

Experience the "Timeless Charm" of Sheboygan Falls

SAVOR THE PAST AND CELEBRATE THE PRESENT Sheboygan Falls, located on the picturesque falls of the Sheboygan River, blends the rich architectural and cultural heritage of an historic manufacturing center with a wealth of contemporary amenities. The merchants, business people, and residents of Sheboygan Falls invite you to explore and enjoy our historic, hospitable community!

EXPLORE TWO HISTORIC DISTRICTS listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and perhaps the best collection of authentic historic restorations in the Midwest. Eastern settlers settled Sheboygan Falls in the early 1800's. By the mid-1800's there were eight sawmills, two woolen mills, four hub and spoke factories, manufacturers of carriage and cabinet furniture, and the first foundry between Milwaukee and Green Bay. Classic Greek Revival frame buildings graced its business and residential districts, lending style and character to the prosperous community.

This city of 7,850 remains a manufacturing and residential center. Once decrepit commercial buildings, many of them vacant for years or used for storage, have been meticulously brought back to life. More than forty-five facades have been restored and nearly fifty buildings rehabilitated through Nineteen Million dollars in private and public investment.

EXPERIENCE THE AMBIANCE OF RESTAURANTS, SHOPS, AND LODGING located in turn-of-the-century structures. Just a sample of the charmingly restored buildings house a bed and breakfast, a historical research center, flower shop, unique shops, and other businesses. The old city firehouse provides a unique setting for a pizza parlor. A saloon, with gleaming hardwood floors and pressed-tin ceilings, has been returned to its 1878 glory. An 1879 woolen mill, converted into 35 apartment suites, overlooks a small park and the roaring falls of the Sheboygan River.

ENJOY A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES suitable for people of all ages. The city hosts special events and festivals throughout the year. It has four inviting riverfront parks and a scenic riverfront walking trail. It is located just off the Old Plank Road trail, a 17-mile year-round recreational trail, and is one of the communities featured on the Wisconsin Ethnic Settlement Trail.

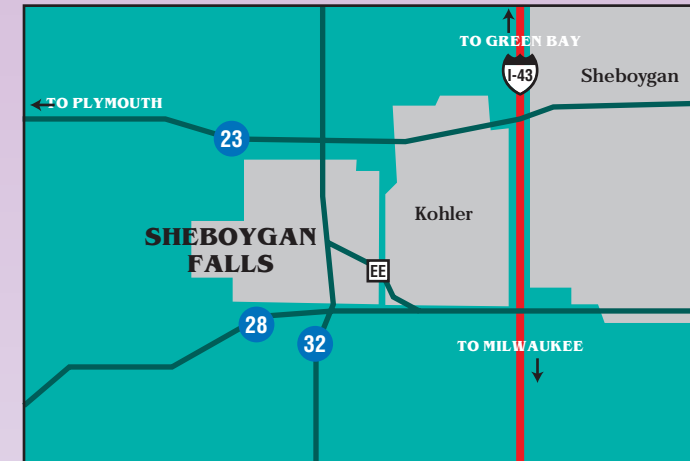
SHEBOYGAN FALLS WON ACCLAIM in 1995 as a Great American Main Street. This prestigious recognition is presented annually by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The award recognizes "exceptional accomplishments in revitalizing America's historic and traditional downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts".

Sheboygan Falls was selected as a pilot program of the Wisconsin Main Street Program in 1988 because of its unique historic elements and the strong community support for the program. Since then, it has been recognized with numerous awards for historic restoration and business development, and has been featured in several national magazines and newspapers. In 2013 we celebrated our 25th anniversary as a Main Street community.



DESTINATION SHEBOYGAN FALLS!

Come spend the day with us. We're just one hour from Green Bay and Milwaukee, and conveniently located off Interstate-43. From the south take Highway 28 to Highway 32 North. From the north take Highway 23 West to Highway 32 South.



For more information on historic and charming Sheboygan Falls, please contact:

Sheboygan Falls Chamber-Main Street, Inc.

