

Walk through Hertford

Hertford's walking tour is chocked full of history and beauty. Many of those who live in the area take the majestic homes and buildings for granted. Examples of many building styles can be viewed on the tour.

There are many other historic homes to be seen along the way. Use this as your guide and enjoy!

The tour begins at the Hertford Municipal Building and heads toward North Church Street.

● Edward Wood House, ca. 1818, 208 N. Church Street. One of several Federal side-hall plan houses on the tour. The two and a half story house with a two-story engaged porch was built by Edward Wood when he served as Clark of Superior Court.

● Flower Cottage, ca. 1860, 215 N. Church Street. The dwelling was named by former owner Pennie Norcum. The home is believed to have been used first by Blanchard Merchante Enterprise in 1866 and as a storehouse by Col. Wilson Reed.

● Dr. J.J. Shannonhouse House, ca. 1872, 202 N. Church Street. Built by Dr. James J. Shannonhouse, this is an example of the Greek Revival one-and-a-half story coastal cottage with center hall.

● Skinner-Whedbee House, ca. 1775, 101 E. Punch Alley. Believed to be the oldest house in Hertford, the house was built by Nathaniel Martin. The Federal style house has maintained its original paired entrances. Only one of the original three chimneys remains. The picket fence was once a common sight in town.

● Lewis Richardson House, ca. 1851, 310 N. Church Street. Built by Lewis Richardson, a blacksmith, the Greek Revival with side-hall plan features front and rear engaged porches.

● Edmundson-Fox Memorial, corner Church and McCraney streets. Near this spot in May 1672 the first religious service on record in North Carolina was held. Six months later, George Fox, founder of the Religious Society of Friends, also visited this section and held meetings among the colonists.

● Simpson-Blanchard House, ca. 1858, 300 N. Front Street. Built by Clark of Superior Court and merchant Thomas R. Simpson, a one-story detached kitchen at one time stood to the rear.

● Stokes House, ca. 1874,

218 N. Front Street. This home was built by Henry Clay Stokes and has since been occupied by the Stokes family. This two-story, center-hall plan house was originally L-shaped with a two-tier porch. The original wood frame was brick veneered in 1960.

● Thomas Jackson House, ca. 1872, 208 N. Front Street. Built by Thomas Jackson, this dwelling has a one-story rear addition.

● Old Temperance Hall House, ca. 1851, 116 N. Front Street. Typical of mid-19th century buildings, the side-hall plan house is framed with pine and cypress lumber. Temperance organizations were active in Perquimans County in the 1840s and 1850s. Their membership was drawn mostly from Quakers and Methodists. The building was used by Hertford's Washington Temperance Society until 1856, then sold and converted into a residence.

● Wood-Winslow House, ca. 1772, 110 N. Front Street. This two-story house was built by Benjamin Wright, a tailor.

● McMullan-Fleetwood House, ca. 1881, 106 N. Front Street. Built by Dr. John H. McMullan, the Colonial Revival house was remodeled in 1897.

● Wood-Smith House, ca. 1840, 100 S. Front Street. Built by John Wood, extensive alterations have left only one primary feature evident, a paved, double-shoulder chimney laid in Flemish bond. A two-story T-addition was added around 1904. Dr. Josiah T. Smith purchased the property in 1858 and it stayed in his family until 1948.

● Church of the Holy Trinity (Episcopal), ca. 1849, 207 S. Church Street. The Gothic Revival structure was constructed at a cost of \$2,000. The narthex and bell tower were added in 1894. The organ was acquired about 1854 and was built by George Jardine of New York. Note the cemetery behind the church.

● Augustus Arps House, ca. 1853, 113 W. Dobbs Street. Built by shoemaker and Methodist lay leader Augustus Arps, the original section has a pair of exterior stepped single-shoulder chimney and a rear double-tier engaged porch.

● Benjamin Berry House, ca. 1820, 201 W. Dobbs Street.

Built by tailor Benjamin Berry, the three outbuildings were once a dairy, kitchen and smokehouse.

● Col. Francis Toms House, ca. 1820, 215 W. Market Street. Built by Francis Toms, who served in the House of Commons in 1814 and 1815. The house was enlarged using Greek Revival additions.

● Isaac Hall House, ca. 1818, 200 W. Market Street. Originally a Federal style with side-hall plan, the house now has a center hall plan with two-story wing, rear ell and extended porch.

● Ann R. White House, ca. 1884, 200 W. Grubb Street. Originally a one-room structure, this house has been extensively remodeled.

● Edy Wood House, ca. 1832, 128 W. Grubb Street. This one-story coastal cottage was believed to have been built for Edy Wood, a freed-woman and owner of the property in 1832.

● Dr. C. Winslow House, ca. 1851, 130 W. Market Street. Enlarged several times, this building was built as the office of Dr. Caleb Winslow, a prominent physician, temperance leader, trustee of Hertford Academy, surveyor, member of the first Board of Medical Examiners of North Carolina and a Quaker. One of the former front entrances was converted to a window.

● Hertford Baptist Church, ca. 1854, 124 W. Market Street. An Italianate-style brick structure built on a raised basement, the Classical Revival portico has been replaced with a small narthex.

● Alfred Moore House, ca. 1825, 119 W. Market Street. Built by a local merchant and Hertford postmaster, the home now stands on its third site.

● Perquimans County Courthouse, ca. 1825. This is the second courthouse built in Perquimans County. In 1823, the Albemarle Lodge of Masons made an agreement with the county to furnish work on a new building in return for use of a second floor room. This room is still used as a meeting room for Masons. Interior features include raised six-panel doors with H and L hinges, mantels and Federal style flat-panel wainscot, all original.

Throughout the towns and county, historic structures dot the countryside. Take a walk or a ride for yourself.

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