

HISTORIC CONEWAGO VALLEY TOUR

Dear Visitor,

We invite you to explore Adams County along the HISTORIC CONEWAGO VALLEY TOUR, where you will discover historic sites, scenic beauty and hidden gems. Meander along our country roads through East Cavalry Battlefield, Victorian New Oxford and Early-American East Berlin. Be sure to slow down and enjoy the drive, all turns and directionals are clearly marked by tour signs.

This tour was planned for your pleasure, so relax and drive carefully. We hope you discover the timeless beauty that make Adams County so delightful.

- Destination Gettysburg

Here are your directions to the start of the Conewago Valley Tour from Lincoln Square in downtown Gettysburg (See Downtown Map):

From Lincoln Square, travel East on Route 30 for two blocks to the intersection of York Street (Rt 30) and Hanover Street (Rt 116). As you approach the “Y” intersection bear to the right and drive straight onto Hanover Street (Rt 116 E). The tour begins here - the first sign is on your right.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #1 - (0.0 miles) York Street and Hanover Street

The tour begins at the intersection and proceeds East on Hanover Street, a charming residential street, towards Hanover. As you leave the edge of town the road crosses Rock Creek and climbs Benner’s Hill. There is a brown National Park Service sign on the right, marking Benner’s Hill which you may choose to explore. There are several Civil War cannons and markers along this road and a good view of the Borough of Gettysburg can be seen from this vantage point.

Continuing along Hanover Road - *the road changes name from Hanover Road to Street at the edge of town* - a few hundred yards on your left there is a sign marking the Daniel Lady Farm as a Civil War hospital. There were many temporary hospitals in the Gettysburg area after the Battle of Gettysburg in July of 1863.

Hanover Road continues under US Rt 15 by-pass. In the next mile you will pass by several vintage stone and brick houses and Civil War markers, particularly on the left. You will notice a brown National Park sign for E. Cavalry Field. In about 1/4 mile, turn left onto Low Dutch Road.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #2 - (3.4 miles) Hanover Road (Rt 116 and Low Dutch Road

Turn left onto Low Dutch Road. In less than a mile, there is another smaller brown National Park Service sign for E. Cavalry Field at Conewago Valley Tour Sign #3. If you have the time we invite you to tour East Cavalry Field.



Conewago Valley Tour Sign #3 - (4.0 miles) Low Dutch Road and Entrance to E. Cavalry Field-Gregg Avenue

If you choose to explore the E. Cavalry Battlefield site, turn left here, you will now be in the area of one of the largest mounted cavalry battles of the American Civil War. Here, on the afternoon of July 3, 1863 General Robert E. Lee ordered General J.E.B. Stuart’s Cavalry Corps to sweep the Union right and strike the rear of the Union lines at the same time Pickett’s Charge struck the front. However, Union Cavalry under General D.M. Gregg along with Brigadier General George Armstrong Custer intercepted and checked J.E.B Stuart’s Confederate Cavalry. If the Confederate Cavalry had won here, they might have penetrated into the rear of the Union Army.

There are several monuments, cannons and Civil War markers along this narrow pastoral roadway. Area farm building remain, including the Rummel Barn, a Confederate hospital site still bearing scars of battle damage. The Battlefield is largely unchanged from its 1863 appearance.

A U-turn can be made at the brown National Park Service “End Tour East Cavalry Field” sign - about 1-1/2 miles from Low Dutch Road. If you toured the East Cavalry Battlefield site, please return to the Historic Conewago Tours Sign #3 and turn left onto Low Dutch Road.

Continuing on Low Dutch Road you will pass several Adams County farms and examples of our country architecture.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #4 - (5.5 miles) Low Dutch Road and Granite Station Road

Continue on Low Dutch Road named for Holland-Dutch settlers who came from New Jersey and New York in the 1760’s. On your right will be the Salem United Methodist Church. The original church was built in 1856, rebuilt in 1888, burned and rebuilt again in 1904. Notice the quaint stained glass windows.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #5 - (6.2 miles) Low Dutch Road and Salem Church Road

Turn right onto Salem Church Road. Slow down as you drive around the silo of the farm up ahead. Right after the silo the road dips and takes a sharp left and then the road winds and curves several times. Use caution along this section. Continue to stop sign.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #6 - (7.9 miles) Salem Church Road and Kilpatrick Road

Turn left onto Kilpatrick Road and drive for a short distance to stop sign.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #7 - (8.2 miles) Kilpatrick Road and Centennial Road

Turn right onto Centennial Road. Travel less than 1/2 mile and take the first left onto Cedar Ridge Road.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #8 - (8.6 miles) Centennial Road and Cedar Ridge Road

