

MORE PLACE NAMES IN WARREN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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INITIALY the article titled "Place Names in Warren County, Pennsylvania" appeared as a two-part presentation in the January and April 1971 issues of the *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine*. The interest the article created was rather astounding, and it was twice reprinted as a pamphlet by the Warren County Historical Society and was used by a regional magazine. Following the receipt of inquiries about other names, I decided to continue the work, and this article is the result.

With this publication my research on Warren County place names is ended, and I pass the baton on to younger and perhaps more energetic hands. The possibilities are nearly limitless as the names of the islands (Jackson, Crull's, Thompson), of the mountains (Bone Steel Hill, Dutch Hill, Goose Heaven), of the streams (Buckhorn Run, Whisky Run, Tionesta Creek), and of the unusual formations (Brooks Rocks, Gardner's Rocks, Pike Rocks), have hardly been touched. Good hunting!

ALLEGHENY SPRINGS—a former sulphur spa and health resort located one-quarter mile south of Irvine, in Brokenstraw Township, just off Route 6. Its name comes from its close proximity to the Allegheny River. Operating chiefly from 1879 to 1920, the place boasted hotels and cottages. Some people took the sulphur bath, while others merely drank the smelly waters. Several cottages are still occupied at this place.

BEECH WOODS—a rather large and not clearly defined old area in the northwestern part of the county. The Land Office Bureau, Department of Internal Affairs, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, has a "Map of Warren County, 1817" which shows this area designated as Beech Woods because of the heavy growth of beech trees.

A post office of this name operated from 1849 through October 1854.

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BULLY HOLLOW—a location in Watson Township sixteen miles from Warren; the area so named starts on the Beecher Shaw farm on Route 337 and ends on Route 62.

It was named by early settlers who thought it was a "great or bully hollow."

COFFEE CREEK—a village in the west-central part of Columbus Township, named for Jesse Coffee, an early settler. In 1842 the name was changed to Columbus.

COLZA — a small settlement in the southwest corner of Columbus Township very near the Erie County line.

Years ago a Serbian raised goats on a farm at this location; he milked the goats and sold the cheese to workers in the nearby tannery. In the Serbo-Croatian language the word *koza* means goat, which in general pronunciation sounds like *colza*, hence the above spelling of the name. The railroad stop was Colza Junction.

DEWDROP—a former village in the extreme southern part of Corydon Township, along Kinzua Creek, now beneath the waters of the Kinzua Dam. So named because of the heavy dews in the area.

The village centered around a large sawmill operated by the Campbell Lumber Company of Kane, Pennsylvania. The Kinzua & Tiona Railroad and a logging road ran up Dewdrop Run, formerly Mead and Eddy Run, covering the hilltop from Kinzua to Four Mile Run. About 1906 the mill and railroad were moved to West Virginia.

EAGLE—a small settlement in the northwest part of Eldred Township, at the head of the west branch of Caldwell Creek. It was so named because in earlier days eagles were in the vicinity.

A post office operated at Eagle from 1837 through 1902 at which time mail was forwarded to Spartansburg for handling.

FARM COLONY—located in Conewango Township, this site was formerly a farm of 173 acres, four miles north of Warren along Route 62 and now the campus of a two-year branch of Edinboro State College. It belonged to the Warren State Hospital and was the working farm colony for many hospital patients.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania secured the land in 1897, and in 1901 a red-brick dormitory and infirmary for patients able to work was constructed on the place. The hospital abandoned this facility late in 1969, and the college moved in during 1970.

FARNSWORTH—a transitory village in Cherry Grove Township, named for Josiah Farnsworth on whose farm it was located, chiefly 1882-1885.

Farnsworth, from Vermont, settled in Cherry Grove during August 1835; he built and operated the first sawmill in the township. The village came into being with the start of the famous Cherry Grove oil excitement which commenced the middle of May 1882, when the great gusher well "646" was struck.

FUNKVILLE—formerly a small settlement in the southwest corner of Triumph Township, on the Enterprise-Tidioute Road five miles east of Enterprise; also, where the Warren-Franklin Turnpike crosses Funk Run, between Perry in Venango County and Tidioute in Warren County.

Earlier this location was Warner, and the post office there had the shortest life of any in Warren County; it opened August 13, 1850, and was changed to Steam Mills, September 10, 1850. As Steam Mills the post office continued until January 16, 1855, when it was discontinued.

The place was named for Captain A. B. Funk who received his title because he was a captain of a steamboat on the Youghiogheny River. He purchased timber lands in Deerfield Township as early as 1851. On his lands, the first oil well along Oil Creek was put down to the third sand, and the first well that flowed came in during May 1861 and demonstrated previously unknown oil possibilities.

GALEN—located at Heart's Content, or Wheeler's Woods, in Watson Township.

Source of name unknown but there was a post office by this name from 1881 through 1886, and after it was discontinued mail was sent to Slater. Julia A. Baxter was the only postmaster to serve this office.

GILLIS — a former location in the northeastern part of Limestone Township named for Angus Gillis; the post office was in his house, and he was the only postmaster.

The house, still standing in 1972, is just north of the Plank Road School, at the intersection of Route 337 and Legislative Route 61042.

GOULDTOWN—a sparsely settled area in Pine Grove Township northeast of Akeley. Named for members of the Gould family who were the first settlers in this area.

To reach Gouldtown from Akeley go north on old Route 62, 1.3

miles, which will bring you to marked Gouldtown Road; turn right onto Legislative Route 61052, dirt road, for 2.2 miles to the Gouldtown Community Church.

HAPPY TOWN—a former small settlement located half in the borough of Bear Lake and half in Freehold Township; it is three-quarters of a mile east of the center of the village of Bear Lake.

