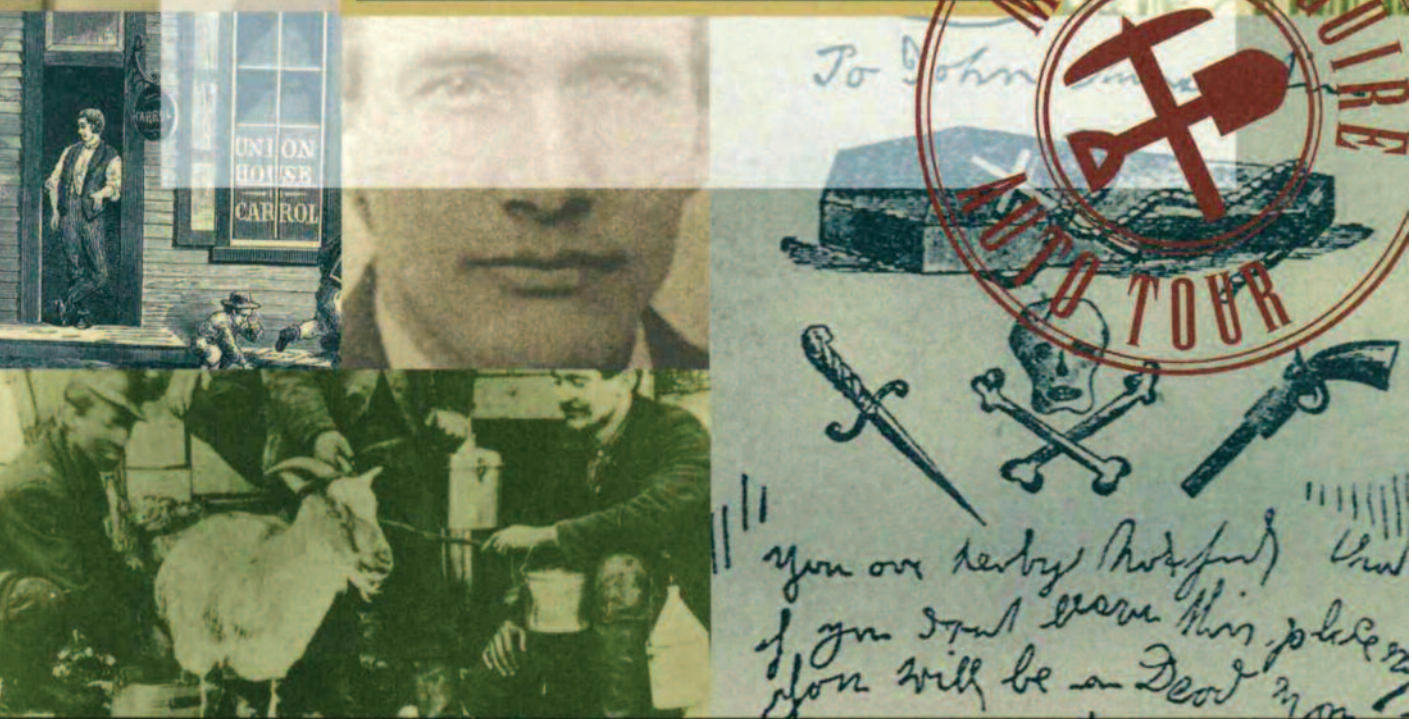


Unsolved History: THE MOLLY MAGUIRE FILES

A HISTORICAL AUTO
TOUR THROUGH CARBON AND
SCHUYLKILL COUNTIES





Villains or victims? For two decades, violence in Pennsylvania's anthracite region pointed to one thing – the Molly Maguires. In one day, ten of these Irishmen (alleged Mollies), dangled from the hangman's rope; ten more soon followed. Who were the Mollies? Some claimed they were a secret society whose members terrorized the countryside with murder, sabotage and lawlessness. Others claimed they never existed, that they were a ploy – created by the local coal monopoly and sensationalized by the press – to crush all attempts at organized labor. Historians continue to debate this chapter in our social and labor history.

As you drive the auto tour through Carbon and Schuylkill counties, you will see places that recall the violence in our story: murder and conspiracy sites and burial grounds. But this is not just a legendary story about killings, beatings and hangings. It is a story about an era that drove people to these actions, an account of real people who lived the hard life of the coal fields.

Who was Molly Maguire?

