



Borough of Steelton

FRED DOUGLAS MUNICIPAL BUILDING

123 N Front Street

Steelton, PA 17113

717-939-9842

www.steeltonpa.com

Honorable Maria R. Marcinko, Mayor
Honorable Brian Proctor, Council President

Douglas Brown, Borough Manager
Rosemarie Paul, Asst. Secretary-Treasurer

January 14, 2019

Dear Friend of Steelton Borough:

Steelton Borough, in partnership with resident historian Barbara Barksdale and local stakeholders, is seeking to preserve and memorialize an integral part of both African American and Steelton history. The Hygienic School Historical Monument and Preservation Project will place a permanent historical monument at the site of the former Steelton Hygienic School and preserve historical documents related to the school in the Borough's archives for future generations.

The Steelton Hygienic School for Colored Children opened in 1880 during the post-Civil War Reconstruction Era when African-Americans were shut out of the educational system. The school opened at the hands of Steelton's black community who demanded adequate educational facilities and opportunities. The Hygienic School started as a night-school in Steelton's Monumental AME Church. When the local school board attempted to place African-American students in ramshackle facilities and continued the practice of segregation, Steelton's black community took matters into their own hands which resulted in the creation of the Hygienic School for Colored Children. The school operated until 1959, when integration began as a result of the Supreme Court ruling in *Brown v. the Board of Education*. This elementary school building was demolished in 1974. Located at the corner of Frank S. Brown Boulevard (formerly Adams Street) and Bailey Street, the site of the Hygienic School will be memorialized with a historical placard. As the African American Registry states, "Instead of being a sore reminder of racial segregation, the Hygienic School stood as a proud symbol of a community's commitment to education and self-reliance." We seek to honor the school's place in Steelton's history.

Help Steelton Borough preserve the history and legacy of the Hygienic School by donating to the Hygienic School Historical Monument and Preservation Project. Our **fundraising goal for the project is \$5,000**, which will cover the costs of the historical marker and the preservation of documents related to the school.

Donors will be recognized by donor level at the dedication ceremony. Please consider giving at one of the following levels:

Diamond Donor		\$2,500
Platinum Donor	-	\$1,500
Gold Donor	-	\$1,000
Silver Donor	-	\$500

Many Countries One People; Our Renaissance Starts Now



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Bronze Donor - \$250

A donation in any amount is greatly appreciated. Checks can be made payable Steelton Borough and can be mailed to:

ATTN: Douglas Brown
Steelton Borough
123 North Front Street
Steelton, PA 17113

Thank You in Advance for Your Support,

Ryan C. Maxwell, Chair of Hygienic School Historical Monument and Preservation Project

Kelly S. Kratzer, Councilwoman, Co-Chair

Brian Proctor, Council President

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