



ART & ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE

Presentation at APA Annual Conference Erie PA October 2024
Creative Placemaking: Building Spaces for Community Life
The Arc Community Greenspace
Meadville, Pennsylvania

Amara Geffen

Artist • Educator • Community Activist

Home Studio Art Practice Public Art Practice C.V.



Proscenium Arch, Poetry Park
Erie, PA.

Public Art Practice



A&E History and Timeline



The Arc Greenspace & Bloom Where You're *

Planted



Blue Box Renaissance



Conneaut Lake: Our Town Project & Ganesh



Erie, PA Poetry Park Project



In Praise of Land & Water *



Meadville's Public Art Trail *



Market Alley



Market Square Rain Garden



Meadville at the Crossroads



Mill Run Highlighting



North Street Improvement Projects



Read Between the Signs



Shadybrook Park



Sign Art Mural at Municipal Garage



Signs & Flowers



The Green Room

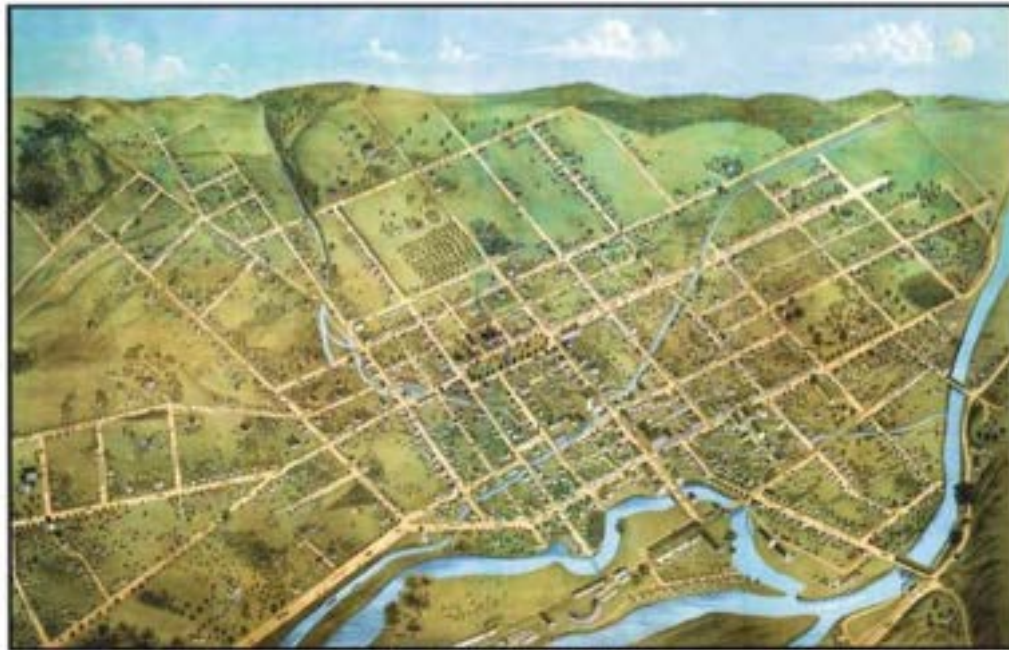


The Spirit of Birches, Birds, and Words

MEADVILLE

Not your run of the mill community

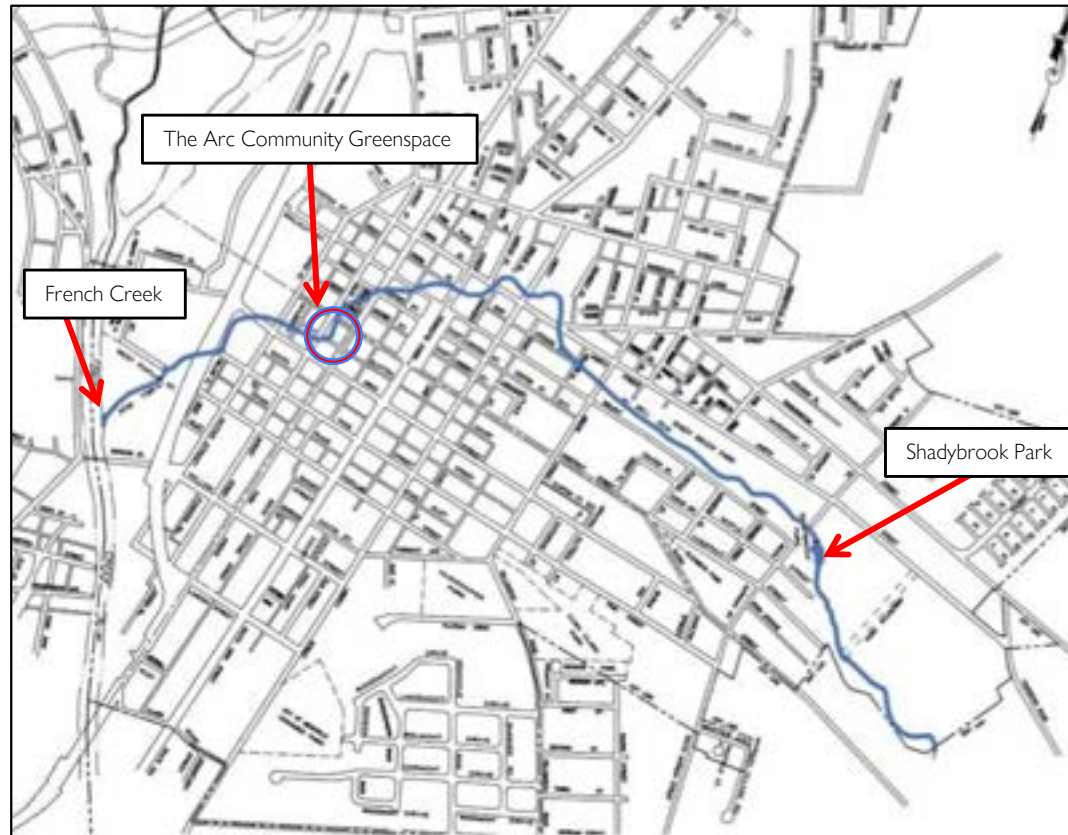
P E N N S Y L V A N I A



MEADVILLE, PA.
1870



Mill Run through the City of Meadville



Mill Run flows beneath most streets through the central part of the City, but surfaces above ground briefly at several key points from the headwaters above Shadybrook Park to the confluence of French Creek.

The Arc Community Greenspace 2018



The Meadville Club prior to demolition



Murals, Mill Run & More?

Help Us Imagine the Arc's Community Greenspace in Downtown Meadville
Join us ... learn what we're up to ... give us your ideas!

Thursday, April 25, 2019, 5:00 – 6:30 pm at the Arc, 222 Chestnut Street, Meadville PA

