

Lanterman's Mill

MAHONING
VALLEY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

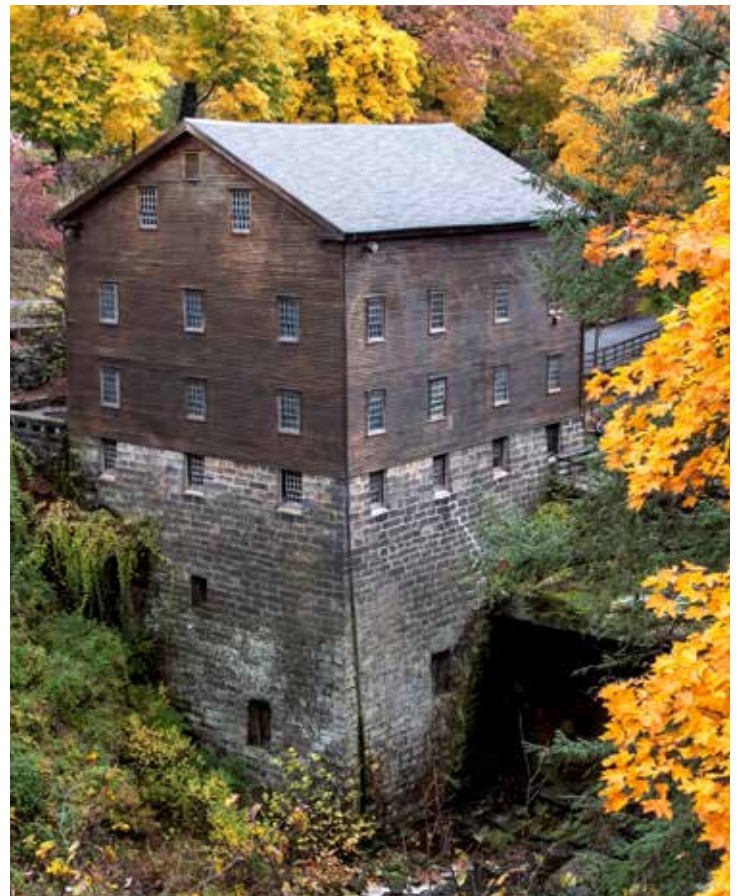
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- 1797: The first grist and saw mill was built at the 23-foot waterfall in the Mill Creek Gorge by two of Youngstown's earliest settlers, Phineas Hill and Isaac Powers. After it was demolished in a flood in 1822, Eli Baldwin replaced it with another mill that was washed away 20 years later.
 - Granite millstones from both iterations of the mill can be found in the Creek's bed hundreds of feet downstream from the Falls.
- 1845: The current structure was built by German Lanterman and his brother-in-law Samuel Kimberly. It consists of a multi-story heavy-timber structure placed upon a monumental stone pedestal to ensure its survival during flooding.
 - The mill was originally powered by an overshot wheel, the type presently being used, but was later converted to turbines prior to its closing in 1888. Lanterman's Mill was a highly successful operation and historians speculate that its downfall was due to the advent of roller mills which were less costly to run.
- 1892: After closing, the Mill stood in a state of disrepair until purchased by the Mill Creek Park and adapted for public use. At that time it held a ballroom, a concession stand, and bathhouse for swimmers.
- 1933: The Mill's first floor was converted into a nature museum and then into the Park's historical museum in 1972.
- 1976: Lanterman's Mill was entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of the Interior.
- 1982: A major renovation project was begun to remake Lanterman's Mill into a historic operating mill and museum. In addition, an observation deck was added for access to the Falls.
- 2019-2020: Mill Creek MetroParks rebuilds the Mill's wooden overshot wheel and reconfigures access paths for accessibility.

Source: www.millcreekmetroparks.org



WKBN

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- The current WKBN-WYTV Boardman facility was constructed between 1948 and 1952 to house WKBN's then state-of-the-art broadcasting facility.
- This reserved Art Modern structure of dressed limestone and buff brick is sited within a park-like setting including transmission towers placed behind the building. The site remains a Youngstown landmark with WKBN's call letters rendered in iconic freestanding neon above the building's entry.
- For decades WKBN was a local pioneering radio and television broadcasting entity under the direction of its founder and operator, Warren P. Williamson, Jr.
 - 1926: first radio broadcast in Youngstown
 - 1953: after years of planning WKBN received a F.C.C. license for Ultra High Frequency channel 27 for television broadcasting and became Youngstown's first TV station.
 - 1959: WKBN became the first station in Youngstown to use videotape. This videotape was used for a Hostess Cake commercial during the Three Stooges program.
 - 1963: WKBN became one of nine stations in the country to operate with one million watts of power or more for better picture service.
- Though WKBN TV was originally affiliated with a few networks it eventually became the local CBS affiliate.
- Besides producing local news programming, WKBN also created fondly remembered original programs including Romper Room, Clancy's Tip Top Clubhouse, Space Rangers and The Money Movie.
- In 1997, after 71 years in business the Williamson family sold WKBN to an outside media corporation. Though the company has changed ownership several times since, WKBN continues broadcasting from this landmark facility to this day.
- The legacy of this important local media company was secured by Mr. Williamson in 1994, when WKBN Broadcasting Corp. combined with Youngstown State University and Mahoning Valley Historical Society to form Business and Media Archives of the Mahoning Valley, and WKBN donated historic news film, videotape, documents and artifacts the company had preserved over the decades. Mr. Williamson also donated seed money to start the project. Today, Business and Media Archives is owned and operated by MVHS, and members of the Williamson family continue to support development of the collection and related public programs.

