

# Blue Rock Heritage Center

## HOME SWEET HOME

Over the years, the home for Blue Rock Heritage Center has served great purpose and industry. Even before the present mill we know and love, another mill sat here pre-1814. The present limestone structure was built by Jacob Wither in 1832, taking advantage of Wither Run as it empties into the Susquehanna River. Jacob owned the mill through 1875. A few years later, it was purchased by Hiram Young. Records show he had it through 1899. In 1902, Samuel Young owned and operated it. This flour and grist mill operated by one overshot wheel, provided with water from Wither Run via a 1300-foot headrace, dropping 4-feet in elevation to the wheel then, using a 25-foot tailrace to return to Wither Run. Its production averaged 8 barrels of flour per day. B.K. Snyder bought it in 1915 and ran it until 1931. In 1992, it was used as a turkey barn. LASA purchased the mill and surrounding land from Wayne Smith in 2001. It was vacant in 2004 but, generally, in good condition. The mill, the adjacent 1856 German bank barn, and associated property have since been under the stewardship of the Blue Rock Heritage Center (in an agreement with LASA), maintaining and improving the property in its goal to expand the understanding of the area's history and heritage.

And, because the Blue Rock Heritage Center is a not-for-profit entity, all of the operations are run by volunteers. The monthly costs must come from membership fees and donations.

Driving directions from Lancaster  
10.5 miles – About 23 minutes

- Drive onto PA-999, which is Manor Street.
- Continue to follow PA-999 West.
- In Millersville, bare right onto Blue Rock (also Route 999).
- Turn left onto River Road and travel 0.9 miles.



Early photo of the Blue Rock Heritage Building



Current photo of the Blue Rock Heritage Building



## *Lancaster Canoe and Kayak Club*



Celebrating the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Founding of this club on March 23, 1976.

The celebration will be held at the Blue Rock Heritage Center located in Washington Boro.

Enclosed is a brief history of the Blue Rock Heritage Center and directions to its location and parking area.

Inside is additional pictorial directions to the Blue Rock Heritage Center and parking area.





From Route 999 to Heritage Center insert

39.980486, -76.462946 GPS



Blue Rock Heritage Center  
2251 River Road  
Post Office Box 6  
Washington Boro, PA 17582