

Beaver County Pennsylvania

“Gleanings”

City of Aliquippa

Aliquippa was formerly a borough. It was named a city in 1987 by the Aliquippa Borough Council.

Aliquippa was founded by the merger of three towns: Aliquippa, Woodlawn, and New Sheffield. There is no evidence connecting the Seneca Queen Alliquippa with the location of the borough. This was one of several Indian names selected arbitrarily by the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad in 1878 for stations along the route. Aliquippa is best known as the location of a productive steel mill that the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company constructed there along the Ohio River beginning in 1905. Employment at the facility sustained a population of 27,023 in 1940. *Source:* Wikipedia for 'Aliquippa, Pennsylvania'

History of the former Borough of Aliquippa

The village of Aliquippa took its name from an Indian queen who at one time lived on or not far from its site. In 1753 she was living at the mouth of the Youghiogony River, and was visited there by Washington in that year. He says in his Journal: "I went up about three miles to the mouth of the Youghiogony, to visit Queen Aliquippa, who had expressed great concern that we passed her in going to the fort. I made her a present of a watch-coat [1] and a bottle of rum, which latter was thought much the better present of the two." Chartiers Creek, which empties into the Ohio some miles above this place, was known in early days as Aliquippa's Creek.

Footnote at the bottom of page 850: [1] A "watch coat" was a kind of waterproof overcoat or cloak - see the *Pennsylvania Magazine* (Philadelphia) for December, 1775, for curious directions for a "cheap method of making a Watch Coat for soldiers, chiefly here in America."

Post-Office, Population, Education, Etc.

The post-office at this place was established, October 12, 1892, and the first postmaster, Joseph Stubert, assumed charge at that date. He was succeeded in the office by John W. Hall, June 11, 1897; Maggie Brown, December 11, 1900; and Maggie Babb, May 14, 1902. By the United States Census for 1900 the population of Aliquippa borough was 620. There is here a good common school, with a neat building erected about three years ago. The leading hotel of the town is the Hotel Columbia, proprietor, John Wiegler. Aliquippa Park is a beautiful picnic grounds, just on the edge of the borough, with a station on the Pittsburg & Lake Erie Railroad.

Source: History of Beaver County, Pennsylvania: And Its Centennial Celebration, Volume 2
By Joseph Henderson Bausman (1904)
Portions from pages 850-851

City of Beaver Falls

History of Beaver Falls Borough

This busy manufacturing center is situated in the valley of the Big Beaver Creek, about three and a half miles from its mouth. The town occupies mainly a plateau some fifty or sixty feet above the

creek, and has thus excellent natural drainage. The hills on either side, especially to the west, rise boldly to a height of perhaps two hundred feet, with immense perpendicular cliffs, making very wild and picturesque scenery. The high ground here was formerly covered with those blocks of granite known to geologists as "erratics," which are supposed to have been transported hither from the Canadian highlands by icebergs and deposited as the bergs melted.

Very early the immense water-power afforded by the Falls of the Beaver at this point, and the consequent possibilities of successful manufacturing being carried on here, impressed themselves upon all visitors. Among those who perceived these advantages at an early period was General Daniel Brodhead, who, while commandant at Fort Pitt (1779-1781), became well acquainted with this locality, and on the very day that the celebrated Land Act of April 3, 1792, was passed by the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, offering for sale the vacant lands within the Commonwealth, he, being then Surveyor General of the State, took out two warrants of four hundred acres each for lands lying on Walnut Bottom Run, opposite the great, or Middle Falls^[1] of the Beaver, on which the town of Old Brighton (now part of Beaver Falls) was afterwards located. In August, 1801, Brodhead sold these two tracts of land to David Hoopes of Chester County, Pa., for three thousand dollars. Previous to 1800, Dr. Samuel Adams, spoken of in our chapter on the medical history of the county, had settled at the Upper Falls of the Beaver on a tract of four hundred acres, and had built a dam, erected a sawmill, and made other improvements. His land extended from what is now Seventeenth Street, Beaver Falls, north to what is known as Twenty eighth Street, College Hill borough; and west including what is now called Mount Washington. The place was later named for him, "Adamsville."

Footnote at the bottom of page 666: [1] In early times there were three general divisions of the Falls of the Beaver, named respectively the "Upper Falls," the "Middle Falls," and the "Lower Falls." They were situated about as follows: the Upper Falls, were near the present Fetterman Bridge; the Middle Falls, near the present Tenth Street Bridge, and the Lower Falls near the Fallston Bridge. *Day's Historical Collections* says (page 108): "The Beaver river, within five miles of its mouth, falls 69 feet. 'The Falls' originally consisted of a succession of rapids for about two thirds of that distance. By individual and state enterprise the stream has been made to assume a succession of pools and dams. Five miles from the mouth is a dam of 15 feet: a mile below, another of 20 feet; a mile below that two others, giving together a fall of 19 feet; and near the mouth another, with a fall of 15 feet at low water." The date of this publication is 1843. The dams are to-day about the same, except that at the point where it is said there were two, which is at Fallston, there is now but one, and the second one named in the excerpt ("20 ft.") has been built higher. This was done by the Beaver Falls Water Power Co., which supplies by means of it extensive manufacturing establishments.

In 1801, David Hoopes, who, as stated above, had purchased from General Brodhead two four hundred acre tracts at the Middle Falls, took possession of the same, and, with others, began to build mills. Hoopes, Townsend & Co. erected a sawmill, which was shortly afterwards burned, but soon rebuilt, and later a flouring mill, the second of its kind in the valley, was added. They soon began also the erection of a forge near the mills, but before it was finished the entire property was sold to Isaac Wilson. The latter took hold of the plants in 1805, and completed the forge the following year, and commenced soon to build a charcoal furnace. September 13, 1808, Mr. Wilson sold a half interest in the whole property to Messrs. Barker & Gregg for \$16,000, and the firm was then known as Isaac Wilson & Co.

