

### ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY JANUARY 27



**On January 27, 1826, the Virginia General Assembly passed an act establishing the town of Suttonville, now Sutton.**

#### CSO: SS.8.14

#### **Investigate the Document: (Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia, 1826)**

1. According to the document, who were among the trustees appointed to Suttonville? What is a trustee? What were they authorized to do?
2. Chapter 98—An act of establishing the town of Suttonville (now Sutton) in the county of Nicholas. [Passed January 27, 1826]
  - What *seems* inaccurate in this text? Is Sutton in present-day Nicholas County? If not, what county is it located?

**Think Critically:** What benefits come from a community being the county seat? What entity is centered in each county seat? What is the county seat of YOUR county?

CHAPTER 98.—An act establishing the town of Suttonsville in the county of Nicholas.

[Passed January 27th, 1826.]

- Town of Suttonsville established. Trustees appointed. Empowered to make by-laws and ordinances. To determine disputes concerning bounds of lots, &c. General law concerning trustees of towns, extended to this town. Rev. Code of 1819, vol. 2d, ch. 260, p. 319-321. Commencement.
1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly,* That fifteen acres of land, the property of David J. Jackson and Benjamin Skidmore, on the south side of Elk river, in the county of Nicholas, so soon as the same shall be laid out in lots, with convenient streets, shall be established a town, by the name of Suttonsville, and that John D. Sutton, Felix Sutton, George Davis, James Molihan, Mathew Hines, Andrew P. Friend and John Skidmore, shall be, and they are hereby appointed trustees thereof.
  2. *Be it further enacted,* That the trustees of the said town, or a majority of them, shall be, and they are hereby empowered to make such by-laws and ordinances for the regulation of the police thereof, and for the regular building of houses therein, as to them shall seem best, and the same to amend, alter or repeal, and enforce, and to settle and determine all disputes concerning the boundaries of lots, streets and alleys of said town: *Provided,* That such by-laws and ordinances shall not be repugnant to, or inconsistent with, the constitution and laws of the United States, or of this Commonwealth.
  3. *Be it further enacted,* That so much of the act entitled, "an act to reduce into one act, all acts and parts of acts concerning the office of trustees or directors of the several towns within this Commonwealth, and for supplying vacancies within the same," as is of a public and general nature, shall be regarded as the law in relation to the said town of Suttonsville, hereby established.
  4. This act shall commence and be in force from the passing thereof.

CHAPTER 99.—An act establishing the town of Mount Jackson in the county of Shenandoah.

[Passed January 28th, 1826.]

- Town of Mount Jackson established. Empowered to make by-laws and ordinances. To determine disputes concerning bounds of lots &c.
1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly,* That the village of Mount Pleasant, situate on Mill creek, in the county of Shenandoah, according to the plan of the lots, streets and alleys thereof, as already laid off, on lands the property of Alexander Doyle, Reuben Miller, Alexander Pollock, Mark Allen, Michael Sigler and others, shall be and the same is hereby established a town, by the name of Mount Jackson; and that Alexander Doyle, Reuben Miller, Mark Allen, William Miller and Morgan Moore, gentlemen, be, and they are hereby appointed trustees thereof.
  2. *Be it further enacted,* That the trustees of the said town, and their successors, or a majority of them, are hereby empowered to make such by-laws and ordinances, for the regulation and good government of said town, and the same to amend, alter or repeal, and enforce by such penalties as they may think proper, not exceeding ten dollars for any one offence, recoverable by action of debt in the name of the said trustees, or any one of them, before any justice of the peace, for the county of Shenandoah; to make such rules and orders for the regular building of houses therein, as to them shall seem best; to settle and determine all disputes concerning the bounds of the lots, and the regulations of the streets: