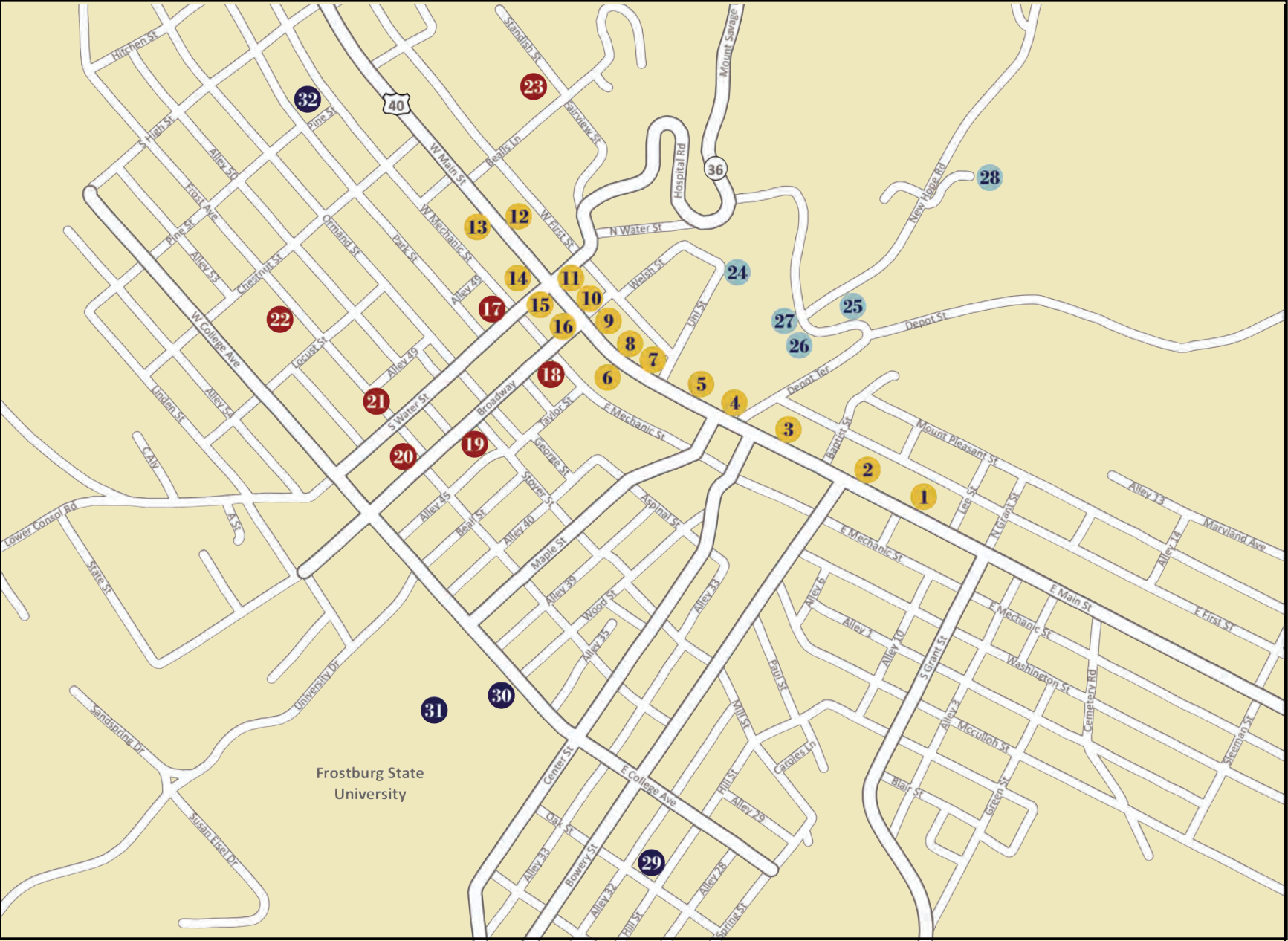


HISTORIC WALKING TOUR OF



DOWNTOWN FROSTBURG

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RESIDENTIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

