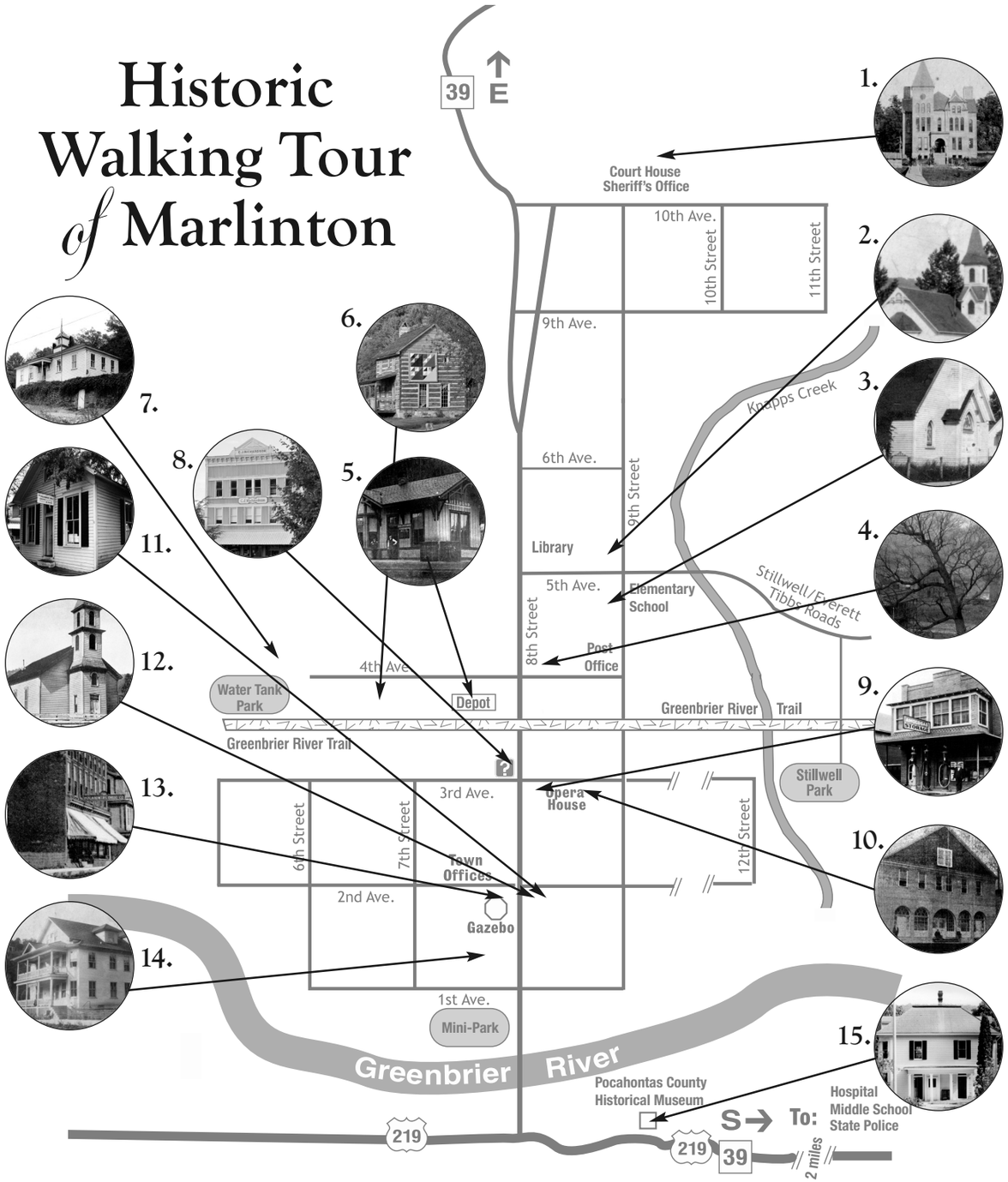
Historic Walking Tour *of* Marlinton



15. Frank and Anna Hunter House/ Museum

17890 Seneca Trail/
US Route 219

The Frank and Anna Hunter House (NRHP*) was built in 1904 on the west side of the Greenbrier River. It was purchased by The Pocahontas County Historical Society in 1962 and restored as a museum. In addition to artifacts, photographs and historical records, the museum is home to the Pearl S. Buck Library and the historic Kee Cabin.

