

Hello

Pennsylvania



A QUICK TOUR OF THE COMMONWEALTH



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA • HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

hello

Pennsylvania

A Quick Tour of the Commonwealth

Chances are you studied the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in a classroom years ago – or as recently as yesterday. But few of us have Pennsylvania facts at our fingertips. This booklet offers some basic and not-so-basic information about our state – along with a quick review of who we are, what we stand for, where we came from, and what keeps us going. These pages won't cover our state from corner to corner, past and present. There are wonderful books in your local library for that. Reading *Hello Pennsylvania* is more like shaking hands with an old friend. It's sure to refresh your memory of what you learned in school. And it just might spark your curiosity about a few things the textbooks never taught you.

A PENNSYLVANIA PROFILE

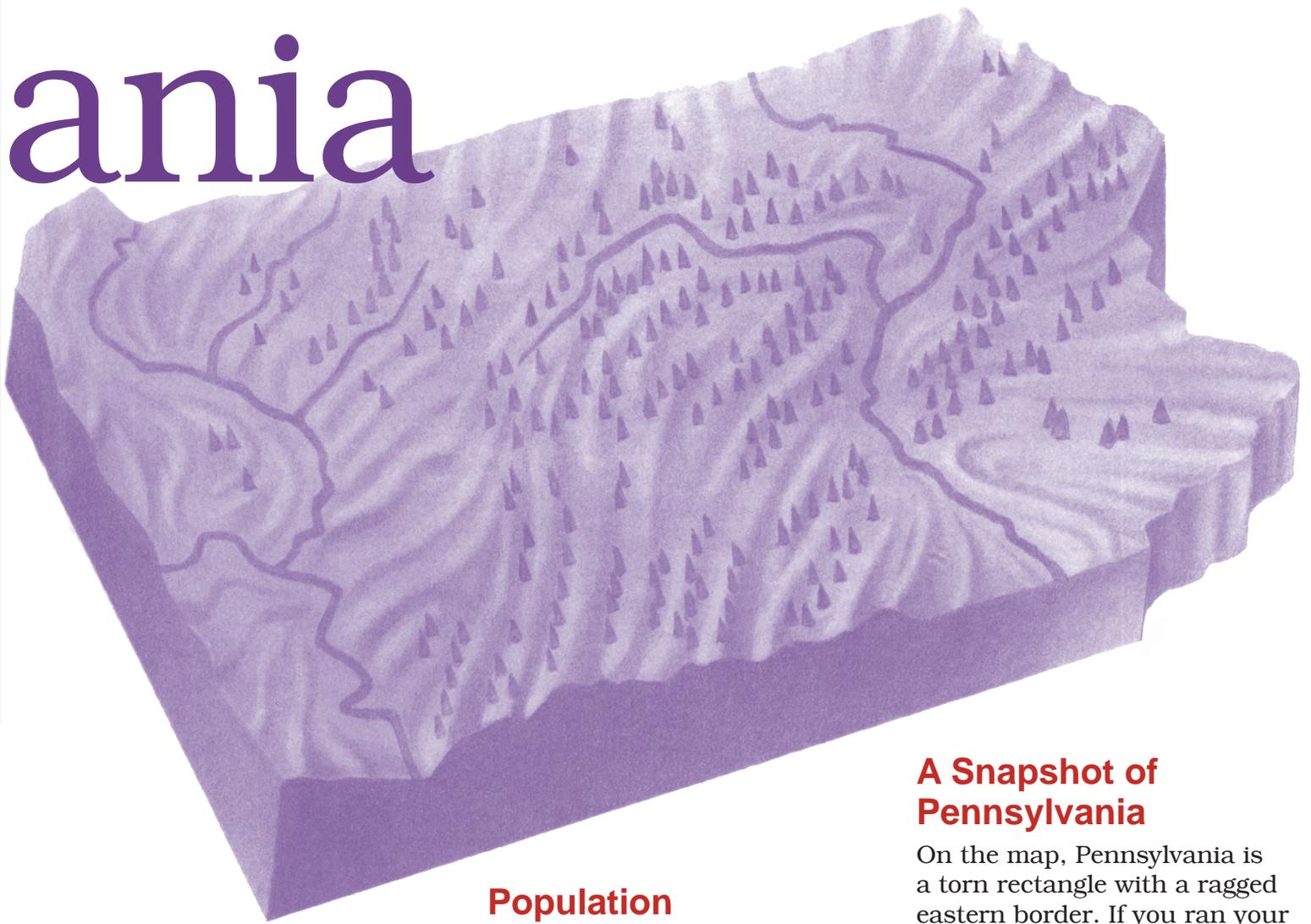
If you wanted to draw a picture of Pennsylvania you would need some facts. Like the size of the state and the kind of land and waterways that mark its surface. You might want to show major industries and natural resources. Indicate how many people live in Pennsylvania and what kinds of work they do. Or show how the counties divide the state into all manner of odd shapes.

On the other hand, you may never have reason to draw Pennsylvania on a piece of paper. But as an informed citizen of any age, it's useful to carry a mental picture of the state in your head. The following facts and figures will help you do just that.

Three hundred years ago, it was known as Penn's Woods (Penn's Sylvania) – and William Penn owned it all! No commoner in history, before or since, personally possessed so much land. Unfortunately, early forms of transportation never permitted Penn (illustrated here and on cover) to see more than a tiny fraction of his estate.

