

Be sure to check out the Gray Ghost Trail interpretive panel on the corner of Lamkin Dr. and Westminster Ave. to learn about the college during the Civil War. As you walk toward the National Churchill Museum, on your right, you will see five fraternity houses Sigma Chi, Phi Delta Theta, Beta Theta Pi, Kappa Alpha, and Delta Tau Delta. Chartered in 1860, Beta Theta Pi did not initiate its first members until 1868 because of the Civil War. It was nevertheless the first fraternity on campus and is the oldest collegiate social fraternity in continuous existence west of the Mississippi.

Cross Westminster Ave. to the National Churchill Museum and Breakthrough sculpture.

THE NATIONAL CHURCHILL MUSEUM

The National Churchill Museum is housed in the undercroft of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, Aldermanbury, whose history dates back to the late 11th or late 12th century. It was initially built in London, England but was destroyed in the Great Fire of London (Sept. 2 - Sept. 6, 1666). After the fire, King Charles II commissioned Sir Christopher Wren to rebuild 52 churches, one of which was this church—using as much of the original structure and stones as they could, the church reopened in 1677. It remained an active house of worship until Dec. 29, 1940. An incendiary bomb was then dropped by the Germans during a blitz and reduced the church to ruins, leaving only the exterior walls, eight columns, and bell tower.

In 1961, President Dr. Robert L. D. Davidson of Westminster College wanted to find a way to commemorate Sir Winston Churchill's 1946 "Iron Curtain" speech. Inspired by a Life magazine article on Wren churches bombed during the war and slated for demolition prompted a most extraordinary idea. President Davidson proposed that the college remove, transport, and reconstruct one of the ruined churches to memorialize Churchill and as a needed college chapel. It took four years to obtain the necessary paperwork and permissions from the British government and the church hierarchy. The sum of 1.5 million dollars was raised on both sides of the Atlantic to support the restoration project. The project commenced with the cleaning and labeling of 7,000 stones. On Apr. 19, 1964, former President Harry Truman, surrounded by stones flown in from London for the occasion, turned the first shovel of dirt, symbolically announcing the reconstruction phase of the project. Exterior construction was completed in 1966 with an additional two years devoted to recreating the interior in anticipation of the (re)dedication of the church in 1969.

THE STONES

Three railroad cars carrying the stones for the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Aldermanbury, were lost in Bellevue, Illinois. They were almost discarded and sent to the dump for unclaimed rail cargo, but thanks to a very tenacious rail clerk named Willis J. Lodge, the bricks were saved. He refused to accept that the stones which were so carefully packed and numbered were meaningless and would not rest until the proper owners were found. He combed through all three cars until he found a scrap of paper that said "Fulton, Missouri." He called the Fulton rail depot and relayed to them he was in possession of the lost stones. Mr. Slider, the rail agent, was so overwhelmed with gratitude that he invited Mr. Lodge out for the dedication of the church and paid for all his expenses. Mr. Lodge's actions that day saved the church!

THE BREAKTHROUGH SCULPTURE

Edwina Sandys, the granddaughter of Sir Winston Churchill and a well-known artist in her own right, created the sculpture from three eight-foot sections of the Berlin Wall located initially near the Brandenburg Gate. Sandys carved out figures of a man and woman to symbolize their escape to freedom. The sculpture was dedicated on Nov. 9, 1990, exactly one year after the fall of the Berlin Wall. Former President Ronald Reagan gave the dedication speech. The two figures carved from the wall now constitute the focal point of a second sculpture called "Break Free" that can be seen at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York.

Cross Westminster Ave. to the north side of West 7th St.

331 WEST 7TH STREET

This two-and-a-half-story Queen Anne Revival-style home was built in the mid-1890s. The original owners were Ernest and Mary Tuttle. The wrap-around porch continues across the front to a two-story bay on the east side of the house. The stained-glass transom above the large porch window and the scrollwork on the triangular porch pediment are worthy of notice as is the double entry door with the letter E and T etched into the glass, for Ernest Tuttle.

The home now belongs to Westminster College and houses the Churchill Institute and office of the Director of the National Churchill Museum.

