

WELCOME

to Mount Hope



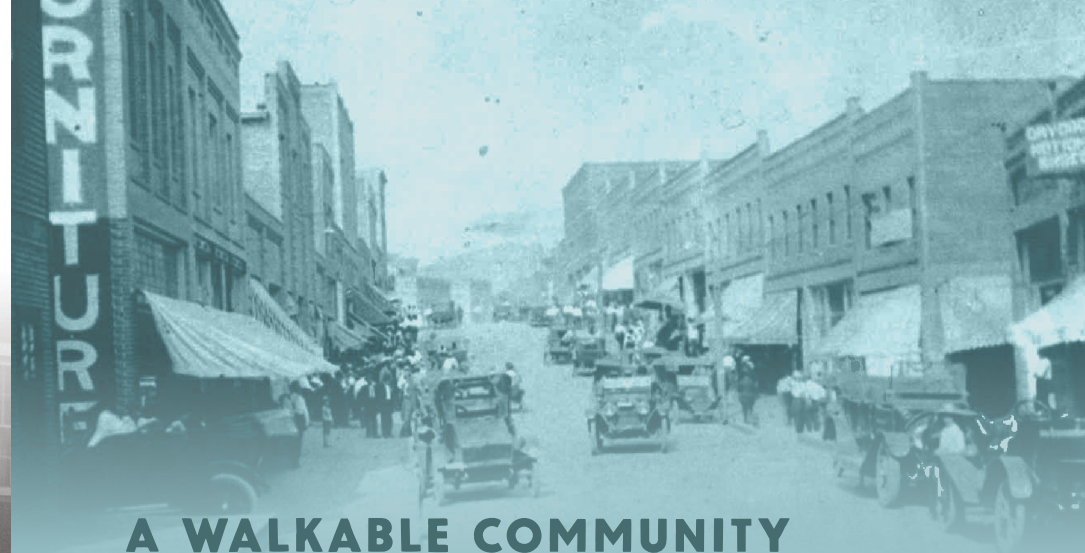
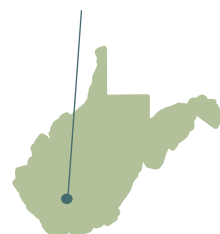
THE PHOENIX CITY

The Mount Hope Historic District contains 150 structures of architectural significance, as well as a variety of vernacular buildings, which reflect the building traditions prevalent in this part of West Virginia between the 1890s and the 1950s.

The Mount Hope Revitalization Coalition launched the historic walking tour and public art initiative in order to highlight the distinct quality of the historic district and support downtown redevelopment.

PARTNERS INCLUDE: Fayette County Urban Renewal Authority, Active Southern WV, Harmony for Hope, Crawford Holdings, National Coal Heritage Authority, National Park Service, Appalachian Regional Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, Conservation Fund, Preserve WV AmeriCorps, Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, Oak Hill Sherwin Williams, Mountains of Hope, and City of Mount Hope

MOUNT HOPE



A WALKABLE COMMUNITY

Gateway to New River

Active Southern West Virginia embraced Mount Hope's natural assets and central location in the New River Gorge region by developing a network of connected trails and walking paths. Historical sites are highlighted along the trails, and you can easily walk, bike, and hike from downtown utilizing the walking tour and Phoenix fitness stations and trail. Trails allow residents and visitors to enjoy an active lifestyle, making Mount Hope a great place to slow down and enjoy Wild and Wonderful West Virginia!



MOUNT HOPE PHOENIX WALL

by Ian Bode and Brian Pickens

Commissioned by the Revitalization Coalition, the Phoenix Wall is a bold representation of Mount Hope's connection to the past while looking forward to the future. The mural is created in Bode's signature style, including his recognizable "Passenger" figure, and uses bright imagery to tell the community's story.

