

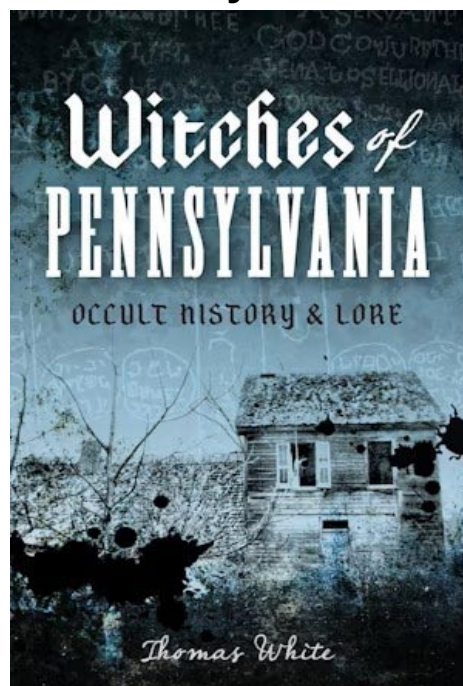
Witches of Pennsylvania: Occult History and Lore

By Sigal Museum

LEHIGH VALLEY - Since William Penn pre- sided over the state's only official witch trial in 1684, witchcraft and folk magic have been a part of the history of the Keystone State.

English and German settlers brought their beliefs in magic with them from the Old World—sometimes with dangerous consequences. In 1802, an Allegheny County judge helped an accused witch escape an angry mob. Susan Mummey was not so fortunate. In 1934, she was shot and killed in her home by a young Schuylkill County man who was convinced that she had cursed him. In other regions of the state, views on folk magic were more complex. While hex doctors were feared in the Pennsylvania German tradition, powwowers were and are revered for their abilities to heal, lift curses and find lost objects. Folklorist Thomas White traces the history and lore of witchcraft and the occult that quietly live on in Pennsylvania even today.

For more in go to : <https://sigalmuseum.org/product/witches-of-pennsylvania-occult-history-and-lore/>.



13th Street Bridge In Easton Renamed For State Lawmaker

By Tom Andrews

EASTON, Oct. 30 – State and local officials today officially renamed the 13th Street Bridge over the Bushkill Creek in Easton after the late, former longtime state legislator Rep. James Prendergast.

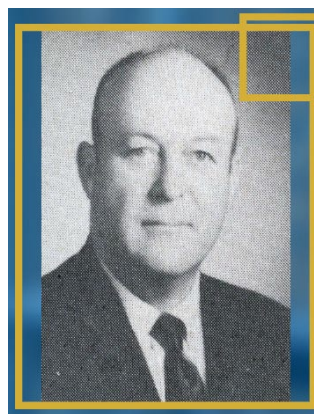
From 1958-78, Prendergast served 20 years as state representative for the 136th District in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. He was elected by his colleagues in Harrisburg for several terms in House Democratic leadership, including as majority whip, caucus chairman and administrator.

He was a Marine Corps veteran of World War II where he received the Navy Cross and two Purple Hearts. He later became a successful attorney in Easton. He died April 29, 1985.

“Jim was always willing to help the people of Northampton County and I learned quickly that he was a dedicated and respected legislator in Harrisburg,” said state Rep. Robert Freeman, who currently holds the 136th District seat and sponsored the bridge-naming legislation.

Members of Prendergast’s family attended the ceremony and were joined by state Transportation Department officials, as well as local and state officials, including state Rep. Tim Brennan, D-Bucks, who co-sponsored the legislation with Freeman.

“To serve is the heart of citizenship and the mark of a life lived meaningfully,” Brennan said. “It is important to recognize, today and everyday, that the good lives we enjoy as Americans is only possible because of such men and women who selflessly serve their country and communities. Representative Prendergast was an exceptional example of a life lived according to these values.”



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