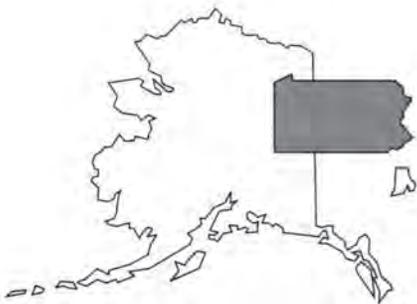


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Pennsylvania's Size

Pennsylvania is 309 miles long, 174 miles wide, and covers 29 million acres. We're dwarfed by Alaska (1/12 the size) but nearly 38 times larger than Rhode Island. Compared to other states, Pennsylvania ranks 33rd.



Population

Although Pennsylvania is comparatively small, only four U.S. states have more people. On the first Independence Day, about 300,000 Pennsylvanians were around to celebrate. Today, our numbers have ballooned to over 12,281,050, most of whom were born here. In fact, Pennsylvanians are more likely to stay in the state where they were born than residents anywhere else in the nation.

One-third of Pennsylvania's residents live in rural surroundings, representing the largest non-urban population in the nation.

A Snapshot of Pennsylvania

On the map, Pennsylvania is a torn rectangle with a ragged eastern border. If you ran your hand over a surface map of the state you would feel a wide range of textures – smooth coastal lowlands around Philadelphia and Erie; spiny ridges and clefts in central Pennsylvania; rocky plateaus rising in the western and northern portions of the state; and the scratch of Pennsylvania forests scattered through more than half of the Commonwealth.



● Do you remember why Pennsylvania is called “The Keystone State”?

● Why can the Commonwealth take credit for American driving habits?

● Which Pennsylvanian can we thank for daylight savings time?



Workforce

Approximately 5.5 million Pennsylvanians are employed in the Commonwealth. Although millions still work in manufacturing and industry, employment opportunities in the state have shifted in recent years toward high technology, health care, and tourism. A strong work tradition has helped Pennsylvanians to make that switch in impressive numbers.

Most of our workers are employed less than 25 minutes from home. As a result, Pennsylvanians record the third-lowest automobile mileage in the nation, adding an average of only 6,900 miles a year to their odometers.

Students

Pennsylvania children were the first in the nation to attend a state-supported free public school system. Although free, education was not compulsory in the state until passage of the House-sponsored Farr Bill in 1895 required children to attend school. Today, over 2 million Pennsylvania elementary and secondary school pupils hit the books across the state — with more students earning their high school diplomas than the national average. Centuries of leadership in higher education is expressed in Pennsylvania's 225 colleges and universities.

Approximately 1.1 million Whitetail deer – our state animal – flourish in Pennsylvania's forests, far more than in the time of William Penn.



Pennsylvania Nature

Climate

Although the average climate of Pennsylvania is usually described as 70° F in summer and 30° F in winter, a true average climate for the state does not exist. This is because Pennsylvania actually has five temperature zones from the Maryland border north to Canada via Lake Erie. So the average temperature in one part of the state may be considered an extreme a few mountains and valleys away.

Wildlife

Pennsylvania wood and wetlands are home to an abundance of wildlife. Streams and ponds teem with brook trout, salmon and walleyed pike. The state's varied habitat also supports woodchuck and waterfowl, rabbit and fox, bobcat and beaver, redwinged blackbird and downy woodpecker, and hundreds of other bird and animal species.

outstanding Pennsylv

Nowhere are Pennsylvania's riches more apparent than in its people. Remarkable Pennsylvania men and women have improved our lives in countless ways by sharing their talent and intelligence with the rest of the country and the world. Here are a handful of the thousands who represent the pride of Pennsylvania.

August Wilson
Playwright

Gene Kelly
Dancer

Pearl Buck
Author

James Buchanan
U.S. President





No matter where you are in the state, you are never more than 25 miles from a state park.

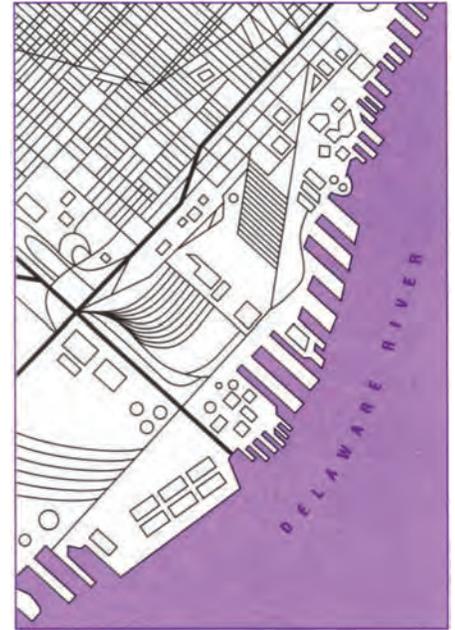
Water

Pennsylvania is cooled by 739,200 acres of lakes, ponds, reservoirs and streams; key seaports at Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Erie; and four major river systems — the Allegheny, the Susquehanna, the Delaware, and the Ohio. With waterways so abundant, it is no surprise that Pennsylvania found it necessary to build 57,000 bridges — more than any area on earth its size.