No one knows for sure, just that she started in Ireland and took on mythical proportions, becoming the Irish peasants' rallying cry for revenge against injustice. In time, Molly's name crossed the Atlantic, as did hundreds of thousands of destitute Irish fleeing the mid-19th-century potato famine for a better life in America. Many found an equally tough life in the northeastern Pennsylvania coal fields.

Motives for violence?

Twelve-hour days, unsafe working conditions, poor wages, debt, injury and disease -- it was a brutal life and death for men and boys toiling in the mines. Discrimination by non-Irish mine bosses fueled unrest. During the Civil War, when coal was in high demand, Irish miners rioted in resistance to the draft and went on strike for higher wages. After the war, lower coal prices and wages, the return of soldiers to the work force and the constant flow of new immigrants led to a rash of robberies, assaults and murders.

Help for the miners?

In 1868 the miners formed their first trade union, the Workingmen's Benevolent Association (WBA). The union helped give labor a voice with management when it came to negotiating wages and hours. The WBA, with its Irish and British members, adamantly opposed violence as a means to help the workers, and therefore condemned the alleged Molly Maguires.

Management's point of view?

Another outcome of the Civil War was large coal companies and railroads acquiring smaller operators and creating monopolies. Before long, the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, under the leadership of Franklin B. Gowen, essentially controlled the production and distribution of Schuylkill County coal. With that much at stake, the company could not tolerate labor unrest whatsoever, whether from the Mollies or trade unions. With the state's authorization, the Philadelphia and Reading formed a private police force. Its Coal and Iron Police became the watchdog of the local collieries, rails and patch towns.

Who was the spy McParlan?

Gowen stepped up his crusade against the suspected Mollies in October 1873, when he directed the Pinkerton Detective Agency to infiltrate the secret society. The most notorious spy was James McParlan, known as James McKenna around the coal fields. For two-and-a-half years, he lived, worked and fraternized among the Irish miners. They made him a

member of their fraternal organization, the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH), and in time, allegedly inducted him into the Molly Maguires. From the inside, McParlan gathered evidence that would send many "friends" to the gallows.

A fatal strike?

During the national depression of the 1870s, Gowen convinced the other coal operators to cut wages and to abolish the minimum wage. The WBA could not possibly accept these terms and called for a strike. During the six months of the "Long Strike," begun in December 1874, a minority of workers lashed out at the coal companies, burning down breakers and overturning coal cars. The violence strengthened Gowen's case for associating organized labor with the Molly Maguires, and therefore, for destroying the union. As summer approached, starving miners agreed to send in the WBA to renegotiate terms with Gowen. He refused to recognize the union, which effectively collapsed. By July, miners reluctantly returned to work, forced to accept wages 26.5 percent below 1869 levels! Anger, frustration, grievances and no union to help -- the makings for more violence.

Trials or travesty?

With information leaked by McParlan to the Coal and Iron Police, more than 50 members of the AOH -- all presumed to be Molly Maguires -- were indicted for murder and conspiracy. In the trials of the 1870s, not a single Irishman sat on the "jury of their peers." The police who arrested the accused and the lawyers who prosecuted them worked for the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. The primary witness was the Pinkerton spy McParlan, whose own involvement in the conspiracies may have crossed legal lines. Unreliable testimony of fellow defendants, who turned state's evidence to save their own necks, helped to convict the accused. Historian Harold Aurand says the only thing the state provided in the legal process was the courtroom and the hangman. In the end, 20 alleged Mollies were convicted and hanged for 16 murders that took place in the coal region between 1862 and 1875.

Villains or victims?

You now hold the files for what remains unsolved history. This brochure will help you keep the facts straight and navigate the auto tour on the accompanying tape. Use the map and cast of characters in the back of the brochure for reference. Record your notes in the back of the book also. After you have heard and seen the story, you decide. Were the Mollies villains or victims?



A HISTORICAL AUTO TOUR
THROUGH CARBON
AND SCHUYLKILL COUNTIES

The tour, a round-trip loop, can begin from either the Jim Thorpe Train Station (Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Landing and Visitors Center) or at the Schuylkill County Visitors Bureau (open Mon-Fri) next to the Quality Hotel in Pottsville. When closed, the tape can be purchased at the front desk of Quality Hotel. **This page is the starting point for Pottsville.**

DEPARTURE POINT: Pottsville

The Quality Hotel, Centre (Rte. 209) and Mahantongo Streets, also the location of the Schuylkill County Visitors Bureau.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

Before leaving The Quality Hotel, please turn on the tape for an introduction that will explain how the tour works. You will hear our narrator, who will set the stage for the Molly Maguire Auto Tour. Your journey will take anywhere from three to eight hours, depending upon how often you stop. You'll find restaurants, gas stations and restrooms on the way. Turn on the tape now.

