

Your Visit to Pennsbury Manor

Welcome! We are delighted you have chosen to visit Pennsbury Manor. There are lots of things to see and do before and/or after your tour. This guide is designed to help you sort through all your options, decide how you want to explore Pennsbury with your students, and make the most of your visit today. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance during your visit. Thank you!

The Basics

- Restrooms are located in the Visitor Center and in the Picnic Pavilion. (There are no restrooms in the historic area.)
- Our Gift Shop is open from 9-5. We have many items appropriate for students. Please be aware that students must be accompanied by an adult. If you are bringing a large group to the shop, it is always helpful to have the children have their money ready before they come to the register. This speeds along check-out for all students!
- There are picnic tables inside and outside the Picnic Pavilion. Fully equipped modern restrooms are also located inside the Pavilion. We do not recommend picnicking on the river lawn due to the large number of Canada geese that frequent the area!

Exhibit Gallery

We encourage you to visit our award-winning exhibit located in the Visitor Center. A teacher's guide to the exhibit is included in this packet.

Historic Area Signage

New outdoor signs have been placed in the historic area in the following locations:

- Worker's Cottage
- Stable
- Kitchen House (formerly called the Bake and Brew)
- Manor House (on the side porch)
- Kitchen Garden (upper entrance by Kitchen House)

Cell Phone Tour

Put your cell phone on speaker and share more stories about Pennsbury with your students!

Look for cell phone tour signs in these locations-

1. Visitor Center (outside back door)
2. Boat House
3. Crozier House
4. Kitchen garden
5. Kitchen House (formerly called the Bake and Brew)
6. Manor House (next to gate leading to front door)
7. Mounting Block (behind Manor House)
8. Necessary (behind Manor House)
9. Canoe (on river lawn)
10. Cemetery (in river pasture near Manor House)
11. Stable
12. Blacksmith Shop (behind Stable)
13. Reconstruction (on path next to Worker's Cottage)

Exhibit Guide for “The Seed of a Nation”

Our exhibit is organized around several main themes:

The World of William Penn

Penn’s Founding Ideals

Penn’s Family

Remembering Penn



After each theme is introduced, an activity idea for students is suggested.

The World of William Penn

Penn was born into wealth and privilege, but his life changed dramatically when he became a Quaker. Quaker beliefs were quite different from other established religions. They believed God spoke to each person directly and as a result, did not think it was necessary to have a minister or priest lead them in worship. Quakers were considered to be religious dissidents and were frequently persecuted for their beliefs.



Locate the large picture of Quakers in worship and study it carefully. Is this a flattering image of Quakers? Why would someone portray Quakers in this way?

Penn’s Founding Ideals

Penn offered religious toleration for all who came to Pennsylvania. Other American colonies excluded some religious groups.



What does “religious toleration” mean? Find the scrolling list of different religious groups that came to Pennsylvania and count how many different religious groups are represented.

Penn also offered the people of Pennsylvania a voice in how the colony would be governed. He could have set himself up with King-like power, but he chose a representative government instead.



Locate the puzzle in the shape of Pennsylvania and discover how Penn’s founding ideals helped shape the government of the United States.

Penn had a friendly relationship with the Lenape Indians, and is recognized for his fair treatment of Native Americans. Wampum, which was carved from shells, was highly valued as a means of personal expression. The wampum belt in our exhibit is a reproduction of the original, which was said to be a gift presented to Penn as a gesture of friendship.



Study the design of this wampum belt, and upon returning to your classroom, use the wampum belt template provided in this packet to design your own wampum belt. What would you show? What would it mean?

Penn's Family

Penn needed settlers with many different skills to build his new colony and to do the work at Pennsbury. Not all were here by choice. During the late 17th century Quakers had different opinions about owning slaves. Some were early abolitionists while others believed it was okay to own slaves as long as they were not mistreated. We know the names of five slaves here at Pennsbury; Yaff, Sam, Sue, Peter, and Jack. In the 17th century, everyone who lived or worked at Pennsbury, including slaves, were referred to as “family”.



Locate the life-cast figures in the display “A Summer Day at Pennsbury, 1700” and read the story of Jack and Parthenia.

Remembering Penn

William Penn’s ideals of religious tolerance, diversity, and representative government are reflected in America today. After many years of neglect, renewed interest in William Penn’s legacy led to the reconstruction of Pennsbury Manor in the 1930s.



Take a look at all the different products that have used the image of William Penn. Think about why his image would be used for advertising. What does the use of Penn’s image say about his legacy? When you return to your classroom create an advertisement for a product of your choosing that uses the image of William Penn

More ideas for now or later...



Pack your trunk!

What would you bring if you were traveling with William Penn to the new colony of Pennsylvania? Why?



What is your story?

America has been called a nation of immigrants. What does that mean to you and your family?



Promote Pennsylvania!

Create an advertisement for colonists to come to William Penn’s new colony.



My day at Pennsbury Manor...

Think about what you saw at Pennsbury Manor today. Do you have a favorite object? Place? A story about someone who lived or worked here? Write about it. Draw a picture. Tell a friend.

So much work to do!!

This simple activity uses scripted dialog to learn more about who was doing the work at Pennsbury Manor, and can be done here at Pennsbury Manor, or as a follow-up activity in the classroom upon your return to school. (You can visit each location in any order.)

Location – Kitchen House (workroom for laundry)

Teacher: Today is a very busy day! The washerwoman, Elizabeth Seale, has come up from Philadelphia to do the laundry. It is a big job, and she will need other workers at Pennsbury to help her. The Governor has several slaves who will be helping all week with the laundry - Sam, Sue, Peter, Jack, and Yaff.