In 1806 a town plot was made by this firm and lots were sold, and a brisk business began to be built up. In 1808, Wilson, Barker & Gregg were operating their iron blast furnace, and manufactured for several years stoves, pig-iron, hollow-ware, etc., using the kidney ore found on the ground. In April, 1812, Barker & Gregg purchased from Wilson for \$15,000 the other half interest in the property. The plants later became the property of Oliver Ormsby of Allegheny County, who actively operated them under the able management of John Dickey and James Glenn until 1818. The financial depression then became so great that the furnaces could not be worked profitably, and the whole property was allowed to go down. When David Hoopes came on from Chester County to take possession of this property at the time referred to above, he had found several settlers seated on the lands and claiming them under the provision of the law of 1792, relating to securing title by "settlement and improvement." General Brodhead had instituted suit in the United States Court of Equity against these persons and had secured

judgment in his favor, but Hoopes had trouble with them also and had to buy from some of them fifty acres at one time and fifty at another. Had it not been for this trouble about the title, the Harmony Society, which later did so much for the development of the business interests of Beaver Falls, would have located here instead of going to Posey County, Indiana. Shortly before their removal thither they had tried to purchase these two tracts, with the improvements thereon, for \$32,000, but were discouraged from the purchase by the difficulties in the way of securing a clear title to a large part of the property.

We have said that in 1806 a town was plotted on this property by Isaac Wilson & Co. The survey for this was made by two brothers, named Constable, from Brighton, England. As a favor they were allowed to name the new town, and they chose the name of their home town for it, calling it Brighton. This name was retained for some years, but when a town was laid out on the east side of the Beaver, which was first called East Brighton and afterwards *New Brighton*, the town on the west side came to be generally known as "*Old Brighton*," and continued to be so designated until the time when the Harmony Society became the owners of the property on the west side. The latter place was thereafter called Beaver Falls, though that name is said to have been sometimes applied to it in the earliest days of its existence.

After the suspension of activity in the industries at this point of which we have spoken, the property remained idle until 1829, when it was bought from Mr. Ormsby by James Patterson of Philadelphia. Mr. Patterson acquired by this purchase 1300 acres, and the same year brought his family and some machinery to the place and began to improve the property, building a flouring mill with a capacity of 200 barrels a day, and a cotton factory which employed thirty-five hands and yielded 3000 pounds of yarn per week. Mr. Patterson did much by his various enterprises to revive the trade of the whole region.

In 1829 Archibald Robertson built a steam paper mill in Brighton, which was operated successfully until 1849, when Mr. Robertson becoming convinced that water-power was more economical, built another paper mill at the head of the falls. Mr. Robertson manufactured an excellent quality of printing and wall paper, employed a considerable number of hands, and did much for the general business interests of the valley. This second mill was in 1876 under the control of Frazier, Metzgar & Co.

Harris's *Pittsburgh Business Directory* for 1841 gives the following showing of the business occupations of the people of Brighton:

Laborers - David Ames, Jeremiah Maid, Emory Maloy. *Millwright* - James B. Angel. *Paper makers* - John Baker, James C. Fulton, James Roberts, H. Woods, Jessie Zeigler. *Innkeepers* - Luke Bland, Widow Sutliff. *Blacksmith* - David Boiles, William J. King. *Farmers* - John Boiles, Robert McGaughey.

Engineers - William Carter, Daniel Loomis. *Carpenters* - Robert Calhoun, Joseph Reeves. *Calico printer* - William Clayton. *Clerks* - J. K. Dean, C. H. Gould, William Harrison. *Coal diggers* - Charles Day, Nathan Dillon.

Machinists - James M. Greig and James Wilson. *Canal-boat captain* - George Hemphill. *Tanner* - John R. Hoopes. *Foreman flouring mill* - H. Huggins. *Sign painter* - Samuel Kennedy. *Cabinet makers* - Horatio Large, Henry Sims, Sr., Henry Sims, Jr. *Forgemen* - John Martin, James Richards.

Tailors - Ephraim Martin, William Wallace. *Brick-maker* - Robert Moffit. *Teamsters* - Joseph Mahaffee, John Murrell. *Cooper* - Peter W. Maltby.

Foreman cotton factory - Andrew Nelson. *Storekeeper and flour merchant* - James Patterson. *Shoemaker* - William B. Platte. *Wheat agent* - Ira Ransom. *Paper mill owner* - Alexander [Archibald] Robertson. *Soap manufacturer* - Isaac Warren. *Saddler* - David Whitla.

During the ownership of the lands here by James Patterson a town had been plotted by him, July 4, 1849, the plan of which was acknowledged before William Richardson, J. P., on the 4th of August following. The names of the streets starting with the creek were - Water, Front, and Second; those running at an angle of forty five degrees with the former were - Tank, Main, and Cedar; those at a right angle with the latter - Factory, Mill, Race, Mulberry, Linden, and Oak.

In 1859 the Harmony Society, which held several mortgages on this property, purchased it at sheriff's sale for the sum of \$34,500, the deed being dated September 14th of that year. In 1866 the Society made a new survey of the town, and greatly enlarged its limits, extending it along the Beaver Creek nearly three miles, and began actively to carry on and to aid various manufacturing and other enterprises. The growth of the town in population and business became as a consequence very rapid, and in 1868 it was felt by the citizens that they should have the advantages of a borough incorporation.

Source: History of Beaver County, Pennsylvania: And Its Centennial Celebration, Volume 2
By Joseph Henderson Bausman (1904)
Pages 665-669

Townships

Big Beaver Township

In 1802 South Beaver township was divided by the court of Allegheny County into three townships, South Beaver, Little Beaver, and Big Beaver. When Lawrence County was formed in 1849, Beaver County contributed part of the territory of the new county, and several of her townships were cut in two by the county line resulting. Big Beaver was one of these, and the legislature of 1850 recognized the fact and confirmed the erection of the township as at present limited. Big Beaver township is bounded on the north by the township of Lawrence County, which was cut off from it and which bears the same name; on the east by Big Beaver Creek, on the south by Chippewa township, and on the west by Darlington township.

The surface of the township is hilly, with very rich bottoms interspersed. Good coal, limestone, and sandstone are plentiful. The streams are all small, rising in the highlands and flowing into the Big Beaver Creek on the east or into the Little Beaver, which runs along the western border of the township.

The population of the township as shown by the United States Census for 1890 was 1497; for 1900, 1380. The statistics for the latter year given in the report of the Secretary of Internal Affairs are as follows: Taxables, 454; number of acres of cleared land, 9564; of timber land, 1216; value of all real estate, \$471,878; real estate exempt from taxation, \$11,970; taxable, \$459,908.

