Explore the Northwest Neighborhood District

The City of Grand Haven's Historic Conservation District Commission invites you to take a step back in time as you explore the Northwest Neighborhood Historic Conservation District. Along your journey you will become acquainted with the area to the north of the downtown. The district contains simple historic buildings. Because it’s located adjacent to the riverfront and the south channel, where many of the railroad and shipping associated industries were located, it once provided housing for many of Grand Haven’s workers. Some of the homes have retained much of their original character, while others have been significantly altered. Nevertheless, when they are considered as a neighborhood, they contain the characteristics necessary to establish architectural significance.

Most of the houses in this area are constructed in the Vernacular style. This is not really a style, but a form of construction that uses simplified forms of the currently popular building styles. As a result, although Vernacular houses do not have enough features to be classified as being a particular style, it is often possible to identify them with a style according to the few detail that they do have.


This self-guided walking tour can begin at any point on the map. Parking and public restrooms are designated on the map.

For more information about the history of this area, visit:

- Tri-Cities Historical Museum
  200 Washington Avenue
  Grand Haven, MI 49417
  tricitymuseum.org

- Loutit District Library
  407 Columbus Avenue
  Grand Haven, MI 49417
  loutitlibrary.org

- Grand Haven City Hall
  519 Washington Avenue
  Grand Haven, MI 49417
  grandhaven.org

About this Brochure

This walking tour was arranged by the Grand Haven Historic Conservation District Commission. We would appreciate your feedback. For a current listing of board members, visit grandhaven.org or you may contact a commission representative by calling the Grand Haven Building and Planning Office at 616-847-3490.

You are also welcome to attend the Grand Haven Historic Conservation District Commission meetings to ask questions or share information. Meetings take place on the third Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m., at Grand Haven City Hall, 519 Washington Avenue, Grand Haven, MI.

Sources:
In The Path Of Destiny, 2007
David H. Seibold, D.D.S.
A Directory of Buildings and Sites in Northwest Ottawa County
Wallace K. Ewing, Ph.D.
A Directory of People in Northwest Ottawa County
Wallace K. Ewing, Ph.D.
Photos provided by:
City of Grand Haven Historic Commission

Created By,
The Grand Haven Historic Conservation District Commission 2013©
Explore the Northwest Neighborhood District

The City of Grand Haven’s Historic Conservation District Commission invites you to take a step back in time as you explore the Northwest Neighborhood Historic Conservation District. Along your journey you will become acquainted with the area to the north of the downtown. The district contains simple historic buildings. Because it’s located adjacent to the riverfront and the south channel, where many of the railroad and shipping associated industries were located, it once provided housing for many of Grand Haven’s workers. Some of the homes have retained much of their original character, while others have been significantly altered. Nevertheless, when they are considered as a neighborhood, they contain the characteristics necessary to establish architectural significance.

Most of the houses in this area are constructed in the Vernacular style. This is not really a style, but a form of construction that uses simplified forms of the currently popular building styles. As a result, although Vernacular houses do not have enough features to be classified as being a particular style, it is often possible to identify them with a style according to the few detail that they do have.


This self-guided walking tour can begin at any point on the map. Parking and public restrooms are designated on the map.

For more information about the history of this area, visit:
- Tri-Cities Historical Museum
  200 Washington Avenue
  Grand Haven, MI  49417
  tri-citiesmuseum.org
- Loutit District Library
  407 Columbus Avenue
  Grand Haven, MI  49417
  loutitlibrary.org
- Grand Haven City Hall
  519 Washington Avenue
  Grand Haven, MI  49417
  grandhaven.org

About this Brochure

This walking tour was arranged by the Grand Haven Historic Conservation District Commission. We would appreciate your feedback. For a current listing of board members, visit grandhaven.org or you may contact a commission representative by calling the Grand Haven Building and Planning Office at 616-847-3490.

You are also welcome to attend the Grand Haven Historic Conservation District Commission meetings to ask questions or share information. Meetings take place on the third Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m., at Grand Haven City Hall, 519 Washington Avenue, Grand Haven, MI.

Sources:

In The Path Of Destiny, 2007
David H. Seibold, D.D.S.
A Directory of Buildings and Sites in Northwest Ottawa County
Wallace K. Ewing, Ph.D.
A Directory of People in Northwest Ottawa County
Wallace K. Ewing, Ph.D.

Photos provided by,
City of Grand Haven Historic Commission
... 101 Columbus Street
extending from Columbus to Fulton. It was rimmed by a wide lawn, shaded by large maple trees, and graced with a variety of vines and plants. Inside there was a library jammed with books, and a den filled with papers and mementos of the Senator’s life of public service.

When fire destroyed Rev. Ferry’s home in 1866, the founder of Grand Haven and his wife moved into his grandson’s house, where Ferry died December 30 the next year. Amanda Ferry died three years later, presumably at this house. The Senator also died there, passing on in 1896 with his Aunt Mary A. White in attendance.

The later building, which replaced the Ferry residence, was constructed as one of a three-building complex housing the Stuy & Clark Piano factory for the production of pianos. In 1900 the city of Grand Haven gave the owners ten acres of land and $20,000 to attract them to Grand Haven. In return, Story & Clark promised to hire 100 people in the next three years. When completed in 1903, the plant was a model of fine construction and cleanliness.

In 1994 Covenant Life Church built the building at 101 Columbus for $300,000. Each of the three floors had approximately 30,000 sq. ft. and there was an additional 30,000 in an adjoining area, which was converted to the worship center.

Today, the house is owned by James & Susie Schulz. It is still very original on the inside, with the plaster walls and the original wood trim still intact.

606 Jackson Street
Colonial Revival 1867
This small, wooden frame building was constructed by the First Christian Reformed Church in 1867 at 413 Columbus and moved to this site in 1872. An African-American Church purchased the building and used it for a few years. When the church failed, a member of the congregation by the name of Smith bought the building and rented it to the Christian School founders for 50 cents a week. In 1883 the Grand Haven School Board bought the building from the Smith’s and opened it as a one-room public school. It held about 20 students, and like most small schools, it had a wood stove that the teacher was required to maintain.

218 Elliot
222 Elliot
Victoria Vernacular Style 1858
This home was built in 1858, a few feet east of its present location. The owners wanted a home for their daughter, so they moved their house from somewhere near the channel and placed it on the lot next door [222 Elliot]. The back doors of the two homes faced each other, making it easy for the families to get together. The city was close to condemning the homes faced each other, making it easy for the families to get together. The city was close to condemning the homes faced each other, making it easy for the families to get together. The city was close to condemning the homes faced each other, making it easy for the families to get together.

The building was in the former home a back section was added around 1918 or 1919, and it was extensively remodeled in the mid-1950s. Jim Snyder purchased the home in 1986, and with the craftsmanship of local carpenter and woodworker Robert Cernoch, transformed the home into a showcase of the craftsmanship of local carpenter and woodworker Robert Cernoch, transformed the home into a showcase. The home saw few owners. Four of their daughters continued to occupy the home in the 1930s. To pass it on in 1996 with his Aunt Mary A. White in attendance.

The home is noted as a potential landmark nomination under the Historic Conservation District Commission, January 1989.