

As Others See Us ... Quotes about Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania

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Paramount Press



1763



Carnegie Museum of Natural History

In the year 1763 the Indians began a bloody war against the British settlers and fell upon this region among others. The few inhabitants were obliged to leave their houses, flee into the fort and leave the new city to the mercy of the Indians, by whom it was entirely destroyed. Two years afterward Pittsburg [sic] was again laid out more carefully than before on the east bank of the Monongahela, some 300 yards from the fort. It now contains about sixty wooden houses and cabins, in which live only a little more than 100 families, for the growth of the place, which had been rapid at first, was checked by the outbreak of the last war. The first stone house was built this summer and you will soon see several substantial buildings, as this place has strong hopes of becoming in course of time a large and important city.

— Johann David Schöpf, *Reise durch einige der Vereinigten Staaten* (Travels through part of the United States), 1783, as reprinted in *Pittsburgh as seen by early travelers; descriptions by those who visited it from 1783 to 1818*, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh compilation, c. 1906.

Left: This powderhorn features a carved likeness of Fort Pitt.

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Fort Pitt Under Siege, Robert Griffing,
oil on canvas. During Pontiac's Uprising
in late spring 1763, Indians surrounded
Fort Pitt until drawn away on August 1
to engage British troops at Bushy Run.



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