

Architecture Route

1. Alan Moore House, 715 W. Broadway

The Alan Moore house was built ca. 1884 in the Italianate architectural style. Moore came to Kansas from Iowa in 1871, first settling in Butler County. In 1875, he moved to Newton, where he performed contract work for the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. Moore also was known for his construction of Newton's first street railway project and as director of the Newton Real Estate and Investment Co.



Samuel M. Swartz House, 427 W. Broadway

2. Samuel M. Swartz House, 427 W. Broadway

This Queen Anne-style structure was built in 1887 as the home of Samuel M. Swartz. It was described in a summary of new properties in the *Newton Daily Republican* on June 12, 1887, as "a two-story gothic, furnished elaborately, [with] 9 rooms ..." and reported to have cost \$2,500 to construct. Swartz came to Newton in 1879 and began working in the lumber business. In 1895, he opened his own business, the S. M. Swartz Lumber Company, which was located at 322 N. Main. He lived here with his wife, Priscilla, and their five children.



Samuel A. Brown House, 302 W. 6th Street

3. Dr. Gaston Boyd House, 408 W. Broadway

This Queen Anne-style home was constructed between 1901 and 1904. It was home to Dr. Gaston Boyd, Newton's first doctor, and his family. It was Boyd who tended to the men injured in the August 1871 Newton Massacre. Although he was serving as the community's doctor, he did not actually receive his medical degree until 1874. In 1887, Boyd married Elizabeth Clarke, a music teacher at Bethany College. Mrs. Boyd was an accomplished community leader. Her passion was music, and she was very involved in facilitating that culture in the community, serving as the first music teacher in Newton schools.

4. J. W. Patterson House, 407 W. Broadway

This structure is an example of Queen Anne Stick architecture. It was built as the home of Mr. J. W. Patterson and his family. As president of the Newton Free Library, Patterson wrote a letter to Andrew Carnegie in 1902 requesting funds to build a library building. It is through his efforts the Carnegie Library, at 203 N. Main, was built, finally giving a permanent home to the community's library.

5. McLain-Branine House, 326 W. Broadway

This Queen Anne-style house was built in 1885 as the home of Albert H. McLain and his family. He was president of the Newton National Bank starting in 1885. Crisis would strike Newton in 1890 when banking and real estate industries crashed. Newton National Bank was among the first to fail. Unfortunately, McLain lost the home in 1891. The Branine brothers owned the home starting in 1906. Charles owned it first until he left Newton in 1909, and his brother, Ezra, moved in. Both were lawyers and active in politics in the community.

6. E. H. Hoag House, 303 W. Broadway

The E. H. Hoag House was built in 1885 as the home of E. H. & Ellen Hoag. The house was designed in the Queen Anne style by Varney Brothers Architects of Detroit, Michigan. Hoag was a successful banker in the 1880s. He lost nearly everything, including this home, during the Newton Panic starting in 1890. Prior to this financial crisis, Hoag was active in the development of the booming community through a variety of investments.

7. J. W. Graybill House, 307 W. 7th Street

This American Foursquare structure, built in 1913, was the home of Dr. Jacob W. Graybill and his wife, Joanna. Graybill served as state senator for Harvey and McPherson counties from 1925 to 1929. He served two terms as the lieutenant governor of Kansas from 1929 to 1933. Starting in 1911, he also served as the grand master of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Today, the home remains in the Graybill family.

8. Lincoln School, 406 W. 6th Street

The Lincoln School was built in 1917 by Newton architects Greenebaum and Hardy in the Collegiate Gothic architectural style. It served the community as an elementary school until 1999. Today, it continues to serve the community as the Lincoln Park Apartments.

9. Samuel A. Brown House, 302 W. 6th Street

This Queen Anne-style home was built in 1887 and designed by the Varney Brothers Architects of Detroit, Michigan, as the home of Samuel A. Brown and family. What makes this home unique are its six different exterior treatments. There are three different types of shingles covering the second story, two different kinds of stick work and the primary cladding of wood clapboard covering most of the exterior.