504 Broadway

Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

(920) 467-6206

Visit our website at www.sheboyganfalls.org or

e-mail: chambermnst@sheboyganfalls.org

Follow us



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sheboygan-Falls-Chamber>



January 2017 Edition

Historic



Sheboygan Falls

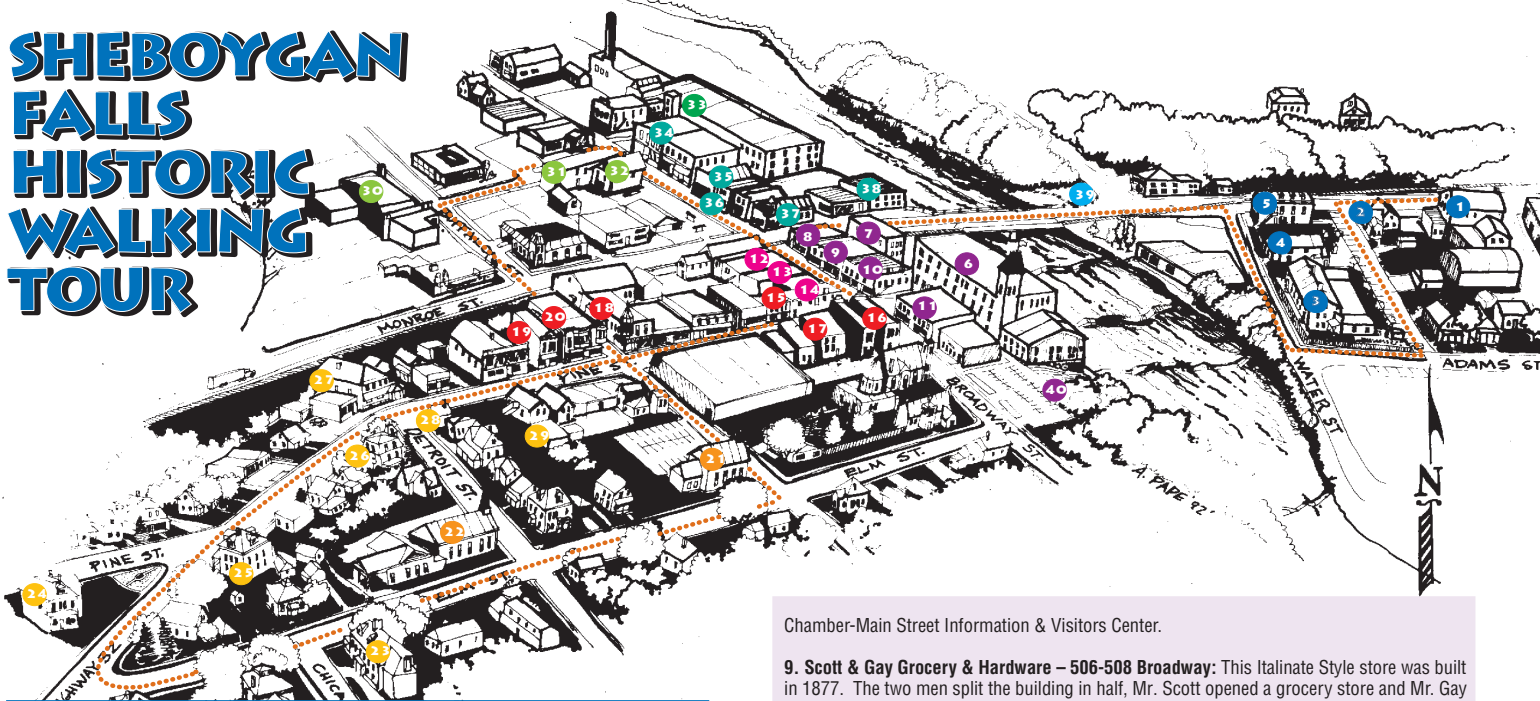
W I S C O N S I N



Winner
1995 Great American
Main Street Award

National Trust for
Historical
Preservation

SHEBOYGAN FALLS HISTORIC WALKING TOUR



COLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Cole Historic District is one of the few remaining historic districts in the state of Wisconsin to display the early development of a Wisconsin community from the 1830s and 1840s. The district's two residences, mill house and hotel, built between 1837 and 1848 in Greek Revival style, were owned by pioneer settler and entrepreneur Charles D. Cole. After the construction of the Sheboygan River bridge in 1839, this area declined and the City of Sheboygan Falls developed on the west side of the river.

1. Thorpe Hotel – 501 Monroe: First Hotel built in Sheboygan Falls. During Charles Cole's day, the hotel was run on a strictly Temperance basis. This Greek Revival Structure was built in 1846.

2. Cole Brothers House – 517 Monroe: Charles Cole built this home in 1842. His wife, Sarah, taught school for the first time in Sheboygan Falls in this building. The home originally stood within a few feet of his retail store located on the corner. In 1991, Mersberger Financial Group restored this building. In 2011-2012 a significant addition was added to the original building. This expansion project received the Best New Building Award from Wisconsin Main Street.

