



Winter Events | **Inside Martin Guitar** | Civilian Conservation Corps and Our State Parks  
The Automat: Horn and Hardart | Plenty to See at The Frick | Replenishing Presque Isle Sand

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021 | VOL. 44, NO. 1

# Pennsylvania

magazine

JAN./FEB. 2021 \$4.50  
0 2>



0 71896 00012 2



# Contents

January/February 2021 | Vol. 44, No. 1

## FEATURES

### 20 Pickin' Pedigree

Martin Guitars, favored by musicians worldwide, have been crafted in Pennsylvania since 1839

BY GINNIE LODGE

### 26 Black & White

A photography essay featuring winter's stark contrasts

### 34 The CCC Legacy

The Civilian Conservation Corps provided work during the Great Depression and helped to reforest and develop state parks in Pennsylvania

BY CINDY ROSS

### 40 Tales from the Gilded Age

The Frick complex showcases art, fashion and transportation at industrialist's former home

BY HILARY DANINHIRSCH

## EVERY ISSUE

4 NEWS & VIEWS

5 MAILBOX

6 HOT SHOT: EDITOR'S CHOICE I

8 HOT SHOT: EDITOR'S CHOICE II

10 ROUND UP:

The first U.S. Automat opened in 1888 in Philadelphia, portrait of a male northern shoveler, Lois Hamilton—a recorder of soldiers' stories, weekend getaway to Coudersport and Potter County

46 WINTER EVENTS CALENDAR

48 BOOK REVIEWS

50 TOWN & COUNTRY

Annual sand replacement at Presque Isle beaches

51 DID 'JA KNOW?

Is That My County? Part Two

**ABOUT THE COVER:** Timothy Lambert has been at Martin Guitar in Nazareth, Northampton County, for more than nine years. Ginnie Lodge's tour of the iconic guitar maker begins on page 20. CANON EOS 77D, 75.0 MM, F/4.0, ISO 800, 1/500 S

**THESE PAGES:** Joe Endy of Sinking Spring photographed this American kestrel in Lancaster County at the Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area in January 2019. He observed it as it hunted the fields, and when it unexpectedly flew nearby, he was able to obtain this closeup.

CANON EOS 80D, 600.0 MM, F/7.1, ISO 400, 1/1250 S





The background of the page is a dark, rich wood-paneled wall, likely from a historic building. On the right side, there is a framed painting depicting a group of people in 18th-century attire. A man in a blue coat stands on the left, a woman in a bright orange gown sits in the center, and another man in a brown coat stands on the right. A small child is also visible. They are in a grassy field with a large tree and a distant building in the background.

# *Tales from the Gilded Age*

The Frick complex showcases art, fashion  
and transportation at industrialist's former home

by Hilary Daninhirsch, photographs courtesy of The Frick Pittsburgh





Frick Art Museum visitors view painting "Sir Joshua Vanneck and His Family," which Arthur Devis created in 1752 in London. This painting and others that are part of the Frick collection are viewable with detailed information online at [artsandculture.google.com](https://artsandculture.google.com).







**T**HE GILDED AGE IS ALIVE AND WELL IN POINT BREEZE, a quiet residential Pittsburgh neighborhood that was once the home of noted industrialist Henry Clay Frick. Within a city that today is a hub for education, medicine and technology, The Frick Pittsburgh museum complex pays homage to the region's industrial heritage when Frick was at the helm. Mostly known for being a key player in creating the Steel City, Frick was also a noted art patron and collector of carriages and automobiles.

His home rests on five and a half picturesque acres and is a tranquil oasis in the heart of an otherwise bustling city. The property features a car and carriage museum, an art museum and Frick's Italianate mansion, Clayton, alongside a café, greenhouse and museum store. Plans are in the works to open the historic Frick family children's playhouse to the public. The cozy scale of the museum complex makes it easy to digest in a pleasant afternoon.

## A Family's Story

**AT THE FRICK, STORIES** are told about Pittsburgh's past, its connection to the world today and how one family lived at the height of the city's industrial age. The Frick tells its stories via nearly 12,000 objects from its collections. Clayton, built in 1870 and enlarged in 1892, accounts for 10,000 of those. In fact, an astounding 94 percent of objects in Clayton are original and date to a time when Frick's daughter, Helen, occupied the mansion at the end of her life.

"Clayton is really a time capsule of her family's holdings," Executive Director Elizabeth Barker explains.

