

Kentucky's Heritage Landmarks Corridor HERITAGE TOURISM

Kentucky's Heritage Landmarks Corridor has been home to many unique characters.

Some are remembered for their pioneer spirit. Learn about Benjamin Logan who set up a fort near Stanford in 1776 to protect early pioneers from raids by the Cherokee and Shawnee. A historical marker on the grounds of Stanford Courthouse honors Logan. Visitors can view a diorama of Logan's Fort at the L & N Depot in Stanford. Early settlers often lived in or near the area's forts. William Whitley was among the first to build away from a fort. His home, built in 1785, was the first brick house located west of the Alleghany Mountains. Tours of the home are available at William Whitley House State Historic Site in Stanford.

Some are known for their wisdom and foresight. Constitution Square commemorates the men who set up early governments and worked to create statehood for Kentucky in 1792. Visitors can tour numerous buildings at Constitution Square including a log replica of the meetinghouse where the constitution was ratified over 200 years ago. Isaac Shelby was a member of the convention that drafted Kentucky's first constitution. Shelby went on to serve as the first and fifth governor. His grave can be viewed at Isaac Shelby Cemetery near Danville. William Owsley served as the 16th governor of Kentucky. His home, built in 1804 in Lancaster, can be toured. Visitors can learn more about Kentucky's forefathers at Lincoln County Courthouse in Stanford. Displays include paintings of historical figures, documents dating back to 1780, some written on sheepskin, and several historic markers. The Garrard County Jail Museum in Lancaster has displays on Kentucky's governors and other local historical items.

Some are remembered for their bravery. Marvel at the skill of Dr. Ephraim McDowell who performed the world's first successful abdominal surgery in 1809. His house and apothecary shop in Danville are open for tours. Be amazed at the bravery of Lt. Richard Caswell Saufley and PFC William B. Baugh. Saufley was the first man to fly an American plane over enemy territory and went on to set world endurance and altitude records. He was born in Stanford in 1885. A historical marker on US 150 denotes his birthplace. Saufley's grave can be viewed at Buffalo Springs Cemetery. Baugh served in the Korean War where he sacrificed his own life to save his comrades from an enemy grenade. Baugh was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his act of bravery. A historic marker, on Hwy 198, near McKinney honors his memory.

Some of the people who impacted the region's history remain faceless. Over 7,000 men lost their lives at one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War in 1868. Visitors can learn about the battle and the brave men who fought for their convictions at Perryville Battlefield State Historic Site near Perrysville. More can be learned about Kentucky's soldiers at Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park near Nicholasville. The Camp was a supply depot for the Union Army and the country's third largest recruiting center for African-American soldiers. Camp Nelson National Cemetery, located adjacent to the

Park, holds the graves of over 2,200 Civil War dead. A Civil War Monument honoring the 30 soldiers buried at its base can be viewed at Crab Orchard Cemetery in downtown Crab Orchard.

Heritage Landmarks Corridor's heritage offerings include, but are not limited to:

Danville Historic District and Constitution Square State Historic Site (859-239-7089) features a walking tour with stops at the several significant sites including the McDowell House and Constitution Square. The square commemorates the birthplace of Kentucky's statehood in 1792 at Danville, the first seat of government. Visitors can tour several historic structures on the square including the courthouse, meetinghouse, post office, jail, schoolhouse and several homes built by early settlers. Maps for the walking tour of the entire historic district, with over 80 structures on the National Register of Historic Places, are available at the Chamber of Commerce Office, Constitution Square Visitors Center and McDowell House.

McDowell House & Apothecary Shop (859-236-2804), located on Second Street in Danville, is the restored home of pioneer surgeon Ephraim McDowell. Dr. McDowell became known as the "Father of Abdominal Surgery" after removing a 22-pound tumor from the ovary of a patient in 1809. Guided tours of the house and grounds are offered.

Governor William Owsley House (859-792-2500), located on Stanford Road (US 27) in Lancaster, is a beautifully restored 1804 home. Known as Pleasant Retreat during the occupancy of the Owsley family, the three-story Federal-style home is filled with antiques and family photographs. Tours are available.

