

## **GALENA-DOCKERY BUILDING**

1140 Liberty Street



An early photo of the Galena Building

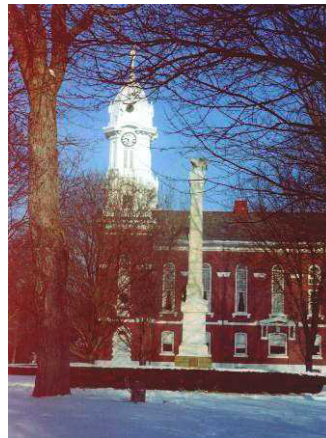
The Rural House hotel once occupied this site but was destroyed by this fire in 1891.

With the discovery of oil, Charles Miller developed the Galena Oil Works to specialize in a railroad lubricating oil. The present structure was built in 1901 to accommodate the company offices and its officials, including Charles Miller, his brother-in-law Joseph Sibley and other prominent individuals in the oil industry. The building contains 11 walk-in vaults and the exterior walls measure 16-20 inches thick.

The Galena-Signal Oil Company marker, erected by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission in 1999, is located at the front of this Second Renaissance Revival structure. The hallmarks of this style of architecture are symmetry, proportion and detailing.

## **FRANKLIN CIVIL WAR MONUMENT**

**South Park**



This monument was erected and dedicated by residents of the county in September 1866. Faint inscriptions still remain of the 400 soldiers who lost their lives in the Civil War. Several Civil War reunions were held in Franklin — including the nation's Centennial year, October 12, 1876.

## **VENANGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

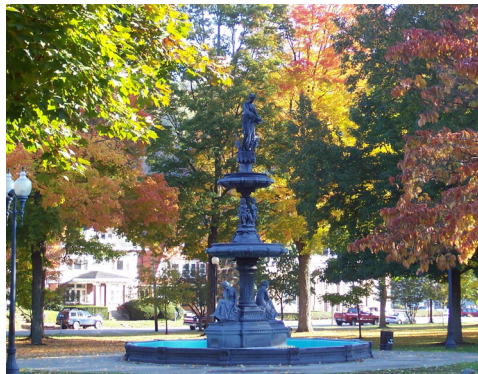
1168 Liberty Street



Illustration by Jenny Staudt  
Franklin High School © 2003

A symbol of Venango County, this our third building to be erected as a courthouse was designed by architects Sloan & Hutton of Philadelphia and constructed (1867 – 1869) by J.W. Brady, a local builder. The small tower was originally furnished with a large bell and the tall tower housed the clock. The bell is gone but the ropes are still in place reminding us of the days when its ring would signal important communication for the town. In 1912 extensive renovations took place at the courthouse and in the early 1930s a rear addition was added. The Italianate structure is impressive with its pedimented and pilasted central pavilion flanked by square bays with uneven towers. A custom still in use today is that of the call of the Court Crier to open court proceedings.

## **THE FOUNTAIN PARK West Park**



This site once served as a pasture and training area for the militia. It was reported that men who were arrested for public drunkenness were frequently sentenced to the job of digging stumps. In 1852 a tree planting day was held in an effort to provide shade and improve the park's appearance.

A century of loving care has preserved the Egbert Memorial Fountain, the centerpiece of West Park. The fountain was built in memory of Dr. Albert G. Egbert, a successful leader in the lubricating oil field. He was elected to a term in Congress after which he became involved in the business and civic affairs of our community. In 1882 he was named to the Park Commission taking a particular interest in the improvement and beautification of what is now the Fountain Park and the Civil War Monument Park. Dr. Egbert died in 1896. His beautiful home is located on South Park facing the Civil War Memorial.

Evening News 1896: "The topmost figure on the sculptured iron column is a Venus, standing 25 feet above the pavement, in a bed of water lilies, holding a tilted jar, from which the water runs. There are three basins. From the lilies and cat-tails spring jets of water, falling into the first and smallest of the three basins. The basin rests upon the upholding figures of three cherubs, and from it the water falls into a second and larger basin, which discharges the water from the mouths of 12 lions, set in a rim of relief work, into the basement basin, which is 25 feet in diameter."