

Historic and Cultural Resources Profile

Town of Bloomsburg Comprehensive Plan

Historic and Cultural Resources by the Numbers

Number of Listed Sites on the National Register of Historic Places	
• Bloomsburg Historic District, including more than 600 properties	2
• Rupert Covered Bridge	
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Number of Properties Eligible for Listing on the National Register of Historic Places	8
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Number of Properties of Undetermined Status for the National Register of Historic Places	650
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Date of latest Historic Resource Survey Update	1979/88
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Number of State Historical Markers in Bloomsburg	3
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Date of latest State Historic Marker designation	1949
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Local Historic Preservation Organizations	1
<hr/>	
Number of Annual Cultural Enrichment/Special Events	20
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Average Annual attendance at Largest Event - Bloomsburg Fair (2007)	432,860
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Number of Cultural Enrichment/Special Events Sponsors	12

Introduction

Historic resources consist of historic districts, buildings, sites, structures, or other physical evidence that exemplify a period of history. Historical value may be achieved through association with significant historical events or the lives of significant persons; by embodying a particular style, type or method of construction; by possessing high artistic values; or by yielding, or being likely to yield, information important to history or prehistory. Historic resources are typically fifty years of age or older, but resources of lesser age may be considered historic if they have extraordinary significance. Knowledge of these resources increases our understanding and appreciation of the local heritage. Preservation of such resources can strengthen local economies, stabilize property values, and foster civic beauty, community pride, and the appreciation of local and national history, resulting in an improved quality of life.

Cultural resources refer to events, places, buildings, structures, outdoor works of art, natural features, and other objects having a special social, cultural, community, or aesthetic value. Such resources may include different events of folk life, art, cultural or religious practices, and different traditions, as well as the venues that host such events. These resources may become historic resources if they persist for more than 50 years and contribute significantly to the development of the community.

A wealth of historic and cultural resources are found in Bloomsburg and local awareness of such resources has been significantly increased as a result of the historic district's designation in 1982. This chapter will provide an inventory of the historic and cultural resources located within Bloomsburg and will give particular attention to local historic preservation efforts.

Historical Overview

The earliest known inhabitants of the area that is now Columbia County were the Lenni Lenape Indians. A branch of this tribe settled along the Susquehanna River and were known as the Susquehannocks. The

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Susquehannocks inhabited this area until the seventeenth century when they were forced out by a rival tribe from the north, the Iroquois, and the increasing presence of European colonists.

The territory that is now Columbia County was open to European settlers in 1754. Many of the early settlers moved to the area from Connecticut and were of Irish, Dutch, Welsh, German, and Scotch-Irish descent. Later, Slavic immigrants moved to the area to work the coal fields of Conyngham Township.

During the late 1700s, Connecticut and Pennsylvania became involved in territorial disputes over a tract of land stretching the width of Pennsylvania just below the New York state border—a tract of land that included the area known today as Columbia County. Connecticut land companies and the proprietors of Pennsylvania simultaneously deeded land from this tract to encourage settlement in the region. This caused problems for settlers who purchased land that had already been claimed by settlers from the other state. Disputes over rightful land ownership erupted into two major wars known as the First and Second Yankee-Pennamite Wars, which began in 1769 and were not resolved until 1795. In 1772, the site of the present day Town of Bloomsburg was claimed by both Pennsylvania and Connecticut; it was simultaneously pronounced part of Fishing Creek Township, Northumberland County in Pennsylvania and part of Wyoming Township, Westmoreland County in Connecticut.

During this period of conflict, several settlers purchased land within the area that is now the Town of Bloomsburg. James McClure, one of the town's earliest settlers, purchased land under Connecticut claims and moved to the area from Lancaster. McClure built a log cabin near the banks of the Susquehanna River within current town limits. In 1781, a wooden stockade was constructed around the McClure homestead to protect settlers from Indian attacks. Today, all that remains of the Fort McClure site is a one-room cabin, which is open to the public.

By the end of the Yankee-Pennamite Wars, the tract of land along the New York state border was awarded to Pennsylvania. Connecticut claimants were required to repurchase their land from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. As a result, the land that is now the Town of Bloomsburg was officially designated as part of Pennsylvania.

