

SELF GUIDED TOUR



# WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Experience a touch of "Old World Charm"  
while exploring Washington's wealth of historic treasures*



**636-239-0280**  
**[www.washmohistorical.org](http://www.washmohistorical.org)**

## Did you know...

*The would-be founder of Washington, William G. Owens, was murdered in 1834 and the town was founded by his widow Lucinda in 1839?*

...

*James W. Owens, the son of Washington's founder, was one of three State Representatives selected to draft the ordinance abolishing slavery in Missouri?*

...

*The younger brother of Washington's beer baron John B. Busch, was Adolphus Busch, who married Lily Anheuser? The rest, as they say, is history.*

...

*Heinie Diestelhorst, proprietor of the Old Dutch Tavern, was an old buddy of Harry S. Truman?*

...

*Washington's zither maker Franz Schwarzer had a pet alligator?*

...

*Franklin County Missouri can boast of two Medal of Honor recipients? Lorenzo Dow Immell (Civil War) George Phillips (WWII).*

...

*President Franklin Delano Roosevelt once spent the night in Washington?*

...

*General Douglas MacArthur, Mark Twain, Popeye and Frosty the Snowman all smoked corncob pipes?*



The Washington Historical Society was founded in 1959, though other groups focused on preserving Washington's history long before that. The society was able to buy its current building in 1995 and hire a full time director in 2001.

Besides its many exhibits and archives, the museum also houses the Four Rivers Genealogical Society whose services are utilized by people across the United States and in several foreign countries.

Membership is  
\$30 individual, \$40 family and \$55 business.  
Dues are renewable annually.



WASHINGTON

# Historical Society MUSEUM

The Washington Historical Society Museum at the corner of 4th and Market Streets offers an interesting glimpse into the 19th and 20th century heritage of the Washington area. A large photographic collection, business papers, rare books relative to Missouri history and other archival material are available for viewing or research. Franklin County records, marriage licenses, family histories, obituaries, and local newspapers can be accessed and copied in the Ralph Gregory Library. The library is staffed by members of the Four Rivers Genealogical Society, who offer personal research assistance. Over 25 publications, including area histories, a biographical directory of Franklin County of 1925, cemetery records, and reproduced county atlases, are available in the museum's gift shop.

Travel back in time as you walk through our expanded and renovated museum, located in one of Washington's historic districts



The Firehouse Museum, open by appointment, is just a few blocks away. It features antique fire trucks and other vehicles that have an important place in Washington's history. Open by appointment. Contact Museum for more information.



The Washington Historical Society AME Annex, formerly the African Methodist Episcopal Church, is just a block away and houses many early Franklin County records. Available for use by appointment only. Contact Museum for more information.

The Kohmueller Farmstead. A typical 1879 brick Washington home built by a German family from Osnabruck, Germany



WASHINGTON

## Historical Society MUSEUM continued

Exhibits on two levels of the building include hundreds of items representing Washington's past. Major exhibits feature the John B. Busch Brewery, Schwarzer Zither factory, Dr. Bozzo's office, Zoff Photography Studio, shoe factories of Washington, and the corn cob pipe industry. Artifacts have been selected to reflect the area's human culture, from primitive stone tools used by Native Americans to the "golden era" of Washington in the 1890's.



**Museum is OPEN March 1 - December 23**

Museum Hours: Tues thru Sat 10 am-4 pm, Sun 12 noon-4 pm

Library Hours: Tues 10 am-4 pm, Wed-Sun 1 pm-4 pm

# Historical Society **EVENTS & PROGRAMS**

**Cemetery Tours:** Each autumn around Halloween, the Historical Society teams up with the caretakers of the Wildey Odd Fellows Cemetery for a cemetery tour. Established in 1865, the cemetery contains over 1200 graves and many elaborate monuments. A small fee charged for the tour helps cover maintenance costs of the cemetery.

**Ghost Tours:** Whether you are a believer or not, you'll enjoy hearing these stories. And, of course, we can't let the opportunity pass to tell you undisputed facts about Washington's history. This tour includes a fee to cover expenses and help to fund other programs. Check with the Historical Society to see when the next Ghost Tour is scheduled.