The following icons will help you to identify quickly the major events at each site. Use this key as a guide to their meanings.

HANGING	MURDER	GRAVE	CONSPIRACY	RESIDENCE	CHURCH	RAILROAD	MONOPOLY	UNION

SITE
Schuylkill County Prison

ADDRESS
Sanderson Street

TOWN
Pottsville

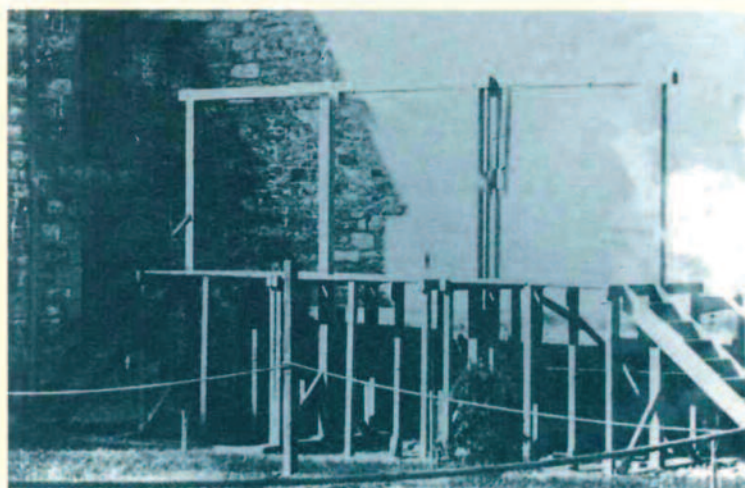
EVENT

DIRECTIONS FROM TUSCARORA

From Walnut Street in Tuscarora, turn left on Catawissa Street at the stop sign. Turn right on Route 209 South and proceed approximately 12 miles to Pottsville. Stay on Route 209 as you cross the intersection of Route 61. Turn right on Centre Street (South 209). Continue on Centre Street to Laurel Boulevard. Turn left onto Laurel. Turn right onto Second Street (first right). Proceed one block and turn left onto Sanderson Street. The Schuylkill County Courthouse is on the left and the Schuylkill County Jail is on the right.

DIRECTIONS FROM POTTSVILLE DEPARTURE POINT

From The Quality Hotel, continue on Centre Street to Laurel Boulevard. Turn left onto Laurel. Turn right onto Second Street. Proceed one block and turn left onto Sanderson Street. The Schuylkill County Courthouse is on the left and the Schuylkill County Jail is on the right.



TOP The gallows in the Schuylkill County Prison yard, June 21, 1877. Historical Society of Schuylkill County

Schuylkill County Courthouse where many accused Molly Maguires stood trial in the 1870's.

Historical Society of Schuylkill County

Inside the curved stone wall, six alleged Molly Maguires were hanged June 21, 1877: James Boyle, James Carroll, Thomas Duffy, Hugh McGeehan, Thomas Munley and James Roarity. Three more hangings followed: Dennis Donnelly, Martin Bergan and John Kehoe. The courthouse in which they were tried used to stand across the street in the parking lot of the current Schuylkill County Courthouse.

14
Schuylkill County
Prison

July
Striking mine workers return to work, forced to accept reduced wages. WBA is effectively broken. See site #17 for related information.

July 6
Police officer Benjamin F. Yost killed in Tamaqua. See sites #7, #8 and #12 for related information.

August 14
Thomas Hurley avenges Edward Cosgrove's death by killing Welsh-American miner Gomer James in Shenandoah. See site #18 for related information.

SITE

Franklin B. Gowen residence

ADDRESS

605 Mahantongo Street

TOWN

Pottsville

EVENT



DIRECTIONS

Leaving the prison, continue on Sandersen Street to Laurel Boulevard. Turn left onto Laurel Boulevard. Proceed three blocks and turn right onto Centre Street. Follow Centre Street three blocks to Market Street. Turn right onto Market Street and continue to Fifteenth Street. Turn left onto Fifteenth Street. Continue two blocks and turn left on Mahantongo Street. Proceed on Mahantongo, looking for a parking spot on the street close to the 600 block.

