

Chagrin Falls was settled in 1833, incorporated in 1844, and at the last census, the population was 4,113.

Many of the early settlers came from New England. Around 1845 there was an influx of immigrants from Devonshire, England, and in 1870 another group came from Finland. They came to work in the mills and to find their fortune.

Until the early 1900s, Chagrin Falls, was a dirty, smoky mill town—an industrial village which created great wealth.

The 9 dams on the river powered the early industries that lined the river, and when the railway came in 1877, more industry sprung up along the rail lines. The mills and foundries produced items such as axes, paper, wool, woodenware, sad irons and a variety of products that were sold throughout the United States and internationally.

The homes that you will see on this tour today reflect the success of these industries.

Walking Tour Sponsored by  
Safe Routes Chagrin



*Tour designed by Century Home Plaque Committee members Gloria Beaven, Sally Hawkins, Beth Skeel, chair, with help from John Bourisseau. —Art by Joyce Teeft.*

## A Self-Guided Tour of the West Side Historic District

As Listed on the National Park Service  
Registry of Historic Places



87 East Washington Street  
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022  
440-247-4695  
[www.chagrinhistorical.org](http://www.chagrinhistorical.org)

For information and research, visit the  
Historical Society

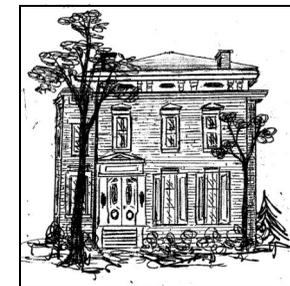
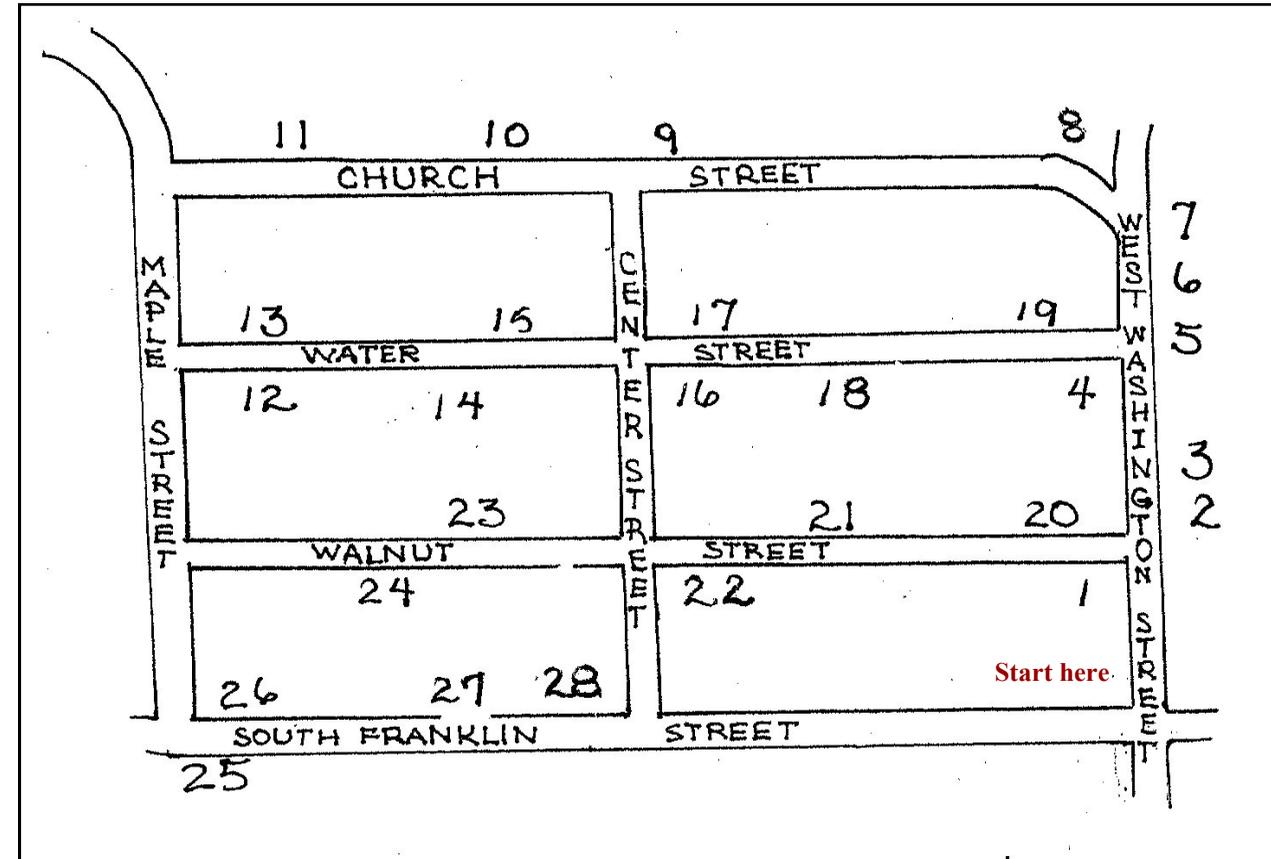
MUSEUM HOURS  
2-7 pm Thursdays  
11 am to 3 pm Saturdays  
Or by appointment