**Washington on Wheels:** The "WOW" tour utilizes an open air tram that takes you to see first hand where the events of Washington's history took place. This is a guided tour led by our Museum Director, Marc Houseman, whose humor is only matched by the number of interesting stories of Washington's past. This tour includes a fee to cover expenses and to help fund other programs. Check with the Historical Society for when the next Washington on Wheels tour is scheduled.

**Evening at the Museum:** Programs on local history are presented one evening a month from March through December at the Historical

Society Museum. This has become a very successful program for area residents interested in local history. Programs are presented by the Museum Director or volunteers who are knowledgeable about subjects of local interest. Free to the public.

**Traveling Trunk & Native American Basket:** Educational resources for teachers, scouts, church groups or others interested in teaching about the history of Washington or Native Americans in Franklin County. Contains guides with suggested discussions, activities, work sheets, background information as well as numerous objects, photographs, and other images to aid in teaching these subjects. These resources are designed to fit into the school's educational requirements.

The trunk or basket can be checked out for a total of 7 days and is geared for 3rd through 5th grades, but can be adapted for other age groups.

For more  
information call  
**636-239-0280**



## Washington's History

Some of the earliest settlers in the Washington area were literally followers of Daniel Boone, who had blazed a trail from the hills of Kentucky to the wilderness of east-central Missouri. The German populace for which Washington is known began with the arrival of twelve Catholic families in the fall of 1833. This group and other later

**town lots  
were sold  
at auction  
in 1829**

German immigrants were sometimes called "followers of Gottfried Duden," who for two years lived at nearby Dutzow and wrote glowing reviews of the area for readers in his homeland. The lush, green, rolling hills and the river valley reminded Duden of the area from which he came.

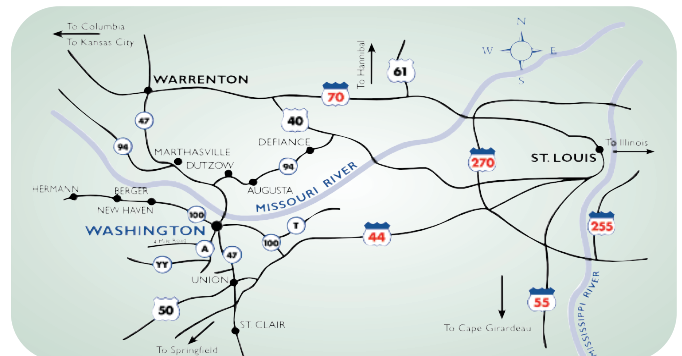
A natural river landing, at what was to become the Washington site, made this an ideal place to begin a settlement. In the first three decades of the nineteenth century, the small community grew upon the gently sloping hillside on the south bank of the Missouri River.

William G. Owens and his wife Lucinda settled in the area in 1818. They eventually purchased most of the land that would become known as "downtown" Washington, which included about fifty acres. Town lots were sold at auction in 1829. However, in 1834, Owens was murdered, and legal entanglements in his estate blocked the establishment of the new town. His widow Lucinda would eventually receive clear title to the town's core, and on May 29, 1839, she filed a plat at the county courthouse thus establishing the city of Washington.

Ferryboats served the community from the early 1800's until the bridge was completed in 1936. In 1854, John B. Busch, an older brother of the famous Adolphus Busch, established a brewery in Washington, bottling the first Busch Beer. The Pacific Railroad laid lines as far as Washington by 1855. An Austrian immigrant, Franz Schwarzer, began the manufacture of his world-famous zithers in 1866. Henry Tibbe and his son Anton began making corn-cob pipes in 1869; that business would help put Washington, Missouri, on the map as the "Corncob Pipe Capital of the World."

Many of Washington's historic structures remain today, proudly standing as reminders of times past and evidence of the pride and determination of our forefathers.

For more history on Washington, Missouri,  
visit our web site at [www.washmohistorical.org](http://www.washmohistorical.org)





# WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY SELF GUIDED TOUR

## **1 DR. ELIJAH MCLEAN HOUSE .....600 West Front Street**

Large brick home built for physician Dr. Elijah McLean whose family moved in on December 25, 1839. The home was extensively remodeled in the 1960s. Dr. McLean was an owner of a large portion of land in the town, a Representative in the State Legislature and a founder of the Presbyterian Church of Washington.

