



Hunting for History Tour #3

This tour is approximately 4/10 of a mile in length.

Public parking can be found behind the first address on this tour.

- **Begin your tour in front of the Wilson Advertising in uptown Centerville.**



21 West Franklin Street This building was constructed in the late 1800's. A large room on the second floor was used for meetings and community events. Lunches were served here by devout and patriotic ladies on Election Day.

♥ Young at Heart Challenge-Think about the different ways people continue to celebrate our freedom and serve their community on Election Day.

- **Continue walking west on Franklin Street.**



61 West Franklin Street This building is actually the result of combing two separate houses. The western half (left in the photo) was originally a one room cottage built in the 1830's, belonging to Dr. Nathaniel Strong. Dr. Strong practiced medicine for many years in Centerville. After visiting a family, he may have prepared a treatment

made from roots, plants, berries and bark to help heal his patient. (The street numbers for the two houses were 59 (east house) and 63, the Nathaniel Strong house.)

♥ Young at Heart Challenge-Dr. Strong is a great name for a doctor, don't you agree? Think of another good name for a doctor of medicine. Now show us your strong muscles!

- **Look across to the south side of West Franklin Street.**



West Franklin Street This road was formerly called Cross Street. The properties along the south side originally belonged to one of the city's founding fathers, Benjamin Robbins. Dr. Strong came to own land on both sides of this street.

♥ Young at Heart Challenge-What do the words, "founding fathers" mean?

*Bonus Points awarded if you know the names of our city's two other founding fathers!

- **Continue walking west on Franklin Street.**



89 West Franklin Street Built in 1838, the Walton House Museum is open Tuesday-Friday, noon to 4 P.M. It features exhibits and displays artifacts from our local history. Travel in time from the 1800's to the 1930's as you explore the rooms. ❤️ Young at Heart Challenge- Museums work to protect, take care of and save items from the past. Why do you think it is important to have museums?

- **Walk around to the back of the Walton House Museum to enjoy the gardens.**



89 West Franklin Street Volunteers work hard to keep our gardens looking lovely. Rest yourself on one of the benches in the backyard and take in the beautiful flowers blooming in season. The Dr. Jacob Mulford Garden is found directly behind the garage portion of the house. Many of these plants were used as medicine in the 1800s. A chicken house, moved from another yard down the street, is located

at the back of the lot. A new farm exhibit building is planned for the future.

❤️ Young at Heart Challenge- Years ago, many houses had chickens in the backyard. Children were expected to feed and water the chickens, as well as, collecting their eggs. Is this a chore that you would like to do at home?

- **Exit the backyard and begin walking east (the way from which you came).**



27 West Franklin Street This house was built about 1818 by Joseph Fisk and sold to a blacksmith in the 1830's. From 1874 to 1889, the house was owned by Nathan Lincoln. Mr. Lincoln built carriages, wagons, and other wooden items. He worked in the shop behind the house. The primary door was moved from the front of this house to the side.

❤️ Young at Heart Challenge- Mr. Nathan Lincoln shared a last name with a famous American! Can you guess who? A penny can help you find the answer.

- **This tour has concluded near to the starting point.** * The founding fathers of Centerville-Washington Township were Benjamin Archer, Aaron Nutt, and Benjamin Robbins.

To learn more about the buildings on this tour and other community landmarks, purchase a *Stepping Through Time* walking tour guidebook or *A Sense of Place* book describing the history of Centerville and Washington Township from any of our three locations.