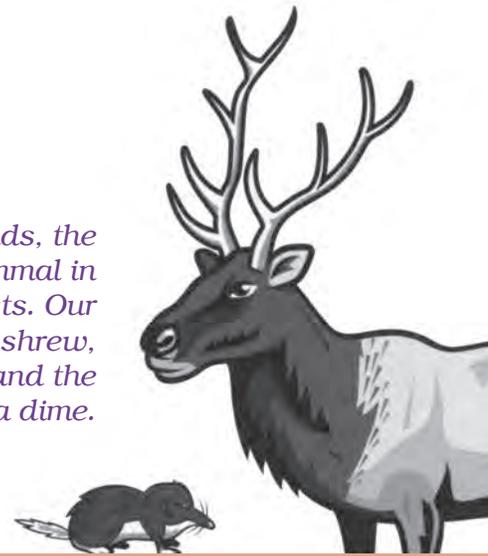
Land

More than half of Pennsylvania consists of green space, woodlands, and state parks, which attract 35 million visitors each year. Valley Forge was the nation's first state park, established by the House of Representatives in 1893. The rest of Pennsylvania's green space — more than 8 million acres — consists of field and pasture.

The Philadelphia Regional Port is the largest industrial port in the United States and the largest fresh-water port in the world.



At up to 800 pounds, the Elk is the largest mammal in Pennsylvania's forests. Our smallest is the pygmy shrew, about 3 inches long and the weight of a dime.



vanians

Jim Thorpe
Olympic Athlete

Stephen Foster
Composer

Mary Cassatt
Painter

Jimmy Stewart
Actor

Margaret Mead
Anthropologist

Robert E. Peary
Explorer

Marian Anderson
Opera Singer



state

Part of knowing our state is understanding what makes it special. Many of the symbols associated with Pennsylvania are rooted in history or pay tribute to a native species or product of great importance to Pennsylvania's economy. Some of our state symbols were originally suggested to the House of Representatives by private citizens.

The Commonwealth

Pennsylvania is officially a Commonwealth, a word which comes from Old English and means "the common wealth" or well-being of the public. In Pennsylvania, all legal processes are carried out in the name of the Commonwealth, although the word does not appear on the State Seal.

The Keystone State

A "keystone" is a central, wedge-shaped stone which holds all the other stones of a structure in place to form an arch. In early America, Pennsylvania played a vital geographic and strategic role in holding together the states of the newly formed Union. Today, Pennsylvania continues to be of key importance to the social, economic, and political development of the United States.

symbols

The State Flag

In 1799, the General Assembly authorized the official Pennsylvania State Flag, a banner fringed in gold with the Coat of Arms embroidered on a field of blue. During the Civil War, some Pennsylvania regiments carried battle flags modeled after the American flag, but with our Coat of Arms in place of the block of



stars in the corner. This kind of creative license was discouraged in 1907 when the General Assembly acted to standardize the State Flag.

The State Coat of Arms

Pennsylvania's Coat of Arms is probably the state's most familiar symbol. Based on a 1778 design by Caleb Lowmyer of Philadelphia, it features a shield crested by an American Bald Eagle, flanked by horses and adorned with symbols of Pennsylvania's strengths – a ship carrying state commerce to all parts of the world; a clay-red plough, signifying our rich natural resources; and three golden sheaves of wheat, suggesting fertile fields and Pennsylvania's wealth of human thought and action. An olive branch and cornstalk cross limbs beneath it – a message of peace and prosperity. The state motto is festooned below.



State Aircraft

Piper J-3 Cub

With its trademark yellow fuselage and black trim, the Piper J-3 Cub is an easily identifiable airplane. Between 1937 and 1947, almost 20,000 Piper Cubs were built in Lock Haven, Clinton County. Leading up to World War II, a new Piper Cub was being built in Clinton County every 20 minutes. Eighty percent of all American World War II pilots received their initial flight training in Piper Cubs, and the plane was a workhorse for the military during the war. Its small and light but durable design is still admired to this day.

Designated June 26, 2014

State Firearm

Pennsylvania Long Rifle

First made in Lancaster County in the 1700s, the Pennsylvania long rifle was one of the first American made firearms. It was one of the first firearms to include spiral grooves in the bore, which increased the stability of the trajectory, resulting in exceptional accuracy and range. The long rifle was used in the American Revolution and became the rifle of choice for sharpshooters in the War of 1812.

Designated June 26, 2014

The State Seal

Authorized by the General Assembly in 1791, the Seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is a symbol of authenticity which verifies that proclamations, commissions, and other papers of state are legal and official. The face of the Seal displays symbols identical to the Coat of Arms, without the supporting horses, and is used most frequently as an imprint. The reverse side, or counterseal, pictures Liberty dominating Tyranny in the form of a lion, along with the warning “Both Can’t Survive.”



State Bird

Ruffed Grouse

Settlers relied on this plump, red-brown bird with the feathery legs as part of their food supply. Sometimes called a partridge, the Ruffed Grouse is still in Pennsylvania's forests.



Designated June 22, 1931

State Tree

Hemlock

The Hemlock was a sturdy ally to the state's first settlers. Many pioneer families felt better protected from the elements and their enemies inside log cabins made from the patriarch of Pennsylvania's forests.

Designated June 23, 1931



State Flower

Mountain Laurel

In mid-June, every sunny mountainside in Pennsylvania is a still-life in pink pastels — a sight which delighted members of the Pennsylvania House and Senate as well as the wife of Pennsylvania governor Gifford Pinchot. Together, they prevailed over Pinchot's preference for the azalea to name the Mountain Laurel as the official state flower.

Designated May 5, 1933



State Dog

Great Dane

The next time you visit the Governor's Reception Room in Harrisburg, look for a portrait of William Penn with his Great Dane. Now a popular pet, the Great Dane was a hunting and working breed in frontier Pennsylvania. The choice of State Dog is also unique in the vote that approved it. When the Speaker of the House called for a voice vote to designate the Great Dane, yips, growls and barks assaulted his ears from every part of the chamber! With a rap of his gavel, the Speaker confirmed that the “arfs have it,” and the “Barking Dog Vote” entered the annals of legislative history.