3. Mill House – 516-518 Water: Built in 1837 by the Rochester Lumber Co. for boarding their workers, it served as the first home for new settlers in the county. Today, the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center calls this building home.

4. Cole Brothers House – 508-510-512 Water: George and John Cole from New England built this Greek Revival cottage in 1846 in the true Yankee tradition. Today this building houses offices.

5. Cole Store – 504 Water: Cole built this Greek Revival store in 1848. He used the first floor for retail space and the second for living. The third floor was used by the founders of the first Temperance League in the Midwest. They would gather in disgust for the sinfulness of drinking. Today, The Rochester Inn occupies this building.

BRICKNER SQUARE

6. Brickner Woolen Mills – 639 Monroe: Built in 1879, the Woolen Mill was the out growth of two prior mills. The Woolen Mill produced woolen shawls, coatings, suiting, dress goods and blankets. The building was operated by both steam and waterpower. It was supplied with automatic fire-sprinklers, two powerful pumps, and even its own organized fire department. In 1992 Brickner Woolen Mills was renovated into 35 housing units.

7. Brickner Woolen Mills Warehouse – Rear 506 Broadway Now 641 Monroe: Built in 1882, this large, two-story cream city brick structure was renovated in 1993-1994 into a professional office complex.

8. Lewis P. Hill Building – 504 Broadway: Built in 1848, the building housed the German Bank until 1874. The bank was safe housing for the money of many early settlers to Sheboygan Falls. Later there was a reorganization and the name was changed to the Falls Bank. Today the original three safes remain and the building is home to the Sheboygan Falls

Chamber-Main Street Information & Visitors Center.

9. Scott & Gay Grocery & Hardware – 506-508 Broadway: This Italianate Style store was built in 1877. The two men split the building in half, Mr. Scott opened a grocery store and Mr. Gay opened a tin and hardware store. Today the building is home to Curves and Day Dream Cafe.

10. J.W. Smith Meat Market – 514 Broadway: Built in 1880, it was a retail meat market, a meat processing business, and a cattle buying and shipping business which ran as high as four carloads per week. The other half was used as the town post office, one of the most convenient in the state north of Milwaukee. Today the entire complex makes up the unique Bemis Bath Shoppe featuring bathroom vignettes and bathroom accessories.

11. Brickner Woolen Mills Office – 600 Broadway: Built in 1882, because noise forced the company to erect an office outside the Mill, and thus be removed from all the confusion. In 1897, an addition to the south was erected and used as a warehouse and stockroom. Today Rick's House of Flowers, Heavenly Soups and Designs by Dieter make their home at this location.

1878 BROADWAY BLOCK

During the early history of Sheboygan Falls, a long frame building stood in the 500 block of west Broadway extending from Pine Street north. In the early 1850's this building was occupied by tinsmiths, a drug store, and a flour and feed store. When the Joseph Osthelder Saloon was built (#14) the wood frame structure was moved to Buffalo Street immediately north of the railroad tracks and the cream city brick 1878 shops began construction. These storefronts were historically restored in 1994 and now make-up six store fronts as well as upper office suites and apartments.

12. William Sully's Dry Goods Store and The Rex Candy Store – 507 Broadway: The Dry Goods store was built in 1878 and the Candy shop was added in 1915. The first floor was completely remodeled as a bank in the 1920's. Today the building is home to Magpie's Cottage.

13. William Thiemann Grocery Store and E.P. Bryant Drug Store – 509-511 Broadway. Constructed in 1878, these two-story brick Victorian commercial structures match the styling of 507 and 513 Broadway storefronts. They have since become home to Edward Jones Investments and Salon 511.

14. Joseph Osthelder Saloon-513 Broadway: Built in 1878 at the same time as 507-511 Broadway, this two-story cream brick Victorian building is located on the main corner of the Downtown district. It matches 507-511 Broadway in design, but also features an original storefront with cast iron columns and ca.1915 prism glass transoms.

PINE STREET – 1800'S

15. J. Osthelder's & Co. – 106-108 Pine: Built in 1890, Mr. Osthelder got out of the saloon business, which he had operated on the corner of Pine and Broadway since 1878, to start a grocery store. The building now is home to Eigenberger Barber Shop and storefront.

