

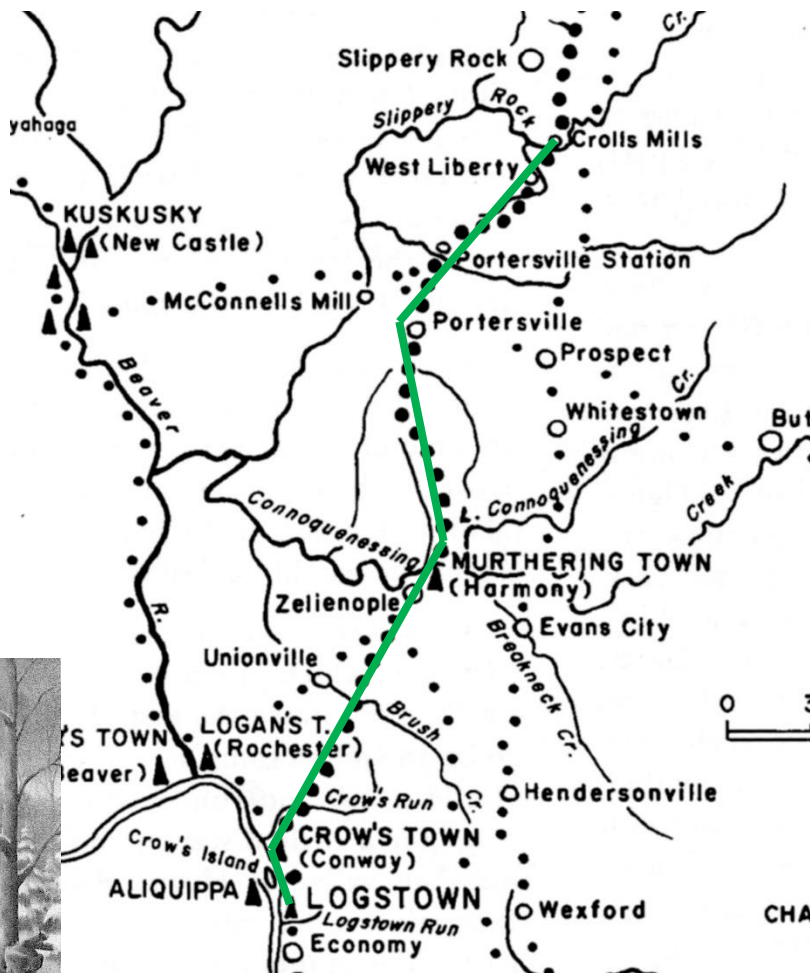
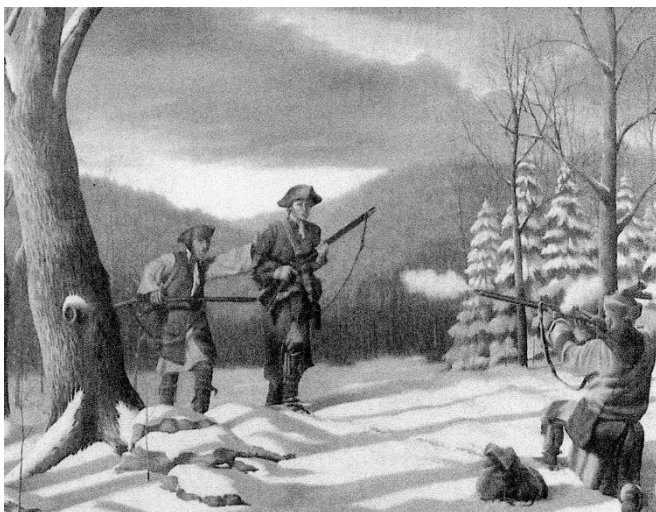


# ZELIENOPE

Early Days, Early Families

Nov. 30, 1753:

George Washington was the first person to map the Connoquenessing Creek, passing through Zelenople and Harmony to the Indian village of Murderingtown.