Designated August 15, 1965



State Animal

The Whitetail Deer

Indians and settlers depended on the Whitetail Deer to feed, clothe, and shelter them year-round. The Pennsylvania House of Representatives passed the nation's first game laws in 1721 to protect these valuable animals, some of which grew to 350

pounds. Whitetail Deer continue to flourish today in Pennsylvania forests.

Designated October 2, 1959

State Fish

Brook Trout

There is nothing more beautiful than the flash of a Brook Trout beneath the bubbling current — especially for Pennsylvania's 1.1 million anglers. Over 4,000 miles of cold water streams form the natural habitat of this fish, the only trout native to Pennsylvania.

Designated March 9, 1970

State Insect

Firefly

Pennsylvanians know fireflies as “lightning bugs” that brighten a still summer night. That may be why some Pennsylvania citizens heard the word “firefly,” and confused it with “blackfly” a pest that plagued the Commonwealth in 1988. To clarify the identity of the State Insect, the General Assembly rewrote the law later that year singling out the Firefly by its Latin name — “Poturis Pennsylvania De Geer.”

Designated April 10, 1974

State Beverage

Milk

This designation is a fitting tribute to one of the Commonwealth's leading farm products. It also salutes the state's gentle dairy cows, which each produce a generous 22 quarts of milk a day.

Designated April 29, 1982

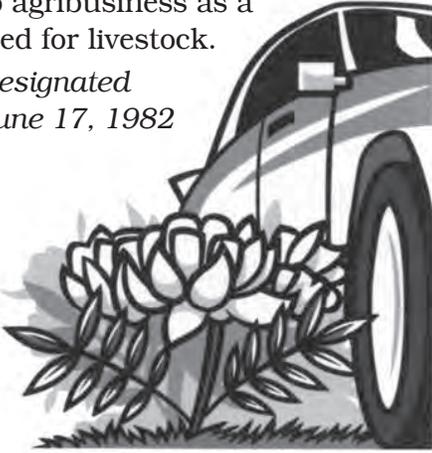


State Beautification Plant

Crownvetch

Since the late 1950s, a profusion of white and lavender blossoms has trimmed the edges of Pennsylvania highways. Scientists at Penn State University developed the hearty Crownvetch to use as a groundcover for erosion control. The versatile plant is also a value to agribusiness as a feed for livestock.

*Designated
June 17, 1982*



State Steam Locomotive

K4s Steam

The K4s Steam Locomotive is everyone's idea of a typical train engine. The boxy, black cylinder with the short stack on top was the main passenger locomotive of the Pennsylvania railroad for 30 years. At one time, 425 of these powerful coal-burners steamed across the state – every one built in Pennsylvania. The State Steam Locomotive is on display in railroad museums in Altoona and Strasburg.

Designated December 18, 1987



State Electric Locomotive

GGI 4859 Electric

The GGI 4859 Electric Locomotive is one of the 138 sleek and shiny bullets that smoked the rails at speeds above 100 miles per hour. Built in 1937, the GGI 4859 pulled troop trains to military destinations during World War II and continued powering coal and passenger cars until retirement in 1979. The State Electric Locomotive is displayed in Harrisburg.

Designated December 18, 1987



State Ship

United States Brig Niagara

The *Niagara*, under Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, was decisive in the war of 1812. On September 10, 1813, it defeated a British squadron in the Battle of Lake Erie. The *Niagara* is displayed in Erie.

Designated May 26, 1988

State Fossil

Phacops Rana

A water animal measuring just one to four inches, the *Phacops Rana* lived and left its mark in Pennsylvania more than 250 million years ago. A science class of elementary school students brought this tiny invertebrate to the attention of the House of Representatives.

Designated December 5, 1988



State Song

Pennsylvania

The official state song of the Commonwealth was written and composed by Eddie Khoury and Ronnie Bonner and is the official song for all public purposes. Designated November 29, 1990

VERSE 1

*Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania,
Mighty is your name,
Steeped in glory and tradition,
Object of acclaim.
Where brave men fought the foe
of freedom,
Tyranny decried.
'Til the bell of independence
filled our countryside.*

CHORUS

*Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania,
May your future be, filled with
honor everlasting as your
history.*

VERSE 2

*Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania,
Blessed by God's own hand,
Birthplace of a mighty nation,
Keystone of the land.
Where first our country's flag
unfolded,
Freedom to proclaim,
May the voices of tomorrow
glorify your name.*

CHORUS

*Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania,
May your future be, filled with
honor everlasting as your
history.*

powering Pennsylvania



THE VERY GOOD EARTH AGRICULTURE

H.J. Heinz began his food processing business in 1869 by bottling horseradish in the basement of his Sharpsburg home.

From earliest pioneer days, Pennsylvania's rivers, mountains, and lush farmland offered the state a running start on growth and prosperity. Pennsylvania land rewarded hard-working settlers with abundant harvests and fueled steelmaking and other industrial development with ton after ton of precious coal. A steady flow of travel and trade busied Pennsylvania's waterways, with railroads soon running alongside with passengers and cargo of their own. Through a fortunate combination of natural resources and resourceful people, Pennsylvania has become one of America's agricultural, industrial, and corporate giants. The following summaries trace the developments that powered Pennsylvania, then and now.

