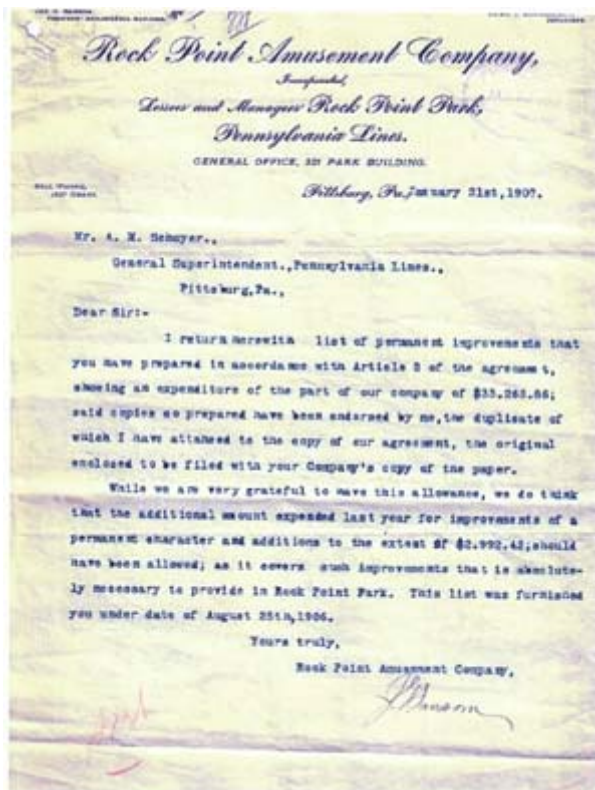


An early topographic map of the Rock Point area. Dated 1904. This view is oriented with south at the bottom.

From [Maptech Historical Maps](#) - click here to [view entire quadrangle](#)

Documents



1907 Letter/Report to the General Superintendent, Pennsylvania Lines (PRR) from James Sansom, President of the Rock Point Amusement Company, describing improvements to the park in 1906.

Women's Cottage	1,338.40
Men's Cottage	1,421.88
Photograph Gallery	1,038.73
Four kitchens to lunch pavilion	959.74
Peristyle building	13,769.66
Base ball grand stand	2,800.00
Athletic grounds	127.84
Underground sewerage and plumbing	2,250.00
6" C.I. sewerage from hotel to main line	140.00
Five hose racks, hose & fire plugs	144.00
Dancing pavilion fire line	52.00
Fire hose valve on water tank	6.00
Springing hose rack on water tank	30.00
Power pump	340.00
Chain drive	77.00
Wire fence	471.46
Fire walks	601.48
Electric pole line on property	650.00
Small lunch and package room	700.00
Novelty shop building	285.00
New pump house	275.00
Boat house	326.00
Power Pump house	89.00
Locker under music stand in large dance pavilion	120.00
Water tank and tower	870.00
Additions to hotel - store-rooms & kitchens	290.00
* large dancing pavilion	2,281.50
* small dancing pavilion now used as dining pavilion	1,473.00
* dining pavilion other than the four kitchens	609.47
Total	\$58,822.88

Addendum to the above report, showing the cost of improvements. 1906

Mr. State Building
 227 Broadway St.
 Edward City No. 12117

Pennsylvania
 Office of the General Superintendent
 Pittsburgh, Pa. Mar. 21, 1899.

