

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Lara Bromyard

Graduation Semester & Year: Spring 2022

Semester & Year of Internship: Summer 2021

Major: History

Minor: Education and Creative & Professional Writing

Hometown: Mt. Pleasant, PA

Hobbies: Reading, Coloring, Gardening, Going for Walks, Jig-Saw Puzzles

Campus Activities: History Club

Future Plans/Career Goals: I hope to someday either work in a museum or at a historical site!

After doing this internship I can confidently say that if I get to work in another museum-type environment I will be extremely grateful because I feel like it's where I belong.



- **Internship (company/your title):**

Bushy Run Battlefield/Museum Intern

- **How did you find your internship?**

From an email from Kristen Stratton about a paid internship that was looking to hire for the summer.

- **What were your duties?**

Manning the front desk, answering the phone, checking in and welcoming visitors to the museum, offering museum information, showing visitors around, assisting visitors in the museum, handling daily museum tasks like opening and closing, helping to set up and work special museum events like the reenactment at the beginning of August. I also created education curriculum for kids such as a museum scavenger hunt, a word search and a crossword puzzle. I also helped contribute to the Bushy Run Newsletter by writing an article that was published in the August newsletter.

- **How many hours per week were you at your internship site?**

Typically, 30 – 40 depending on the week.

- **What did you enjoy most about your internship?**

I enjoyed the experience of working inside of an actual museum and getting to learn more about the local history here in western Pennsylvania. I also enjoyed working with the volunteers and getting to know them and find out what they each know about the site after working there.

- **What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?**

The most difficult aspect of my internship is probably retaining all of the information I learned. I tried my best to be a sponge and soak up as much as I could but there is just SO much to know. But that is the nature with history, there is always something new you're learning and so many things to remember that sometimes it gets all muddled. But I have definitely walked away with a wealth of information I never had before this internship experience!

- **How did your experience at UPG and in the History department prepare you for your internship?**

I would say that the writing skills I learned helped me a lot when I was drafting my historical article for the Bushy Run Newsletter. This was the first time I've ever had my writing published before and so I was constantly drawing back on what my history and writing professors have taught me about the craft of writing and historical writing. I also believe what I've learned about how we think about history and studying history played a role in how I perceived the history of Bushy Run Battlefield in a larger context such as its larger conflicts such as Pontiac's War and the French and Indian War/7 Years War. This battle really changed the whole playing field in early American history in terms of the relationship with the English settlers and the Native Americans.

- **How has your internship prepared you for a career?**

I would say that my internship prepared me for a career in various aspects. First, I've gotten more experience working in a different work-place environment and working with other people and the public. I also feel like I've learned a lot more about the history field in general, in terms of what kind of places and museums I can work at, which ones are typically volunteer based and which one hire paid employees. I've also learned about the day-to-day experience of working in a museum as well as the collaborative planning that goes into putting on large events for the public.

- **What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?**

I would advise to go into this internship with an interest and willingness to learn. Don't assume you already know everything or enough. Also, make it known what you can provide and bring to the museum. What can you do that would be beneficial and/or be an asset to the museum or its functions/events, etc? They want you to learn while you are there and to ask questions, and also look for any special skills you have that could be helpful to them.

LB *By checking this box (or initialing next to it) and emailing this document to the campus Internship Coordinator, I give permission to University of Pittsburgh Greensburg to utilize this document along with the photo provided in media publications such as the UPG website, campus bulletin boards, and additional media outlets.*