

## ***Small Historic Towns across America.***

as presented by Mr. Stadt's on-line Freedom Project Education U.S. History classes in the Fall and Winter of 2014. You can learn more about our classes by visiting us at: [www.fpeusa.org](http://www.fpeusa.org)

# Mineral Point

where art & history really are the point

## **Brief History of Pendarvis, Mineral Point, Wisconsin.**

Pendarvis is a small mining town located in Mineral Point, Wisconsin. It was founded in the 1840s. Immigrant Cornish lead miners who settled in Mineral Point to work the mines made up this charming little community.

Years after the mining town had slowed down; two men came along by the names of Robert Neal and Edgar Hellum. By that time, (the early 1900s) many of the old Cornish cottages were demolished, but a few original houses remained in Pendarvis. In 1935 the work began. Neal and Edgar acquired many of the old cottages and various historic buildings and restored them to their former glory. In 1970, Pendarvis was declared a historical site. Today the stone and log cottages built by the Cornish immigrants in the tradition of their homeland, along with many other buildings from this old town, still stand because of Robert and Neal.



## **Location and Driving Directions from closest major U.S. Airport(s).**

Pendarvis is located on Shake Rag Street in Mineral Point. Mineral Point is located on US-151, just south of US-18, roughly 10 minutes from Iowa County Airport.

**Who was President when this town was founded? And, what was the political environment in America at that time.**



The end of the Jacksonian era went, and in came the 1840s. James K. Polk was President of the United States, and at age 49, he was the youngest man to be elected to office in history at the time. The Reform era was upon America and one of Polk's goals was to stop the expansion of slavery. Polk was born November 2, 1795, and died June 15, 1849 as the 11<sup>th</sup> US President.

### **Historic attractions in the area. Festivals and Events.**

Not far from Pendarvis is a former mine site called Merry Christmas Hill, where you can take a hike and learn about some of the tools and techniques miners used way back when. Also nearby, a beautiful 40 acre field is located, on which you can walk the trails that are lined with plaques with more information on this lovely town's heritage



Pendarvis is filled with many other historical buildings and tours. For more information on events and schedules, visit <http://pendarvis.wisconsinhistory.org/Explore/ExploreMap.aspx> .

### **Where can we stay if we visit Mineral Springs?**

Mineral Point Hotel is a family owned boutique hotel located just outside Pendarvis.

<http://www.mineralpointhotel.com/>

### **Why would I want to visit this historic small town.**

Ever since I was small, my parents have taken me traveling around America. Stopping at small historical towns like Pendarvis and learning its history has always been enjoyable to me.

### **Links you may wish to visit.**

<http://www.travelwisconsin.com/history-heritage/pendarvis-203862>

<http://pendarvis.wisconsinhistory.org/>