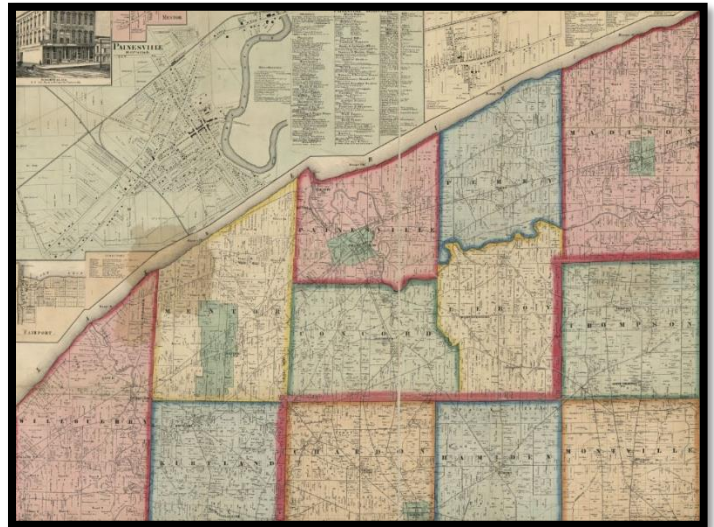


Special Lake County Places That Tell Our Stories

Historic places are much more than bricks and mortar. They share the still unfolding stories that define our nation, our state, our county. From ancient cliff locations and early industries to architectural marvels, these sites are birthplaces to important people, stories, and movements. I leave every place I travel or visit in Lake County with a twinge of regret, knowing there was so much more to see or do that time didn't permit. I encourage you in 2022 to travel the roadways in Lake County for the first time or for an encore visit. You can be a part of this extraordinary hidden history that embodies the work of so many volunteers, doing their part for our past, present, and future. Below you will find a partial listing of communities and historical preservation sites worthy of a visit this year. *New volunteers are always welcome!*



Concord Township - March 8, 2022, marks the 200th anniversary of Eleaser Paine signing papers that established the township officially. Named after the famous Revolutionary War battle, there is a rich history to experience here. Over 1350 acres are part of Lake Metroparks holdings. These wooded lands and tributaries, creeks and waterways were important parts of early county infrastructure. Chair Factory Falls was the site of early water powdered industries with mills and furnaces located there. Camp Klein 1952-1997 was situated at Jordan Creek Park and served thousands of Methodist campers in its history. With more than 233 acres to hike, creeks to explore and the nearby Greenway Corridor, nature and history beckon. On nearby Fay Road the early footprint of early 20th century. Camp Klein can be recalled as well as the Eber Howe / Hawley Drake and Underground Railroad history at Liberty Hollow. The Hosea Brown Barn at Skok Meadow dates to 1817. Concord's Airpark began in 1954, a 1900s

Concord Depot site on the Greenway Corridor, remnants of the original Western Reserve Girdled Road and an 1840 Stone Schoolhouse Museum are just a few highlights not to be missed.

Painesville - Often forgotten in recent county history, this city was for a long time the Mecca of the county from its first year starting in 1840. While much of the past was lost to demolition in the early 1970s, Painesville has many historic places remaining. Historic homes reside on Bank Street and on Mentor Avenue, some part of the local Underground Railroad. The Morley House, Painesville Depot, College Hall, Casement House and Mathews home on the Lake Erie College campus are testaments to a rich past history. All can be seen and many visited. The Steele Mansion on Mentor Avenue is a not-to-miss trip. Joughin Hardware and Gartman Bakery are downtown late 19th century treasures. Evergreen Cemetery tells the story of early Lake County. Although at one point in history a part of Concord Township and Jonathon Goldsmith lore, the Lake County Fairgrounds and its 1914 Log Cabin can be visited. Nearby is Painesville Township Park which dates back to

the 1930s and features a spectacular fishing pier. Visit the Lake County History Center on Riverside Drive to learn much more of Painesville and county history.

