



what those traveling on the railroad endured. Some publications written by, or for, those who managed to survive to secure their freedom, also exist.

Although the focus of this information is on those who fled oppression and bondage, there was much more to the story.

Often assistance for freedom seekers was found among abolitionists, Black as well as White, within a community, frequently including prominent citizens. The number of individuals who were instrumental in this story is countless and most may never be revealed.

Free people of African descent who lived in the area were also affected by the Fugitive slave laws, fleeing their homes as they faced the possibility of becoming enslaved. Others became the voice of social change and self-empowerment for all Blacks of the era and beyond. Their stories are rich with historical detail and remind us of the quest for human freedom.

Quest for Freedom Live & Learn Weekends

Four exciting and informative weekends will highlight the historic Underground Railroad and encourage participants to discover and understand issues faced in Pennsylvania during the antebellum era and the Civil War through a selected book discussion, a special guest speaker, and a docent-led tour. Live and Learn Weekends are included with regular admission and all participants receive a free copy of that weekend's featured book.

Feb. 8th & 9th – Senator John Heinz History Center

Apr. 1st & 2nd – Senator John Heinz History Center, hosts: Aurora Reading Club

June 20th & 21st – The LeMoyne House & Washington & Jefferson College, Washington County

Aug. 15th & 16th – Blairsville Underground Railroad, Indiana County

Contact Terri Blanchette at (412) 454-6411 or tsblanchette@hswp.org for event details or go to www.visitpittsburgh.com