Mr. L. F. Loree,
 General Manager.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of March 2, and returning the inclosures, relative to improvements, additional facilities, etc., at Rock Point picnic grounds:

Rock Point park consists of 140.3 acres, purchased in 1884, 1886 and 1887, costing..... \$17,846.42
 Grading of park and walks up Connoquessing creek in 1884, cost..... 7,963.37
 Grading of ground around stone hotel, 1886, cost..... 2,250.00
 Iron foot-bridge over Connoquessing, 1886, cost..... 1,418.00
 Buildings and other improvements, 1884-7, cost..... 7,452.12
Total..... \$27,470.91

Following is a summary of the business by years since the resort opened:

Year.	Passengers.	Revenue.	Year.	Passengers.	Revenue.
1884	22209	\$ 8,731.00	1888	38724	\$ 20,207.50
1885	24211	12,654.00	1889	Classed	---
1886	37001	14,806.88	1894	36107	17,502.20
1887	37208	17,007.88	1895	48332	22,008.40
1888	36902	22,745.32	1896	48333	23,430.10
1889	48606	30,770.12	1897	25617	25,465.88
1890	42239	40,280.45	1898	28617	15,240.88
1891	66422	31,889.20	TOTAL SIXTY		\$206,272.35

The greater part of this business was from Pittsburgh and immediate vicinity; while all of it can be said to be from territory within 85 miles of the grounds.

The large falling off last year was due principally to the opening of the new resort at New Castle - Cascade Park.

1899 report showing park improvement costs and railroad ridership for prior years.

April 11, 1922, Beaver Falls Tribune

ROCK POINT

ROCK POINT PARK LEASED.
 King's Creek Quarry Company Reported to Have Leases on Old Park Site

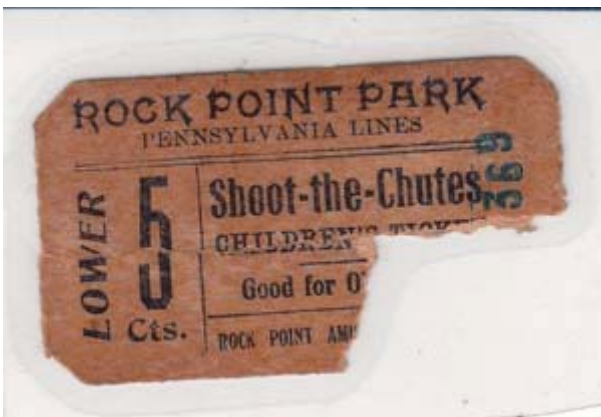
Announcement has been made by E. E. Reese of New Cumberland V. Va. local manager of the King's Creek Quarry company that their concern has been successful in leasing from the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. 100 acres of land at Rochester Point Park for the purpose of producing Beaver Valley sandstone. The firm is a corporation and has been in the quarrying business for a period of 13 consecutive years. Their water activities have been carried on in King's Creek V. Va. where they have large quarries. Work has already begun at the local quarry and practically all remaining buildings of old Rock Point have been removed. Thirty men are already engaged in doing the work of the company which has several large contracts for stone for bridge building purposes. A large quantity of the present production is being shipped to Pittsburg for use there. With this announcement by Mr. Reese all rumors to the effect that Rock Point would again be opened and set at rest. If present plans for the company are carried out Ellwood City will be the headquarters of the thriving stone industry

1922 Beaver Falls Tribune news release describing the leasing of the Rock Point property to the King's Quarry Company. Sadly, the document describes the removal of practically all remaining Park buildings by the firm's workers.



Stock certificate from the Pittsburgh, Youngstown, & Ashtabula Railway Company issued in 1969 for 10 shares of preferred stock at \$100 per share.

Artifacts



Ride ticket for the Shoot-the-Chutes ride. Children's ticket - 5 cents!



Reverse of ticket above.



Glass box souvenir from Rock Point Park. Approximately 4 inches across. It is part of the collection in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



Ruby glass souvenir cup. Approximately 4 inches tall. It is part of the collection in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



A similar, but much smaller, ruby shot-size glass. Approximately 1.5" tall.



Collection of "Ruby Flash" glass souvenirs displayed at March '08 Friends of Rock Point Park meeting at the Ellwood City Historical Society.



