

# ON THE ROAD: HISTORY THROUGHOUT UNION COUNTY

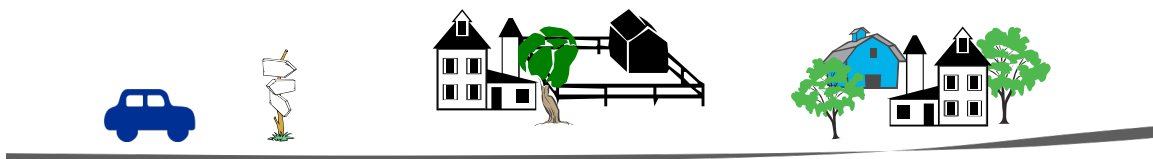
## A self-guided car tour

We hope you enjoy touring Union County and will visit all the attractions the county has to offer.

Listen to Track 1, then stop or pause your CD and follow the driving directions to New Berlin, the original county seat and where the actual tour begins with Track 2. At each BEEP, stop or pause your CD and then follow the next set of directions that also tell when to listen to the CD.

The tour is nearly 55 miles long and lasts 2 ½ hours. It does not have to be done in its entirety but you will need to note what track you did last and resume at the track and place. Please note that the odometer readings are approximate.

*Tour safely - please do not drive and read at the same time.*



### **TRACK 1 John Snook: INTRODUCTION**

**BEEP: stop or pause CD and follow directions below to your next stop.**

**DRIVE TO NEW BERLIN:** from Lewisburg and the intersection of Routes 45 and 15, take Route 15 south to Winfield. Take Route 304 to New Berlin. Penn DOT signs are posted. In New Berlin, stop in the parking area on Market Street (Route 304) in front of the original courthouse located on the corner of Market and Vine streets then

**START CD.**

### **TRACK 2 John Snook: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNTY, EARLY NEW BERLIN**

**BEEP: stop or pause CD at the beep**

Circle around the block by going east on Market Street one block, turning right onto Plum, then right onto Front, and right again until you are on Vine Street in front of the post office door and headed north. SET your odometer to zero. Cross Route 304 (Market Street) and proceed north 3.4 miles over the New Berlin Mountain Road until reaching the stop sign at the junction with Furnace Road. When coming over the crest of the mountain you are looking into the Buffalo Valley. When you reach the stop sign at Furnace Road, SET your odometer to zero.

**START CD.** Turn right onto Furnace Road and drive 3.3 miles to Stein Lane, listening while you travel.

### **TRACK 3 - WHILE TRAVELING David King: AMISH SETTLEMENT IN 1800s**

**BEEP: stop or pause CD at the beep**

When you get to Stein Lane turn right and pull into the gravel driveway of the corner log house soon after turning and stop here.

**START CD, listening while you are stopped at log house.**

**TRACK 4 David King: LOG HOUSES**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

SET your odometer to zero as you exit driveway, turn right and travel south on Stein Lane 2.3 miles to a stop sign at the intersection of Stein Lane and Route 304. Cross over Route 304 and continue another .5 mile until you come to County Line Road. Turn left and pull into the small cemetery immediately on your right. Follow the U-shaped gravel drive in the cemetery and stop the car when ready to exit the cemetery onto the road. You are facing the New Berlin Mountain with sweeping views in all directions.

Do not go onto the road yet but rather listen to Track 5 on the CD.

**START CD.**

**TRACK 5 David King: DRY VALLEY and the WHITE TOP AMISH**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

SET your odometer to zero and now leave the cemetery by turning right onto County Line Road, passing in front of the Yoder's (unless you are stopping to buy eggs). After 1.5 miles turn left onto Amish Road, which you will take for another .7 mile, or until odometer reads 2.2 miles.

Turn right at the stop sign, RESET your odometer and go 1.3 miles to the intersection of Park and Felmey Roads and turn left onto Park Road. Pass the quarry and old limekilns until stop sign. Go straight ahead. Just after passing the large yellow brick house on the left, pull off the road onto a small wide spot on the right in front of a gray clapboard house.

**START CD when you are parked.**

**TRACK 6 Peggy Gundy Ulmer: WINFIELD, BLACK SETTLEMENT, LEE HOUSE**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

Proceed to the traffic light, setting the odometer to zero. Turn left onto Route 15, headed north towards Lewisburg. Get in the right lane on Route 15 when you can and proceed for 2.3 miles making a right turn onto River Road immediately after yellow road intersection sign that comes into view at 2 miles. Immediately after you turn onto River Road, SET the odometer to zero and

**START CD as you are traveling on River Road, beside the Susquehanna River for 1 mile.**

**TRACK 7 Peggy Gundy Ulmer: THE VAN GUNDYS**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

Turn left from River Road onto South Seventh Street up the hill onto the Bucknell University campus. Park in front of the Carnegie Building (former Library) that is street-side on the right, OR proceed to just after the crest of the hill to a medium-sized parking area below the Career Services (old Botany) Building.