Franklin B. Gowen lived in this prominent house while serving as district attorney and then counsel to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad (P&R RR) Company. He moved to Philadelphia's Mt. Airy section in 1864 to serve as chief counsel to the P&R RR. As president of the company, Gowen was responsible for leading the railroad into the coal business and for putting a price on the heads of the reported Molly Maguires who stood in his way.

RIGHT Franklin B. Gowen, President of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad and the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.
Historical Society of Schuylkill County



Benjamin Bannan, editor of the *Miners' Journal*, Pottsville.
Historical Society of Schuylkill County

Constructed in 1905, this building post-dates the Molly Maguire era, but it continues to tell the story of the 19th-century coal and railroad monopoly that crushed anything in its path, including early unions and the alleged Molly Maguires.

SITE

Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company Building

ADDRESS

200 Mahantongo Street

TOWN

Pottsville

EVENT



DIRECTIONS

From the 600 block of Mahantongo Street continue driving down the hill a few blocks to the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Co. building, at 200 Mahantongo Street. You may park in the metered parking lot on the right-hand side of the street at the corner of Second Street, across from the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company building.



"Halt, shouted Linden." Philadelphia and Reading Coal and iron Police, the coal and railroad monopoly's private police force, trying to prevent a strike. As depicted in Allan Pinkerton's *The Molly Maguires and the Detectives* (1877).
Used with permission, Pinkerton Inc.

1875

September 1

Mine foreman Thomas Sanger and miner William Uren killed at Raven Run

September 3

Mine superintendent John P. Jones killed in Lansford
See sites #5 and #9 for related information.

December 10

Wiggins Patch massacre, Ellen O'Donnell McCallister and Charles O'Donnell killed
See sites #10 and #20 for related information.



1876

Series of arrests, trials and convictions of Molly Maguires
See sites #1 and #14 for related information.

March 7

His safety in jeopardy, James McParlan, alias McKenna, flees from the coal region. Returns to testify.

SITE
Walker's Hall

ADDRESS
corner of Hancock and North
Front Streets

TOWN
St. Clair

EVENT



DIRECTIONS

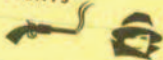
To reach St. Clair from Pottsville, continue on Mahantongo Street to Centre Street. Turn left onto Centre Street and proceed one block to Norwegian Street. Turn right onto Norwegian Street. Proceed two blocks and turn left onto Route 61 (Claude Lord Boulevard). Follow Route 61 North approximately 2 miles. At the fifth traffic light on Route 61 North, turn right onto Russell Street and follow into St. Clair. Proceed one block and turn left onto Second Street. At the second traffic light, turn right onto Hancock Street. Go one block and turn right onto Front Street. The first building on the left is Walker's Hall. Park your car.

SITE

Shenandoah:
Edward Cosgrove murder
site and McParlan's base
of operations

TOWN
Shenandoah

EVENTS



DIRECTIONS

To proceed to Shenandoah, continue on Front Street one block, then turn right onto Carroll Street. Proceed to Second Street and turn right. Follow Second Street to Route 61 North to Frackville. In Frackville, where Route 61 turns left (to Ashland), stay straight. This is now Route 924 North. Continue on Route 924 North for approximately three miles to Shenandoah.

At the last light in Shenandoah, you will see the Anthracite Miners Memorial to your right. Proceed through the light and up the hill on Route 924. Make the first left turn at the crest of the hill, entering Shenandoah Heights. Continue on this road about 1/2 mile. Immediately after the Locust Mt. Nursing Home on your left, turn left onto Pennsylvania Avenue (sign posted to "West Mahanoy Township Municipal Building"). Continue on Pennsylvania Avenue approximately 0.2 miles. Turn left into Municipal Building parking lot and overlook.

The Workingmen's Benevolent Association (WBA), the first significant miners' labor union, organized here in 1868 and elected John Siney its president. The WBA opposed the alleged Molly Maguires because of their violent tactics. Nonetheless, the WBA, too, was crushed by Gowen's Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.



James McParlan taking the secret oath of initiation into the Molly Maguires, 1874. As depicted in Allan Pinkerton's *The Molly Maguires and the Detectives* (1877). Used with permission, Pinkerton Inc.

RIGHT Pinkerton Detective James McParlan, known as "McKenna" in the coal fields. Historical Society of Schuylkill County

From the overlook you can see several sites associated with the Molly Maguire story. In 1873 at the southwest corner of Main and Centre Streets, Welsh-American miner Gomer James shot and killed Irishman Edward Cosgrove. James was acquitted of the crime on grounds of self-defense. The Welsh Baptist Church, where James attended, is located on the northeast corner of West and Oak Streets. Directly below and to the right, Irishman Thomas Hurley allegedly murdered Gomer James at a picnic in Glover's Grove on August 14, 1875. Plans for this revenge revealed the inner workings of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) and McParlan's role as a spy in its Shenandoah Division. Hurley was never captured, but seven so-called Molly Maguires were convicted of conspiracy to reward him for the assassination.