Logstown Indian Path

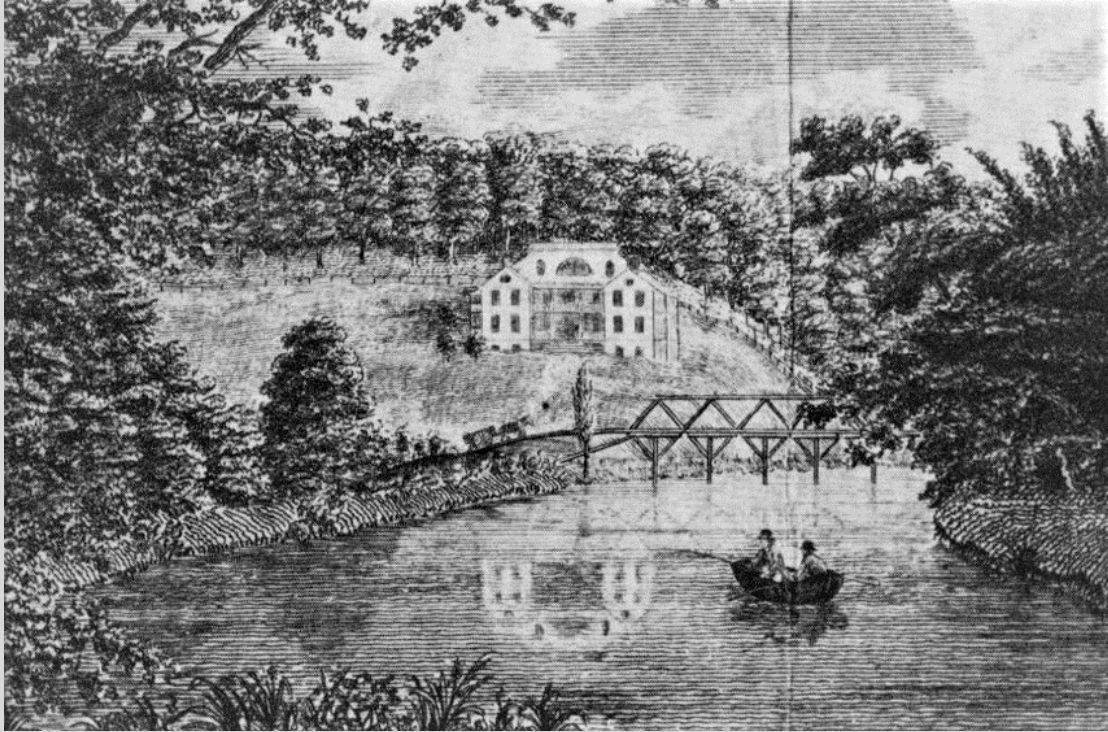


On the land owned by Dr. Amos LUSK of Zelenople, and within a few feet of his residence, a large number of flint arrow heads have been found. Within a short distance from the trail, is an unusually strong and cold spring of water." The History of Butler County 1883, page 12.

"The First Shot"