**START the CD while parked in either place.**

**TRACK 8 Peggy Gundy Ulmer: BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

Continue down the hill from where you were parked. At stop sign at the base of hill turn right onto Walker Street. At the next stop sign, beside the 1890 former Chemistry building, Walker Street becomes Loomis Street. Proceed a short way along Loomis Street to any available parking spot across from Bucknell Hall or the President's house (both on your left). Park and

**START CD.**

**TRACK 9 Peggy Gundy Ulmer: BUCKNELL HOUSES**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

From Loomis Street, turn left onto University Avenue at the stop sign, cross the railroad tracks and pull over to the right and across from an historical marker on the Underground Railroad (on the left).

**START the CD.**

**TRACK 10 Nancy Ross Showers: LEWISBURG, BLISS HOUSE,  
UNDERGROUND RAILROAD**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

On University Avenue, proceed past the Civil War monument on your right. At the stop sign make a gentle left onto Third Street proceeding through another stop sign on the way to Market Street. Pull over and park in the block before the traffic light straight ahead.

**START CD when parked.**

**OR You may wish to use the Lewisburg walking tour or have lunch in town.**

**TRACK 11 Nancy Ross Showers: LEWISBURG**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

Turn right onto Market Street, go through another traffic light and at the foot of the Susquehanna River Bridge turn left onto North Water Street and pull over beside the park as soon as you can.

**START CD when parked.**

**TRACK 12 Nancy Ross Showers: SOLDIERS' PARK, RIVER BRIDGE**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

Drive to the end of North Water Street where you can see a sign to Slifer House. SET odometer to zero as you make a right turn over the St. Anthony Street Bridge. At .3 mile, go through the entrance pillars to the front of Slifer House. The museum may be visited on specific days and times year round (sign is on the door).

**START CD while parked in front of the house.**

**TRACK 13 Nancy Ross Showers: ELI SLIFER'S HOUSE**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

Go around circular drive back to entrance, turn left and proceed to the traffic light at Route 15. Cross Route 15 and drive past and between McDonalds and Evangelical Community Hospital to a 4-way stop sign. At the stop sign SET odometer to zero. Make gentle right onto Hospital Drive (not the sharper right onto JPM Road) and go 1.4 miles. It is a road with two sharp turns toward its end.

At junction with Colonel John Kelly Road, SET odometer to zero, turn left onto Colonel John Kelly Road and travel 1.6 miles west before turning left onto Strawbridge Road (you will pass the back gate of the Federal Penitentiary). On Strawbridge Road cross over Buffalo Creek in half a mile and turn right onto graveled farm lane at Dale's Ridge Trail's parking entrance. Proceed down the lane to the 1793 Dale/Engle/Walker House stopping to read the welcome sign.

On Sunday afternoons June through October, you can take a guided tour of the house. The Dale's Ridge Trail, maintained by the Linn Conservancy, is open year-round for hiking and is accessed from the trail parking area. You are welcome to walk around the house when it is not open. Drive back down the lane to Strawbridge Road. SET odometer to zero.

**START CD.**

Turn right and travel south on Strawbridge Road for 1.4 miles, passing the Ridge School on the right near the juncture with Route 192.

**TRACK 14 Nancy Ross Showers: FEDERAL PENITENTIARY AT LEWISBURG,  
DALE HOUSE, RIDGE SCHOOL**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

At stop sign turn right onto Route 192 and SET odometer to zero again. Go 1.5 miles to Hoffa Mill Road. Turn right onto Hoffa Mill Road beside an old fence row of trees. Go another .7 mile (or a total of 2.2 miles) to the mill on your left — where you will pull in and turn around to face the large brick mill.

**START the CD when parked.**

**TRACK 15 David King: GROVE'S MILL, CHAMBERLAIN HOUSE**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

SET odometer to zero upon leaving the mill; proceed in the direction you had been going (north) and in .2 mile, take the first left onto Hill School Road on which you will pass the white-walled Stoltzfus Amish cemetery on your right. (This was another large settlement area of our 19th-century Amish community.)

The road has several pronounced right angle turns and you finally come to a stop sign at its juncture with Colonel John Kelly Road. You will pass the former Hill (one-room) School, now a private residence, on one of these right angle turns.

