Map Lesson 1 page 4

 Glossary

Merino sheep, imported from Spain, are noted for their thick wool.

A second advantage which supported the industrial development of Pittsfield was the railroad. Railroads enter the town from the north, south, east and west.

 **Locate the railroads on the map.**

* **Name the railroad entering the town from the south.**
* **Name the railroad which runs north out of Pittsfield.**
* **Name the railroad which runs east and west through the town.**

Thought Question: Why would railroads be important for the industrial development of an area?

A final reason for the industrial development of Pittsfield was the abundance of natural resources in Berkshire County, where Pittsfield is located.

Berkshire County forests provided wood to build and heat large factory buildings. (Dickson. 9) Quarries in the county provided limestone which could be ground into lime to use in making paper in the county’s many paper mills. (Dickson. 17) Sand deposits were used in making glass in nearby towns like Cheshire and Lenox. (Dickson. 77)

Yet another resource important in manufacturing was introduced in Pittsfield in 1807. In that year, Pittsfield held the first agricultural fair in the United States. At the fair, held on the public square, Elkanan Watson exhibited his 2 Merino sheep\*. Other farmers were impressed. They added Marino sheep to their farms. By 1867 there were 50,000 sheep grazing in Berkshire pastures. 3

Thought question: Why would all those sheep have been important to factory owners like the Barkers or Pikes?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3 biography.yourdictionary.com/elkanah-watson