



LUMBER MUSEUM WAYFINDING MAP

- Galeton, Potter County

THIS PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Type of Project—

Created a new, large-format wayfinding map to be displayed in the visitor center lobby at the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum.

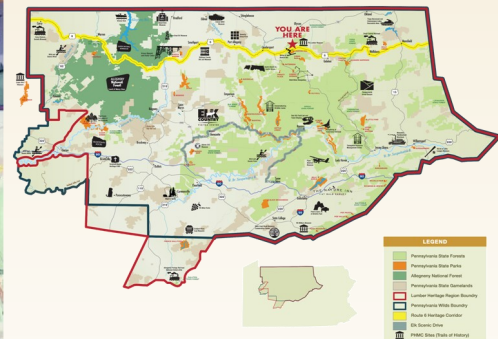
Funding —

The LHR contributed \$2.5K toward this Project and additional support from PALMA is a non-profit, community based organization formed in 1972 to assist and support the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum; a site administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC).

The Lumber Heritage Region and Pennsylvania Wilds encompass a vast portion of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; nearly a quarter of its total land-mass. A place of this size can be hard for visitors to navigate and knowing about all of the attractions and interesting places spread throughout the region takes some serious research.

Pennsylvania Lumber Museum staff and volunteers worked with Lumber Heritage Region, PA Wilds and PA DCNR personnel to create an up-to-date

list of attractions that should be featured on the map. These attractions were depicted on a base graphical lay-out provided to the exhibit designer (Graphics & Design of State College, PA). The map is big, bright and visually attractive; drawing the attention of museum visitors. Knowledgeable staff at the museum front desk can answer questions about the region and share tips and advice with visitors about where to go, what to see, and how long it will take to get there.



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Lumber Camp Bunkhouse and Jobber's Residence Interpretation Project

SUMMARY

The purpose of this project was to improve and expand interpretive exhibits in the recreated c.1910 lumber camp at the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum. To achieve this goal, the project sought to re-open the upper level of the bunkhouse which includes a presentation of a woodhick's living quarters, create a jobber's residence display, and produce additional interpretive signage that recognizes some of the diversity that could be found in a PA lumber camp. This project also set out to equip staff and volunteers with supplies for educational demonstrations and live interpretation.



CHALLENGE

There had been few changes to the exhibits in the lumber camp in recent years and some spaces had been closed to the public for prolonged periods. The upper level of the bunkhouse had been closed for over 15 years, used only as a temporary storage during the renovation of the museum visitor center, which ended in 2015. As a result, the lumber camp lacked interpretation of the living quarters for the men in camp and the space remained unused. Another space camp, the carpenter's shack, was also used as storage and was not accessible to the public.

It was also noted that the interpretation of the lumber camp did not include any mention of women or children. While not present in large numbers, historic photographs show that both women and children were present at some camps.

Addressing these issues will provide the community with a more holistic interpretation of a traditional PA lumber camp and all of its inhabitants.

FUNDING

Grant Award: \$2500

Total Project Cost: \$5000

PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

Funding for this project was provided by the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum Associates (PALMA)





New Camp Kitchen Signage

SOLUTION

This mini-grant helped the museum to acquire items to furnish the upper level of the bunkhouse, as well as turn the unused carpenter's shack into the jobber's residence (The jobber would typically be the only man to bring his family to camp). Grant funds allowed for the purchase of reproduction items, which were augmented by deaccessioned artifacts from other PHMC sites. In addition, interpretive signs were created for these newly-opened spaces, as well as for the camp kitchen (a place where women might find work in a camp). Reproduction clothing and supplies were purchased to allow for costumed interpretation by museum personnel, and period cooking supplies were acquired for demonstrations of the cook stove.

RESULTS

The immediate result of this project is that the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum has two new interpretive exhibit spaces accessible to its audience. These spaces further the museum's ability to present the visiting public with a greater sense of the rhythms of life in an early 20th century lumber camp; institutions common throughout the Lumber Heritage Region. The jobber's residence and new signage in the camp kitchen provides a platform to expand upon the story of the women and children who occasionally lived and worked in these camps; a story that until now had not been told in the recreated lumber camp. The grant funding allowed for the purchase of reproduction items that helped to furnish these spaces. The jobber's residence, new kitchen signage, and a new camp store display were debuted when the Lumber Museum reopened to the public on April 30th, 2021, after over a year of COVID-19 closure. The upper level of the bunkhouse has been furnished with items purchased through the grant but is currently waiting on additional lighting to be installed. Reproduction clothing and period appropriate cooking supplies have been purchased to facilitate in-person demonstrations and interpretation for special event.

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Jobber's Residence and Bunkroom

