Welcome to Berks County, Pennsylvania. This brochure is your guide to our rich heritage. Use it to chart your trip back more than 250 years through our storied history. Berks County has always been a place of innovation and ingenuity, reflected in our industrial heritage. Explore the museums dedicated not only to the machines, but also to the skilled men and women who built and operated them. Learn about our people. Berks County heritage features a blending of many cultures from the Europeans who settled the Oley Valley in colonial times to today’s new immigrants. All made Berks County their home and influenced its development. Along the way you’ll hear some familiar names, names like Daniel Boone, the frontiersman, whose family comes from Berks County, alongside some not too familiar names like Weiser and Duryea. Find out how Berks County products and Berks County personalities helped foster the westward expansion and helped win wars. Berks County truly did influence the nation. To make your trip to our past easier and more rewarding we’ve divided the heritage features into attractions, resources and events. Sites are open to the public with regular hours and provide some type of interpretation and visitor amenities. Resources are places to explore your own ties to Berks County’s history places like archives, historical societies, and libraries. Events bring our history to life. As you discover our heritage you’re bound to discover something about your own. Enjoy the journey!

Let our distelfink be your guide in an exploration of Berks County’s rich cultural heritage.
Admission Fee.
for Weiser's 18th century Homestead. Hours: Wed–Sat
of Victorian and early 20th century architecture. Annual
Centre Park Historic District
Railroad Movement with your tour. Guided tours: Wed and Fri
tours May 1 through October and on Summer holidays. Hours: Tue–Sat
Gruber Wagon Works, a National Historic Landmark and the C. Howard
This National Register mill features operational belt driven 1870's
Bahr's Mill
ASPCA Roger Caras Library. 5003 Main Street, Birdsboro. Hours:
ment; Racehorse Barbaro video; rare books dating to 1550;
American Museum of Veterinary Medicine
Heritage Sites
The Boyertown Museum of History & Transportation
Pennsylvania's transportation history and modern vehicles. Gift shops.
and locomotives, museum store. 500 South Third Street, Hamburg
5,000 year old process of iron mak-
One of the oldest in the Reading and Berks County area. The museum
contains documents that describe the history and culture of the African Americans who have lived in the region. Information on the PRR Railroad and
Mercury Street, Reading 610-375-4375 www.berkshistory.org
email: history@berkshistory.org
Avenue, Reading 610-375-4375 www.berkshistory.org
The purpose of the Trust is to save historic buildings threatened by
destruction, whether it comes from decay, neglect, or in some cases, progress. Additional information: 610-384-9004
www.preservationtrustofberk.org
Kutztown. Area Historical Societies
Provides museum and historical archives for Kutztown and northeastern
Rhein Street, Kutztown 610-683-1597 www.kutztownfestival.com
of the community of Kutztown. For more information contact Emily Miller at 610-368-6306.
Sinking Spring Area
Victors can visit the born museum on Saturday morning. Open 9am to 5pm
301 Independence Lane, Kutztown 610-683-1597.
Tri-County Historical Society
The museum is open the last Saturday of each month from 10am–1pm. 717-933-5792
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