- 1

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST: 160 E. Main Street – Zion, the oldest church building in Frostburg, was built in 1846 by the English Lutherans, sold to the German Lutherans in 1865, and is now the United Church of Christ. The tower and entrance date back to 1880, when the roof was raised to accommodate stained glass windows imported from Germany.
- 2

HOCKING HOUSE: 144 E. Main Street – This 1855 Greek Revival-Italianate-style house is known as the Hocking House, named after the Hocking family who were well-known musicians. As a very young man, George Hocking received a purse of gold from Queen Victoria for his performance. His sons were equally talented. Oral tradition says this house was linked to the Reese House across the street by a tunnel and was part of the Underground Railroad.
- 3

ELKS LODGE: 126 E. Main Street – Known as the Clarke-McCulloh house, this 1806 property contained the first log house in Frostburg (called Mt. Pleasant at the time). It was later replaced by a brick dwelling said to be part of the present structure.
- 4

NICKEL BUILDING: 84-88 E. Main Street – This building survived the cyclone of 1891 but not without losing its third story, which was torn off by the forceful winds. It once housed a print shop and a furniture shop and featured a cart path for horse-drawn carriages through the center of the building.
- 5

FISHER BUILDING: 74-76 E. Main Street – This building is noteworthy for its glazed brick façade. Andrew Ramsay, of neighboring town Mt. Savage, MD, found a process for baking and glazing brick in a single firing and won a prize at the St. Louis Fair for his product. Andrew, however, was an eccentric who refused to share his secret, so the process died with him.
- 6

PALACE THEATRE: 31 E. Main Street – The theatre originally opened in the early 1900s as a nickelodeon called the Dreamland Theatre. The building is a focal point and community space on Frostburg’s Main Street, and it continues to operate as a theatre into the present day.
- 7

MOUNTAIN CITY COFFEEHOUSE AND CREAMERY: 60 E. Main Street – Established in 1882 and rebuilt in 1938, the building’s Gothic architecture stands as a treasure to the downtown landscape. The small, stone building, with three arched windows, was once the showroom for Irwin Memorials, a tombstone maker, and is now a creamery and coffee cafe.
- 8

DIVINE MERCY PARISH PARISH PLAZA AND FROSTBURG MUSEUM: 44 E. Main Street – Currently home to St. Michael’s Church and Rectory and the Frostburg Museum, this site was the home of Meshach Frost, after whom the town of Frostburg was named, built in 1812. His log home was called Highland Hall and was a stagecoach stop along the Historic National Road. The gravesite of Meshach and Catherine Frost, plus the historic Braddock Stone, are located in the church plaza. Visit the Frostburg Museum to learn more about Frostburg’s rich history through displays of household items, tools and farming implements, a replica coal mine, photographs, and more.
- 9

LYRIC THEATRE: 18-20-22 E. Main Street – Built in 1876, the theatre was originally called Paul’s Hall then later became known as Moat’s Opera House. The original second floor included sunken footlights and a movable stage. Remodeled in 1907 to show moving pictures, it became known as the Wonderland Theater, which showed “The Great Train Robbery” in its first season. In 1916, the Palace bought the theater, renamed it to The Lyric, increased the seating to 700, and the year’s most dramatic movie “The Birth of the Nation” came to the theatre.
- 10

HOTEL GUNTER: 11 W. Main Street – Originally known as the Gladstone Hotel, this building opened in 1897 and boasted 100 hotel rooms. Built along the National Road, America’s first federally funded highway, the hotel was a popular stopover for travelers, including federal agents transporting prisoners from the midwest to Washington, DC. To house prisoners, jail cells were installed in the basement. During Prohibition, it is rumored that spirits were smuggled into the hotel by hiding them in the railcars that brought coal from the underground coal seam to the hotel’s boiler room. Today, you can see a replica coal mine, the old railcar tracks, and the speakeasy that hosted gatherings during that time.
- 11

