

A Pocket Guide to Erie Area Historical Sites



CM517679 (6/11) 2500

Visit our Web Site at www.erieyesterday.org



Sun, 2 to 4 pm, or by appointment
Memorial Day—Halloween

The Valley School Museum is an 1853 one-room schoolhouse that was in use for 101 years. It was relocated and restored to Albion's Northwestern School campus. The schoolhouse is furnished with desks, flags, globes and other school memorabilia from its long history.



22 Valley School Museum Society
1 Harhan Way,
Albion, PA 16401
(814) 756-4764 (All year)

Tues & Sat, 9 am to Noon

relevant material.
Edinboro histories, histories of local organizations and other museum. It also contains a library of genealogical publications, with pieces fitting to the late 19th Century and functions as a house an 1861 Italian-style home. The home has been refurbished. The Historical Society offices are located in the Doucette House, 126 Water Street, Edinboro, PA 16412 • (814) 734-6109

21 Edinboro Area Historical Society/ Doucette House

May-Oct: Wed-Sun, 11 am to 5 pm

all summer.
and local history archives. Educational and music events are offered horticulture. It also houses a collection of botanical specimens Goodell family passion for farming, gardening, history and oriented botanical garden and arboretum. The site reflects the by sisters Margaret and Carrie Goodell for use as an education- Once the Homestead of the Goodell Family, 78 acres were donated

(814) 734-6699
221 Waterford Street, PO Box 156, Edinboro, PA 16412

20 Goodell Gardens & Homestead



25 Fairview Area Historical Society/ The Sturgeon House
4302 Avonia Road, PO Box 553,
Fairview, PA 16415 • (814) 474-5855
www.fairviewhistoricalsociety.org
fahsmail3@gmail.com

Seasonal hours. Call for information.

regularly. Woodland hiking trails are open.
history demonstrations and educational programs are also offered Memorial Museum) feature period rooms and exhibits. Living 1858 Bartles Farmhouse and the 1861 Charlotte Elizabeth Bartles on 130 acres of farm and woodlands. The Bartles Museums (the Bequeathed to the Society by Georgiana Reed, this site is located

24 Battles Museums of Rural Life
(A Division of the Erie County Historical Society)
436 Walnut Street, Girard, PA 16417 • (814) 454-1813
www.eriecountyhistory.org
echs@eriecountyhistory.org

Memorial Day—Labor Day: Sun, 2 pm to 4 pm

The Elk Valley Model Railroad Club also meets and maintains a model train layout in the lower level.
and an Underground Railroad exhibit are also on display.
manufactured in Girard. Period furnishings, photos, newspapers owner of the 1850s. It has a large collection of Marx toys, showsase memorabilia of Dan Rice, famous clown and circus. The museum, home of the West County Historical Association,



23 West County Historical Association/ Hazel Kibler Museum of Local History
522 Main Street E, Girard PA 16417
(814) 774-3653
westcountyhistorical.com



1 Erie Art Museum
411 State Street,
Erie, PA 16501 • (814) 459-5477
(New entrance on 5th Street,
between State and French)
carolyn@erieartmuseum.org
www.erieartmuseum.org

The Erie Art Museum is a non-profit, member-supported community organization located in the Old Custom's House, a beautiful and historic 1839 Greek Revival building. The building served as the Bank of the US, Erie Branch, and is on the National Register. The collection contains over 6,000 objects and includes fine examples of American ceramics, Japanese prints, Tibetan thangka, Chinese porcelains, Indian bronzes and more.

The Museum recently added on a major expansion, the first LEED-certified building in the city of Erie complete with a green rooftop.

Tues-Sat, 11 am to 5 pm; Sun, 1 to 5 pm
Admission Charged
Free to members and free to all on Wednesdays.

2 Erie County Historical Society

419 State Street, Erie, PA 16501 • (814) 454-1813
echs@eriecountyhistory.org
www.eriecountyhistory.org

The Erie County History Center is home to the administrative offices of the Erie County Historical Society, the 1839 Cashier's House, the ECHS Library & Archives, and the Museum of Erie County History. The Erie County History Center also houses the Museum Store, which sells local and regional history books, historic prints and more.