In 1796, Ludwig Eyer purchased 92.5 acres of land from Henry Dildine that would become the initial land for the Town of Bloomsburg. In 1802, John Adam Eyer purchased this tract of land from his brother Ludwig and surveyed the land to lay out town lots for development.

The original Town of Bloomsburg was bounded by First Street in the north, Iron Street in the east, Third Street in the south, and West Street in the west. The town was laid out with numbered streets going east and west and the named streets running north and south.

The Town of Bloomsburg was largely self-sufficient in its early years, but gradually developed the need to find markets for surplus products. The construction of new roads and the opening of the North Branch Canal in 1855, which stretched from Wilkes-Barre and Scranton to Athens near the New York state border, encouraged an influx of new settlers and stimulated the economy.

The first major industry established in the community was the tannery of Daniel Snyder. The tannery was established in 1812 and was located at the corner of Main and Light Streets.

In the 1840s, the discovery of iron ore in the hills nearby gave rise to a flourishing iron industry, which lasted three quarters of a century. Bloomsburg's first anthracite burning, iron furnace company was the Bloomsburg Rail-Road and Iron Company, which was incorporated by the Pennsylvania legislature in 1839. The company's two furnaces on the east side of Fishing Creek about one-third mile north of Bloomsburg and locally known as Irondale, began production in 1845. Bloomsburg's second furnace company, known as the Bloom Iron Furnace, also referred to as the McKelvey, Neal & Co., began operation in 1854 on the east side of Bloomsburg along the North Branch Canal.

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As the general area of Bloomsburg became more populous, local governments started to take shape. In 1813, Columbia County was formed from what was then known as Northumberland County. Columbia County included the area consisting of what are now Columbia and Montour Counties and a portion of Schuylkill County. The county was broken into 12 townships. The site of current day Bloomsburg was located in Bloomsburg Township, one of the original 12 subdivisions.

About two decades later, Bloomsburg was named Columbia County's seat of government. The original county seat belonged to Danville, a small community located southwest of Bloomsburg; however, on October 14, 1845 there was a countywide referendum in which nearly sixty-five percent of the voters supported the shift of the Columbia County seat of government from Danville to Bloomsburg. Bloomsburg's county courthouse officially opened its doors for business November 30, 1847.

In addition to being the seat of county government, Bloomsburg is unique because it is the only "town" in the state of Pennsylvania. Bloomsburg Township was officially organized as the "Town of Bloomsburg" by an Act of Assembly on March 4, 1870. Various portions of Bloomsburg Township were taken to be added to other surrounding townships and the remaining land became the part of the newly formed town. The concept of the "Town" is similar to those found in New England communities. Unlike a "Borough", the mayor has an equal vote on issues being considered by the Town Council. Bloomsburg's form of local government makes it a special and historical place to live, work and visit. To this day, Bloomsburg is the only incorporated town in state.

The turn of the century brought about a substantial change in Bloomsburg's economy. The town's agricultural base was depleted and its iron ore reserves were exhausted. New types of businesses were introduced as the town adapted to these changes. One major contributor to the economy was the greenhouse industry. John L. Dillon established the Dillon greenhouses in 1875, which are still located on the east side of Bloomsburg along U.S. Route 11.

Another major contributor to Bloomsburg's economy was the textile industry. Several textile mills were established throughout the community. In 1882, the Bloomsburg Woolen Mill was established, which was initially located on the corner of Sixth and West Streets and later moved to an area near Railroad Street. In 1888, Joseph Ratti was instrumental in establishing the Bloomsburg Silk Mill. In 1890, the Magee Carpet Company was established, but was eventually sold to Bloomsburg Carpet Works and then later merged into Magee Carpet Works. Magee Carpet Works is still operating today under the name of Rieter Automotive North America, which specializes in the manufacturing of carpets for automobiles.

These major industries were not the only entities that helped shape and define the Bloomsburg community. Bloomsburg University has played a major role in the town's ongoing development and vitality. The school was founded in May of 1866 by the Board of Trustees of the Bloomsburg Literary Institute. In June of 1866 the Board elected Henry Carver to be the first Principal of the Institute. The school was funded and managed by the Board of Trustees until it was designated a state school in 1916. Bloomsburg University has grown considerably from the time of its establishment; it has a current enrollment of over 8,000 full- and part-time students. Bloomsburg University's campus is located on the east side of the town and has contributed immensely to the economic and aesthetic revitalization of the community.

