

TO EXPLORE THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE MUSEUM

SHOW PATH

West Virginia's story is shared by traveling through a series of scenic environments that represent a variety of places significant to our historical timeline. Visitors will hear stories of West Virginia history related to the following topics (the setting is noted in parentheses):

Geology (coal forests)

Prehistoric cultures (river plains)

Exploration and settlement (wilderness)

Frontier conflicts (fort)

Frontier life (cabin and barn)

John Brown's raid (U.S. Armory at Harpers Ferry)

The Battle of Philippi (Philippi Covered Bridge)

The struggle for statehood (*Wheeling Intelligencer* newspaper office)

Wheeling as an early cultural site (Wheeling docks, ca. 1870)

Changes produced by the railroad (railroad tunnel construction site)

Life in a coal company town (streetscape of a company town)

Coal mining (mine)

Main Street, West Virginia (1920s and 30s urban streetscape)

The Great Depression (inauguration of Governor Neely, symbolizing end of the Depression)

The civil rights movement (Scotts Brothers Drugstore, AV presentation- 4:05)

Out migration (1960s abandoned coal tipple)

Transportation improvements of the 20th century (New River Gorge Bridge)

Fairs and festivals (AV presentation- 1:46)

Preserving and protecting our cultural heritage (galleries representing the state collections, AV presentation- 4:55)

Proud to be a West Virginian (finale, AV presentation)