William Whitley House State Historic Site (606-355-2881) was the first brick house in Kentucky. The structure, built in 1785, served as a fortress against Indian attacks. Guests to the home included Daniel Boone and George Rogers Clark. Known as Sportsman's Hill, the estate was also home to the first circular horseracing track in Kentucky. Visitors can tour the home and view original pieces from the pioneer period. The Site is located on William Whitley Road near Stanford.

Willis Russell House (859-236-7794) is located on E. Walnut Street in Danville. The house, built prior to 1811, was bequeathed by Capt. Robert Craddick to his freed slave Willis Russell. In 1850, Russell turned the house into Boyle County's first black school. In the 1850 United States Census, Russell is listed as a teacher.

Lincoln County Courthouse (606-365-2534) is located on Main Street in Stanford. The historic structure features brick columns and marble floors. Paintings of Isaac Shelby and other historical figures are on display along with several historic markers. Records in the courthouse date back to 1780 and include genealogy papers, military documents and photographs. Some of the earliest records are written on sheepskin.

Old Centre (859-238-5469), located on W. Walnut in Danville, is the crown jewel of Centre College. Built in 1820, the classic Greek Revival building was constructed to

hold 400 students. During the Civil War, both Union and Confederate troops occupied the building. It now functions as the Centre College's administration building and features an interior furnished with fine antiques.

Garrard County Jail Museum (859-792-3065) houses historical exhibits in its two-story brick Federal-style building with wrought iron fence and staircase. Displays include history of Garrard County, the jail, Kentucky governors and the U.S.S. Garrard that saw action in the Battle of Okinawa during World War II. Visitors can also view the original jail cells. The museum is located on Stanford Street in Lancaster.

Penn's Store (859-332-7706) is the oldest country store in America run continuously by the same family. The store opened in 1845 and was purchased by the Penn family five years later. The store still sells merchandise from original display cases and countertops. Visitors can view a display of 1880s memorabilia. Penn's Store is located on Penn Store Road in Gravel Switch.

Wilmore Railroad Museum (859-858-4411), located on Main Street in Wilmore, is housed in a restored caboose that exhibits the use of railroad cars in the early 1900s. Along with the caboose's interior that is intact from the 1940s, displays include historic documents and articles dating back to 1890 regarding area people and events.

Stanford Historic L & N Depot (606-365-0207), located on Depot Street in Stanford, served as a train station until 1986. Today, the building preserves the town's railroad heritage with displays including the velocipede that ran errands on the track and the bell that alerted passengers of arrivals and departures. Visitors can also view a diorama of Fort Logan. Outside exhibits feature a caboose and railcar.

Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park (859-881-5716), located on KY 3026 south of Nicholasville, served as the nation's third largest recruitment center for African-Americans during the Civil War. Visitors can tour the Perry House, an antebellum mansion that has been restored to reflect the occupancy of the original owner and Union officers. Visitors can also view a short film that provides background information about the camp, view exhibits about the camp's soldiers and tour a network of interpretative trails.

Camp Nelson National Cemetery (859-885-5727), located adjacent to Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park on US 27, was named a national cemetery in 1868. The graves of over 2,200 Civil War dead, including 600 African-American soldiers from Camp Nelson can be viewed. The cemetery's office building, constructed in 1875, serves as the visitor's center.

Perryville Battlefield State Historic Site (859-332-8631), located off US 150 on Battlefield Road near Perryville, commemorates one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War. On October 8, 1862, over 40,000 men fought in a battle where 7,500 were lost. The battle is considered to be the most important Civil War engagement fought in Kentucky. A map outlining the battle, authentic battle artifacts and a Civil War display can be viewed in the Battlefield Museum. Visitors can take a self-guided tour of the

battlefield with eight stops. Other facilities include gift shop, monuments, nature trails and picnic shelter.

Valley View Ferry (859-258-3611) is accessible from KY 169. The oldest ferry west of the Appalachian Mountains has been in operation since 1785 and ranks as Kentucky's oldest business of record. The original ferry was in use until damaged by heavy snow in 1996. The new vessel is powered by the original engine and paddlewheel. Fantastic views of the Kentucky River's Palisades can be enjoyed from the ferry.

Buffalo Springs Cemetery (606-365-7765) is located on KY 78 near Stanford. The cemetery dates back to 1780 and contains the graves of Sophie Alcorn who taught the deaf and Caswell Saufley who pioneered Navy flight techniques. Visitors can also view the tombstones of Revolutionary War soldiers.