

# A Path To The Park Route



- 1 Buildings in the Unit Block of East Centre Street
- 2 Historical Marker: The Coal Strike of 1902
- 3 Mrs. T's Pierogies
- 4 Bicentennial Park
- 5 Corner of Centre and Main Streets

**P** Parking

 Start/Stop

..... Distance 1.08 Miles

# A Path To The Park Route

1

## **Buildings in the Unit Block of East Centre Street**

These beautifully restored buildings, from the late 1800s, give a sense of what downtown Shenandoah looked like in its heyday. As mining grew, Shenandoah also continued to grow with a population of nearly 30,000 in 1920.

2

## **Historical Marker: The Coal Strike of 1902**

The anthracite coal strike of 1902 was based on a call by 150,000 miners for higher wages, shorter workdays and the recognition of the United Mine Workers' Union. The threat of losing the heating fuel for homes lead President Theodore Roosevelt to intervene by appointing a commission that suspended the strike, however the miners did receive an increase in wages and reduction in work hours.

3

## **Mrs. T's Pierogies**

Mrs. T's Pierogies was started in Mary Twardzik's Shenandoah home kitchen by her son Ted Twardzik using his mother's recipe. The company soon out grew the small kitchen and moved to its current location on Centre Street where millions of pierogies are produced each week. Mrs. T's Pierogies are now sold nationwide in all fifty states and have been featured on both the Food Network and Cooking Channel.

4

## **Bicentennial Park**

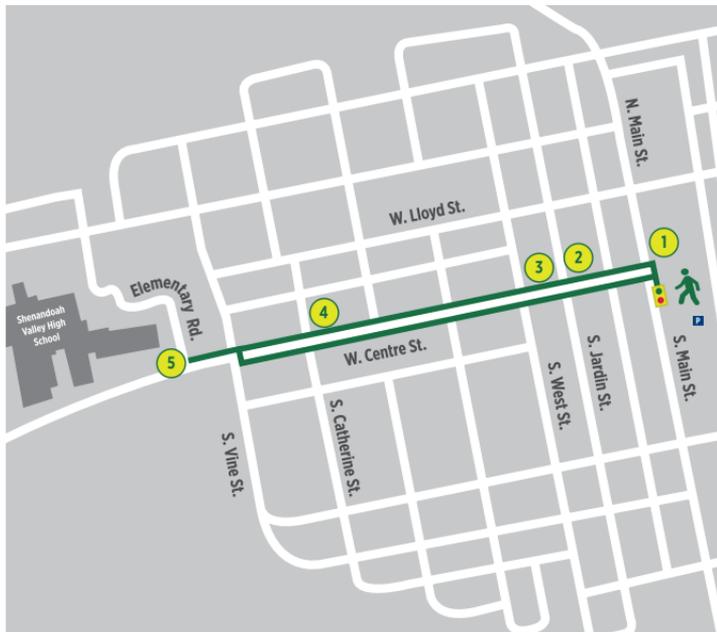
Bicentennial Park is at the site of an old coal breaker. It was formerly called Babe Ruth Park. Today, it is home to the Girls' Softball league as well as a gathering place for young families. Plans are underway for expanding the activities at the park, especially for children.

5

## **Corner of Centre and Main Streets**

This corner has many historical references. The two historical markers for the Dorsey Brothers and Little Lithuania are on the northern side of the street. Shenandoah was settled by many waves of ethnic groups. Today, this spot is on the parade route of the annual Parade of Nations in which about 20 nationalities march each year celebrating the ethnic diversity of Shenandoah.

# Dr. Rakowsky Way Route



- 1 Intersection of Main and Centre Streets
  - 2 The Lyric
  - 3 Polish American Fire Company
  - 4 St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church
  - 5 Rotary Way
- P** Parking
-  Start/Stop

..... Distance 1.04 Miles

# Dr. Rakowsky Way Route

1

## **Intersection of Main and Centre Streets**

Near here was the farm of the first settler in Shenandoah, Peter Kehley who settled here in the 1820s. This area was also a center for Molly Maguire activity. A famous murder of an Irishman, Edward Cosgrove, by a Welshman, Gomer James was one of the few recorded incidents of a Molly being murdered.

2

## **The Lyric**

Today the Lyric is a restaurant but in its heyday it was one of the thriving motion picture houses in Shenandoah. It first featured silent movies and live performances. Today it is preserved as one of the town's many restaurants.

