

HISTORIC DUBLIN WALKING TOUR



1 South High

On South High, you see houses ranging from the mid-1800s to contemporary. Early villagers often had a business in the home, and many were taverns! You will get a feel for the architecture, scale, and character of the street and the village by standing at a spot to see the buildings with these addresses: 63, 75, 83, 87, 76-78, 82, and 86. They all stood there in 1870 and retain much of their charm. The largest building, 76-78, was a hotel in the early 1900s.

At the end of the residential section is a small park with a barn from the Karrer family. The barn was built in the 1870s. The small public art structure is on the site of the George Karrer blacksmith shop. The sign at the installation explains the work and the unique stone wheelwright table.

2 South Riverview

South Riverview was the site of the first settlement and first houses. You can see several of them on your walk: 37 South Riverview was built in 1840 and is noteworthy for its cornerstones, or quoins. 83 South Riverview is the oldest stone house, built in 1823. The brick house at 109 South Riverview was built in 1822 as a one-story house, with the second story added in 1842. This house was a stop on the Underground Railroad. In the 1860s, the doctor who lived here helped enslaved persons escaping to freedom. The Scioto River was one of several routes north.

At the south end of the street, through the modern gates, is a former limestone quarry, which was once an important business for Dublin. The barn was used to store quarry equipment. Look to the river side of the gates to see stone gates. These mark the former entrance to a grist mill that was on the river, another significant industry for the village and farmers.

3 Dublin Spring Park

Dublin Spring Park is at the north end of South Riverview, at river level. You can use the steps by the bridge or the roadway by the house at 56 South Riverview for access. The storyboard at the site of the spring will tell you the history of the location. This natural source of drinking water is one reason the Sells family selected this spot for the settlement. While the stone-lined spring does not flow as it used to, look across the paved path to see water flowing from the same source. But please don't drink it!

4 Bridge Street Bridge

The stone bridge has been here since 1935. It replaced a steel truss bridge when the highway was realigned and the roadway was elevated. The limestone blocks covering the bridge surface are from local quarries, cut and shaped by Dublin stonemasons. The bridge roadway was widened in 1985, requiring the removal of some features from the top of the bridge, but the graceful arches maintain their beauty on the river.

5 North Riverview

North Riverview is in transition as we prepare this tour. The seven buildings were built from the mid-1850s to the 1920s. This group of buildings will become a development space for artisans, entrepreneurs, and craftsmen. Three houses will be rehabilitated as residences.

6 North High

You can still get a hint of the past with the small stone house, built in 1840, at 16 North High, and the frame house next door at 22 North High, built in 1847. The house at the next corner north, 56 North High, is a restaurant in an 1845 house. The shingle pattern on the second story is unique to the village. Across the street, the stone building at 53 North High was the first Christian Church building, constructed in 1847.

7 Dublin Library

The gray brick partial wall with arched windows in the corner of the plaza recalls the Washington Township building that stood at that site for 100 years until 1970. The building also served as the village school for 50 years.

8 Indian Run Cemetery

Behind the library is the historic Indian Run Cemetery, the first village cemetery, used from 1813 to 1877. Many villagers moved their deceased family members to the Dublin Cemetery when it was established in 1870.

9 Indian Run Falls

Explore Indian Run Falls Park. Follow the trail to see this natural feature hidden in our growing city. The path takes you to a bridge at the west end where you can cross to another path that takes you to overlook decks providing excellent views of the falls.

10 Bridge Street

On the corner, 8 East Bridge—Domino's Pizza—was a gas station on the other side of the river in 1935. It was disassembled and rebuilt here during bridge and road construction. The bronze sculpture in the plaza recalls the village water pump in the middle of the intersection of Bridge and High until 1926. Villagers filled buckets for cooking, drinking, washing, and other uses. The sculpture commemorates those "Daily Chores". The veterinary business at 32 West Bridge was built in 1877 as a blacksmith shop. Across the street was Dublin's first fire station at 37 West Bridge. The Dublin Community Church was built in 1877. The historic portion is the small chapel at the street front, with the bell tower and arched windows.

11 Dublin Cemetery

The Dublin Cemetery, established in 1870, was the western edge of the village for almost 100 years.