

9 ALLEN BLOCK, 3 PARK ST., constructed 1874, Victorian Italianate style, built by Joel Allen who was a Leominster native in local/state government and a prominent banker.

10 PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 26 WEST ST., dedicated in 1873, high Victorian Gothic style, largest amongst religious buildings on the Common.

11 LEOMINSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY, 30 WEST ST., opened in 1910, built in part with a gift of \$27,500 from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation. An addition added in 1966 was removed in 2005 to provide the present multi-story renovation, which opened in 2007.

12 THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 25 WEST ST. Dedicated in 1915, designed by Frost and Chamberlain to complement the Carnegie Library at 30 West Street.

13 THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM, 17 SCHOOL ST., former 2-room Field Primary School, 1870, became a 4-room school-house in 1885; Historical Society Museum 1971. Brick Italianate design.

14 MAY A. GALLAGHER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, 24 CHURCH ST., designed in 1928 by M.A. Dyer of Boston, 4 story Renaissance Revival structure, dedicated to beloved Principal May A Gallagher following her retirement in 1949.

15 CENTRAL FIRE STATION, 19 CHURCH ST., built 1898, designed by Henry Lapointe, converted from horse-drawn to motorized equipment in 1910-1920.

16 MERRIAM MEMORIAL BUILDING, 26 CHURCH ST., built as Central Baptist Church in 1891, exhibits Romanesque details.

17 FIRST CHURCH IN LEOMINSTER, 15 WEST ST., built in 1904, English and Romanesque details, gargoyles, tower clockface; belfry houses a Revere Bell. Replaced earlier 1823 church which burned in 1903.

18 FOSTER BLOCK, 2-8 MAIN ST., built 1874 by brothers George and Charles Foster; Italianate elements, top floor removed after hurricane damage in 1938.

19 THE BANK BUILDING, 12 MAIN ST., built 1903, Neoclassical design with Beaux Arts embellishment by Hartwell and Richardson.

20 RICHARDSON BUILDING, 18-20 MAIN ST., built 1904, tallest and most finely executed building downtown, 5-story Renaissance Revival structure, with original cast-iron elevator still in use.

21 NICKERSON BUILDING, 26 MAIN ST., built 1891 of Monoosnoc granite and Panel Brick style, housed the Leominster Post Office from 1901 – 1911.

22 MAYO BUILDING, 38 MAIN ST., built 1909. Designed by Frank P. Lent, it was built in 1909 by Attorney Hamilton Mayo, also a Judge (1883) and State Representative (1904-1905).

23 LEOMINSTER POST OFFICE, 68 MAIN ST., built in 1928, of Neoclassical design; addition construction in 1962. Johnny Appleseed first-day stamp issued 1966.

24 COLUMBIA HOTEL BUILDING, 65 MAIN ST., built 1892 by Honorable John Lockey and Judge Hamilton Mayo. Hotel served the community from 1892-1930.

25 LEOMINSTER DEPOT, 15 DEPOT SQ., built in response to citizen petitions to the Worcester Railroad, which served 36,000 annually. Gothic Revival design, passenger station built 1878, served as depot for 50 years.

26 THE BALCH PLACE, 8 DEPOT SQUARE, oldest structure in Historic District, Greek Revival side-hall cottage and corbelled brickwork.

27 RIALTO THEATER BUILDING, 53 MAIN ST., opened in 1923, seated 1400, described as art deco, art nouveau and eclectic, adapted to Recreation Center in 1948, rededicated in 1973 as Y.M.C.A.

28 THE McGRATH BUILDING, 1 MAIN ST., built 1899 by Henry McGrath on vacant lot (used as an in-town playground for youth) purchased from Josiah Pierce. Renaissance Revival design, marble facade and floors of Travertine marble, architect Thomas James of Boston.

THE OLD McGRATH BLOCK replaced the long-standing Union Block following its relocation. Built in 1895 by Henry McGrath, the 2-story building is not officially part of the Downtown Historic District.

