

However, as time passed, the Gem Theater at the McLaughlin Hotel brought its impact on the Town Hall's usefulness. It was finally sold in 1913 and was converted to an apartment building with store fronts. In the early morning hours of Thursday, January 26, 2006 a fire raged through the historic building. There were no casualties.

## 7 ULRIC DAHLGREN

On July 2, 1863, while the battle raged at Gettysburg, Ulric Dahlgren, with a small party of ten cavalymen, captured a body of Confederates as they approached Greencastle's diamond. Messages meant for Lee, which were in the two couriers' bags and a valise, were confiscated by Dahlgren and delivered to General George Meade at Gettysburg, late that night. Lee had hoped that troops from Richmond could be sent into northern Virginia and threaten Washington, thus, diverting Union troops, from his front, to defend the capital. These messages from the Confederate high command in Richmond informed Lee that no additional troops could be spared to assist Lee in his invasion of Pennsylvania.

## 8 ROBERT MCCULLOUGH HOUSE AND TAVERN

President George Washington, along with his staff and Horse Guards, stopped at Robert McCullough's tavern on October 12, 1794 for a respite before traveling a couple miles more down the Williamsport Pike, where he visited his friend Dr. Robert Johnston, and stayed overnight. Washington was on his way from Carlisle, where he had stayed for eight days planning his strategies to suppress the Whiskey Rebellion in western Pennsylvania. After leaving Dr. Johnston's residence, Washington traveled to Williamsport, Maryland where he met the Maryland troops that later helped quell the rebellion.

## 9 GERMAN REFORMED GRAVEYARD

The Rev. Michael Schlatter preached to German Reformed members on a farm in Antrim Township on May 9, 1748. In 1786, the German Reformed congregation purchased this tract of land from John Allison and erected a log church the following year on the back part. In 1808, during the pastorate of the Rev. Jonathan Rahauser, the log structure was demolished and a brick sanctuary was built at the front end of the lot. Forty-six years later, in 1854, a new edifice was erected at 128 East Baltimore Street – the site of the present Grace United Church of Christ. Many early German Reformed congregational members lay here, their final resting place.

## 10 JEFFERSON STREET HIGH LINE TRAIN STATION

This passenger station opened in February 1909. It replaced the former train station at 100 North Carlisle Street, which was the first Cumberland Valley Railroad station specifically built, in 1900, for passengers. Greencastle's hotels provided transportation for their guests to and from this train station because of the greater distance from their establishments to the "new" station. The advent of the automobile brought about the demise of passenger service for the railroads and also caused a decline in freight service.

## 11 ALLISON'S TAVERN -LOT NUMBER ONE

In 1763, William Allison Sr. owned all of the heavily forested area on which Greencastle sits today. On this site, at the crossroads of the King's Highway (U.S. Rt. 11) and another dirt road to Baltimore (U.S. Rt. 16), was built a log structure, known as Allison's Tavern. This crossroads area became Greencastle's diamond, or square, in 1782 when William Allison's son John laid out the town of Greencastle. This lot was designated as Lot #1 on the plat of the town.

For 150 years, a tavern with hotel accommodations remained on Lot #1 under the ownership of a number of proprietors. This brick structure was erected some-

time in the ten years prior to the Civil War by Joseph Haller. During the Civil War era, the tavern was known as the Union Hotel. In 1859, the abolitionist John Brown may have stayed at the Union Hotel on several occasions while planning his raid on the Federal arsenal at Harper's Ferry. Brown's alias was Isaac Smith. The hotel's guest register for this period in 1859 contained the name I. Smith, thus leading to speculation that this was Brown. After renovations, c. 1905, the establishment became known as the National Hotel. In 1920, during National Prohibition, the hotel closed, but it is still referred to as the National Hotel.

## 12 THE TOWN CLOCK

The Town Clock has served Greencastle's residents and visitors since 1872. While the bank building (originally built by the First National Bank) was under construction, a private subscription drive was made by local civic leaders to secure money to purchase the clock for \$500 and the bell for \$300. Sufficient funds were raised to purchase the clock and construct the tower, and the bank's directors authorized necessary changes in the roof plans to support what has become Greencastle's principal landmark. Maintenance of the clock and its tower is the responsibility of the borough government.

