

# **QUARRYVILLE WALKING PATH HISTORY GUIDE**

**ENJOY A STROLL THROUGH THE  
BOROUGH AND LEARN ABOUT  
LOCAL HISTORY WHILE YOU WALK!**



**INFORMATION FOR THIS GUIDE WAS TAKEN  
FROM THE "QUARRYVILLE WALKING TOUR"-  
WRITTEN AND CONDUCTED BY CATHARINE  
JEANSTORN AND FROM THE BOOK  
"QUARRYVILLE", WRITTEN BY MIKE ROTH AND  
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## Quarryville Walking Path History Guide

1. Oak Hill Fellowship Church (formerly St. Pauls Church) 1 West Fourth St.  
Until 1851 there was no church within 3 miles of Quarryville. St. Paul's German Reformed Church was founded by Mr. and Mrs. George Hensel Sr. It was the "daughter" church of Zion German Reformed Church, (now Zion United Church of Christ), in New Providence. It was built at a cost of \$2,000.00. It was a wooden structure enclosed by a fence with a cemetery on the west side of the church.  
In 1893, the congregation voted to build a stone church with stained glass windows, at a cost of \$5,000.00.  
In 1929 the stone church was replaced with a brick structure. The stone was saved and used as a foundation for the new building. The stone is visible on the outside of the foundation. The church was dedicated in 1930, costing \$50,000.00. The stained-glass windows from the stone church were saved and used in the new building, with the exception of 3 triangular windows, each with an angel face. These were known as "cherub windows" and are on display in the present building. The large window facing S. Church St. is a valuable rose window. It is made of curtain or drapery glass, which was imported from England and is known as a tiffany window. Leander Hensel purchased and presented that window.  
In 1960 a fire started in the organ chamber, which caused a lot of smoke damage, but did not destroy the structure. Renovations were made and a new organ was installed.  
In 1964, the Christian Education Building was added, which cost \$83,000.00. This new wing added a floor space of 6300 square feet. The lower level doubled the size of the social hall.  
The church has had several names: German Reformed Church, Evangelical and Reformed Church, St. Paul's United Church of Christ, St. Paul's Church and currently Oak Hill Fellowship Church.

2. Walter Aument Home - 301 South Church St.

This residence was the former home of Walter Aument who was in the lumber business until 1940 at the current location of Walter and Jackson Lumber. Mr. Aument wanted to build a hospital in Quarryville but died of a heart attack at the age of 65 in 1943. In his will, he stipulated that this property and the land adjacent should be used as a hospital after his surviving wife

passed. Gertrude Aument died in 1978 and the amount remaining in the estate was \$225,000.00, nowhere near enough to build a hospital. The funds were used to supplement the existing Southern Lancaster County Family Health Center (317 W. Chestnut St.) operated by Lancaster General Hospital. The hospital agreed to rename the facility as the Walter L. Aument Health Center in recognition of Mr. Aument's financial support.

3. Howard Reynolds Home- 224 S. Church St.

Howard began his printing career as a printer's helper at the Quarryville Sun and ultimately bought out his brother's share in the newspaper in 1898. In 1904, he bought the remaining half of the business from David R. Forbes. Mr. Reynolds was a founding member of the Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers Association and at the time of his retirement in 1954, the sole living charter member of that organization. Mr. Reynolds was also a trustee of the Quarryville Fire Co. and officially broke ground for the new fire hall on East State St. in 1932.

4. 4 South Church Street- Former George Hensel Sr. Hardware Store

George Hensel Sr. migrated from Maryland and became a very prominent citizen of the Borough. Mr. Hensel started as a stock boy in the Brown and Haines Hardware store at this site in 1837. A young man with an enterprising spirit, he was offered a partnership in the business in 1842. It became Haines and Hensel Hardware and in 1847, a new store was built on this site. In 1855, at the age of 32, Mr. Hensel purchased his partner's interest in the business. George Hensel, Jr. dropped out of school at age 16 to become a clerk in his father's store. He served his father in this capacity until he became a partner in the business in 1887. After George Sr.'s death in 1892, George Jr. purchased his father's interest in the business from the estate. George Hensel Jr. was known as a country philosopher and banker. The store became a destination for travelers and tourists who would stop and speak with Mr. Hensel on politics, banking and business. George Jr. was known as the founder of the Slumbering Groundhog Lodge in 1895. Mr. Hensel was very community minded and was elected as President of the Quarryville National Bank and the Quarryville Fire Company. He also drove the last spike on the Atglen and Susquehanna Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad when it was completed in 1906. George Jr. passed away in 1943. The store remained in business here and across the street until 1963. The original store building was