Hoytdale village and post office, in the extreme northeastern corner of Big Beaver township, were formerly known as Rock Point. The postmasters who had charge of the office while it was called Rock Point were as follows: J. D. Husted (never qualified) appointed December 13, 1876; William W. Hamilton, December 20, 1876; Thomas M. McLucas, October 12, 1877; Lewis S. Hoyt, March 29, 1881. The name was changed to Hoytdale, December 12, 1892, with Lewis S. Hoyt then still in charge. Michael McCool was appointed June 9, 1897.

Summit Cut post office was discontinued, April 20, 1892; William F. McCready, appointed December 15, 1890.

HOMEWOOD

The village of this name is situated on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway, at its junction with the Erie & Pittsburg Railway.

William Grimshaw, the author of a series of popular histories of the United States and of several European countries, was an early landowner in the region about Homewood; and in 1831, Joseph M. Smith purchased from him a tract of two hundred acres of land, upon a part of which the village now stands. Mr. Smith laid out the village in 1859, and the first dwellings built here were those of David Johnston, William Foster, Adam Carnet John C. Chapman, and Jonathan Grist.

The Methodist Episcopal Church in this place was organized about half a century ago by Rev. J. W. Claybaugh. The first stewards were W. H. Foster, David Knowles, Jonathan Grist, A. Hunter, R. S. Foster, J. W. Smith, Frederick Graham, and Clark Hunter. The same year a small frame church was built at a cost of \$3000. Homewood was about forty years ago connected with the Enon Valley Circuit, and was supplied by the pastors of that circuit. Names of early ministers are Messrs. J. W. Claybaugh, M. Ingram, J. J. Jackson, J. W. Kessler, C. M. Westlake, and later came W. K. Brown, 1881; J. L. Deens, 1882; O. H. P. Graham, 1883-84; M. S. Kendig, 1885-88; William Medley, 1889-90; J. W. Garland, 1891-93; G. A. Sheets, 1894; D. M. Hollister, 1895; Z. M. Silbaugh, 1896; S. H. Greenlee, 1897; F. H. Callahan, 1898-99; W. H. McBride, 1900-01; Rev. J. J. Buell (1902) is the present pastor.

Homewood post office was established in 1862. Postmasters: William H. Foster, January 28, 1862; James C. Evans, November 7, 1866; John H. Witherspoon, March 18, 1869; Mrs. Mary Crum, September 21, 1885; Hugh M. Shipman, February 26, 1889; Samuel S. Overlander, July 24, 1893; and Lawrence J. Overlander, May 17, 1897.

[Note: On March 7, 1958, Big Beaver Township changed to Big Beaver Borough.]

Source: History of Beaver County, Pennsylvania: And Its Centennial Celebration, Volume 2
By Joseph Henderson Bausman 1904 Pages 926-928

Brighton Township

This township is centrally located north of the Ohio River, and is bounded on the north by Chippewa and Patterson townships, on the west by Ohio and Industry townships, on the south by Industry and Borough townships and the borough of Beaver, and on the east by Bridgewater and Fallston boroughs.

Its streams are Brady's Run, which flows through its northern part and empties into the Big Beaver below Fallston; and Two Mile, Four Mile, and Six Mile runs, flowing through its central and western sections and finally emptying into the Ohio River. These streams are small, but one, at least, has some historic interest, being connected with the fame of the noted Indian scout, Captain Samuel Brady, and his exploits. This township was formed, with others, in 1816, from parts of South Beaver and Ohio townships. Its surface is generally hilly, and abundance of pure coal is found in several parts, with good limestone and sandstone, some quarries of the latter yielding a beautiful building stone. Near the mouth of Brady's Run John Dickey put down, some years ago, a salt well, and salt was manufactured here for a long time by him. Some show of oil was also obtained but the well was never pumped.

The population of Brighton township, as shown by the United States Census for 1890, was 773, and for 1900 it was 687. The report of the Secretary of Internal Affairs for 1900 makes the following showing for the township: Taxables, 279; number of acres of cleared land, 8323; timber land, 3014; value of all real estate, \$508,628; real estate exempt from taxation, \$6700; real estate taxable, \$501,928.

Through this township passed the celebrated Indian path known as the "Tuscarawas Trail," which is now almost identical with one of the main highways of the county.

Source: History of Beaver County, Pennsylvania: And Its Centennial Celebration, Volume 2
By Joseph Henderson Bausman (1904) Pages 940-941

Center Township

Although Center Township is new among the family of communities making up Beaver County, her traditions go back to the earliest period of Ohio Valley history. Prior to colonial explorers, native Indians traveled the "Glade Path", an important trail crossing the future township from north to south.

One family of settlers in Beaver Valley, the Bakers, made their home in 1774 in the hills above Raccoon Creek near what is now Pleasant Drive in Center Township. At that time, all lands south of the Ohio had been claimed by Virginia, with the seat of government at Pittsburgh.

During the course of the Revolutionary War, Fort McIntosh was constructed at Beaver to aid settlers in defense against the Indians and the British at Detroit. Supplies were brought from Pittsburgh along the old Indian path. The trace was renamed Brodhead's Road, after the commander of Fort McIntosh.

When Beaver County was formed in 1800, three townships were created on the south side of the Ohio River: Hanover, First Moon and Second Moon. Later (in 1812) the area was reorganized into four townships. One of these was Moon, the parent of Center. Over the years, other communities were formed from Moon: Raccoon Township in 1837, Phillipsburg Borough in 1840 (now Monaca), and Potter Township in 1912.

In 1914, a serious dispute among Moon Township residents split the township, separating the heavily populated suburban section in the north from the much larger sparsely populated region in the south and west. On November 24, 1914, after a second election, the court decreed that the larger southern section be known as Center Township. Eighteen years later, the remaining portion of Moon in the north was annexed by Monaca, becoming that borough's Fourth and Fifth Wards (Monaca Heights and Colona Heights). Today, Center Township can take her place among the larger and most progressive communities in Beaver County as new housing plans develop around the township.

Center Township is bordered to the northeast by the borough of Monaca, to the south by Hopewell Township and the city of Aliquippa, to the southwest by Potter Township, and to the west by Raccoon Township. To the north, across the Ohio River, is the borough of Beaver, and Conway is to the east across the river. Since Center Township does not have a mailing center, all its residents have either a Monaca or Aliquippa mailing address.

