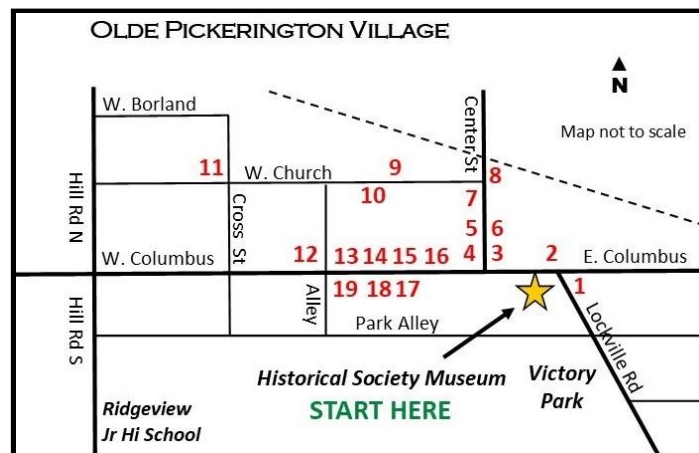


Welcome to Olde Pickerington Village!

★ **BEGIN** and **END** your Walking Tour at the **Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society Museum**, 15 E. Columbus Street, Pickerington, Ohio. This building originally was built as a Carnegie Library, dedicated in 1916. It served as the local library until 1993. When applying for a grant from the Carnegie Corporation to build the library in Pickerington (population about 300), the Violet Township Library Board of Trustees was allowed to include the total population of the surrounding school district to meet the grant-required minimum population of 1000 people. The old Violet Township meeting house occupied this site before the library. It was quickly moved in the middle of the night; the popular folk story is that this was done to thwart an unconfirmed injunction meant to stop the controversial library construction. This site originally was dedicated for educational purposes when Abraham Pickering's original town plat was expanded around 1880. The town, first named Jackson Ville in 1815, was renamed 12 years later to honor Mr. Pickering.



1. Kraner's General Store

6 Lockville Rd

Built in the 1800s, this has been home to a general mercantile business, post office, drug store, soda fountain, duck pin bowling alley (upstairs), framing/art studio, birdseed store, sign company, real estate office and photography studio. E.D. Kraner purchased the site in 1873 and established the longest running family business in Pickerington, 1873 to 1947.



2. Moore's Restaurant

14 E. Columbus St

Moore's Pool Hall

18 E. Columbus St

These local hangouts were owned and operated by Walter "Butch" & Wilma Moore until 1983. The family lived above the pool hall which also housed a card room where games might last 2-3 days. At one time, the pool hall building housed Caldwell's Grocery Store (seen in the lower photo). The cook stove, used by Wilma to make her famous soup, and photos hung in the pool hall can be seen at the Historical Society Museum.



3. Dude's Standard Oil

4 E. Columbus St

This building was built in the mid-1940s by Roy Huntwork as a Mobil Service Station. Huntwork Insurance Agency was housed upstairs at a later time. Clarence "Dude" Harrel operated this site as a Standard Oil station from 1950 until 1982. It was later home to the Violet Township administrative offices. It housed a substation of the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office before being purchased by the City of Pickerington.



4. Valley House

Northwest corner of Columbus St & N. Center St

On the corner in the center of town you will see an empty lot with a white gazebo. This was the site of an old inn operated by Amos Breakbill and later Nancy & George Grow. At one time, it was called the Valley House. Later, the P.A. Myers Hardware store was located downstairs. The telephone company and apartments were housed upstairs. The building burned to the ground in October 1927 and was never rebuilt. The fire prompted Pickerington to establish its own fire department.



5. Patrick & Exline Grocery

19 N. Center St

Built in 1929 as Hanna's Livery Stable, this building has housed several businesses. Patrick and Exline Grocery began in 1938. Later, a plumbing store, Florence Blaine's Beauty Parlor and The Coffee Shop were housed here. At different times, it was the meeting place of Violet Grange, Boy Scouts, Rebekah Lodge #571, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF). More recently it has housed various food establishments & businesses.



6. First Firehouse

22 N. Center St

Built in 1938 as the first firehouse, it also housed the Mayor's Office and Village Council Meeting Room. Later, it was the Pickerington Police Department. The building also has been home to a heating and cooling business, a guitar store and insurance office. Legend has it that a cheating card player was killed by workers building the railroad and was buried on this site.



7. E.U.B. Church Parsonage

5 W. Church St

This once was the longtime parsonage for the local Evangelical United Brethren Church. The church was located east of here at 170 E. Columbus Street beside the Violet Cemetery. Local legend is that the parsonage is haunted by the ghost of an old woman.



The **Pickerington Mill** used to be located across the street in the grassy area along the south side of the railroad tracks. The mill opened in 1883, and farmers brought their grain to town where it was processed, then



shipped out by rail. Flour milling stopped in the early 1930s, but feed mixing continued until 1971. A bag of the mill's "Violet Queen" flour can be seen at the Historical Society Museum. Church Street used to be Mill Street.

8. Pickerington Train Depot

50 N. Center St

The depot and railroad were completed in 1879. Passenger rail service ended – thanks to the automobile – and the depot was closed in 1958. It was rehabilitated by John Grunewald in 1975 and is still owned by his family. A small railroad section house sits beside the old depot. The first automobile in Pickerington, owned by Dr. W.B. Taylor, arrived by train at this depot. Some assembly was required!



9. Pickerington Creamery

80 W. Church Street

This was once the largest employer in Pickerington and the largest butter maker in the state. From 1900 to 1919, it operated under various names. A.J. Good took over in 1919, naming it the Pickerington Creamery. In 1921 a fire destroyed the plant, and a new building was built. The building you see today is what is left after 3 building expansions and another fire in 1977. The creamery business was sold in 1972. The Good family still owns the property and renovated the building making way for new businesses. Old photos and artifacts are on display in the lobby.