At the far eastern end of town (mid-field) was the site of the Indian Ridge Colliery, where undercover Pinkerton detective James McParlan, alias McKenna, worked for a short time upon his arrival in Shenandoah. Muff Lawler's Tavern was located at 437 West Coal Street (between Gilbert and Catherine Street), directly below you and one street south. The original tavern building, since replaced, served as McParlan's hang-out and first residence in Shenandoah. McParlan then boarded at a house in the 1000 block of West Coal Street, located to the west, and attended church where the white spire of Annunciation Church can just be seen over the top of Fr. Cizek School (West Cherry Street and Chestnut).

1877

June 21
"Day of the Rope"
or "Black Thursday" --
ten Irishmen hanged:

at Mauch Chunk -
Alexander Campbell for the Morgan Powell and John P. Jones murders; Michael J. Doyle and Edward Kelly for the John P. Jones murder; John Donahue for the Morgan Powell murder
See site #1 for related information.



1878

at Pottsville -

James Boyle, James Carroll, Thomas Duffy, Hugh McGeehan, and James Roarity for the Benjamin F. Yost murder; Thomas Munley for the Thomas Sanger and William Uren murders

See site #14 for related information.

March 25

Patrick Hester, Peter McHugh and Patrick Tully hanged at Bloomsburg for the Alexander Rea murder

The corner building was the tavern of John Kehoe, alleged Molly Maguire ringleader and Schuylkill County delegate to the AOH. Pinkerton detective McParlan met here with this powerful local Irishman several times. In 1878, Kehoe was hanged in Pottsville for the 1862 murder of Frank W. Langdon, ticket boss for the J.H. McCreary Colliery at Honeybrook. Langdon died three days after the June 14 assault on him in Audenreid. For 15 years the case was not tried.



John Kehoe's Hibernian House, circa 1870s.
Historical Society of Schuylkill County



Breaker Boys working on the picking floor of the Hammond Colliery, Girardville.
Reading Anthracite Company Historical Library

SITE
Hibernian House
ADDRESS
21 Beech Street
TOWN
Girardville
EVENT



DIRECTIONS

From Shenandoah, exit to the right from the Municipal Building parking lot onto Pennsylvania Avenue. At the first stop sign, turn right on Schuylkill Avenue. Proceed to the next stop sign and turn right onto Route 924 (Main Street). Proceed to Centre Street (Route 54 west) and turn right. As you're making the turn, outside the bank building on the corner to the left in front of you is where the 1873 murder of Edward Cosgrove occurred. Continue west on Route 54 about six miles through the mining villages of William Penn and Lost Creek until you come to the town of Girardville. Route 54 will turn right and become Mahanoy Avenue. Continue on Mahanoy Avenue to Second Street (St. Vincent de Paul Church is on the corner). Turn left and proceed one block and turn right on Beech Street. Follow Beech Street one block to the end of the street. The Hibernian House stands on the left at 21 Beech Street.

SITE
Wiggans Patch Massacre
ADDRESS
State Road 4030
TOWN
Wiggans Patch
EVENT



DIRECTIONS

When you leave the Hibernian House, turn left at the end of Beech Street and left on Line Street. Follow Line Street to Ogden Street and turn left on Ogden. Proceed one block to Second Street. Turn right on Second Street and proceed to Main Street. Turn left on Main Street in Girardville. This street eventually turns into a single lane highway (State Road 4030), taking you east through the communities of Mahanoy Planes and Gilberton. Stay on this road, passing the intersection to 924, one mile to an old coal mining village named Wiggans Patch. Beware of the dangerous curves in the road! An abandoned house on the left was the home of the widow Margaret O'Donnell.



The original St. Nicholas Breaker, near Mahanoy City, erected 1858.
Reading Anthracite Company Historical Library

In this house of the widow Margaret O'Donnell, two innocent victims were killed December 10, 1875, during a vigilante raid intended to kill certain "Molly Maguires." The unintended victims were her children, Ellen O'Donnell McAllister and Charles O'Donnell, who were siblings of Kehoe's wife. Both were buried in old St. Jerome's Roman Catholic Cemetery in Tamaqua.

