

# Downtown Louisa I SPY and Scavenger Hunt

## Presented by the Louisa County Historical Society

**Directions:** The objective of the activity is to find each of the buildings in the I SPY photos. Park in front of Frostie's Rail Stop to begin. Give your children the two photo pages. A parent should hold the answer key and map pages. Make sure to obey traffic signs and use crosswalks as you walk around downtown looking for the buildings. When your children spot a location, read them the historical facts from the answer key. The map shows the location of each numbered photo. If the children are having a hard time finding a location, you can give them pointers. The last two spots refer to historical markers located in downtown Louisa.

## Answer Key

- 1. Whistle Stop Bed & Breakfast-** John A. Kennon built a house on this property in the mid-1800s. H. Q. Dickinson purchased the house in 1912 and added the Flemish bond brick and Victorian portion to the home. The George and Robert Leigh brothers who built the Louisa courthouse constructed the addition.
- 2. First Baptist Church-** This was one of the first black churches built after the Civil War. Rev. Fountain Perkins, one of the first black members of Virginia's House of Delegates, helped establish the church in 1866. Churches were an important community institution for the African-American community after the Civil War.
- 3. Bailey's Drug Store-** Bailey's Drug Store was in business from 1919 - 2019. It was a popular local shop for medicine, daily essentials, and treats such as candy and ice cream. Today it is the Strange House Skate Shop. The new owners kept the old sign and soda fountain counter.
- 4. Louisa Courthouse-** The current building was constructed in 1905. A colonial revival structure, it was designed by D. Wiley Anderson & C.K. Howells, both accomplished architects from Richmond. The Leigh brothers built the structure. On old stone step and the bell are the only remaining elements from the original 1818 courthouse building.
- 5. Old Jail-** This building was built in 1868 after the original jail, which was located across the street, burned in a fire. It stopped being used as a jail in 1967 and was used as the local history museum until the Sargeant Museum was opened in its current location in 2008.
- 6. Patrick Henry Historical Marker-** Answer: Three years (1765-1768). Fun Fact! Patrick Henry did not attend law school but passed the bar.
- 7. John Mercer Langston Historical Marker-** Answer: 1888. Fun Fact! John Mercer Langston is related to Langston Hughes, famous Harlem Renaissance poet.
- 8. The Sargeant Museum (optional)-** Open Monday-Friday, 10 am-4 pm. Directions: Turn down Church Ave. and take a right on School St. The museum is located in a white house at the end of School St. 10 minute walk/approx. 0.5 mile. Address: 214 Fredericksburg Ave.



# Map



1



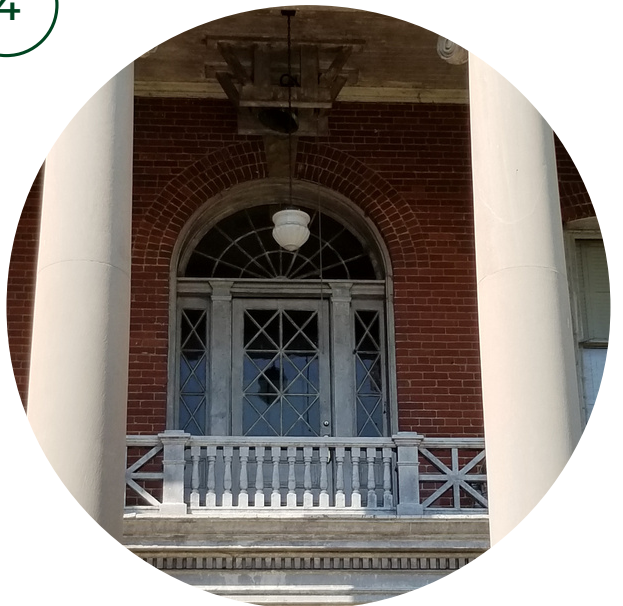
2



3



4



5



6

## **Patrick Henry**

How many years did he live in Louisa?

7

## **John Mercer Langston**

In what year did he become the first black congressman elected in Virginia?

8

Come on down and visit the Sargeant Museum!