone Rd in a north-westerly direction.**
  - **Cross the bridge following Devonshire Road to the first road to the right (approx. 650 ft.) follow this road to the Western Salisbury Church and old cemetery.**

**The Western Salisbury Church** is located on a minesite hill overlooking the Little Lehigh Creek. This land along the Little Lehigh was the first settled by Europeans. German immigrants from the Palatinate in Germany arrived in this “Schmaltzgasse” area between 1720 and 1730. These German immigrants put their religious faith next only to their families. And in 1741 a log cabin church was erected to serve their needs. This church predated the Moravian Church in the area by one year. the founding of Allentown by 21 years, and the Declaration of Independence by 31 years. The present structure replaced the prior church in 1819. The walls are of limestone masonry (now stucco-coated). Originally there were three paneled double entrance doors with very large hand-ornamented iron rimlocks. One in the center of each side at grade level - north, west, and south. Only the west doors now remain in place and the original opening through the 24” masonry walls is shielded by an added frame entry.

At two periods in this century, attached additions have been constructed on the original structure; they remain dwarfed by the original building which stands large in its green setting and adds beauty and traditional form to the countryside.



**The Western Salisbury Church**



**Indian Grave Stone**

Few narratives about Indian attacks upon Pennsylvania German settlers in our immediate area are known to us. The grave of the massacred Peter Frantz family in the old cemetery is a short distance north of the middle window of the church. This Indian massacre occurred during the French and Indian War. One of the children, a 9 year old girl, was carried away into captivity. The rest of the family was cruelly massacred and the buildings were set to the torch. The Indians rubbed bear oil on the young captive girl and set her out in the sun on a rock - probably intended to darken her skin, so as to make her appear more like one of them. She was adopted as a member of the tribe and lived among them for 9 years until she was released and returned home.

*In the S.E. corner of the old cemetery is a stone inscribed: In memory of several Indians of the \_\_\_\_\_ Tribe buried in this cemetery.*

This corner is known as “das Insche Eck” or Indian corner. Some of the older folks still remember having places pointed out to them along the Little Lehigh where several Indian families had their wigwams long after the tribes to which they belonged had moved to more remote sections of the state.

- **Go through the cemetery at a reading of 330 degrees turn left and follow the road down the hill and across the bridge.**
- **Turn right on Keystone follow it as it forks to the right, continue 0.2 of a mile until you come to a path that goes down to the Little Lehigh -follow it downstream 0.4 of a mile through the park until you come to a paved road (Fish Hatchery Rd.) Cross the road at the intersection bearing left and enter through the parking lot to the Fish Hatchery.**

On January 1, 1883, the Pennsylvania Fish Commission leased this land from Reuben Troxel. For over 20 years the Eastern Hatchery, as it was then known, was the supplier of brook trout for the entire eastern half of Pennsylvania. Rainbow trout, California trout, pickerel, carp, bass, perch, catfish, and even salmon were raised here.

The Fish Commission abandoned this Hatchery in 1904. Years later, General Harry C. Trexler acquired the entire property from the heirs of Reuben Troxel. Improvements included the establishment of 28 trout ponds which marketed 15 tons of trout each year. Upon the death of General Trexler in 1933, the Hatchery was given to the City of Allentown. Today, trout eggs are no longer hatched here. Young trout called fingerlings are shipped in from state hatcheries and raised to maturity in what is now known as Lil-Le-Hi Trout Nursery. At present, rainbow, and brown trout are raised co-operatively by the Pennsylvania Fish Commission, City of Allentown, Lehigh County, Trout Creek and Pioneer Fish and Game Associations.

Large trout may be seen in a separate pond by the flag pole. There are a total of \_\_\_\_\_ fish ponds still in operation. (Fish food is for sale here.)

