

# Susquehanna Pastimes

For generations, the Susquehanna has provided both local residents and venturesome travelers with a host of leisure-time activities.

In 1877, the Columbia and Port Deposit Railroad began carrying passengers to this area, then known as Shoff's Resort, developed by local businessman Frederic Shoff. Many vacationers came from Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, and Washington. A few journeyed from Europe.

In 1901 Shoff opened the Riverview Hotel, a three-storied structure, which hosted a wide array of guests, including Jack Dempsey and Calvin Coolidge. Visitors to the hotel enjoyed rides on a miniature narrow-gauge railroad, short trips on a steamboat, a game of billiards, a stroll in the woods, carriage rides, target shooting, croquet, ballroom dancing, and fine dining.

Frederick Shoff's Pequea and York Furnace miniature railroad began operating at the Riverview Hotel in 1911.  
Courtesy The Conestoga Area Historical Society



The Riverview Hotel (front view), owned by Frederic Shoff, was constructed in 1903  
Courtesy The Conestoga Area Historical Society

Members of the Tucquan Club of Lancaster, PA, enjoying the moment at a summer picnic, circa 1912.  
Courtesy The Conestoga Area Historical Society



"Tucquan Lake," on the Susquehanna River at Pequea. Early 20th century hand colored photograph printed on a postcard.  
Courtesy The Conestoga Area Historical Society



www.baygateways.net

Lancaster - York Heritage Region  
Susquehanna River Water Trail

This project was completed with generous financial contributions from the following project partners:  
National Park Service, Chesapeake Bay Gateway & Water Trails Network  
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation  
J&J Contractors, Gaming Center & Wildlife Park Property  
Lancaster County Planning Commission

East Donegal Township  
Millersville University  
PA, Millersville LLC  
Berkley  
York Harbor Water Power Corporation  
The John W. Long Company

Interpretive Exhibits  
Major Towns

MASON-DIXON LINE  
PA  
MD

Havre de Grace  
Chesapeake Bay