Directions:

From Niagara Falls-

Take the Robert Moses Pkwy East, keep right at the fork, follow signs for New York 384/New York 265/Tonawandas and onto the Cayuga merge onto LaSalle Expy, Turn left onto Williams Rd., turn right at Cayuga Drive Extension, continue onto Niagara Rd

From Buffalo-

Take the 290 Expressway to the Niagara Falls Blvd North Exit. (Exit 3N) Travel North 7.3 miles and turn right on Ward Road. (NY 429). Travel 1.2 miles and turn left on Niagara Road.





(An artist's rendering of what Das Haus may have looked like in 1855)

2549 Niagara Road Niagara Falls, New York 14304

Phone: 716-795-2890 Email: <u>dashausmuseum@gmail.com</u>



OPEN SUNDAYS

2:00 - 4:00PM

May - October

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BY PERSONAL APPOINTMENT



Please ask us for details about..

Historical Society publications:

The society offers books and other publications concerning the mid 1800's North German immigration to Western New York

On-site, educational guided

tours: We offer tours to any K-12 groups. Sessions can be customized to meet your educational requirements.

Personal tours and genealogical

research: The society provides free genealogical research assistance to our members. Please visit our website and submit the form to become a member. All members also receive our quarterly newsletter, "Der Brief".

The German Heritage Museum is part of The Historical Society of North German Settlements in WNY.

Das Haus, EinHaus und Der Stall

German Beritage Museum



Visit a bit of the old country!

Explore your roots!

Learn how these industrious Prussian / German immigrants worked and lived!

www.dashausmuseum.org

"Das Haus"



1843 log home, now clapboard, featuring a century old sitting room, the migration story of the Prussian Lutherans and an exhibit of the lifestyles of the past.

- Known as the Witwe (Widow) Mehwaldt Haus, this structure was originally a 19'x 27' hand hewn, garrison type, log cabin. It was provided to the first Prussian settlers of this area by Washington Hunt, then an agent for the Holland Land Co. and subsequently governor of New York state. The cabin and property was first owned by Johann Hellert who sold it in 1857 to Justine Mehwaldt, wife of the village potter. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Mehwaldt moved into this house and lived here with her sister, Caroline Neumann (picture below) until both died in November 1897, after being overcome by coal gas from a stove in the front room.



"Einhaus"



A re-constructed "House/Barn" using the original 1844 hand hewn timber frame. Displays include farming implements and artifacts depicting the home life of the first settlers of Bergholz.

- In 1844, less than a mile away from this spot, newly arrived Prussian / German immigrants built a hand hewn oak timber framed house / barn for their family and animals to live in while they farmed the Bergholz clay soil and started sinking roots in their new homeland, America. The timber frame that you can clearly see on the inside of the building is the very same structure. It has been brought back to life after all these years for us to view and explore. In 2008 the Historical Society was fortunate to receive the structure as a donation. The structure was disassembled, labeled and stored by a specialist in traditional timber frame construction and in the summer of 2015 the "Einhaus" was reconstructed here on the museum property. As you examine the "Einhaus" frame today please keep in mind a few interesting facts: It is believed that the four corner posts were hewn from a single log. There were no metal fasteners in the original structure. It was put together using hand cut mortise and tenon joints secured with pegs. You can see the newly worked pegs at the joints. The original "Fachwerk" (clay & straw filler in hand hewn timber 3-4 foot squares) design of the structure is still evident. Inside there is a display showing and explaining this type of construction.

"Der Stall"



A replica of a barn commonly found in a 19th century village, currently housing our library and research area.

- Founded in 1971 by Eugene W. Camann, the Historical Society's mission is to compile the history of the North German Settlements in Western New York and preserve their heritage. We do this by collecting and preserving artifacts, documents, photographs, publications, anecdotes and other related items. We attempt to share these acquisitions through our museum, newsletter and regular meetings of our membership and other interested people. If you have an artifact or information that you think might be of value, please contact the society.