## **2 SCHWEGMANN HOUSE .....438 West Front Street Southeast corner Front & Olive Streets**

Completed in 1861 for John F. Schwegmann, a miller whose mill stood across Olive Street to the west. The large house provided lodging for Schwegmann's rural customers.

## **3 BERNARD WIESE BUILDING .....430 West Front Street**

Tobacconist and wine merchant Bernard Wiese had this home and shop built prior to 1859. This structure is featured on a lithograph of Washington by Eduard Robyn.

## **4 TIBBE POWER BUILDING .....426 West Front Street**

Anton Tibbe brought electricity to Washington in 1893. This building, his third plant, was designed by famed St. Louis architect Theodore Link. Link's most famous work is St. Louis' Union Station. This structure dates to 1915.

## **5 MISSOURI MEERSCHAUM COMPANY**

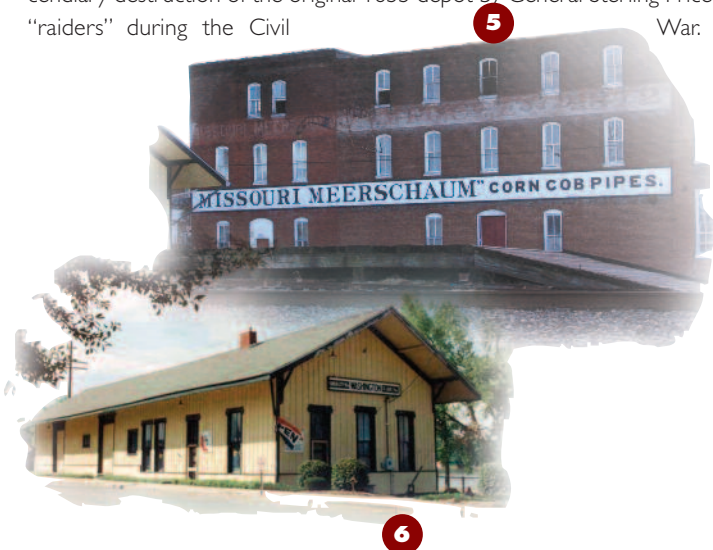
**400 West Front Street**

**Southwest Corner Front and Cedar Streets**

Henry Tibbe and son Anton began their corn cob pipe business in 1869. Henry patented the plaster-filled "Missouri Meerschaum" pipe for which Washington is famous. This is the company's third location, the oldest section completed in 1883.

## **6 PACIFIC RAILROAD DEPOT .....325 West Front Street**

Possibly the oldest railroad depot of wooden frame construction west of the Mississippi River; this building was completed in 1865, following the incendiary destruction of the original 1855 depot by General Sterling Price's "raiders" during the Civil War.



## **7 MISSOURI-PACIFIC**

**RAILROAD DEPOT .....301 West Front Street**

Completed in 1924, this structure replaced the frame depot next door as the passenger depot. The frame depot originally stood on this spot, but was placed on logs and rolled to its present location to continue to serve as a freight depot. The original tile roof of the brick depot proved too heavy and was pushing the walls outward and was therefore soon replaced.



## **8 PACIFIC HOUSE .....300 West Front Street**

Built for C. H. Kahmann in 1855, it took its early name from the Pacific Railroad. Purchased in 1857 by Frederick Wohlgemuth, it has continued under several owners to serve as a hotel and tavern.

## **9 WOLF HOTEL .....216 West Front Street**

Erected about 1869 by William Wolf, who later established a hotel in Pacific, Missouri. This building has had many uses throughout the 20th century including the Stoenner Shoe Company.

## **10 ROETTGER INN .....120 West Front Street**

**Southeast corner Front and Oak Streets**

Built in the 1853 as the home and inn of August Roettger; is believed to have been designed by Washington architect Otto Brix.

## **11 JOHN CLAYTON BUILDING .....100 West Front Street**

**Southwest corner Front and Lafayette Streets**

Built in 1838 and used as a store and an inn by John Clayton and others. The basement was exposed by the regrading of the streets in the 1870s.

## **12 ZACHARIAH FOSS HOUSE .....4 Lafayette Street**

**Southeast corner of Front and Lafayette Streets**

Built in 1846 and Washington's earliest surviving wood frame structure. Zachariah Foss and family moved here in 1848 and the family lived in this house for fifty years. The Foss's daughter Emily married James W. Owens, son of Washington's founders.

