



## *Hunting for History Tour #1*

This tour is approximately .5 miles in length.  
It leaves from and returns to the Asahel Wright Museum.

- To begin this tour travel south on Main Street towards its intersection with Franklin Street.

**The Northeast Corner** Now home to Graeter's and City Barbeque, was once the location of a tavern called "Sign of the Crossed Keys." The tavern was built in 1802 of logs by John Archer. It was a well-



known gathering place in the area not just for food and drink, but also for government and business meetings and a post office. During the War of 1812, future President, General William Henry Harrison, stopped at this tavern while marching his troops through town.

Toward the end of the 1800s, the tavern was replaced by a large frame Victorian home where Dr. Dudley Keever practiced medicine for nearly 60 years. After the home was removed in the mid-1960s, this lot became home to a service station and a medical office building.

♥ Young at Heart Challenge - March like General Harrison to the next stop on the tour.

- Turn left (east) onto East Franklin Street.



**25 East Franklin** James Harris built this small two story limestone house in about 1838. He was the owner of a store on the northwest corner of Main and Franklin Streets. He was also the area's principal pork packer in the 1830s. Mr. Harris served as township treasurer and postmaster. Additions to the home were built in the late 1800s and in 1977. Plaster that once covered the limestone structure was removed to restore its original façade.

♥ Young at Heart Challenge - Share your best piggy noise and skip to the next stop on the tour.

- Continue walking on East Franklin Street to the intersection with Maple Avenue.



**35 East Franklin** This house was built in the 1880's and remodeled in 1931 to reflect the style at the time. There are distinctive copper sunburst lightning rods with glass and ceramic insulators, which crown the home and garage that are grounded with heavy twisted copper cable.

♥ Young at Heart Challenge - With adult supervision, run fast like a bolt of lightning, to the next stop on the tour.

- Turn left and walk north on Maple Avenue.



**23 Maple Avenue** The one-story section of this home may have been built as early as 1814. The two-story Virginia cottage section was added by Joseph Tice after he purchased the property circa 1836. Mr. Tice was a stone cutter and stone mason. Legend has it that the building was later purchased by Issac Hannahs for "five hundred silver dollars which were carried to the village in a market basket." A one-room addition was added to the back to form a u-shaped building in 1974.

♥ Young at Heart Challenge - Pretend you are carrying a very heavy basket of silver dollars to the next house.

- **Walk to the next address on Maple Avenue.**



**29 Maple Avenue** This two-story stone house was built between 1835 for James McKinney. Mr. McKinney was a tailor. From 1858-1865, this home served as a parsonage for the Centerville Methodist Church. Later it was used as the Library for the Centerville Bible College.

♥ Young at Heart Challenge - Hug a tree. It doesn't have to be a maple.

- **Continue walking north on Maple Avenue to the intersection with East Ridgeway Drive.**



**Corner of Maple Avenue and East Ridgeway Drive** This plot was home to Aaron Nutt and remained in his family for 170 years. Mr. Nutt originally built a log home in 1796. Two other homes have since been built on the property. The current home was built in 1908.

♥ Young at Heart Challenge - Do you spy any squirrels or chipmunks looking for Nutts?

- **Turn left (west) and walk to the intersection of East Ridgeway Drive and North Main Street.**



**60 North Main Street** This limestone house was built around 1832 by Andrew Vincent. The rear frame section was added in the 1850s or 1860s. In 1976, the owners removed the plaster covering the original stone façade. This building has been a home and a place of business for a doctor's office, Centerville Pet Shop, Pants Makers, the Decorating Den and a flower shop.

♥ Young at Heart Challenge - Notice this building's double front doors. Why are there two doors and how would you use this building, if it belonged to you?

- **Turn left (south) and walk south on North Main Street.**



**38 North Main Street** Established in 1848, this limestone building housed the Centerville Academy, a private school for men. The school offered languages, mathematics, science, bookkeeping, surveying and history. After prospering for a number of years, the academy was closed during the Civil War, due to a lack of students. In 1866, the property was purchased by the Sugar Creek Baptist Church. The stone building was razed in 1872 and replaced with a frame building that remains as the sanctuary and steeple today. Several additions have been completed over the years.

♥ Young at Heart Challenge - Sing a verse of Yankee Doodle as you walk back to the Asahel Wright Museum.

- **Continue walking south on North Main Street.**



**26 North Main Street** Welcome back to the Asahel Wright Museum!

♥ Young at Heart Challenge - take a selfie and send it to us at [cwths@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cwths@sbcglobal.net) or tag it with #huntingforhistory and share it on Facebook or Instagram