

Westminster's Historic Main Street Scavenger Hunt

2011 Preservation Month

Enjoy the lovely spring weather, take a walk down Main Street and find where these 15 photo clues were taken. Along the way, admire the beautiful historic features of our Main Street Buildings. Westminster was founded in 1764 by William Winchester of England. Think about all the people who walked along Main Street over the past 247 years.

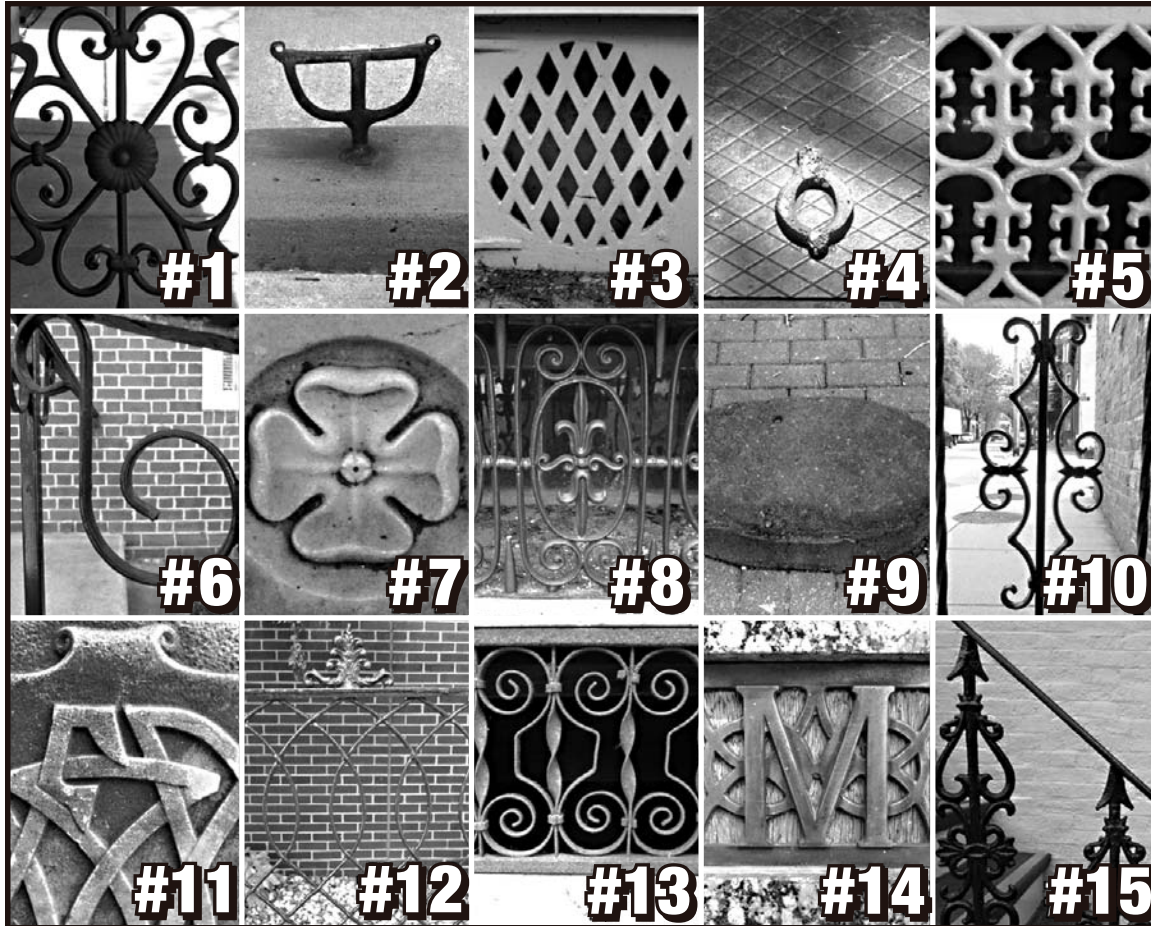
This year's Hunt theme is "Walking in History's Footsteps" so all of the photos were taken at ground level or at below your eye-level. *All features* are found along Main Street between 14 West Main Street and 270 East Main Street; and all features in the scavenger hunt are **visible from Main Street**, so participants should not enter private property for purposes of completing the scavenger hunt. (No trespassing!)