The earth has always been good to Pennsylvania farmers. In Colonial days, the region was already a prosperous agricultural area. Later, it was the fertile promise of the land that lured settlers to farm and develop the western and northern parts of the state. Farm methods and machinery improved during the 1800s as farmers came together at county fairs and shared knowledge through organizations like the Society for the Promotion of Agriculture and the Grange.

The support for agriculture enterprises grew as groups formed to promote specific foods or interests of Pennsylvania farmers. Farm expertise increased further with the founding of agriculture schools. One was Penn State University, chartered by the General Assembly in 1854 as Farmer's High School.

By the turn of the century, moving the crop from the field to the table was the new boom industry. Those were the growth years of the nation's giant food processors. Pennsylvania's H.J. Heinz Company became one of the biggest and Hershey Chocolate today operates the world's largest chocolate factory.

While agribusiness prospered during the twentieth century, so did Pennsylvania's cities, which were beginning to overlap the

rural landscape. The House of Representatives acted decisively, passing 16 key bills to protect farmland, a constitutional amendment for fair farmland taxes, and a \$100 million bond issue to help family farmers.

Pennsylvania's agribusiness now employs one of every five Pennsylvanians. The state ranks among the top ten in the production of mushrooms (our leading crop) and many other products, including sweet corn, milk, poultry, eggs, ice cream, cherries, peaches, apples, potato chips, maple syrup, cheese, pretzels, Christmas trees, sausage, wheat flour and bakery products.

Today, Pennsylvania is widely recognized as the nation's leader in conserving farmland, fostering the food supply and supporting the agricultural way of life.

Pennsylvania is a world-class producer of potato chips, cranking out 30,500 tasty tons a year, or enough to fill over 81 million 12-ounce snack bags.



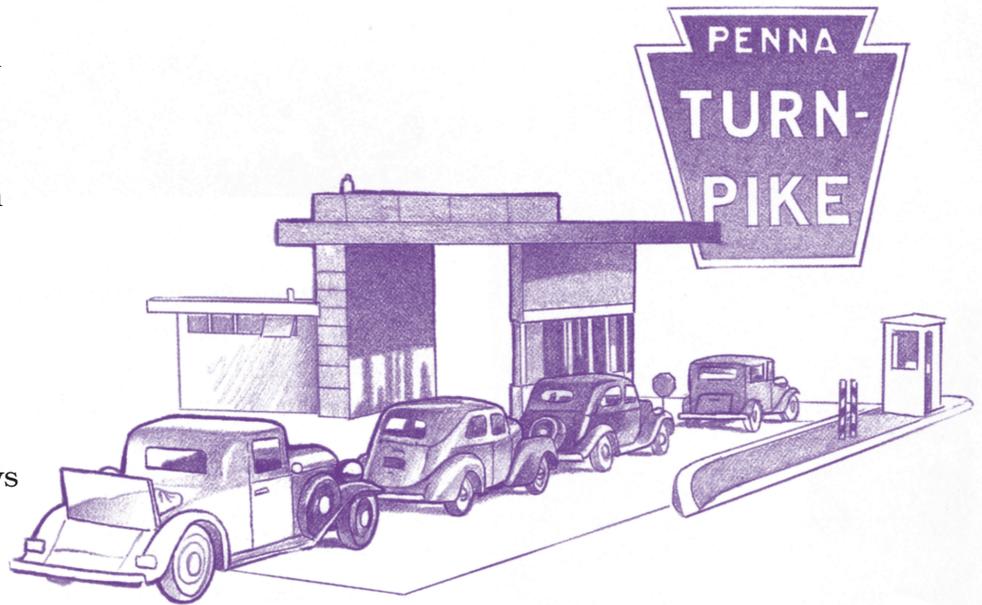
PATHWAYS TO PROGRESS HIGHWAYS

In the 17th century, overland travel meant raising dust on a few dirt-covered streets, clattering along rutted wagon paths, or picking your way down an Indian trail on the back of a horse. But William Penn understood that a growing state makes faster progress on better roads.

During its first session, Penn made the House of Representatives responsible for “all necessary roads and highways in the province.” Early road-building consisted of widening existing trails. The 1784 House of Representatives approved a \$42,000 lottery to build the Forbes Road to Pittsburgh, one of the first log and gravel highways in America. The first toll road followed a decade later. By the 1830s, 3,000 toll roads and 220 turnpike companies guided travelers to all parts of the state.

Representatives agreed that a central agency was needed to support this growing network, and the House acted in 1903 to create one. The Department of Highways immediately charged motorists a fee to register their vehicles. License plates came into use in 1909 and drivers’ permits in 1924. A penny tax on gasoline appeared in 1921, when the state speed limit was 20 miles per hour.

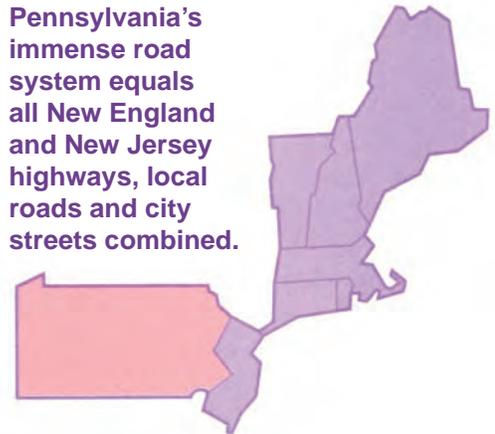
The next milestone occurred in 1937 when Representative



Clifford S. Patterson sponsored the Pennsylvania Turnpike authorization, launching the nation’s first superhighway. As of October 1, 1940, motorists paid a penny a mile to shuttle between Middlesex and Irwin. Since 1950, the House has sponsored six extensions to the original 160-mile Turnpike, which now runs over 500 miles from end to end. In the late 1950s, Pennsylvania helped promote the interstate highway program. Now in its sixth decade of service, the Pennsylvania Turnpike carries 156 million vehicles a year at a toll of just 4.1 cents a mile.