Logstown Indian Path along Jefferson St. Zelenople

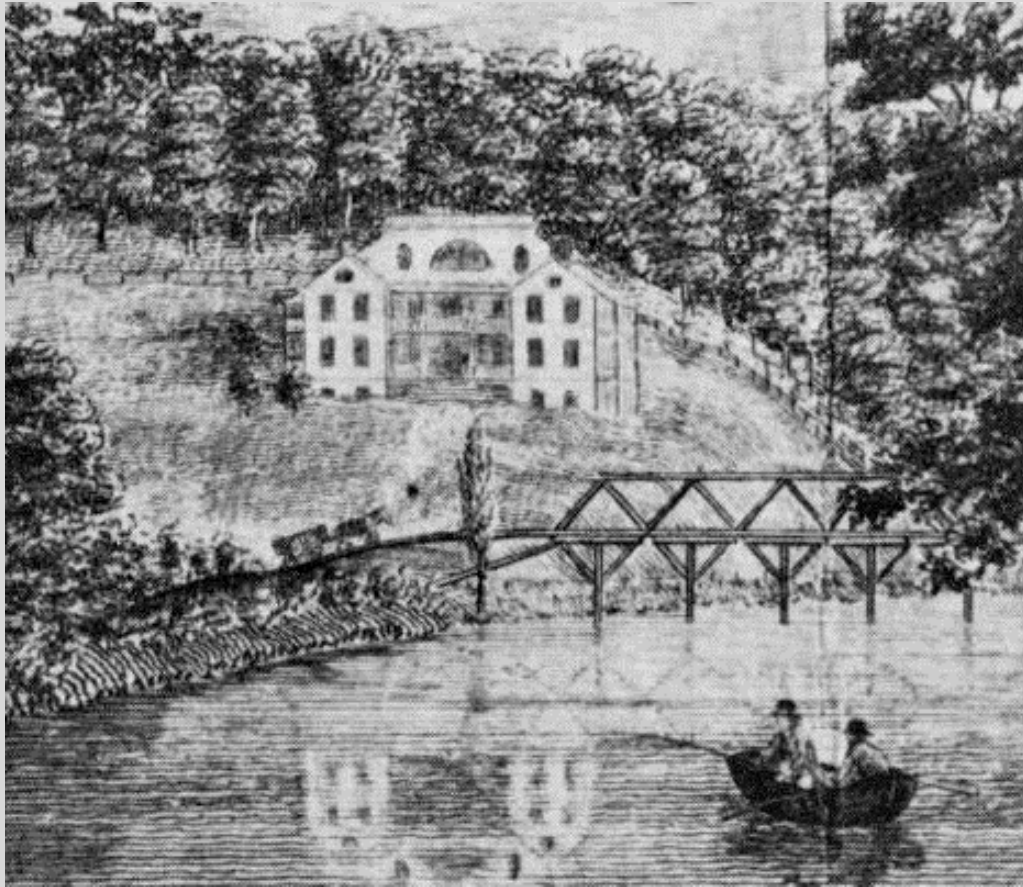




Dettmar Basse's famous Bassenheim Mansion or Castle along the Connoquenessing Creek. In 1802, he arrived on Indian trails and was the first settler of this area. The mansion took 7 years to build, using stone, bricks, and lumber from Basse's own facilities along the creek, at a cost of \$7,000.



Dettmar Basse 1762 - 1836



## July 29, 1841: Fire at the Bassenheim !!

The fire started near the roof. Most of the furniture was saved, but the structure was a total loss. At the time, it was owned by Joseph Allan.

Source: *Pittsburgh Gazette*, Aug 4, 1841. page 2 (letter written by Zelig Passavant)

*Extract of a letter to the Editor, dated*

ZELIENOPLE, JULY 31, 1841.

On Thursday, the 29th inst., about noon, the old Mansion House on Bassenheim farm, near this town, accidentally caught fire near the roof, from one of the chimnies, as it is supposed. It was occupied by Mr. Joseph Allan, present owner of the farm.

The principal part of his valuable furniture was saved, as were also the barns and other out-buildings; but the old Mansion House, which has been for more than thirty years the ornament of this neighborhood, proudly looking down from its romantic promontory on the gentle Connoquenessing and fertile rally below—Bassenheim, with which so many interesting associations are connected—was doomed to destruction by the devouring element, and the friend or way-fairing man who, in the days of the gallant Dettmar Basse, its founder, of Daniel Beltzhoover its subsequent hospitable owner, or of the manual labor school might have

“Claimed kindred there,  
And had his claim allowed,”

would find nothing now on that cherished and classic spot but a heap of smoking ruins.

M.





## Bassenheim Stones - The Joseph Allan House

The Bassenheim burned, but the foundation stones didn't. Joseph Allan was able to salvage the large foundation stones and perhaps other materials from the ruins, to build a smaller house along what is now Madison Drive. The first story of this house consists of very large foundation stones (about 200). He lived here from 1842 until his return to Pittsburgh where he died in 1865. His son Joseph Jr. resided here also.





