WAYNE COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S

DELAWARE & HUDSON CANAL
TOWPATH TO TRAIL PROJECT
This project began in 1995 with Clinton Leet’s (far right) idea & guided tour of parcel #1. WCHS Photo #6577
Phase 1
Acquisition

• **Parcel 1** (4.4 acres)
  Gift of John Weidner in 1998

• **Parcel 2** (1.6 acres)
  Purchased from Thomas Cummings (Weidner) in 1999 for $4,000

• **Parcel 3** (10.5 acres)
  Purchased from Deborah Olson using State grants (DCED & PennDOT) & WALMART settlement funds (D.E.P.) in 2001 for $140,000
The Delaware & Hudson Canal

IN THE
VALLEY OF THE LACKAWAIXEN

The Lockawaxen division was completed during the summer of 1828 but a break in the embankment at the "Poolpit" delayed the opening until October when the first boat, the packet "Orange", passed through with many notables on board.

Barring unusual delays, these 24 miles from Honesdale to Lackawaxen could be covered in 24 hours traveling time.

Numerals between the locks indicate the distance in feet.

A Wayne County Historical Society Map
Patrick Weir was a lock tender at D & H Canal Lock 31.
2001 - Parcel 2 & 3 (looking north), lock 31 in center, lock house on right and Rt. 6 beyond
2001 – Parcel 1 (looking south from lock 31) canal in center, towpath on right, Rt. 6 on left
Artist's Rendering of Restored Lock 31 House
(viewed from the canal lock in foreground)
With acquisition of 16 acres complete, **Volunteer Work Days** began on National Trail Day 2001 and has continued on the 1st Saturday of June ever since with 22 to 53 volunteers/day, recording over 1,500 total hours (actual is much greater).
Several layers of floor coverings were removed to expose original wood floors.

All debris was removed from the basement which revealed a bluestone floor.
Volunteers removed last of the debris in attic while dealing with bat remains.

Window sashes are re-glazed.
Victorian add-on porch was removed due to its very poor condition.
Removal of debris from the canal bed is ongoing.
Curves in Rt. 6 by our lock house’s driveway have been difficult to negotiate by some drivers who have hit the utility pole and left debris behind.

Stones lining channel around lock 31 were uncovered.
One mile of towpath trail is kept mowed and free of branches.
This photo of a portion of our one mile towpath trail was taken May 25, 2005. The Lackawaxen River is on the right and D & H Canal on the left.
On June 2, 2007 these volunteers took a lunch break from their hard work.
On April 24, 2010 an annual tree harvesting work day was added. Trees in the bed of, or growing near the canal’s stone walls were cut and offered to our volunteers for fire wood.
Also in 2010, The Lackawaxen River Conservancy partnered with us in our annual spring clean up of the grounds.
And when the day was done...

the grass was mowed and our canal looked more like a canal!
In Kind Support

Attorney Frances Gruber – deed prep & registration, non tax status
James Rutherford – survey work
Belmonte Hunting Club – tree removal
Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1 – towpath bridge construction
Bunnell Waste Removal – reduced rate dumpster rental
Hawley Fire Co. – burning piles
Honesdale Glass Co. – glass for window repair
Seiler Tree Service – brush removal & chipping multiple times
Teeple’s – accepted junk at no charge
The Settler’s Inn – picnics for volunteers
Waste Management, Beach Lake – free dumpster rental

and more
Phase 2- Planning
Cost - $128,450
Paid for by 2 PennDOT Enhancement, DCNR, & LHVA Grants

• Historic Structure Report – completed
  How should Lock House 31 be restored and used as a living history museum?

• Master Site Plan – completed (see next slide)
  Where & what should be on WCHS’s 16 acres?

• Interpretive Plan – completed
  How should this 16 acre historic site be presented to the public?

• Greenway Feasibility Plan – completed
  Can & how should the existing one mile former towpath trail be extended from Hawley to Indian Orchard?
Phase 3 – Construction

3A – Archaeological Survey  (cost so far = $86,175) $89,905 PennDOT Enhancement Grant 3A
Phase 1 required by the Pennsylvanian Historic and Museum Commission
Phase 2 if cultural materials are found in Phase 1 of the entire 16 acres

3B -  Lock 31 House Restoration
(cost estimate $516,500 to $671,700, not including architectural services)

$72,781 from PHMC Keystone Grant
$116,351 from PennDOT Enhancement Grant 3B
$5,896 left from PennDOT Enhancement Grant 2B
$17,299 from PennDOT Enhancement Grant 3A
$212,327 have in grant funds so far

New Roof – completed November 2010, cost of $10,400 (see next slide) used no grant funds

Urgent needs (cost estimate $142,460 to $172,960, includes architect's services)
Design services from architect  (cost = $24,670)
Construction related services from architect  (cost = $39,890)
Fire/security detection system – to be done in 2011  (cost estimate $7,000 to $10,000)
Upgrade telephone & electrical services – to be done in 2011  (cost estimate $6,000 to $8,000)
Repair failing areas of stone foundation & wood sill on S & W sides – to be done in 2011  (cost estimate $64,900 - $90,000)
After heavy rains in October 2010, the roof leaked badly. We could not wait any longer until we were permitted to use already awarded grants which funded its replacement.

- A professional roofer installed the new roof but ten volunteer cleaned up, putting in a total of 33 hours. *Waste Management*, Beach Lake did not charge for the 30 yard dumpster, saving $1,500.
3B - Lock 31 House Restoration continued

In process of obtaining funds for:

**Short-Term needs**
- Reconstruct three chimney (cost estimate $8,000 to $12,000)
- Install new lightning protective system (cost estimate $3,000 to $5,000)
- Install new gutters and downspouts (cost estimate $5,000 to $6,000)
- Repair windows, shutters, & doors (cost estimate $74,300 to $96,500)
- Repaint exterior (cost estimate $20,000 to $25,000)
- Repair & reconstruct west side porch (cost estimate $13,500 to $16,500)

**Long-Term needs**
- Structurally upgrade 1st floor framing (cost estimate $55,000 to $70,000)
- Repair structural failed attic beam (cost estimate $13,000 to $17,000)
- New 2nd floor stair & upgrade framing (cost estimate $68,000 to $89,000)
- Electrical upgrade (cost estimate $12,000 to $15,000)
- Repair interior wooden elements (cost estimate $6,000 to $10,000)
- Interior replastering (cost estimate $25,000 to $30,000)
- Interior painting (cost estimate $25,000 to $30,000)
Help us complete our **Towpath to Trail Project**

by donating you time as a volunteer by calling 570 253-3240 or e-mailing **wchs@ptd.net**

and/or

making a tax deductible contribution to **WCHS (Towpath to Trail Project)**

PO Box 446
810 Main Street
Honesdale, PA  18431

so we can become a part of .....
STROLL, RUN OR BIKE ALONG HISTORY...

Experience natural beauty and history while you play.

Once you've been charmed by the canal's tranquil beauty, you'll want to explore its intriguing past. Check the "Points of Interest" list for some great suggestions.

Don't forget to leave time for some eagle watching, boating, fishing, dining, antiquing, shopping, and even a scenic train ride. Contact Tourism Offices on reverse side for more details and seasonal events.

Mules on towpath with canal boat "Little Freddie" and working family, late 1800s.