## **13 WATERWORKS .....1 Elbert Drive**

**North of railroad tracks at foot of Jefferson Street**

Built by the Interstate Gas and Water Works Company in 1888-89 and ornamented with terra cotta tile. The proprietor lived on the upper floor.

**14 FRANZ SCHWARZER HOUSE** .....2 Walnut Street  
 East of dead-end on Front Street, north of Main and Walnut Streets  
 World renowned zither maker. Franz Schwarzer purchased a small frame house here in 1866 and added the larger brick portion in about 1880. The zither factory, which produced nearly 12,000 instruments, was located behind the house. The grounds contained exotic plants and animals and Washington's first museum or "relic house" during Schwarzer's lifetime.

**15 LUCINDA OWENS HOUSE** .....401 East Main Street  
 Just beyond the east end of Main Street  
 The widow Lucinda Owens was the official founder of Washington. Home completed 1838. The home retains many of its original features and, when built, was outside the city limits. Rear portion added later to prevent extension of Main Street eastward.

**16 NULLE HOUSE** .....204 East Main Street  
 Built by Casper H. Nulle, trustee and city collector of Washington from 1846-48. Boasting a "steamboat porch", meetings of the city and even elections were sometimes held here. Also known as the Wattenberg House.

**17 STEPHEN M. JONES HOUSE**  
 108-110 Jefferson Street  
 Successful businessman and two-time mayor of Washington, Jones completed this fine large home in 1883. It retains nearly all of its original features and is one of the most intact examples of German-vernacular construction in the city.

**18 SCHUENEMEYER SALOON**  
 100 West Main Street  
 Built for Fritz Schuenemeyer as a tavern and residence in 1880. Later known as the Stamm Saloon.

**19 DROEGE'S STORE** .....109 West Main Street  
 A Washington institution since 1867, Droege's Store moved into these "new" quarters in 1897. The old store location was a block west on Main Street.

**20 OLD BANK OF WASHINGTON**  
 114-116 West Main Street  
 This fine large brick structure was completed in 1880 and the bank moved here from the building next door to the west.



**21 VOSS BAZAAR** .....120 West Main Street  
 Original location of the Bank of Washington, founded 1877. Robert Voss had his store here for years, but 20th century residents remember this structure as Krue's 5-and-10-cent store. Santa Claus made his annual appearance at Krue's. The Odd Fellows and Modern Woodman Lodges once held meetings on the third floor.

**22 ROMBACH BAKERY** .....125 West Main Street  
 Northeast corner of Main and Oak Streets  
 The second-oldest building remaining on Main Street, built in 1859 by Franz Joerdens, whose store was raided during the Civil War. Julius Rombach had a bakery here from 1902-1923.

**23 SCHMIDT JEWELRY STORE** .....216 West Main Street  
 Joseph H. Schmidt purchased a jewelry business from Simon Strauss in 1875 and acquired this building in 1880. Much of the early facade remains intact.

**24 J. C. S. FOSS BUILDING** .....231 West Main Street  
 John Foss was the owner and publisher of the Observer newspaper. He constructed this building in the late 1870's.

**25 ST. FRANCIS BORGIA CHURCH**  
 West Main Street between Elm and Cedar Streets  
 Impressive church edifice built alongside an 1846 church which once stood immediately west. Completed in 1869. Twelve Catholic families from Hanover founded the church in 1833.

twelve  
Catholic  
families  
founded  
the church

**26 ST. FRANCIS BORGIA SCHOOL & JESUIT HALL**  
 Southeast corner Main and Cedar Streets  
 Substantial three-story brick structure completed in 1884 on the site of the earlier Catholic church.

**27 BLECKMAN FURNITURE AND UNDERTAKER**  
 317 West Main Street  
 The oldest remaining structure on Main Street, built by the Bleckman family in 1856 to house their furniture and undertaking business.

**28 HIBBELER GENERAL STORE**  
 401 West Main and 77 Cedar Street  
 John D. Hibbeler entered the general merchandise trade in 1870 and built this building to accommodate his growing business. This structure replaced an earlier building that was razed when the streets of downtown were leveled in the 1870's.