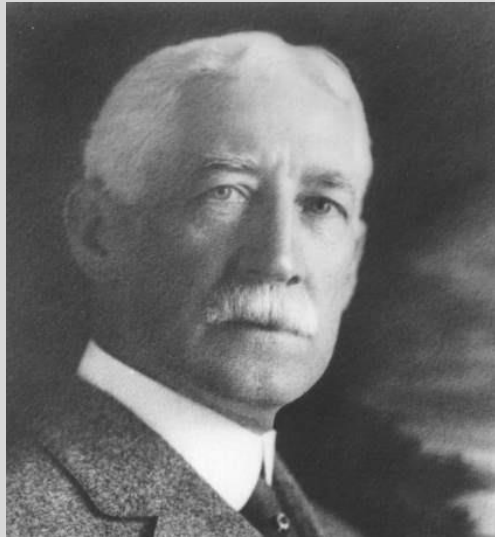
He married Frederica Dorothea Goehring of Cranberry Twp. and they raised 11 children in this home.

Christian Buhl 1776-1864 of Bavaria, Germany arrived in 1803 and built and Buhl House in 1805. He was a hatter and furrier by trade.



The house is owned by Zelenople Historical Society and is our 2<sup>nd</sup> museum site. It is the town's oldest structure.

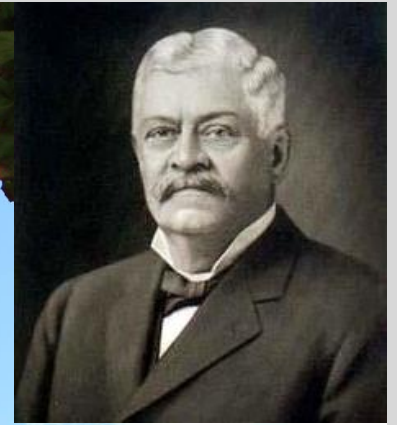




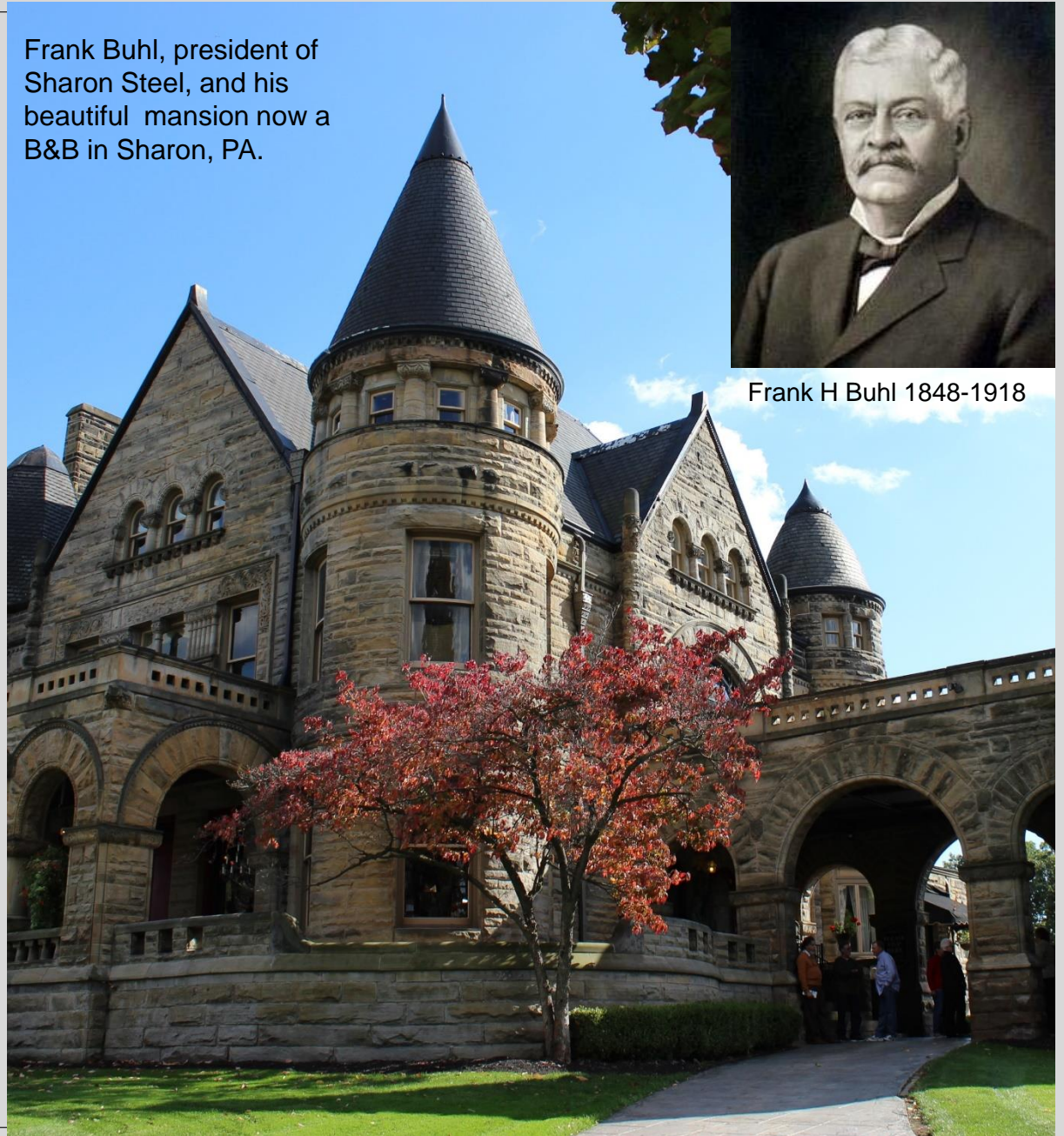
Henry Buhl 1848-1927

In 1869, grandson Henry Buhl and his childhood friend Russell Boggs borrowed \$3500 from Christian Buhl and opened a small dry goods store on Pittsburgh's north side. They built that business