



Historic House Interpretation Internship Job Description Summer 2026

About LancasterHistory: LancasterHistory is a community-based, not-for-profit organization established to educate the public on the history of Lancaster County and its place in the history of Pennsylvania and the United States, to advance the missions of regional historical organizations, and to promote the acquisition, preservation, and interpretation of resources representing the history of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania within the broader context of state and national history, including the life and legacy of America's fifteenth president, James Buchanan, Congressman Thaddeus Stevens, and Lydia Hamilton Smith. For more information about James Buchanan's Wheatland, [please visit our website](#).

Duties: The Historic House Interpretation Intern will:

- Participate in an intensive ten-day interpretive training and be scheduled to serve as an interpretive tour guide for the duration of the internship.
- Receive training in historic site daily operations that will include, but not be limited to, coordination of tour guide schedules, assistance for visitors with disabilities, and care of the historic collection.
- Work with their supervisor to identify a related research topic and will choose three objects not currently on display to interpret that chosen subject. The intern will develop a plan on how and where to display the chosen objects in Wheatland, write a 500-word script to be used by guides to discuss the research topic during tours, and create an information sheet for each object for Wheatland's Room-by-Room object identification binders.

Intern Supervision: The Intern will report to the Manager of President James Buchanan's Wheatland.

Learning Outcomes:

- Realize an appreciation for material culture and the work of museum professionals.
- Understand the range of professional skills and proficiencies required to work within a historic house museum.
- Demonstrate familiarity with accepted standards and best practices for primary and secondary research.
- Demonstrate skills to refine research into an educational storyline and lesson.
- Appreciate the importance of communication and working in a collaborative work environment in order to achieve a positive outcome.

Qualifications and Skills:

- Interest in historic site interpretation, material culture and museum operations.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively.
- Ability to organize and prioritize personal duties.
- Proven ability and experience conducting primary and secondary research.

Time Commitment:

- Monday through Thursday, 10am to 4pm with a 30-minute lunch break.
- 8-week position beginning on June 1, 2026 and ending on July 23, 2026.
- At the discretion of the supervisor, dates and hours may have flexibility as long as the total commitment is met.

Interested candidates should complete the application form found here:

<https://www.lancasterhistory.org/learn/internships/summer-internship-program/application/>

Interested candidates should also supply one professional or academic letter of recommendation. Recommenders can email their letter to Stephanie Celiberti, Manager of President James Buchanan's Wheatland: stephanie.celiberti@lancasterhistory.org