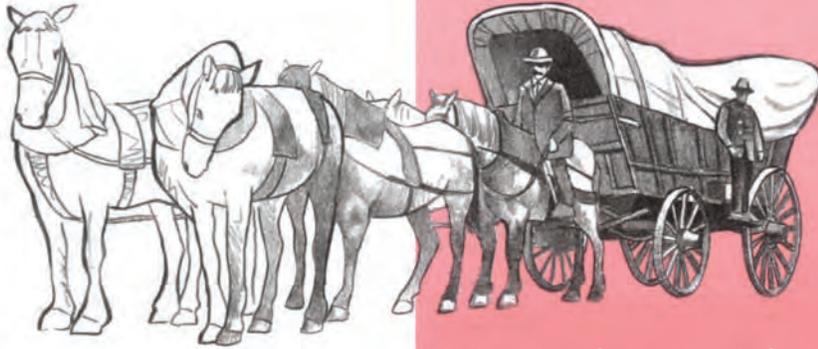
Pennsylvania applies 5,640 “paint-miles” every year when it re-lines the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Pennsylvania’s immense road system equals all New England and New Jersey highways, local roads and city streets combined.



Better connections to our interstate and superhighway systems continue to be a priority today as a means of encouraging new and expanded industry in the state. Pennsylvania is meeting the challenge with a \$1 billion highway maintenance program, the largest in state history. Massive programs of bridge replacement and repair are under way, as well as road reconstruction and resurfacing to smooth the journey along Pennsylvania’s pathways to progress.

A MOVING FORCE TRANSPORTATION



Convoys of Conestoga wagons heading west is the image for most of us call up when we think of early American transportation. Indeed, it was a staple of frontier travel in Pennsylvania for a hundred years. But a 2½ ton Conestoga was slow-going, and loads were limited by what the horsepower could handle on difficult terrain. By the early 1800s, Pennsylvania saw an alternative. With a vast network of waterways coursing through the state, canals seemed like an efficient way to move people and products where they needed to go. On July 4, 1826, the Pennsylvania Canal opened for travel just one block from the Capitol. Over the next 75 years, 1,200 miles of these narrow, watery passages floated paying travelers and tradesmen to their destinations at 10 miles per hour. Among them was Charles Dickens, who purchased a \$7 ticket in 1842 for the weekend run between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh.

Canal boat travel met stiff competition by the 1840s

Modern Americans owe their driving habits to Pennsylvania German carpenters who never saw an automobile. Starting in the 1730s, these workmen originated and built more than 7,000 Conestoga wagons with the “lazy board” at the front left where the driver stood to handle the reins. Ever since, American vehicles have been manufactured with the driver’s seat on the left, requiring traffic to keep to the right.

as railroads roared into Pennsylvania. Actually, the earliest rail cars in Pennsylvania were horse drawn and more likely whinnied than roared. But things progressed quickly. In 1846, the House of Representatives chartered the Pennsylvania Railroad. Eight years later, rail passengers zipped from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, careening around the famous Horseshoe Curve along the way. The Pennsylvania Railroad grew to the largest in the nation, employing greater numbers than the U.S. Army and, for decades, spending 40 times more than the Commonwealth itself.

In the century between 1825-1925, Pennsylvania developed

an unparalleled commercial and public transportation network. In 1909, railroads hauled 500 million tons of freight and 280 million passengers down 11,200 miles of track. Twenty-two different railroads crisscrossed the Commonwealth at the turn of the century, making Pennsylvania the state where “almost any hour you can take a train for almost anywhere.” Trolley travel peaked in 1923, covering 4,600 miles and carrying over 580 million commuters on wicker seats.

Pennsylvania railroading is modest today by comparison with its glorious past. Just nine rail companies carry 5 million passengers and 65 million tons of freight over 6,000 miles of track. But a revival of rail travel is under way. The House-appointed High Speed Inter-City Rail Passenger Commission studied and recommended a magnetic levitation train system for western Pennsylvania. Current plans now call for the system to carry passengers between the International Airport and downtown Pittsburgh. Maglev, as the system is known, just may be the first milestone in the next century of Pennsylvania’s innovative transportation history.

Magnetic Levitation Train System



THE ARSENAL OF DEMOCRACY COAL AND STEEL



Coal Ignited America's Industrial Revolution and steel was the muscle that drove it forward. Together, they provided the tools and rails of progress and the guns and armor to defend it. From the post-Civil War period until the end of the Korean Conflict, America appeared invincible, and most of the raw power came from Pennsylvania. Seen as a source of strength that kept our nation free, Pennsylvania became known as



Pennsylvania coal is a vast energy resource which, at the present rate of production, will last another 300 years. If we were to pile all the coal beneath our feet into a one-square-mile area, it would reach five miles into the sky.

