



## **Cockayne Farmstead**

**1105 and 1111 Wheeling Avenue, Glen Dale WV**

The Cockayne farmhouse was built in 1850 by Bennett Cockayne, son of an early settler to the area. Due to the reclusive lifestyle of its last occupant, Samuel Cockayne, the farmhouse is in a virtually unchanged state from its 19<sup>th</sup> Century condition. Once an internationally recognized 300-acre Merino Wool producing farm, the farmhouse, prehistoric Indian Burial Mound and smaller 19<sup>th</sup> Century family house are all that remain.

The Cockaynes of the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century were social, political and agricultural leaders of the community. The Cockayne daughters were interested in art, music and photography, while the son dabbled in local politics. The Cockayne properties at that time encompassed all of southern Glen Dale, and the “mansion house,” as it was referred to at the time, befitted the family’s social standing.

Samuel Cockayne's life choices were, however, in stark contrast to that of his award-winning grandfather. Sam lived in only two rooms of the house with extremely primitive electrical, plumbing and heating resources. Locked away in the remaining rooms were over 1500 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century family artifacts as well as many important farm, business and school records and family correspondence dating from the 1840's. The Cockayne Farmstead provides a unique view of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Rural West Virginia and covers many eras of our state’s history. More information can be obtained on the farmstead’s website at [www.cockaynefarm.com](http://www.cockaynefarm.com).

On June 19<sup>th</sup>, both houses will be open for tours from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Entry to the farmhouse is \$2.00 for students and adults. The smaller house will be open at no charge. Parking is available at John Marshall High School. Concession-type food will also be available. No photography within the farmhouses, please!

The day will begin with a Flag Raising on the front lawn and an announcement of the winners of a 6<sup>th</sup> grade Essay Contest. Other free special events scheduled include:

A live Archaeological Excavation of the Cockayne privy (outhouse) conducted by Jamie Vosvick and crew, Archaeological Consultants of the MidWest.

A display of restoration pictures and explanation of the restoration process by Steve Avdakov, Heritage Architectural Associates.

A display of World War II artifacts, including an M-1 carbine, radio equipment and World War II era jeep. Sam Cockayne served as a radio operator in the 75<sup>th</sup> Joint Assault Signal Company in the South Pacific during World War II.

The Wheeling Fencibles, a Civil war re-enactment group created to honor the brave citizen soldiers who served during the Civil War, will camp on the South Lawn. Sam’s maternal grandfather, John W. Smith, served and was wounded during the Civil War.