

# WELCOME TO Waynesville Missouri

The seat of Pulaski County, Waynesville has a vibrant, historic downtown that is infused with arts, entertainment, great food, culture, and Midwestern hospitality with small-town Americana charm.

Both Laughlin Park and Waynesville City Park lie along the banks of the Roubidoux River which is stocked with rainbow and brown trout. Anglers can wet a line a mere block from the downtown square.

In 1837, and again in 1839, Cherokee camped at the Roubidoux Spring area during their forced march to Indian Territory. Trail of Tears Memorial signage and a walking trail throughout Laughlin Park honor the Cherokee by commemorating their tragic tale. Today, the magnificent Roubidoux Spring is sought out by certified cave divers from around the world.

The Old Stagecoach Stop and the 1903 Route 66 Pulaski County Courthouse Museum both celebrate the area's rich history. Both museums are also listed on the National Register of Historic Places and are open to the public April through September.

The quirky lovable Frog Rock, 1923 fivespan concrete arch bridge, and the many buildings that line the legendary Route 66, are a favorite of tourists and photographers.

## Tour Guide App

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## Pulaski county missouri USA

*Pulaski County Tourism Bureau  
& Visitors Center*

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THINGS TO DO & SEE IN THE AREA

#### VISIT IN PERSON:

Pulaski County Visitor Center  
137 St. Robert Blvd., Ste. A  
Saint Robert, MO 65584

#### VISIT ONLINE:

[www.PulaskiCountyUSA.com](http://www.PulaskiCountyUSA.com)  
[www.Facebook.com/PulaskiCountyUSA](https://www.facebook.com/PulaskiCountyUSA)

#### Photos courtesy of:

**Pulaski County Museum & Historical Society  
Old Stagecoach Stop Museum & Foundation**

**Tim & Cheryl Bartlett**

**Tim Berrier/Lone Oak Printing**

**Joe Sonderman/66postcards.com**

**Talbot House Antiques & Collectibles**

### PRODUCED AND PRESENTED BY PULASKI COUNTY TOURISM BUREAU

Based on the research of Terry & Jan Primas  
and Laura (Abernathy) Huffman.

# Historic Downtown WAYNESVILLE Walking Tour



The above image by World Wide Photos was from a series titled "Soldiers--All Dressed Up With No Place To Go!" Ironically, the release date for the photo was December 7, 1941. Image courtesy of Terry & Jan Primas.

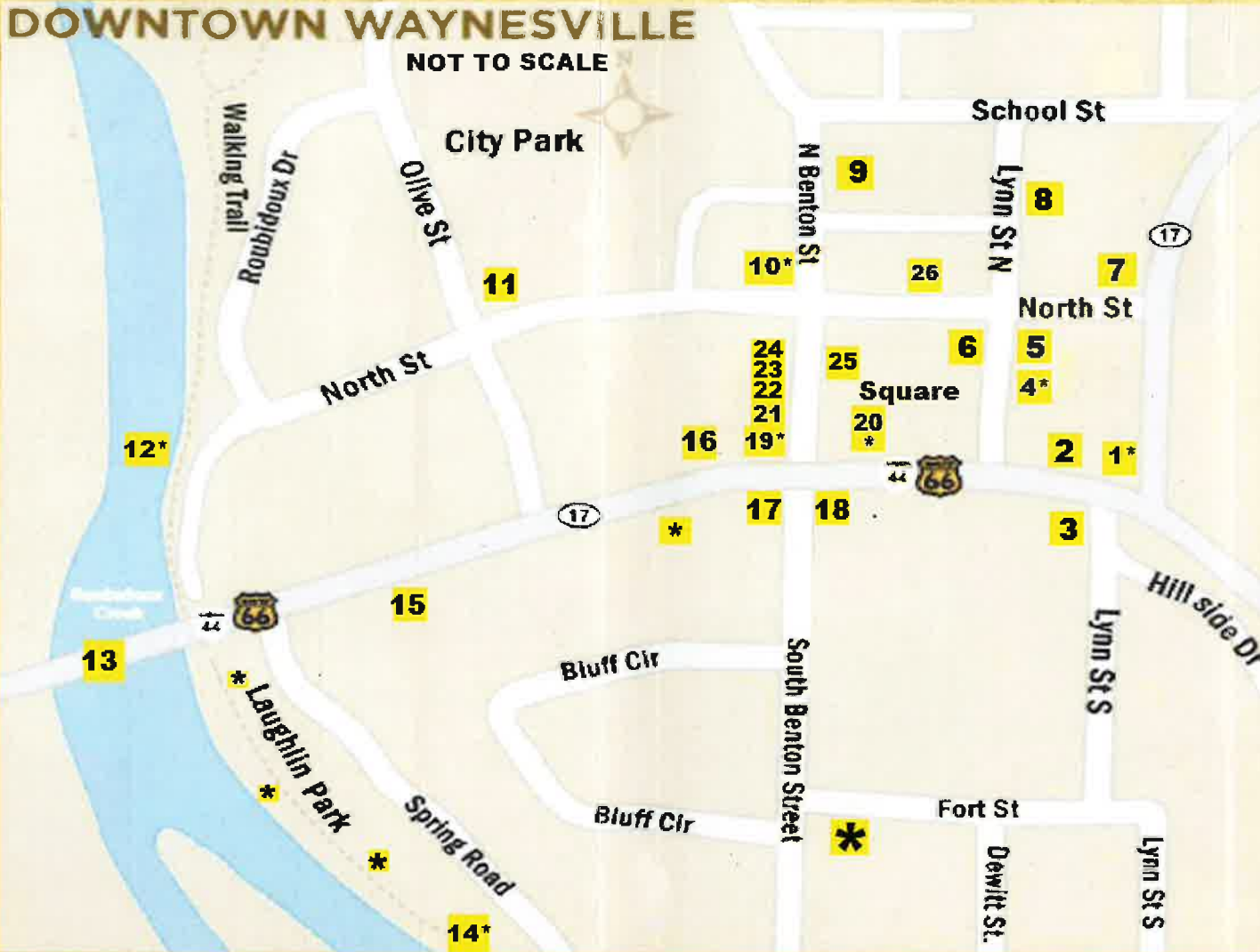
**Waynesville, now a city of over 4,000 residents, was established in 1833. It is the oldest town in Pulaski County. Waynesville is rich in history and abounding in folklore.**