Preserving Pocahontas is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit organization preserving historical records and artifacts related to the history of Pocahontas County, West Virginia. We work with the Pocahontas County Historical Society to identify, stabilize, curate and store papers, photos, records, recordings and artifacts. We capture writings, photographs, interviews, buildings, and artifacts as digital images, sound files and text. We maintain a digital library on the World Wide Web where digitized material is freely available to researchers, historians, students and genealogists.

PreservingPocahontas.org
PocahontasHistorical.org

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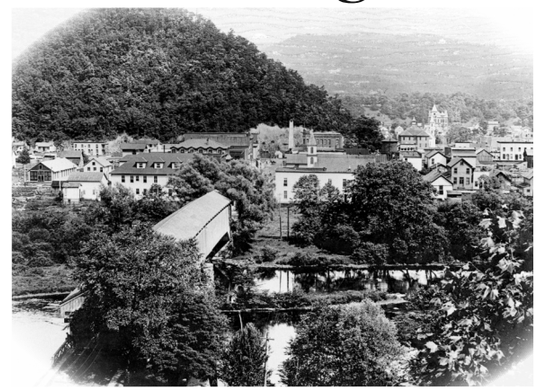
Historic Walking Tour

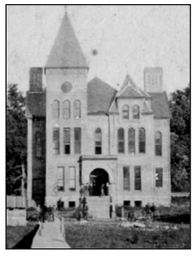
Marlinton, West Virginia



In 1749, Jacob Marlin and Stephen Sewall settled in Marlin's Bottom, giving Marlinton the distinction of "first permanent English settlement west of the Alleghenies." The county seat was moved to Marlinton in 1891 and the town was incorporated in 1900.

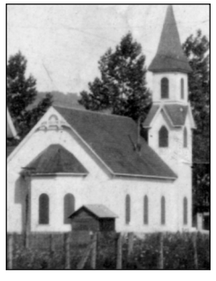
Sponsored by Preserving Pocahontas and the Pocahontas County Historical Society

1. Pocahontas County Courthouse and Jail



900 Tenth Avenue

The courthouse (NRHP*) was built in 1894 when the county seat was moved to Marlinton from Hunters-ville. It is a two and a half-story brick, Victorian Romanesque building with a stone raised basement. The front elevation features two towers, one at each corner. The present jail building is a two-story brick building in simple Romanesque Style. It consists of the jailer's residence from the original building and a jail section built in 1926.

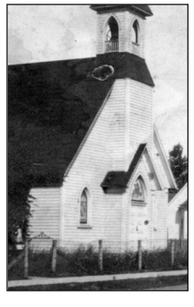


2. Marlinton United Methodist Church

Ninth Street and Sixth Avenue

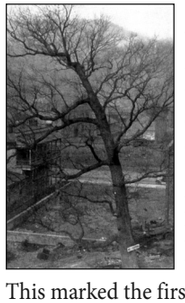
Marlinton became a regular preaching appointment for the Methodists of this area in 1892. The first church, a wooden structure, was built in 1896-97. In 1922, ground was broken for a new brick church. The original wooden structure was moved north of Marlinton and is now named Central Union Methodist Church.

3. St. John's Episcopal Church



415 Ninth Street

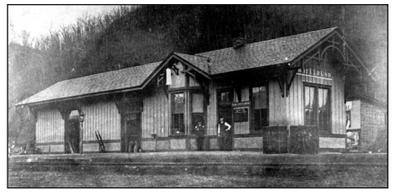
In 1908, the Marlinton Mission of St. John's was organized and Mr. John T. McGraw donated a lot for the building of the church. In 1910, Bishop Peterkin, the state's first Episcopal bishop, preached there. Still hanging in the church is the certificate received when Bishop Gravatt consecrated St. John's, December 3, 1911.



4. Lewis Oaks

Eighth Street and Fourth Avenue

On the 6th day of October, 1751, Col. Andrew Lewis, surveying for the Greenbrier Company, marked two trees as a corner of a survey of 470 acres, taking in the bottom land on the river. These "corner oaks" were located on Route 39 east of the railroad, where Mitchell Chevrolet is now located. This marked the first survey west of the Alleghenies.



5. Marlinton Railroad Depot

Eighth Street & Fourth Avenue

The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad completed its rail line through Marlinton in 1900 when the timber boom was in full swing. The depot was built in 1901. The last passenger train ran in 1958, and in 1978, the C&O line was abandoned. After being renovated, the train station was home to a craft shop, info center and the county's tourism office. It was destroyed by fire in 2008. The Marlinton Depot was rebuilt and is now in operation as the Pocahontas County Artisan Co-op's 4th Avenue Gallery.

