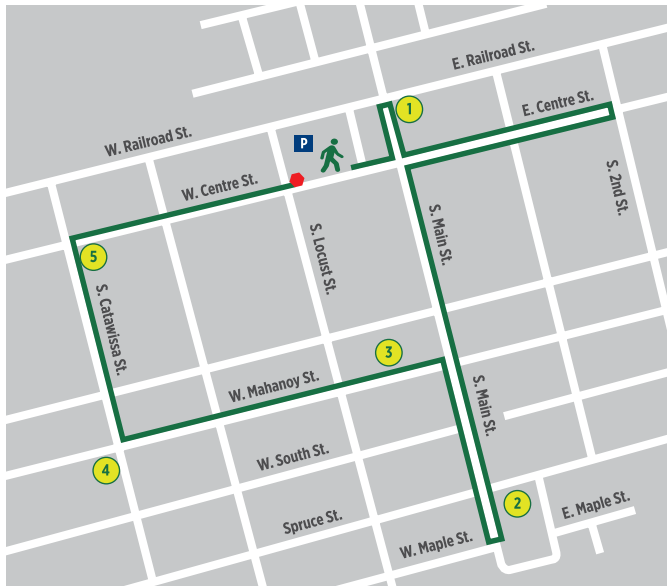


# An Old Mahanoy Stroll

Route



- 1 Railroads
- 2 Smith Mansion
- 3 Mahanoy City Library
- 4 Synagogue Congregation Beth Israel
- 5 Molly Maguire Historic Park
- P Parking

..... Distance 1.0 Mile

Steps to a Healthier You

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# An Old Mahanoy Stroll Route

1

## **Railroads**

With the discovery of coal near Mahanoy City the need to transport the coal to the big city markets quickly was paramount. Construction of the Mahanoy Tunnel through an anthracite mountain made it possible to bring not only coal to the burgeoning industrial revolution, but also culture and opportunity to its citizens.

2

## **Smith Mansion**

Built at a cost of \$40,000 in 1908, this house features a wrap-around porch, ornate woodwork, a three story tower, inlaid floors and crystal chandeliers. It is a great example of late Victorian architecture. It was built by John Zenchak Smith, the wealthiest Carpatho-Rusyn of his era. He spearheaded the movement to build St. Mary's Byzantine Church and was a major supporter.

3

## **Mahanoy City Library**

Built in 1906 by the Knights of Columbus, the first floor of this building served as their meeting rooms and offices. Upstairs was their grand ballroom. The original tin ceiling, wooden floor, lights and bookcases are still intact. In 2009, a major reconstruction project opened the first and second floors to the public including the handicapped by installing an elevator and fire safe stair tower.

4

## **Synagogue Congregation Beth Israel**

The Jewish community in Mahanoy City organized a congregation in 1888. In 1922, the congregation built this synagogue. The words Congregation Beth Israel still appear in Hebrew above the door.

5

## **Molly Maguire Historic Park**

This small park is a powerful reminder of the famed Molly Maguires and the early labor struggles in the mines. The history of the Molly Maguires is told on the walls of the park with a sculpture that shows a man bound at his hands and feet with ropes, a hood over his head, and ready for the gallows.