

SMETHPORT HISTORIC REGISTRY PROPERTY

John Forrest Mansion

620 W. Main Street

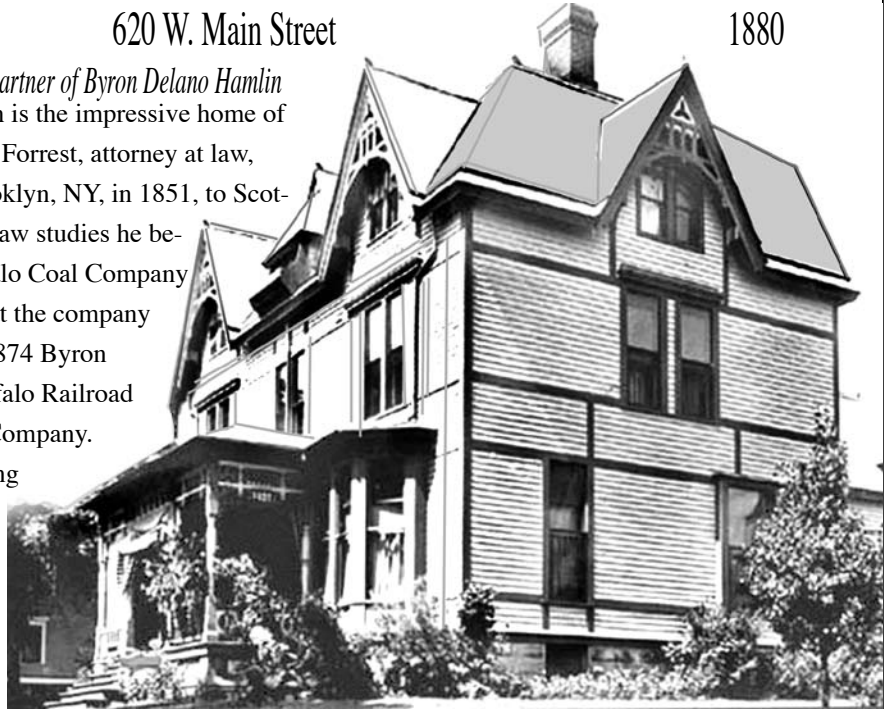
1880

Son-in-law & business partner of Byron Delano Hamlin

Just next to St. Luke's Church is the impressive home of John & Mary Forrest. John Forrest, attorney at law, Smethport, was born in Brooklyn, NY, in 1851, to Scottish immigrant parents. After his law studies he began work in the office of the Buffalo Coal Company in Fall Brook, Pennsylvania, and at the company headquarters in Buffalo, NY. In 1874 Byron Hamlin began the McKean & Buffalo Railroad to haul coal for the Buffalo Coal Company.

Byron was so impressed with young John that he convinced John to move to Smethport & work for Byron's land company. In January, 1877, he came to Smethport & entered the law and land office of Bryon Delano Hamlin. John & Mary Hamlin, daughter of Byron

Delano and Harriet (Holmes) Hamlin, were married in 1878. In 1880 they completed their large, stick style mansion. Their former carriage house, now also a private residence, can be seen to the rear of the property.



620 W. Main Street Smethport, PA 16749
Approval date to SHR: December 2007

construction date 1980 confirmed

Mary Pierotti, Chair

Mary A. Pierotti

Mayor Ross E. Porter

Ross Porter