Sources: WKBN Website and MVHS Business & Media Archives Website



Ellsworth Town Hall

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- 1810: Ellsworth Township was established by dividing segments of Canfield and Newton Townships to become one of fourteen townships of Mahoning County. It is located directly west of Canfield Township.

- Ellsworth is named after Oliver Ellsworth, a prominent Connecticut attorney and politician who was a delegate to the Continental Congress, a Senator, and Supreme Court Chief Justice.

- 1804, Summer: Captain Joseph Coit of PA was the first settler, clearing a plot of land for crop production along Meander Creek and constructing a simple log cabin. Coit was responsible for surveying a significant portion of the Township and served as its postmaster for many years.

- Ellsworth Township was originally developed as and remains a rural community. That said, in the first half of the 19th century Ellsworth Center became a small commercial hub. Situated along a dirt highway connecting Pittsburgh to Cleveland (today's Rt 224) it was a popular stop-over for freight and passenger coaches, and would serve the community as a commercial and social center.

- Fun story from this time period: "At this time there were no temperance societies. Not infrequently some who followed the rush of emigration westward would take a stop off, and spend some time resting up at Ellsworth. It was not an uncommon occurrence for some of these persons to get beastly drunk. In fact, some few of the regular residents (accidentally of course) occasionally became a trifle hilarious. To suppress this in a measure, the village council passed an ordinance to this effect: "Any one found drunk, shall be compelled to dig out a tree stump from the highway, or pay a fine of five dollars, and the cost of prosecution. Tradition records that the desired reform was brought about, but not before numerous stumps in and near the highway had been removed."

Source: Twentieth Century History of Youngstown and Mahoning County Ohio and Representative Citizens by Thomas W. Sanderson

- The Town Hall is a well maintained simple wood frame structure located on Rt. 224 in Ellsworth Center and it is assumed that it was built as a Town Hall. Its construction date is undetermined though stylistically it appears to have been built in the later 19th Century and left largely unaltered. This structure continues to function as a town hall and like so many public buildings both grand and modest it provides a public face for its community.



McKinley Memorial Library

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- Not to be confused with a presidential library, this impressive marble edifice was conceived and designed to serve as a public memorial to the 25th President of the United States, William McKinley.
 - William McKinley (1843 -1901)
 - Born to William and Nancy McKinley in Niles, Ohio, William was the 7th child of an iron maker that had moved his family to Ohio from Western PA.
 - 1852: The family moved to Poland, Ohio where William Jr. was educated.
 - 1861-1866: He enlisted in the Poland Guard as a private in the Union Army and left service as a brevet major.
 - 1866: He joined his family in Canton where he became an attorney and married Ida Saxton in 1871. Unfortunately, both of their daughters died in early childhood.
 - 1876-1890: After becoming involved in local and state politics through the Republic Party and his law practice, McKinley is elected to the US House of Representatives where he serves 7 terms.
 - 1891-1896: After losing his seat in the House, his high standing within state politics helps him win his bid for Governor.
 - 1897-1901: McKinley defeats William J. Bryan in both the 1896 and 1900 presidential elections.
 - The national economy grows exponentially during McKinley's administration. In part this is due to his protectionist approach to foreign trade.
 - The 1898 Spanish-American War is perhaps what McKinley's administration is most remembered. The US's crushing victory over Spain led to the acquisition of several overseas territories and America's rise to become a world power. It also led to an Anti-Imperialist political movement within the US.
 - In 1901 McKinley was assassinated by Leon Czolgosz, a disaffected worker and social outlier from Cleveland who believed he was furthering the Anarchists' agenda by assassinating the President.
 - 1911: Through a Congressional act an association is formed to plan, design, finance, and construct the Memorial Library. Joseph G. Butler, Jr., local iron magnate and McKinley's childhood friend heads the group and successfully raises the needed \$220k for construction.
 - 1915: McKim, Mead and White (architects of the Butler Institute) win a design competition for the Memorial Library hosted by the American Institute of Architects (AIA).
 - The design utilizes the forms and language of Classical architecture. The building consists of two wings joined by an open central courtyard and colonnade.
 - One wing contains a public library and the other an auditorium and meeting hall. These functional elements are balanced with the honorary courtyard dominated by a life size marble statue of McKinley set on a pedestal. Set within the semicircular colonnade are busts of McKinley's political and business contemporaries, many of whom donated generously to the Memorial's construction.
 - The building is centrally located on a five acre park donated to the Memorial by the City of Niles.
- Source: Wikipedia
- 2010: After an extensive renovation, the Memorial is given a Preservation Award by Mahoning Valley Historical Society.