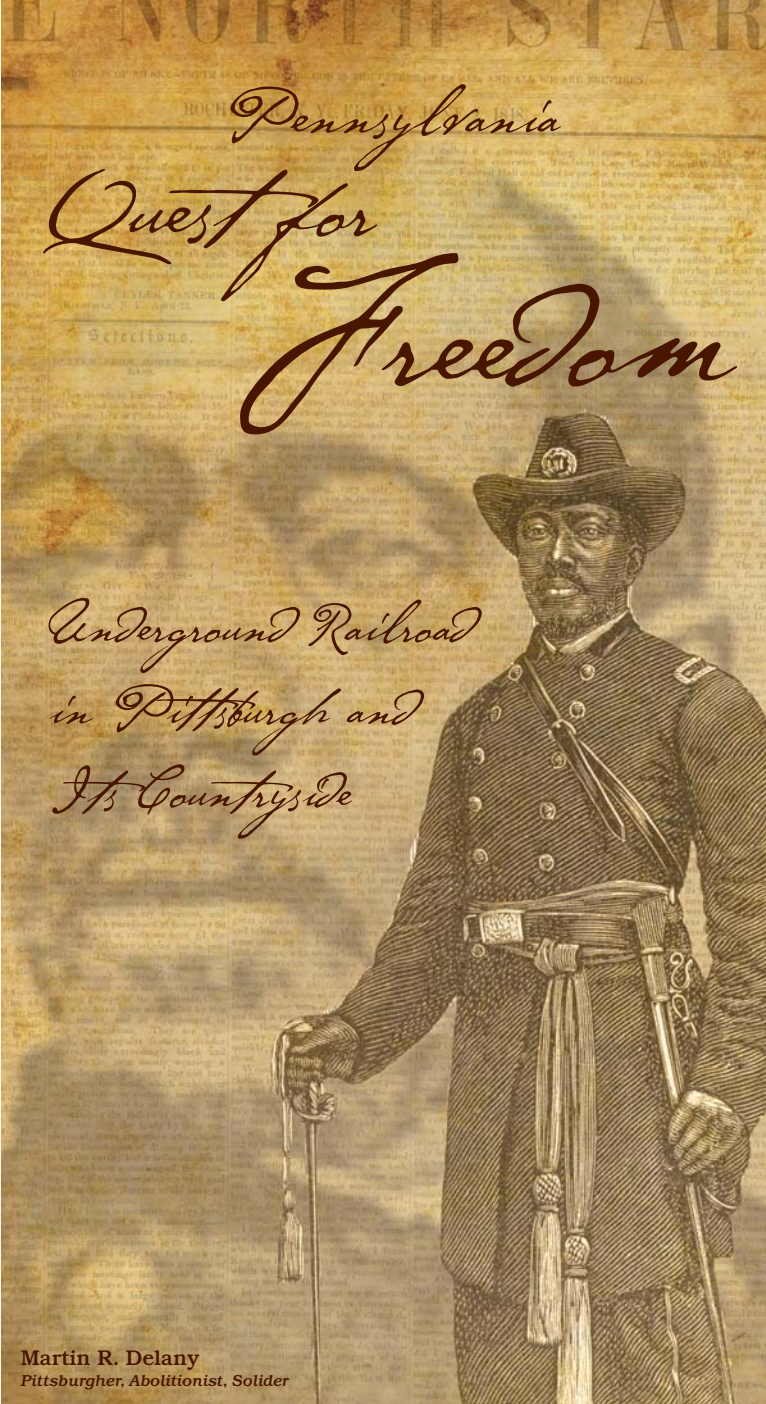


For more information on **Pennsylvania Quest for Freedom** or activities and hotel accommodations within Western Pennsylvania go to:

www.visitpittsburgh.com

The National Park Service's National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, approaching its tenth year, has applied rigorous scholarship in identifying and awarding program membership to more than 30 sites, programs, and facilities in Pennsylvania, including the two marked on this brochure. Additional members are added twice yearly.

For more information, visit www.nps.gov/ugrr.



The Underground Railroad was undoubtedly one of the most significant forms of activism in our nation's history.

It was broad in its reach and profound in its meaning for a nation entwined in the sale of human life. Yet, that history, by its very secretive nature, can be a difficult to uncover.

An untold number of enslaved people of African descent made their way from bondage toward freedom. Whether to the western territories of the United States, northern states or abroad to the Caribbean, South America, or Mexico, their travels were arduous and full of perils. They faced natural hazards of travel during that time and risked being returned to their owners with harsh punishments certain to follow. Knowing this, thousands nonetheless risked everything for a chance to regain their freedom and dignity.

Western Pennsylvania was a major thoroughfare for these enslaved peoples seeking freedom. Their numbers are not certain as formal records were not kept and few informal ones remain. Documents written by those who assisted – sometimes referred to as the “conductors” – do occasionally survive to give some indication of



Beaver Area Heritage Foundation
 P.O. Box 147
 Beaver, PA 15009
 (724) 775-7174

www.beaverheritage.org
 March - December:
 Saturdays, 10am - 4pm;
 Sundays, 1pm - 4pm

Beaver County Historical Research and Landmarks Foundation

The William Vicary Mansion
 1235 3rd Ave
 Freedom, PA 15042
 (724) 775-1848
 www.bchrif.org
 Monday - Friday: 10am - 3pm
 or by special appointment

Bedford County Historical Society
 242 East John Street
 Bedford, PA 15522-1750
 (814) 623-2011

www.rootsweb.com/~paphsbc
 Monday - Friday: 9am - 4pm;
 Closed on major holidays

Blairsville Underground Railroad
 116 East Campbell Street
 Blairsville, PA 15717
 (724) 459-0580
 www.undergroundrailroadblairvillepa.com

Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 2pm
 or by appointment

Butler County Historical Society
 P.O. Box 414
 Butler, PA 16003-0414
 (724) 283-8116
 www.butlerhistory.com
 Monday - Friday: 9am - 4pm
 Closed legal holidays

Citizens Library
 55 South College Street
 Washington, PA 15301
 (724) 222-2400
 www.citlib.org

Monday - Thursday:
 9:30am to 9pm;
 Friday & Saturday:
 9:30am - 5:30pm;
 Sunday, 2pm - 5pm
 Labor Day - June:
 Closed Sundays

Crawford County Historical Society
Helene Barco-Duratz Cultural Center
 411 Chestnut Street
 Meadville, PA 16335
 (814) 724-6080
 www.crawfordhistorical.org