The town was named for the famous Revolutionary War hero, General "Mad Anthony" Wayne.



# DOWNTOWN WAYNESVILLE

NOT TO SCALE



## KEY

1. Hayes Creamee
2. George M. Reed Bldg.
3. Doolin's Blacksmith Shop
4. Old Stagecoach Stop
5. Security Bank of Pulaski County
6. Former Pulaski County Jail Site
7. Talbot House
8. Korean Baptist Church
9. First Baptist Church
10. Baker Hotel
11. 201 North Street
12. Roubidoux Ford
13. Roubidoux Bridge
14. Roubidoux Spring
15. Bo Peep Ceramics
16. Rigsby Building
17. Bank of Waynesville
18. Lone Oak Printing
19. Rigsby House
20. 1903 Courthouse
21. Talbot Building
22. Roubidoux Plaza
23. Talbot Post Office Building
24. Wilson-Long Building
25. Public Health Center
26. Tut's Cafe No. 1

\* denotes Historical Markers

**DON'T MISS  
QUILT BLOCKS  
ON THE  
SQUARE**



**Location: Old Stagecoach Stop Museum**

Missouri Star quilt square. The display was chosen because it can be considered a Civil War pattern and Old Stagecoach Stop served as a hospital during that time.

**Location: 1903 Courthouse Museum**

Four Flags quilt square. This design was chosen for its patriotic theme. It is in keeping with both our local area and for the symbolism of the courthouse as a place of government.





**1. FORMER HAYES CREAMEE, ROUTE 66 & HIGHWAY 17:**

In the late 1950s Dallas and Harold Wells opened a laundry pick-up/drop-off site in a small frame building at this junction. During the early 1960s the building became Hayes Creamee (a hamburger and ice cream joint) owned by Dan & Maudie Hayes. Today the site is occupied by a planter and a Waynesville sign. Peek behind the fence and you can see the old foundation.



**2. GEORGE M. REED BUILDING, E. OF 407 HISTORIC ROUTE 66:**

One door west of 407 Historic Route 66, hidden behind a false front and awning, is the two-story concrete block building constructed in 1911 by (at-the-time) Waynesville postmaster George M. Reed. The building contained the post office, Reed's law and abstract office, and apartments on the upper level.



**7. TALBOT HOUSE, 405 NORTH ST:**

The Talbot House was built in 1885 by Reverend Albert Washington Davis, a pastor of Waynesville Methodist Church. He died in 1888, just three years after constructing the house, at the age of 26. His widow turned the home into The Pulaski House hotel. Dr. Charles A. Talbot bought the house in 1920. After Dr. Talbot's death in 1945 his widow rented rooms to boarders.

