

Manitou Springs Historic Plaque Walking Tours



Tour Distance

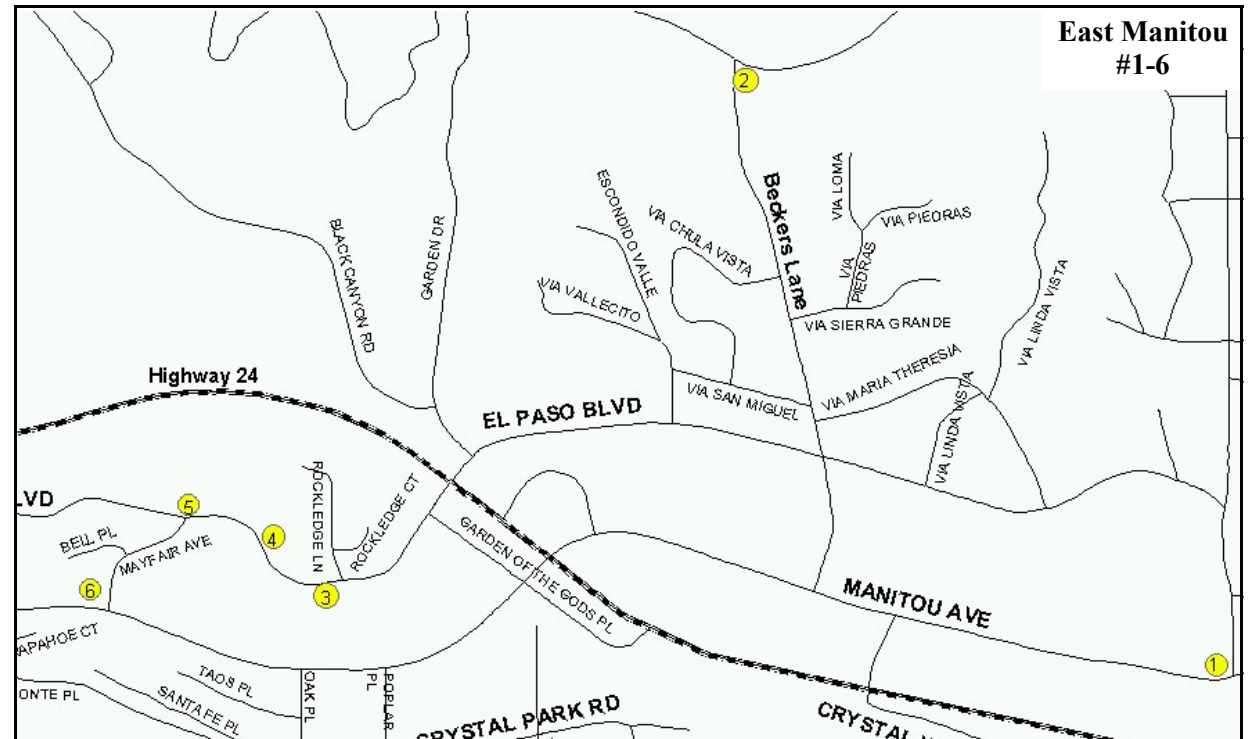
The Downtown Manitou portion of the plaque tour (7-26) covers approximately 1.25 miles. The whole tour spans approximately 5.5 miles