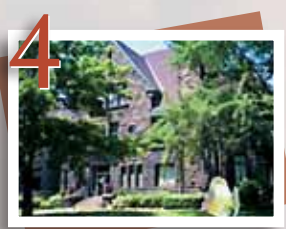
Tues-Sat, 11 am to 4 pm
Library & Archives free to public.
Admission Charged

3 Erie Society for Genealogical Research

Erie County History Center, 2nd floor/H.O. Hirt Reading Room
419 State Street, Erie, PA 16501 • (814) 454-1813, Ext. 29
esgr@eriecountyhistory.org
www.pa-roots.com/erie

ESGR conducts beginning genealogy workshops, field trips, cemetery readings and research for out-of-town requests. Membership meetings are the second Tuesday of every month, except January.

Call ahead for availability of volunteers.



4 Watson-Curtze Mansion
(A Property of the Erie County Historical Society)
356 West Sixth Street, Erie PA 16507
(814) 871-5790
echs@eriecountyhistory.org
www.eriecountyhistory.org

The Watson-Curtze Mansion stands as a symbol of the upper class lifestyle of the 1890s in Erie. The Mansion is listed on the National Register. Located on "Millionaires' Row" of the West Sixth Street Historic District, it provides an opportunity to view the architecture and craftsmanship of the stained glass windows, friezes, stone/marble work and woodwork that went into building these mansions.

Wed-Sat, 11 am to 4 pm; Sun, 1 to 4 pm
Admission Charged

5 Erie Planetarium

(A Property of the Erie County Historical Society)
356 West Sixth Street, Erie, PA 16507 • (814) 871-5790
echs@eriecountyhistory.org
www.eriecountyhistory.org

The Erie Planetarium offers various astronomy programs throughout the year for all ages. The lobby is filled with hands-on, interactive activities and interesting objects to view. Check the website for current show times and dates. Group tours are also available.

Admission Charged



6 Firefighters Historical Museum
428 Chestnut Street, Erie, PA 16507
(814) 456-5969

The Museum is housed in the old #4 Erie Firehouse built in 1903. Its two floors contain more than 1,500 items of fire department memorabilia. Displays include antique fire apparatus, badges, ribbons, fire alarm systems, helmets, uniforms, masks and antique fire extinguishers, plus an 1823 hand tub, an 1830 hand-pulled pumper and other apparatus. You can turn in a fire alarm, hear the bells ring and see the alarm come in.

June-Aug: Sat, 11 am to 4 pm; Sun, 1 to 4 pm
Sep-Oct: Sat & Sun, 11 am to 4 pm
Admission Charged



7 Erie Maritime Museum/ Flagship Niagara
150 East Front Street, Ste. 100,
Erie, PA 16507 • (814) 452-2744
sail@flagshipniagara.org
www.flagshipniagara.org

The Erie Maritime Museum tells the story of Erie's role in Great Lakes history, focusing on the dramatic events of the Battle of Lake Erie in 1813. When in port, the US Brig *Niagara* is a major "exhibit" available for tours. Historical artifacts, interactive exhibits, and dramatic videos bring the Battle and the Age of Fighting Sail to life. Other exhibits tell the story of the USS *Michigan/Wolverine*, the US Navy's Iron Steamer, and explore Erie's ever-changing Bayfront: historic lighthouses, life-saving, fishing, the harbor and industry, as well as maritime artwork.

History comes alive when you sail aboard the Flagship *Niagara*. Please visit the website to learn about educational sailing opportunities, and to check whether *Niagara* is in port for your Museum visit.

Mon-Sat, 9 am to 5 pm; Sun Noon to 5 pm
Nov—Mar, closed on Sun-Wed
Admission Charged

8 Museum of Erie GE History

2901 East Lake Road, Bldg 1-C, Erie, PA 16531 • (814) 875-2494
(Enter through GE Franklin Avenue gate)

Located in Lawrence Park, the display at the former General Electric Community Center includes photographs and other artifacts that deal with early plant history, foundry operations, the apprentice program, locomotive assembly, refrigerator manufacture, World War II activities and DC motor products. Also on site is an operating model train layout (HO Gauge).