- **Exit parking lot, stay on the north side of Fish Hatchery Rd. and head east. After crossing the bridge follow the path heading off to your left, downstream.**

*The Lenni Lenape Historical Society and museum is located on your right and may be visited. Please call for arrangements- 610-797-2121.*

- **Continue downstream for 0.3 of a mile until you come to a low vehicle bridge with a barn on your right.**

*On the south side of the bridge is an old small building.*

This stone springhouse, built in the 1800's, is a fine example of an old-fashioned refrigerator. Inside meats, fruit, and cider were stored for future use. The springhouse is cooled by spring water which flows through the length of the building. Open the doors on a hot day, and feel the difference in temperature. Be careful when entering. Many interesting aquatic plants can be seen in the shallow, man-made pond outside. Their luxuriant growth is due to abundant sunlight, a good source of nutrients from other decaying plants, and from the soluble limestone.

The most common plant in this pond is elodea. Other specimens are the lacy-looking watermilfoil, the long-leaved pondweed, and the green "slime" floating on the surface, an alga called spirogyra.

- **Continue down stream from the low bridge until you come to an old stone structure in the bank on your right.**



**Old Lime Kiln**

This well-preserved Lime Kiln is one of many that existed in the area to burn limestone for construction and agricultural purposes. Most kilns, as was this one, were built against a hillside for ease of charging, as they were loaded from the top with chunks of limestone and coal. Often the kiln was built into a limestone bluff with the quarry floor level with the top of the kiln.

Inside the stone structure is an inverted cone lined with fire brick. At the base of the arch is a small opening into the bottom of the cone.

To prepare the limestone for burning, it was first broken up with a sledge hammer into chunks the size of a man's fist. A layer of kindling was placed in the bottom of the kiln, followed by alternating layers of anthracite coal and limestone. Mud and dirt were packed around the edges to force heat and gasses to escape through the center. The wood kindling was lit, and replenished through the bottom opening until the coal started to burn. The opening at the base also provided the draft for combustion. The contents of the kiln burned slowly for about eight days. About two weeks later the burned lime, which had turned to powder in the burning process, was cool enough to remove.

It was then shoveled out of the bottom opening into baskets or bottom dump wagons. Before the "hot" lime could be used it had to be slaked, or hydrated. Otherwise it would burn the skin and plants. If the lime was used to sweeten acid soil, it was usually taken to a field, dumped onto the ground and left to slake naturally by rainfall. After it dried out it was spread over the field. This was done to each field every third or fourth year.

If the lime was to be used to prepare lime-sand mortar, it was normally slaked near the kiln and packaged into barrels for shipment to building contractors.

Lime was burned only in the cool early spring months for agricultural use. For use in mortar the work could be done at any time, but cooler weather was preferred.

Lime kilns ceased to be used in the early part of this century. A stone on the front says \_\_\_\_\_ Bogert -1952 restored.

- **Continue downstream until you come to a covered bridge.**

**Bogert's Bridge**, built in 1841, is maintained by the Allentown Parks Department and spans the Little Lehigh Creek. The bridge is a single span \_\_\_\_\_ feet long and features burr trusses. The bridge was marked for demolition but public clamor saved the span. The state turned the bridge over to the Parks Department.



**Bogert's Bridge**

- **Continue across the covered bridge until you see the old Hunters Cabin on your left.**





### **The Hunter's Cabin - 1741**

**The Hunters Cabin** was built in 1741 and restored in 1938. It is a typical cabin of logs with lime-sand mortar between the logs. It is a \_\_\_\_\_ room cabin with a central fireplace and kitchen. The entrance door opens into the kitchen. There are no other doors. The beam-supported roof has wood sided gables and a slanted wood shingled roof with a stone chimney. A patent for this cabin was taken out 2 years after the “Walking Purchase”.