51 Water St.



64 W. Washington St.



60 S. Franklin St



68 Water St.

## West Washington Street

**#1 21** The 1874 Washington Gates House, which originally had a wrap-around front porch, was purchased by the Village in 1937 to serve as Village Hall and public library. After the building was partially destroyed by fire in 1962, the third story and mansard roof were not replaced. Mr. Gates owned a flour and grist mill along the river adjacent to the present day Popcorn Shop which served as the mill's showroom.

**#2 34** The former Post Office has been repurposed into a orthopedic clinic. It was built in 1939 by the Works Project Administration which provided employment for millions during the Roosevelt era. As you will discover later, it is also the site of 2 homes that have been moved elsewhere.

**#3 44** Built in 1844, this home sold 5 years later for \$500. It remained in the same family for 130 years. The 1 1/2 story wing and garage were added in 1982. The porch railings were found at that time under the porch and reinstalled.

**#4 55** This Greek Revival style home originally was called the Academy as it housed a small school in the 1840s. Original beams with bark on them can be seen in the basement.

**#5 64\*** This home was built in 1877 by Joseph O'Malley, builder of many Italianate homes in the Village and owner of a planing mill. It is a prime example of Victorian architecture with wings, bays, "gingerbread" and is crowned with a belvedere. It was the home of John Bullard whose wooden ware factory was at the rear close to the river. In recent years it has seen additions, including the 3-car garage.

**#6 86\*** A Greek Revival home built in the 1840s by E. G. Williams for Curtis Bullard. It originally was sited at 64 Washington St. and was moved to make way for the larger Bullard house that exists today. (see #5)

**#7 92\*** This home was built ca. 1860. Additions were done in the 1980s, recycling some original materials including bricks for the fireplaces. Original 1860s glass remains in the windows.

**\*Denotes homes with Century Home Plaques**

## Church Street

**#8 4\*** Built in 1874, the house has been restored to its original proportions after the removal of a 1920s remodeling. There are 40 brackets under the cornice that support the hip roof.

**#9 36\*** The Wellington O. Lines House, built in 1907, is a well preserved vernacular, 2 1/2 story front gable wood frame home with Colonial Revival elements.

**#10 48** (1884) and **54** (1873) Joseph O'Malley built both homes, intending 54 to be his own residence. He added a special feature, an etched red glass window imported from France that can be seen from the driveway side. Known as the "Church houses", descendants of Henry Sr. remained in the houses until 2016! Henry Sr. was one of the first settlers and his children were community leaders for the next 100 years. Henry Jr. was a blacksmith and self-taught artist. He carved Squaw Rock in the Metro-parks and his art hangs in the Cleveland Museum of Art, the Western Reserve Historical Society, the Abby Aldridge Rockefeller Folk Art Museum in Williamsburg, Va. and the Chagrin Falls Historical Society. His brother Austin, also a blacksmith, was a Civil War veteran who left many diaries and letters that describe life in the 1860s -1880s. Note the beautiful Carriage House behind 54.

**#11 60\*** The James Fulton House, ca. 1874, is an Italianate style home which has retained its original exterior, with a later addition to the rear. Note the shiplap siding, probably the work of Joseph O'Malley.