Samuel A. Brown House, 302 W. 6th Street

10. West 2nd Homes, 2nd Street between Main Street and the railroad tracks

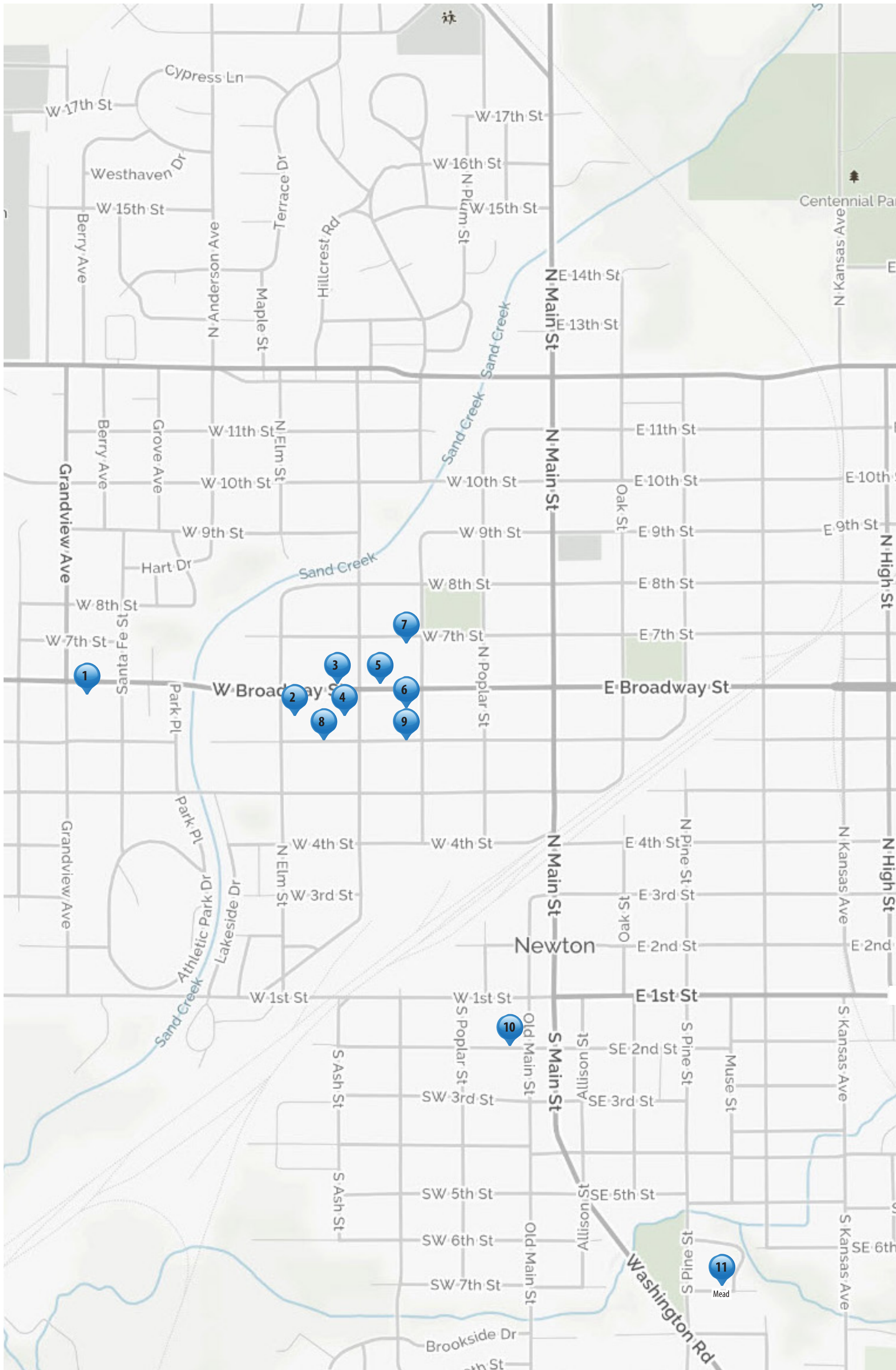
Newton of the early 1880s was booming, as newcomers arrived almost daily on the train. This influx of businessmen, laborers and their families led to a housing shortage. This mostly affected those who could not afford to buy or build a home right away. Blue-collar workers and laborers often resorted to boarding in hotels or renting small houses or rooms. Wealthy businessman and investor James M. Ragsdale saw this as an opportunity and invested in the construction of the homes here to serve as rental housing for railroad workers. Today, many of the homes have been modified or are no longer standing. But they are among the few, if not the only, reminders of the contributions Ragsdale and his brother, Thaddeus, made to enhance Newton's early growth.

11. Coleman (Lustron) House, 408 Mead

The Coleman House is Newton's only Lustron home. Constructed entirely from porcelain-enamelled aluminum tiles, it was intended to offer a quick and easy solution to the housing shortage following World War II. The tiles were manufactured on an assembly line, much like those in the automobile industry. The Coleman House was built by Jean Coleman, son-in-law to M. R. Stauffer, the local Lustron dealer. It is a two-bedroom Westchester Deluxe model in Dove Gray.