razed in 1959 and was replaced by an Atlantic Gas Station which remained until 1974 when it was purchased by the Risk family. They remodeled the building and added to the gas station for their business, Paul Risk Associates.

5. Former Western Auto Store- 2 East State St.

Currently Sam's New York Style Pizza, this was the Western Auto Store (hardware store). The Western Auto Store was opened on July 3, 1948. The building was damaged by the well-known "Acme Fire" of September, 1958. The Acme Store was adjacent to Western Auto. It lost the third floor from the fire but was repaired and reopened. It remained a Western Auto Store until 1974. It became a pizza shop and restaurant in 1980. The building also contained the Borough's lock up or jail in the basement. Speaking of the "Keeping Room" or jail, here are some fines that were in effect around 1825:  
\$1.00 fine if your foot pavement was not cleaned by 10:00AM Saturday  
\$2.00 fine if you deposited coal ashes or oyster shells on piked streets  
\$2.00 speeding fine, .50 for bikes on sidewalks  
\$5.00 fine or 24 hours in jail for driving animals on foot pavement  
\$10.00 fine or 10 days in jail for roller skating on sidewalks  
\$10.00 fine or 10 days labor on streets for public drunkenness  
Police Officers earned \$10.00 per month

6. 1 East State Street-Former Quarryville National Bank

George Hensel Sr. started the Quarryville National Bank in 1883. The bank contained living quarters for the cashier, Alfred Harkness and his family. The building was demolished and the current bank building was completed in 1929 at a cost of \$125,000.00. The bank has had many name changes. First, the Quarryville National Bank and then Lancaster County National Bank in 1961. In 1963 it merged with Farmers National Bank to become Lancaster County National Central Bank. In 1970 it merged again to become National Central Bank. In 1980 it became Hamilton Bank. In 1986 it became Corestates Bank. It became First Union Bank in 1998. In 2001 it became Wachovia Bank N.A. and finally (not really) it became Wells Fargo in 2011. Wells Fargo recently announce closure of their branch in Quarryville in September of 2023. Structurally, this building has not changed.

#### 7. Bank Drive Thru Lot- East State Street

Prior to the bank drive thru, there was a large 3 story building that housed businesses, a dance hall and a stage. The American Mechanics Association met there in the 1920's. The building was known as the O.U.A.M. Hall and hosted various civic groups that needed a place to meet before having their own buildings. The Quarryville Fire Co. met here for several years in the early 1900's. The Quarryville Cornet Band was reorganized here in 1920. Southern End veterans met here in 1921 to form the American Legion Post. The Slumbering Groundhog Lodge even used the hall as an initiation site in 1929. High School commencement services were held here in 1904 and several years after prior to the new high school being built in 1915. The first floor hosted a restaurant, the most notable being Freelen Groff's Restaurant which operated from 1906-1916 at which time he purchased property immediately to the east and built a restaurant. Joe Steckler purchased the building in 1946 and moved his electrical supply house business as well as his residence to the building. Prior to demolition in 1971, the building housed Bill Herr's TV shop and Barbies Record Bar.

#### 8. 11 East State Street- Former Freelen Groff Restaurant

Freelen Groff opened his new restaurant at this site in 1916. You can see that the original 2 story home located at the front of the lot was moved back towards Bank Avenue and then the 1 story restaurant was built facing State Street. In 1957 Mr. Groff sold the restaurant to Richard L. Adams. Mr. Adams opened Adams Luncheonette and it remained open until 1970. The residence is now residential rental property.

#### 9. 12 East State Street- Former Quarryville Freight Station

Currently Bev's Bridal Shop, this was the location of the Quarryville freight Station. The station was active in the late 1800's through the mid 1900's. The railroad used to come by the station and then proceeded south through the Borough to the former fertilizer plant the was on Park Avenue. The freight station was torn down in 1982.