As of the 2010 census it had a population of 11,795.

Source: Wikipedia about Center Township, Beaver County, Pennsylvania.

Chippewa Township

Chippewa was formed in 1816.

Adams Township was one of four townships which was created from South Beaver Township and Ohio Township. Sometime later Adams Township became known as Chippewa Township.

Chippewa comes from the Indian word Chipwayanwok. Chipwayanwok means tailskins and was given them on account of their dress, which had points hanging down before and behind. [1] *[Note: Chipwayanwok Indians wore tailskins as a fringe on their clothing].*

The population was 7,620 at the 2010 census. The township shares the ZIP code of nearby Beaver Falls; therefore, all addresses in Chippewa Township actually carry the Beaver Falls name, despite their location within the designated township. [2]

Source: [1] The World Book: Organized Knowledge in Story and Picture, Volume 6, Page 4357

Source: [2] Wikipedia about Chippewa Township, Beaver County, Pennsylvania

Darlington Township

Darlington township was erected, October 15, 1847, from Little Beaver. It lies in the extreme northwestern corner of the county, and is bounded on the north by Little Beaver township in Lawrence County, on the east by Big Beaver, and on the south by South Beaver township in this county. Middleton and Unity townships in Ohio bound it on the west. There are no streams rising within its limits, but the north fork of the Little Beaver bends in and out again on its eastern line, makes an angle through its southeastern corner, and then flows along its southern border to the State line. The surface of Darlington township is rolling, and its soil is equal in fertility to any in the county. Its population in 1900 was 1285. In that year it had 441 taxables, 12,053 acres of cleared land, and 1498 acres of timber land; and the total value of its real estate was \$588,010, including \$1550 of real estate exempt from taxation, and \$586,460 taxable.

When Lawrence County was erected in 1849 out parts of Beaver and Mercer counties, the line separating Beaver County from the new county, in passing through several of the townships of Beaver County, so divided the township of Little Beaver in that county as to leave in it a very small portion, a mere strip of said township, which contained only about a dozen taxable inhabitants. This strip of Little Beaver township adjoined the line of Darlington township on the north, and on a petition of sundry inhabitants of the latter township, the Court of Quarter Sessions of Beaver County, on the 30th of November, 1849, made a decree extending the line of Darlington township up to the line of Lawrence County, so as to bring the said strip within the limits of Darlington township.

GEOLOGICAL FEATURES

The geological features of this township are peculiarly interesting and important. In many portions of it are found large blocks of granite lying perched upon the highest hilltops, as well as in the valleys. Granite does not belong to the rocks of this region, there being none nearer than several hundred miles to the north. Therefore these perched blocks or erratics, as they are called by geologists, must have been carried by some agency to the point where they now lie. It is

believed that in ages past, when this whole region was submerged to a depth of probably thirteen hundred feet, these huge intruders on our soil were transported here on the bosom of vast icebergs upon which they had fallen, and which, breaking away from the glaciers of the Canadian highlands, gradually melted as they passed into the warmer waters of the south, dropping the rocks which were imbedded in them upon the surface where we find them. These granite blocks are found only in the valley of the Big Beaver and that portion of Beaver County west from it. They have never been seen in the geological district east of it, nor south of the Ohio River in Pennsylvania. They are of all sizes, ranging from six inches in diameter up to several feet. One was seen in Darlington township ten feet long, eight feet across, and six feet high.

COAL COMPANIES OF DARLINGTON TOWNSHIP

Edwin K. Morse - 1848-53. Mr. Morse came from Poland Ohio, and was the first to extend the trade in cannel coal, hauling the same to the new line of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway until the completion of the Darlington Cannel Coal Railway, in which he was a large stockholder. His shipments were largely to Pittsburg and Philadelphia.

Freeman Butts - 1858-76. This gentleman was a resident of Syracuse, N. Y., who purchased the Sterling and Carson lands, operating the No. 6 and 7 veins of bituminous coals. During the Civil War he filled a four years' contract for two hundred tons per day, and in later years he shipped largely to the Lake trade.

Henrici & Lenz - 1852-80. These were representatives of the Harmony Society, who, being compelled to take the Darlington Cannel Coal Railway, leased the cannel mine and, with their own bituminous mine, were large shippers to the east and the Lake trade. P. L. Grim was the general manager. Their coal and railroad investments in Darlington township were, however, unsuccessful, involving a loss to the Society of over \$400,000.

Ira F. Mansfield - 1865-1904. Returning from the Civil War in 1865, Mr. Mansfield purchased the cannel coal mines at Cannelton, and has been ever since active in the business of mining. Some of his early trade was with oil companies, who by cooking the cannel coal in retorts, secured from one to two barrels of oil from each ton of coal. Gradually the market was extended to gas companies in Canada and New England States, and for over twenty two years the output averaged one hundred tons a day. For several years Mr. Mansfield also operated the Beaver, Block, and Economy mines.

Sterling Mining Company - 1885-1904. This company was organized by W. H. Warner of Niles, Ohio, and operated the bituminous veins from the Mansfield and Dufflands. They have been quite successful, having a railroad and furnace trade.

Goff-Kirby Coal Company - 1890-1904. Members of this firm reside in Cleveland. The company operate veins 4 and 6 under lands of Messrs. Butts, Duff, and Mansfield. They ship largely to Cleveland, and by Lake to Canada and western cities.

In addition to those named above, there have been some small firms, which operated for a time, but failed; and there are also in the township many farm mines for local wagon trade.

Cannelton is a village at the Mansfield mines referred to above, lying near the Little Beaver Creek. Its post office was established in 1880, and has been served by the following persons. Samuel Henry, March 2, 1880; Robert A. Craighead, January 17, 1884; George S. Veon, January 19, 1885; Ira F. Mansfield, September 7, 1885; John Grim, March 7, 1888; John W. Inman, June 20, 1888; James Dryden, October 19, 1891; Samuel M. Dryden, January 31, 1904.

Near this place, on the Little Beaver, Tanacharison, the Half King had a hunting cabin. When Washington came to Logstown in 1753 he had a runner sent after him to bring him from this

camp for a conference at Logstown. About his camping place many Indian relics have been found. Hon. I. F. Mansfield, of Cannelton and Beaver, has a fine collection that was gathered here. Colonel Bouquet, in his expedition against the Ohio Indians, encamped near here (just across the State line), October 7, 1764. A small elevation in the neighborhood, which was occupied by part of his force still retains the name of "Bouquet's Knob."

