

# Coal Miner Memorial Park Completed

Photography by: **Michelle Crawford**



In early August 2024 the memorial park dedication ceremony, hosted by the Foundation for Frostburg/Coal Miner Memorial Statue Committee, was held at the site in Frostburg, Maryland. The Coal Miner Memorial Park, honoring more than 700 deceased miners from Mountain Maryland, is located between the former C&P Railroad Depot and the Great Allegheny Passage. It focuses around a life-sized bronze statue of a coal miner featuring qualities that the miners possessed — a strong work ethic and a desire for educational opportunities.

As visitors follow the pathways, they will also encounter interpretive signage that leads to the statue. Fourteen large panels identify the names of those miners who typically immigrated to the United States seeking a better life, only to suffer a tragic ending. The meticulous research that went into compiling the information provides guests with a self-contained history lesson.

Proposals for the park's design and construction required collaboration among the miner's committee, A. C. Armstrong Design Group LLC., Bennett, Brewer & Associates, the City of Frostburg, Advertising Art Design, Inc., Lashley Construction, and Allegany County officials. A dozen years in the making, the Coal Miner Memorial offers a unique learning experience for residents, riders of the trail and train, and other guests who want to take a peek through a window to the past.