Coleman (Lustron) House, 408 Mead



The Newton/North Newton Historic Preservation Commission's Historic Driving Tour, which is the subject of this map, has been financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, a division of the United States Department of the Interior, and administered by the Kansas Historical Society. The contents and opinions, however, do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the United States Department of the Interior or the Kansas Historical Society.

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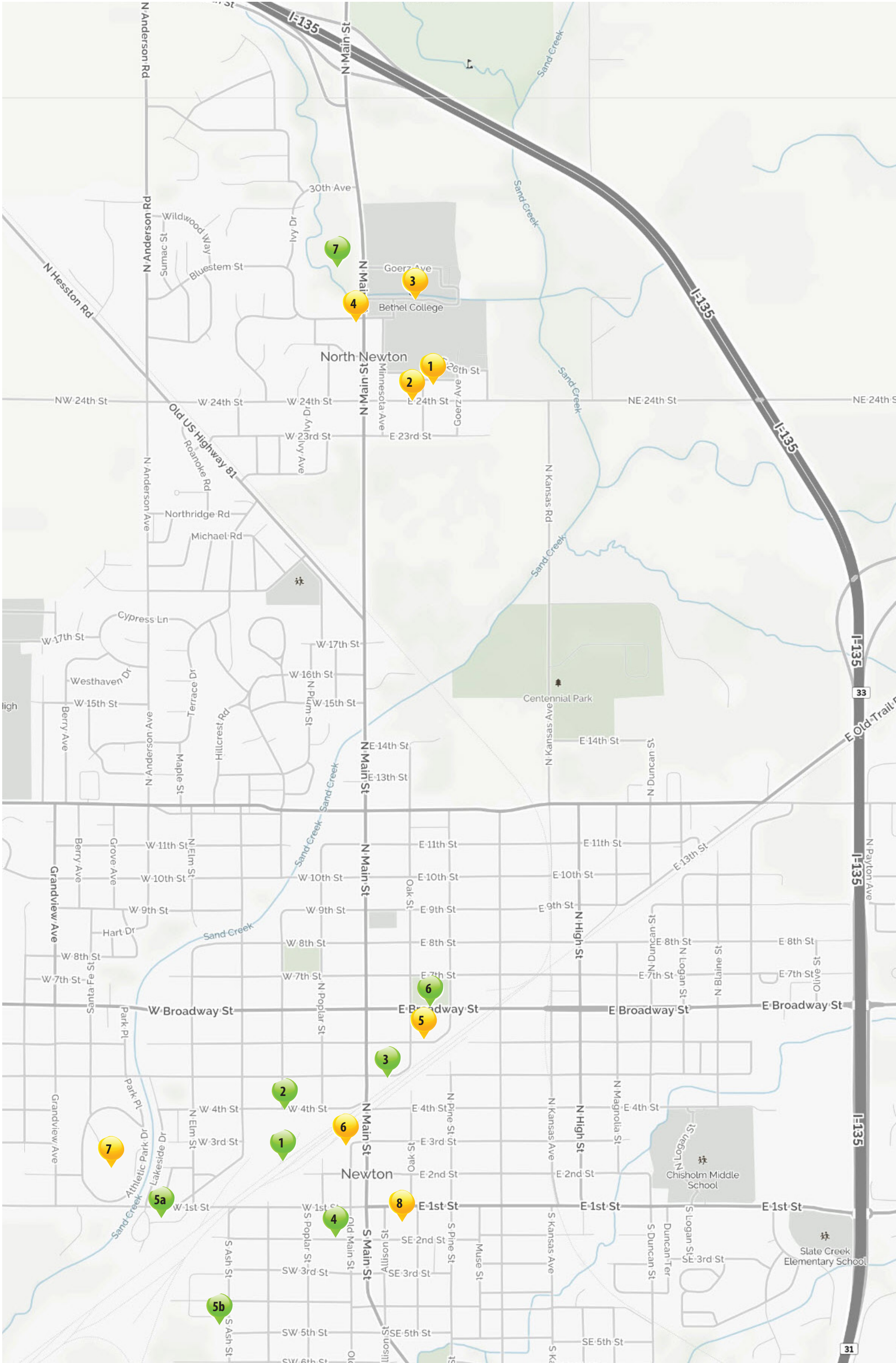
Newton today.

additional links to information about tours. You'll also find additional photos for stops along the with expanded history and for a companion mobile site or use the QR code below Go to newtondrivingtour.com There's more online!