Many developmental milestones that set Bloomsburg apart from any other community were achieved through civic involvement and contributions of time and money made by its devoted residents. Residents of Bloomsburg have worked together to build their own unique local government. When Columbia County was created and the county seat was relocated to Bloomsburg from Danville, the Bloomsburg community leaders made sure it was at no cost to taxpaying citizens. Private property was donated and one citizen fired the bricks and donated them for the construction of the new courthouse. When it was proposed Bloomsburg's university would become a state school, citizens pledged their private funds to carry the school past its initial struggles, including a disastrous fire. In more recent

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years, residents have worked together to turn a neglected river front into a beautiful town park for everyone to enjoy. The town has also worked hard to leverage funding and resources for the construction of a swimming and wading pool, an astounding public library, off-street parking for the central business district, and have been among the first communities to face its responsibility in the clean streams program of Pennsylvania by building a sewage disposal and incinerator plant. Bloomsburg has long been a place with a strong sense of public spirit and continues to carry out that part of their cultural heritage today.

Federal and State Regulations

Federal and state historic preservation laws require federal and state agencies to consider the effects of their actions on all historic and prehistoric sites, districts, buildings, and structures eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. According to the National Park Service, “The National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources.” Federal legal mandates include Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Executive Order 11593, and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Pennsylvania’s legal mandates include the Environmental Right Amendment, Article 1, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, and the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Act of 1978.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission’s (PHMC) Bureau for Historic Preservation develops, coordinates and administers the program to identify, protect and enhance buildings, structures, districts and neighborhoods of historic and architectural significance in public and private ownership throughout the Commonwealth. The Bureau provides federally mandated professional staff to support the activities of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to receive federal historic preservation funds and implement the National Historic Preservation Program. The Bureau also administers PHMC grants for museums and local history projects.

PHMC maintains a database of listed and eligible properties by municipality. The database lists two listed properties and eight eligible properties in Bloomsburg. This data is based on a survey that was conducted in the 1970s. Since then, the original Rupert Covered Bridge was rehabilitated; its status as “listed” should be reviewed. In addition, more than 650 properties included in the survey were considered “contributing” to the significance of the historic district but were not evaluated for individual significance, again suggesting that the survey should be updated. Finally, after the passage of more than 20 years, other properties within the town may have reached the 50 year age milestone and should be evaluated in the next survey update.

Site Inventoried for the National Register of Historic Places

Key #	Inventory ID#	Historic Name	Status	Type
079672	79577	Bloomsburg Historic District	Listed	District
050755	50661	Rupert Covered Bridge	Listed	Structure
119550	112211	Fenstemaker Alumni House, Bloomsburg University	Eligible	Building
119565	112216	Junior High School Building	Eligible	Building
119565	112216	Laboratory High School	Eligible	Building
119559	112214	Magee Center, Bloomsburg University	Eligible	Building
021236	21145	Carver Hall, Bloomsburg University	Eligible	Building
119553	112212	Benjamin Franklin Hall, Bloomsburg University	Eligible	Building
119562	112215	Old Science Hall, Bloomsburg University	Eligible	Building
119565	112216	Navy Hall, Bloomsburg University	Eligible	Building

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State Historical Marker Program

The PHMC's historical marker program, which was established in 1946, represents one of the Commonwealth's oldest and most popular historic preservation programs. The easily identifiable blue and gold markers highlight significant people, places, and events in the state and nation's history. A statewide database of historical markers can be found on PHMC's website. According to the PHMC, there are approximately 1,800 markers placed throughout the state and of this total, at least 3 markers are located within the Town of Bloomsburg and 4 within a few miles of the study area.