Along Cedar Ridge Road there will be farms on both sides of the road and a red Pennsylvania bank barn on your right. After you pass the second red barn on your right you should be able to see the Pigeon Hills - *on a clear day* - off to the right. Continue to stop sign.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #9 - (10.3 miles) Cedar Ridge Road and Fleshman Mill Road

Turn right onto Fleshman Mill Road and drive slowly through the next farm passing between the milk-house on the left and around the barn on the right. Up ahead there is a lovely stone farmhouse on the left. Continue to the stop sign.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #10 - (10.8 miles) Fleshman Mill Road and Bon-Ox Road

After the stop sign, continue on Fleshman Mill Road through another working Adams County farm. This road has several sharp curves. At the next stop sign bear left. The road takes a sharp turn to the right, passes a stone barn on the left and crosses the south branch of the Conewago Creek.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #11 - (11.5 miles) Fleshman Mill Road and Kohler Mill Road

Just after crossing this Conewago Creek bridge, turn left onto Kohler Mill Road. The road follows the path of the creek to a large horse farm where horses for harness-racing are trained on the racetrack on your left, and then continues through a residential section of New Oxford. Continue to the intersection of Kohler Mill Road and Lincolnway West (US Rt 30) at the stop sign. US Rt 30 is very heavily traveled.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #12 - (12.6 miles) Kohler Mill Road and Lincolnway West (US Rt 30)

Turn right onto Lincolnway West and you will be heading for the center of New Oxford, known as “The Little Town with the Beautiful Circle”. The town with old brick sidewalks, tree-lined streets and stately Victorian and Colonial homes was laid out in 1792. Today, New Oxford is known as “The Antiquer’s Delight” with over 100 shops dealing in antiques.

As you travel East along Lincolnway West admiring the exceptional 19th Century architecture, notice the restored railroad station on the left at the railroad crossing.

Our tour will travel 3/4 of the way around the New Oxford town square and turn North onto Carlisle Street towards New Chester. We invite you to explore the streets and shops radiating from the New Oxford Square.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #13 - (13.1 miles) Carlisle Street at New Oxford Square

Turn onto Carlisle Street and travel 2 blocks to Berlin Road, just after the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, on the right.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #14 - (13.2 miles) Carlisle Street and Berlin Road

Turn right onto Berlin Road. You will drive through another residential area of New Oxford and through the New Oxford Area School Complex. Soon you will pass several nice farms with stone or brick farmhouses and Pennsylvania Bank Barns. The farm on the left with the red barn, just before the stop sign, is fronted by part of an old stone barnyard wall. Be careful at the stop sign as PA Route 94 is heavily traveled.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #15 - (15.0 miles) Berlin Road and Carlisle Pike (PA Rt 94)

Be alert - the view of traffic from the left is very limited - as you turn left onto Carlisle Pike and travel 1 block.

Please contact the
Destination Gettysburg
if Conewago Valley Tour signs are
damaged or missing.
800-337-5015 or info@destinationgettysburg.com

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #16 - (15.0 miles) Carlisle Pike and Pine Run Road

Take the first right onto Pine Run Road. After passing through another residential area you will enter another farmlands area with attractive farmhouses and barns. The little white building on the left at the intersection of Pine Run Road and Old Mill Road is the old Hamilton Township Election House.

Continuing along Pine Run Road, for several miles, you will notice the farmhouses and barns, particularly on the left side of the road. Watch for Mummert's Church Road, on the right immediately after a sharp curve.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #17 - (18.5 miles) Pine Run Road and Mummert's Church Road

Turning right onto Mummert's Church Road, follow the unusual stone wall to Mummert's Church of the Brethren Meeting House, built in 1852 and rebuilt in 1882. This was one of the first Brethren (Dunkard) Meeting Houses built in this part of the country. Continue on Mummert's Church Road to a stop sign.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #18 - (19.4 miles) Mummert's Church Road and Rt 194 North

Turn left onto Rt 194 N. On your left, after the white barn, there will be a brick lattice barn. The house on the next corner (Pine Run Road) used to be the toll house when Rt 194 N was the East Berlin to Hanover toll road. There is another rare brick lattice barn on your right, set off the road near the silos. The brick farmhouse, after this barn, was built by Abraham Trimmer in 1836. Notice the marker just below the point of the roof? Now we are approaching the Early American town of East Berlin and Rt 194 N becomes Abbottstown Street.