**8. KOREAN BAPTIST CHURCH, 210 N. LYNN ST:**

This church, formerly Waynesville Methodist Church was built in 1945, however, the first Methodist Church building constructed on this site was completed in 1887. Organized before the Civil War, founder Wilson M. Tilley, decided the settlers needed a church. Tilley rode out on horseback in search of a preacher. Services were held at the Tilley's farmhouse once a month by a Methodist circuit rider until the Civil War, and Tilley's death, interrupted. Stories differ, but most agree that Tilley was hung by bushwhackers.

**9. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 202 N. BENTON ST:**

Baptist churches were also among the earliest to be established in the Waynesville area. First Baptist Church was organized in 1880, and the first church building, a log structure, was located at this site in 1887. Two other buildings replaced the original before the stone structure housing the current fellowship hall was built in 1936.



**10. FORMER BAKER HOTEL, BENTON & NORTH ST:**

Originally a stick-built structure constructed before 1907 by blacksmith, liveryman, and mail carrier, Lee Baker. The structure was rebuilt and enlarged to 26 bedrooms after a fire circa 1914. During the World War II Fort Leonard Wood boom military servicemembers and families lodged here. During the 1960s the hotel was converted into apartments. The brick building was ravaged by fire in 1967 and again in 1969.



**11. 201 NORTH STREET:**

Most likely constructed between 1941-1943, this building originally served as Waynesville City Hall & Fire Department. The tower-like structure atop the building housed a siren that sounded when there

**16. RIGSBY BUILDING, 229 HISTORIC ROUTE 66:**

This building was constructed in 1951 by Claude Rigsby. It replaced a frame building that had been built in 1941 to house his wife's (Evalina) beauty parlor. The new brick building's first story housed a barber shop, a beauty parlor, and a three-room apartment. The second story included two three-room apartments.



**17. FORMER BANK OF WAYNESVILLE, 100 S. BENTON ST:**

Constructed in 1904 on land purchased from attorney Joe McGregor. The bank was housed in the lower level and the second story was divided into offices. George M. Reed's abstract business was one of the first tenants. In 1917 the bank's safe was robbed by Jink Starling and his gang of yeggmen. A gun battle broke out between the bandits and citizens. A posse was formed to catch the fleeing gang, but the robbers made their escape. Starling was later apprehended, tried, convicted, and sentenced to twenty years at the State Penitentiary at Jefferson City.

**18. LONE OAK PRINTING, 300 HISTORIC ROUTE 66:**

This concrete block building was completed in 1906 by Waynesville grocer Joseph Martin Long. The first floor housed Long's store and the post office while the second story contained the opera house which was used for public performances. During the late 1960s Harry Witt operated Witt's Fashion Shop at this location.

**19. RIGSBY HOUSE, 103 N. BENTON ST:**

Claude & Evalina Rigsby bought this house, which stands on lots 6 and 7 in block 4 of the original town of Waynesville, in 1924. The foundation is made of rough-hewn logs and was constructed in the 1870s by Judge Vandover Berry Hill. The Rigsby's operated their Standard Service station next-door to this home for more than three decades.



**20. 1903 COURTHOUSE, PUBLIC SQUARE:**

Pulaski County's 4th courthouse was designed by Henry H. Hohen-schild. Bricks were fired nearby at Dr. Tice's farm. Look for the original Stromboli fan with wooden blades hanging in the old county clerk's office. On the wooden stairway leading to the second floor, the original decorative spindle balustrade is just like it was in 1903. Visitors can see the original oak ceiling with exposed rafters and joints in the courtroom—an example of superb craftsmanship.

**21. TALBOT BUILDING, 107 N. BENTON ST:**

**3. FORMER DOOLIN'S BLACKSMITH SHOP, HISTORIC ROUTE 66 & LYNN ST:** Now a parking lot, this location once was home to Doolin's blacksmith shop. In September 1911, John Doolin drove ten pounds of horseshoe nails. His brother, Cliff Doolin, "fitted up the shoes" and another man put them on. *The Pulaski County Democrat*, in a challenging fashion, asked its reader who could beat the feat. Cliff Doolin's grandson, Benny Doolin, hand crafted the gazebo that sits north of the old courthouse on the public square.



**4. OLD STAGECOACH STOP, 106 N. LYNN ST:**

The original log building was built by William Walton McDonald in the mid-1850s. The original structure was two log cabins connected by an open "dogtrot." One cabin was used as a residence and the other as a stop for passengers on the Burden & Woodson stage route. During the Civil War the building was commandeered by Union forces and used as a hospital. During the World War II Fort Leonard Wood boom military service members and families boarded here. The building now houses the Old Stagecoach Stop Museum.

**5. SECURITY BANK OF PULASKI COUNTY, 110 LYNN ST:**

After the old Waynesville State Bank went into voluntary liquidation, Waynesville Security Bank opened for business February 1, 1936. In August 1957 Waynesville Security Bank contracted to purchase this location, the former home site of John T. Rollins, to build a new modern bank building.