- **From the Hunter's Cabin proceed to the creek and continue downstream in a northerly direction for 0.6 of a mile until you come to a steel bridge. Go underneath and continue 0.75 of a mile to a stone and wood bridge... Continue for approx. 0.75 of a mile to the end of the path and to a concrete road by a bridge.**
- **Turn right and cross this bridge. Immediately after crossing this bridge take the left fork and you will cross over another bridge.**
- **Take a bearing of 74 degrees and head east on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive (stay on the south side of the road) for 1.4 miles. You will pass under the Eighth St. bridge. At the intersection of Lehigh St. stay on the southern side and continue east on Martin Luther King Dr. for 0.4 of a mile.**
- **At the Intersection of South Fourth St. and Martin Luther King Jr. Drive enter the Harry A Roberts Plaza.**

Here you will find a statue commemorating \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The statue was unveiled on January 17, 2011. [https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/allentown/2011/01/king\\_statue\\_unveiled\\_in\\_new\\_ha.html](https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/allentown/2011/01/king_statue_unveiled_in_new_ha.html)



**Statue of Dr. and Mrs. King - Harry A. Roberts Plaza**

- **Proceed in a northwesterly direction (300 degrees) to the intersection of South Fourth St. and Union St. Head north across this intersection and continue on the west side of Fourth St. towards Walnut St.**



**Trout Hall - 1770**

**Trout Hall**, a fine stone house built in 1770 as a summer lodge by James Allen, son of William Allen, founder of the city of Allentown. James and his family lived in it during the Revolution. James Hamilton shared this residence with the Allens. Now restored and furnished in its period this fine residence also has a small museum which shows a changing variety of exhibits. The house also served as the Seminary in 1848 and in 1867 the building was incorporated into the first campus of Muhlenberg College. It is now home to the Lehigh County Historical Society.

- **Continue on the brick path through Allen Park to the Lehigh Valley Heritage Museum.**





## Lehigh Valley Heritage Museum

**Lehigh Valley Heritage Museum / Liberty Bell Shrine** Five significant themes are interwoven into the mural which adorns the 46 foot span of the east wall of the Shrine. The main and unifying theme is, of course, the hazardous hauling of the Liberty Bell from Independence Hall in September 1777 to the country village of Northampton Town (Allentown). The stirring incident took place during a low ebb in the cause of independence, since Philadelphia was about to be occupied by the British, and remote regions of the Pennsylvania German section seemed to offer a place of safety for the treasure of the capital city. The evacuation was carried out by the people of Northampton Town (Allentown). They were met by an escort of soldiers from Washington's camp at Pottsgrove (now Pottstown). The Liberty Bell was sent with 10 other bells and chimes in farm wagons. They were carefully covered with potato sacks and manure from the stables.

A practical illustration of the motto, "For God and Country", the twin loyalties of man are shown in the cooperation of church and state in protecting and preserving the most precious symbol of liberty and freedom.

The journey from Philadelphia may not have been as direct as possible since it took a total of eight days to cover a distance of about 65 miles by the shortest route. The rumor was that the bell had been hidden in the waters of the Delaware River.

A reproduction of the Liberty Bell was presented to the United States. This is one of 53 cast in France in 1950. It weighs \_\_\_\_\_ pounds. The Rev. Blumer's family Bible was brought from Glarus, Switzerland, and printed in \_\_\_\_\_. The men of Northampton Town (Allentown) lowered the Liberty Bell for safe-keeping under the floor of Zion Reformed Church (now Resurrected Life Church) on \_\_\_\_\_.

(To make arrangements to visit the Lehigh Valley Heritage Center call 610-435-1074). Additional exhibits are on display, and would make an excellent day-trip for Scouting units. <http://www.lehighvalleyheritagemuseum.org>

- **Continue on Walnut Street to Penn Street and head north on the east side of the street for ¾ block to:**

## **HISTORIC PLAQUE**

This is the site of first incorporated Homoeopathic Medical College in North America known as the North American Academy of the \_\_\_\_\_ This was founded April 10, 1835 on the 80th birthday of Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann, M.D.