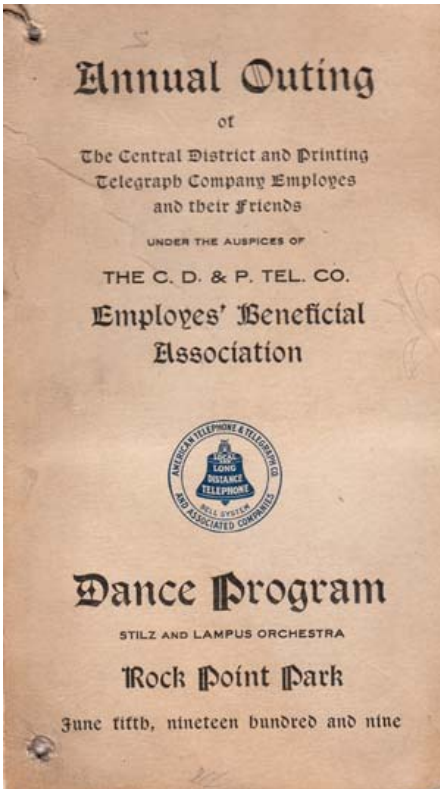
A "cream-glass" souvenir cup depicting the Peristyle. This cup holds approximately 6 ounces and is 5 inches tall.



An ivory colored glass vase depicting a scene from Rock Point Park at the Connoquessing Creek Bridge. Approximately 8 inches tall. It is part of the collection in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



An ivory colored glass vase depicting a scene from Rock Point Park at the Peristyle building. Approximately 8 inches tall. It is part of the collection in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



Dance program card from 1909. Produced for the company outing of the CD&P Telephone Company. It is part of the collection in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



Inside of the above dance card. It is part of the collection in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



Funhouse mirror thought to have been used in one of the arcade buildings, or possibly the Dance Hall. It is now housed in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



Original gas lamps once used to light the evening walkways at the park. The glass shade is thought to be approximately 12 inches tall and 8 inches in diameter. They were unearthed by an investigator using a metal detector in the mid-1980s. The whereabouts of these fixtures is unknown.



A dues reminder card sent by the Mason's Union to a Rock Point Park worker - 1898. It is part of the collection in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



Reverse of above card. It is part of the collection in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



Oil lanterns used on the Ellwood City lorry (see picture on lower left). It is part of the collection in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



Windows once installed in the main Dance Pavilion. They were removed by a worker after one of the major fires which occurred after the park permanently closed. After being stored for a couple years, they were then used in the construction of this garage in 1915. The garage, originally built as a laundry room, still stands in the Park Gate area.



These ice cream cones, made at a Rock Point Park ice cream concession stand, have been preserved by a local family for nearly 100 years. They now reside in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum.



Newspaper photo of Mrs. Tilia, who owned the cones. From the Ellwood City Ledger, June 20, 1985.

The Old Matheny Inn



The Matheny Tavern (Inn) at Rock Point. Begun in 1836 by Moses Matheny, it was completed in 1837 by Aaron Metheny (son of Moses Matheny).



The ruins of the Matheny Inn (along the former Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Canal) beside the Beaver River. This photograph is thought to have been taken in the 1930s.

[\[how it looks now\]](#)



Another photo from the same series. The person in the picture is Al Pogozelec, uncle of contributor Bob Sutkowski. Recently deceased, Al celebrated his 100th birthday in 2005.



Another photo from the same series. This scene is looking north through one of the crumbling window openings.



A postcard showing park visitors preparing to board the train for the ride home. The Matheny in can be seen in the background. Probably from 1890.

[\[how it looks now\]](#)



The original brass door handle from the Matheny Inn, circa 1836. This handle was discovered in the 1930s, and was put into use by the finder as a handle for his shop door. It was passed on to the finder's son, who then used it for *his* shop door. It finally landed in the Ellwood City Historical Society Museum last year, where it will remain.



A handsaw given to Moses Matheny by George Washington's survey crew. It is thought that this saw was used in the construction of the Matheny Inn. It dates back to the mid 1700s. It is now framed, and in the possession of a descendant of the Matheny family.

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