### 29 INTERNATIONAL SHOE COMPANY

West Second Street between Johnson and Rand Streets

Originally built by the Roberts, Johnson & Rand Shoe Company in 1907. Several additions have been made to the building. Later known as International Shoe Company, Washington's largest employer. The factory closed in 1960.

### 30 STUMPE HOUSE.....202 Stafford Street

Southeast corner Second and Stafford Streets

Home of local brickmaker Frank Stumpe. Constructed in the 1860's. Unusual two-story smokehouse in back yard.

two-story  
smokehouse  
in back yard

### 31 ST. FRANCIS BORGIA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

314 West Second Street

Southeast corner Second and Cedar Streets

Built in 1890 with a large addition in 1916. Served as a Catholic elementary school and residence for the Catholic Sisters who taught there.

### 32 OTTO AND COMPANY BUILDING .....127 Elm Street

Northwest corner Second and Elm Streets

Mr. Kahmann began construction of this large building in the mid-1890's and was soon a victim of economic recession. He quickly sold the building to the Otto family, who conducted their furniture business here for over one hundred years.

### 33 OTTO FURNITURE & UNDERTAKER .....211 Elm Street

The location of Otto Furniture and Undertaker from the 1870's-90's. Furniture and coffins were made here. The family lived upstairs.

### 34 POST OFFICE .....123 Lafayette Street

Northwest corner Second and Lafayette Streets

Completed in 1922, an attractive landmark of downtown. There was a lookout extending from the basement to the roof so that inspectors could spy on the clerks.



### 35 MISCHÉ HOUSE .....210 Lafayette Street

Well preserved example of a once typical German style brick house.

### 36 MAUNTEL WOOL CARDING MILL .....218 Lafayette Street

Franz Mauntel constructed this as a wool carding mill in 1860.

### 37 WEBER BUILDING .....20 West Second Street

Theodore Weber had a saloon in this building by about 1853. It is one of the oldest, and most intact, of the downtown area structures.

### 38 THEATERVEREIN/ LIBERTY HALL .....8 West Second Street

South side of Second between Jefferson and Lafayette Streets

Built in 1855 for the "Player's Club" or Theaterverein by founders Otto Brix and August Leonhard. Later had many uses, including a hall for the Grand Army of the Republic (Civil War veterans), hence the name Liberty Hall.

### 39 TAMM SHOE BUILDING .....1 West Second Street

Northwest corner of Jefferson and Second

Shoes were made and sold by the Tamm family in this building, constructed by them in 1855. Later addition accommodated a newspaper business.

### 40 MUENCH DRUGGIST .....213 Jefferson Street

Ludwig Muench was a druggist, but considered by many townspeople a doctor. This building was erected about 1860 and housed his pharmacy and home.

### 41 MULLGARDT HOUSE

219 Jefferson Street

Northwest corner Jefferson and Third Streets

Built in 1857 by Moritz Witsleben and acquired by J. Christian Mullgardt in 1867. Mullgardt had his saddle and leather shop here and lived upstairs. His son Louis became a renowned architect in California.

### 42 EITZEN BUILDING .....200 Jefferson Street

Southeast corner Jefferson and Second Streets

Designed by local architect Otto Brix, believed by some to be Washington's most outstanding early brick structure. Built in 1855 by Henry C. Eitzen as a general store and residence, the building features longitudinal trim made of specially molded brick.

### 43 BEYREIS-GODT HOUSE .....124 Jefferson Street

Northeast corner Jefferson and Second Streets

Oldest remaining building in Washington; dates to 1835. A double-pen log cabin originally with a dog trot, built by G. Gottfried Beyreis and purchased in 1858 by Arnold Godt a painter, musician and orchestra leader.

oldest  
remaining  
building in  
Washington

### 44 WEHRMANN BUILDING .....212 Jefferson Street

East side of Jefferson between Second and Third Streets

Erected in 1855 for Louis Wehrmann, an 1848 German immigrant. Wehrmann was in the leather, shoe and saddle business. Washington's post office was here from 1870-1883. Probably designed by local architect Otto Brix.

### 45 SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Northwest corner Second and Market Streets

The Presbyterian Church had split over the slavery issue during the Civil War. Dr. Benjamin Burch, the leader of the southern sympathizing faction, built this church and that faction met here until his death in 1883, when the rift was healed. Later the segregated Crispus Attucks School and the High School Vocational Agriculture Program were housed here.