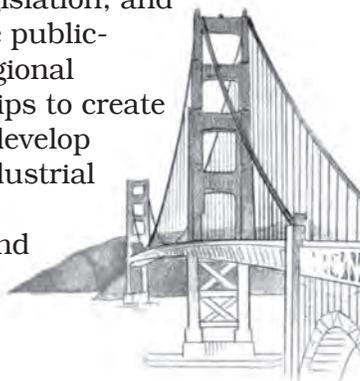
65 percent of the nation's iron and steel. The histories of Pennsylvania coal and steel came together in the 19th century. Coal replaced wood as the fuel of choice in the early 1800s, and its higher temperatures and greater burning efficiency absolutely exploded the possibilities for steelmaking. The

first blast furnace appeared on Pittsburgh's Southside in 1851. Soon afterwards, with the help of entrepreneurs such as Andrew Carnegie and Henry Clay Frick, 350 mills lit the night skies of western Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh became known nationwide as a "the steel city." And western Pennsylvania as a whole continued to dominate American steelmaking for over a century.

Coal and steel production reached record highs during World War I as nearly 400,000 miners fed 277 million tons of coal a year to the defense industry and an equal number of steelworkers toiled at roaring hearths around the clock. For the next 50 years of war and peace, the mines and mills of Pennsylvania labored day and night to supply America with steel.

The House of Representatives has participated in the magnificent saga of Pennsylvania coal and steel from the outset, funding scientific studies, chartering companies, and passing regulations to protect both the worker and the environment. During the 1970s and the 1980s, the House also formed the Legislative Steel and Coal Caucuses to promote favorable national trade policies and programs, seek helpful federal legislation, and encourage public-private regional partnerships to create jobs and develop former industrial sites.

These and similar



efforts are paying off now in leaner, more competitive coal and steel industries. Advanced mining methods have made today's 16,000 mineworkers four times more productive than their predecessors were at their peak. Pennsylvania's contemporary steel industry employs 35,300, many of whom are customizing recycled and specialty steel at prices which can compete on the world market. As we enter the new century, government and industry continue working together to apply the great mining and steelmaking power of Pennsylvania to our new industrial future.

THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF AMERICA

Pennsylvania steel toughened the infrastructure of America and played a supporting role in much of American history. It is found in:

- The Pennsylvania State Capitol
- Most of the country's locomotives
- More than half of the nation's rail and trolley tracks
- The I-beams of America's earliest skyscrapers, including the Empire State Building
- Pennsylvania Turnpike roadbeds and tunnel foundations
- The steam shovels that excavated the Panama Canal
- The first natural gas line and seamless tubing
- Half of the helmets used in World War I
- The Brooklyn and Golden Gate bridges

DIRECTIONS FOR A NEW CENTURY ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE

When it comes to economic opportunity, Pennsylvania likes to “seize the day.” Our earliest legislators began a longstanding tradition of support for innovative industrial development. Although industry’s smokestacks have cooled across the state in recent years, Pennsylvania again has seized the day. While working to optimize its existing manufacturing and industrial base, the state is also aggressively developing its service-related industries. Here are some prominent examples of industries on the rise.

Pennsylvania’s high technology industry is flourishing — advancing today at twice the national average.



Pennsylvania Hardwood **High Technology**

Pennsylvania’s 17 million acres of commercial forest are among the state’s most cherished and valuable natural resources. The hardwood forest in upstate Pennsylvania is the most productive in the nation — producing \$5 billion annually and ranking as the seventh largest industry in the state. Pennsylvania is eager to protect these forests, and has spent more than \$60 million over 20 years to rid them of the gypsy moths and other pests. Nearly 1,400 companies now participate in preserving, managing, and marketing Pennsylvania hardwood. Pennsylvania’s timber industry will soon incorporate the use of highly efficient “laser saws” able to salvage more usable wood from each valuable tree. In addition to trading in raw timber, future plans call for the state to craft and export more finished products made from Pennsylvania hardwood.

The term “high technology” was certainly unknown in the days of Ben Franklin, whose inventive mind gave us bifocals, the almanac, daylight savings time, volunteer fire companies, and the first lightning rod, installed atop Independence Hall in 1752. Yet, Pennsylvania has nurtured advanced achievement for the centuries.

Today, companies with teams of specialists dominate the high-technology arena. The House is helping to attract these firms to Pennsylvania with seed money and funds that match what companies are able to raise on their own. Pennsylvania has also created the Ben Franklin Partnership, a cooperative program that shares the cost of business development. In just a few years, over a billion dollars has been invested in projects that promote new developments in recycling, manufacturing, and science. Over 2,000 technology-

oriented companies already do business in the state — ranking Pennsylvania third in the nation — and close to half a million of our citizens are skilled in high-technology specialties.

Health-care Industry

In 1751, the House of Representatives helped found America’s first public medical facility, known as Pennsylvania Hospital. More than a decade later, the nation’s oldest medical school — the University of Pennsylvania — was chartered by the House of Representatives. Now, pioneering medical, surgical, and organ transplant techniques are used at Pennsylvania medical centers throughout the state, attracting physicians and patients from all over the world. One well-known example is the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, site of the world’s first human liver transplant in 1967 and the first

(continued on page 14)



With House-approved funding for the Virus Research Laboratory at the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Jonas Salk was able to develop the vaccine in 1954 that effectively ended the polio epidemic in America.

Travel and Tourism

Visitors quickly discover what Pennsylvanians enjoy year-round – a Commonwealth of great appeal to leisure-time travelers. From corner to corner, variety is key. Visitors can experience the traditional beach vacation at Presque Isle on Lake Erie, explore the slopes of the Alleghenies, meander the canal paths along the Delaware River, or relive American history from its beginnings at Philadelphia’s Independence Hall. Indeed, numerous landmarks linked to the birth of our nation have helped make travel and tourism a \$15 billion industry in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania is also strongly committed to preserving our industrial heritage through initiatives such as the Heritage Parks Projects. Originated in the House of Representatives, the program encourages local and state governments to join with private investors to restore and redevelop former industrial sites. Visitors now enjoy the Johnstown Flood and Ironworks and Scranton Steam Town, two of the first

(continued from page 13)

heart-liver tandem transplant in 1984.