Near Cannelton is the Roman Catholic Church of St. Rose. - The first Catholic families who came to this neighborhood were drawn hither by the opportunities for employment afforded by the then active industry of cannel coal mining. They were at first under the necessity of going to New Castle or Beaver for religious privileges. Later, Rev. James Reid, pastor of the church at Beaver, served the people here, coming once a month to visit them, and saying mass in the homes of John Quigley, Samuel Myers, Michael Gishbaugher, and others. The number of Catholic families in the neighborhood had by 1861 increased to such an extent that Father Reid decided to erect a small church building for their worship. Accordingly, on a lot which had been donated for the purpose by Samuel Wescott of Jersey City, a primitive structure was built, the work being done inside of three days. This rude structure was used for several years by Father Reid. On account of failing health he was compelled to give up his mission work, and was succeeded in the charge by Rev. James Canevin of New Castle, and, later, Rev. J. M. Mitchell of New Brighton assumed it. This was in 1864. The Rev. J. C. Brigham then became pastor of the churches at New Brighton and Cannelton, February 2, 1866, and the latter continuing to increase in membership, it was evident that a new building would have to be erected. For this purpose the Harmony Society, in 1871, donated a lot 250 by 200 feet, and that year the present building - 57 by 25 feet, was finished. It was dedicated, October 21, 1871, Bishop Domenec officiating at the services. The old building was removed to a point opposite, and was devoted to the uses of a parochial school. In 1873 a pastoral residence was erected on the church lot. The hard times following the panic of 1873 caused the closing of the school, which has never been reopened. Father Brigham was succeeded in February, 1877, by Father McMahan, who was the first resident priest which the charge had had. He was succeeded in May by Rev. S. P. Herman, and he in the early part of the winter by Rev. Thos. Devlin.

On the Fergus Johnson farm there was an old mill and tilt hammer forge, built about 1815, which supplied the farmers in all that region with scythes and sickles.

Source: History of Beaver County, Pennsylvania: And Its Centennial Celebration, Volume 2
By Joseph Henderson Bausman (1904) Portions from pages 941-946

Daugherty Township

Daugherty was formed from Pulaski township, January 27, 1894. It is the most recent of the township divisions of the county. It is surrounded by the following townships starting with the north side, North Sewickley, New Sewickley, Rochester, and Pulaski; with the Beaver River on its northwestern corner. Blockhouse Run is the only stream of any consequence which rises within its limits. This rises in its eastern and northern parts, and flows out on its western side into Pulaski township. The surface is quite irregular and the soil fairly good. Sandstone and limestone are found in most parts of the township, and excellent coal is mined in many places. By the United States Census of 1900 its population was 533. The report of the Secretary of Internal Affairs of the State for the same year gives the following showing for Daugherty: Taxables, 229; acres of cleared land, 4802; of timber land, 1127; value of all real estate, \$338,527; real estate exempt from taxation, \$13,600; real estate taxable, \$324,927.

There are several good common schools in the township, and near its southeastern corner is the small Presbyterian Church whose history follows:

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church. - At an adjourned meeting of the Presbytery of Allegheny held at Enasworth, Pa, October 6, 1890, a petition, signed by seventy one residents of New Sewickley and Pulaski townships, Beaver County, Pa., was presented asking for the organization of a Presbyterian church at a place called Oak Grove in New Sewickley township, on the Darlington Road, about four miles from New Brighton and the same distance from Rochester. Commissioners from the petitioners, namely, Messrs. Charles J. Bonzo and Leander McCauley, having been heard and the pastors of the neighboring churches having expressed their approval, the petition was granted.

Rev. J. H. Bausman, Rev. W. J. McCrory, Rev. J. K. McKallip, Rev. R. L. Smith, and elders D. Singleton, J. R. Bruce, James Manor, and Andrew McCullough were appointed a committee to organize a church, if the way should be clear at their earliest convenience.

The committee organized the church, October 18, 1890. The sermon was preached by Rev. R. L. Smith. Nine members were received by letter from the Rochester Presbyterian Church, and eleven on profession of their faith, one of whom was baptized.

It was ordered that the name of the church should be the "Oak Grove Presbyterian Church."

Leander McCauley and Fred W. Rader were elected ruling elders. Mr. Rader was ordained and then both were installed, Mr. McCauley having been an elder in another church. Rev. W. J. McCrory delivered the charge to the elders, and Rev. J. H. Bausman charged the people.

A house of worship, which had been erected at a cost of \$1270.73 by the aforesaid petitioners just prior to the organization of the church, was dedicated to the worship of God, October 19, 1890. The church was incorporated and a charter secured. The first board of trustees were Charles J. Bonzo, Peter Rader, Richard Cable, McPherson Brewer, and Joseph Wallace. The congregation was stately supplied by Rev. W. J. McCrory, pastor of Bridgewater Presbyterian Church, who preached in the afternoon every alternate Sunday.

In 1890 dissension arose in the church over some doctrinal matters. Rev. W. J. McCrory withdrew from the Presbyterian body, taking with him about half of the membership of Oak Grove Church, who started an independent organization. At a meeting of the Presbytery of Allegheny, held in Westminster Church, Allegheny, Pa., January 9, 1893, Mr. McCrory publicly renounced the authority of the Presbyterian Church, and a committee which had been in charge of the congregation from the beginning of the trouble, called a meeting of the people for January 24, 1893, with a view of reorganizing the church. At this and subsequent meetings the reorganization was effected, the final meeting being held April 14, 1894, when John A. Mellon and Elias Goehring were chosen elders; and a board of trustees was elected consisting of McPherson Brewer, Charles J. Bonzo, Richard Cable, John A. Mellon, and William Dun.

Following the reorganization, Rev. M. A. Parkinson of Beaver Falls preached one sermon on alternate Sundays during April, May, June, and July of 1893, and Rev. C. W. Cable of Rochester conducted one service on alternate Sundays for the remainder of the year of 1893. The Rev. T. B. Anderson, D.D. of Rochester rendered a similar service during the first quarter of 1894, and by Presbyterial and congregational action has since for the greater part of the time, been in charge of the church in connection with his church at Rochester.

