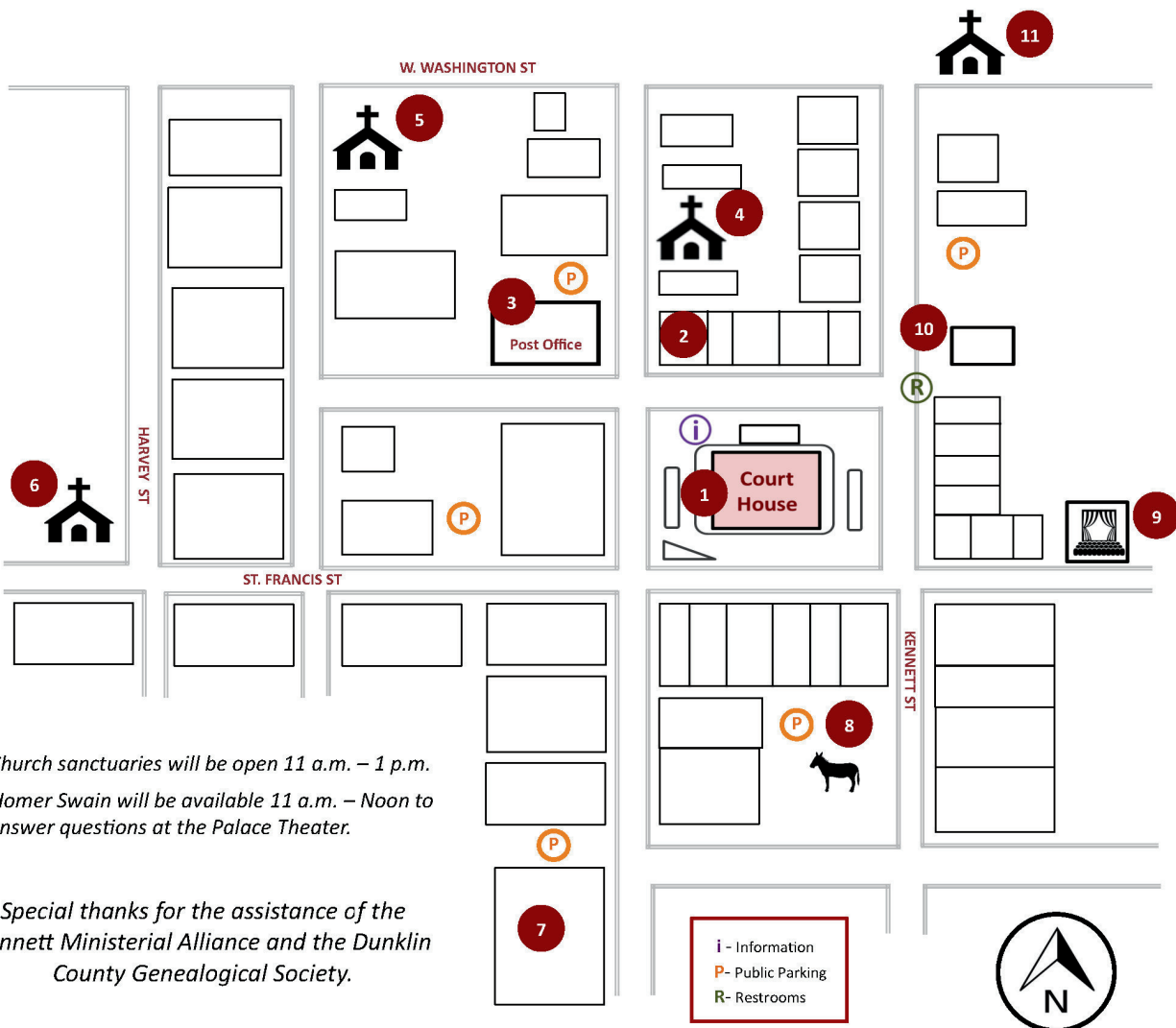


FALL INTO ARTS FESTIVAL 2023

Step Back In Time: Kennett Courthouse Square & Beyond Historical Walking Tour



* Church sanctuaries will be open 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

** Homer Swain will be available 11 a.m. – Noon to answer questions at the Palace Theater.

Special thanks for the assistance of the Kennett Ministerial Alliance and the Dunklin County Genealogical Society.



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Step Back In Time: Kennett Courthouse Square & Beyond Historical Walking Tour

Start your tour in the center of the square. The four churches will be open from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. so their stained-glass windows can be viewed from the inside. Homer Swain will be at the Palace Theater from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. to answer any questions about Kennett's rich movie theater history. Unless otherwise indicated, the buildings are not open. Each stop has an information poster describing its significance.

1. Dunklin County Courthouse, A WPA Project, built 1939 • 100 North Court Square/North Main St., *Information Poster on the west side of the courthouse.*

2. The Opera House, built 1896 • 100 North Side Square • *Open 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.*

3. Kennett Post Office, A WPA Project, built 1937 • 201 North Main St.

4. First Presbyterian Church, Church, built 1915 • 225 North Main Street • *The sanctuary will be open from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. to view the windows; enter via the steps or the adjacent ramp.*

5. First Christian Church, built 1925 • 105 W. Washington St., corner of N. Jackson and Washington) • *The sanctuary will be open from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. to view the windows; enter through the Washington St. Sanctuary entrance with the ramp at the door.*

6. First Baptist Church, built 1920 • 300 St. Francis St. *The sanctuary will be open from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. to view the windows; enter via the Harvey Street Sanctuary entrance at the top of the steps; side entrance on the west side of the building can be entered at ground level to use the elevator.*

7. Ely and Walker Shirt Factory No. 5, National Register Historic Site, built 1923 • 221 S. Main St. (South of the square)

8. Sexton Mule Barn, established circa 1916 • On Kennett St., south of Cornerstone Drug, extending to E. 2nd St. • *Visit the site, now a parking lot, once a hub for providing livestock essential for transportation, farming, and food. Read the Information Poster and imagine shopping on the square amidst the smells of animals, dirt, and more.*

9. Palace Theater, built 1916 • 224 1st St. • *Homer Swain, local history sleuth, will be at The Palace from 11 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. to answer all your questions about the history of Kennett's movie theaters and share photos of old Kennett. The Information Poster will provide a history of the many theaters that preceded The Palace – including the White Star just west of The Palace, which now houses Kicks Martial Arts.*

10. Kennett City Hall and Masonic Lodge, National Register Historic Site, built 1903, now houses the Dunklin County Museum • 122 College St. (NE corner of the square)

11. First United Methodist Church, built 1917 • 300 College Avenue • *The sanctuary will be open from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. to view the windows; enter via the College Street entrance.*

A special thank you to the Kennett Ministerial Alliance, John Fisher, Homer Swain, and the Dunklin County Genealogical Society for their assistance. The DCGS meets at 10 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month at the Kennett Library. All are welcome to attend.