



Aug. 5, 2020

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . . while dusting

**THE** most popular place to visit in Sullivan County is Worlds End State Park. Its beauty is an attraction for picnicking, hiking, camping and swimming. Seldom can you go by the parking area or camp grounds in good weather and there not be people enjoying their surroundings. Before settlement of Sullivan County, Native Americans called the focal point of the park "Worlds End".

In its early days there was a simple human or horse path which eventually became a road to Forksville. Located atop the mountain with a sheer drop of over 500 feet, it was only passable by one wagon at a time. Thus, one of the wagons would need to unhitch, set the wagon back against the trees as far as possible and hold the horse tightly to the trees as well. By 1927 a mill was begun, then in 1929 much of the land was acquired from the Central PA Lumber Co. and Mrs. "Doc" Randall. In 1933 work was begun by the CCC boys, which included the building of the cabins.

As early as the 1860's until the early 1900's the park had the name of Worlds End but in the early 1900's Harrisburg changed the name to "Whirl's End" which aroused a lot of upset from local people and visitors alike. A movement was then under foot to change it back and in 1943 it was reverted to its original name "Worlds End". In the words of one letter writer, Raymond Kehrler, having described the beauty and an accident with Dr. Randall said: "It was almost like an airplane view and one never tired looking at it. This is why the name "Worlds End" means so much to us old timers who are familiar with the old road to Forksville." Well, he wrote that in 1942 but it would seem safe to say that the same holds true today.

To learn more of Sullivan County history, call for an appointment at 570-946-5020 or email us at [museum@scpahistory.com](mailto:museum@scpahistory.com) Also, check out our web site at [www.scpahistory.com](http://www.scpahistory.com) and Facebook. Please note – masks are required in the museum.