

Significant local history, impressive technology, fascinating stories, amazing architecture, human drama - the Cornwall Iron Furnace offers all of these in one amazing visit. It is reputedly the best-preserved iron furnace in the western hemisphere. But there is a catch, one has to climb and descend a total of 90+ steps, daunting at best for those with problems walking, impossible for those in wheel chairs. Even if you could tour the furnace skipping steps, you will still find this "virtual tour" will satisfy your desire to know what is inside those buildings just off the Cornwall Manor Buckingham campus and what went on there.

Your guide, Pat Freeland, grew up and now lives in Cornwall. After retiring from 30 years in Massachusetts as a public-school teacher, computer application developer, and author of multiple computer books including a For Dummies book, he became a Furnace volunteer, is now a part time employee, and has been giving tours for more than fifteen years. Not only will you see the contents of the furnace close up, you will also see things that most visitors never get to see, like the insides of some of the out-buildings which are not open to the public. Pictures, a description of the iron-making process, and anecdotes will bring the furnace to life, and follow-up questions will round out the evening. You will also have a chance to handle the ingredients and products of the furnace process. Please join us!