The Roman Catholic Cemetery, popularly known as Daugherty's, is in this township. It is located at the junction of the Harmony and Three Degree roads, equidistant about two miles from Rochester and New Brighton. This was the first Roman Catholic cemetery within the limits of Beaver County. For sixty years it was the only place of burial for Catholics in the county, except a small graveyard at the old church in Beaver, which since 1898 has been disused and the bodies that were buried there removed. As stated in the chapter on the religious history of the county, this cemetery was started about 180 by Edward Daugherty, who donated about half an acre of

ground on his farm to the Catholics to be a burial place forever. Manasseh Daugherty, a brother of Edward, had been killed in the raising of a barn, and buried on Edward's farm. This prompted the gift of the spot for the purpose named.

In 1844 a deed for this half acre of ground was made by the heirs of Edward Daugherty to Michael O'Connor, Bishop of Pittsburg, there having been previously no formal conveyance of the property made.

In 1884 an effort was made by some of the members of the congregations of SS. Peter and Paul of Beaver and St. Cecilia of Rochester to abandon this cemetery and locate one nearer Rochester. This was felt to be necessary on account of the fact that the old burial ground was so nearly filled up. Thereupon Edward Black Daugherty, Esq., of Beaver, a grandson of the original donator, gave a large piece of land adjoining for an annex to the cemetery, deeding the same to the two congregations. In 1885 the whole was enclosed by a substantial fence and the property is now much improved, but only the old portion has been dedicated and made consecrated ground. The cemetery is now under the control of St. Cecilia parish. Two priests are buried here; one, Father James Reid, who died July 14, 1868. After the burning of the Beaver church in April, 1898, his body was removed from the churchyard there and interred at Daugherty's. The other is Father F. A. Steffen, a young priest who died of the smallpox at Rochester, while pastor of St. Cecilia, which was his first charge. There are now other Catholic burial grounds in the county, but many of the older Catholic families still continue to bury their dead at Daugherty's cemetery.

Being of such recent birth Daugherty township has not much history other than that which it has had as a part of the townships to which its territory formerly belonged.

Source: History of Beaver County, Pennsylvania: And Its Centennial Celebration, Volume 2
By Joseph Henderson Bausman (1904) Pages 1032-1035

Franklin Township

Franklin township is situated in the extreme northeastern portion of the county, and is bounded by the townships of Perry, in Lawrence county, Lancaster and Jackson, in Butler county, and Marion and North Sewickley, in Beaver county. The Conoquenessing creek forms its entire southern and western boundary. Camp run passes through it from Lawrence county, and with this exception all the streams are small, rising within the limits of the township and flowing into the Conoquenessing.

Very fine Darlington coal is mined in this district, the product being superior for heating and for gas purposes, owing to its freedom from sulphur and other impurities. Limestone, sandstone, slate and shale are found in portions of the township.

The township was erected in 1850. Lillie is the only town in the township, and the following postmasters have had charge of the postoffice at that place: Henry E. Steffler, appointed June 27, 1883, and Matilda M. Steffler, April 23, 1887. The population of the township was, in 1880, according to the census, 739.

The *United Presbyterian* congregation of Camp Run was incorporated June 8, 1880, by a board consisting of J. C. White, Abraham Thomas, Henry Bradford, William J. Wright and John F. Scott. The church is in a flourishing condition, and is doing valiant service for the Master.

Source: History of Beaver County, Pennsylvania: And Its Centennial Celebration, Volume 2
By Joseph Henderson Bausman (1904) Page 608

Greene Township

This township is situated on the south side of the county, being bounded on the north by the Ohio River, on the south by Hanover township, on the east by Raccoon township, and on the west by the "Panhandle" of West Virginia. Previous to 1812 its territory was part of that of Hanover and Second Moon townships, from which it was formed in that year as one of the four new townships of the south side then erected.

The soil of this township is excellent and the drainage good. Big and Little Mill creeks are wholly within its limits, and Service Creek heads in it.

The report of the Secretary of Internal Affairs for 1900 shows in this township 434 taxables; 14,439 acres of cleared land; 2693 acres of timber land; value of all real estate, \$596,472, of which amount \$14,035 represents real estate exempt from taxation and \$582,437 real estate taxable. The population of Greene, like that of some of the other townships of the county, shows a gradual decline during the last two or three decades, the United States Census for 1880 giving its population as 1249, that of 1890 as 1111, and that of 1900 as 1023. This decline, as before remarked, is due to changed conditions in the business of farming and to the gravitation of population towards the towns and cities. Nevertheless the character of the people, here is now, as it has always been, that of sturdy yeomen, knowing how to cultivate the soil, but careful as well to cultivate their minds and souls. How well they have always cared for their intellectual and spiritual culture is evidenced in the number of men and women who have gone out from among them into the higher walks of life.

The boroughs of Georgetown and Hookstown, taken from the territory of this township, will be found described in the chapter on the minor boroughs of the county (see Chapter XXIV).

Shippingport, as the name implies, is a river town. It is a thriving little village on the Ohio River, in the northern part of Greene township. A post office was established here about the year 1862. The first postmaster was William Elliott. He was followed by W. A. Brunton in 1873; Lizzie A. Hall, February 25, 1878; Thomas Swaney, October 29, 1885; Stephen Briceland, March 25, 1889; Mary J. Briceland, August 27, 1890; William J. Hanley, May 11, 1893, and Elmer L. Arbuckle, June 9, 1897.

In the southwestern part of the township is the Mill Creek Presbyterian Church, whose history has been so rich that we shall give it here somewhat at length.

Mill Creek Presbyterian Church.^[1] This congregation is conceded to be the oldest of any denomination in Beaver County. Like all the first churches in this region no definite record is preserved of a formal organization, but it is certain that religious services were held here as early as 1784, though earlier still there were Presbyterian settlers in the immediate neighborhood. From the date just given, however, the beginning of the church is reckoned, and accordingly its one hundred and eighteenth anniversary was appropriately celebrated in 1902.

[1] 聽 The data for this sketch we have dawn in part from the History of Mill Creek Church read at its late celebration by the pastor, Rev. James R. Hosck.