The three state markers within the Town of Bloomsburg are representative of three different periods in the region's development. The first marker was dedicated in 1948 and is located along U.S. Route 11 at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds. The marker describes early European settlement in the Bloomsburg area during the time of the American Revolution and notes the location and significance of the McClure Fort established in 1781 by the Indian fighter Moses Van Campen. The second marker was dedicated in 1949 and was also located along U.S. Route 11 at the Bloomsburg Fairground. The marker discusses Native American settlement prior to American Revolution. The marker indicates the general location and significance of an important path that linked many Indian settlements throughout Wyoming Valley and was traveled by Moravian missionaries in 1742. The third marker was dedicated in 1983 and is located at the Columbia County Courthouse on Main Street in downtown Bloomsburg. The marker discusses the building of community and development of local government and politics in the 19th century. The marker provides a brief history of the town's establishment and designation as the county seat. The marker makes reference to the Friend's meetinghouse in Catawissa, which was built in 1789 and was used as a place of worship for early Quaker settlers among the pioneers of the region. In addition, it makes reference to the "twin covered bridges" at Forks, which are unique landmarks near the community that are reflective of the time period.

State markers located within a few miles of Bloomsburg are generally representative of early European settlement around the time of the American Revolution. There are two markers, which were designated in 1948, that are located northeast of Bloomsburg. Both markers indicate the general location of two military forts, similar to Fort McClure in Bloomsburg, that were used to protect settlers from Indian attacks. One of these markers is located along U.S. Route 11 6.5 miles northeast of Bloomsburg and indicates the general site of Fort Jenkins, which was established between 1778 and 1780 along the Susquehanna River. The other marker is located along PA Route 487 1.2 miles northeast of Bloomsburg and indicates the general site of Fort Wheeler, which was established in 1778 along Fishing Creek by the noted Moses Van Campen who is also the founder of Fort McClure in Bloomsburg.

The last two markers located within a few miles of the study area both make reference to the Catawissa Friend's meetinghouse, which is also noted on Bloomsburg's county courthouse marker. Both of these markers were designated in 1948. One of these markers is located .7 miles southwest of Bloomsburg at the US Route 11 and PA Route 42 junction and informs travelers along those routes of the general distance to the Friend's meetinghouse. The other marker is located along South Street in Catawissa and indicates the actual site of the Friend's meetinghouse, which a log structure that remains standing.

As shown by the dates of designation, the state marker program was popular when it was introduced, but has lacked any additional participation in almost 60 years.

Additional Historical Sites

There are a total 650 sites that have been identified as potentially significant, but listed as undetermined on the national register. Most of these sites are residential in character; however a few local monuments, churches, theaters, businesses, and government/public buildings are also listed as undetermined. A sample of these non-residential sites include the following:

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Businesses and Industries

- Bloomsburg Worsted Spinning Mill, 6th Street
- Bloomsburg Silk Mills, 6th Street
- Creasy & Wells Lumber Yard, E 6th Street
- Pursels Department Store, 55-59 W Main Street
- Sharpless, C.H., Grocery Warehouse
- D.L. & W. Railroad Freight Station
- Magee Carpet Works, W 5th Street
- Fred Fear Match Factory, West Street
- Monroe Furniture Manufacturing
- The Morning Press, 109-113 W Main Street
- Bloomsburg National Bank Building, 34-43 W Main Street
- Exchange Hotel Site, 20-24 W Main Street
- City Hotel, 117 W Main Street

Churches

- Saint Paul's Episcopal Church
- Presbyterian Church, 249 Market Street

Theaters

- Columbia Movie Theater (also known as Alvina Krause Theatre), 226 Center Street
- Capital Theatre, E Main Street

Government and Public Buildings

- Bloomsburg U.S. Post Office, 230 Market Street
- Liberty Fire Company, Leonard Street
- Columbia County Courthouse, W Main Street

Monuments

- Soldiers and Sailors Monument, Market Square
- Bloomsburg Town Fountain, Market Square

Other historic resources include additional churches not listed as undetermined on the national register, but found on the Columbia County Historic Genealogical Society website. These churches are as follows:

- Calvary Baptist Church
- First Baptist Church
- Beth Israel
- First Church of Christ
- Evangelical United Brethren
- Latter Day Saints
- St. Paul's German Lutheran and Reformed Church
- Family of Christ Lutheran Church
- St. Mathew's Lutheran Church
- Wesley United Methodist Church
- St. Columbia Catholic Church
- First Presbyterian Church
- Trinity Evangelical & Reformed Church
- St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran & Reformed Church
- Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ
- Victory Baptist Church