#### 10. 21 East State Street- Former Ferguson and Hassler Store

Currently Solanco Glass and Mirror, this was the site of the first Ferguson and Hassler Store. Ellis Ferguson and George Hassler were clerks in Dickinson's Store on the corner of State and Lime Streets. In 1916 they

started their own store. Later they added the addition where the Dollar General Store is now. The addition became the grocery portion of the store and the original part remained a hardware and dry goods store.

11. 27 East State Street- Former Forbes Men's and Boy's Store

Built in 1933, James Forbes owned and managed the store which also sold newspapers. Mr. Forbes employed paper boys for customers who desired home delivery. Mr. Forbes son, Roland, owned and managed the store until he retired in 1980. The building currently houses Coble Tax Service.

12. 32 East State Street- Former V. Chester Brown Building

Built in 1921, this building housed an ice cream parlor and a restaurant in early years in one half of the structure. In 1927 the post office was moved to this location in the other half of the building. It operated here until 1954. Mr. Brown used the basement of the building to run his appliance business. The building also housed a state liquor store (1956-1996), a jewelry store, a drug store and a fabric shop.

13. 40 East State Street- Former Trolley Station

This structure built in 1919, was the station for the trolley line that ran to Lancaster. It operated until 1932 when the bus lines took over the trolley routes. The building became a bus station and also housed a retail area that sold candy, gum, cigarettes, etc. until 1971. The building was then sold to Lester Simon who utilized it as a sewing machine repair shop.

14. 24 South Hess Street- Former Albert Fritz Home

This home built in 1906 was the residence of Albert Fritz. Mr. Fritz is known for building and operating the first movie house in Quarryville, the Central Opera House.

15. 101 South Hess Street- Memorial United Methodist Church

Ground breaking for the second Methodist church took place in May of 1920. The previous year the leadership decided to add the word Memorial to the former church's name which was Quarryville Methodist Episcopal Church and was located on East State Street. The construction costs for the church and parsonage were estimated to be \$30,000.00. The building was dedicated in November of 1921. That day, the Sunday School classes began at the old church on State Street and walked down State Street and

up Hess Street to the new building. The new name, Memorial, was a tribute to those who gave their lives for their country during the Civil War and World War I and the large stained-glass window on the Second Street side of the building honors fallen heroes. This large window was presented by Mr. and Mrs. I. Haines Dickinson, who owned a grocery store on the corner of State and Lime Streets.

16. 121 South Hess Street - Former Quarryville High School

The school, built in 1915 had 2 additions added in 1930 and 1936. After the Solanco School District was formed, the building was used solely as a high school. After the new Solanco High School was completed in 1961, the building was used as a junior high school. After the completion of Smith Middle School, the district moved their administrative offices into the building which remain to this day. Take note of the Peach Bottom slate on the roof. Peach Bottom slate was quarried on both the York and Lancaster County side of the Susquehanna River.

17. 122 South Hess Street- Galen Fritz Sr. Home

This stone home built in 1915 was the home of Galen Fritz Sr. Galen Fritz Jr. 's daughter, Joyce (Fritz) Byers, is the founder of Byer's Choice Carolers. Galen's wife, Nellie, was a teacher at Quarryville Elementary School.

18. 27-33 East Fourth Street- Former Fritz Warehouses

The building on the corner was the third creamery established in Quarryville. It was built in 1903 and the creamery was established the same year by the Elgin Company and then quickly sold to local farmers who operated it under the name "Quarryville Dairy Company Ltd.". Later, this building and the brick warehouse beside it were used by E.B. Fritz & Sons in their hay and grain business.

19. School District Warehouse- Former Bloch Brothers Warehouse

This terra-cotta block warehouse at the corner of East Fourth Street and South Hess Street, was owned by the Bloch Brothers Tobacco Company. It was built in 1923 and stored tobacco that was grown locally. The building bears the signature advertising slogan for the company "Chew Mail Pouch Tobacco" on the west side of the warehouse. The building was sold to the Solanco School District in 1994 and is used as the district's warehouse.