Mill Creek Church is named from Mill Creek, on a branch of which it is situated, about a mile and a half from Hookstown. The name occurs on the records of Redstone Presbytery first in April, 1785, in connection with a request for supplies. At a meeting of that body, October 19, 1785, Rev. Joseph Smith was appointed a supply, and he, with the Rev. Messrs. John McMillan, D.D., John Clark, John Brice, James Hughes, John McPherrin, Robert Finley, Robert Marshall, George Hill,

William Swan, David Smith, Thomas Marquis, and Thomas Moore preached here at intervals for the next succeeding eight years. John Brice and James Hughes were licentiates, and in 1789 a call was presented to Brice, which was not accepted. Up to the organization of the Presbytery of Ohio in 1793, calls were made without success to Robert Finley, William Swan, and George Hill. Mill Creek became one of the churches of the new presbytery, being represented at its meeting in April, 1793, by Elder George McCullough. The first settled pastor was the Rev. George M. Scott, who, in the spring of 1799, accepted a call for his services presented to the Presbytery of Ohio from the united congregations of Mill Creek and the Flats (now Fairview).

The bounds of this congregation were at first, of course, very large, including nearly all of what is now the south side of the county, and reaching over into part of what is now Washington County, and in addition to the Presbyterian churches since formed out of its membership, such as Bethlehem, Frankfort, Hookstown, and Pine Grove, Mill Creek has contributed to churches of other denominations formed within its original bounds, Associate, United Presbyterian, and Methodist, and also to the Presbyterian churches of eastern Ohio.

The session of this church, as nearly as can be ascertained, has had the following elders. Sometime prior to 1790 Joseph McCready, Sr. (died 1799), George McCullough (died 1812), Alexander McCullough (died October 20, 1831), and David Kerr (died 1824) were elected and ordained to that office. A few years later John Thompson (died 1830) and James Ewing (died 1831) were added. The McCulloughs and Thompsons were natives of Scotland. John McCullough, Thomas Harsha, and Joseph McCready, Jr. (died 1862)^[2] were chosen in 1810; John Harsha and Robert Ramsey in 1819; William Ewing, William McCullough, and John Mitchell in 1827; Nathaniel Douglass and James Moody in 1833; Samuel Reed, Matthew Glass, James McKinley, and Thomas Moore in 1848; William Moore and Israel Beabout in 1854; Robert W. Stewart, John T. Temple, and Eli Ramsey in 1864; Alexander G. Pugh in 1870; Robert G. Stewart and Samuel McHenry in 1873; James McKinley, Samuel M. Ramsey, and Jesse Mercer in 1882, and in 1896 Hampton R. Massay, William S. Swearingen, and James B. Buchanan.

[2] There were three McCreadys named Joseph. They were father, son and grandson, the latter not an elder.

Of the ministers who have served this church there is a long and honored roll. George M. Scott, as already mentioned, was the first pastor of Mill Creek Church. His great grandfather was a member of the Scottish parliament, before the union of Scotland with England. His grandfather, John Scott, and his wife, Jane Mitchel Scott, emigrated to America in 1720, and located in Bucks County, this State, on land upon which the first log college of Pennsylvania was built. His father, John Scott, was a ruling elder in the church of Mt. Bethel, in the Moravian settlement about ten miles from Bethlehem, Pa. George M. Scott was born near Crooked Billet Tavern in Bucks County, November 14, 1759. He graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1793, and studied divinity and taught in Princeton College for the next ensuing three years. In April, 1796, he put himself under the care of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, and May 30, 1797, was licensed by the same presbytery to preach. His diary, now in the possession of Margaret S. Sturgeon, his grandniece, has this entry concerning this event:

May 30. - This day presbytery met to license Mr. Sloan and myself. In the evening I preached a discourse from Rev. ii., 5, after which presbytery proceeded to license us to preach the Gospel.

Oh Lord strengthen an unworthy worm of the dust for this important calling. Grant me thy spirit to enable me for every duty to which thou hast called me. Keep me from the fear of man which bringeth a snare, and above all keep me from sin, that I may honor thy name while here upon earth, and at last be admitted into thy presence where there is fulness of joy and rivers of pleasure for evermore.

November 7, 1798, he was ordained by the presbytery as an evangelist, and the following spring, as has been stated, he accepted the call to Mill Creek and the Flats. This was in April. On July 1, 1799, he made the following entry in his diary:

Set off this day on our way to Mill Creek, near the Ohio river, with our moving. A great number of our friends and neighbors accompanied us part of the way.

This shows how serious a matter a journey west of the Ohio was considered in those days.

July 2d. This morning I found that I had left a bundle of money sent by Alexander Miller to Thomas Miller. Went back for it, which detained us till afternoon. Forded the Lehi, and passed through Allentown.

July 17th. Crossed the Monongahela river, where I parted with the wagon for a while and went, accompanied by Moses Scott, to see my father's cousin, Wm. Scott and my uncle James Scott. I met the wagon again at the Black Horse tavern. Continued on our journey through Canonsburg, and put up with a Mr. Boyce, about two miles out of town.

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July 18th. This day arrived at Robert Lyle's where we remained till the next morning, when we continued on our way through Burgettstown, or West Boston, where we fed, passed on and put up with Mr. Dungan.

July 20th. Arrived at Mill Creek and took lodging with Mr. Eaton.

July 21st. Preached at Mill Creek meeting house to a large audience.

He was installed September 14th, following, and continued his labors with the people of the united charges until the spring of 1826, when he resigned from the Flats. He continued with Mill Creek for full time until December 26, 1837, when, on account of age and infirmities, he was, at his own request, released from the pastoral relation. For the most of the following year, however, he supplied the pulpit, thus rounding out nearly forty years of ministerial labor in the Mill Creek congregation. His last sermon was preached from Matthew v., 6, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled." On the following Sabbath, August 15, 1847, he fell asleep, at the advanced age of 88 years. Mr. Scott was a faithful preacher and pastor, and as an educator did much for the church and the community in which he lived. His log college sent a number of men into the ministry, several of whom became eminent, as Rev. Samuel McFarren, John W. Scott, D.D., LL.D., his son, father of the first wife and grandfather of the second wife of the late ex-President Benjamin Harrison, and W. H. McGuffey, LL.D., the well known educator. Mr. Scott was also a zealous evangelist to the Indians, making frequent trips to their wilderness abodes.

