

## Chillicothe Church Facts

Chillicothe was laid out by Nathaniel Massie in 1796.

In 1797 the first church to organize was the New Hope Church, a Presbyterian church led by the Rev. William Speers. New Hope was located in a log cabin at the southwest corner of present-day Bridge and Riverside streets. Chillicothe was at one time home to three different Presbyterian churches.

In 1798 the Methodist movement arrived in Chillicothe. Dr. Edward Tiffin (Ohio's first governor) held outdoor services. A church was officially formed in 1800 and in 1810 they constructed their first building on Second St., between Paint and Walnut. In 1842, due to its large size, the church split into an Eastern (Trinity) and Western (Walnut St.) charge.

In 1824 the first Baptist movement in the city occurred. The First Baptist Church (1865) at 65 W. Fourth St. is the oldest African American Baptist church west of the Allegheny Mts.

Originally, there were few Catholics in Chillicothe. However, when construction of the Ohio and Erie Canal began in 1826, a number of Irish immigrants came to the area, bringing Catholicism with them. Some 20 years later they were joined by German Catholics. Today, Chillicothe is home to St. Mary's (1869) on S. Paint St., and St. Peter's (1949) on Church St. at Water St. The original St. Peter's (ca. 1846) was destroyed by fire in 1947.

# Walking Map and Guide To Chillicothe's Main Street Churches



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## Ross County Health District

This brochure is a publication of the Ross County Health District and its Ross County Heart Health Program.

The Chillicothe City Health Department was formed in 1882, and the Ross County General Health Department in 1920. In 1979 the two merged.

Our goal is to protect and improve the health of the citizens of Chillicothe and Ross County. One of the best ways to do this is to promote a healthier lifestyle for all.

Walking is an easy and enjoyable way to improve your health. It burns calories and builds a strong heart.

Unlike jogging, walking is something almost anyone can do and benefit from. Before you begin your walk make sure that you are wearing comfortable shoes and weather-appropriate clothing. Also, extreme care should be taken when crossing streets.

We hope that this brochure will be used by our local residents and by visitors alike. Not only can it be used as a method for improving health, but also as a way to expand knowledge and interest in Chillicothe and its significant history.

Be sure to look for our other brochures: Historic Paint Street Walk and First Capital District Walk, and please enjoy your stroll past some of Chillicothe's most historic and beautiful churches.

*\*\*Much of the information included in these brochures is from the Bicentennial Commission's book, "Chillicothe, Ohio 1796-1996."*

## Health Facts - Walking

Walking regularly can offer many benefits to your body... and your mind.

Consider these facts:

- ⇒ Walking for 20 minutes a day can burn off around seven pounds of body fat per year.
- ⇒ Walking can extend your life: For every minute you walk you add 1-2 minutes of life.
- ⇒ Shorter, faster walks are best for conditioning your heart and lungs, while longer, slower walks work best when trying to lose weight.

Here are some benefits of walking:

- ⇒ Builds healthier heart and lungs
- ⇒ Burns body fat
- ⇒ Increases metabolism
- ⇒ Reduces cholesterol
- ⇒ Lowers high blood pressure
- ⇒ Can help control and prevent diabetes
- ⇒ Helps you sleep
- ⇒ It may also help control your appetite, increase your physical energy, relieve stress, slow aging, reduce the risks of some kinds of cancer, help you recover from a heart attack or stroke, promote intestinal regularity, and reduce stiffness from arthritis.

*Funded in part by Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant, Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and administered by the Ohio Dept. of Health, Bureau of Health Promotion and Risk Reduction, Cardiovascular Health Program. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of CDC.*



1. Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church: In 1910 this building replaced a smaller structure, built in 1857. African American worshippers, tired of segregation in the Methodist Church, left to form their own church in 1821.

2. Glorious Church of God: Built by German immigrants in 1846 as St. John's Church, and services were performed in German. The structure survived a fire in 1929.

3. Walnut St. UMC: Built on this site in 1905, the congregation has its roots to Chillicothe's original Methodist movement of 1798, and the original Methodist Church building, that was a block over on Second St.

4. Calvary Lutheran: This church was an offshoot of the German congregation at St. John's Church. Some of the younger members of that congregation wanted services performed in English, thus in 1903 the cornerstone for this building was laid.

5. Eastern Star Temple (5a): Originally built in 1858 as the Third Presbyterian Church (5b), it saw a decline in its congregation and ceased to exist by 1919.