321 WEST 7TH STREET

The home at 321 was built for J.R. (Dick) and Rose Penn. The house was built in the early 1890s, and the couple lived there until J.R.'s death via suicide after it was discovered he was involved with selling fraudulent promissory notes. In 1951 the home was purchased by John and Mary Harris. Both John and Mary were well respected for their leadership and civic involvement in Fulton. To meet the needs of their family, they added on to the back of the house without changing the front façade. They planted the Hedera Helix Bulgaria, a hardy English Ivy developed at the Missouri Botanical Gardens, in the front yard and encircled the front of the property with an antique iron fence from the Visitation Academy in Saint Louis.

The character Peyton Graves in Henry Bellman's novel Kings Row is thought to have been modeled after Penn.

319 WEST 7TH STREET

Constructed around the same time period as 321, this Queen Anne Revival-style home, along with 321, is attributed to the famous Fulton architect M. F. Bell. Both homes were originally almost identical in structure, but later 319 was raised so that a taller foundation would allow for a deeper cellar.

315 WEST 7TH STREET

The Rootes home, as this home is affectionately referred to, is the only home on this tour to be owned by the same family since its construction in 1899. Architect M. F. Bell designed the house for Dr. George M. Rootes, a local dentist. A grandson and his wife currently own the home.

This is another example of a Queen Anne Revival-style home with a wide wrap-around porch supported by Tuscan columns, a large front window with stained glass transom, a double entryway, and a triangular porch pediment with applied starburst carvings.

311 WEST 7TH STREET

This home was built in the Greek Revival-style in 1848-49 and is the oldest remaining structure on West 7th Street. It was originally the home of Rev. William W. Robertson, for whom the historic district is named, who was Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church for almost two decades. At one point, Robertson owned all the land on the north side of 7th Street. The Fulton Female academy was located on Robertson's property, and during the ten years of the school's operations two additional buildings provided classroom and dormitory space for its students. For many years, 7th Street was called Seminary Street because of the presence of Robertson's academies. In 1876, Robertson sold all the property except that on which his house currently stands. Some evidence suggested that the home might have been moved to this location from elsewhere on Robertson's land at about the same time, but this speculation has never been confirmed.

Rev. Robertson (and his wife Mary) first came to Fulton in 1841 and was a strong advocate for the education of both young men and women. He established both Fulton College (later Westminster College) and the Fulton Female Academy in 1850. He later served as trustee and the first President of the Board at Synodical College for women in 1873.

309 WEST 7TH STREET

This Colonial Revival-style home was built between 1914 and 1921 when the Presbyterian church purchased the property as a residence for its minister. Over the years, modifications to the roof and porte-cochere have changed the exterior appearance of the original structure. In the early years of WWII, a Westminster College fraternity occupied the residence when a fire broke out. In repairing the structure, the roofline was altered, and dormers on the third floor were eliminated.

Cross Walnut St. to the 200 block of West 7th St.

211 AND 207 WEST 7TH STREET

Constructed during the first decade of the 20th century, the homes at 211 and 207 West 7th Street offer examples of architecture from what is sometimes referred to as the "Transitional Period." The boxy footprint, center dormer, and large porch accessible from a wide stairway on the two-and-a-half-story residence are typical of American Foursquare design. Although some elements suggest characteristics of Craftsman Style, others, such as stained-glass windows, harken back to more ornate decorations of late Victorian styles. The residence at 207 is a Queen Anne Revival Free Classic cottage. Although it resembles the Queen Anne Revival cottages at 110 and 302, it is the least ornate of the three, reflecting the growing influence of the simpler Colonial Revival and Craftsman styles. Like the other two cottages, it is thought to be the work of M. F. Bell but has not been documented. It was renovated by Mike and Vicki McDaniel, who were also responsible for the renovations at 110.



HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

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108 AND 110 WEST 7TH STREET

These two cottages were originally constructed as rental properties and are mirror opposites of each other. 108 has seen many modifications over the years, including updating the facade to the American Craftsman style. 110 retains the original Queen Anne Revival cottage style giving us an excellent opportunity to compare the two architectural styles side by side.

William Vivion, a successful farmer, stockman, and community leader, is the one who commissioned these houses for the purpose of renting them.

In 1998, 110 was supposed to be demolished but was saved by two local preservationists — Mike and Vicki McDaniel.

200 BLOCK OF WEST 7TH STREET

There are five homes on this block that were built between 1915 and 1930. They were constructed in the American Craftsman style as a reaction to the highly decorated and eclectic style of Victorian architecture. Craftsman style is known for its simplicity and natural use of materials.