How to Reach Us

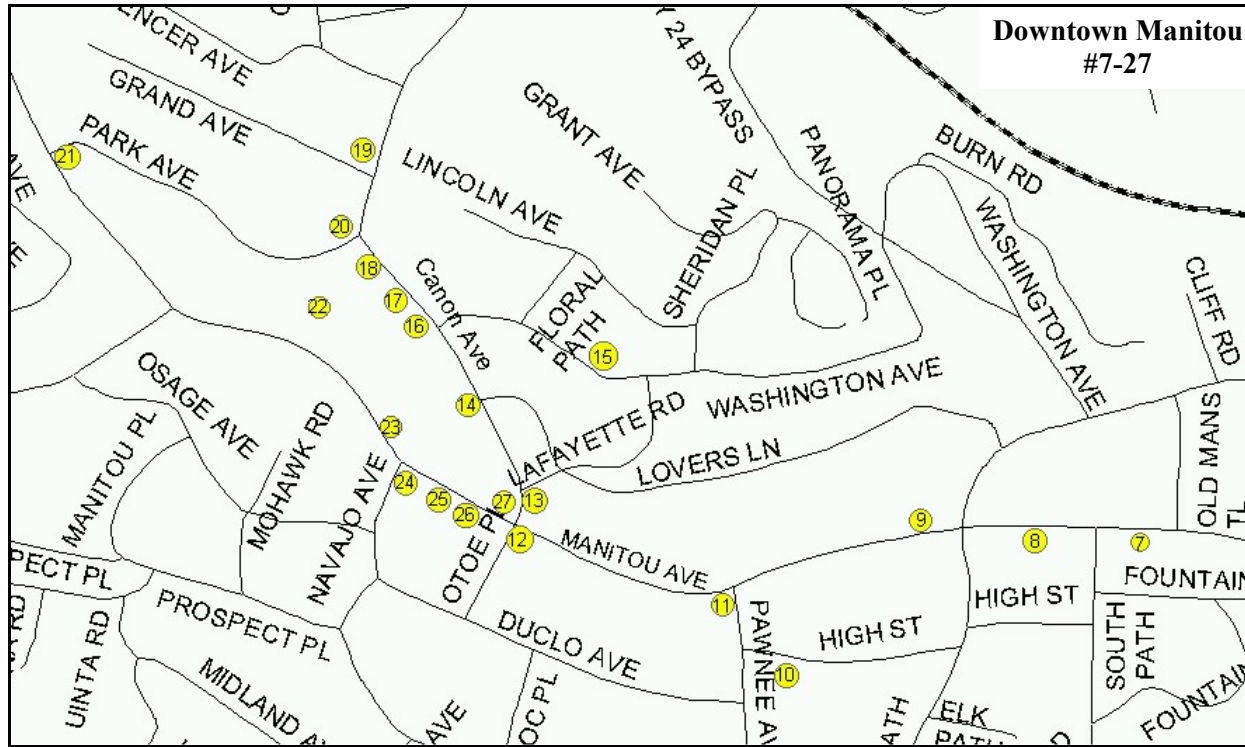
- To become involved in historic preservation activities, contact the Planning Department at 719-685-4398



**Historic
Preservation
Commission**



Legend For All Maps	
	Plaque Location
	Street
East Manitou	
<p>1. <i>El Colorado Lodge</i>(1926) The El Colorado was a benchmark in motor-travel camps of the West.</p> <p>2. <i>Garden of the Gods Trading Post</i> (1924) The Trading Post was built as an example of Southwestern culture for those visiting the park.</p> <p>3. <i>Red Crags</i> (1889) Manitou Springs founder Dr. William Bell ran Red Crags as a tuberculosis hospital. It is now a bed and breakfast.</p>	<p>4. <i>Rockledge</i> (1913) Rockledge was the home of farm journal publisher Edward Harrison Heath. It is now a bed and breakfast.</p> <p>5. <i>Craftwood /Onaledge</i> (1912) Craftwood served as a coppersmith's workshop and then a restaurant, attracting many dignitaries and celebrities. Onaledge was the original Craftwood Association residence and is now a bed and breakfast.</p> <p>6. <i>Briarhurst Manor</i> (1888) The Briarhurst Manor was the estate of Dr. William Bell's family. It now operates as a restaurant.</p>



Downtown Manitou

7. *Denver and Rio Grande Railway Station (1880)*
Original location of Dr. William Bell designed Railway Station considered the most beautiful in the West. Now the site of the Villa Motel, the station was demolished in 1946.

8. *Pikes Peak Auto Livery (1893)*
Originally built as a horse livery, shortly after it was converted to an auto garage, providing parking and service. The building now operates as part of the BAC.

9. *Mansions Hotel (1874)/City Hall (1910)*
Site of Mansions Hotel built by Dr. William Bell and General Palmer where the fire department now stands. City Hall was the former spring pavilion for the hotel.

10. *Community Congregational Church (1880)*
The oldest Congregational Church in Colorado with continuous use.

11. *Carnegie Library (1911)*
Built with funding from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation, this was the first permanent library in Manitou Springs.

12. *Wheeler Town Clock (1889)*
Donated in 1889, the clock features a statue of Hygeia, the daughter of the greek god of health and medicine, Aesclepius. It originally functioned as a fountain.

13. *Smith (1886) and Davis Blocks (1887)*
These buildings served as a grocery store and a pharmacy. They have housed various shops and restaurants ever since.

14. *Canon Avenue Bridge (1906)/Original St. Andrews Chapel (1880)*
Canon Bridge is built of Manitou greenstone, near the current site of the St. Andrews Episcopal Chapel, which was moved from across Canon Avenue in 1885.

15. *Creighton House (1900)*
Dr. Basil Bernard Creighton purchased this house in 1907 and his family owned the property until 1984.

