

Stand on the lonic columned portico and gaze up at the two-story columns brought from Rochester by wagon.



*Genesee Wesleyan Seminary (GWS) Building The present Greek Revival edifice was constructed in 1842 after the original 1832 structure was destroyed by fire. The cut stone foundation was part of the original building. Throughout its history, the building has served as classrooms and dormitories for GWS until 1941, Genesee Junior College 1947-1951, and Elim Bible Institute 1951 to the present. GWS, founded by the Methodist Episcopal Church, was one of the first coeducational institutions of higher learning in the country.

Stroll the ancient campus and discover the other academic buildings.

The homes across College Street housed additional academic departments as well as students and staff. Walk down College Street hill and turn left.

Rochester Street

Many of the homes on this street exhibit design features of the Italianate style (flat roofs, widely overhanging eaves, and brackets) but were actually first constructed in the 1830s and 40s and later extensively remodeled in the 1860s and 1870s to reflect the then extremely popular and fashionable Italianate style.

1788 Hiram Welch Boarding House Built c.1856 for Welch, steward of GWS, to house his family and 25 GWS students.

*1764 Draper House Built c. 1842 for Rev. Gideon Draper, GWS trustee and itinerant Methodist minister prominent, in organization of the church in western NY. In the 1860s, the house was remodeled by owner, carpenter J. Selim Wright in the Italianate style as evidenced by the bracketed hood above the front door, the double front doors, and the round louvered opening in the gable. In 1870, Wright was renting rooms to 8 GWS students. The house was sold in 1874 to Jasper Thompson who came to Lima "to get better educational advantages for his children."

*1612 Alverson-Copeland House This c.1853 elegant Italianate style home was built for Genesee College professor, James Alverson. The exotic Egyptian Revival style porch columns are representative of the sophistication of the building's design. The variety of unusual trees may have come from the nearby Copeland nursery.

1747 Coe House The Doric columns, pilasters, and symmetrical plan well represent the Greek Revival style of this c.1852 home, built for farmer Horace Coe.

1815 Dailey House Built c. 1870 in the Italianate style for Joel Dailey, retired stage proprietor. Note the acom pendants of the paired roof brackets.

*1818 Bennett-Keating House Built c.1833 by Augustus Bennett and remodeled c.1873 in the Italianate style by his daughter, Emily Bennett Alverson, wife of Professor James Alverson. Birthplace of Kenneth B. Keating, U.S. senator, congressman, and ambassador.

*1836 Alverson House Built c.1845 for James Alverson, GWS president and Genesee College professor. Note the Greek Revival style bead and reel molding, dentils in the frieze and the carving on the front door.

*1839 Cargill House Built c. 1852 for book seller Samuel Cargill. Similarities of design features and construction materials between the house and College Hall suggest William Harmon may have been the builder.

*1850 Tennie Burton Museum See the back of the tour booklet.

*1859 McKenzie House Built c. 1900 in the Colonial Revival style for Lima physician Dr. Robert J. McKenzie.

1868 Lima Public Library and Jail Front section built in 1923 to house the library. Rear portion was built in the 1870s and served as the jail.

*1883 Ellis Block Built c.1866 by Dr. Samuel Ellis after a fire destroyed earlier commercial buildings. Housed Beecher's dry goods store. The original store shelves still remain.



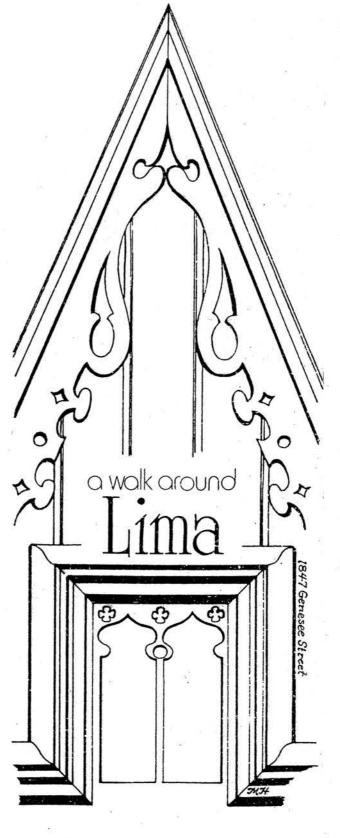
A Short History Of Lima

What are so many grand houses doing in the middle of acres of cornfields and twenty miles from any large city? The Seneca Indians were the first ones to recognize Lima's value as a place to live, when they chose it as the site of one of their major villages. Early settlers may have followed the Indians' lead. Lima of the past, prosperous and diversified, was both a community of wealthy farmers and merchants and a community of college teachers and students. The beautiful proportions and lines of the historic buildings that remain today remind us that this present small village once enjoyed a glorious past. Appreciation and concern for the unique character of the village is enhanced as we learn more about our past by taking this walking tour.