- 200 West 7th features a low-pitched roofline and deep overhangs across the wide front porch with tapered columns.
- 202 West 7th features a cross gable roof and a gabled porch.
- 208 West 7th was designed by M. F. Bell, typically known for his Victorian-style designs. It has tapered columns, a large porch, and dormer windows typical of the craftsman style.
- 210 West 7th also has many features of the craftsman style and a hint of Japanese influence above the front gable.

This style of home was much more affordable for the newly growing middle-class.

300 WEST 7TH STREET

The original structure located on this property was a 14’ by 14’ log cabin built in 1853. A ceiling beam, a wall, and a partial wall of the original cabin remain and are a focal point in one of the rooms. This is also one of the oldest homes in Fulton. Some stories suggest the second story porch was added so Gage could peek out and see what was happening on campus. However, other sources say it was added well before the time that Gage lived there.

For many years, two upstairs rooms were rented to a Westminster Professor, Daniel Gage. He graduated from Westminster in 1889 and, after one year, was asked to come back and teach Greek. He initially agreed to work for one year but ended up staying for 57!

302 WEST 7TH STREET

This home was originally owned by the Guthrie family, who purchased the home in 1904. They sold part of the property to their brother R.C. Cam. Cam lived in the house with his wife Martha until his passing in 1910. The house was owned by and lived in by a member of the Guthrie family until 1999, when the current owners purchased it.

The town of Guthrie is named after this family. There is some disagreement about whether the Guthrie family built the home or purchased it after it was built.

304 WEST 7TH STREET

The original construction on this property predated the Civil War (1861) and was a 17’10” by 16’2” cottage. The east wall of the cottage remains on the east side of the house today. M. F. Bell bought the property in 1881 and added a second-story addition and a tower to the home, increasing the value from \$1,600 (his purchase price) to \$2,700 (which he sold it for). The Guthrie family bought this property in 1904.

This house is another one attributed to M. F. Bell. While he didn’t design the whole house, he did design two additions to it.

306 WEST 7TH STREET

The first construction on this property happened between 1857 -1864, but how much of the original home remains is a mystery. The first owners were William Brewer and Laura (Cochran) Whitlow. In 1969, the house was purchased by Rev. Dr. Cecil Culverhouse, long-time minister of First Presbyterian Church.

William Whitlow was a prominent attorney and briefly served as a state senator. The Whitlow Shelter in Veterans Park is named after Laura Whitlow, who was an avid gardener.

310 WEST 7TH STREET (LOGANBERRY INN)

When Dr. Edgar Marquess and his wife Mary purchased this property in 1885, a residence was already on it. They had the house rebuilt in 1889, but it is believed that the original kitchen remained. In the late 1980s, Robert and Deb Logan established the Loganberry Inn. This prominent local bed and breakfast is a staple in the community and has welcomed many well-known people such as the daughter of Winston Churchill, Mary Soames, Nobel Peace Prize winner Lech Walesa and former Secretary of State Madeline Albright, and former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Dr. Marquess taught Latin at Westminster for 35 years (1882—1917). One of the residence halls on the Westminster campus is named after him.

314 WEST 7TH STREET

This property was purchased in 1884 by Charles and Laura Patton. They hired M.F. Bell to design the home that is still here today. Charles and Laura’s daughter, Grace, was three when they moved in, and she continued to live there for 87 years. The home’s interior still has many original features that include cherry woodwork and a massive half-circle arch with dentals below the cove molding that spans the central hall.

Charles was born and raised in Callaway, the youngest of 12 children. His father was the Postmaster, which allowed Charles to open a newspaper stand in the post office. In 1907, he opened the Patton Book store at 523 Court Street (now Center Court). He was also business partners with Olin Collette and renamed the store to Patton and Collette some years later.

320 WEST 7TH STREET

This home was built in 1905 in the Neoclassical revival style. It is referred to as the Christian house for its late owner Robert Christian who purchased the home in 1907. The Christian family, Robert, his wife Susan, and their daughters all lived in the home. His youngest daughter Kathryn lived in the home until her death in 1992.

The home is now owned by Westminster College and is used as the Jack Marshall Alumni Center. Jack Marshal was a Westminster graduate who returned to college after serving in the Army. He remained with the college for 40 years working in various staff positions including Dean of Men, Dean of Admissions, and Vice President for Development, and Interim President.