After the death of Mr. Scott several candidates were heard, and in the spring of 1839 a Mr. Polk became stated supply. In the fall of the same year a call was made out for him, but he was not installed. Having supplied the pulpit a year as pastor elect, he left the field. In 1840 a call was extended to the Rev. John B. McCoy, who, after a pastorate of a little over a year, died October 18, 1841. The salary named in his call was \$400, but a few days before his death it was raised to \$500.

Mr. David Robinson then supplied the pulpit for a few weeks, and in the following December accepted a call at a salary of \$500. He was ordained and installed in April, 1842, and remained until October, 1854.

Rev. R. S. Morton accepted a call in connection with Hookstown in April, 1855, and was installed June 12th, of the same year. His salary in the united charge was \$600, with \$60 for house rent. He resigned in the spring of 1865 to accept a chaplaincy in the army.

Mr. Samuel Graham, a licentiate of the Clarion Presbytery, next accepted a call for all time, and was ordained and installed November 20, 1865; salary, \$650 with \$50 for house rent. This pastoral relation was dissolved October 3, 1866.

A successful pastorate followed, viz., that of Rev. John L. Fulton, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, who was called from the United Presbyterian Church. He accepted the call and immediately began his labors, though he was not installed until December 11, 1868. His salary was \$1000. He remained for five years.

Rev. David McFie, of Edinburgh, Scotland, was the next to serve the church, acting as stated supply for about one year from the spring of 1873. Presbyterial supplies were given until 1876, when Stephen A. Hunter, a licentiate of the Pittsburg Presbytery, was made stated supply, and remained for the greater part of a year.

William H. Hunter, a brother of the preceding, followed as stated supply, and after a few months a call to become the regular pastor of Mill Creek and Mt. Olivet, at a salary of \$800, was made for him and accepted, and Mr. Hunter was installed. He remained in the field until 1885. During his pastorate the present church building was erected.

In 1888 James B. Lyle, a member of the senior class of the Western Theological Seminars, was called to the two churches at a salary of \$1000. During his stay the first and only parsonage that the church has ever had was erected. Mr. Lyle was pastor for about two years and six months.

In April of 1891 Rev. Brainerd T. DeWitt was called for all his time to Mill Creek at a salary of \$800 and the free use of the parsonage. He was installed September 18, 1891, and remained until April, 1893.

Early in the following year the present pastor, Rev. James R. Hosick, then a student in the Western Theological Seminary, came to the field. After three months service as a stated supply, the churches of Mill Creek and Hookstown united in extending to him a call at a salary of \$1000 and free use of the manse. This call was accepted, and September 25, 1894, Mr. Hosick was ordained and installed. During this pastorate the membership has increased from 140 to 260, and the Sunday school has attained the largest enrollment in the history of the church.

This church has been remarkable for the number and character of the revivals which have taken place in it, especially in the earlier years of its history. Even before there had been a settled pastor the people had met for prayer, and had witnessed great awakenings. The brave frontiersmen came to these meetings armed to resist the attacks of the savages who were lurking about them. The first house of worship was a log cabin, 18 x 20 feet, located on the spot now occupied by the old burying ground, and this building was constructed so as to afford security from surprise. It was without doors or windows, being lighted from the roof, and the entrance was by an underground passage.

From the membership of this church there have entered the ministry the following: Revs. Joseph S. Christmas, D.D., John W. Scott, D.D., LL.D., Samuel Moody, Robert Rutherford, William Harsha, John Y. Caihoon, Aaron M. Buchanan, D.D., Marion Moore, Samuel McFarren, Samuel H. Jeffrey, Robert Bunting, D.D., Captain Murray, David Carson, D.D., and A. B. AllisOn.

We have spoken of the first house of worship of this people, of which little more is known than we have stated. This gave place to a double log house 30 x 60 feet. On each of the longer sides of this building there was a recess of ten feet. The purpose of these recesses was to support the ends of the logs, the size of the structure requiring two lengths of logs. The pulpit, put in later, was in one of the recesses. In the recess opposite the pulpit was a door, and there was a door in each end of the building. The change in the building shows that the constant threat of danger from the Indians no longer existed. This building was in use when Mr. Scott began his labors in

1799. About twelve years later, pews, stoves, and a pulpit were put in; none of these conveniences having previously been enjoyed.

In 1832 this building was replaced by a brick structure 50 x 60 feet, with a gallery. The building committee was Robert McFarren, Joseph McCready, Robert Ramsey, David Gordon, and Hezekiah Wallace. Robert Taylor contracted for the brick work at \$1050, and James Carothers for the carpenter work at \$1200. On account of insufficient foundations this building gave way, and in 1869 another brick, 48 x 70, was built at an aggregate cost of \$8191. The building committee consisted of J. K. Buchanan, George Stewart, and Henry Cowan.

The walls of this building began to spread, and in 1884 it was taken down and the present frame structure erected at a cost of \$4000. Its dimensions are 38 x 70, with a seating capacity of about four hundred.

Tomlinson's Run United Presbyterian Church. - This church was organized in a barn near its present location March 18, 1834, by the Rev. James Ramsay. Its first session was composed of J. Dobbins, James Calhoun, William Kevan, A. Miller, and David Nickle. Some of the first members were C. Dobbins and wife, Samuel Allison and wife, John Dobbins, Joseph Blair and wife, Samuel Miller and wife, John McDonald and wife, James Nickle and wife, M. Andrews and wife, William Leatham and wife, Johnston Calhoun and wife, Henry Wilson, and Miss Wilson. This church has had three buildings, erected respectively at a cost of \$500, \$1600, and \$3000. Its present membership is 114. The first pastor was the Rev. James McCarrell, who served the church from November 28, 1837, until January 3, 1854. Following him came M. Ormond, 1859-1867; A. I. Young, 1867-1872; J. P. Davis, 1872-1874; S. C. Reid, 1879-1882; W. H. Lytle, 1884- 1887; S. B. Stewart, 1889-1892; J. T. McKittrick, 1899-1900; S. Y. Sankey, 1904.

*Source:*History of Beaver County, Pennsylvania: And Its Centennial Celebration, Volume 2
By Joseph Henderson Bausman (1904) Pages 898-905

The information found on these pages was all transcribed by Jeanne Hall, former County Coordinator for the Beaver County, Pennsylvania portion of the PAMGenWeb.

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