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Walking history of Shippensburg

When I get the inevitable “Where are you from?” question from people at Shippensburg University, I hesistantly admit that I was born and raised here. The next statement it “What is/was there to do?”

I’ve taken my hometown for granted dismissing the historica value and beauty that can be discovered by taking a simple walk down King Street.

I remembered specific spots my parents would take my sibilings and I to both entertain and educate us.

The first spot I walked to was Pague & Fegan Hardwast store, I stood across the street and snapped picture during rush hour on a Monday evening. Cars whizzed passed the mom-and-pop hardware store locally run for more than 150 years.

Legend has during the Civil War, Confederate soldiers took shelter in Shippensburg before marching on to burn Chambersburg. A soldier is said to have left his hat and sword at the hardware store and if one inquires to the store owners they’ll show you the artifact.

<https://cdn.knightlab.com/libs/juxtapose/latest/embed/index.html?uid=c752dc40-44cb-11e9-8106-0edaf8f81e27>

As I walked back up the street I noticed SU hangover staple Shippensburg Diner and recalled how for most of my life it was owned by different people and called “Select” for short by locals.

At one time the diner was a Greek restaurant and home to a Burger Chef in the 1980’s.

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A train used to run through on Prince Street and crossed King Street during rush hour. Shippensburg University students and commuters took the train to and from their hometowns, it was very common to wait for the train at a station located on campus near Old Main.

<https://cdn.knightlab.com/libs/juxtapose/latest/embed/index.html?uid=047dc676-4d0-11e9-8106-0edaf8f81e27>

Shippensburg may seem uninteresting but there are gems of knowledge, history and culture waiting to be discovered as shown in the before and after photos. These highlighted differences in time help me appreciate the technological advances that have changed this town to run more efficiently. Through investigating this brief history I am more grateful and aware of my surroundings as someday they may just be a photo memory.