East Berlin, at the junction of the Conewago and Beaver Creeks, was laid out on May 8, 1764. Fifty-two of the original structures shown on an 1856 map are still standing. In 1985, East Berlin was designated a Pennsylvania Historic Site and a National Historic District significant architecturally as an 18th Century Pennsylvania German community. Some of the 19th Century buildings feature an Italianate-inspired exterior window and door treatment popular only in East Berlin and not found in nearby towns. Homes were built near the street so the frugal Germans could use their long back yards to grow vegetables.

We invite you to explore East King Street as far as Sweigar's Mill (1794), Harrisburg Street and the parallel streets north and south of West King Street, our tour route. Much of East Berlin is best seen by walking. Continue to the traffic light.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #19 - (21.6 miles) Abbottstown Street and West King Street - PA Rt 234

At traffic light, turn left onto West King Street - PA Rt 234 West. As we drive along West King Street, you may want to notice a few of the historic buildings:

* **114** (left side) - constructed of log in the 18th Century and later covered with German siding.

* **Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church** (right side) - Built in 1888.

* **127** (right side) - Late 19th Century house with elaborately trimmed eaves.

* **200** (left side) - Log house built in 1790 and covered with original siding - Studebaker Homestead (relatives of the automobile manufacturing family)

* **210** (left side) - brick home built about 1860.

* **400** (left side) - 28 room Queen Anne style house built in 1897. Property includes elaborate Victorian barn/carriage house.

* **Zwingli United Church of Christ** (right side) - present Church dedicated in 1891.

* **412** (left side) - sandstone house built by John and Catherine Fox in 1790.

* **414** (left side) - 1785 log house covered with original uniform lapped siding.

* **426** (left side) - sandstone house from c.1780, owned by US Representative Thaddeus Stevens.

* **529** (right side) - Log house with lapped siding from mid-late 18th century. Nine over six windows on 1st floor and six over six on 2nd floor.

* **536** (left side) - Late 19th century with original facade - notice window arches and paired brackets at eaves.

Leaving East Berlin on Rt 234 West - East Berlin Road - you will cross the Conewago Creek again and soon drive through more PA German farmlands along the western frontier of the PA Dutch Country. After a few miles you will approach a stop sign with a flashing red light overhead. The red building at the corner, on the right, just before the intersection when originally built, was the Hampton Church of the Brethren Meeting House. It is currently used by another religious denomination.

A mile north of this intersection, but not on our tour route, in Round Hill Cemetery, on Round Hill Road, is the tombstone of Samuel Hodge (D. 1783), reputed to be the strongest man in the world.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #20 - (26.3 miles) PA Route 234 and Carlisle Pike (PA Rt 94 South)

Turn left onto Carlisle Pike (PA Rt 94 S), be careful at this intersection as it is difficult to see traffic approaching from the right. As you approach the Village of Hampton, you will see St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church on the right, first dedicated in 1844.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #21 - (27.0 miles) Carlisle Pike (PA Rt 94 S) and Hunterstown - Hampton Road (Rt 394 West)

In the center of Hampton, turn right onto the Hunterstown-Hampton Road (Rt 394 W). At the edge of Hampton you will drive past a Federal style farmhouse on the left. In the next 2 miles, you will see the Pigeon Hills on the left; in the distance, a stone farmhouse on the right; and unspoiled woodlands, on the left. Once again, you will cross the Conewago Creek as you enter the Village of New Chester.

Just ahead is an old mill on the left. Across the road is the millhouse. Further up the road, on the right is another example of stone farmhouse architecture.

Ahead, on the left is St. John's United Church of Christ with the ornate iron fence in front of the pre-Civil War graveyard. This church dates from C.1803 and has Victorian support ornamentation for the weathervane above the cupola. In the back yard are the original outbuildings. Proceed to the stop sign. The house on the corner, on the right, pre-dates the Civil War.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #22 - (29.8 miles) Hunterstown-Hampton Road and Oxford Road

Turn right onto Oxford Road. As you cross the Conewago Creek you will see Sharrer's Grist Mill, on the left, with the original millrace and dam. Ahead are more farmlands on both sides of the road. Right after Bair Road, on the right, look for Studebaker Lane, on the left.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #23 - (31.8 miles) Oxford Road and Studebaker Lane

Turn left onto Studebaker Lane. Studebaker Lane has several sharp curves so proceed with caution. Just under a mile down this road you will see, on the right, the stone marker at the site of the 1830 John Studebaker Forge and Blacksmith Shop. In the midwest, in 1852 his sons founded the famous wagon and automobile manufacturing company. Proceed to the stop sign.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #24 - (32.9 miles) Studebaker Lane and Red Bridge Road

At stop sign, turn left onto Red Bridge Road. Soon you will re-cross the Conewago Creek. After 1-1/4 miles there will be a big picturesque farm, set back on the left side of the road.