3

## **Polish American Fire Company**

Founded on May 15, 1915, this is the first and only Polish American Fire Company in the United States. The present building was completed in 1922 and the company has been here ever since. The company has served the community well over the years. Today it has membership of over 150 including female members.

4

## **St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church**

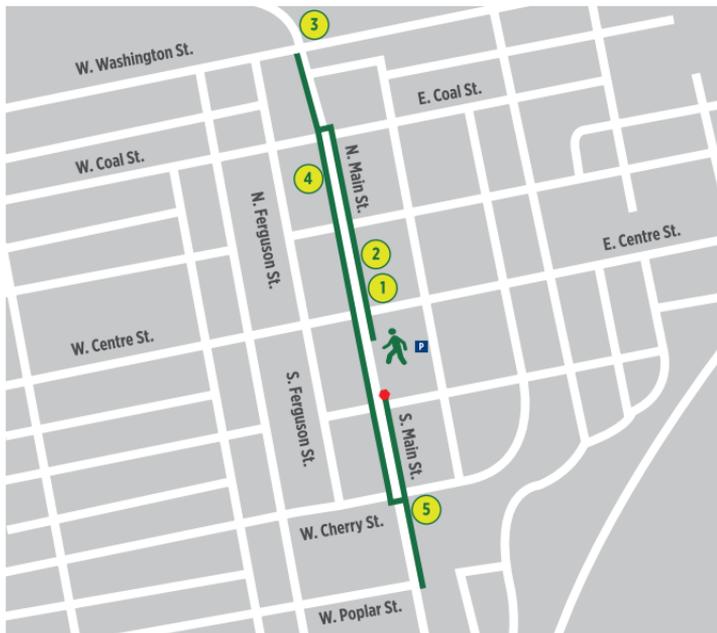
This is the former site of the original building that housed St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church. The church was founded in 1884 making it the first Eastern Rite Catholic Church in America. The church building was demolished in 2015 due to its deterioration. The present church building is on 114 South Chestnut Street.

5

## **Rotary Way**

Rotary Way was inaugurated in May of 2015 as a walking trail for school and public use. It was the dream of Dr. Stan Rakowsky, superintendent of Shenandoah Valley School district that both "town and gown" could enjoy the healthful benefits of a trail on the school property. Dr. Rakowsky will long be remembered as someone who cared deeply for the people of Shenandoah.

# Shenandoah Stroll Route



- 1 Intersection of Main and Centre Streets
  - 2 Dorsey Brothers Memorial
  - 3 The Pennsylvania Anthracite Miners' Memorial
  - 4 Anthony P. Damato Mural
  - 5 The Greater Shenandoah Historical Society
- P** Parking

..... Distance 0.83 Miles

# Shenandoah Stroll

## Route

1

### **Intersection of Main and Centre Streets**

Near here was the farm of the first settler in Shenandoah, Peter Kehley who settled here in the 1820s. This area was also a center for Molly Maguire activity. A famous murder of an Irishman, Edward Cosgrove, by a Welshman, Gomer James was one of the few recorded incidents of a Molly being murdered.

2

### **Dorsey Brothers Memorial**

Tommy Dorsey Sr. started his first band in Shenandoah in 1905. He was both a band leader and a music teacher. Tommy Dorsey, Jr. and his brother Jimmy learned their fundamentals in Shenandoah and then went on to become the leaders of some of America's most popular bands. The Dorsey brothers were the kings of the swing era.

3

### **The Pennsylvania Anthracite Miners' Memorial**

The center of the memorial is the three-paneled bronze base relief sculpture by Zenos Frudakis. The monument is dedicated to the thousands of miners who worked in the anthracite coal mines of the region. Memorial bricks surrounding the monument commemorate the names of some of the miners.

4

### **Anthony P Damato Mural**

The Anthony P. Damato mural is on the south wall of the American Legion Post named in his honor. Corporal Damato served in the 2nd battalion 22 Marines in the Marshall Island in WW II. On February 20, 1944, he sacrificed his life to save his fellow Marines. For this act of valor, Corporal Damato posthumously received the Medal of Honor.

5

### **The Greater Shenandoah Historical Society**

Formally the feed mill store and then Aranoff's Furniture Store, the Historical society embraces Shenandoah's history with Genealogy classes, exhibits and school memorabilia from two High schools: J. W. Cooper and Shenandoah Catholic. It is open on Saturdays, from May until October.