

Prickett's Fort State Park



PRICKETT'S FORT STATE PARK

PERCHED ON A SMALL RISE overlooking the confluence of Prickett's Creek and the Monongahela River, this rustic log fort is a re-creation of the original Prickett's Fort of 1774, which served as a refuge from Native American war parties on the western frontier of Colonial Virginia. Built in 1976 by the Pricketts Fort Memorial Foundation, the "new" fort serves as a living history site where interpreters in period attire re-create the lifestyles of both the settlers and Native American inhabitants that were here in the late 18th century. Throughout the season, visitors may find blacksmiths, spinners, weavers, potters, gun smiths and other traditional artisans at work.

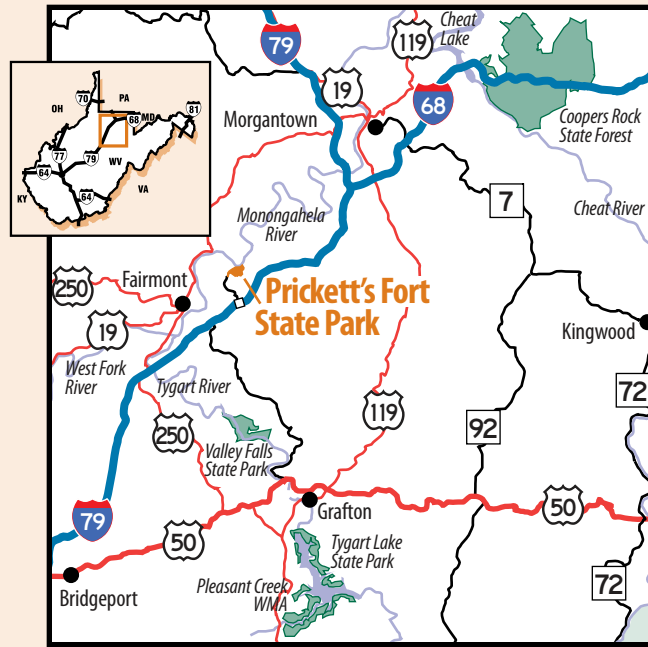


The fort covers a 100 by 100 foot square with 12-foot high log walls and blockhouses at each corner. Lining the weathered stockade walls are 14 tiny cabins, some with earthen floors. A meetinghouse and a storehouse fill the common.



When the threat of Native American uprisings occurred, up to 80 families from the surrounding countryside would hurry to the fort. They would stay as long as the threat existed, from days to weeks.

"Forting up" was simply tolerated by settlers, as life in the cramped quarters could be unpleasant, but such sacrifices were necessary for survival on the dangerous frontier of the late 1700s. Today's fort, just north of Fairmont, still portrays that life and time.



LOCATION

Prickett's Fort State Park is two miles from I-79 at Exit 139, north of Fairmont, WV. Follow signs to the park.



RR 3, Box 403
Fairmont, West Virginia 26554
304-363-3030
www.prickettsfortstatepark.com

Pricketts Fort Memorial Foundation
www.prickettsfort.org

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, Capitol Complex, Charleston, WV 25305
STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
TO USE FACILITIES AND PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAMS

Visitors are responsible for observing park rules and regulations.

"It is the policy of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources to provide its facilities, accommodations, services and programs to all persons without regard to gender, race, color, age, religion, national origin or disability. Proper licenses, registration and compliance with official rules and regulations are the only sources of restrictions for facility use or program participation."

"The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is an equal opportunity employer."
Information provided in this brochure is current as of design date, but subject to change thereafter.

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PARK EVENTS AND FEATURES

Pricketts Fort Memorial Foundation Historical Attractions

- Open mid-April through end of October
- Monday-Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Sunday: noon to 4:30 p.m.
- Admission fee
- Closed Mondays and Tuesdays and after Labor Day

Special Events Typically Scheduled

- Educational programming for all ages
- Historic Interpreter Training
- Historic Arts Workshops
- Outdoor theater summer concert series
- School of the Longhunter
- Traditional Music Day
- Bird walks
- 18th century Christmas Market
- Write or call for yearly calendars
- Visit foundation website for calendar of events – www.prickettsfort.org

Other Features

- Visitor Center with gallery orientation exhibit
- Museum Shop
- Educational outreach
- Teaching history through the arts
- Hands-on workshops
- School groups welcome
- Excellent access and motorcoach parking
- Camping nearby (privately owned)
- Park facilities open year-round
- Rental options for facility use



JOB PRICKETT HOUSE

Just south of the fort stands the Job Prickett House, built in 1859 by the great grandson of Capt. Jacob Prickett, for whom the fort was named. The difference between the 18th century historical reconstruction and the original 19th century house illustrates the development to an increasingly civilized lifestyle through an 85-year span. The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and contains antiques originally used by the Prickett family.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Amphitheater

- 400 seats
- Visit Web site for concert and theater schedule – www.prickettsfort.org

Picnic Area

- Picnic tables

Boating

- Prickett's Creek and Bay
- Monongahela River
- Boat launch
- Boat trailer parking
- Seasonal bass tournaments

Hiking

- Prickett's Fort Nature Trail
- Flora and fauna identification
- Trailhead for Marion County Trail
- Trailhead for Monongahela River Rail Trail-South
- Bicycle rental available



NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

- Barrackville Covered Bridge
 - International Mother's Day Shrine
 - Mannington Round Barn
 - Marion County Historical Museum
 - Tygart Lake State Park*
 - Valley Falls State Park
 - Watters Smith Memorial State Park
- * For lodge accommodations, cabin rentals and camping information, phone 1-800-CALL WVA.