If you can find the location of 13 of the 15 photos, you will receive a 2011 Preservation Month Poster. Submit your answers along with your name, address and phone number on a separate sheet of paper, only one entry per person. All entries should be returned to the City of Westminster Administrative Office at 56 West Main Street to receive your 2011 Preservation Month Poster

The 2011 Westminster's Historic Main Street Scavenger Hunt is sponsored by the Westminster Historic District Commission.

Questions? Contact Melissa Hynes at 410-848-9000 or at mhynes@westgov.com

Media Sponsor:



"Walking in History's Footsteps"

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Clues

Photo # 15 - Owned and occupied by the Baumgartner family for over 130 years, this house is unique in the city for a variety of reasons. The arrangement and use of the levels is very continental: the ground floor was originally used as an attorney's office while the upper floors were the family's living quarters.

Photo #14 - Having been built 1913, it housed a clothing store and tailor shop until 1940 when it was leased to G. C. Murphy for the next forty years. In 1980 Terry Burke opened The Treat Shop on the first floor. At that time an antique mall occupied the basement when the antique mall closed a restaurant called The Cellar Door opened.

Photo #13 – No Clue

Photo #12 - Westminster's "Brownstone Era" was short-lived; of the two buildings it produced, 123 East Main Street is probably the more advanced essay in the style. It fronts the north side of Main Street. The three-bay, three-story building has some of the city's only rustication; other rarities include segmental arched windows and broad sandstone steps.

Photo #11 - As originally designed by Jackson Gott, this building is a three story structure built of buff brick laid in common stretcher bond with trimmings of white brick and Baltimore County marble, the building is topped by a tower which gives the structure a total height of 92', easily the most dominant feature of the Westminster skyline.

Photo #10 - Three-and-a-half stories tall and five bays wide, this house is one of the most powerful forces on the Westminster streetscape. In 1778, David Fisher built a log cabin where the ground floor northwest room of the present home is today. Fisher's son, John, became cashier of the newly created Bank of Westminster, located across the street. When he inherited the property, he built a 25' X 60' I-house, incorporating the earlier structure's foundations. In 1850, Fisher's heirs sold the place to Judge John Smith, who built the present 16 room cube; a six room service wing was added after 1877.

Photo #9 - Built in 1807 by Jacob Sherman for his daughter, Eve and her husband, David Shriver, the five-bay house has played a key role in the architectural and social history of Westminster. It recalls lines by Sir John Summerson, who said "it is curious how, in almost every town or large village, there are one, or perhaps two, houses which stand out as the unquestionable candidates for preservation."

Photo #8 – No Clue

Photo #7 - This is one of the largest houses in the city, a point that the original builders, a family of prosperous merchants, certainly would have felt worthy of mention. But, for all its size, the house continued the local norm of having two perpendicular-gabled sections with a three-bay facade facing Main Street. Certain features help the house escape grossness: the semicircular, leaded, stained glass transom; over the paneled entrance door itself.

Photo #6 – No Clue

Photo #5 - The western half of this building was used for many years as a residence for the prominent Gilbert family. There is structural evidence in the basement suggesting that the house was erected atop an older structure. The building has had a variety of owners since and was once owned by the Taylor Motor Company, which may have built the large garage section to the rear and possibly the eastern half of the building.

Photo #4 - Known as the “White Palace”, it is basically of a size and form that is quite normal to the area, above the first floor the building explodes into a riot of the city’s most fanciful brickwork. The building provides a clear example of how a late-Victorian architect adapted the local norms of mass and decoration to fit the needs of his time. By including the top half story, making the building a common place two-and-a-half stories, the designer was true to local standards.

Photo #3 – No Clue

Photo #2 - Although built independently ,this is one of the two buildings that today present a fairly unified appearance, at least on their south facades, which are united by window placement, cornice treatment, and, perhaps, most effectively, by a bow front connector. It is in this form that the buildings appear in an 1877 plat of the city.

Photo #1 - This building was the home of the Times Printing Company, which was founded in 1911 and became the Carroll County Times in 1956. It has been renovated to maintain the historic charm while being a vibrant business location.