



LancasterHistory

For Immediate Release

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Presidents' Day Special Tour: LancasterHistory Presents 'An Ardent Desire for the Presidency'

Guided Tours of Wheatland examine Buchanan's Repeated Runs for Presidency, Relationship with Previous Presidents

LANCASTER, Pa. – LancasterHistory is excited to announce its special President's Day tour of Wheatland, the home of the United States' 15th President, **James Buchanan**. The tour will focus on Buchanan's fervent ambition and repeated attempts to secure the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in the mid-1800s.

While James Buchanan would go on to be the Democratic Party's presidential nominee and win the presidency in 1856, he tried—and failed—in 1844, 1848, and 1852. During LancasterHistory's Presidents' Day program, called "An Ardent Desire for the Presidency," visitors will learn about Buchanan's multiple attempts to secure the nomination and the strain those attempts placed on his relationships with the presidents who preceded him. Visitors will discover why **James K. Polk**,

the 11th President, grew irritated with Buchanan, his Secretary of State, and why **Franklin Pierce**, the 14th President, sent Buchanan away to be his Minister to Great Britain.

“This special subject tour allows visitors to dive deeper into presidential nominations,” LancasterHistory Director of Wheatland **Patrick Clarke** said. “It combines elements of a typical Wheatland tour while delving into a seldom discussed aspect of Buchanan’s public life.”

"An Ardent Desire for the Presidency," a special guided tour of Wheatland, will be held on Monday, February 20. Tours will be available on the hour, beginning at 10 a.m. and continuing until the last tour at 3 p.m.

Purchase tickets online at lancasterhistory.org or over the phone by calling (717) 392-4633. Advance reservations are strongly recommended. LancasterHistory Members receive complimentary admission but should reserve their tickets in advance to guarantee the tour time.

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 15th president, James Buchanan, and to preserve and maintain Wheatland, his home.

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