As part of the 2017 Manchester Sesquicentennial Celebration, eight Historic Plaques were installed in and near downtown Manchester. Each of these plaques provides a variety of information on the history, persons, buildings and events associated with that location.

The plaque information graphic files can be downloaded from www.manchestermi.org.

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**Other points of interest along the historic plaque walking route:**

1. River Raisin Dam and Mill Pond – where Manchester was founded in 1833
2. Goodyear Hall/Arbeiter Building (1867), 138-144 E. Main
3. Unterkircher Building (1866), 128-130 E. Main
4. Fountain-Bessac House (1842), 102 W. Main
5. John Van Duyn House (1872), 112 W. Main
6. Former Presbyterian/Methodist Church (1880), 122 W. Main
7. Old Burying Ground (1834), N. Washington St.
8. James Lynch House (1867), 202 W. Main
9. St. Mary Roman Catholic Church (1911), 210 W. Main
10. Emanuel United Church of Christ (1883), 324 W. Main
11. Fargo House (1834), 121 W. Main
13. A. J. Waters “Castle House” (1909), 201 W. Duncan
14. Mat Blosser House (1840s), 203 S. Washington
15. Old Township/Village Hall (1887), 120 S. Clinton
16. Rehfuss and Kapp Building (1882), 109-111 E. Main
17. Black Sheep Tavern (1873), 115 E. Main
18. Union Bank Building (1894), 135 E. Main
19. Manchester Mill, 201 E. Main
   (oldest continuously operating mill in Michigan until 1981 closure)
20. Kefuss Building, oldest brick building on east side of river (1860), 237 E. Main
21. Kingsley-Jenter House, MAHS headquarters (1904), 302 E. Main

**Village of Manchester Historical Tour Map**

- Manchester 1854
- Main Street Exchange Place 1880
- Downtown Manchester
- Village Green
- Dam and River

Created: October 2018. Support from 1) Washtenaw County CVB Community Tourism Action Plan; 2) Village of Manchester DDA; 3) Manchester Area Historical Society

Graphics by Sue Maher, Moxie Grafix LLC
Begin at Chi-Bro Park parking lot (209 Ann Arbor St. (M-52), just north of Main Street). Cross M-52 to visit the River Raisin Park, its pathways and overlook deck on the River Raisin. Continue walking north along M-52. Observe historic post-Civil War homes along both sides of M-52. Walk up 0.5 miles to Dutch Drive, then cross M-52 and continue east down Dutch Drive 0.8 miles to Hibbard Street. Turn south on Hibbard and walk 0.2 miles to Main Street, then turn west. While walking down Main Street, you will pass by many of Manchester’s historic old homes, the Blacksmith Shop, and the MAHS Kingsley-Jenter House at the corner of Manchester’s historic old homes, the Blacksmith Shop, pass by many of Manchester’s historic old homes and churches in this original part of the village. Total distance: 2.4 miles.

Scenic Walking Tour #2 – South Side

Begin at the Manchester Village Hall/Library lower parking lot (912 City Road – M-52). View the River Raisin, dam and rapids on the north side of City Road behind the village hall, as well as the historic Ford Plant equipment in the village hall lobby. Continue walking along City Road west approximately 0.8 miles, while viewing many classic homes along this route. You will also pass by the 1930s architecture of the Ackerson Building on the north side, the former Manchester High School. When you reach the intersection of M-52 and Main Street, turn east on Main Street and walk to Hibbard Street (0.6 miles), while viewing many of Manchester’s historic homes. At Hibbard, turn south and walk 0.2 miles to starting point. Total distance: 1.7 miles.

Scenic Walking Tour #3 – West Side

Begin at Wurster Park (Manchester’s “Village Green”), 215 W. Main Street. Walk north on Macomb Street 0.1 miles to junction with River Raisin – “Railroad Street”. Walk the former railbed road along the river (now the Manchester Shared-Use Trail) west 0.1 miles to Union Street, then continue west down the Shared-Use Trail 0.4 miles to its end. Return to the Union Street junction, then turn northwest and continue 0.3 miles down Union Street to the Washtenaw County Leonard Preserve. Maps are available to guide you in various routes within the Leonard Preserve.

Total distance: 2.0 miles

(Note: Portions of the trail east of Washington Street and east of Main Street are under construction in 2018.)

Scenic Walking Tour #4 – Manchester Shared-Use Trail

The Manchester Shared-Use Trail is designed to traverse a former railbed through the center of the village. The West section runs from the west Village limits adjacent to the Leonard Preserve, then alongside the River Raisin between Union Street and Washington Street, and then east to the east side of the Manchester Mill Pond. A connector route will link the east end of this segment to Madison Street. These segments are constructed of compacted stone. Total length is 0.7 miles.

The Center section begins at the east side of the Manchester Mill Pond north of the River Raisin Park, crosses M-52, and enters the south side of Chi-Bro Park. It runs through the park to Main Street on its east end. This segment is composed of an asphalt surface. Total length is 0.5 miles.

The east section begins at Main Street, and travels east to the eastern Village limits at the River Ridge condominiums. This segment is composed of compacted stone. Total length is 0.6 miles.

Be sure to notice our “Walk Your City” campaign signs around the downtown and parks areas. These signs promote the walkability of our town, and provide QR code maps to different locations.