

Welcome to Smethport



Nestled in the hills of the Pennsylvania Wilds within McKean County, Smethport offers a glimpse of its opulent past to visitors. Take your time, allow yourself to experience the charms of Smethport's Gilded Era. Breathe in the country air.

Enjoy your self-guided walking tour of Smethport's Mansion District. Tour the Old Jail Museum, allow time to visit the quaint shops and the historic Route 6 Diner along Main Street. Experience another way of life.

Victorian Smethport

Scenic, Gilded Era Smethport, almost secretly tucked away along U.S. Route 6 where the Nunundab Valley and Marvin Creek Valley converge, was first surveyed by Dutch land surveyors in 1807 who selected it as northwest Pennsylvania's most perfect town site.

Upon entering this village, the hills seem to wrap luxuriously around you and propel you into another era of time and lifestyle. Hamlin Lake, Smethport's crown jewel located in the center of the village, invites visitors to picnic, fish and canoe. The hillsides surrounding the village provide scenic hiking trails along with excellent winter trails for snowmobiling.

1880s: Birth of the Smethport Mansion District

Several factors would propel Smethport into the forefront of the Pennsylvania Wilds. The combination of vast lumber reserves, oil reserves, and railroads beginning in the 1870s caused McKean County's economy to skyrocket. Vast amounts of money flowed into Smethport, the governmental seat and financial center of the county. By the 1880s Smethport's Mansion District was in full construction.



West Main Street

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McKean County Courthouse & Bucktail Civil War Monument

The Grand Army of the Republic Monument designed and erected in 1886 by the St. Johnsbury Granite Company, St. Johnsbury, Vermont, pays tribute to the Bucktail Regiment which was formed at this very location in April 1861 and gained national fame in the bloody battles of the American Civil War.