6. McGlaughlin Cabin

Fourth Avenue

The Squire Hugh McGlaughlin House is the oldest building in Marlinton. Hugh McGlaughlin, a member of the county court, built the house in 1850. He also ran a hotel and a tavern there. The original site was at present-day Tenth Avenue near St. John Neumann Catholic Church. The log cabin was discovered in 1997, neatly tucked inside a larger house being torn down. The cabin was purchased by the Historic Landmarks Commission, dismantled and reconstructed on Fourth Avenue, north of the Marlinton Depot.

7. Greenbrier Hill School

Fourth Avenue

Prior to desegregation, black students in Marlinton attended Greenbrier Hill School, which was built about 1917, taking the place of a school building on Price Run. By 1966, all the schools in the county had been integrated and Greenbrier Hill School was closed. The building has been privately owned since 1973.

***NRHP - National Registry of Historic Places**

8. C. J. Richardson Hardware & Furniture

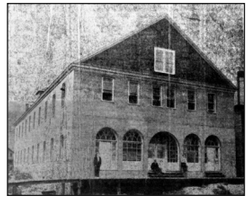
309 Eighth Street

Charles J. Richardson came to Marlinton with his wife, Annie Laurie Thomas, in 1900. He started C. J. Richardson Hardware & Furniture on Seneca Trail and soon built a new store on Main Street to be near the railroad. He operated a successful business there and it has continued to be run by the Richardson family to this day.

9. Marlinton Electric Company

812 Third Avenue

Carl Sheets and Frank King started Marlinton Electric Company in 1916, primarily to run the town-owned steam-fired generators and operate the water plant. They incorporated with stockholders in 1926, moved into a new building on Third Avenue and went into the gasoline business. They sold automobiles for a while and had one of the first Nash dealerships in existence. The business was in operation for more than 90 years.



10. Marlinton Opera House

818 Third Avenue

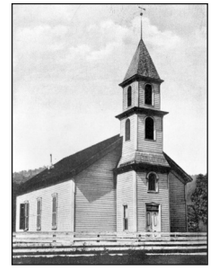
Built by J. G. Tilton in 1910, this is the oldest reinforced concrete building in West Virginia. It was utilized by artists, local drama, minstrel shows and movies. Tilton published *The Marlinton Messenger* here, and his family lived upstairs. Though he lost the building in 1914, it was transferred back to Mrs. Tilton in 1920 and remained in the family until 1977. It was used as a car dealership and a warehouse until it was acquired by the Pocahontas County Historic Landmarks Commission in 1991. It has been restored to its original use as the Pocahontas County Opera House and is now the center for performing arts in the county. (NRHP*)

11. The Pocahontas Times

810 Second Avenue

The first newspaper in Pocahontas County started at Huntersville in 1883 and moved to Marlinton in 1892. This print shop (NRHP*) was built in 1901 by the Price family. In 1906, Calvin W. Price became the owner and editor. The paper was printed on a Babcock Reliance flatbed press until 1974. The Times is now published in its new home on Main Street. It was the last newspaper in America to use hand-set type.

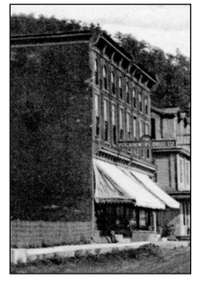
12. Marlinton Presbyterian Church



Eighth Street and Second Avenue

Marlinton Presbyterian Church was organized in 1881 as the Marlin's Bottom Church. A wooden church building was completed on Main Street in 1883, with Dr. William T. Price called as the first minister. The present brick building was erected in 1915.

13. I.O.O.F. Lodge Building



Eighth Street and Second Avenue

Also known as the Peacock building, this structure is a good local example of an Italianate-style commercial building. It was built in 1905 by Brown Yeager. The Independent Order of Oddfellows Lodge 102, in partnership with Modern Woodmen of America, purchased the Yeager building in 1911 and made it their lodge hall. During the early 20th century it housed the Pocahontas Drug Company, c. 1908; a movie picture house, c. 1911; a restaurant, Monongahela Power Company and shoe shop between c. 1912-1924. (NRHP*)

14. Pocahontas Memorial Hospital

Eighth Street

The predecessor to the present day Pocahontas Memorial Hospital was a 40' by 65' building completed in 1906 on Main Street. The County Court purchased the hospital in 1921, and in 1926 designated the facility as a memorial hospital to honor the county veterans of WWI. The building was destroyed by fire in December 1930 and a new building was erected. The hospital moved to Beard Heights in 1995 and the Gazebo Park now occupies its former location.