16. John Never's Custom Tailor Shop – 101-103 Pine: Built in 1882 after a fire had destroyed the two corner buildings, John's business lasted more than 60 years. Mr. Never's motto of fair and square dealing by giving dollar for dollar in all business dealings with customers probably explains why it lasted. These buildings are home to Re/Max Universal Realty.

17. "Odd Fellows Hall" – 105 Pine: One of the buildings destroyed by the 1879 fire, the International Order of Odd Fellows, rebuilt a fine cream city brick building to be used as their meeting hall. Since 1890, the building has been occupied by a shoe store, now known as Depke's Shoe Store, but the cornice still reveals the past.

18. Billie Wolf's Saloon – 124 Pine: Standing on historic grounds, The Villager Restaurant was once the location of one of the earliest industries in Falls. The Zufelt Mfg. Co. which made spokes and hubs. Later the building was cut into sections to "meet the demands of the Gay 90's" by serving a large schooner of beer for 5 cents and a free lunch counter. After Prohibition, the store was operated as an ice cream parlor. Following a substantial restoration project in 2001, The Villager was named #1 Historic Restoration in Wisconsin by the State Main Street organization. In 2012, The Villager Restaurant was sold. After an extensive interior renovation, it is now home to Catalunya Restaurant and Jamin Olive Grill.

19. Schlichting General Merchandise – 208 Pine: This was Henry Schlichting's first building in 1878. After Henry moved his store to the new corner building (see #20 at 202 Pine) Richard Lindner, a shoemaker, opened a shoe store. Today both buildings have been connected by an atrium and restored to their original beauty as the Richardson Kitchen and Bath. Now both buildings are 202 Pine.

20. Schlichting Grocery & Dry Goods – 202 Pine: Built in 1896 by Henry Schlichting, this was once the oldest family mercantile business in Falls, serving the community for more than a century. While excavating for the new building, an old liberty pole was removed. This discovery reminded many of the Lincoln Campaign in 1860, when the pole was erected.

HISTORIC CHURCHES

21. First Baptist Church – 633 Buffalo: This is the oldest church in Sheboygan County and oldest Baptist Church in Wisconsin. First organized in 1838, members started conducting meetings in the building in 1850. It cost \$1,600 to build and the bell alone cost \$400 and was used as the village timekeeper. Because of a railroad dispute, in 1872, the church was moved on wooden rollers from the corner of Monroe and Buffalo to its current location. It is now home to the Falls Community Church congregation who recently placed an addition to the north side of the building.

22. Methodist Church – 633 Detroit: Built in 1852, this oldest church in Falls has served continuously from 1851 to the present time at its original site. The bell tower is very unique in Wisconsin church architecture in that it is topped by four spires, one at each corner.

HISTORIC HOMES

23. Brickner House – 319 Elm: This Neo-Classic, white-framed home was built by George Brickner in 1889. The house is patterned after the White House in Washington, D.C., where Brickner served as Congressman in 1888.

24. Webster H. Barragar House – 421 Pine: Mr. Barragar's house was built in 1905. He was the town's pharmacist. Today, a Yankee Garden, popular during the late 1800s, sits attractively on the corner of the property and is maintained entirely by volunteers of the Master Gardeners of Sheboygan County and Chamber-Main Street Program.

25. Dr. Robert M. Nichols House – 339 Pine: Dr. Nichols was one of the best known and most successful physicians in Falls. During World War I, at the age of 50, he enlisted and served as a captain in the Army Medical Corps. After retirement he served as the Falls Postmaster.

26. The Prentice House – 613 Detroit: Built in 1870 by William Prentice, the founder of the first woolen mill in Sheboygan Falls. This Second Empire style architecture was popular in the Eastern States when the home was built. The building served as the city's public library from 1943 until 1968.

27. The Franklin House – 304 Pine: A typical Post-Civil War hotel, with a bar, free lunches, and rooms to rent. In the rear was a stable. Over time the front exterior has been renovated and no longer resembles the original structure.

28. Dr. Pfeifer's Office – 602 Detroit: Dr. Pfeifer's Queen Anne style cottage was an unusual example of a small town physician's office when it was built in 1894. Today it is home to a retail space.

29. James J. Robbins Building – 217 Pine: In 1889, this building originally housed Mrs. Longfellow's millinery store. Her family lived upstairs while downstairs a thriving hat business existed. In 1992 the store was restored to reveal the original storefront. Today it is home to Uncle Ira's Attic.