At the stop sign, you see the ridge and valley topography that exemplifies the county's terrain and shape. Turn left on Colonel John Kelly Road and at .9 mile on the right is the home of famed Indian fighter and Revolutionary War soldier, Colonel John Kelly. At 1.4 miles turn left onto Johnson Mill Road and pull immediately to the right side of the road in front of the church.

**START CD.**

**TRACK 16 David King: LUMBERING, MAZEPPA**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

SET the odometer, resume driving south on Johnson Mill Road through Mazeppa and crossing Buffalo Creek. In 1.9 miles you will reach a stop sign at juncture with Route 192. Make a left and then an immediate right onto Meeting House Lane. Park in front of old columned church.

**START CD.**

**TRACK 17 David King: BUFFALO CROSSROADS CHURCH and CEMETERY**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

Turn your car around and SET the odometer to zero. Make a left back onto Route 192. At .5 mile there is a 1795 stone house on the right at a distance that has a carved chimney stone that commemorates the date and an earlier time when settlers escaped from an Indian scouting party.

At .9 mile turn left onto Beaver Run Road. SET the odometer to zero and drive 1.5 miles on Beaver Run Road to Route 45. Near Route 45 there is Mennonite Ike Reiff's buggy-making shop on the left. Reiff makes and restores buggies and has lived in Union County since the late 1960s.

You will now cross over Route 45 and at the crest of the oncoming hill will be the Old Order Mennonite (Groffdale Conference) meetinghouse. Pull into the meetinghouse's parking area if not in use and park.

**START CD.**

**TRACK 18 David King: MENNONITE SETTLEMENT IN THE 20TH CENTURY**

**BEEP: stop or pause CD at beep**

Pull out and continue south on Beaver Run Road to the juncture with Furnace Road. SET the odometer to zero, turn right and travel 1.8 miles to Brouse Road. Turn left onto Brouse Road and drive to Ridge Road. RESET the odometer to zero and turn right onto Ridge Road. Go .6 mile until you see a low clump of evergreens flanking an historical marker on the right and across from a group of large farm buildings on the left. Pull to side of road by marker, put on your car's hazard lights and

**START CD.**

**TRACK 19 John Snook: LEROY MASSACRE STORY**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

SET odometer to zero and continue 1 mile on Ridge Road to Route 304. Turn left onto Route 304 and then in .5 mile turn right onto Red Ridge Road. When turning onto Red Ridge Road SET the odometer to zero again. Cross Route 104 and

**START CD. Listen as you pass the crossroads community of White Springs.**

**TRACK 20 while traveling John Snook: WHITE SPRINGS,**

**DUNKARDS / CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN**

**BEEP: stop or pause your CD at the beep**

At 3.8 miles turn right onto Orchard Road.

SET odometer to zero and proceed on Orchard Road for 2.3 miles, through the village of Swengle, through a stop sign until reaching a second stop sign (which is within sight of third stop sign at Route 45). You will be traveling through wonderful farmlands that sometimes have western views of the "tight end" of Union County — where the ridges converge.

Turn left onto Route 45. Take the first left onto Catherine Street in Hartleton and pull in at the open-air pavilion and in view of the Union Church.

**START CD when you are parked at the pavilion.**

**TRACK 21 John Snook: HARTLETON**

**BEEP : stop or pause your CD at the beep**

Go back to Route 45, SET odometer to zero. Turn right onto Route 45 and drive 5.7 miles east to Mifflinburg. In Mifflinburg turn right onto 6th Street and proceed three blocks to the Buggy Museum parking lot at 6th and Quarry Street. Park and go visit the Mifflinburg Buggy Museum, the Gutelius log house, and 1806 Elias Church, which are all within a block of each other. But first play final track on CD.

**START CD.**

**TRACK 22 John Snook: MIFFLINBURG and OTHER COUNTY SITES TO VISIT**

**END**

We hope you enjoyed your tour of Union County. To learn more about county history, visit the Union County Historical Society. For information on area attractions & overnight accommodations, visit the Susquehanna Valley Visitors Bureau, Route 15, Lewisburg, 800-525-7320, [www.visitcentralPA.org](http://www.visitcentralPA.org)

*If you are interested in reading the very best on Union County's history you can order*

*Union County Pennsylvania; A Celebration of History by Charles M. Snyder*

*from the Union County Historical Society.*

*Call 570-524-8666 or write [hstoric1@ptd.net](mailto:hstoric1@ptd.net) or visit the web site at*

*[www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org).*