### 46 BEINKE HOUSE .....119 Locust Street

Northwest corner Locust and Second Streets

Herman H. Beinke built over forty homes in Washington during his short career. This was his own house - completed in 1876 - a date shown in the transom above the front door.

#### 47 WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

East side of Locust, between Second and Third Streets

Erected in 1887 on the former Garfield Park site. Originally a private school under the auspices of St. Peter's E & R Church and the Evangelical Synod of North America. The city purchased the building in 1900 and created a public high school.

originally  
a private  
school

#### 48 RUSCHE HOUSE.....302 Locust Street

Southeast corner Locust and Third Streets

Once-typical German style brick house, erected in 1876 by Dietrich Rusche.

#### 49 GOODRICH HOUSE .....200 East Third Street

Southeast corner Third and Walnut Streets

Categorized in the International Style, built in 1934. Designed by architect Francis J. Goodrich for his parents, Dr. and Mrs. C. F. Goodrich. Years ahead of its time, known locally as the "Art Deco House".

#### 50 SCHULTE HOUSE .....317 Walnut Street

Built about 1876 by Catherina Schulte, this unusually small dwelling, set back on the lot, originally contained three rooms with a one-room cellar below.

#### 51 SPAUNHORST HOUSE .....300 Market Street

Southeast corner Third and Market Streets

Built before 1869 for Adam Spaunhorst, this home is representative of the common brick cottages of the early Missouri Germans.

#### 52 SPAUNHORST GENERAL STORE.....300 Jefferson Street

Northeast corner Jefferson and Third Streets

Edward "E. J." Spaunhorst built this building sometime between 1867 and 1870. His business partners were Joerden Bueker from 1867-91 and Helmut Mayn from 1891-1905. After more than fifty years in business, E. J. died in 1918 and his descendants continued the business for some time. The addition on the south side was added in 1892.

#### 53 EMILY OWENS HOUSE.....302 Lafayette Street

Southeast corner Lafayette and Third Streets

Built in 1896 by Emily Foss Owens, the daughter-in-law of Washington founders William and Lucinda Owens. Emily's husband, son and daughter-in-law all died within a few years of one another, leaving Emily to raise her grandchildren. She built this house for herself and her grandchildren, presumably to be near the public school and business places of Washington.



#### 54 THIAS HOUSE .....304 Elm Street

Southeast corner Elm and Third Streets

This home was built for Henry and Wilhelmina Thias in 1888. He was a grain dealer who had a large elevator on Elm Street. He had been a professional bricklayer. Even in his time, the home was considered an ornament of the city.

#### 55 CALVIN OPERA HOUSE/THEATRE.....311 Elm Street

Built in 1909 for John L. "Jack" Calvin, designed by A. A. Fischer. Retains much of its early appearance except for a reconfiguration of the entrance.

#### 56 TIBBE HOUSE .....318 West Fourth Street

Southeast corner Fourth and Cedar Streets

Built for Henry Tibbe in 1885-86, this was the first house in Washington constructed with indoor plumbing. A windmill and brick tower reservoir, which stood on the lot next door provided water for some neighbors as well. Tibbe was the founder of the Missouri Meerschaum corn cob pipe business.

windmill &  
brick tower  
reservoir  
provided  
water for  
neighbors

#### 57 JASPER HOUSE .....320 Lafayette Street

Northeast corner Lafayette and Fourth Streets

Home of Anton Jasper whose blacksmith shop and agricultural implement business was next door. The house was built circa 1853 and was one of the largest in the early city of Washington.

#### 58 WASHINGTON CITY HALL .....405 Jefferson Street

The second city hall, dedicated October 13, 1923, replacing the 1851 structure that was on the same site. Mayor John J. Ernst appointed a committee which determined that the old building should be replaced at a cost of \$35,000.00. The first public cemetery was located here, but was moved before the 1851 building was erected.

#### 59 LANGE BUILDING .....320 Jefferson Street

Northeast corner Jefferson and Fourth Streets

An 1850's era home and store of the Lange family. Francis Lange was a prosperous building contractor and merchant. His son Billy lived for music, played many instruments and led local orchestras and bands.