In earlier years there were nine houses, a blacksmith shop, and an out-of-doors dance platform where Saturday-night dances were held. It is thought the location was named when a reveler remarked, "Oh, it's a happy town on Saturday nights!"

A dirt road, known and marked as Happy Town Road, turns from the village location south where it meets Route 957.

HICKORY CREEK—a former small settlement in the west-central part of Columbus Township. Jesse Coffee was the only postmaster to serve at this location. (see Coffee Creek)

Heavy stands of hickory trees supplied the source of the name.

JACKSON RUN—the name of a stream and a general area of settlement along that stream, in Conewango Township just north of Warren.

Named for Daniel Jackson who lived along the stream and was probably the first settler in the area. He resided here from 1797 to 1805 and moved into Warren during that year.

MATTHEW'S RUN—a settlement in Brokenstraw Township, north of Youngsville on Route 27.

Named for Matthew Young, the Scotsman who was the founder of Youngsville and a man of many activities.

NUTTAL—a former post-office location, so named because it was on the Peter W. Nuttal farm in the southwest section of Sugar Grove Township.

The location was on the Stillson Hill Road, at the forks of the Page Hollow and Smith Hill roads, north of Pike's Rocks. Nuttal maintained a general store at this place.

PATTONIA—a village in Mead Township, along Route 6, later named Clarendon.

Named for William Patton who contracted to build the railroad in this area. The post office, established in February 1859, lasted sixteen months by which time Patton had finished his work.

PINEVILLE—in the extreme southeastern corner of Southwest Township. Once famous for the surrounding growth of pine trees, thus the name.

QUARRY—a location in Pittsfield Township one mile northwest of Garland on the Spring Creek-Garland Road.

Named because of the stone quarry, evidence of which can still be seen on the hill top. Sand rock from the conglomerate cap rock was shipped to Kane glass factories as late as 1908. The quarry was a railroad stop and was served by the Philadelphia & Erie Railroad.

ROUSE FARM—it is located just off Route 6 on the east end of Youngsville. The buildings on the land are called the Rouse Home.

It was named in honor of Henry R. Rouse of Enterprise, Pennsylvania, who lost his life in the first great oil fire—April 17, 1861. He left his fortune to Warren County, half for the benefit of the poor and half to improve the roads.

The commissioners of Warren County run the home, which is a high-class, well-operated county establishment kept constantly up to date in every respect.

SCOFIELD—a village in the southeastern part of Southwest Township.

Named for the Honorable Glenni W. Scofield who was a state senator, 1857-1859, and a member of the national House of Representatives from March 4, 1863, to March 3, 1875; he represented the state at large during his last term.

The village was on the old Warren-Franklin Turnpike at the intersection of the road east of Pineville Corners, Tract 228. The post office had a stormy career; it commenced September 30, 1872, and was discontinued November 24, 1886, with the mail being sent to McGraw. It was reestablished April 4, 1893, and was finally discontinued September 14, 1903, and the mail forwarded to Grand Valley.

SLATER—a former lumbering village in Watson Township on Route 337 south of Warren.

Named for Robert and John Slater, lumbermen; they were the only two to serve as postmasters here. The post office was in the house which is today the Wagon Wheel Inn.

STONE RIDGE—a former village in Watson Township on Route 337 nine miles south of Warren. The excess of stones along this ridge furnished the name. The post office was located across the road from the Lukins School.

TRIUMPH—a township and former village just west of Tidioute.

This hill-top location, 600 feet above the Allegheny River, received its name from the Triumph Oil Company of Pittsburgh who purchased the W. Wallace farm of 239 acres in 1864 and commenced oil operations thereon. The village was completely destroyed by fire on April 18, 1868.

Triumph Township was formed from part of Deerfield Township on March 7, 1878.

TUTTLETOWN—a former small village six miles north of Warren along the east bank of the Allegheny River, Route 59, in Kinzua Township, but now beneath the waters of the Kinzua Dam.

Named for members of the Tuttle family, early settlers at this location and operators of sawmills for many years.

VANDAL—a small settlement east of Warren, in Glade Township, on the west bank of the Allegheny River.

Originally known as Hemlock, in 1916 the post office notified box holders in this area that the name Hemlock was confusing as there were several other places in Pennsylvania with that name. They were asked to suggest a name for the post office.

The story is that Mr. Clyde E. Schweitzer was with a group one evening, trying to decide on a name; he opened a dictionary, happened to see the word "vandal," and he said he thought that might be a good name. The group approved, submitted it, the post office approved, and an office under that name was opened November 21, 1916. It was located in part of the small office of the Imperial Chemical Works, a subsidiary of the Riverside Acid Works of Warren. Imperial Chemical produced nitric and sulphuric acids during World War I and for a short time afterwards.

While the post office operated at Vandal, for four years, the residents used to joke — "There's scandal at Vandal!"

WARDWELL—a small group of houses four miles north of Warren along the east bank of the Allegheny River, Route 59, in Mead Township.

Named for Joseph M. Wardwell, the original settler, who came from Rhode Island. He died in 1900 and left an unusual will: his lands went to the First Congregational Church, Bristol, Rhode Island; he established an endowment fund for the church with the provision that the income should, in part, be used to pay for gas for illuminating the

church Sunday nights inasmuch as he had earlier provided the lighting fixtures; income should also be used for pew rent for his pew which he turned over for the use of his nephews and nieces; and, finally, income should be used to construct a high spire on the church in which the chimes, which he had also previously given, could be hung. The balance of his estate went to an old friend named Walter Ingram.

A ferry across the Allegheny River operated at this site for many years.