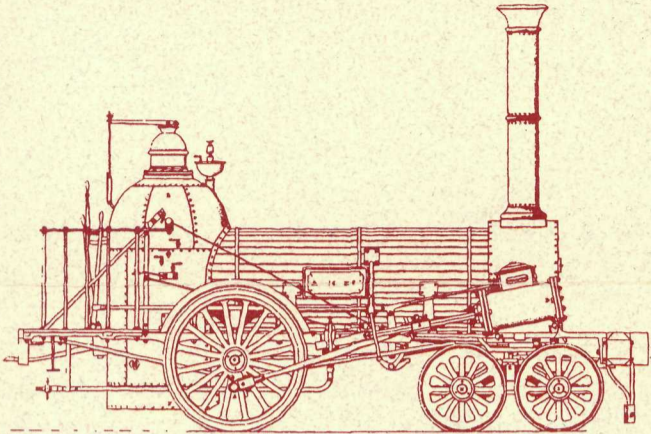


Allegheny Portage Railroad

National Historic Site
Pennsylvania

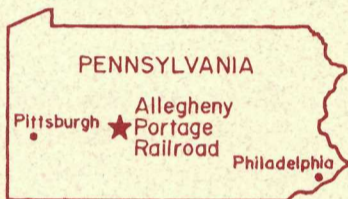
National Park Service
U.S. Dept. of Interior

PLANNING YOUR VISIT



Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site was established in 1964 to commemorate the first railroad to cross the Allegheny Mountains. The Portage Railroad was considered a technological wonder of its day and played a role in opening the interior of the United States to trade and settlement. Today's park, covering 1500 acres, preserves remains of this railroad and reveals its interesting story.

LOCATION



The historic site is located in west-central Pennsylvania. The entrance to the park is off U.S. Highway 22, approximately 12 miles west of Altoona or 10 miles east of Ebensburg.

The park's visitor center is open every day of the year, except December 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. These hours are extended during the summer months. Admission is free.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES



The site features a visitor center with exhibits and a 20-minute film about the railroad. The center also has restrooms and a book sales area. The visitor center and park headquarters are reached off the Gallitzin Exit of U.S. Highway 22.

The picnic area, located off the Summit Exit of U.S. 22, includes tables, grills, a picnic shelter and pit toilets. Camping is not allowed in the park. Food, lodging, gas and groceries can be found in the nearby towns of Cresson and Gallitzin.

RANGER-GUIDED ACTIVITIES



During the summer months, park rangers at the site offer a variety of interpretive programs, including guided hikes, interpretive talks and costumed demonstrations.

The park offers special tours and programs for pre-arranged group visits. For a list of activities or to schedule a group visit, call the park at (814) 886-6150.

THE PATH OF PROGRESS



While visiting the area, take advantage of the many historic attractions located along the Path of Progress. A 47-mile section of this auto tour route between Altoona and Johnstown, leads to other significant historic sites.

Nearby points of interest include: the Horseshoe Curve, Railroaders Memorial Museum, Johnstown Flood National Memorial, and the Johnstown Flood Museum. Brochures for the tour route are available at each of these sites.

FOR YOUR SAFETY

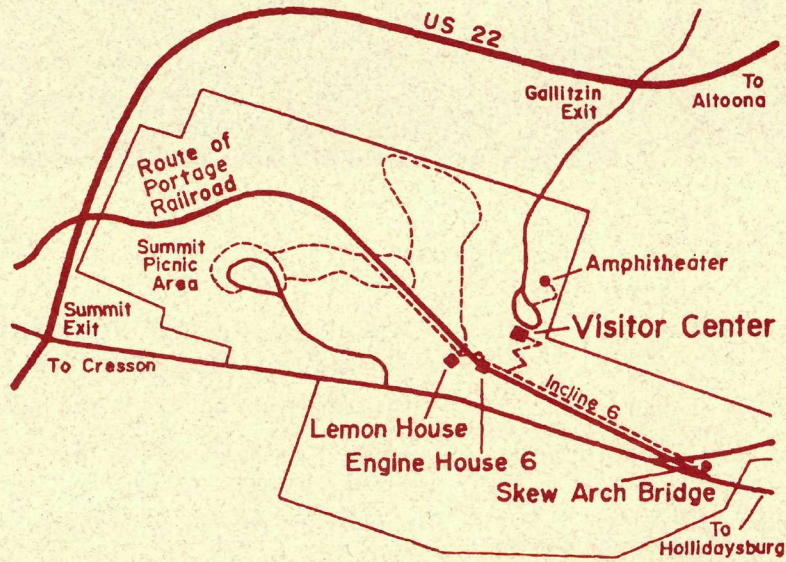


Poison Ivy

Please do not let an injury mar your visit to the park. Watch your step on slippery walks and boardwalks. Be careful at the Engine House 6 Shelter and the top of the incline. When hiking,

stay on cleared trails and watch out for poison ivy. Rattlesnakes are rare, but be cautious. Do not attempt to feed any wildlife. This is unhealthy for the animals and can be dangerous for you.

EXPLORING THE ALLEGHENY PORTAGE RAILROAD



VISITOR CENTER

The park's visitor center features a 20-minute motion picture and exhibits that help tell the story of the railroad. A full-scale model of a locomotive used on the Portage Railroad is a featured attraction. A book sales area offers educational materials. Rangers are on duty to answer questions and help plan your visit.

STONE QUARRY

A boardwalk from the visitor center leads through an area where stone was cut for the construction of the railroad and its associated structures. Several stones still bear the marks of the stonecutters' drills.

INCLINE 6

The remains of Inclined Plane 6 of the railroad may be viewed at the end of the boardwalk leading from the visitor center. A section of reconstructed track demonstrates the type of rail used on the planes.

SKEW ARCH BRIDGE

A trail starting at the top of Incline 6 leads to the Skew Arch Bridge. This structure was built to carry a wagon road over the railroad tracks.

ENGINE HOUSE 6

A recently-completed exhibit shelter stands over the foundation of Engine House 6. This shelter protects the remains of the original building and also houses interactive exhibits on the railroad's technology. A full-size model of one of the incline's stationary steam engines rests inside the original foundation.

LEMON HOUSE

This structure, built in the 1830s by Sam Lemon, operated as a tavern during the days of the Portage Railroad. The building is being restored, but tours may be available. Restoration should be completed in 1995.

RAILROAD TRACE

The old bed of the Portage Railroad can be followed for approximately 3/4 mile along the Summit Level toward Incline 5. Along the way you can see many of the stone ties, or sleepers, that held the rails.

TRAILS

Other trails lead from the Lemon House area to the picnic area and through the forests of the park. Ask at the visitor center desk for more information.

ACCESSIBILITY



All the major features of the park, including the visitor center and restrooms are fully accessible. The boardwalk to the incline and Engine House is also accessible.

In the picnic area, a table is available for wheelchair users, however there are no accessible restrooms. The park's motion picture is captioned.

TAKE ONLY PICTURES . . .



As a unit of the National Park System, Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site preserves all of the features associated with the railroad and

its environment. All natural and historic items within the park are protected by law. Please leave everything in its place for others to enjoy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information, contact Superintendent, Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site,

P.O. Box 189, Cresson, PA 16630. Phone: (814) 886-6150.