Local Historic Preservation Efforts

The Columbia County Historic Genealogical Society is committed to the collection, preservation, and publication of the history of Columbia County and to developing resources to aid individuals to discover their family history. The organization is "dedicated to the proposition that the historical and genealogical heritage of Columbia County, Pennsylvania, should be preserved and that its citizens should be informed thereof." The organization is a charitable and educational organization run entirely by volunteers who collect and index important documents such as church records, cemetery listings, genealogies, manuscripts, photos, pamphlets, clippings, and maintain the Society's museum and library. The society's operating expenses are met primarily by membership and user fees, sales of publications and materials, fund-raising events, gifts, grants, and investment income. The society focuses its research and efforts primarily on Columbia and Montour Counties, and its adjoining border communities. The society's research materials are available at its library and limited museum located on the second floor of the Bloomsburg Public Library. Members of the society can conduct research at the library free of charge, but non-members must pay a minimal fee of \$2.00 per hour. There is no charge for academic research by students.

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Cultural Enrichment Organizations and Special Events

A variety of local organizations sponsor special events that contribute to community pride. The following list highlights several of the annual events, their time of year and sponsoring organization.

Events	Time of Year	Sponsor(s)
Artwalk	Quarterly	Downtown Bloomsburg
Downtown Bloomsburg Spaghetti Dinner	Mid March	Downtown Bloomsburg
Spring and Fall Cleanup Days	Mid April	
Annual Renaissance Jamboree	Late April	Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce
Jazz Music Fest	Late April	Bloomsburg University
Fireman's Parade	Early May	Bloomsburg Fire Department
Bengali Festival	May	
Cycling Criterium (one in the River Towns Race Series)	June	Dutch Wheelman Bicycling Club
Summer Concert Series		Bloomsburg Town Park Improvement Association
Cake and Ice Cream Festival	Early August	Bloomsburg Town Park Improvement Association
Annual Rod & Custom Cruise-In	Mid August	Bloomsburg Hospital
Market Street Mile	Late August	Bloomsburg University
The Fly-in	September	
Bloomsburg Fair	Late September	Bloomsburg Fair Board
Scotch Valley Road Race		
Halloween Window Painting	October	
Veteran's Day Parade	November	
Christmas Events:		
Santa Parade		
Tree Fest		
Santa's Breakfast		
Polar Express		
Tree Lighting		
Carriage Rides		
YMCA New Year's Eve Run	Late December	Bloomsburg Area YMCA

The annual Bloomsburg Fair originated in 1855, when Dr. John Taggart organized a group of five men to find willing exhibitors of fruits, vegetables and other farm products for a community agricultural exhibition. What presumably began as a one-day production grew to a three-day event from 1858 until the late 1870s and was extended to a full eight days in 1989. The fair has also moved slowly up the calendar from late October into late September—officially beginning on the third Monday after Labor Day. The fair has also grown from a ten acre lot to 248 acres within the Town limits. Today the fair attracts over 600,000 fair-goers and brings in approximately \$10 million dollars annually to the local economy.

Organizations

Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble (BTE)

BTE is the resident acting company of the Alvina Krause Theater, which was named for the founding director Alvina Krause in 1983. BTE produces classic and contemporary plays as well as original works from folklore, found text, history, interviews, and literature of many cultures. BTE also performs

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schools and various community settings. BTE teaches theatre classes, provide internships for early career artists, and offers educational programs in the performing arts and live theatre entertainment to residents of the local community. BTE is an organization run by a board of trustees, devoted staff, and a family of artists.¹

Bloomsburg Rotary Club

Rotary International is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Bloomsburg's Rotary Club supports Rotary International's efforts and has been committed to local service for 85 years. The club is a part of several programs in the community including the Bloomsburg Area Soup Kitchen, and has provided funding for several area organizations. The club meets every Thursday at 6 pm at Balzano's Corner Gatherings.