- **Continue north to Hamilton St. and proceed west on the south side of the street past the Post Office and cross Fifth St. (the New United States Courthouse is on this corner).**
- **Cross Hamilton St to the Old Court House.**

**Old Court House.** The original portion of the old courthouse was started in 1817, costing \$24,937. In 1864 the building was refurbished and the court room was enlarged. In 1914 an addition was put on the back where stables used to be - at a cost of \$199,000. (The new Lehigh County Courthouse across Fifth St to the east was opened in 1965 - at a cost of \$6,700,000) The old courthouse is made of gray limestone that was quarried locally. The bell tower is made of wood. The county prison used to be downstairs. One of the original cells can still be viewed. This building now houses a museum illustrating the history of Lehigh County, the library of the Lehigh County Historical Society and county archives. There are \_\_\_\_\_ window panes in the transom above the two front doors.

- **Just west of the Old Court House is a small garden set back between the buildings. Enter.**

**The Geology Garden** On display are samples of various types of rocks found in this area. Allentown is situated on what main type of rocks? Also look for a slate circular saw. This was used in the early days of the slate industry. Saws like this quickly became dull when used on hard metamorphic slate rock. Modern slate saws are diamond-tipped and last eight times as long.

- **Continue west on Hamilton St. to Sixth St Cross over to the south side of the street and continue west for about ½ block to Resurrected Life Community Church.**

From 1962 until 2023, the Liberty Bell Shrine that you may visit in the Lehigh Valley Heritage Center was housed here. It was in this church, in September of 1777 that colonists hid the Liberty Bell with 10 other bells underneath the floor of the church.



**Resurrected Life Community Church**  
**Hiding location of the Liberty Bell**

- **Continue west on Hamilton St. to Seventh St. Cross Hamilton St. to the northeast corner. On the building look for a HISTORIC PLAQUE**



**Soldiers and Sailors Monument - 1899**

**Soldiers and Sailors Monument** This column commemorates the valor and patriotism of the soldiers and sailors of the County of Lehigh in the \_\_\_\_\_, dedicated October 19, 1899.

It was restored and rededicated to the Lehigh County veterans of all wars of the United States on May 30, 1964. The heroic bronze figures are typical of four branches of the service: artillery, infantry, cavalry, and marine indicative of the 1861 - 1865 era. The monument faces east. The bronze group on this side key notes the memorial reconciliation of a reunited country. It represents a union soldier and a confederate soldier beneath the emblem of a reunited nation. The inscription: “\_\_\_\_\_”.

The three sides show a cavalry charge, a vessel attacking a fort, a reproduction of P. Philippoteaux's great painting, "The Rise of the North", representing the arrival of troops at Washington. In the foreground, in the temple of fame, President Lincoln reviews the troops. The four bronze medal lions picture four prominent Pennsylvania Generals of the Civil War: Hancock, Hartranft, Meade, and McClellan. At the top is the Goddess of Liberty holding a torch of Enlightenment in her left hand and the National Emblem in her right. An American Eagle towers above the flagstaff. Height of the monument: base - 29', column - 49', Goddess - 21', total - 99 feet.

Frontier life in Pennsylvania in general, and Allentown in particular, was hard and uncertain. The French and Indian War, abuse of the Indians, and other events made the situation in this area highly unstable. On one occasion in 1764, Allentown was crowded with people fearing for their lives. Among these people, it was found that only four guns were in town - two of these were out of order and there was no ammunition. The settlers, exposed to the enemy and attacks of animals, murder by the Indians, and property destruction, needed an element of stability injected into their society. They needed a gunsmith. A cartridge factory was established in Bethlehem but had to be moved to Allentown because of the unstable conditions. At the same time, as a result of Washington's order, a factory was established in Allentown for repairing arms and bayonets, and the manufacturing of saddles. This was located in the 100 block of North 7th Street. During the Revolutionary War, the Liberty Bell was transferred from Philadelphia to Allentown for safe keeping when the British occupied Philadelphia in 1777.

- **Continue west on Hamilton St. to Eight St, north on Eight St. on the east side is a ... HISTORIC PLAQUE**

Here was the site of one of four hospitals for soldiers of the \_\_\_\_\_ Army.