*The text, originally written by the late William P. Conrad, was edited and updated by Bonnie A. Shockey and Ted Alexander in 2006/2017.*



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The Franklin County Visitors Bureau*

Trails of History  
Walking Tour of Greencastle



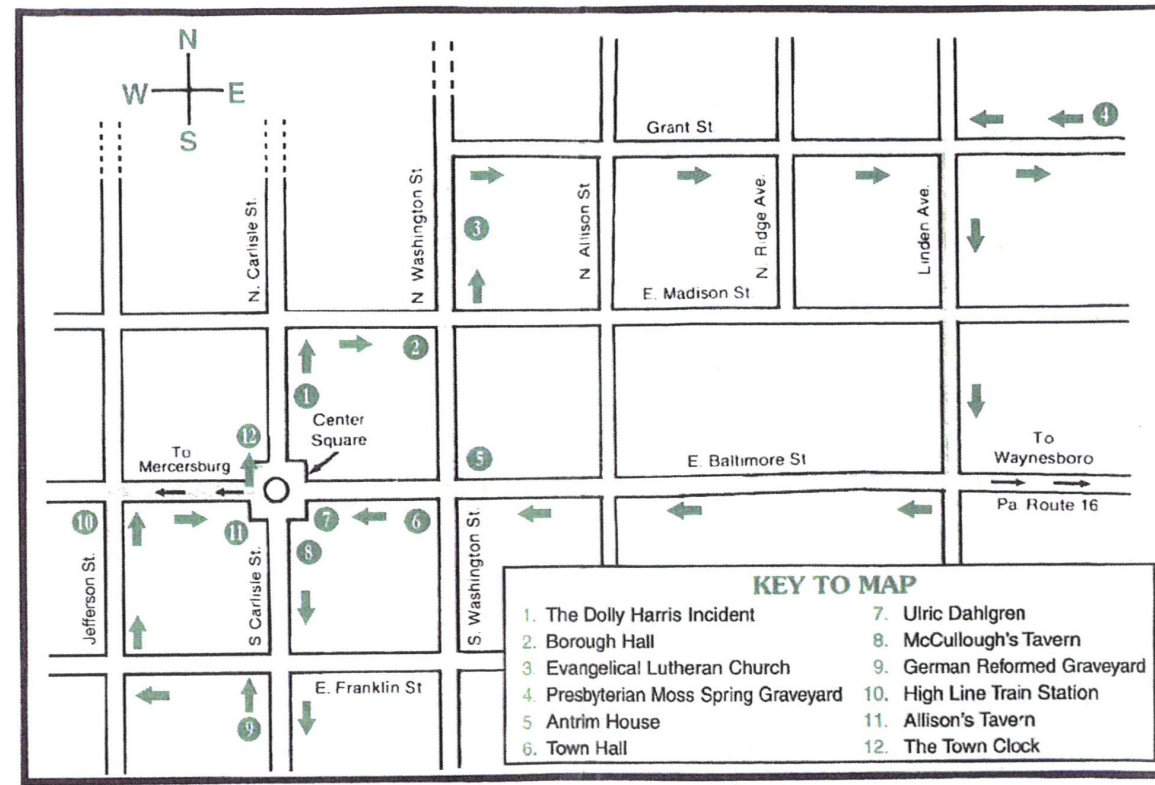
## 1 THE DOLLY HARRIS INCIDENT

The Confederate division of General George E. Pickett left its encampment south of Greencastle on June 27, 1863. As Pickett's infantry marched through town on North Carlisle Street, he and his Virginians came to the home of James Harris at 37 North Carlisle Street. There Harris' daughter, Dolly, stood waving the Union flag and denouncing the Southerners as traitors. General Pickett, sensing that his men might react to this accusation in a violent manner, rose in his stirrups and saluted the flag. When the soldiers saw this act of gallantry they, too, saluted and greeted Dolly with cheers. As the last of the regiment passed, its band climaxed the incident by serenading the flag-waving lady with a rendition of "Dixie." The Dolly Harris incident inspired six poems which appeared in national publications in the late 19th and early 20th Century. The northern annex of today's Susquehanna Bank (formerly the Citizens National Bank) occupies the site of the James Harris home.