#### 60 GREIWE-GREGORY HOUSE .....25 East Fourth Street

Early portion built in 1853 by Henry Rabshl. Additions to the structure make it interesting and unique.



**61 WASHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH/  
WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM**

113 East Fourth Street

**Northeast corner Fourth and Market Streets**  
Built in 1916 with a large addition in the 1950's, this structure replaced the earlier 1852 Presbyterian Church on the same site. Purchased in 1995 by the Washington Historical Society, it houses the society's museum, archives and library.

**houses the  
museum,  
archives  
and library**

**62 KISKADDON HOUSE** .....118 East Fourth Street  
This circa 1850's house was the home of lawyer and State Representative James C. Kiskaddon.

**63 ST. JOHN A.M.E. CHURCH** .....400 Walnut Street  
Built in 1891 on the site of an old livery stable that had burned down, this church served many of Washington's African-American families until the 1990s. The church was officially closed in 2004.

**64 ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**20 East Fifth Street - Southwest corner Fifth and Market Streets**  
Formerly the Evangelical & Reformed Church, its first house of worship at Lafayette and Third was destroyed. Present structure built in 1868.

**65 HEINING HOUSE** .....128 East Fifth Street  
Small house, probably dates to the 1850s. Built by Henry Heining, one of the early brick manufacturers. He built many structures in the original town.

**66 IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH** .....214 West Fifth Street  
**South side of Fifth Street between Oak and Elm Streets**  
Founded in 1862. An earlier church was built in 1863 and the present building was completed in 1882.

**67 JOHN B. BUSCH BREWERY** .....10 Busch Avenue  
**Jefferson and Eighth Streets**  
Brewery established in 1854 by John B. Busch, Henry Busch and Fred Gersie. This brewery was older than the famous Anheuser-Busch brewery in St. Louis, founded by John B. Busch's younger brother, Adolphus.

**older than  
the famous  
Anheuser-  
Busch  
brewery in  
St. Louis**

**68 JOHN B. BUSCH MANSION**  
**813 Jefferson Street - south of brewery**  
The wing on the north was the original 1850's house. The mansard roofed Second Empire addition facing Jefferson, completed in 1887, became the "main house" later. The home of Washington's beer baron, John B. Busch and family from the 1850's to the mid-1940's.

*Looking for that long lost ancestor? The Four Rivers Genealogical Society can help you with your genealogical needs.*

FOUR RIVERS  
**Genealogical Society**

The Four Rivers Genealogical Society is dedicated to promoting genealogical research as well as assisting members and others in researching and documenting their family histories. The Society is also responsible for maintaining and enhancing the Ralph Gregory Library and for providing library monitors.

Use of the library is free, with assistance available from the monitors as needed. Research can be done by experienced members for a fee. To request someone to research for you, send a letter or email with details to:

**Four Rivers Genealogical Society**  
P.O. BOX 146 • Washington, MO 63090  
[4riversgen@gmail.com](mailto:4riversgen@gmail.com)

**The Library holds many treasures. These are just a few:**

**THE KIEL FILE:** Herman Kiel clipped and organized newspaper information which volunteers compiled into nearly 100,000 pages of Franklin County historical and genealogical information for the period 1875 - 1925, arranged by surname!

**FAMILY HISTORIES:** A collection of over 350 family histories for individuals who have lived in Franklin County.

**MICROFILM:** Newspapers from the late 1800's to the 1960's; also Franklin County land, tax, and probate records.

**HISTORY BY COUNTY:** Various county histories including the well known Goodspeed Publishing Company histories popular in the 1800's

**RICHARD NARUP FILES:** Items of interest for cemeteries, churches, slaves and other subjects that have been gleaned from property deeds which often offer clues to the lives of Franklin County residents.

**OTHER AVAILABLE INFORMATION:** Other subjects in the library include marriage records, church records, military history, cemetery transcriptions and obituaries.







# Historical Society Self Guided Tour

Tour Washington's historical treasures. Below you'll find a map with numbers indicating points of interest. Each number has a match with a descriptive paragraph about the property inside this brochure. We heartily welcome you to our community and hope you enjoy your tour!

Numbers on the map correspond to the 68 tour properties listed inside this brochure. **Enjoy your tour!**