1878

March 28
Thomas Fisher hanged at Mauch Chunk for the Morgan Powell murder
See site #1 for related information.

June 11
Dennis Donnelly hanged at Pottsville for the Thomas Sanger and William Uren murders

December 18
John Kehoe hanged at Pottsville for the Frank W. Langdon murder
See site #14 for related information.

21 The Emerald House



The Emerald House, Michael Clark, proprietor, as depicted in Allan Pinkerton's *The Molly Maguires and the Detectives* (1877). The original building appeared at this location on Beers' 1875 *Atlas of Schuylkill County*. Used with permission, Pinkerton Inc.

Mickey Clarke's tavern, The Emerald House, was a conspiracy site in the Molly Maguire story. According to McParlan, on June 1, 1875, members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians met here and plotted the murders of Jesse and William Major and William "Bully Bull" Thomas. The aim was to settle Daniel Dougherty's grievance with them, following his false arrest and trial for the George Major murder. After an attack on Thomas, several AOH members were convicted of conspiracy.

SITE
The Emerald House
ADDRESS
324-326 West Centre St.
TOWN
Mahanoy City
EVENT

DIRECTIONS

After passing the Wiggins Patch Massacre Site, continue east on State Road 4030. State Road 4030 becomes Route 54 (about 1/2 mile past site). Continue east on Route 54 into Mahanoy City, where it is called Centre Street. Park the car as close as possible to 324-326 West Centre Street. Get out of the car and take the map with you to find the Emerald House. After viewing the site, return to your car.

22 St. Canicus Church



"A withering curse rest upon it, and upon all in any way connected with it." The Catholic Church condemning the Molly Maguires. As depicted in Allan Pinkerton's *The Molly Maguires and the Detectives* (1877). Used with permission, Pinkerton Inc.

The Irish faced strong anti-Catholic sentiment when they immigrated to America and St. Canicus Church stood at the center of this clash in Mahanoy City.

The Catholic Church played an important part in the Irish anthracite community and in the Molly Maguire story. The Church condemned the suspected Molly Maguires for being an unlawful, secret society, and eventually threatened to excommunicate them. Philadelphia and Reading President Franklin B. Gowen called Philadelphia Archbishop Wood his confidant, which likely influenced the Church's strong anti-Molly stand.

SITE
St. Canicus Church
ADDRESS
Catawissa & Pine Streets
TOWN
Mahanoy City
EVENT

DIRECTIONS

From 324-326 Centre Street (site 21), drive two blocks east on Centre Street to Catawissa. Turn right on Catawissa and proceed one block to the empty lot on the corner of Catawissa and Pine Streets. This was the site of St. Canicus Irish Catholic Church. (A more recent church building and school stand across the street.)

1879

January 14
James McDonnell and Charles Sharp hanged at Mauch Chunk for the George K. Smith murder

January 16
Martin Bergan hanged at Pottsville for the Patrick Burns murder

October 9
Peter McManus hanged at Sunbury for the Frederick Hesser murder

SITE
George Major murder site

ADDRESS
Southeast corner Main and
Railroad Sts.

TOWN
Mahanoy City

EVENT

DIRECTIONS

When you leave the St. Canicus Church site, turn left onto Pine Street and proceed 3 blocks to Main Street. Turn left on Main Street and cross over Centre Street (one block). Pull over into the alley (Railroad Street) on your right just before the railroad trestle. This corner of Main and Railroad Streets is the site of the George Major murder. Park the car and walk around if you like.



Coffin notice, a death threat from the Molly Maguires.
Historical Society of Schuylkill County

Both the Irish and Welsh/German firefighting brigades came out when a fire started just on the other side of the railroad bridge. They got into a brawl. Trying to restore order, Burgess George Major was shot on October 31, 1874. The wrong "Molly," Daniel Dougherty, was arrested and eventually acquitted when the case went to trial in Lebanon County. But his life was threatened by William and Jesse Major and William "Bully Bull" Thomas. According to McParlan, Dougherty sought assistance from the AOH during a meeting at the Emerald House, a gathering which led to conspiracy convictions for the alleged Molly Maguires.

