

## **History of the Village of Tuscarawas**

At one time the village was more competitive in the business field with the town's location for the county seat. In the year of 1801, Lewis Knauss erected a log cabin on a site where the village is now located. In 1816, the town was laid out from land that was owned by Eberhard Freytag and in the following years it grew with more annexed allotments. Not until the canal was built in 1825, through the village, did the town begin to attract settlers. The canal extended from Lake Erie to the Ohio River. Up to that time village residents existed on low incomes. Most people lived on what they produced on their rural properties. The birth of the canal made it possible for residents to sell their stocks, grain, produce, and coal, with the help of this transportation which allowed them a better living. Until then there was no way to ship their products. The canal proved to be successful for Tuscarawas for about 80 years. Then the railroads made their way into the area, giving faster and more inexpensive means of shipping, and use of the canal began to decline. The clincher came in March of 1913, when a flood hit this area and the locks and canal waterways were damaged so badly that it was abandoned and never used again.

If you wish to receive more information on the History of the Village of Tuscarawas contact the Tuscarawas County Convention and Visitors Bureau at 124 East High Avenue, New Philadelphia, Ohio, 44663, call (330) 602-2420, or visit our website at [www.ohiotimelessadventures.com](http://www.ohiotimelessadventures.com). For further information contact the Tuscarawas County Public Library in New Philadelphia at (330) 364-4474 or the Tuscarawas County Historical Society at the Tuscarawas Campus of Kent State University at (330) 339-3391 Extension 47494.