About 1-1/2 miles further, the Great Conewago Presbyterian Church will be on the right at Presbyterian Church Road. This church was constructed in 1787 and is one of the two oldest churches in the county in present use. Many revolutionary soldiers are buried here in the cemetery that is surrounded by a white wooden fence. Continue along Red Bridge Road to stop sign.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #25 - (36.0 miles) Red Bridge Road and Shriver's Corner Road

Turn right onto Shriver's Corner Road, the second oldest road in Adams County and a road used by George Washington in his journey through this county. Travel slowly a few hundred feet.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #26 - (36.1 miles) Shriver's corner Road and Hunterstown Road

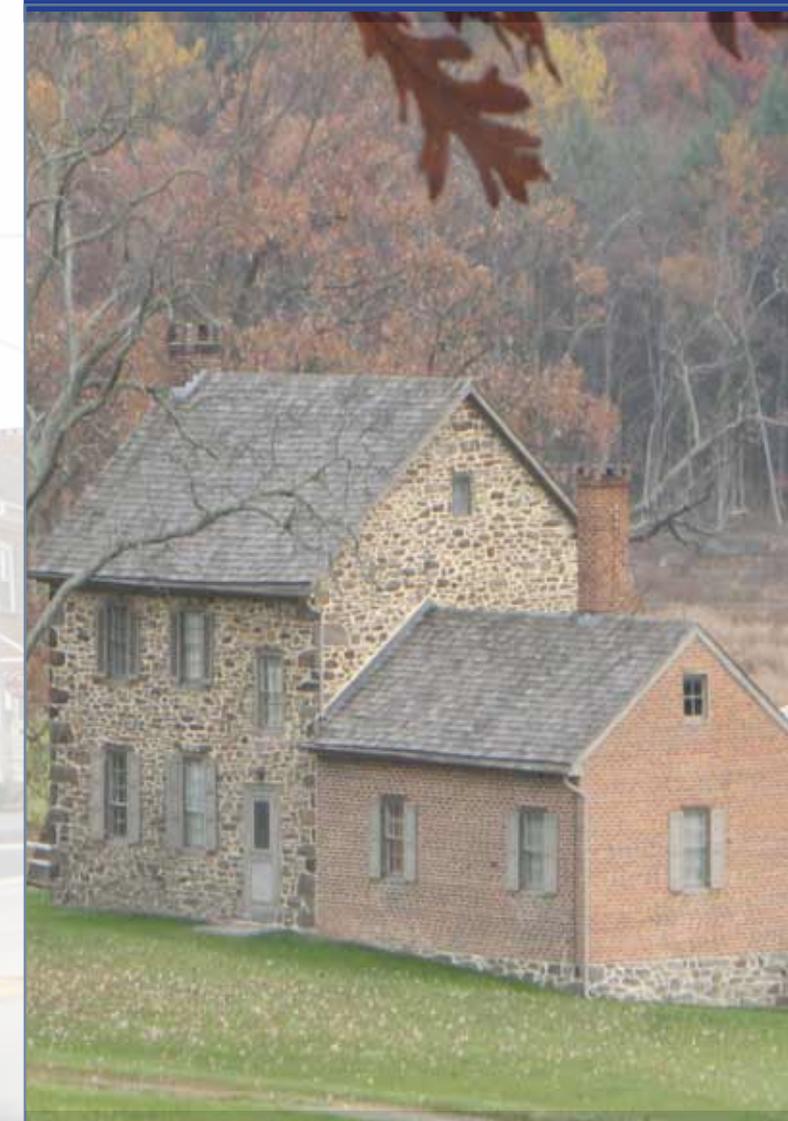
Turn left onto Hunterstown Road and drive a few miles past more scenic farms. You will see the South Mountains, the most easterly range of the Appalachian Mountains, ahead and off to the right. The highway you are crossing over is US Route 15. Past the 4-way stop sign, the Monfort Farm on the right was the second largest Confederate Hospital after the Battle. Notice the brick lattice barn. Carefully cross the railroad tracks as you approach York Road - US Rt 30.

Conewago Valley Tour Sign #27 - (40.6 miles) Hunterstown Road and York Road

Turn right onto York Road - US Rt 30 - to return to the starting point of our tour. From the starting point continue on US Rt 30 for two blocks to return to Lincoln Square in downtown Gettysburg.

We hope that you enjoyed the HISTORIC CONEWAGO TOUR and that it enhanced your stay in Adams County.

Adams County Historic Conewago Valley Tour



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