

Fall Adventure - Fun Tour for Children (& all Kids at Heart)

# Fall Selfie Scavenger-Hunt through History

Follow **QR Codes** Apple & Local History Theme **Self-Guided**

**FINAL STOP - Ben Ferrel Platte Co Museum - 220 Ferrel St - ENTER for PRIZE** (see below)

**Driving North to Platte City on Hwy N. Alldredge Apple Orchard** 10455 N. Hwy.

Platte City <https://alldredgeorchards.com/> What kind of apples grow at this orchard? What farm animals do you see? Fun Fact: Pioneers planted the first apple trees in Missouri almost 200 years ago. "Ben Davis" was the name of one of many popular apples in Platte County nearly 100 years ago. **Take a fun selfie at Alldredge Orchard**

**United Methodist Church** 14040 N. Hwy [www.plattecityumc.com](http://www.plattecityumc.com) This church was established in the 1860s. Take a selfie by the historic bell. It once hung in an older church building. **Please DO NOT ring the bell**

**Next Stop - Main St., Platte City in 2 miles**



**Driving East to Platte City on Hwy 273 Weston Red Barn Farm** 16300 Wilkerson Rd,

Weston <https://westonredbarnfarm.com> On this real working farmstead, what animals do you see? Which one might have helped pull a cart or wagon of apples? Fun Fact: Platte County had 181,500 apple trees in 1912.

**Take a fun selfie at Weston Red Barn Farm! Next Stop - Main St., Platte City in 5.5 miles**

## Historic Platte City - Self-Guided - Do ALL or Some Stops

**1<sup>st</sup> & Main Stop 1: SETTLER'S CROSSING PARK** at the Platte River (West end of Main

Street, Platte City) Beyond the hill is the **Platte River**, a tributary of the Missouri River. People would cross the river as early as **1828** on a boat owned by the pioneer Zadock Martin. Soldiers crossed through this area as they traveled between Liberty & Ft. Leavenworth. Soldiers sometimes had dried apples in their rations.



**Stop 2: WILLIAM PAXTON – Historic Marker Sign** (at Settler's Crossing

Park, Platte City) **Spring of 1839** – Paxton came to this area on horseback. What book did he write? What jobs did he have? In Platte City, he describes seeing **Carolina Parakeets** (birds now extinct) (1840s); buildings burned down in the Civil War (Dec. 1861); an apple at the Platte Co Fair that weighed 2.4 pounds (1869). **For your selfie, pose in front of the Paxton Historic Marker.**



**2<sup>nd</sup> & Main Stop 3: BEE CREEK CAFE** –242 Main The café takes its name from a local creek. A "Champion Bee Hunter" named the creek "Bee Creek" because near it he found "bee trees" - wild bee honey in the trees.



**Stop 4: LANDMARK NEWSPAPER- 252 Main** – *The Landmark* started in Weston & moved to Platte City around **1871**. Look Up! Can you see *The Landmark's* historic sign? In 1895, the Landmark advertised apples at 40 cents per dozen. **Take a selfie while pointing up at the sign.**

**Travel by Car on N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Stop 5: SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH: 300 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**

**Private property/ no public access.** Freed slaves founded this church in **1867** in a nearby location. The present church was built about 20 years ago. In 1865, Missouri ended slavery, 2 years after the Emancipation Proclamation.

**Follow 3<sup>rd</sup> St. north & turn east onto to N. 4<sup>th</sup> St.**

**Travel by Car on N. 4<sup>th</sup> St. Stop 6 LIONS CLUB Building** 100 Block of

North 4<sup>th</sup> St **Private property/no public access** Built as Dunbar School in 1948 for grades 1-8. Before that, it was the site of a school for African American children after the Civil War. Explore More in this QR Code:



*Travel by Car - Return to Main St. - 4<sup>th</sup> & Main* **Stops 7-10: PLATTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE- FRONT LAWN**



**Courthouse Dedication Stone:** What year is carved on this? This Courthouse replaced one burned down during the Civil War.

**Oak Tree:** Can you find an oak tree on the courthouse's front lawn? What kind of Oak Tree is it? Pioneers would look for clues in the tree's LEAVES & seeds (acorns) or bark- **see more in the CR Code on the right.** **Do you find a white**

**oak, bur oak, red oak or pin oak tree nearby?** Fun Fact: White Oak wood repels water. It was used for building boats & barrels that held things like whiskey, water & apples. 8-10,000 barrels were made just to hold apples for two Platte County orchards in 1912.



**Guy B. Park's Historic Marker** What years during the Great Depression did Guy Park serve as Governor? As a lawyer, he would have spent a lot of time at the courthouse – what might be a good shade tree for him to rest beneath?

**Movie Nights:** On **Saturdays**, people would sit on the courthouse lawn & watch films on an outdoor screen. What was a popular movie in 1939? Clue: it starred a lion & a tin man. **Selfie Fun: pose for a selfie on the courthouse steps**

**3<sup>rd</sup> & Main** **Stop 11: HOPSHOP ANTIQUES** –313 Main. **Can you find a unique antique outside the window for a selfie backdrop?**



**Stop 12: 319 Main - OPERA HOUSE Long Ago!** Today it is **Cohen's Art & Framing.** The Opera House (opened **1885**), for plays, concerts, parties, & other events. The Opera House showed silent movies in the 1920s. Explore more on small-town opera houses via the QR Code on left. Watch a 3-minute comic film (from 1928) of Charlie Chaplain with code on right. **Selfie Fun: See the 'opera house' frame in the window? Pose in front for your selfie!**



**Walk or Travel by Car South on 3<sup>th</sup> St. to Ferrel St** **Stop 13: BEN FERREL PLATTE CO. MUSEUM 220 Ferrel St.** Built in 1882, the house is a 'mini mansion' (mini version) of the Missouri Governor's Mansion. The bricks were made in Platte City & the roof is made of slate (a type of rock). The museum opened in **1985.** **CAN YOU FIND THE HITCHING POST?** Touch this hitching post – you are reaching back into pioneer days. **Take a selfie in front of the museum.**



**14 & 15. OWL & APPLE** – Can you find the owl looking out from the **MUSEUM?** Many apple farmers from long ago viewed owls as the **guardian friends of orchards** (owls hunted moles & rodents). What did those owls sound like? LISTEN to owl calls with the QR Code on the right:



*Please Share Selfies & Snapshots - On Facebook with the Hashtag*



**#Fun@BenFerrelMuseumPCHS** You also can message us on FB or tag photos with *Platte County Historical Society* **OR** *Ben Ferrel Platte County Museum*

**MUSEUM PORCH - SATURDAYS - 11:30 – 2 pm**

**SEPT 12, 19, 26 & Oct 3, 10** **ENTER TO WIN** *Johnny Appleseed Storybook*

**About this tour by PLATTE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (PCHS):** This scavenger-hunt tour includes optional **selfies & CR codes** to explore more with smartphones. Children on this tour should be supervised by adults. *Please note that codes may not link to correct websites if clarity is lost in printing, but you can access this tour online at* [WWW.PCHS1882.ORG](http://WWW.PCHS1882.ORG) Why a time-travel tour themed to apples? Pioneers carried apple tree varieties to this region & apples are part of a Platte County story. For questions/info & additional open days, call **Ben Ferrel Platte County Museum (816) 431-5121**