- **Continue north on Eight St. for one block to Linden Street. Head west on Linden St. on the north side to Tenth St.**

On your left you will notice the spiral deck, which was built in 1969 by Max

Hess, Jr. His father, Max Hess Sr. along with his uncle Charles were the founders of the Hess Brothers stores (later purchased by Bon-Ton). Hess's Department Store was a fixture in Allentown until the closing of Bon-Ton in 1996. More information can be found here: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hess%27s>

*On the northeast corner of Linden and Tenth Sts is a memorial "In honor of soldiers of the American Revolution and War of 1812 buried here. They died that \_\_\_\_\_ might live."*

- **Continue west on Linden St. to Fulton St., enter West Park and follow the path bearing to the right.**

*The first memorial you will come to is dedicated to the men of the U.S.S. Allentown.*

- **Continue along the path to the Civil War Memorial.**

"Erected 1917 to commemorate the Patriotism and courage of the officers and men of Allen Infantry, Allentown, Penna. who with four other companies of Pennsylvania Militia - April 18, 1861 rushed to the defense of the National Capital and became the \_\_\_\_\_"

- **Continue along the path to...**

A monument with three engraved flags, French, American, Italian -  
"To the memory of the \_\_\_\_\_ trained at Camp Crane to serve with the French and Italian armies who gave their lives in the World War"

- **Exit the park on the north side and cross Turner St. and continue north on Fulton St. on the west side for one block.**
- **Cross Chew St. and head west on Chew St. crossing over Seventeenth St. Continue west on Chew St. to an entrance to the Allentown Fairgrounds on N. St. Cloud St.**

The first fair in Allentown was in 1774 on Allen Street and was then held twice a year. The "Great Allentown Fair" actually started in 1852, and has been held every year except during the Civil War when the grounds were used for seven companies of the 176 Regiment of Pennsylvania Militia. The fair continued after the Civil War until the grounds were used as Camp Crane during World War I (1917-1918). At that time it was used to train the USAAS - United States Army Ambulance Service.

**Start of Colonial Trail:** Go to Emmaus from Route 29. Follow Chestnut St. (Main Route) east to South Fourth St.

There is ample parking located at the S. 4th Street Recreation Area where the trail begins. The nearest intersection is 4th and Fairview Streets.

OR - From Allentown follow Lehigh St. south to Main St., Emmaus to South Fourth St., South Fourth St. to Fairview Street East - 1 block into parking area.

**End of Colonial Trail:** The trail ends between Seventeenth and Eighteenth Street on Chew St. at the Allentown Fairgrounds parking lot.