10. Oldest House in Pickerington

77 W. Church St

Built around 1851, this house is believed to be the oldest home still standing in Pickerington. It was the Methodist Church parsonage from 1852 until 1865, home to the Pickerington based circuit rider preacher. Betty & Bill Hanna once lived here. (Bill Hanna was the son of Harry Hanna and helped his dad in the family auto business on Columbus Street. See stop #14.) A log cabin is hidden under the siding you see today.



11. Peace United Methodist Church

59 N. Cross St &
122 W. Church St

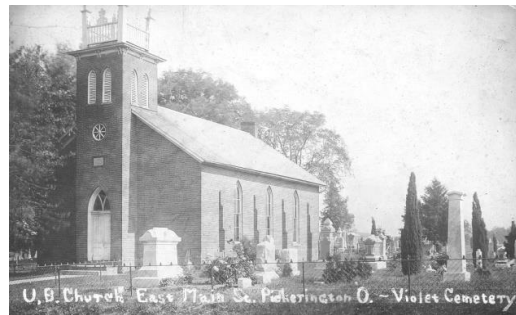
The first church building in this community was a Methodist Church built on this site in 1833.

That building was razed and a new church erected in 1883. That second church (photo above) also was razed and the building you see today, facing Cross Street, opened in 1952. Peace UMC moved into its new building at the corner of Long and Diley Roads on February 14, 1999.



In 1882, a disagreement over whether to build a cemetery caused prominent Pickerington citizen Jacob B. Dovel to leave the Methodist congregation. He moved his membership to the United Brethren Church; and, later, the Dovel Evangelical United Brethren (E.U.B.) Memorial Church was built at 170 E. Columbus Street (photo shown below).

Behind this church is the **Dovel Memorial Cemetery** (located adjacent to Violet Cemetery).



12. The Greystone

60 W. Columbus St

This large, stone house, built in 1907, was the "town home" of Lucinda Dovel Bowers and her husband Charles. A wooden boardwalk was built from their home in the "country", about half a

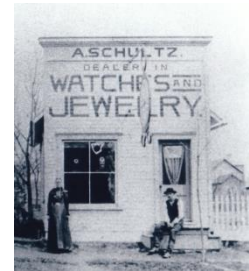


mile west of here, so Lucinda could walk to town and not soil her dress. Lucinda was the youngest child of Jacob Dovel who gave each of his five children a 160-acre farm with a brick house upon their marriage. Lucinda's house was said to be the biggest and fanciest. Three of the brick homes still exist: Lucinda's at 380 W. Columbus Street, Frank Dovel's at 50 Hill Road South and Olive Dovel Bowen's at 1141 Refugee Road.

13. The Richter House

42 W. Columbus Street

This private residence was once the home of Raye & Cleo Mason Richter. Cleo was longtime Pickerington Post Office Mistress. The house was built circa 1905 by Cleo's father, Philip Mason. The little house to the west, at 48 W. Columbus, was the Adolph Schultz Jewelry Store at 120 N. Center St. It was moved when John Robinson became postmaster (1914-1922) and the downtown "fathers" didn't want to cross the railroad tracks to get their mail.



14. Hanna Auto Repair

30 W. Columbus St

Started in 1920 by Harry Hanna as an auto repair store with a hand cranked gas pump out front, this became home to a Chrysler/Plymouth dealership in 1940. The Hanna family lived in the little house on the west side of this building. Harry sold his dealership building in 1960. It later housed Kelly's Food Center, an arts and craft store, a restaurant and now is home to Resale Furniture.



15. Shoemaker Hardware

24 W. Columbus St

Built in 1870, this became the first hardware store in town in 1886. The business was operated by the John Henry Shoemaker family until 1969. Civil War soldier John Henry Shoemaker is seen at right. The building has since housed a variety of businesses including an amusement parlor, JD Wood Creations and Karen's Doggie Day Spa. The Shoemaker family made their home next door at 22 W. Columbus Street in a house built by Samuel Shoemaker in 1884.



16. Cyrus Smith Grocery

18 and 20 W. Columbus St



Cyrus Smith built and opened a general store here in 1871. The Smith family lived upstairs and in the little wing on the east side of the building. Later, it housed the Fowler and Fancher General Store.

From 1920 to 1964, Burch and Alma Newlon operated it as Newlon's General Store. It nearly caught fire in 1927 when the hotel next door burned down. The porch was torn off by a car on May 23, 1992. It was replaced, and an apartment was renovated on the 2nd floor by Barbara Freeman who operated BJ's Bouquets on the first floor for more than 20 years before retiring in 2013.

17. Mason's Meat Market

21 W. Columbus Street



Built in 1914, this was once a family home and meat market owned by Phillip B. Mason. The meat market closed, and the building became the post office when Mr. Mason was appointed

Postmaster in 1934. His daughter, Cleo Mason Richter, became Postmistress upon his death in 1940 and served until her retirement in 1967. The Pickerington Police Dept later found a home here, as did the Historical Society.

18. The Central Hotel

27 W. Columbus St

This building was a hotel known as the **Central House** run by Mrs. Mary Snoke until 1932. It was later a bed & breakfast and, more recently, an antique shop. Mrs. Snoke also ran the **American Hotel** on N. Center Street next to the train depot. (That building no longer exists.)



19. Doc Taylor's House

47 W. Columbus St

This was once the home of long-time, local doctor W.B. Taylor. He owned the first car in Pickerington and used it to make house calls. His office was in a small building attached to the west side of his home. Later, the office building was moved and still stands at 30 N. Cross Street.

OLDE PICKERINGTON VILLAGE

SELF-GUIDED WALKING TOUR



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