into a multi-million-dollar department store called Boggs & Buhl. Henry Buhl died in 1927, leaving 11 million-dollar endowment to Pittsburgh. The department store closed its doors for good in 1958 and the building was demolished in 1960.

Frank Buhl, president of Sharon Steel, and his beautiful mansion now a B&B in Sharon, PA.



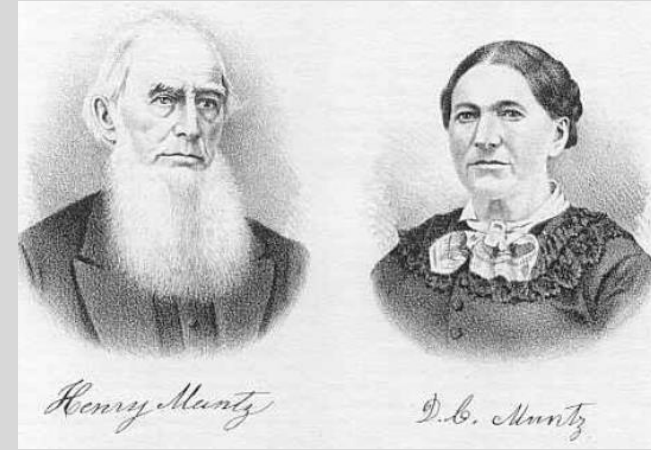
Frank H Buhl 1848-1918





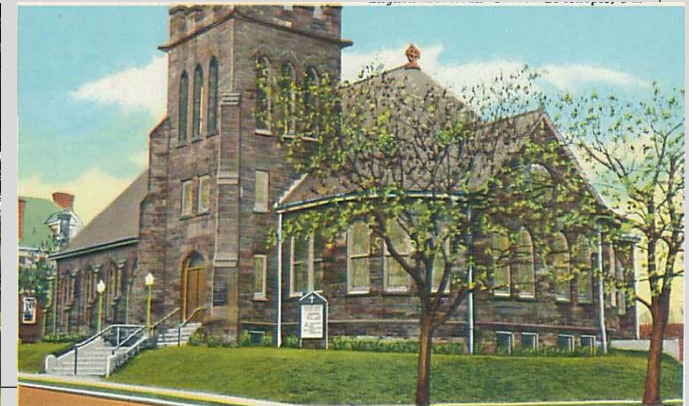


1854 Muntz House at 323 S. Main Street



1804: **George Muntz** and his wife Christina Rapp came from Germany to Harmony, and then moved to a farm just west of Zelienople along Muntz Road. George was killed in 1812 when felling a tree for fence rails

