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■ ELDRED-ROCK CITY LOOP

NY I-86, Route 219, Route 321, Route 346

The 48-mile loop takes you to a World War II museum and a spectacular rock formation. Starting in downtown Bradford, take **Route 346 East**. This road joins with **US Route 219** shortly. Exit at Foster Brook, staying on **Route 346 East**.

Route 346 ends at a "T" intersection with **Route 446**. Turn right into Eldred. The Eldred World War II Museum is on the right.

This museum is dedicated to preserving the history of World War II and to commemorate the 1,500 people, 95 percent of whom were women, who worked at the nearby National Munitions Company. Allow at least two hours to tour the museum. It is open 10 am to 4 pm Tuesday through Saturday, 1 to 4 pm Sunday and other hours by appointment.



After visiting the museum, turn back onto **Route 446**, heading north to Olean, N.Y. You cross into New York 21.5 miles from Bradford. The highway designation changes to **Route 305**. As you pass through Portville, N.Y., look for the dikes to your left. These hold back the floodwaters of the Allegheny River. Turn left at the "T" intersection in Portville, staying on **Route 305** to the opposite side of town, then go straight onto **Route 417** into Olean.

In downtown Olean, turn left onto **Route 16**, which makes a steep climb to Rock City Park, 35.6 miles from the start. An admission fee will give you access to an amazing vista and a trail which winds through a field of unusual boulders which were formed during the Pennsylvanian Period, about 320 million years ago. Allow 30 to 45 minutes to walk the trail. Rock City Park is open 9 am to 6 pm every day from May 1 through October 31.

Continue along **Route 16** about two miles to an historical marker by the Knapp Creek Fire Hall which notes that this quiet little village was once an oil boom town that supported at least a dozen saloons, and that this was the birthplace of aviation pioneer William T. Piper.



Past Knapp Creek, **Route 16** follows the top of the narrow ridge into Pennsylvania, where the road designation changes to **Route 646**, then goes into a steep drop to **Route 346**. Turn right at the intersection and follow **Route 346** back to Bradford.



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