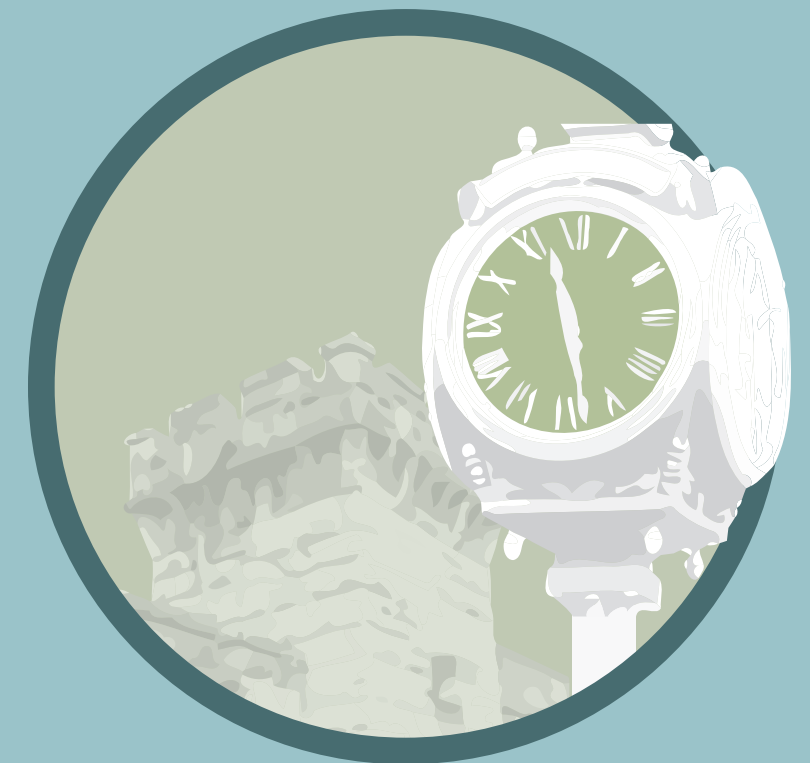
Additional Resources

To learn more about Mount Hope's historic district, recreation opportunities, community and economic development initiatives, and more, please visit:

mthopewv.org/historic-walking-tour

For detailed descriptions of sites along the tour, and an interactive directory of historical and cultural sites in the area, please download the app at:

www.theclio.com



Mount Hope

HISTORIC

Walking Tour

Welcome to our Appalachian town, nestled in the heart of the New River Gorge National River. Explore the area, meet the people, and see the potential.

Outdoor adventure, history, and discovery await!

Mount Hope

HISTORIC

Walking Tour

--- PHOENIX FITNESS TRAIL

— DUNLOUP CREEK

Beckley
← US-19 S & I-64/77



Fayetteville
New River Gorge →
Thurmond
US-19 N

Map not to scale.

PUBLIC ART Projects

A DUBOIS ON MAIN MUSEUM

Depicting the African-American history of the area, this mural pays homage to one of two historically black high schools in Fayette County. Painted by DuBois alumni and community volunteers.

B MOUNT HOPE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT MURAL

Represents the fire of 1910 which destroyed the town. Handprints of fifth grade students create a rainbow with Phoenixes rising over the mountain tops, illustrating a community known for reinventing itself.

C MOUNT HOPE PHOENIX WALL

Installed in 2018, at Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant, this colorful mural depicts the people, places and events which characterize the area. Featuring present and future possibilities for the town of Mount Hope.

HISTORICAL Sites

1 SILTIX MINE PORTAL

A sealed drift portal of the former Siltix Mine that operated until 1984. The portal also serves as a memorial for the victims of an explosion that occurred at the mine on July 23, 1966.

2 COAL HERITAGE PARK

Features a cut stone water fountain, an exposed vein of the Sewell seam of coal framed and inscribed with The Famous New River Smokeless Coal, and interpretive signage telling the history of Mount Hope.

3 COAL HERITAGE DISCOVERY CENTER

Two-story vernacular commercial building, built in 1920. Currently being restored for the Coal Heritage Discovery Center, a visitor center featuring coal history interpretive exhibits.

4 AIDE'S DEPARTMENT STORE

Two-story commercial building once home to Aide's Department Store. Opened in the 1930s and closed in the early 1990s. Featuring a nostalgic ghost sign depicting Mount Hope's only Department Store.

5 OLD STONE BANK

Built in 1897, this building is one of the oldest remaining structures in Mount Hope. The former First National Bank of Mount Hope survived the fire of 1910.

6 BON-BON'S CONFECTIONERY & HARDWARE

Established in the 1920s, this soda fountain and candy shop was operated by the Bonifacio family, and was a gathering place for residents for many years.

7 GARRETT & MCNABB BLOCK

With an architecturally distinctive stair-step façade, this district reflects Main Street commerce within the New River coal fields, featuring commercial architecture post-dating the fire of 1910.

8 PRINCESS THEATER & MASONIC TEMPLE

Mount Hope's Princess Theater opened in 1928 inside the Neo-Classical style Masonic Building. The 800-seat, first-floor auditorium, part of J. Woodrow Thomas's circuit, offered films and performances.

9 MOUNT HOPE COMMUNITY CENTER

Built by the New River Company in 1922 to house the Loup Creek Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), it originally contained a swimming pool, bowling alleys, dorm rooms, and a full-sized gymnasium.

10 NEW RIVER COMPANY STORE

This structure, built in 1941, was one of the company stores owned by the New River Company, serving miners and their families from the surrounding coal camps.



Image courtesy of Smithsonian American Art Museum

12 NEW RIVER COMPANY GENERAL OFFICE BUILDING

Built in 1917 to consolidate the management functions of the New River Company into one location as part of an overall modernization of the company.

13 THE MOUNTAINAIR HOTEL

Built in 1910 by the New River Company to house those who came to town to conduct business. Former names include Hotel Mount Hope and New River Hotel. Red brick likely added in the 1930s.

14 STADIUM TERRACE

Constructed in 1939, West Virginia architect H. Rus Warne designed one of the first public housing facilities known in West Virginia. Featuring twenty-five identical double houses of wood frame construction.

15 MOUNT HOPE MUNICIPAL STADIUM

Designed in 1933 by Mount Hope resident George Siems, a civil engineer. Construction was accomplished through local fund raising and labor provided by a series of public works employment programs.