**Henry Muntz** married Catherine Dieffenbacher 1853, then built this impressive home along S. Main Street in Zelienople. He supervised the building of St. Paul German Lutheran Church in 1826, and in 1843 he was elected an elder of the newly formed English Lutheran Church. Their daughter was Zelig Muntz. Source: History of Butler Co. 1883, page 225



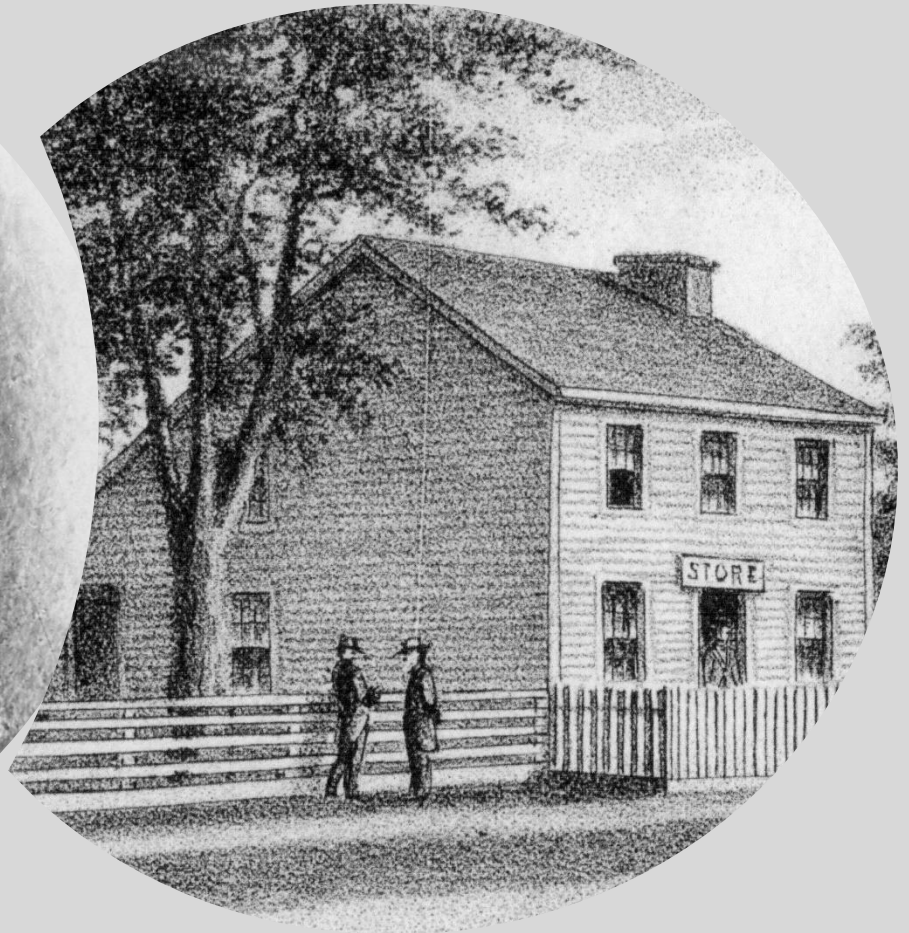




Philippe Passavant 1777-1853



Zélie Passavant 1786- 1871



Passavant's First Store 1807

1807: The Passavants came to Zélieville from France with 70 cases of household goods, over wagon roads from Philadelphia. Five weeks later they arrived at the frontier town of few people, staying at the partially completed Bassenheim until their store and personal quarters were built on Main Street.





