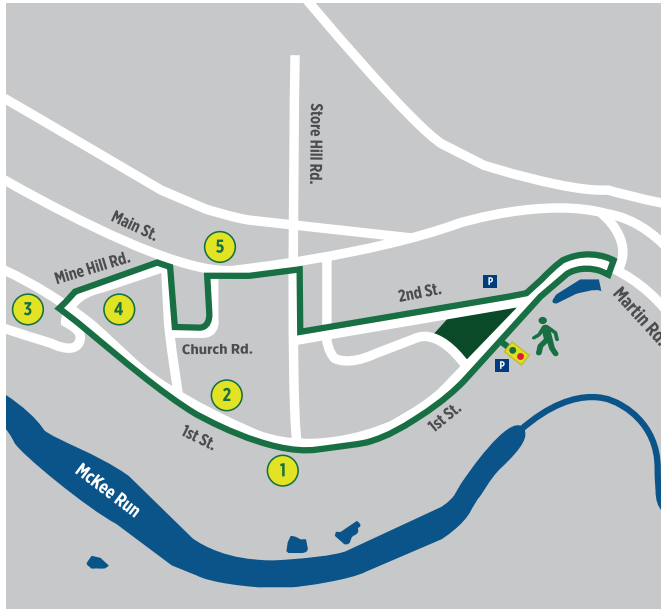



Ernest Route



- 1 Ernest Company Store
 - 2 Ernest Doctor's Office
 - 3 Ernest Mine Office
 - 4 The Ernest Company Church
 - 5 Ernest Elementary School
- P** Parking
-  Start/Stop

..... Distance 1.5 Miles

Ernest Route

1

Ernest Company Store

This site was once the establishment of the Ernest Company Store. In 1903, the Company Store was a warehouse constructed by R & P Coal Company for better quality shoes, clothing, and household items. A fire gutted the store forcing it to close on September 29, 1972. Since then, the lot has remained vacant.

2

Ernest Doctor's Office

Although today it is a privately owned residence, the property was formerly the location of the Ernest Doctor's Office, which housed a full-time doctor for the local miners and their families. When the mine was open, it was common for the doctor to make house calls at the patients' convenience.

3

Ernest Mine Office

Mine Office is where the general business of the Ernest Mine took place. Due to insufficient funds, the mines finally closed in 1965.

4

The Ernest Company Church

In 1933, the Ernest Company Church, formally known as Mt. Zion Baptist Church, had a predominantly African American Christian congregation. The church building slowly deteriorated and, by 1980, was vacated, leaving only the existing foundation. Years later, the Ernest Bible Church purchased the property and transformed it into what is today the church parking lot.

5

Ernest Elementary School

The empty lot was once the site of the Ernest Public School, which was attended by immigrant children of over 13 different nationalities. The school closed in 1964 and was demolished shortly after due to its poor conditions. At the time, all students were moved to Rayne Elementary, a neighboring school, to continue their education.