



LancasterHistory

For Immediate Release

Contact: Emily Miller
Director of Marketing & Communications
717-392-4633 ext. 133
emily.miller@lancasterhistory.org

LancasterHistory's Annual 'Yuletide at Wheatland' Tour Program Returns November 23

Tours to Examine Holiday Traditions in the late 1800s at Presidential Home

LANCASTER, Pa. – **LancasterHistory** invites the public to experience the rich history of the festive season with its annual event, ***Yuletide at Wheatland***. From November 23 to December 30, 2024, attendees can observe the holiday traditions of the late 1800s through the eyes of **President James Buchanan's** niece and nephew, **Harriet Lane** and **James Buchanan "Buck" Henry**.

The guided, history-infused holiday tours provide an intimate look at Christmas in the years after Buchanan's death in 1868. Attendees will explore how the holiday spirit blossomed during the Second Industrial Revolution, from the advent of electric tree lights to the elegant decorations of the late Victorian era.

"Each room in Wheatland sets the stage for discussing Christmas in the late Victorian period in America and Lancaster County," said **Stephanie Celiberti**, LancasterHistory Historic Site Administrator. "For example, we'll discuss how exchanging Christmas cards really took off in the late 19th century. The first Christmas cards in the mid-19th century were oftentimes hand-colored and expensive, which made them less affordable to many people. That changed in the late 19th

century. With the rise of mass-production and new printing processes that combined color and metallic inks, cards were more readily available to send to friends and family."

Other topics explored include Christmas meals, sleigh rides, parlor games, gift giving, and Christmas tree decorations.

Event Details

Dates: November 23 – December 30, 2024

Hours: Monday - Saturday, hourly tours from 10am - 3pm (last tour at 3pm). There are no tours on Sundays, Thanksgiving (11/28), Christmas Eve (12/24), and Christmas Day (12/25). The last day of *Yuletide at Wheatland* is Monday, December 30.

Tickets

- LancasterHistory Members: \$15.00/person
- Adults (14 and up): \$20.00/person
- Youth (6-13): \$10.00/person
- Child (5 & Under): Free with the admission of a paying adult
- Family Pass (2 Adults & 2 Youths): \$50.00

Tickets are now available for purchase [online](#) or by calling (717) 392-4633.

Please Note: Each ticket purchase includes a guided tour of *Yuletide at Wheatland* and access to the self-guided museum exhibitions at LancasterHistory. Advance ticket booking is strongly recommended as tours often sell out. Walk-in ticket availability is not guaranteed.

For parties of 15 or more persons, please contact us at (717) 392-4633, ext. 135 or by emailing groups@lancasterhistory.org for group tour pricing and scheduling.

LancasterHistory encourages visitors to review its [Health & Safety Policies for Visitors](#) prior to booking tickets and arriving for their tour. Attendees should be aware that the Yuletide tour includes traveling up and down stairs, and tours can last up to an hour in a largely stationary position. LancasterHistory is happy to provide alternative accommodations. Please contact our Visitor Services Department at (717) 392-4633, ext. 100 to make arrangements.

For additional details and FAQs, visitors are urged to refer to [LancasterHistory's official website](#).

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 homes of 15th US President James Buchanan and Congressman Thaddeus Stevens and Lydia Hamilton Smith.

###

Wheatland Back Door Image

Wheatland Sitting Room Image

Wheatland Dining Room Table Display Image

Wheatland Parlor Image

Wheatland Christmas Tree Image

All photos must be credited to *Julie Liz Photography for LancasterHistory*.