

Whitefish Walking Tour

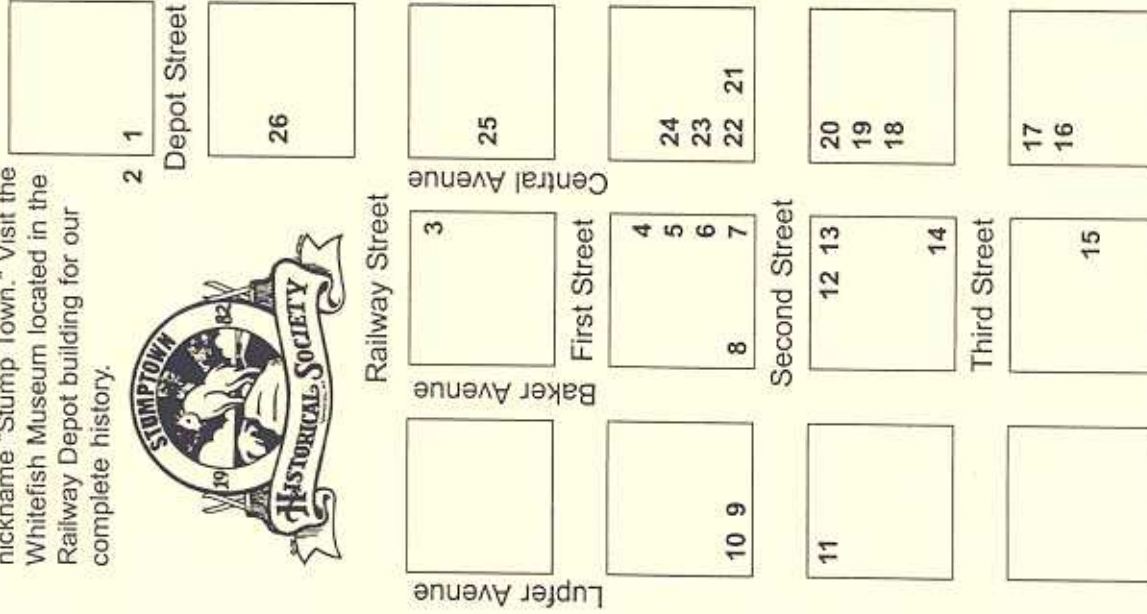
Whitefish began in the late 1800's as a fur trading center, and in the early 1900's cut trees to welcome the railroad; hence our nickname "Stump Town." Visit the Whitefish Museum located in the Railway Depot building for our complete history.



1. The Whitefish Railway Depot was built in 1927 and patterned after the chalets of Glacier Park. It was listed on the National Historic Register in 2002. It is still a working station serving 50,000 plus passengers a year.
2. The Great Northern Locomotive 181 was restored by the SHS in 1988. It is one of only seven built in 1942.
3. The Cadillac Hotel was a three-story wooden structure built in 1907. It housed the famous "Hanging Tree Lounge" inspired by hometown girl Dorothy Johnson's famous book. (2 Central Avenue)
4. The Toggery, so named in 1912, was built in 1903 and has always been a clothing store.
5. The Hori Cafe was built in 1909 as one of our first restaurants. It was owned from 1918 to 1942 by M. M. Hori, a Japanese immigrant.
6. The Pastime Pool Hall was a popular place for recreational activities for railroad workers since 1903. A room above was used for boxing matches.
7. Haines Drug was built in 1905 and has served Whitefish as a drug store since 1926.
8. City Hall's current location houses the fire and police departments, jail and city offices. The tower, built in 1929, still sounds the 1919 curfew law at 10:00 p.m.
9. The Whitefish Pilot published its first edition on Saturday, January 23rd, 1904, and continues as a weekly paper.
10. The Masonic Temple was built in 1915 for \$12,000. During the 1918 flu epidemic it was a temporary hospital. (300 Second Street)
11. The Duncan-Sampson Block, originally an apartment building, was built in 1910 for \$32,000. (301 Second Street)
12. The Central Hotel, built in 1905, was operated as a rooming house by Ma and Pa Greene from 1907 until the 30's. It was famous for its "novel double decker toilet arrangement." (419 Second Street)

13. First National Bank was a two-story building erected in 1907. It was destroyed by fire in 1992.
14. The Odd Fellows Hall housed a grocery store in the 20's and a funeral parlor in 1939.
15. The bakery at 328 Central was the first brick building. Other early structures were wood frame with hand hewn log foundations. (328 Central Avenue)
16. The Frank Lloyd Wright building was one of his last designs. It is the only building in Montana designed by him.
17. The First Presbyterian Church was dedicated in 1921 and its beautiful windows still thrill us.
18. Torbert's was built in 1913, and was called a "wonder" store for most of its history.
19. This building was an unpretentious four-lane bowling alley for over 40 years. (221 Central Avenue)
20. The Orpheum Hall was a gathering place for residents attending one of the two movie houses. It was built in 1916.
21. Whitefish Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Information Center. Come in and visit!
22. The Robinson building was built in 1921 at a cost of \$30,000 on what was the "prime" spot in town.
23. The Palace Bar has always been an alcohol related business since 1905, and has a beautiful wooden bar.
24. Casey's is the oldest building in Whitefish and was built in 1903.
25. The Great Northern Bar was originally an apartment building (south side) and taxi-dermy shop (north side) until the late 1980's. See their sign collection! (27 Central Avenue)
26. This Park used to be part of the Great Northern Yard and is now a favorite relaxation spot.

Denotes a historical plaque



500 Depot Street, Suite 101
Whitefish, MT 59937-2567
(406) 862-0067