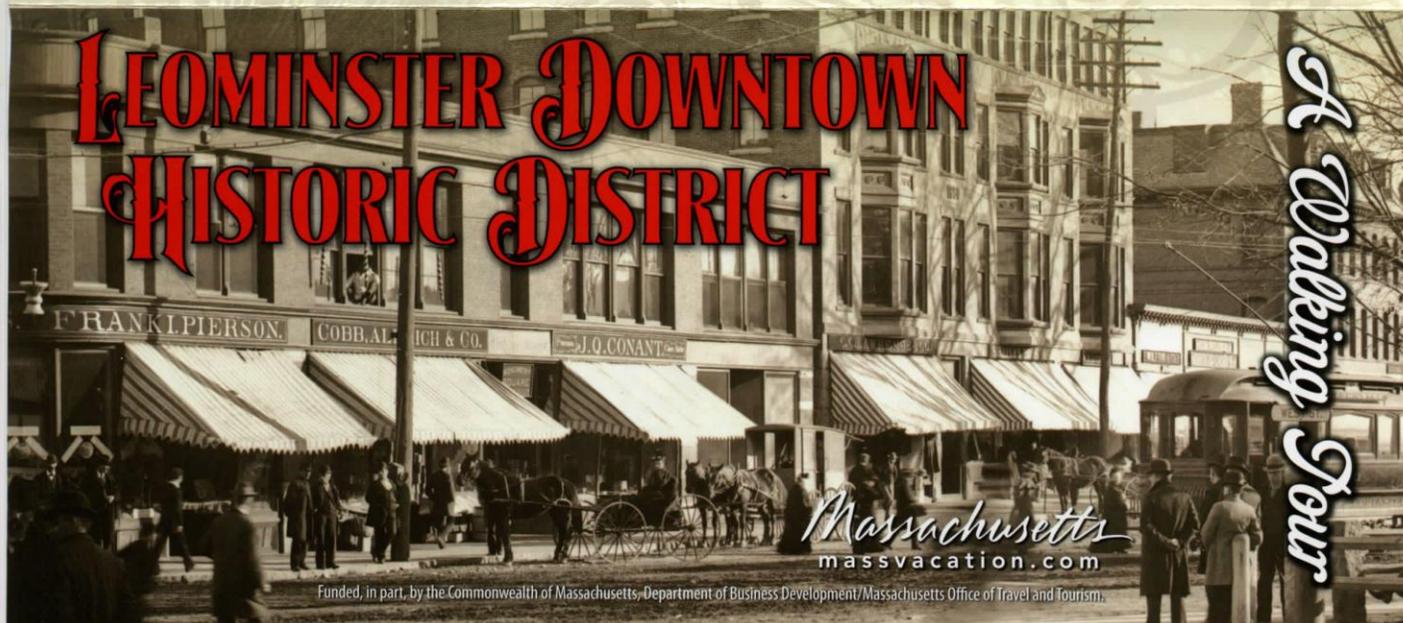
29 THE WOOD BLOCK, 14 MONUMENT SQUARE, pentagonal 4-story, vernacular, Victorian-style dating back to 1890, built of local brick and granite. A more elaborate roofline with clock was replaced after a 1919 fire. Distinguished by set of three 2-story bay windows.

30 THE DRAKE HOUSE, 21 FRANKLIN ST. In 1851 committed abolitionists Jonathan and Frances Drake helped rescue fugitive slave Shadrach Minkins. In 2006 a memorial stone was erected by the Historical Society and the citizens of Leominster. The home was placed on the National Historic Register in 2007.

31 CARTER PARK, MAIN ST. Just south of Pine Grove Cemetery, Carter Park was donated by Oliver Carter prior to the Revolutionary War for a militia training field. In 1902 Teddy Roosevelt made Leominster's only Presidential visit when he spoke at the park. Today this public space contains military memorials and *Veterans Project 2000*, a brick walk honoring veterans.

32 PINE GROVE CEMETERY Leominster's first burial ground contains one of the highest concentrations of Revolutionary war veterans in the country. Once part of the town's original center, Leominster's first settlers whose graves hold many stories, are buried here. The cemetery was placed on the National Historic Register in 2008 by the Leominster Historical Commission.

— Design by Pinder Associates 2009
Photo: E.G. Davis Collection, courtesy of Leominster Historical Society



LEOMINSTER'S MONUMENT SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT WALKING TOUR



Leominster's Monument Square Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in July 1982. Most of the structures in the district date from the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, illustrating Leominster's period of greatest development. The district involves approximately 30 acres and 35 properties. It presents a compact concentration of the City's finest architecture: commercial, ecclesiastical and civic buildings in late Victorian and Classical Revival styles.

We begin at the Common, which was deeded to the town in 1841 by the First Congregational Society, with the stipulation that it be used only as a park. Shade trees were planted at the time but the Common (then more than an acre) was left unfenced until 1865 for the convenience of farmers. Late 19th-century improvements attest to a later period of affluence and community pride, and included a Soldiers Monument (1867) on the south side of the Common, seating (1874), drinking fountain and bandstand (1891), and extensive landscaping.

M1 SITE OF 1775 SECOND MEETING-HOUSE which was moved to West and Church Street in 1824. Monument dedicated 1915 by Historical Society.

M2 OLD INDIAN MORTAR found 1880, placed 1917 by Leominster Historical Society. Base of monument was original cornerstone of 1895 Town Hall, which burned down in 1909.

M3 SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR, dedicated by the city in 1929, honoring military service during Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, and China Relief Expedition 1892-1902.

M4 WORLD WAR MEMORIAL, dedicated in 1929 to honor Leominster citizens serving in WWI 1917-1918.

M5 LEOMINSTER VETERANS MONUMENT, bell presented by Jonas Henry Kendall Esquire, in 1860 originally hung in Old Town Hall cupola 1853-1966. Monument dedicated 1973.

M6 FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL dedicated to those who perished in service, plaque originally in Central Square 1958. Moved to Common and combined with firefighter with child in 1978. Names added in 2008.

M7 SOLDIERS MONUMENT Made of Quincy Granite, inscribed on 4 sides with major battles in which Leominster men took part; dedicated to fallen heroes of the Civil War in 1867. Monument moved from Monument Square to the Common in 1984.

M8 MONUMENT SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT BRONZE PLAQUE placed by Leominster Historical Commission, 2004