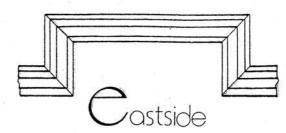


Tennie Burton Museum

This house was built c. 1837 for physician Dr. Alexander Campbell. In 1856, it was purchased by physician Dr. Samuel Ellis. Ellis is reputed to have operated his medical practice from a small building located to the northeast of the home close to the street. In order to modernize his home in the then popular Italianate style, Ellis removed the gable roof and replaced it with the cupola and hipped roof with acorn brackets c.1863. By 1870, Ellis' son LeDran was practicing with his father and still living at home with his new wife. Ellis' daughter, Flora, lived at home and taught music lessons. In 1906, Cornelia Belle Chapin bought the house for herself and her parents. Ms. Chapin, a graduate of Syracuse University, taught piano and was Presbyterian Church organist for 60 years. She later married Lavere Tenny. When she died in 1976, at age ninety-nine, Mrs. Tenny bequeathed her home to the Lima Historical Society, who opened it as a museum on Memorial Day 1978. The Society named the museum in honor of Lima's first town historian, Mrs. Tennie Burton.



the Crossroads of Western New York



East Main Street (cont.)

*7378 Vary House Gentleman farmer William L. Vary built this Queen Anne style home c. 1885 adjacent to his mother's house at #7372 at a reputed cost of \$18,000. The decorative shingles, multiple gables and porches, ornamental woodwork and colored glass produce an ornate and varied exterior. That Vary could afford such a home at age 25 is a testimony to the family's success as Lima farmers.

*7372 Spencer House The Federal style louvered fan in the gable reflects the home's c.1830 construction, but the Greek Revival style front door surround and Doric porch columns represent a mid-19th century remodeling for businessman Samuel Spencer.

*7364 Stanley House Built c.1857 in the Greek Revival style for gentleman farmer, owner of the Stanley Exchange Building, and banker Daniel Stanley.

Baptist Church Built 1856 by William Harmon and used by the Baptists until 1968. Note the scalloping under the eaves and the wheel window.

*7312 Harvey Building Built c.1879 by John Harvey as a meat market, complete with internal room for smoking meat.

7 3 1 0 Oldest building in the business district. Note the stepped gable of the roof line, indicative of the Federal style. Carrara glass front added in the 1930s. Operated as Lakis' ice cream shop from 1916 until the 1970s.

*7308 and *7306 and the *American Hotel were constructed c.1860 after previous buildings were destroyed by fire.

7308 served as a pharmacy until 1993. Lima's first telephone office was located on the second floor.

7 3 0 6 was the home of many Lima businesses, including Beadle Brothers general store until 1923.

American Hotel, is notable for its intact interior. Operated by the Reynolds family since 1920. Porch built c.1900 using columns from the tower of the Methodist Church. The third hotel to occupy this site.

Lake Avenue

1945 Built c. 1839 in the Greek Revival style. First Catholic mass said here in 1842.

*1950 Bristol House Built in the Italianate style by painter Charles Bristol, c. 1875, next to the home of his parents. Note the bell shaped pendants of the bracketed front door canopy. The balustrade above the canopy is reputed to have come from the Martin Farmhouse - 1301 Bragg Street.

*Brendan Hall Designed by A.J. Warner, built 1894. Used as a Catholic school until the 1960s. The building gets its name from the 2nd floor assembly hall named after the Irish St. Brendan of Clonfret, thought by some to have discovered America in the 6th century.

*St. Rose Church Also designed by noted Rochester architect, A. J. Warner, and built 1870-72 for Lima's growing Irish Catholic population.

 All buildings marked with an asterisk are listed in the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places.

A publication of the Lima Historical Society.
Revised 1994.
Designed by Mary Hoppert.
Drawings by Mary Hoppert and the late George Peters.
Written and revised by Fran Gotcsik.
Material contributed by members of the Lima Historical Society.