



## Education in Lebanon County – 1700s to Present (Part Two)

Virtual Lecture by Jared & Michael Blouch

Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 7 PM

Sponsored by the Cornwall Iron Furnace  
Associates



Please join the Cornwall Iron Furnace Associates on Tuesday, May 10th at 7 PM for a virtual lecture: "Education in Lebanon County - 1700's to Present (Part Two)" by Jared Blouch with additional commentary by Michael Blouch. Jared's second chapter in education will focus on the 20th & 21st century educational evolution within Lebanon County's schools.

This is an online lecture will utilize the Zoom platform.

Limited space available, registration required at:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_9ib6YPOTR\\_eOHZWFUtlnhw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9ib6YPOTR_eOHZWFUtlnhw)

Presentation is offered at no cost to attendees. Donations appreciated.

Jared will resume with the early 1900's during the consolidation of one-room schoolhouses and work through the development of larger present-day campuses. More importantly, he will highlight technological changes, featuring the transition from analog learning methods to the digital classroom, which led to today's cloud-based, remotely interactive group environments. The lecture also features commentary from his father Michael - another Lebanon Valley native with insight into the firsthand knowledge of school closures, construction of new buildings and major events in the last 65 years. Together, their research uncovered that Lebanon County was home to over 250 school buildings and 20 small school boards, transforming into the large districts that we know today. From Annville to Cornwall, throughout Lebanon City, beyond Myerstown, Palmyra, and Jonestown – Lebanon evolved into an all-inclusive educational experience along the main industrial corridor from Philadelphia to Harrisburg.

Their research reveals events about construction, acquisition, abandonment, and demolition

due to lack of funds, acts of nature and re-purposing of structures. While Jared shows an interest in the evolution of schools, his expertise is not in education. His on-going passion to document and share information, pictures and details help reveal and preserve key information. Examining maps, newspapers, stories, and county records helped this father and son team to compile what may be the most detailed summary of buildings, locations and events surrounding change in the community. Join us for the captivating conclusion timeline, rare pictures and interesting facts concerning modern education throughout Lebanon County!

Mike Emery (CIF Administrator) will moderate a brief discussion at the end of the presentation.

About the speakers:

Jared Blouch was born and raised in Cornwall Borough and is a graduate of Cedar Crest High School. He earned degrees in Information Technology, Professional Studies, and Business Administration from Penn State University. After college, he devoted the last 22 years of his professional career growing The BLOCK Company, a private capital equity investment firm. He first served as an employee of locally owned businesses between Berks, Lebanon, Dauphin, and Cumberland counties such as Keystone Information Technology, APR Supply Company, and Morefield Communications. He later grew his company to serve countless Fortune 500 businesses in the for-profit commercial and non-profit charitable, primarily focusing on residential and commercial real estate development. Jared enjoys investing his time with other professionals to grow and sustain their companies' services, data organization, information management and communication processes. Outside of the corporate world – he shares the love of history this region has and continues to offer. His parents, grandparents, teachers, and peers are credited with encouraging him to develop an interest and appreciate history from an early age. Some of his interests include collecting books, photos, and maps since the age of 12. He teamed up with his father on a life-long journey to address many unanswered questions about locations of forgotten and lost structures in the region. Many of his goals include preserving information, media, and corresponding “metadata” in a single central repository.

Michael Blouch retired this month from a nearly 50-year professional career - working in virtually every major industry as an independent management consultant, executive leader, and engineer. Formerly the President of Manuverate, MetaSpace and PPI Consulting, he also served as an executive for American LaFrance and E-One, both emergency fire apparatus manufacturing companies. In addition to being a Penn State Engineering alumnus, he shares the passion for historic research and fact-finding missions along with his son. He was born and raised in Lebanon county in the early 1950's, attended many of the schools you will see in tonight's presentation and graduated from Lebanon High School. Michael's father, a Bethlehem Steel employee, and mother, a retired cafeteria worker at Lebanon Senior High, link his roots deeply in higher education and local industry. After college, he spent many years as a blue collar worker, leading to future roles in executive management, later becoming a business owner and innovative industry leader. He visited over 1,000 companies and has overseen the design, development, and implementation of many large-scale technically advanced

automation projects in world-class manufacturing, warehousing, and distribution facilities. He held executive managerial positions in Fortune 10 companies and successfully completed projects in 10 foreign countries. Neither Michael nor his son reside in the area today.