Monday - Wednesday & Friday:
 1pm - 5pm;
 Thursday, 1pm - 8pm;
 Saturday, 9am - 3pm

Jefferson County History Center
 (aka Jefferson History Center)
 172-176 Main Street
 P.O. Box 51
 Brookville, PA 15825
 (814) 849-0077

www.orgsites.com/pa/jeffersoncohistsoc
 Tuesday - Saturday,
 Noon - 5pm;
 Sunday 2pm - 5pm

Senator John Heinz History Center
 1212 Smallman Street
 Pittsburgh, PA 15222
 (412) 454-6000

www.pghhistory.org
 Open Daily: 10am to 5pm
 Library & Archives,
 Tuesday through Saturday:
 10am to 5pm

John Brown Museum & Tannery

F S P

Crawford County Historical Society

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Venango County Historical Society

G

Mercer County Historical Society

G P

Lawrence County Historical Society

F G

Little Beaver Historical Society

F S P

Beaver Area Heritage Foundation

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Beaver County Historical Research & Landmarks

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The LeMoyné House

F S P

Citizens Library

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Senator John Heinz History Center

F G P

Butler County Historical Society

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Blairsville Underground Railroad

F G P

Westmoreland County Historical Society

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Somerset Historical Center

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Bedford County Historical Society

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Pennsylvania
Quest for Freedom

John Brown Farm & Museum
 17620 John Brown Lane
 Route 77
 Guys Mills, PA 16327
 (814) 967-2099

For more information:
 www.visitpa.com

Open from April 15 - October 15, and in the winter by appointment only

Little Beaver Historical Society
 P.O. Box 304
 Darlington, PA 16115
 (724) 827-8841
 www.bchistory.org

Free and open weekends
 June - October;
 Sunday, 1pm - 5pm
 or by appointment

Lawrence County Historical Society
 408 North Jefferson Street
 P.O. Box 1745
 New Castle, PA 16103-1745
 (724) 658-4022
 www.lawrencechs.com
 Tuesday - Saturday,
 9am - 5pm

Mercer County Historical Society
 119 South Pitt Street
 Mercer, PA 16137
 (724) 662-3490
 www.mchspa.org
 Tuesday - Friday:
 10am - 4:30pm,
 Saturday, 10am - 3pm

Somerset Historical Center
 10649 Somerset Pike
 Somerset, PA 15501
 (814) 445-6077
 www.somersethistoricalcenter.org

Tuesday - Saturday,
 9am - 5pm; Sunday,
 Noon - 5pm

The LeMoyné House
 49 East Maiden Street
 Washington, PA 15301
 (724) 225-6740
 www.wchspa.org

Tuesday - Friday, 11am - 4pm,
 Saturday for group tours (20 or more) by appointment only
 The Research Library,
 Tuesday - Friday,
 11am - 4pm

Venango County Historical Society
 301 South Park Street
 P.O. Box 101
 Franklin, PA 16323
 (814) 437-2275

May - December
 Hoge-Osmer House;
 Tuesdays - Thursdays,
 Saturdays, 10am - 2pm


Genealogical Research Library is open on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10am - 2pm
 January - April
 Hoge-Osmer House and Genealogical Research Library are open on Saturdays, 10am - 2pm

Westmoreland County Historical Society
 41 W. Otterman Street
 Suite 310
 Greensburg, PA 15601
 (724) 836-1800

www.starofthewest.org
 Society hours: Tuesday,
 Thursday & Friday,
 9am - 5 pm;
 Wednesday, 9am - 8pm

For nearby Historic Hanna's Town, check web site for hours.

- F Facility**
Relays the Underground Railroad Story through formal exhibit.
- G Genealogy & Research**
Provides genealogical information from the era.
- S Site**
Documented Underground Railroad site that visitors can enter.
- P Programs & Tours**
Offers programs and walking and or driving tours.

 Member of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program.