Pennsylvania currently houses 280 hospitals and eight nationally respected medical schools. The great number of research-oriented medical schools and centers in Pennsylvania has made the state particularly attractive to the pharmaceutical industry. Eight major pharmaceutical companies are located here and 10% of all pharmaceutical workers in the nation are employed in Pennsylvania. Today, the Commonwealth employs over 500,000 trained physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, and other health-care workers along with the country’s finest corps of emergency paramedics.

Pennsylvanians live in one of only three states with more than one major orchestra and art museum, and more than one team in major league baseball, football and hockey.



With key assistance from Pennsylvania, America has made its way from covered wagons to computer chips. In many ways, our Commonwealth remains an important trailblazer for the nation. Our state and its people are mastering a “new world” where the required skills, ways of doing business, even the industries themselves, are different from the past. Secure in its long history of accomplishment, Pennsylvania welcomes this climate of change as a transition to another century of opportunity.

Heritage Parks in Pennsylvania. Additional state attractions include amusement parks, cultural events and festivals, professional and collegiate sports, shopping outlets, over 100 state parks, and Pennsylvania’s Amish country – the most popular tourist destination in the Commonwealth.

Promoting tourism is a priority item on Pennsylvania’s agenda, and the state ranks fifth in the nation in dollars committed to that effort. Part of that funding comes from the General Assembly, which allocates promotional funds to be matched by private and local dollars from regional agencies.

Tourism continues to thrive in Pennsylvania. More than 200,000 of our citizens currently work in the field, attracting nearly 1.3 million U.S. and foreign visitors to the state each year.

a marvelous mix



If you've got a good ear, you can tell where in the state Pennsylvanians come from just by offering them a soft drink. Western Pennsylvanians are sure to ask for "pop" while their neighbors in the eastern part of the state call it "soda." And although Pennsylvanians have various ways of pronouncing water, urbanites always take theirs from a "faucet," while upstaters fill a glass at the "spigot." Isolated river valley communities and deep ethnic roots led to the richly diverse language, economies, and customs of Pennsylvania. Despite this marvelous mix, groups of Pennsylvania counties do share certain regional characteristics, as the map depicts.

1 COLONIAL PENNSYLVANIA

Historic attractions, high-tech, education, and banking

The birthplace of the nation – where independence was declared and the American Constitution received.

Counties: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia

2 DUTCH HEARTLAND

Agriculture, tourism, and manufacturing

A magnet for tourists attracted to the appealing rural landscape and lifestyle of the Pennsylvania Dutch.

Counties: Berks, Lancaster, Lebanon

3 SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY

Commerce, agriculture, and chocolate

Considered frontier in 1776, this river valley region housed the seat of state government by 1812 and thrives today as a center of commerce.

Counties: Adams, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin (partial), Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union, York

4 ANTHRACITE AREA

Recreation, manufacturing, and coal

A distinct culture and proud heritage mark this mountainous region, which, in its prime, mined more hard coal than anywhere else in the world.

Counties: Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Schuylkill

5 LEHIGH VALLEY AND THE POCONOS

Tourism, recreation, agriculture, and manufacturing

Cultural events in a mountain landscape blend with German lager by the lakefront in the fast-growing area of diverse interests and opportunities.

Counties: Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Wayne

6 THE HIGHLANDS

Education, recreation, agriculture, and coal

Site of the historic Appalachian Divide and location of the state's precise geographical center. The Highlands are home to Penn State's Nittany Lions and Punxsutawney Phil, the visionary groundhog who appears February 2nd to forecast spring.

Counties: Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Franklin, Fulton, Huntington, Indiana, Jefferson, Mifflin (partial), Somerset

7 NORTHERN TIER

Hunting, fishing, hardwood, and agriculture

The largest open space in the northeastern United States, this region houses the Little Grand Canyon and more deer, bear, and trout than people.

Counties: Bradford, Cameron, Clinton, Elk, Forest, Lycoming, McKean, Potter, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wyoming

8 STEEL KINGDOM

Manufacturing, coal, high-tech, and banking

Once the exclusive domain of smiths, masons, and millworkers, the region now attracts programmers, professors, and corporate executives.

Counties: Allegheny, Fayette, Greene, Washington, Westmoreland

9 NORTHWEST TERRITORY

Manufacturing, shipping, recreation, oil and grapes

The gateway to Canada and the American West, this productive region was first known as the "Erie Triangle."

Counties: Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Crawford, Erie, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, Warren

A POLITICAL TAPESTRY

It took 130 years to create Pennsylvania's 67 counties, populated by hundreds of communities with scores of separate identities and interests. Today, they are further subdivided into 203 districts, each served by a legislator who must represent citizens whose economic circumstances, social fabric, and cultural heritage are uniquely their own.



There is much to be proud of in Pennsylvania. Magnificent land, steadfast citizens, lasting traditions, resilient spirit — and a system of government that has sustained Pennsylvania and the nation for over 300 years. *Hello Pennsylvania* is one of a series of booklets we at the House of Representatives have prepared to make our state and the everyday workings of our government more understandable to its citizens. As your representatives, this is both our responsibility and our pleasure.

Copies of this booklet may be obtained from your State Representative or from:

The Office of the Chief Clerk
House of Representatives
Room 129, Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2220