6. (Citizens National Bank) Former Site of two First Presbyterian Churches: 1844-1894 and 1894-1956. The original church (6a) was completed in 1846 and razed in 1893. A second church (6b) was built on the same site, but it caught fire and

burned in 1956. First Presbyterian Church is now located off of Belleview on Mead Drive.

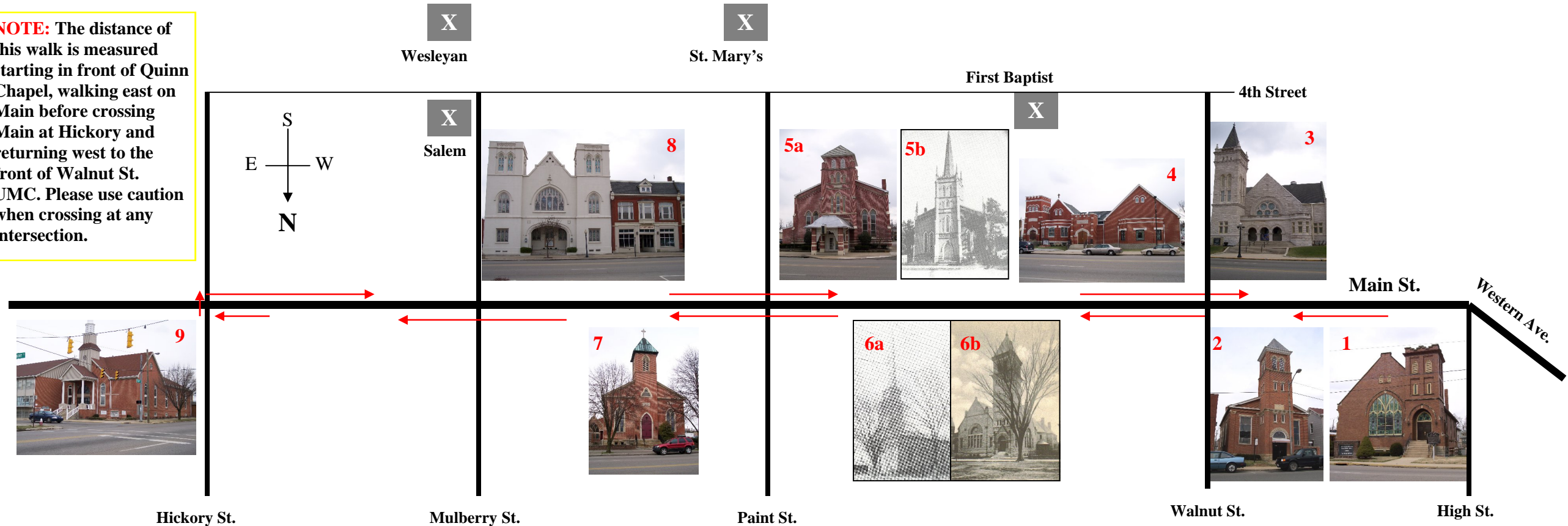
7. St. Paul's Episcopal: This church was completed in 1833, after the original Episcopal Church, built on Walnut St. in 1821, became the first west of the Allegheny Mountains. That structure later housed a Catholic congregation.

8. Trinity UMC: Completed in 1842, remodeled in 1890, and completely renovated in 1906, this church served as the "Eastern" or "Main Street" charge of the rapidly growing Methodist church in Chillicothe. Those who lived east of Paint St. and south of Main St. comprised the Eastern group. For a time the congregation was known as Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church.

9. Tabernacle Baptist: At one time this church featured a very distinct and unique "wavey wall." Founded in 1890, the original church was completed in 1900.

NOTE: Care should be taken on this walk. Pay attention to street lights and cross-walks. Attempting to cross at the intersection of Main, Western and High streets could be dangerous, so please cross Main at Walnut. \*\*Also in or near the downtown are First Baptist (71 W. 4th St.), St. Mary's (S. Paint), St. Peter's (High and Church), Salem Church and Wesleyan Church (both on Mulberry St., just south of Trinity).

**NOTE:** The distance of this walk is measured starting in front of Quinn Chapel, walking east on Main before crossing Main at Hickory and returning west to the front of Walnut St. UMC. Please use caution when crossing at any intersection.



Length of Walk: 1.2 miles