Children's Museum

The Children's Museum is a rural non-profit corporation run by staff, volunteer committees, and a Board of Directors. The Museum started as a traveling program but gained a permanent home at the old fire hall in 1999. Renovations were done to the facility and the Museum began full time operation in 2001. The organization's mission is to enrich the lives of people in the community by fostering a lifelong love of learning through enjoyable interactive programs and exhibits that bring out the imagination in every child and the child in every visitor. They get about 2,000 visitors per year, in addition they send out learning kits to area schools for hands on learning at school. There are over 50 changing exhibits in the museum, all of which are prepared by area volunteers and experts. The museum serves 17 school districts in the five county Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit Area, as well as the general public. The Children's Museum is located on West 7th Street in Bloomsburg.

Bloomsburg Kiwanis Club

A local division of an international organization dedicated to improving communities and the lives of children. The Kiwanis club in Bloomsburg is the 14th division in Region 4 of Pennsylvania and consists of 51 total members. The club meets bimonthly on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. The club conducts and coordinates local events and programs for the youth in the community.

Bloomsburg University Celebrity Artists Series

Following a generous gift from Marco and Louise Mitrani in 1981 to fund acoustical improvements, the large auditorium of Haas Center was named Mitrani Hall. Renovated in 1996, the auditorium now seats 1,858 people in modern ergonomic theatre seats. The number of seats and state of the art lighting and sound amenities make Mitrani Hall one of the largest and finest indoor auditoriums in Northeast Pennsylvania. The stage is home to many campus performance groups, academic and lecture presentations, large lecture classes and the acclaimed Celebrity Artist Series. A traditional proscenium stage, the opening of Mitrani Hall is 20' high X 60' wide. A 32 channel mixing console and digital amplification for audio enhancement; and a fully computerized lighting control system make the hall a highly desirable performance space. Mitrani Hall hosts approximately 300 public events presented annually.²

¹ Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, <http://www.bte.org>.

² Bloomsburg University Office of Performing Arts Facilities, http://orgs.bloomu.edu/arts/mitrani_hall.htm.

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Bloomsburg University Organizations

Bloomsburg University's fine and performing arts clubs and organizations often host live performances that are open to the general public. These clubs and organizations not only provide a creative outlet for local college students but also add to the cultural enrichment of the Bloomsburg community. Specific clubs and organizations offered by the Bloomsburg University include:

- Bloomsburg Players
- Chamber Orchestra
- Chamber Singers
- Concert Choir
- Gospel Choir
- Husky Singers
- Jazz Ensemble
- Maroon and Gold Band
- University Community Orchestra
- Women's Choral Ensemble
- History Club
- Poetry club

Bloomsburg Community Garden

The Bloomsburg Community Garden, located along Ferry Road across from the airport, is a collaborative green space providing its participants, who may not have suitable yards of their own, a place to grow fresh produce, flowers, and other plants. This group of local gardeners tends individually assigned plots and shares in the maintenance of the site. The garden land is owned by the Town, which gave permission for its use as a garden in 2006. A Garden Committee, made up of member-gardeners, carries out all necessary operations. The Garden Committee strives to educate members and the community at large, foster appreciation for the benefits of gardening, and to promote the Bloomsburg Community Garden as a unique resource for organic and sustainable gardening through workshops, publications, and social activities.

Findings and Preliminary Recommendations

- The Town of Bloomsburg has a rich heritage, evident in its historic architecture and celebrated through cultural organizations events.
- Two historic properties have some level of protection from federally funded or federally assisted projects that could harm their integrity.
- More than 650 properties comprise the Bloomsburg Historic District and are regulated by the special provision of the Town's code.
- Six of the eight properties eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places are located on the Bloomsburg University campus. The remaining two are former public school sites.
- The last update to the historic survey of properties was completed in 1986, more than 20 years ago. Additional properties have come of historic age and could be evaluated for their significance and integrity as part of the district or as separate historic resources.
- As shown by the dates of designation, the state marker program was popular when it was introduced, but has lacked any additional participation in 60 years.
- Additional historic sites not listed on the National Register include 14 businesses, 18 churches, two theatres, three government buildings, and two monuments.
- The Columbia County Historic Genealogical Society, housed in the Bloomsburg Public Library, collects and preserves local records and artifacts; it does not pursue property preservation initiatives.
- Cultural events held throughout the year enable citizens to connect as one community and showcase different community organizations.
- Bloomsburg University has lots of student organizations that bring opportunities for entertainment and culture to the residents of Bloomsburg and the surrounding area.

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