16. *Ogilbee House (1900)*
Built by an ailing Dr. Ogilbee, this was his home until the Dr.'s death at 83, supporting his belief of the healthful properties of Manitou Springs.

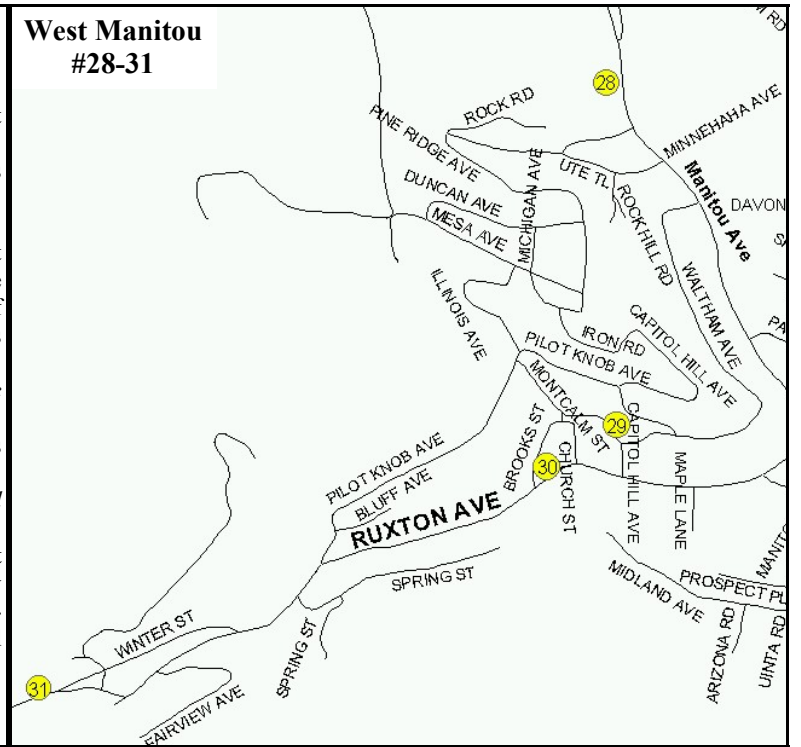
West Manitou

28. *Ute Chief Bottling Plant (1947)*
Beginning in 1891, the Bottling Plant took water from the Ute Chief Gusher. Destroyed by fire, the current plant was built and continues to bottle water.

29. *Miramont Castle (1896)*
Built in a variety of styles, Miramont Castle was the home of Jean Baptiste Francolon, who was parish priest of Manitou Springs. Miramont now houses the Manitou Springs Historical Society.

30. *Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church (1903)*
The city's first Catholic Parish stands rebuilt and restored after fire and age.

31. *Manitou and Pikes Peak Railway and Station (1890)*
The famous Cog Railway is the highest elevation and second longest rack railway in the world and the only west of the Mississippi. Since it's opening it has carried visitors to the summit of Pikes Peak.



17. *Manitou Springs Arcade (1930)*
Originally Pike Street, the Arcade was built in 1930 in Arts and Crafts style.

18. *Cliff House (1874)*
The Cliff House gained prestige as the finest hotel in Manitou Springs and has had numerous famous guests.

19. *Nolon House (1890)*
John Nolon, owner of a gambling hall in Cripple Creek and a number of saloons built this unique looking house.

20. *Post Office (1940)/Windemere (1882)*
Location of the Jerome Wheeler Estate now home to the Post Office, Wheeler Spring, and a city park.

21. *Park Avenue Bridge (1907)*
The Park Avenue Bridge is made of Manitou greenstone and listed on the National Register.

22. *Spa Building (Manitou Bath House) (1920)*
This notable building houses the city's namesake, the Manitou Soda Spring.

23. *Manitou Mineral Water Bottling Plant (1890) and Bath House (1883)*
Former sites of the Bath House and Bottling Plant. Now the location of a new commercial/residential development, the Shoshone Spring Park, and a city parking lot.

24. *Barker House (1872)*
Charles W. Barker purchased the building in 1880 and built it into a large resort hotel.

25. *Wheeler Bank Building (1888)*
The first bank in Manitou, the Wheeler Bank Building also housed a dry goods store and opera house.

26. *James House (1878)*
One of the oldest buildings in downtown, the James house was the home of an early homesteader.

27. *St. Andrews Episcopal Church (1905)*
Manitou Springs' oldest congregation, this church replaced the chapel located on Canon Avenue.