Continue to the end of the block, cross Westminster Ave. and turn left, walking along the edge of the campus to Lamkin Drive (the circle drive in front of the campus).

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE

The founding of Westminster was precipitated by Rev. William W. Robertson, who was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church (located on Court St.) in 1841. Rev. Robertson believed the Missouri Synod of the Presbyterian Church should establish a church-sponsored college for the purposes of educating young men. He strongly advocated that Fulton would be the ideal location for such an institution to be established.

In 1851, Robertson convinced the Session of the Local Church to establish Fulton College. After the college was established, he put his effort into persuading the Presbyterian Synod to adopt the college as the official college of the Presbyterian Church in Missouri. Unfortunately, his first attempt at persuasion was quite unsuccessful. Refusing to accept defeat, Robertson invited the Synod to hold its annual meeting in Fulton in 1852. He was hoping to showcase the school and Fulton in an effort to convince church leaders to accept his proposition. Four proposals were presented at the meeting, one from Callaway County, Ray County, and the towns of Boonville and St. Charles. Fortunately, after much deliberation amongst the members, 32 of the 57 members voted to take control of Fulton College and make it a Presbyterian school. Requiring that it had a more Presbyterian name, it was decided to change the name to Westminster College. The name Westminster is derived from a monastery in London that faced west. West for the direction and “minster” meaning monastery.

REEVES LIBRARY

Walking up the hill to the right, you will see Reeves Library. The library was dedicated in 1951 during the centennial celebration. Before the erection of this building, the library was housed in the first Westminster Hall and Swope Chapel’s basement. The addition is the Hazel wing and houses the technology and multi-media resource center. This wing was dedicated in 1996 and was funded by donations from a campaign called “Manuscripts to Megabytes,” spearheaded by Trustee Ernest Hazel III for whom the addition is named.

HUNTER ACTIVITY CENTER

The activity center has offices for student organizations, meeting rooms, a gymnasium, racquetball courts, a pool table, and a snack bar.

WASHINGTON WEST

In the spring of 1906, a gift from the estate of Dr. Washington West of St. Louis helped make it possible to build the first residence for the President of Westminster. Prior to the construction of this residence, the President of the College had to secure their housing. This was the location of the President’s Residence until 1968, when a larger off-campus house was finished. Often referred to by students as “the hill,” it currently houses the office of the President and other administrators.

Over the years, several prominent people have dined in this residence. President Harry S. Truman and Sir Winston Churchill dined at the residence before the “The Sinews of Peace” speech at the gymnasium next door in 1946.

WESTMINSTER GYMNASIUM

At the time of its dedication in 1929, this Classical Revival-style structure was one of the largest and best-equipped gymnasiums in the state of Missouri. However, it has a much more important historical significance. On Mar. 5, 1946, Sir Winston Churchill delivered his speech entitled “The Sinews of Peace,” in which he stated that “an Iron Curtain has descended upon the continent,” marking the first time the phrase “Iron Curtain” had been used. President Harry Truman accompanied Churchill to Missouri and introduced him that day.

WESTMINSTER HALL

In 1853, Fulton’s 4th of July celebration, attended by an estimated 3,000 people, culminated in a procession to the college for laying the cornerstone of Westminster Hall. The ceremony was followed by a sumptuous feast to which all were invited. By February 1854, a three-story red brick building was ready to welcome students. It served as the college’s primary classroom space until 1909, when a fire destroyed the building. The only remaining part of the building was the Corinthian columns (on the left) that adorned the main entrance. For this reason, some still refer to this building as the “New” Westminster Hall, even though it was dedicated in 1911. Currently, there are classrooms and faculty offices located in this building.

THE COLUMNS

Today, Westminster students pass through the Columns only twice in their college careers. The first-time students pass through the column is during the convocation of their freshman year, by walking from the east side through to the west side, to symbolize walking into Westminster College. The second time they pass through is at graduation when they walk from the west side to the east side to symbolize walking back into the larger world.

NEWNHAM HALL

The last building on the south edge of Lamkin Drive is the Hall of Science. This building’s construction was completed in 1901. Initially, it housed science classes and had laboratories, but the science classes were relocated to a more modern building once the Colter Science center was built. In 1997, the building was renamed Newnham Hall to honor the generosity of the Trustee Eugene Newnham.

At the bottom of the hill, turn left on Westminster Ave. and return to 7th St.