Led by the Arc of Crawford County and the Art & Environment Initiative, Allegheny College
Allegheny Students: Rene Benoit '20, Anna Callari '19, Hunter McNutt '21, Anna Campbell Sowden '20, Brady Spaulding '20, and Xuyang Zhang '22





Community Chalk Festival & Workshop - Planning for ADA walkway Design 2020





One of three community mural design events



A video of this project is included in my work sample uploads.



A community mural-naming contest resulted in the title "Bloom Where You're Planted."

Starting in 2019, Meadville residents were invited to participate in a series of community events leading to *Bloom Where You're Planted*, a locally designed relief mural on a building adjacent to the project site.



If video does not work, copy/paste this URL into your browser
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30-t_I2UQWE



The Arc of Crawford County's First Ever Outdoor Movie Night August 2019



MOVIES
UNDER THE STARS
THE GREATEST SHOWMAN
 Thursday, August 15th, 8pm
 at The Arc Greenpark, corner of Arch and Market Streets, Maestri
 Admission: \$10 (includes movie ticket)
 PLEASE JOIN US!
 Pre-Movie Activities: 8pm - 9pm
 Face Painting
 Squeeze the Clown
 Magic Steve (balloon artist)
 Movie trivia
 Dancing
 Close up look at a fire truck
 Learn about plans for The Arc Greenpark!
 Draw your ideas for the Sondheim mural!
MOVIE STARTS AT 9

Third Annual Family Movie Night 2023



Join Indigo in the ARC Greenspace for a few moments
of zen. Peace inducing activities will vary.

PEACE IN

THE PARK

TUESDAY & THURSDAY

12:15-12:45

meditation

sound bath

tranquility



INDIGO
Boutique & Botanica


The Arc
Crawford County



Kids Yoga 2021

The Arc of Crawford County invites you to:

