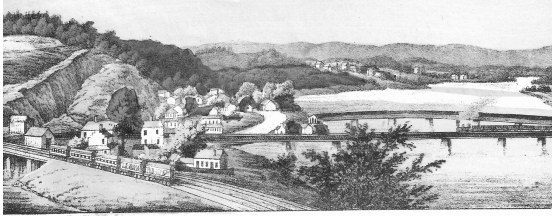


Gateway Historical Society

Incorporated August 25, 2008



HARRISBURG, P.A.

What is Gateway Historical Society?

Gateway Historical Society is a newly formed group that aims to preserve local history. Without a nostalgic look back, we could forget our rich heritage in as little as one generation. Community pride is welling up at this time when we are considering revitalization and growth. There is a thirst to know who we are and where we are going. At the same time, there is a desire to know what once was and how it made this area we call home so special. What were our towns like in “the old days,” and what do they look like now to those who pass through?

We are a not-for-profit organization, serving not only Wormleysburg and Lemoyne, who flank the “Gateway,” but also the other localities that border us. We will share what we know and what we have and form a community of communities that can hold onto the past thoughtfully and reach to the future responsibly and with renewed vision.

History of the West Shore area

Long ago a survey was ordered for a road west of the Susquehanna River. John Harris, a trader and entrepreneur immediately applied for a ferry license.

His western landing, just to the far side of the Market Street Bridge, now hardly visible, became a gateway for the westward expansion of our state and beyond, through settlement and trade.



Prior to the settlement of the West Shore area, intersecting Indian paths crossed, bringing not only local Indians, but also those traveling for the purpose of trading.

The Great Road was cut through a dense wild forest filled with all the dangers and drama of pioneer life, but that did not deter eager settlers from expanding westward across our state, as well as our nation. Soon the Road was dotted with taverns spaced about a day’s travel apart along the road to Carlisle and beyond. Many of those limestone structures can be seen today.

Early Life on the West Shore

Settlement began of the communities of Lemoyne and Wormleysburg, as well as other surrounding towns. There is record of early taxable property in the late 1700’s, but little towns did not begin to grow until the early 1800’s, when the railroad entered the picture. By 1844, an average of 10 locomotives moved through the local towns into Harrisburg each week at an astonishing speed of 6 mph.

Before too many years, (1861) the War Between the States (the Civil War) began. The trains became an important means of transporting troops to Camp Curtin in Harrisburg for training. In 1863, Confederate troops were heading toward the West Shore to take Pennsylvania’s Capital. The battle that was expected to be waged in this area happened at Gettysburg and became the turning point of the Civil War.

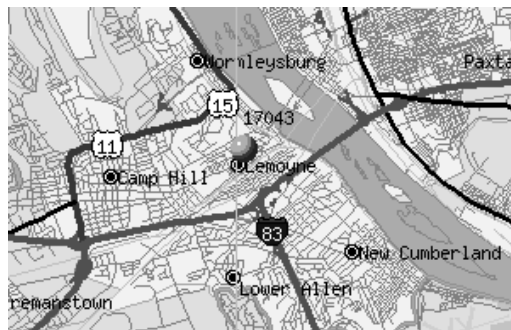
After the Civil War, Lemoyne became incorporated in 1905 and Wormleysburg in 1908. The large land areas were annexed, adjusted, and re-adjusted until the communities we now know were established. Wormleysburg, Lemoyne, Camp Hill, New Cumberland, Lower Allen Township, and areas farther west became more densely populated and self-governing.

Purpose of Gateway Historical Society



The purpose and objectives shall be:

- to educate the public regarding the history of the local area;
- to help interpret and understand the area's strategic and historic importance upon local, state, national, and world affairs;
- to create and foster greater public awareness in the local area and of the historical heritage of the area through educational and outreach programs;
- to collect and preserve, for educational purposes, any significant relics, artifacts, photographs, and documents relating to the area's history; and
- to conduct interviews and voluntary oral histories.



Enroll me as a member in the Gateway Historical Society.

Member	\$10	_____	Name	_____
Family	\$20	_____	Address	_____
Supporting	\$50	_____	City/State/Zip	_____
Corporate	\$50+	_____	Telephone	_____
E-Mail Address	_____			



Founded 2008

Mission Statement

The Gateway Historical Society is a non-profit, all-volunteer, educational and historical organization that is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of the heritage, landmarks, and artifacts of West Shore communities that wish to be involved in this association.

Make checks payable to: **GATEWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

c/o Borough of Lemoyne
510 Herman Avenue
Lemoyne, PA 17043