(left, top) Clayton, the family mansion, contains some 10,000 objects from the Frick family, and almost all of them are original to the property. (left, middle) A boy receives an inside view of one of the automobiles on display at the Car and Carriage Museum. (far left, bottom) When Henry Clay Frick purchased "Still Life with Fruit" by Jan van Os (1769) in 1896, it was his first venture into collecting old masters. (left, bottom right) The Frick greenhouse was built in 1897 and was used supply 30 vases of cut flowers that adorned the home. (top right) The parlor at Clayton with its Turkish-styled furniture is where visitors would be entertained.



"It is largely unchanged since 1892," Dawn Reid Brean, associate curator of decorative arts, says. "It's really grand and is almost overwhelming in its impressiveness."

The museum uses the family's life experience as a springboard to tell a broader societal story about this bygone time and to showcase how one family lived during Pittsburgh's golden industrial manufacturing era. Yet the stories also provide a connection to present day.

"We want to use our collections and resources to make the Frick relevant to more people," says Amanda Gillen, director of learning and visitor experience.

## Fashion Focused

**HELEN, WHO SHARED HER** father's strong interest in art, was the force behind creating an art museum on the property. A year after Helen's death, the Frick began to host traveling art exhibits of traditional paintings connected to what was in the permanent collection.

"It is interesting to think of the Pittsburgh roots of one of the great art collections in the U.S.," Barker says.

Recently, the Frick has started what Brean calls a "more ambitious line of programming to connect to social history and popular history."

One of the things that make The Frick Pittsburgh so unique is its focus on fashion, drawn from its own textile collections, as both Helen and her mother were highly interested in

fashion. Over the years, the younger Frick saved a great deal of the family's clothing, from underwear to ball gowns. This focus on fashion is also a way for the museum to carve out a unique niche.

As for whether Helen would have supported such an endeavor, Brean says, "I think she understood the power of artifacts and how they can tell history from a different perspective."

Previous traveling exhibits celebrating fashion have included "Killer Heels," an homage to shoes; "Undressed," an underwear exhibit that came straight from the Victoria and Albert Museum in London; and most recently "Maker & Muse: Women and Early 20th Century Art Jewelry." On the horizon for this spring is an exhibit featuring Mexican painter Frida Kahlo and how she defined herself as an artist through fashion. Another exhibit planned for the summer will showcase women's athletic fashion as a springboard for examining women in sports and their changing role in society.

## Going Virtual

**MUSEUMS HAVE SUFFERED DURING** the pandemic, and the Frick is no exception. In normal times, the museum welcomes more than 120,000 visitors a year from throughout Pennsylvania and the world.

Since COVID-19 hit, the Frick, in collaboration with several other regional museums, used a grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation to develop a means for delivering







a livestreamed tour of the campus. The platform is interactive and allows visitors to ask questions of the docents.

"It gives people, while stuck at home and who live far away, the opportunity to experience something that feels as personal as an in-person visit," Barker says.

Other programming has also shifted online, including the summer concert series and readers' series. Even when the Frick was able to open its grounds and select buildings with timed tickets for a brief period in the fall, the digital platform continued.

"We want to keep doing this even after we can open," Gillen says, noting that it allows schoolchildren and people from around the world to experience the Frick virtually and is in alignment with the museum's focus on expanding engagement with its visitors.

"We can reach schools in Pennsylvania that are just too far to drive to the Frick for a field trip," she says.

## Two Anniversaries

**THE FRICK CELEBRATED TWO** anniversaries in 2020. The Frick Art Museum opened in



Visitors enjoy the grounds (top) at The Frick Pittsburgh and the Car and Carriage Museum (above).

1970, and Clayton opened to the public in 1990 after a six-year restoration process. The dual anniversary year made the Frick staff more introspective, especially about how it could better serve the community.

"We want to think a lot about the next 50 years and what are the stories we want

to tell our visitors," Barker says. "That is a big shift. We are trying to be more conscious and self-aware in putting our visitors first and seeing every experience through their eyes."

Whether you use the word "boutique," "focused," or "eclectic" to describe the museum, it is apparent that the Frick is small enough to be a welcoming place capable of delivering a personalized experience.

"We hope people leave feeling that they were welcome and that we cared that they were there," Gillen says. "We have this overarching initiative of radical empathy with our visitors and with each other, this idea of trying to meet people

where they are and being a site that responds to what people need and want." ♥

—Hillary Daninhirsch writes from Pittsburgh.

## WHEN YOU GO

**The Frick Pittsburgh** is located at 7227 Reynolds St. in Pittsburgh. During the pandemic, check before going to see if the museum is open to the public. The Frick also offers a full lineup of virtual options, including curator talks, exhibitions, tours and events. 412-371-0600; [thefrickpittsburgh.org](http://thefrickpittsburgh.org)