

Mt. Pisgah Heritage Site Proposals
July 2007

The Switchback Gravity Railroad Foundation seeks to create a unique heritage experience for town residents and visitors. The SGRF is currently engaged in a visioning/planning process, in partnership with the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor and the Northeast Regional Office of the National Park Service, to explore various opportunities for the Mt. Pisgah sites related to the Switchback Gravity Railroad. A key component of this process will be broad public involvement that will offer feedback on the SGRF proposals.

The SBRF proposes the following:

PHASE ONE

1. **Wagon Road** – Improve the wagon road for limited vehicular access to the summit of Mt. Pisgah for project study, historic feature stabilization and enhancements, maintenance, and security.
2. **Mt. Pisgah Summit**
 - A. Identify, preserve, and interpret the remaining historic features associated with the Switchback Gravity Railroad operation.
 1. Information, Interpretation and Public Engagement
 - a. Lead hikes and design self-guided tours
 - b. Develop publications and signage
 2. Survey site to produce architectural drawings.
 - B. Enhance visitation to the site through selective reconstruction and stabilization of some of the original structures
 1. Engine House - Stabilize and reconstruct as a docking station for the Pisgah Plane Cable and Rail System vehicle.
 2. Trestle - Reconstruct with attached overlook toward the west for hiking, biking, and viewing.
 3. Cisterns - Identify and stabilize the ruins.
 4. East Overlook at the end of the trestle - Construct in the character of the original.
 5. Station Pavilion – Construct in the character of the original for shelter.
 6. Observation Tower – Construct in the character of the original for spectacular viewing.

PHASE TWO

3. Pisgah Plane

A. Continue stabilization efforts.

B. Utilize plane for building a cable and rail system to access Mt. Pisgah.

C. Pisgah Plane Base – Construct a boardwalk with a shelter from North Avenue to the base of Pisgah Plane over Carbon County Property to access the cable/rail vehicle.

4. Visitor Transport to Base of Mt. Pisgah

A. “Small Bus” service on a loop from the County parking lot. Ticket to be sold on bus or at a County lot office only.