AMERICAN LEGION: 27 W. Main Street – This structure memorializes the many soldiers who fought for freedom in wars since the city’s founding.
- 12

NELSON BEALL HOUSE: 49 W. Main Street – The Beall House was erected in 1875-1876 and was designed by Captain Nelson Beall, who spared no expense in its construction. The building is of American Common Bond brick construction and consists of two and a half stories, five bays wide, in an irregular “T” shaped block. It has an elegant facade, complete with bay windows, three-bay porch, and a mansard roof supported by brackets.
- 13

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: 48 W. Main Street – Occupying the same site longer than any other congregation in town, the original stone church was built in 1835, replaced in 1855 by a frame building, and rebuilt, again, in 1870. The stained glass windows memorialize many of the town’s earliest citizens.
- 14

ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN CHURCH: 34 W. Main Street – This red brick Romanesque Revival-style, gable-front church was built in 1872, along with the parsonage. Two years later, the church was subject to a city fire, and the church and parsonage structures held the fire back from progressing further up the hill. Due to extensive damage from the fire, the church was rebuilt in 1879.
- 15

PRINCESS RESTAURANT: 12 W. Main Street – This mainstay of Frostburg’s downtown community has celebrated over 80 years of business and four generations of family ownership. Visit the Truman Booth, where President Harry S. Truman and his wife, Bess, dined while passing through on Father’s Day, in 1953.
- 16

CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK: 2 W. Main Street – This two-story Neoclassical Revival-style building is finished in limestone and features large window bays across the side and front of both stories of the building. Constructed in 1910, this structure has hosted numerous banks, a theatre arts school, and a law firm.

- 17

C&W TRANSIT COMPANY: 21 S. Water Street – Built in 1927, this building was a terminal along the Cumberland and Westernport Electric Railway, a trolley system that consolidated regional trolley lines of Lonaconing, Midland, Frostburg, and Westernport into one system with nearly 30 miles of track, running from Cumberland, MD, to Frostburg, and then down to the valley of Westernport, linking together the largest far-western population centers of the region. After streetcars were discontinued in 1932, the location later became a bus terminal and served as an automobile service station for the neighboring car dealership.
- 18

GETZENDANNER HOUSE: 26 S. Broadway – This two-story Greek Revival-style house, with a full cornice, decorative posts, and columns, was built in 1855. The house reflects two styles, rumored to be the tastes of two different doctors’ wives. Since Dr. Getzendanner married three times and his successor, Dr. DeNaouley, is known to have remodeled extensively, we do not know which woman’s taste was responsible for which particular style.
- 19

ST. JOHN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 52 S. Broadway – This church occupies the site of a very early private school, which was moved on rollers and turned 90 degrees to become the parish house until the 1920s when it was replaced. The stone church was built in 1890, and the tower was added in 1923.
- 20

HAMILL COTTAGE: 69 S. Broadway – This house was built in 1853 by one of the daughters of the Frost founders and was originally of frame construction. Lord Napier, British Ambassador to the United States, rented it for the summer of 1857 and is rumored to have brought his butler and his family with him.
- 21

FROST AVENUE: Development of this area occurred predominantly after its annexation in 1871. The houses line the street on large lots and exhibit the styles of the period, including Queen Anne and, later, Colonial Revival architecture.
- 22

FROST MANSION: 56 Frost Avenue – Constructed in 1846 using local brick, the Frost Mansion is one of Frostburg’s oldest and most beautiful landmarks. Originally the home of Frostburg’s founding family members, Meshach and Catherine Frost, the mansion has served many uses, including a summer hotel, where Baltimore and Washington visitors sought respite from the summer heat, and as a funeral home and furniture store, operated by the Hafer family, including John J. Hafer, a Maryland District 1 Senator from 1990 to 2007.
- 23

STANDISH HOUSE: 6 Standish Street – This house was built between 1850 and 1860 by John E. Standish, a descendant of Captain Miles Standish of the Puritan. John Standish was a civil engineer, a prominent citizen of Frostburg, and a School Board Commissioner from 1867-1871.