Tues, 8:30-11:30 am. June-Aug: Sat, 10 am to 2 pm;
Sep-May: first Sat only, or by appointment



9 Lawrence Park Historical Society
4230 Iroquois Avenue,
Erie, PA 16511
(814) 899-1505 • (814) 899-5778
ferntree20@velocity.net
Lawrence Park Historical Society

The Society has a collection of local artifacts, house histories, photos, blueprints, memoirs, school yearbooks, banners and scrapbooks from Lawrence Park, a well-preserved company (GE) planned and built town unique in the region.

Thurs, 2 to 4 pm; Sat, Noon to 2 pm, or by appointment
Special exhibits last Sat of July



10 Harborcreek Historical Society

5451 Merwin Lane,
Erie PA 16510
(814) 899-4447
harborcreekhistory@gmail.com
www.harborcreekhistory.org

The Society is located in the Knowledge Center Building, which houses historical archives for genealogical research and excellent records on Harborcreek families, cemeteries and other history. The Society archives include a reference library, cemetery lists, journals, tax records and a school collection including most of the Harborcreek yearbooks. On display are old photos and articles of old time Harborcreek landmarks and families.

Wed, 1 to 3 pm; Sat, 10 am to Noon
or by appointment

11 North East Historical Society/ Museum

25 Vine Street, PO Box 483, North East, PA 16428
(814) 403-8709 • northeasthistoricalsociety@yahoo.com

The museum features changing displays of local history. It is located inside the 1880 town hall, which served as the town's fire hall from 1885 to 1996.

The North East Arts Council is on the second floor.

June-Dec: Fri-Sat, 4:30 to 8:30 pm or by appointment



12 Lake Shore Railway Historical Society/ Lake Shore Railway Museum

31 Wall Street at Robinson,
PO Box 571, North East, PA 16428
(814) 725-1911
lsrhs@velocity.net
www.grape-track.org

The Lake Shore Railway Museum is a restored 1899 passenger train depot with extensive displays of 19th and 20 Century railroadiana. GE and Heisler locomotives built in Erie are on exhibit, plus a dining car, caboose, Pullman sleeping cars and antique freight cars.

Memorial Day—Labor Day: Wed-Sun, Noon to 4 pm
Apr, May, Sep & Oct: Weekends Noon to 4 pm
Group tours by appointment

13 Hornby School Restoration Society/Hornby School Museum

10000 Station Road, North East, PA 16428
9691 Kimball Road, Wattsburg, PA 16442
(814) 725-5680 or (814) 739-2720
snipefarm2020@verizon.net

A restored and working one-room schoolhouse, c. 1873; it contains many original desks, books, a stove and other school memorabilia on display. Most artifacts are hands-on for use in educational programs including a working pump and a functioning outhouse.

June-Oct: Sun, 1 to 5 pm
or by appointment: hornbyschool.org

14 Wattsburg Historical Society/ Wattsburg Museum

14438 Main Street, PO Box 95, Wattsburg, PA 16442
(814) 462-7637

The Museum is situated in a restored grocery store with a period kitchen, living room and bedroom of the early 1900s. It features photo displays of local and Erie County history and extensive genealogical records. The second floor is used for meetings and as a depository for archival material.

Memorial Day—Labor Day: 2nd & 4th Sat, 1 to 4 pm

15 Corry Area Historical Society/ Corry Museum

945 Mead Avenue, PO Box 107, Corry, PA 16407
(814) 664-4749
jesilvas@velocity.net

Corry began as an important railroad junction during Pennsylvania's oil boom in the 1860s. The Corry Museum displays artifacts from pioneer life to the first "modern" oil refinery up to present-day manufacturing. A 1930s Climax "logging" steam locomotive is another highlight. Also houses archives of the Corry area.

Memorial Day—Labor Day: Sat & Sun, 2 to 4 pm
Archives: Thurs, 10 am to 2 pm or by appointment

16 Union City Historical Society/ Union City Museum

11 S. Main Street, Union City, PA 16438
(814) 438-7573

This interesting museum in a one hundred-year-old building houses collections that reflect local history from rugged 1797 frontier settlement to the space age. The building is owned by the Union City Borough and maintained by the Historical Society.

Mon, Thurs & Sat, 10 am to 2 pm, or by appointment



17 Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society

PO Box 622, Waterford, PA 16441

Judson House (Headquarters for the Society)

Corner of High & E. 1st Street,
Waterford, PA 16441
(814) 796-6105
www.fortleboeufhistoricalsociety.org

This Greek Revival house was built in 1820 by Amos Judson who owned the Eagle Hotel from 1842 to 1853. It functions as a house museum displaying artifacts of the 1850s and also contains archival and genealogical material of the Waterford area. It is owned by the PHMC and administered by the Society.