CITY STRUCTURES

30. City Hall – 375 Buffalo: Dedicated in 1958. The Municipal Building housed the Police and Fire Departments, City Hall offices, and a community auditorium. The site was chosen in 1943, but World War II delayed construction for more than a decade. In 2015, the Municipal Building received a major renovation increasing the size of the fire and police

departments thus eliminating the community auditorium. City Hall offices are now located on the second floor and a new elevator was installed on the outside of the building.

31. Wm. Servis Carriage Factory – 403 Broadway: Built in 1854, Mr. Servis' factory was awarded first premium at six consecutive state fairs and also the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago. At one time the Building housed the Fire Station, the City Hall, and the Police Department. After a major restoration in 1999, it was joined with Building #32 as the home of Falls Firehouse Pizza. Now both buildings are 109 Maple.

32. The Second School Building – 405 Broadway: From 1856 to 1870 the school employed three teachers, who taught for \$30 a month. The first floor had two classrooms and an assembly room. The school moved twice before resting at its present location. On its final move across the street, it wasn't turned around, so today the back of the building faces Broadway.

EARLY INDUSTRY

33. The Tannery Office – 334 Broadway: The historic process of using tannin to turn animal hides into leather by soaking hemlock bark in water led to one of the earliest industries in Falls. J.D. Gould built the first tannery in Falls in 1855. In 1919, a three and one half-story building was erected by D.S. Weisse and was tragically lost to fire in 2007 ending four generations of Stern Tanning in Falls.

"BURNT DISTRICT"

In 1868, one of the most disastrous fires in Falls history occurred. This blaze consumed several businesses on the east side of Broadway, one block north of the railroad. Many buildings were destroyed. The following are examples of businesses that were built in the "Burnt District."

34. Benedict & Co. – 404 Broadway: Built in 1873, this two-story cream brick Victorian formerly housed one of the finest makers of quality carriages and sleighs. It later served as a casket and furniture company. Today it is home to StoreFront Gallery & Studio.

35. J.P. Zonne Store – 412 Broadway: Originally used as a harness store and shop in 1868. Before construction began, most people had hoped a brick structure would be built rather than the wooden storefront that is home to Hair Graphics Salon & Day Spa today.

36. Guyett Tonsorial Parlor – 414 Broadway: In 1887 Mr. Guyett had three barber chairs going at once, while more than 150 china shaving cups, each bearing a patron's name, glistened in two large hardwood cases. Know as a "Pocket Building" it was the most inexpensive way to fill in a downtown space. Today's storefront was built with only a front and back wall, utilizing the outer walls of the buildings on each side to complete the structure. Creative Premiums is now housed here.

37. Martha Wipple's Music Store – 420 Broadway: Martha Wipple was one of the first businesswomen in the area when she built her music store in 1877. In 1878, she enlarged the store and later moved to Sheboygan in 1885 after selling to Kehl Cigar Co. The company employed 20 cigar makers and produced many brand names including Frog Cigars. Equipment from the factory can still be found in the basement of the HyRydgers Rochester Saloon which occupies the site today.

38. Phoenix Iron Works – 638 Monroe: Built in 1880, this brick building replaced the first foundry in all the region between Milwaukee and Green Bay. The original structure was destroyed by fire. The Iron Works manufactured water wheels, which were sold under the trade name "Walsh Turbine."

SHEBOYGAN FALLS RIVERWALK

39. After the tour, enjoy a refreshing walk along The Sheboygan River. The Riverwalk was first constructed during the "Great Depression." Over time the walk became overgrown. Now, courtesy of the Sheboygan Falls Jaycees and the Wisconsin Conservation Corps, you can once again hear the roar and feel the power as the water rushes over the Dam and down through the falls. The trail runs from the Monroe Street Bridge to the Broadway Street Bridge.

SETTLERS PARK

As you complete your River Walk stroll at the Broadway Street Bridge continue south along Broadway towards the downtown and experience one of the finest downtown riverfront parks in Wisconsin. Completed in 2002 with nearly \$800,000 in donated private funding, this beautiful park sits on the site of the original Bemis Mfg. Plant B. Donated by Bemis for a city park, it offers direct access to the most picturesque parts of The Sheboygan River and the dam site. Offering winding lanes to stroll, as well as benches and a gazebo to rest and reflect on the beauty of nature.

FALLS VIEW PARK

40. Built courtesy of the Wisconsin Conservation Corps., this small overlook offers a spectacular view of the falls. An intimate spot to enjoy a picnic lunch or take a family photo.