## Water Street

**#12 64** (NE corner of Maple & Water) This is a William "Boss" Hutchings house, ca. 1860. Hutchings was an English immigrant and stonemason who owned several brickyards. He built many of the brick structures in town and was the contractor for major projects including the stone arch bridge in the center of the Village. Despite Hutchings' prominence as a designer-builder, he never learned to read or write!

**#13 68\*** and **56\*** These are reverse twin houses. Joseph O'Malley built the first one in 1875 for the Zeno Eggleston family and liked it so much, he built the corner house for himself. Eggleston was a dry goods merchant on Main St.

**#14 51** This is a beautiful example of the Gothic Revival style influence in the Western Reserve. Prominent is the chapel window with matching shutters and decorative trim (vergeboard) on the front of the rafters. The center section dates to the mid-1830s. It has cellar walls of solid rock 2 feet thick and a slate floor. The important elements of the house were retained in a major remodeling in the mid 1900s.

**#15 44\*** The original brick house was built ca. 1845 by William Hutchings. The brick walls are 13" thick. The rear frame portion was an early 1900s addition.

**#16 29\*** This is the first house moved in 1883 from the site of the old Post Office on West Washington. The bay window and 2nd floor were added at that time and a front porch was removed in the 1920s.

**#17 28\*** Ca. 1885, this is one of the few 1-story homes in the Village. Remains of a former electric company switching station are said to be located in the basement.

**#18 23\*** Before his presidency, James A. Garfield roomed in this house while supervising the building of the Disciples Church on Walnut St. That building no longer exists.

**#19 14 & 8** Examples of the American Four Square style, these homes were built ca. 1901 for John and William Rogers. The corner home has elements of both Queen Anne and shingle styles and was featured in "Keith's Homebuilder" magazine in January 1904. The millstone in the front lawn came from a former mill along the river. The homes are believed to have been an early collaboration between George Rowe and Charles Giles who, as Rowe and Giles, became the areas largest builders in the early 20th century.

## Walnut Street

**#20 20** The 1-story salt box section of the First Church of Christ Scientist was built in 1836 by Seth Handerson. The remainder of the church building dates to the 1950s.

**#21 24** This home has stylish Victorian era features and was built by Orrin Frazer as the 2nd house on the old Post Office site. (see #2) It was moved to its present location in 1938.

**#22 27 & 31** These homes are examples of the Arts & Crafts style. The corner bungalow is believed to be a Sears Catalogue kit called "Fairy Design" and was priced about \$1500. It was shipped here by railroad in 1920 and assembled by Frank Eggleston, a building contractor and Village Council member.

**#23 54\*** Known as the original J. W. Williams house, ca. 1840, it was moved thru the backyard from Franklin St. to its present location in the early 1870s and given to his son, A. C. Williams. At that time, it had a front porch and faced Center St. Later remodeling changed the entrance to Walnut St.

**#24 65** Built in 1872 as the carriage house and stable for the brick residence at 60 S. Franklin, it was converted to a residence in 1971. The front bay windows were the carriage entrances.

## South Franklin Street

**#25 95** (Funeral Home) The home was built ca. 1870 by Charles Cole who immigrated from England in 1860 and was a tailor by trade and briefly operated a saloon in town. An article in an 1880s Exponent (Chagrin's newspaper) reported that Cole left an infant daughter in England and brought her to Chagrin 20 years later.

**#26 80** The Dr. Herman N. Doty house was built in 1905 in the Queen Anne style. For over 50 years it was the home of Chagrin's prominent physician. In recent years, the huge vacant area over the garage was turned into living space and the home has been occupied by 3 generations of the same family.

**#27 60\*** After the original home was moved to Walnut St., this became the 2nd home of J. W. Williams, iron foundry owner who manufactured sad irons, toy banks, wagon parts and stoves that were sold nationally and internationally. Examples may be seen at the Historical Society. Note the wrought iron trim on the windows and 10' doors. Built in 1873, it remained in the family until 1918. Vacant until the end of WWII and known locally as the "Haunted House," it has been beautifully restored.

**#28 52** Built in 1901 as the residence of Tom Bright, pharmacist and successful businessman. It has been exquisitely remodeled and retains the character of the original home.

**Interested in a plaque for your home?** Call the Historical Society or visit the website for details.