Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape

SUCCESS STORY

By: Lehigh County Parks

SAYLOR CEMENT KILN RESTORATION

SUMMARY- The project included preservation of the West #1 kiln, new aesthetically pleasing security fence and new educational signage.



CHALLENGE—How to preserve Saylor Kilns for future generations to see and learn about the early days of the cement industry here in Lehigh County and how it contributed to our nation's industrial revolution. As with most historic preservation projects they are very costly and adequate funding is always the major challenge.

FUNDING

Grant Reimbursement: \$426.23

Match: \$24,375.68

Total Project Cost: \$24,801.91

PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

Partnering with the D&L to produce the new educational signage in the park allowed Lehigh County to complete the finishing touches on this locally significant historic preservation project.







SOLUTION- A majority of the funding for the kiln preservation came from a Save Americas Treasures grant and Lehigh County. This funding we used for the engineering specifications, mortar repointing and other structural preservation need on the West #1 kiln. Also, new modern security fence was installed to improve the look of the park, keep the public at a safe distance and to protect the kilns from trespass. The D&L Mini Grant funding for updated design and purchase of 3 low profile interpretive sign panels titled, Last of Their Kind, Saving the Kilns and Coplay Made Cement was instrumental in allowing Lehigh County to complete the overall project.

RESULTS

- Of the 9 kilns that remain standing, 1 (one) West #1 kiln was preserved.
- 537' of 6' high, Black Aluminum-Guard Municipal grade aluminum was installed.
- -3 low profile interpretive signs were installed providing visitors with historical information, such as:
 - * Coplay was the birth place of the modern cement industry;
 - * These kilns are the world's only remaining continuous fire vertical kilns; and
 - * The kilns are on the National Register of Historic Places.

Contact



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