Student: In William Penn's time, some Quakers owned slaves, while other Quakers thought it was wrong to own another person. The first protest against slavery in America took place at the Germantown Meetinghouse in 1688, but it was not until 1780 that Pennsylvania finally passed a law to end slavery. It was the first law passed against slavery in the United States.

Location - Kitchen House (at the door to the cooking kitchen)

Teacher: We have come to the cooking kitchen to talk to the cook and find out how the meal preparations are going today.

Student: I don't have much time to talk. I must have enough food ready for everyone on the estate and it must be served by early afternoon. That's when everyone eats their biggest meal of the day. The governor has special guests today. There's a diagram on the table showing what we are cooking and where it will be placed on the table. Mistress Penn wants the table to look just right!

Teacher: We won't keep you long. I wonder what the gardener is providing for the meal.

Location - Kitchen Garden (anywhere in the garden)

Teacher: How does thy garden fare?

Student: I am happy to report that all is well. There will be lots of fruits and vegetables this season, plus enough to preserve so that we have enough to eat during the winter. We are also hanging the plants we use for medicine on the rack to dry, so there will be enough to take care of us should we fall ill or get hurt. Last week I cut myself with my ax while chopping firewood. Mistress Penn made a paste from the yarrow plant and put it on my cut to stop the bleeding.

Teacher: There are many other plants used for medicine in this garden such as mint for an upset stomach and betony for a headache. But some plants used in medicine, such as cloves, can't be grown here at Pennsbury and must be purchased at a market.

Location - Stable/Barn (can go through the entry and stand in the barnyard)

Teacher: I have been told that the Governor has a large stable with many sheep and horses, but I only see a few sheep. The Governor is supposed to have 16. Where are the other sheep and the rest of the animals?

Student: The Governor and his family are out on their horses. The sheep and the rest of the horses are out in the woods. We let them roam wherever they want. The Governor's horses and livestock are marked so we can identify them. The sheep are brought in when it is time to shear off their wool. We only have one ox right now and he can't do as much work since he is working alone, so I will ask the Governor to purchase a new team of oxen for plowing. There is much work to do, but at least we are not troubled by rats and mice! Our cats do a great job of catching them.

PENN POP QUIZ (Have some fun on the ride back to school!)



1. William Penn was granted the Charter of Pennsylvania by
 - a. King Arthur
 - b. George Washington
 - c. King Charles II *

2. William Penn came to his colony in 1682 on the
 - a. the Titanic
 - b. the Black Pearl
 - c. the Welcome *

3. How long did it take for William Penn to travel from England to Pennsylvania?
 - a. about 2 months *
 - b. 1 week
 - c. 25 days

4. The Native American Indians who lived in eastern Pennsylvania were the
 - a. Lenape *
 - b. Hopi
 - c. Cleveland

5. What was the name of William Penn's first wife?
 - a. Hannah
 - b. Gulielma *
 - c. Mary

6. What was the name of William Penn's second wife?
 - a. Hannah *
 - b. Gulielma
 - c. Mary

7. William Penn was the father of how many children?
 - a. 3
 - b. 15 *
 - c. 8

8. What nickname was William Penn given by the Lenape Indians?
 - a. Billy Boy
 - b. King of the World
 - c. Onus *

9. What was the main "avenue" of transportation in colonial Pennsylvania?
 - a. Route 13
 - b. Delaware River *
 - c. Pennsylvania Turnpike

10. William Penn wore a wig because
 - a. It was common for wealthy gentlemen to wear wigs
 - b. He lost most of his hair after he had smallpox as a young boy
 - c. Both of the above *

PENNSBURY OR PHILADELPHIA?

Some foods and beverages were readily available at Pennsbury Manor, by either growing the ingredients needed for the recipe here, or by using common household supplies, such as flour to make bread. Other items always needed to be purchased. Hannah Penn, William Penn's wife, kept an account of what was needed at the manor, and wrote many letters to James Logan, the Governor's secretary, asking him to purchase items in Philadelphia that were needed at Pennsbury. There were also markets located in Burlington, which was just a short boat ride across the Delaware River, and Hannah could send household servants to shop. Fresh foods were only available for purchase according to the season, but could be preserved for later use in the winter.

Quiz your students using the chart below. Was the item grown or made at Pennsbury, or did it have to be purchased in Philadelphia?

ITEM NEEDED	GROWN or MADE AT PENNSBURY	BOUGHT IN PHILADELPHIA
Apples	X Cider was a popular beverage. Apples are crushed and then squeezed in a cider press to make apple juice.	
Rosemary	X Herbs were used to add flavor.	
Chocolate		X Hot chocolate was made by adding grated chocolate to hot water. After mixing it thoroughly, sugar and other spices, such as pepper, were added.
Cheese	X Milk was preserved as butter and cheese. Fresh milk was generally not available in the winter.	
Cinnamon		X Cinnamon comes from the bark of a tree that only grows in a tropical climate.
Mutton	X Besides providing wool, sheep were also a source of food. Their meat could be preserved by salting, smoking, or pickling.	
Beans	X Dried beans were a common food in winter because they were easy to preserve.	
Lemons		X It is too cold in Pennsylvania to grow lemons.
Sugar		X Most of the sugar used in the 17 th century came from islands in the Caribbean.
Tea		X Tea and other spices such as cinnamon and nutmeg were so expensive they were kept in a locked box or cabinet.
Chicken	X Chickens were used for their meat and for fresh eggs.	
Eggs	X Fresh eggs were not available in the winter, but could be pickled and preserved until the hens began laying eggs again in the spring.	

Name: _____