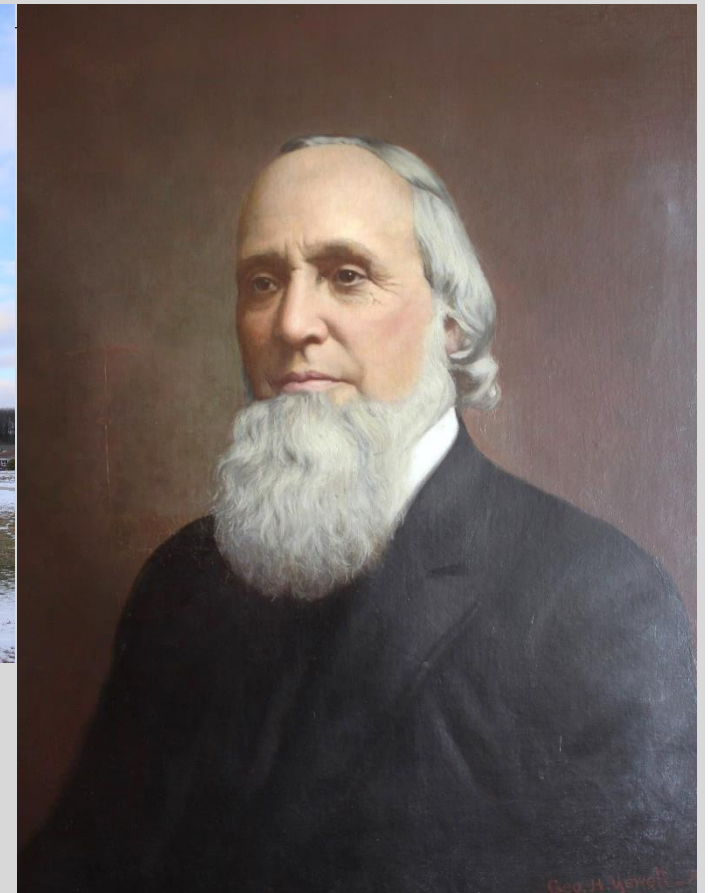
C. S. PASSAVANT.  
— DEALER IN —  
*Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware,*  
FLOUR, FEED AND GENERAL MERCHANDISE.  
HEADQUARTERS FOR IRON AND NAILS.  
ZELIENOPLE, PENN'A.

The Passavant Dry Goods Store and the 1808 Passavant House along Main St, taken about 1900

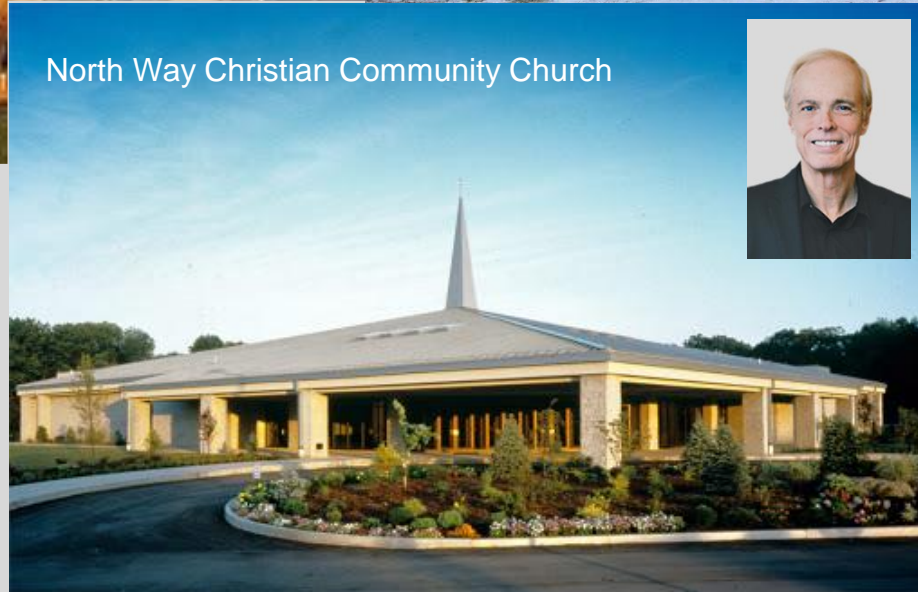


Hospitals in Chicago, Milwaukee, and North Hills, Pittsburgh.

