



A rose garden symbolic of the landscaping in Lititz reflects the colonial air of the town.



A guidepost to visitors, the sign in front of the Moravian Church complex, bears the date of the founding of the religious movement in this area.

*Enjoy a mini vacation*

## Lititz has retained its historic colonial past

By MELISSA PIPER  
LITITZ - Many Lancaster County communities were settled during the early 18th century and have spanned the generations since. But Lititz, like few other towns, has retained an abundance of early historical flavor. Its history closely following the Moravian religious movement in this area, Lititz was formerly founded in 1756 - receiving its name from a Bohemian

August 1778, the complex was used as a war headquarters and medical facility under the command of General Washington. Across from Linden Hall and the Moravian Church, the small Sturgis Pretzel Bakery still stands much as it did almost 200 years ago. Each year, busloads of tourists visit the quaint dwelling to view the old method of hand twisting pretzels.

all over the United States and other countries have viewed the unusual candy molds and containers included in the museum's exhibits. Several older structures such as the General Sutter Inn, the Hans Mueller house and small shops on "Zum Anker Alley" are reminiscent of the early 19th century settlers. A quiet and lovely land-

scaped community, Lititz still bears the influence of the European settlers who began a new life in the

colonies. The older homes and secluded walkways reflect the religious attitudes of the early residents and

still remain as a memorial to those people who planned Lititz as a free religious community.



The Lititz Moravian Church stands quietly much as it did two centuries ago

community where the Moravian Church was founded three hundred years before. It was a farmer, George Klein, who donated the 500 acres for the founding of the religious community and in early 1757, the town was surveyed and laid out in lots. A walking tour of the northern Lancaster County community provides visitors, with a short trip back into history as many of the buildings still standing today were part of the first early town. The Moravian Church complex located on Main Street was built in 1787 and later remodeled in 1857. The buildings adjacent to the Moravian Church were once the Sister's House and is now known as the Linden Hall Girl's School. Also located in the complex is the Brethren House which was used as a hospital during the Revolutionary War. From December 1777 to

Nestled in the middle of the town is the Lititz Springs Park the first mention of which was noted in 1778. The title of the park is vested in the Moravian Congregations but the management of the facility is by a committee of residents. Even in the early colonial period, the park was used for concerts and picnics and is well noted in the area for the July 4th celebration held on its premises each summer. Across a winding maze of railroad tracks, separating the park from the rest of the town stands the huge building house the Wilbur Chocolate Company. Along with its main offices and plant facilities, the Wilbur Company also houses a Candy-Americana Museum - one of the few such museums in the world. Visitors from  
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