



C-47B Skytrain "Luck of the Irish" in the final stages of its WWII paint scheme.

All photos Air Heritage, Inc.

- Air Heritage, Inc., is an active, non-profit aviation museum and aircraft restoration facility located about an hour's drive north of Pittsburgh at the Beaver County Airport.
- The organization was founded in 1983 as Air Heritage of Western Pennsylvania. In 1990, it partnered with local businessman and aircraft enthusiast David Tallichet. In return for restoring his aircraft, Mr. Tallichet constructed the current 14,400-square-foot hangar that comprises the organization's office spaces, library, museum, and restoration facilities. Currently, Air Heritage has over 200 volunteer members who serve in a number of administrative, educational, and technical roles.
- The museum maintains an impressive collection of airframes, artifacts, and paraphernalia related to civilian and military aviation. Among the aircraft maintained at the museum are the F-15A Eagle, F4C Phantom, C-47 Skytrain, Cessna 150, and T-34 Mentor. The flagship of the fleet is the C-123K Provider, nicknamed "Thunder Pig," a military transport that the organization features proudly at air shows across the United States.
- Air Heritage Museum is open from 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday–Saturday, and open Sunday by appointment. It is closed on major holidays. Admission to the museum is free to the public, but donations are greatly appreciated. For additional information including rentals, how to become a member, volunteer opportunities, and group tours, please visit or contact the museum.
- Air Heritage, Inc., is located at the Beaver County Airport, 35 Piper St., Beaver Falls, Pa., 15010. Visit www.airheritage.org for more information or contact the museum at (724) 843-2820 or airheritage1@verizon.net.

Air Heritage Museum



The F-15A Eagle is an example of the U.S. Air Force's primary type of fighter jet.



A Fairchild C-123K Provider military transport aircraft outside of the Air Heritage Museum.



The History Center Affiliates Program, HCAP, is a membership-based network that allows local and regional historical societies and museums access to museum professionals and best practice standards through the Senator John Heinz History Center.

To find out more about HCAP or to apply for membership for your organization, please contact Robert O. Stakeley, Educator, at rostakeley@heinzhistorycenter.org or (412) 454-6359.

¹ "Double X, Cough Drop Man, Familiar Sight to Thousands, Dies" *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, June 4, 1923; William M. Rimmel, "Adventure of 'Cough Drop Man's' Life Told" *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, December 26, 1920 [this article was written by the donor's father and Orton's grandson. Rimmel wrote a book called *The Allegheny Story*, which is in the Detre Library & Archives.

² "The Smallest of Twins," *The Daily Republican*, June 6, 1890 [according to a conversation on June 6, 2016 with the artifact donor and Orton's great-grandson, the twins died in infancy]; "Willie Orton's Body Found," *The Pittsburgh Press*, August 19, 1897.

³ "Adventure of 'Cough Drop Man's' Life Told," 40.

⁴ "Cough Drops Only At Night," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, March 14, 1890; "Orton Must Move," *The Pittsburgh Press*, October 12, 1903; "Double X Is Moved From Fifth Avenue After Many Years," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, May 9, 1906.

⁵ "An Illegal Ballot," *The Pittsburgh Press*, October 31, 1899, 11. Orton also claimed to be the originator of the flag lapel pin: he is said to have sent a box of them to President Wilson, who thanked him and wore the pin.

⁶ "Painting a Character," *Pittsburgh Daily Post*, February 14, 1897, 2.

⁷ "Adventure of 'Cough Drop Man's' Life Told," 40.

⁸ "Painting a Character," 2.