DEPOT STREET

24 ARION BAND HALL: 35 Uhl Street – Established in 1877 by Germans immigrating to the area for coal mining jobs, the Arion Band is one of the oldest continuously operating community bands in the United States. The band hall was built in the mid-to-late 19th century to house the band.

25 FROSTBURG DEPOT: 19 Depot Street – The depot was designed by B&O Railroad architect Ephraim Baldwin of the Baltimore firm of Baldwin and Pennington. Constructed in 1891, the building served as a depot station along the Cumberland and Pennsylvania (later called the Western Maryland) Railroad Company, transporting Big Vein coal from the George's Creek area to Cumberland, MD. The station is now the terminus for the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad heritage train, which makes weekly trips from Cumberland to Frostburg and back during excursion season.

26 THRASHER CARRIAGE MUSEUM: 19 Depot Street – The Thrasher Carriage Museum houses one of the nation's top collections of horse-drawn vehicles, representing many eras. Pleasure vehicles, funeral wagons, sleighs, carts, and more are on display in the renovated 19th century warehouse.

27 C&P DEPOT HOTEL: 20 Depot Street – The hotel was built in the mid-to-late 19th century after the railroad from Cumberland to Piedmont, WV, unified as the C&P Railroad. The former divisions, the Mount Savage and Cumberland and the Georges Creek Coal and Iron company railroads, were connected in 1857 by what is now known as the C&P Tunnel, still visible adjacent to the hotel, behind the railroad turntable.

28 THE GREAT ALLEGHENY PASSAGE TRAILHEAD: Depot Switchback – This scenic rail trail offers 150 miles of hiking and biking between Cumberland, MD, and Pittsburgh, PA, following abandoned railway corridors of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad, Union Railroad, and the Western Maryland Railway. In Cumberland, the trail links to the C&O Canal Towpath, creating a contiguous 333 mile-long trail from Pittsburgh, PA, to Washington, DC.

OTHER NOTABLE AREAS

29 HILL STREET SCHOOL: 69 Hill Street – The Hill Street school is the oldest school building in Frostburg. It was erected in the late 19th century to provide additional elementary school classrooms and was eventually enlarged to accommodate a secondary school as well.

30 OLD MAIN AT FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY: 101 Braddock Road (College Avenue at Wood Street) – Frostburg State University was established in 1899 as the State Normal School No. 2, which educated students in teaching at the elementary level. Old Main was the original structure, which graduated its first class of eight students in 1904.

31 BROWNSVILLE - FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY UPPER QUAD: Brownsville was an African American community that began with two women, Tamer Brown and Elizabeth Jackson, who were both formerly enslaved persons. They purchased and raised houses on neighboring lots, and with the help of other African Americans living in Allegany County, they cultivated a rich culture and community that lasted from the 1860s to the 1950s. The neighborhood was purchased lot by lot, beginning in 1927, in order to expand the Normal School No. 2 (now Frostburg State University). There are no original structures. However, a monument commemorating the neighborhood and its citizens and founders is located behind Old Main and Frost Hall (adjacent to Cook Chapel) on the upper quad.

32 DICKERSON A.M.E. CHURCH: 146 W. Mechanic Street – The Dickerson African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) congregation of Frostburg was established in 1845. The original church was located on Ormand Street and known as Hall's Chapel. In 1881, the present Dickerson A.M.E. Church was constructed at the corner of West Mechanic and Pine Streets.



BRADDOCK STONE



HOTEL GUNTER

THRASHER CARRIAGE MUSEUM



BROWNSVILLE MEMORIAL

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HISTORIC WALKING TOUR OF DOWNTOWN FROSTBURG



FROSTBURG DEPOT



PALACE THEATRE