Historic Newton Driving Tours



- Architecture
- Mennonite Heritage
- Mexican American/Railroad/Chisholm Trail History



Mexican-American History/ Railroad/Chisholm Trail Route

1. Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Roundhouse, on the railroad south of Fourth and Plum Streets

The roundhouse that once existed on this site was first built in 1888 with nine stalls. Four more were added in 1891. In 1897, when the Santa Fe division headquarters returned to Newton, the Nickerson Roundhouse was dismantled, brought to Newton and added to the existing structure. This brought the total stall count to 32. The roundhouse closed in 1955 and was later demolished. Today, the turntable indicates where it once stood.

2. Okerberg Park, Fourth and Plum Streets

The historic marker on this site indicates how the Chisholm Trail passed through Newton. Between 1867 and 1871, the trail wound northward on Plum Street, crossing Sand Creek at 9th and 10th streets. In one year, more than 600,000 cattle pounded the earth along this trail on their way to Abilene. Newton spent one season as the terminus of the railhead in 1871 before it moved south to Wichita the following season. The historic marker is a portion of limestone that once adorned the original Harvey County Courthouse.



Arcade Hotel circa 1905

3. Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Depot/Arcade Hotel, Fifth and Main Streets

The Jacobean style building you see before you today was built between 1929 and 1930. It was designed by E. H. Harrison and constructed at the cost of \$350,000. The building once housed a Harvey House Restaurant. Dorms for the Harvey girls were located on the second floor. Fred Harvey was known for his strict dining standards, serving methods and for a great dining experience along the Santa Fe line. The Newton Harvey House Restaurant closed in May 1957. The current depot is Newton's fourth. It was the third depot, pictured above, that housed the Arcadia Hotel.

4. Newton Massacre, near the intersection of W. 2nd Street and Old Mill Road

The Newton Massacre, also known as the Hide Park Massacre, took place in Perry Tuttle's Dance Hall in the "Hide Park" area of Newton, which was located on W. 2nd Street in the general vicinity of Community National Bank's back parking lot. The shooting took place during the brief period when Newton was the terminus of the Chisholm Trail. Five men were killed in the shootout, making it deadlier than the Gunfight at the OK Corral. Three other men were injured in the Newton Massacre but survived their wounds. The shootout occurred in the early morning hours of Aug. 20, 1871.

5. Our Lady of Guadalupe, originally located in the 600 block of W. First Street (5a) now located at 415 S. Ash (5b)

In 1905, the first family from Mexico settled in Newton to work on the Santa Fe. By 1920, forty Mexican families were living in Newton and built Our Lady of Guadalupe, first located in the 600 block of W. 1st Street, on ground leased from the Santa Fe. The building was 18 by 40 feet and cost approximately \$2,000. In 1948, a need for a newer, larger building was realized and a fund was established. In 1955, plans were made to buy 17 acres of land at SW 5th Street. It would take another couple of years of fundraising before the church could break ground on the construction of the new building, which began in July 1958. The new church was completed 10 months later.

6. Military Park, Broadway between Oak and Pine Streets

Military Park is the oldest park in Newton, established in 1871. Today, it encompasses 4.44 acres. It was originally known as East Park until 1899 when the Soldier's Monument was placed there. The Soldier's Monument consists of a "Columbiad," a 10-inch cannon reportedly weighing 15,400 pounds, with 60 10-inch cannon shells, weighing 90 pounds each, stacked in three pyramids on its sides. The gun was purchased in 1897 from the Waterton Arsenal in Waterton, Massachusetts. The most recent addition to the park is the 1880s steam locomotive, which was placed on site in 1955. Special tracks were extended from the tracks along Broadway to bring the locomotive to its final resting place. A dedication ceremony was held in 1956.

7. Chisholm Trail Swales, Chisholm Trail Park, north of Kauffman Museum, 27th and North Main, North Newton

The swales along the bank of Kidron Creek in North Newton are evidence of the passage of millions of cattle and the weight of wagons loaded with provisions that accompanied the cattle drives through Harvey County from 1867 to 1871. The swale depression runs parallel to the east bank of Kidron Creek where wagons and cattle crossed at a low spot just north of what is today the Kauffman Museum. Most other traces of the Chisholm Trail in Harvey County have been erased by farming, stream management and construction.

Mennonite Heritage Route

1. David Goerz House, 2512 College Drive, North Newton

This Queen Anne-style home was built in 1893 as the residence of David Goerz and his family. The home was designed by Wichita architect Elbert Dumont. Goerz was a central figure behind the establishment of Bethel College. He was also a key individual involved in fundraising efforts to construct the first building on the Bethel College campus, now known as the Administration Building. He also served as the college's first business manager and as minister of the Bethel College Mennonite Church, located on campus.