# Passavant



North Way Christian Community Church



Philanthropists Passavants founded 40 institutions.

Rev. William A. Passavant  
1821-1894 founded schools,  
hospitals, and orphanages  
throughout the United States  
and is considered one of the  
premier leaders of the  
Lutheran Church in America.





## The 1816 Benvenue Estate - French for Welcome !

George Henry Muller 1778-1873

In 1814, George Muller arrived from Hamburg, Germany with his wife and parents and first settled in Harmony. He didn't enjoy living with the Harmonites, so he purchased 200 acres from Dettmar Basse and built this stately stone mansion by 1816. The old Logstown Indian trail traversed through his property. In 1821, the St. Paul Lutheran Church was organized in this home. In 1902, the property was bought by the Bethany Bible Society, who transcribed and printed Bibles into many languages. In 1963, the property was bought by the Hogan family who raised cattle and ran a B&B. It's located on Muller's Hill, along Rt. 68 west of town.





Burkhart's Hill - now part of South Main Street

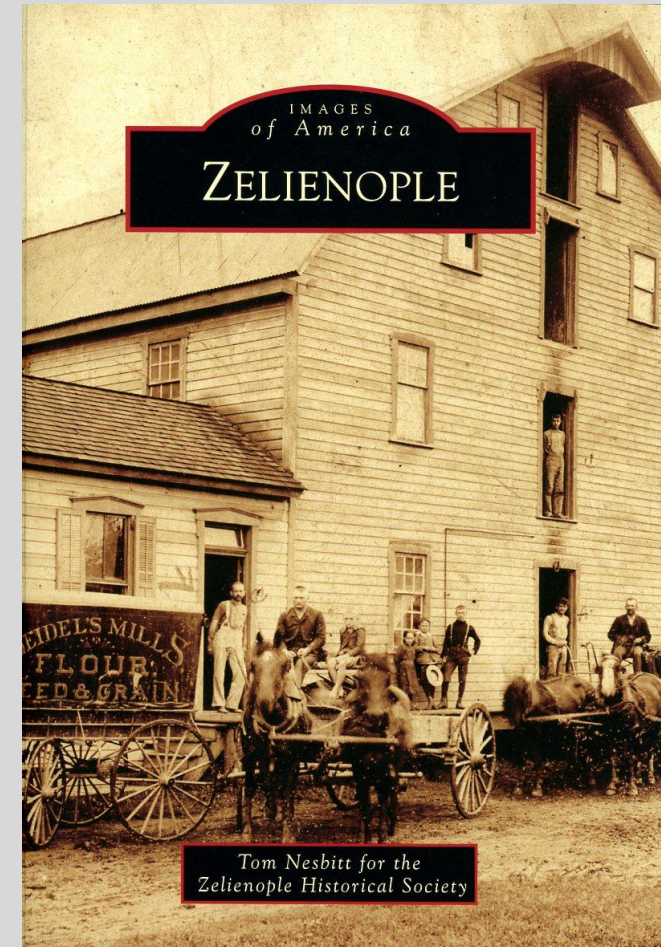
Francis Burkhart House:  
Probably the only LOG home left in Zelienople, built in 1843 by Francis Burkhart who was a charter member of the town council in 1840. Since 1892, it has been owned by the same family (Janice Black).



Duffmont – along South Main Street

Built in 1900, this house was built by Mr. Poher of Pittsburgh and later purchased by attorney Thomas C. Duff, who operated a tea-room and B & B here, calling it Duffmont. About 1935, it was the home of Thomas C. North, president of Universal Manufacturing and now the Penberthy Photography Studio.





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of America  
**ZELIENOPE**

Tom Nesbitt for the  
Zelienople Historical Society

“Images of America – Zelienople”

by Tom Nesbitt