

# Bethlehem: A Biography of the Town

Nestled in the heart of the Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, is a town with a rich and storied history. Founded in 1741 by Moravian missionaries, Bethlehem quickly grew into a thriving industrial center and cultural hub. Today, Bethlehem is home to a diverse population of over 70,000 people and is known for its beautiful architecture, vibrant arts scene, and thriving economy.



## Bethlehem: Biography of a Town by Nicholas Blincoe

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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|----------------------|-------------|
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| Screen Reader        | : Supported |
| Enhanced typesetting | : Enabled   |
| X-Ray                | : Enabled   |
| Word Wise            | : Enabled   |
| Print length         | : 289 pages |

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## **The Founding of Bethlehem**

The history of Bethlehem begins with the arrival of Moravian missionaries in the Lehigh Valley in 1740. The Moravians were a Protestant denomination that had been persecuted in Europe and sought to establish a new community in America where they could live in peace and practice their faith freely. In 1741, the Moravians Free Downloaded a tract of land from the Lenape Indians and founded the town of Bethlehem.

The Moravians were a highly organized and industrious people, and they quickly established a thriving community in Bethlehem. They built a number of mills and factories, and they also developed a system of canals and railroads that connected Bethlehem to other towns and cities in the region. By the early 19th century, Bethlehem was one of the leading industrial centers in the United States.

## **The Rise of Bethlehem Steel**

In 1857, a group of investors founded the Bethlehem Iron Company in Bethlehem. The company initially produced iron for use in the construction of railroads and bridges. However, in the early 1900s, the company began to produce steel, and it quickly became one of the largest and most successful steel companies in the world.

Bethlehem Steel played a major role in the growth and development of Bethlehem. The company provided jobs for thousands of people and helped to make Bethlehem a major industrial center. However, the steel industry declined in the late 20th century, and Bethlehem Steel closed its doors in 1995.

## **Bethlehem Today**

Despite the decline of the steel industry, Bethlehem has remained a vibrant and prosperous community. The city has invested in its downtown area and has attracted new businesses and residents. Bethlehem is also home to a number of colleges and universities, which contribute to the city's cultural and economic vitality.



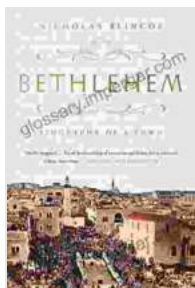
Today, Bethlehem is a city with a rich history and a bright future. The city is known for its beautiful architecture, vibrant arts scene, and thriving economy. Bethlehem is a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Bethlehem: A Biography of the Town is a comprehensive and engaging history of one of Pennsylvania's most fascinating and important cities. The book is richly illustrated with photographs, maps, and other archival materials, and it provides a unique glimpse into the town's past, present, and future.

Whether you're a lifelong resident of Bethlehem or a visitor who is just discovering the city for the first time, Bethlehem: A Biography of the Town is a must-read. The book will help you to understand the town's rich history and appreciate its many cultural and economic assets.

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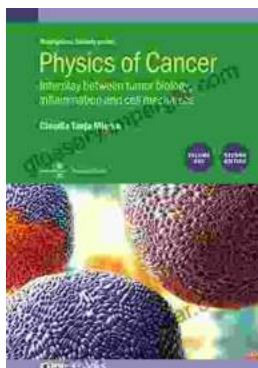
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