**6. FORMER PULASKI CTY. JAIL, PUBLIC SQUARE, NORTHEAST CORNER:**

For many years, across the street from the Rollins home site, sat a squat concrete block building that housed the Pulaski County Jail. Although the construction date is unknown, it is known that by 1961 the Pulaski County sheriff had abandoned the dilapidated jail and was housing his prisoners 30 miles away at Lebanon. The derelict condition of the jail was the talk of the town when it was discovered that two prisoners had escaped, burglarized businesses around the Square, and returned to the facility with their stolen loot. A new jail facility was not completed until January 1976.

was a fire to alert firefighters.



**12. ROUBIDOUX FORD & FORMER BRIDGE, W. NORTH ST:**

This site was the location where early pioneers and settlers crossed, or forded, the Roubidoux before the steel bridge was constructed in 1911. Steel for the bridge was shipped by rail to Crocker and hauled to Waynesville by wagon team. The completed bridge cost just under \$4000. It was replaced in 1923 by a new bridge 350 feet upstream.



**13. ROUBIDOUX BRIDGE, HISTORIC ROUTE 66:**

This concrete arch bridge was built in 1923 as part of a State Highway 14 road improvement project. The bridge was designed by Missouri State Highway Commission and was built by Koss Construction Company for \$44,035. The bridge was widened in 1939, 16 years after the road was designated as Route 66, to accommodate a sidewalk for pedestrians. It has remained unaltered since and is the last example of a five-span, filled concrete spandrel bridge in Missouri.

**14. ROUBIDOUX SPRING CHEROKEE CAMPSITE, LAUGHLIN PARK, SPRING RD:**

Long before Waynesville was platted, Joseph Roubidoux III, a French fur trapper and trader from New Orleans, built a camp cabin near this spring that is now named for him. Many years later, in 1837, and again in 1839, detachments of Cherokee who were forcibly marched from their homelands of Georgia to what is now Oklahoma camped at the spring and on the land that comprises Laughlin Park. This removal became known as the Trail of Tears. This site is one of only seven certified Trail of Tears sites in Missouri.

**15. BO PEEP CERAMICS, 106 HISTORIC ROUTE 66:**

The grand opening of Waynesville's new Greyhound Bus Terminal was held July 11, 1963. The station included Traveler's Restaurant, Phil's Clothing & Jewelry, and room for another store. Venture inside the ceramic shop and you will discover the original terrazzo floor.

This building was constructed in 1941 for Dr. Charles Talbot and was completed in September. Talbot operated City Drug Store on the lower level while Dr. Clyde Miller tended to patients on the second level.



**22. ROUBIDOUX PLAZA, 115 N. BENTON ST:**

The plaza's footprint occupies two former storefronts. The southern half was once home to Dodd's General Store building while the northern half housed Waynesville's first movie theater. The Wayne Theater opened early during the Fort Leonard Wood boom, in April 1941. Later, both buildings were used as Pete Rouse's Western Auto Associate Store until the business burned.

**23. TALBOT POST OFFICE BUILDING, 117 N. BENTON:** Also constructed in 1941 for Dr. C.A. Talbot, this building was completed in May and its first use was as the Waynesville Post Office. Less than two years later the *Pulaski County Democrat* ran a headline stating "POST OFFICE BUILDING HERE NOT BIG ENOUGH"

**24. WILSON-LONG BUILDING, 119-123 N. BENTON:** This building constructed for Roy C. Wilson and V.V. Long, was completed June 1942. The first story housed the Greyhound Bus Depot and the *Pulaski County Democrat* office. Shortly after the structure was completed the second story housed the Mayor's office and offices for other city officials. In early 1943 Pulaski County Selective Service Board (draft board) was located on the second floor.



**25. FORMER PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER, PUBLIC SQUARE, NORTH-WEST CORNER:**

Public health was a challenge in Waynesville in the 1940s. The small village was unequipped to handle the massive population boom that Fort Leonard Wood brought to the area. This \$30,000 building was built with Public Works Administration grants and contained 19 rooms, two lobbies, four restrooms, and a large auditorium. It opened November 1942.

**26. FORMER TUTS CAFÉ NO. 1, 305 NORTH ST:** During August 1943 "chef deluxe" Nelson "Tut" Royalty opened Tuts Café in the eastern half of this building, then known as the Brisch Building. In 1948 Royalty moved to Columbia, Missouri to operate the Model Café. He sold the Columbia restaurant in 1951 and returned to Waynesville and resumed management of Tuts Café No. 1. The café held a "quitting business" auction October 1958.