## 2 BOROUGH HALL

In 1888, Greencastle Borough erected this two-story building, which was used as the engine house and meeting place for the firemen. In 1895, an upstairs room began being used as an office for the Borough Council, while the rest of the second floor was used as a recreation hall for the firemen. In the early 1900s, due to overcrowding in the old South-Washington-Street school, the firemen's recreational hall was temporarily used as a fifth-grade classroom. When the fire company built a larger facility at 48 South Carlisle Street in 1948, the second floor of this building was used to house the Greencastle Circulating Library until 1962, when the Lilian S. Besore Memorial Library opened. This building, still owned by the Borough of Greencastle, is the home of the Greencastle Police Department. The Borough offices are located in the annex west of the "old engine house."

Rescue Hose Company No. 1's headquarters and engine house are now located at 842 South Washington Street. Among its collection are a c. 1741 hand-pumped engine and the "Seagrave," purchased in 1930.



## 3 EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The founding of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Greencastle cannot be definitely determined, but it likely began as early as c. 1775 in Antrim Township. In 1795, the Rev. John Ruthrauff began his pastorate, which lasted about 40 years, with the Lutheran congregation. Before constructing its first church building on this site in c. 1810, the members of the Lutheran congregation shared the German Reformed log church on South Carlisle Street for about 12 years. The construction of the current building began in 1875. From the time of the earliest sanctuary its graveyard has served as the final resting place for the many pioneer German families who worshipped here.

## 4 PRESBYTERIAN MOSS SPRING GRAVEYARD

The Ulster-Scots (also known as Scots-Irish) settled Antrim Township, c. 1734. These men and women were robust, adventurous, and rebellious Lowland Scottish Presbyterians who emigrated from the Ulster region in the north of Ireland, because of political, economic, and religious unrest with the Irish Catholics. It was here, at Moss Spring, that they built the first church structure, c. 1737, in Franklin County. The original log structure, which was burned during the French and Indian War, was replaced with a weatherboard building, c. 1767, called the Red Church. The site of the church was located on the northern end of the graveyard, a few rods above Moss Spring, which provides water for the Borough, as it did hundreds of years ago for the first settlers.

Today, all that remains are the well-kept graves of some of the early parishioners – silent reminders of the pioneer settlers who first came to this frontier part of Pennsylvania in the early 1730s.

## 5 ANTRIM HOUSE

J. Thomas Pawling built his weatherboard, two-story hotel on this site in 1859. He called it Antrim House; and from its beginning, drivers of horse-drawn Conestoga freight wagons, train and stage coach passengers, livestock dealers and drovers made abundant use of its facilities. In 1867, Pawling sold his business to Jacob Deitrick who, ten years later, sold it to C.H. Shillito. Under his proprietorship, the hotel was renovated, a restaurant was built, and a cattle yard was placed to the rear of the business. The Antrim House continued to be a center of cattle and horse dealers during the ownership of James Eachus, who bought the business in 1890.

In 1904, Harry W. McLaughlin purchased the business from Eachus. The weatherboard structure was replaced with the present three-story brick building, which was named the McLaughlin Hotel. It included central heat, a grand lobby, a dining room and barroom. In c. 1912, McLaughlin built an annex onto the hotel, the accommodations of which included a billiard parlor and a vaudeville and motion picture theater. It was renamed the Antrim House in 1976 when the Greencastle Lions Club bought the property.

## 6 TOWN HALL

The first community auditorium came into existence with the erection of the Town Hall in 1871. The first floor consisted of offices and store fronts. The third floor was used initially by the Knights of Pythias lodge and a rear room by the Greencastle Band. The second floor contained an auditorium which provided the town with its first public assembly room or theater facility.

Town Hall's auditorium became the center for community entertainment and cultural activities. Repertory companies stopped in Greencastle regularly to enact the plays of the time. Home talent variety shows, dramatic presentations, concerts, musicals, dances, lectures, and early movies provided entertainment in apparent abundance for the town's people for nearly half a century. School commencement exercises and high school alumni banquets were held and early Old Home Week activities utilized the facilities of this auditorium.