Apr-Oct: Wed, 9:30 am to 3 pm or by appointment

18 Eagle Hotel (Sugar and Spice Restaurant)

Corner of High & W. 1st Street, Waterford, PA 16441
(814) 796-0060

The Eagle Hotel was built in 1826 by Thomas King. It served as a stagecoach stop on the Erie-Pittsburgh line. It functioned continuously as a hotel/restaurant until it was purchased in 1977 by the Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society. It has been restored and listed on the National Register. The first floor functions as a restaurant; the second floor contains two museum bedrooms and the third floor is a ballroom, that are open during restaurant hours.

Restaurant hours: Tues-Fri, 11 am to 8 pm;
Sat, 7 am to 8 pm; Sun, 7 am to 5 pm

19 Fort LeBoeuf Museum

123 S. High Street, Waterford, PA 16441
(814) 732-2575

The Fort LeBoeuf Museum showcases the site of the battle between France and Britain for colonial control of the western end of the Great Lakes. The site includes the remains of a fort built by the British in 1753 and a stone marker commemorating George Washington's 1753 visit to the site. A statue of Washington is also featured on the site. The site is owned by the PHMC, the site is administered by Edinboro University.

Temporarily Closed



Lighthouses

Admission free unless otherwise noted.

• North Pier Light

Presque Isle State Park

The lighthouse, located at the east end of the channel leading into Presque Isle Bay, was built in 1858 to replace the original wooden beacon destroyed by a sailboat in 1857. The 34-foot

cast iron replacement tower was moved in 1882 and moved again to the present site in 1940.

• Presque Isle Lighthouse

Presque Isle State Park

The lighthouse, located on the north shore of Presque Isle State park at Lighthouse Beach, was completed in 1873. The tower is 68 feet tall, access via 72 steps. Before electric bulbs were used,

the keeper climbed to the top of the tower every four hours to re-fill the oil lamp. The light is now automated and the lighthouse is a private residence for park staff.

• Erie Land Lighthouse

Lighthouse Street, Erie

The current lighthouse was built in 1867 and is 40 feet tall with 69 steps to the lantern room. The original lighthouse, built in 1818,

one of the first lighthouses on the Great Lakes, had to be demolished because it began to sink. Another lighthouse built in 1857 lasted only 10 years. The current lighthouse is about 200 feet east of the original site.

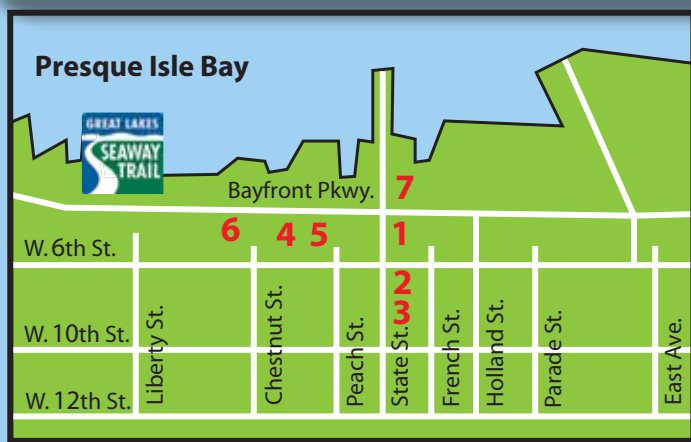
• Perry Monument

Presque Isle State Park
at Misery Bay

Covered Bridge

• Brotherton's Crossing Bridge (1875)

The Brotherton's Crossing Bridge over LeBoeuf Creek, located E of Waterford on Niemeyer Road.



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Highways & Byways

• **Great Lakes Seaway Trail**
www.seawaytrail.com
One of America's Byways known for maritime history and nature.

• **Historic Route 6**
www.PaRoute6.com
Historic Route 6 also named the Grand Army of the Republic Highway, is a designated Pennsylvania Heritage Region.

OHIO FROM CLEVELAND

NEW YORK FROM BUFFALO

FROM NEW YORK

FROM PITTSBURGH CRAWFORD COUNTY