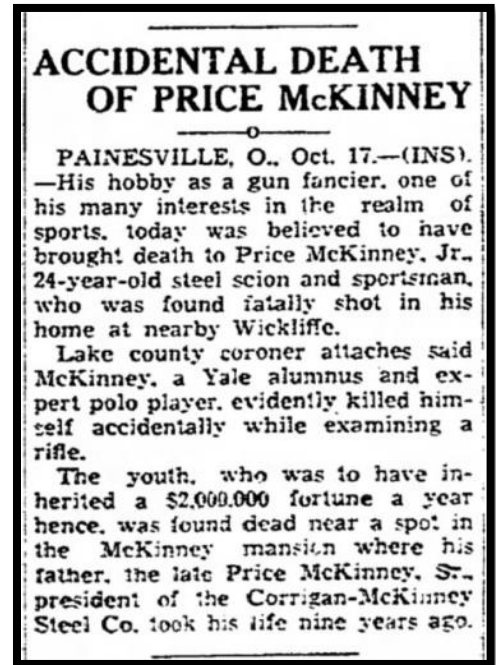
Fairport Harbor - The second largest port in the mid-19th century, this one-mile square village is rich in historic preservation sites. The iconic village lighthouse dates back to 1825 and was part of Underground Railroad history. The Fairport Harbor Historical Society Lighthouse Museum has welcomed summer visitors since 1945. A Finn History Museum is down the street. Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park offers 21 acres of Lake Erie beach access daily. Across the river is another village with local restaurants and a rich



history in commercial fishing known as Grand River. Across the way is the 1925 West Breakwater Lighthouse providing lighthouse enthusiasts two maritime sites to see in a given day.

Wickliffe - The City of Millionaires is a fitting nickname for this city dating back to 1917. Frank Rockefeller's original carriage remains on his former Lakeland

estate and current site of the local high school. Pete's Pond is part of his story and Wickliffe lore. Wickliffe City Hall is the former Coulby Estate. A walk inside reveals Italian marbled floors, German woodworking in council chambers and unique glimpses into Coulby family house history. The Wickliffe Historical society is housed in a breakfast room on the first floor. Viewable remnants of Cleveland's Gilded Age include properties owned by iconic titans of industry including James Corrigan, Fergus Squire, Joseph Nutt, and Price McKinney.



Willoughby – The Van Gorder Mansion 1901, Willoughby Union High School, Willoughby Coal, 1835 Mill House, 1798 Abbott-Parsons house, the Willoughby Medical College site, the Dr. Phrania Chesbrough house and downtown Willoughby are





an easy walk and enjoyable day trip for any history buff. Stop by the Willoughby Historical Society site on W. Spaulding Street adjacent to City Hall for a complete tutorial of historic Willoughby. Do not forget to learn the story of the Burrough's Club, Chandler Estate or The Girl in Blue.

Madison - A downtown history society site on W. Main Street will inform visitors of all things Madison. Arcola House and Creek, Dock Road, Rabbit Run Theater, The Ohio Cottage, Ladd's Tavern, Genug's Corners are just a handful of places to check out in this county gem. And don't miss the Madison Seminary, the last residence of Civil War spy Elizabeth Stiles.

Kirtland - While the 1831 Kirtland Temple and Mormon Community sites are the main attractions in this city, just up the road is Chapin Forest. More than 400 acres of Lake Metroparks holdings offer visitors hiking trails, scenic overlooks to downtown Cleveland, a winter ski center and a local quarry site key to Northeast Ohio history. Also in Kirtland are St. Hubert's Church, the Mooreland Estate, Herb Society House, Lakeland Community College, Lantern Court, a one-room schoolhouse, the former Halle Estate and current Penitentiary Glen site, as well as a working Farmpark that welcome visitors daily and share important 'food-chain' lessons.



Mentor - This city is nearing its 60th anniversary and although lacking a dedicated historical society, it does have hidden histories to share. The Presidential Home of James A. Garfield is the centerpiece of local tourism but there are many other local places not to miss. Remnants of Garfield family history may be found at nearby Garfield Park and Wildwood Estate. Mentor was once the Rose Capitol of the World and still embraces part of that history in its local nurseries. The Bolton Estate as well as Havel's





iconic nursery structure are a part of forgotten Cleveland and Lake County lore. Many other hidden gems await those with discerning eyes.

Perry - The Perry Historic Society on Main Street, the site of the old Town Hall, waits to share community history with any passerby. Local documents and historic photos are found inside. Nearby Lake Erie Bluffs offer over 670 acres of shoreline views and birding / eagle watching. Lakeshore Reservation on Antioch Road and its monoliths welcome hikers and lake views. Wineries, heritage homes, nurseries and the Spirit of '76 are but a



handful of key moments in time for this community.

And don't miss the array of other vintage cemeteries across the county with their own interesting tales to share.

With apologies to Eastlake, Willowick, Lakeline, Mentor-on-the-Lake, Leroy - your stories are coming.

Submitted by Dan Maxson
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