This was the last site for this half of the tour. Whether you started the tour in Jim Thorpe or Pottsville, it's now time to proceed to the Jim Thorpe Train Station. Continue on the alley (Railroad Street) one block to the stop sign and turn right. Turn left onto Centre Street (Route 54). Stay on Route 54 East which merges with Route 209 North at the Borough of Nesquehoning into Jim Thorpe (approximately 25 miles). You'll find the Jim Thorpe Train Station on your left. When you get there, continue the tour if you departed from Pottsville. Turn to site #1 (Old Jail Museum) in this brochure. If you started in Jim Thorpe, you have completed the tour.

1889

December 13
Franklin B. Gowen, former president
of the P&R, commits suicide.
See site #15 for related information.

1919

May
James McParlan dies in Denver,
Colorado
See site #18 for related information.

1979

January 12
Pennsylvania Governor Milton J. Shapp
posthumously pardons alleged Molly ring
leader John Kehoe, executed in 1878
See site #19 for related information.



Note: Numbers after names denote related sites.

Bannan, Benjamin (#16)

Editor of the *Miners' Journal*, a Pottsville newspaper. His personal anti-Catholic and anti-union views influenced his journalistic stance against the Molly Maguires.

Beard, Samuel (#9, #12)

Tamaqua citizen instrumental in capturing Doyle, Kerrigan and Kelly shortly after the 1875 Jones murder in Lansford.

Boyle, James (#3, #14)

Summit Hill AOH member. Hanged at Pottsville June 21, 1877, for the 1875 murder of Tamaqua police officer Benjamin F. Yost.

Campbell, Alexander (#1, #2, #3, #5, #13)

Storm Hill (Lansford) AOH treasurer and tavern owner. Hanged at Mauch Chunk June 21, 1877, for the 1871 murder of Morgan Powell and the 1875 murder of John P. Jones, both Welsh mine superintendents.

Carroll, James (#7, #14)

Tamaqua AOH treasurer and owner of the Union House Tavern, allegedly a conspiracy site for planning of the Benjamin F. Yost murder, for which Carroll hanged in Pottsville June 21, 1877.

Cosgrove, Edward (#18)

Shenandoah AOH member, killed in 1873 by Welsh-American miner Gomer James, acquitted on self-defense.

Donahue, John "Yellow Jack"

(#1, #2, #6, #10, #13)

Tuscarora AOH bodymaster and miner convicted in several conspiracy cases and executed at Mauch Chunk June 21, 1877, for the 1871 murder of mine superintendent Morgan Powell.

Donnelly, Dennis "Bucky" (#14)

Raven Run AOH bodymaster and miner hanged in Pottsville June 11, 1878, for the murders of Thomas Sanger and William Uren.

Dormer, Pat

AOH member and owner of the Sheridan House in Pottsville, a tavern where undercover Pinkerton Detective James McParlan first entered the coal fields.

Dougherty, Neil (#13, #21, #23)

Tuscarora miner who served nine years in prison for second-degree murder in the 1862 murder of mine foreman Frank W. Langdon.

Doyle, Michael J. (#1, #5, #9, #12)

Mt. Laffee AOH member and miner hanged at Mauch Chunk June 21, 1877, for the 1875 murder of mine superintendent John P. Jones.

Duffy, Thomas (#6, #8, #10, #14)

Tamaqua AOH member and Buckville Colliery engineer hanged at Pottsville June 21, 1877, for the 1875 murder of police officer Benjamin F. Yost. Allegedly, Yost previously had beaten Duffy during an attempted robbery.

Fisher, Thomas (#2, #3)

Carbon County AOH delegate, miner and later owner of the Rising Sun Hotel in Summit Hill. Hanged at Mauch Chunk March 28, 1878, for the 1871 murder of mine superintendent Morgan Powell.

Gowen, Franklin B. (#15, #22)

President, Philadelphia and Reading Railroad and Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. Built the railroad and coal monopoly and protected it by hiring the Pinkertons to help suppress violence and early labor unionism in the coal fields. Committed suicide in 1889.

Hartranft, John F.

Governor of Pennsylvania during the period of the Molly Maguire trials. Controversy surrounded his allegedly promising pardons to the Mollies in exchange for Irish support during his election.

Hurley, Thomas (#18)

Shenandoah AOH member, allegedly killed Welsh-American miner Gomer James and participated in the Sanger and Uren murders and the Thomas shooting. Fled the region, escaping trial and the gallows.

Jones, John P. (#1, #3, #5, #12)

Welsh superintendent of the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre mine in Lansford, killed on his way to work, September 3, 1875.