Wick Park Recreation Center

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- As the most popular facility in the City of Youngstown's Parks & Recreation system, Wick Park Recreation Center (WPRC) has been the venue for countless events and activities ranging from senior programming to family reunions.
- Situated at the center of historic Wick Park on Youngstown's North Side, Wick Park Recreation Center was the first enclosed structure to be built within the Park's thirty-four acres of stately trees, lawns, walking paths, and drives.
 - Wick Park History:
 - The land surrounding and including Wick Park was owned and eventually developed as an upscale residential enclave by members of Youngstown's Wick family starting in the 1890's.
 - The family donated land to the City of Youngstown for a public park bound by Fifth Ave. and Elm St. to the west and east respectively and Park Ave. and Broadway to the north and south respectively. Lots facing the Park became prime real estate and the location for some of the City's finest homes.
 - In 1906, after several years of negligent the City improved the Park with curbing, extensive plantings, walks, tennis courts, playgrounds, and a popular band stand after the Wick family threatened to reclaim the land.
- Wick Park Recreation Center was constructed in 1956 to enhance the Park with a much needed amenity and to bolster the aging neighborhood surrounding it.
- Comprised of two primary spaces, an open-air pavilion and an interior assembly hall, it is an ideal point from which to gather and enjoy the Park.
- The Center is a substantial brick structure designed in an eclectic historicized style that blends well with the aesthetic of the adjacent neighborhood, which is a listed Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Both the WPRC and Wick Park are contributing features to the Historic District.
- In 2019 extensive renovations to the Center were completed under the leadership of Youngstown CityScape and the project received a Historic Preservation Award from the Mahoning Valley Historical Society.



LOST

Wean United Foundation Works

PRESENT

Youngstown Foundation Amphitheatre & Park

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- This site, located at an ox-bow in the Mahoning River is part of Youngstown's historic center and the home of numerous industrial facilities throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Only recently has the abandoned structures of that past been demolished eliminating the last of the industrial complex the defined Youngstown's river edge.
- The site is located in the flats west of Market St. Bridge next to the Mahoning River. Its appeal for industrial development is based on easy access to transportation starting with the Mahoning River, moving onto the Ohio Pennsylvania Canal, and finally the railroads that replaced both.
- In the 19th century numerous small industrial businesses occupied flats including the William B. Pollock & Co. Boiler Works, the Booth Miller & Co Falcon Foundry, the Ellis Planing Mill Co., and the William Tod & Co. Hamilton Works. By the early 20th century most of these businesses had either moved or been absorbed into the United Engineering & Foundry Company, a Pittsburgh company that dominated this site throughout the 20th century.
 - 1849: A stove foundry named Parmelee & Sawyer started along Oak Street.
 - 1888: The company was reorganized and became the Lloyd Booth Co. and relocated operations to Booth's existing plant located west of the Market St. Bridge.
 - 1901: With the an influx of enormous capital, United Engineering Company purchased and merged several business including the Lloyd Booth Co. United Engineering became the largest manufacturer of rolling mill and steel-works equipment in the United States, and the largest producers of steel, chilled and grey iron rolls in the world. Their operations would come to include several plants located in both Youngstown and Pittsburgh.
 - 1916: United Engineering & Foundry Company acquired the William Tod Company, rebranding itself as the Youngstown District of the United Engineering & Foundry Company.
 - The Hamilton Works had been located along the flats west of the Market St. Bridge since 1856.
 - In 1878 founder William Tod, the son of Governor Tod developed the Hamilton Works into Wm Tod Co., one of the premier producers of stationary steam engines for the iron and steel industries in the world.

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- The preservation and restoration of one of the last remaining Tod steam engines has been a passion project for local enthusiast, Rick Rowlands. You can visit the engine at the Tod Engine Foundation located at 2261 Hubbard Road in Youngstown.
- 1971: Wean Industries acquired United Engineering & Foundry and became Wean United.
 - Warren based Wean United started as the Wean Engineering Company in 1926 under owner-operator Raymond John Wean. The company grew quickly and eventually expanded operations to include manufacturing and sales.
- 1982: Wean United is forced to close its Youngstown Plant as the domestic steel industry collapsed.
- 2012: The Wean United property was acquired by the City. After many decades of neglect, the massive structures on the site were demolished for redevelopment of the land.
- 2018: The City of Youngstown opens the Youngstown Foundation Amphitheatre and Wean Park. After 175 years of industrial development and use, the flats on both sides of the Bridge are transformed into an open green space and entertainment venue designed to complement the adjacent Covelli Centre, located in the plain to the east and near the South Avenue Bridge.

Source: <https://abandonedonline.net/location/wean-united/>