2. Wedel House, 2427 N. College Ave, North Newton

The Wedel House became the first property listed on the Newton/North Newton Register of Historic Places for its association with P. J. Wedel and his son, Waldo. P. J. was a professor at Bethel College and author of the book *The Story of Bethel College*. Waldo Wedel was a well-known plains archeologist who was often referred to as "the father of Plains Archeology." The home was built by P. J. Wedel in 1906 in the National Folk style. It features Tuscan porch columns and fish scale shingles.

3. Bethel College Administration Building, 300 E. 27th Street, North Newton

The Administration Building was the first building constructed to house Bethel College, a Mennonite-based school. Construction began in 1898 and was completed in 1893. It was designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style by Wichita architects Proudfoot and Bird.



Bethel College Administration Building circa 1910

4. Wirkler-Krehbiel House, 2727 N. Main Street, North Newton

The Wirkler-Krehbiel House was built in 1898 and is one of the oldest homes in North Newton. This Queen Anne-style home was built by Christian and Elizabeth Wirkler and was later owned by their daughter, Mary, and her husband, C. E. Krehbiel. The Krehbiels were longtime residents of the home, and after their passing, their children donated the house to Bethel College in 1958. It continued to serve as a boarding house for staff and students until 1992 when Bethel sold the property. It is now a private residence.



Carriage Factory circa 1887

5. J. J. Krehbiel & Co. Carriage Factory, 128-130 E. 6th Street, Newton

J. J. Krehbiel came to Newton in September 1879, purchasing the Angood Blacksmith Shop at 128 E. 6th. In 1883, he expanded the property for the purposes of constructing wagons and carriages. He sold the business in 1902 to his oldest son, Edgar. The family home once stood on the corner lot, but it was demolished in the 1940s. The land where it once stood serves as a park today. The wrought iron fence that surrounds the park was the original fencing that surrounded the home during the time the Krehbiels lived there. Today, the buildings are home to the Carriage Factory Art Gallery, which features some work of Albert Henry Krehbiel, one of J. J. Krehbiel's sons. Albert Henry became a well-known American artist who spent much of his career teaching at the Chicago Art Institute.

6. Warkentin Mill, 301 N. Main Street, Newton

The Warkentin Mill was built by D. Hamill, a dry goods store owner, and C. H. Hobart in 1879. Originally a grist mill called the Monarch Mills, it opened for business during the summer of 1880. Shortly after, Hobart sold his interests to Hamill and retired. Bernhard Warkentin purchased the mill in 1886 and changed its name to Newton Milling and Elevator Company. Warkentin was instrumental in the Mennonite migration to Kansas and for the establishment of Turkey Red hard winter wheat as a staple crop. This high-yielding wheat variety gave Kansas its enormous productivity and recognition as the "Breadbasket of the World." Warkentin remodeled the mill between 1897-1898. After the mill closed for good, the building became neglected. So much so that in the 1970s it was slated for demolition. The roof had been removed when local manufacturer and inventor Lloyd Smith stepped in to buy the building. He immediately began restoration, during which he found the original blueprints to the building, enabling the reconstruction of the mansard roof. Today, the Old Mill Plaza, as it is called, looks similar to the way it did after Warkentin's remodel. It leases office space to a number of local businesses and continues to stand as a monument to a key turning point in Kansas wheat production.

7. Mennonite Settler Statue, Athletic Park, Athletic Park Drive, Newton

The Mennonite Settler statue serves as a silent reminder of the significant contribution made by the Russian Mennonite immigrants who settled here, bringing the seed of the Turkey Red hard winter wheat. The statue was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1998. It was designed and sculpted by Kansas native Max Nixon. It was made of native limestone at Sargent Cut Stone Co. and completed in 1941.

8. Warkentin House, 211 E. 1st Street, Newton

The Warkentin House is a Queen Anne-style home built in 1887 by milling magnate, banker and Mennonite immigrant Bernhard Warkentin and his wife, Wilhelmina. Warkentin came to the United States in 1872 from Crimea, Ukraine. He settled first in Illinois before coming to Kansas and settling in Halstead in 1874. He married Wilhelmina Eisenmeyer in August of 1875 and had two children, Edna and Carl. Warkentin is best known for bringing Turkey Red hard winter wheat to Kansas. He was a miller, and upon settling in Kansas, he found the climate favorable to the hard winter wheat variety that was grown in Russia. He encouraged his fellow Mennonite immigrants to settle in Kansas and to bring the wheat seed. Today, the home is a museum, with about 80 percent of its contents original to the Warkentin family. Regular tours are offered from April through December.