Kehoe, John "Jack" (#6, #11, #13, #14, #19)

Alleged ring leader of the Molly Maguires, AOH delegate for Schuylkill County, High Constable of Girardville and owner of the Hibernian House in Girardville. Hanged in Pottsville December 18, 1878, for the 1862 murder of mine foreman Frank W. Langdon. Pardoned posthumously.

Kelly, Edward (#1, #5, #9, #12)

Mt. Laffee AOH member and miner hanged at Mauch Chunk June 21, 1877, for the 1875 murder of Tamaqua police officer Benjamin F. Yost.

Kerrigan, James (#8, #9, #12)

Tamaqua AOH bodymaster and miner. Informer whose testimony saved his neck from the hangman, but helped convict several Mollies in the Yost and Jones killings.

Lawler, Michael "Muff" (#18)

Shenandoah tavern owner and AOH bodymaster. Informer in the trial for the 1875 Thomas Sanger and William Uren killings in Raven Run. Although found guilty of conspiracy, did not serve prison time.

Linden, Robert J.

Pinkerton Detective and captain of the Philadelphia and Reading's Coal and Iron Police, who assisted the undercover agent McParlan, as needed.

Major, George (#21, #23)

Welshman and Mahanoy City burgess, killed October 31, 1874, during a riot between Irish and Welsh/German fighting brigades.

Major, Jesse (#18, #19)

Brother of the slain burgess George Major. With brother William Major and William "Bully Bull" Thomas, attacked AOH member Daniel Dougherty, acquitted of murdering the burgess. In return, several Molly Maguires conspired to kill the Major brothers and Thomas.

Major, William (#21, #23)

See Major, Jesse. William Major actually wounded the accused Daniel Dougherty with gunfire during the October 31, 1874, brawl in which Burgess George Major was killed.

McParlan, James (#18, #19)

Alias "James McKenna," undercover spy employed by the Pinkerton Detective Agency. Infiltrated the "Molly Maguires" to gather evidence to bring them to justice and end violence in the coal region.

McAllister, Charles (#20)

Mistakenly suspected of the 1875 Sanger and Uren murders. Escaped the vigilante assault on the Wiggans Patch home, but his wife Ellen O'Donnell McAllister and her brother Charles O'Donnell were killed. McAllister acquitted at the trial. The true culprit, his brother James McAllister, fled the coal region.

McAllister, Ellen O'Donnell (#10, #20)

An innocent victim in the 1875 Wiggans Patch massacre. Wife of Charles McAllister and sister-in-law of John Kehoe.

McGeehan, Hugh (#3, #14)

Summit Hill AOH member and miner hanged at Pottsville June 21, 1877, for the 1875 Benjamin Yost murder.

Munley, Thomas (#14)

Gilberton AOH member and miner hanged at Pottsville June 21, 1877, for the 1875 murders of Thomas Sanger and William Uren.

O'Donnell, Charles (#10, #20)

Allegedly participated in the Sanger and Uren murders, for which he and his sister Ellen O'Donnell McAllister were killed in a vigilante raid at their mother's Wiggans Patch home.

Pinkerton, Allan (#15)

Founder and President of the Pinkerton National Detective Agency who approached Gowen with the idea of placing undercover operatives in the coal region to expose the secret Irish society.

Powell, Morgan (#1, #2, #3, #4)

Welsh superintendent of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company in Summit Hill. Murdered on a main street through town December 2, 1871.

Roarity, James (#14)

Coaldale AOH bodymaster and mine laborer, convicted in the Thomas, Major and James conspiracy, and hanged in Pottsville, June 21, 1877, for the Yost murder.

Sanger, Thomas (#13)

Cornish foreman at the Cuyler Colliery at Raven Run, murdered on his way to work September 1, 1875.

Siney, John (#17)

St. Clair founder and first president of the Workingmen's Benevolent Association, the beginning of unionism in the anthracite region.

Slattery, John J. (#13)

Tuscarora AOH member, turned informer in the Majors conspiracy case and implicated John Kehoe in political corruption.

Thomas, William "Bully Bull" (#21, #23)

See Major, Jesse.

Uren, William (#13)

Cornish miner, murdered with mine superintendent Thomas Sanger on the morning of September 1, 1875.

Wood, Archbishop James Frederic (#22)

Leader of the Philadelphia diocese who supported Gowen's efforts to rid the coal region of the Irish secret society, threatening to excommunicate AOH members from the Catholic Church.

Yost, Benjamin F. (#7, #8, #12)

Tamaqua police officer slain in the early hours of July 6, 1875, while extinguishing a gas lamp. Five Molly Maguires hanged for the killing.

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