LUNCHTIME LIFT with Paul Groh

at The Arc Community Greenspace



with Marty's
Nacho Mamas
foodtruck

FRIDAY JULY 26TH

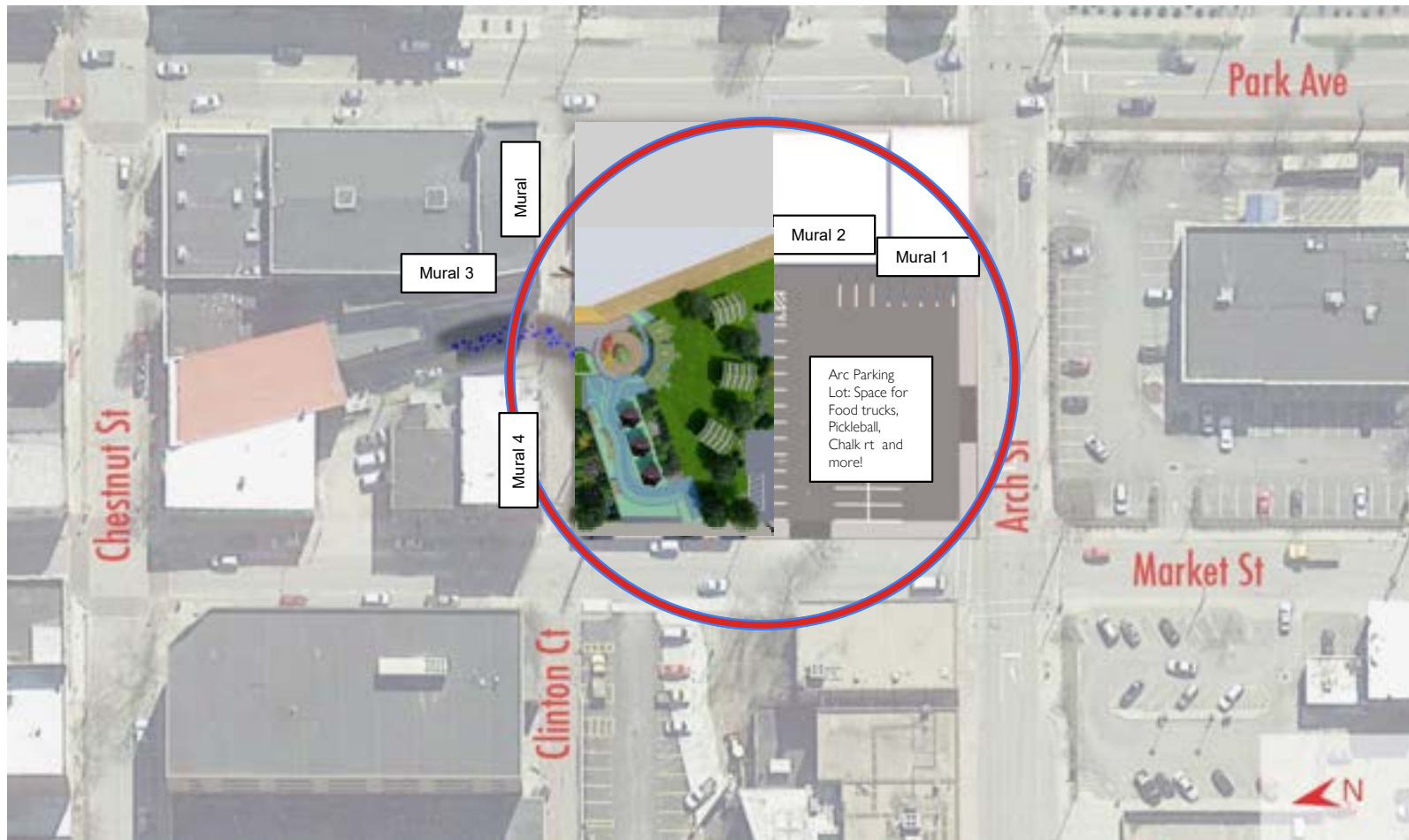
11:30AM-1PM

Live music during your lunch break

953 Market Street, Meadville

The Arc Community Greenspace Project Site

One block south of Meadville's downtown business district



Site Rendering by Place+Scape



Site Rendering by Place+Scape







85% Potato performance June 2024





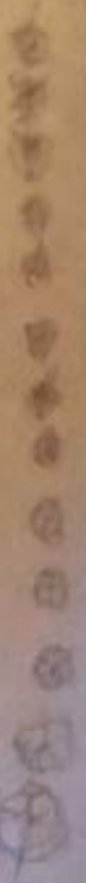
The Greenspace

960 Park Avenue





442
05



move wall area

72.11
Dr. Hymel



Summary Project Funding

Allegheny College (mural)

The Arc of Crawford County

The Arc Foundation

The Art & Environment Initiative (design and project oversight)

City of Meadville

Erie Arts and Culture: Project Stream Grant (mural)

Marquette Savings Bank

Orton Family/Heart & Soul Mini Grant (mural)

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA), Creative Communities Initiative

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), Keystone Initiative

Pennsylvania Humanities Council (mural)

Porter Consulting Engineers

RDLang Family Foundation



AMARA GEFFEN

Founder/Director

amarageffenstudios.com

ageffen@allegheny.edu

814.720.7089

ART & ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE

To learn about A&EI visit: <https://www.amarageffenstudios.com/>

To learn more about The Greenspace visit <https://www.arcofcrawfordcounty.org/greenspace>