



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: <http://www.fpeusa.org>

In 1796 a land was founded by Jonathan Titus. Titus named the village Edinburgh, but as more and more settlers came, it became more commonly known as "Titusville". Titusville, Pennsylvania is a small historic town that has a lot of meaning to today's society. This town is where the first oil was struck. In the 1850s, a lawyer from New York named George Bissell came across oil in Titusville, Pa. Bissell and his partner, Jonathan Eveleth, started a company called the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company. They were funded by Townsend, a president of a bank. Townsend came across a railroad man named Edwin Drake. Townsend convinced Drake to help them in the oil business and they paid Drake \$1,000 a year to be a general manager. Drake needed to find someone who had experience in drilling for salt. Drake recruited a man name Samuel Kier, also known as "Uncle Billy". Kier agreed to work for \$2.50 a day. Slow progress made investors unhappy and worried. On August 27, 1859, and a shallow depth of 69 feet, they had struck oil.

Directions to Titusville, Pennsylvania

To get to Titusville, Pa from Pittsburgh International Airport, you need to first go northeast on Airport Boulevard toward Return to Terminal Road. Then take Airport Boulevard toward parking/hotel/rental car return/valet Parking. From there, merge onto I-376 west. Then, merge onto I-80 East Exit 1B toward Mercer. Take the PA-8 exit, Exit 29. Turn left onto PA-8, continue on PA-8 N. Turn right onto Liberty Street. Turn left onto 13th Street. Turn right onto Rocky Grove Ave. Rocky Grove Ave. becomes PA-8. Turn right onto Diamond Street. You have reached Titusville, Pennsylvania. Enjoy!

Who was President when Titusville was founded?

What was the Political Environment?

In 1796, when Titusville was founded, George Washington had refused a third term in office and John Adams was being elected. This was a major part in history because if George Washington was elected for a third term it would've been a precedent for all of the other presidents to have 3, instead of 2, terms. At this time in America, there were only 15 states and Tennessee was being added as the 16th in June. Here is what the flag looked like.



Oldest Business/Largest Business today

The oldest business in Titusville, Pennsylvania is the Drake Well. This is the first well that drilled oil and it still works today. This well has changed history tremendously due to the fact that oil is used every day in a lot of places. To the right is a picture of the Drake Well.



City Government

The City of Titusville Council is made up of five members from whom choose the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Each is elected to serve a four-year term. The city council has boards and commissions to advise. All meetings and work sessions are held at 6:00pm on the fourth floor conference room of the Town Square Building, 110 West Spring Street unless otherwise advertised. Here is the schedule: 2nd Tuesdays – Work Sessions, 3rd Tuesdays – Voting Meetings. The public is allowed to attend.

Historic attractions in The Area. Festivals and Events.

A big historic attraction in Titusville, Pennsylvania is the Drake Well Museum. This is a big attraction because oil was founded here and a lot of people want to see and learn about the first strike of oil. Titusville is holding an Oil Festival on August 7th and 8th of 2015. It is on Friday from 5pm to 10pm and Saturday from 10am to 8pm.

Where can we stay if we visit Titusville?

If you would like to visit Titusville and stay overnight you can stay in luxury and feel at home. You can stay at the historic yet modern Caboose Motel. This motel features a TV, telephone, and now has Wi-Fi. Each unit has heating and air conditioning. You can also get deck chairs to relax on the deck of the caboose. This is a good place to stay at because you get the full effect of Titusville. To the right is a picture of the inside of one of the Cabooses.



Why would I want to visit this small town?

I would like to visit this small town because it is where the first oil was struck and it is a big part of society today. What I would like to do is first see the Drake Well Museum because it seems like it would be very interesting. Next I would like to check into where I would be staying, The Caboose Motel. Next I would like to go see the Titusville Oil Festival. I think going to see this town would be very interesting due to its historical and important role in today's world.

Links you may wish to visit

<http://www.octrr.org/caboosemotel.htm>

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

<http://www.drakewell.org/>