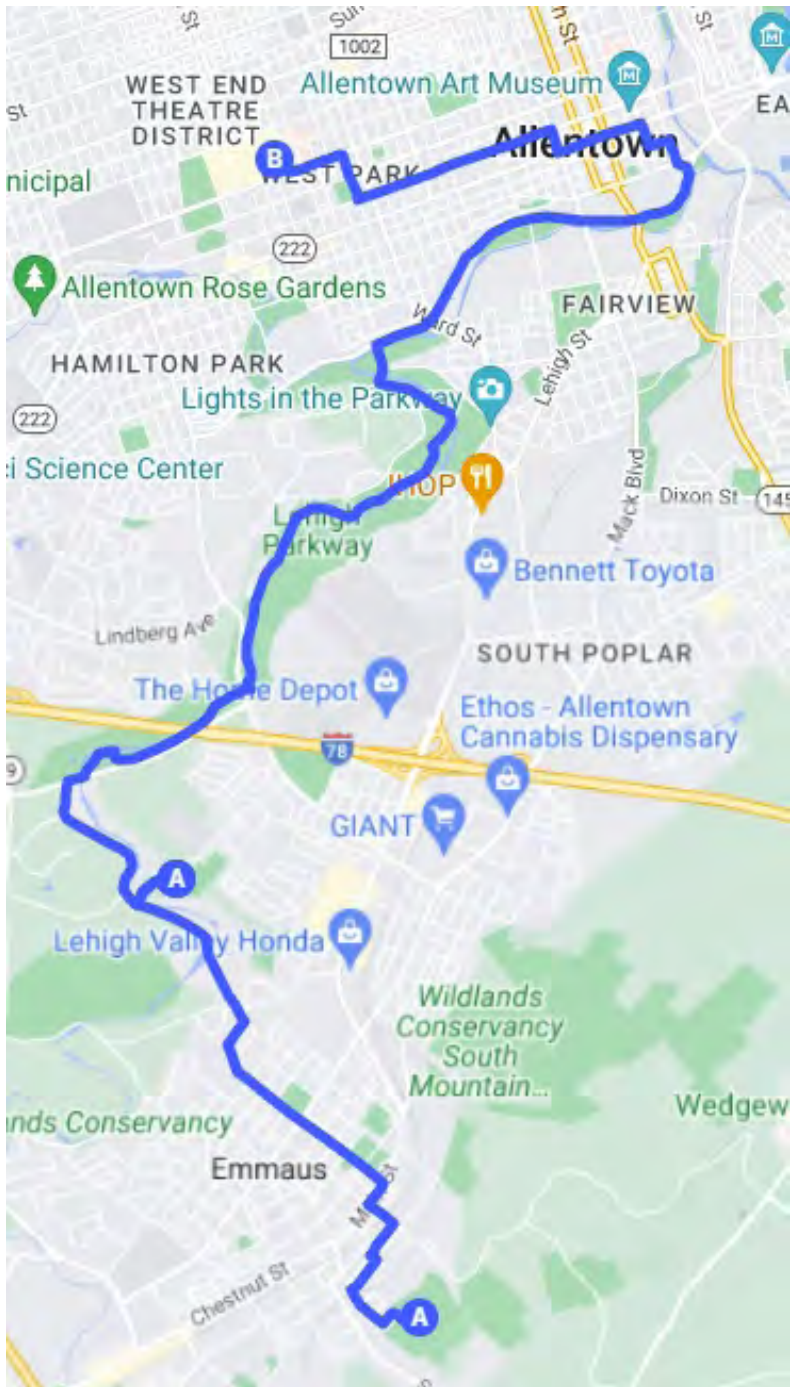
To view an online version of the map on the following page please [click here](#).

You may also open the online map using this QR Code:



*Please note: There are some limitations with Google maps. While the online map is fairly accurate, it only can trace roads / mapped walking paths. Use it as a guide, but it's not 100% accurate.*

# THE COLONIAL TRAIL





# Approximately 11 miles



**Start of Trail** - 601 South 4th Street, Emmaus PA



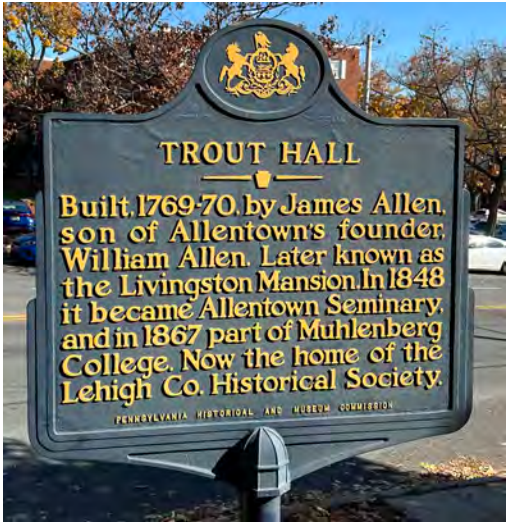
**End of Trail** - 1825 Chew Street, Allentown, PA



This trail has taken you through various places of our local history. You have seen or been where the Native Americans lived and fought, where our first inhabitants felt the conflict and agony of our struggle for independence from England, memorials pertaining to the War of 1812, activity of the Civil War and World War I. There are numerous other places of interest in our community that may be covered by other hiking trails. These other points are well worth investigating.



