

## Steamtown National Historic Site

Phone: (570) 340-5240

Project Manager: Bruce Gibson

Grant Amount: \$101,806

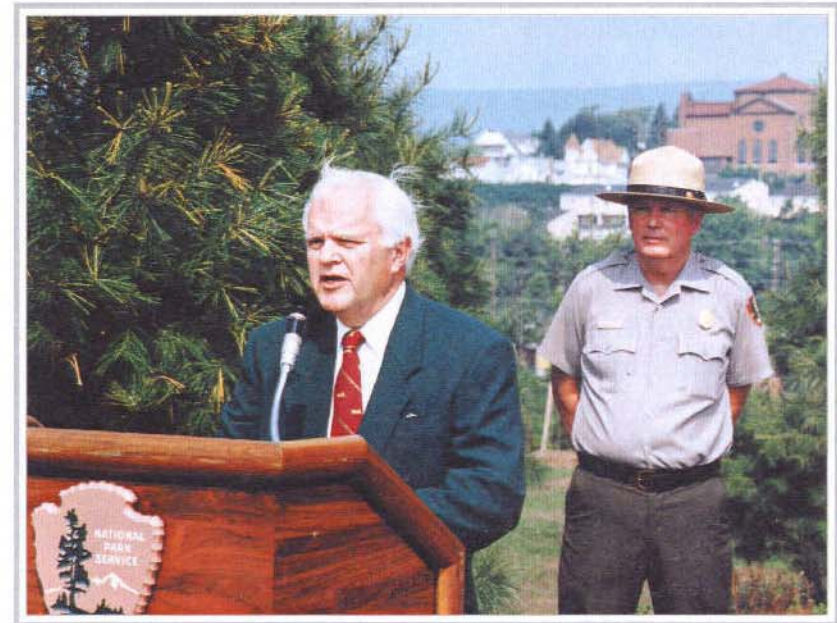
**Revegetation for Public Interpretation** directly impacted a 68-acre area within Steamtown National Historic Site, owned by the National Park Service. This national park contains the largest collection of steam-era locomotives in the nation. It is the largest tourist attraction in the Lackawanna Valley with visitation estimates well into the hundred thousands. The revegetation project was part of a multi-phase National Park Service Resource Management Plan that identifies actions necessary to comply with natural and cultural resource goals.

The 3.5-acres of plantings have increased cultural, social, and ecological opportunities on 68-acres of the park. The visitor experience at the park has been enhanced by buffer boundaries, screening of modern intrusions, and enhanced cultural views. Through its completion, future links to Scranton's Business District and the Heritage River Trail have been further developed.

Native plantings increased diversity, softened the industrial landscape, created much needed shade for visitors, mitigated erosion, and improved the ecological health of the park. The plantings enhanced habitat along the Lackawanna River and provided vegetative corridors for the movement of animal and bird populations along this section of the Atlantic Flyway.

### Project Value and Match

<b>Grant Award</b>	<b>\$101,806</b>
Cash Contributions	\$37,690
In-kind Contributions	\$41,375
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$180,871</b>



### Significant Revisions to the Scope of Work

Planting plan revisions were made based on maintenance concerns and adaptable species selection.

Interpretive signage was designed with technical assistance provided through the program but was never implemented.

### Project Accomplishments

- Planted 135 canopy trees, 69 evergreen trees, 152 understory or flowering trees, 2,148 shrubs, 80 evergreen saplings, and 781 perennials.
- Mitigated erosion and sedimentation into the Lackawanna River through the planting of 3.5-acres of bare soils.
- Improved the visitor experience by planting trees for shade.
- Worked with senior citizens that committed 24 hours of service.
- Designed and installed 17 interpretive signs describing native vegetation.
- Trained maintenance workers in plant care.
- Promoted the project in a public groundbreaking ceremony that featured remarks by Congressman McDade.
- Achieved a 1 to .79 cost share ratio on the grant.

### Partners' Contributions

City of Scranton – Supported 1997 Tree City USA application  
Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce – Project promotion  
Lackawanna County Railroad Authority – Technical assistance  
National Park Service – Financial and technical assistance  
Steamtown Senior Volunteers – Planted evergreens