**Old Lehigh County Courthouse**



**Trout Hall Historical Plaque**

# **MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL HISTORIC TRAILS COMMITTEE**

## **2022-2023 HISTORIC TRAILS COMMITTEE**

Matthew M. Woodruff - Trails Coordinator  
Arnold F. Traupman - Activities Committee Chairperson  
Darren S. Woodruff  
Richard D. Christ - Council Executive

## **1998 -1999 HISTORIC TRAILS COMMITTEE**

Gerald S. Still - Trails Coordinator  
Harry M. Bodes  
Barbara L. Brown  
Nicholas N. Brown  
Ed Erickson  
Wayne E. Gross  
James Haycock  
Elwood Johnson  
James L. Turnbach  
John Maxwell - Council Executive

## **1975 -1993 HISTORIC TRAILS COMMITTEE**

Gerald C. Still - Trails Coordinator  
Harry M. Bodes - Asst. Trails Coordinator  
W. Gordon Conn - Asst. Trails Coordinator  
Gerard Bassett  
Wayne Gross  
James Haycock  
Elwood Johnson  
Charles C. Kropp  
Lance Metz  
Richard Peters  
James L. Turnbach  
Clement Banys - Council Executive  
Charles Chase - Director. Support Service  
B. Daniel Dillard - Program Director  
Martin Walsh - Program Director

## **1968-1975 HISTORIC TRAILS COMMITTEE**

Gerald C. Still - Trails Coordinator

Gordon Conn - Asst. Trails Coordinator

Charles C. Kropp - Asst. Trails Coordinator

Frank J. Bauer

Charles Derr

William Hissam. Jr.

Lance Metz

Paul R. Davis, Jr.- Council Executive.

Walter F. Williams - Council Chairman

Richard C. Bennett - Program Director

Special thanks to Scouts BSA Troop 364, Coopersburg, PA for their assistance in this 2023 refresh of the Colonial Trail.

## SPONSORS

COLONIAL TRAIL - Kiwanis Club of Allentown  
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NAZARETH TRAIL  
QUARRIES TRAIL  
SULLIVAN WILDERNESS TRAIL - Kiwanis Club of Stroudsburg  
TOWPATH TRAIL  
UNCAS TRAIL - Rotary Club of Easton

*We wish to thank the following individuals and organizations for their support in launching this Historic Trails Program.*

B.S.A. Troop 10, Advent Moravian Church, Bethlehem, PA  
B.S.A. Troop 14, St. Matthews Evan. Lutheran Church, Bethlehem, PA  
B.S.A. Troop 18, Rosemont Lutheran Church, Bethlehem, PA  
B.S.A. Troop 86, United Methodist Church, Stroudsburg, PA  
Mr. Craig Bartholomew  
Mrs. Patricia Bodes  
Mr. Luther W. Bond III, *Eagle Scout, BSA Troop 14, Bethlehem. PA*  
Mr. Joe Randolph Brown  
Mr. Bernard L. Cohen  
Mrs. Elsie Conn  
Mr. Daniel W. Damhosl  
Mr. Jeremiah B. Downes  
Mr. Walter C. Emery, *Historian of Portland*  
Mrs. Rosemarie Esher  
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Mrs. Patricia Fenstermacher  
Dr. Daniel K. Gilbert, *former Executive Director of Historic Bethlehem*  
Mr. Phillip Hunsberger  
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Mrs. Janet Mishkin, *Historian, Monroe County Historical Society*  
Rev. Charles Owen  
Mr. H. Gordon Payrow, *former Mayor of Bethlehem. PA*  
Mrs. Joyce Pharo, *Director of Moravian Museum*  
Donna & Carl Raub  
Dr. Richard Richardson, Jr.  
Lynn & Ken Rogers

Mr. Edward D. Riebman  
Mr. Donald C. Rohrbach  
Mrs. Erika N. Still  
Mr. Ronald R. Strisofsky, Jr. *Eagle Scout BSA Troop 54, Northampton. PA*  
Mr. Richard Szarko. *Eagle Scout. BSA Troop 14. Bethlehem. PA*  
Mr. David Wheeler. *Eagle Scout. BSA Troop 200. Hokendauqua. PA*  
Mr. Larry Zaccaro  
Mrs. Oliver B. Zug, *Historic Bethlehem*  
First United Presbyterian Church, Hokendauqua. PA  
GFWC Nazareth Women's Club  
Hellertown Borough & Emerson Mills, Burgess  
Hugh Moore Park Commission, Easton  
Frank Huth & Son, Inc.  
Ironton Railroad & Thomas Iron Co. Museum, Coplay  
Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center  
Lehigh County Historical Society  
Minsi Trails Council Executive Board  
Monroe County Historical Society, Stroudsburg, PA  
Moravian Church of North America  
Moravian Hall Square Museum & Craft Shop  
Moravian Historical Society  
Moravian Museum of Bethlehem  
Nazareth Business and Professional Woman's Club  
Nazareth Chamber of Commerce  
Nazareth Heritage, Inc.  
Nazareth Lions Club  
Nazareth Lioness Club  
Nazareth Rotary Club  
Northampton County Historical Society  
Old Freemansburg, Assoc., Freemansburg, PA  
Pocono Mountain School District  
Slatebelt Museum, Mount Bethel, PA  
Urban Research & Development Corp.  
Witachsoman Lodge 44 Order of the Arrow  
Woman's Club of Catasauqua, PA

*Monroe County Architecture 1737-1979 - C. J. Klofach*  
*Portland Commemorative Book 1976, J. Loyd, E. Kline*  
*Stroudsburg Walking Tour*

## *NOTES*

*Scout's Name:*

*Hike Leaders:*

*Unit:*

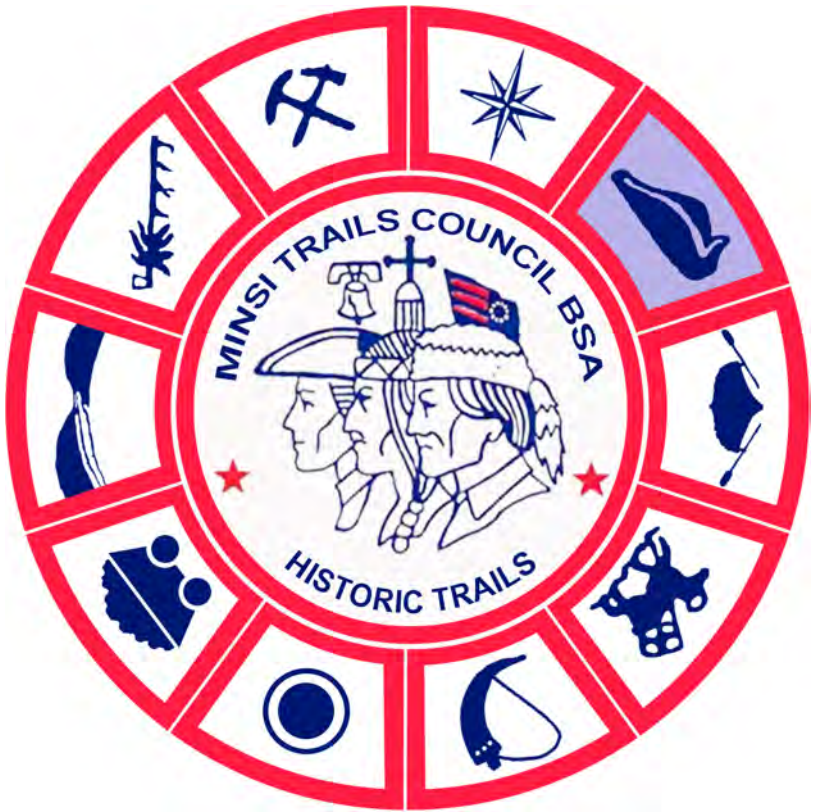
*Date of Hike:*

*Weather:*

*Number of participants:*

*Interesting things you saw:*

For additional information, contact: Minsi Trails Council, B.S.A.  
P.O. Box 20624  
Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-0624  
(610) 264-8551



**SPONSORED BY:  
THE KIWANIS CLUB OF ALLENTOWN**

