



SELF-GUIDED
WALKING TOUR OF THE
DUBLIN HISTORIC DISTRICT



DUBLIN HISTORY

Nestled on the banks of the Scioto River, Dublin is one of the oldest communities in Central Ohio. The white settlers began to arrive in 1801, and included Ludwick Sells and his eight children. Many of these earliest settlers came from Pennsylvania via Kentucky and brought with them their characteristic stone architecture, still seen in Dublin today.

The land on which Old Dublin stands was originally part of the Virginia Military District, assigned to Virginia veterans of the Revolutionary War. The Sells family acquired several parcels of this land and built a small settlement near a spring along the riverbank that still pours forth clear, cool water today just south of the bridge.

In 1810, when the Ohio legislature was seeking a permanent site for the state capital, two of the Sells brothers, Peter and John, who had arrived in 1808, made a large tract of their land available. Though the official site-selection commission recommended the Sells' tract, the legislature chose a small piece of real estate at the confluence of the Scioto and Olentangy rivers. Though less desirable land, this location was accompanied by a sum of money to build a capitol and penitentiary.

John Sells, who owned the parcel of land where Old Dublin now stands, had a portion of his land surveyed into lots, and, in 1818, offered a new town for sale. According to local legend, the surveyor, an Irishman named John Shields, when asked to name the new town, is supposed to have said, "If I have the honor conferred upon me to name your village, with the brightness of the morn, and the beaming of the sun on the hills and dales surrounding this beautiful valley, it would give me great pleasure to name your new town after my birth-place, Dublin, Ireland. "

The new town was strategically located on the Scioto River, which provided an opportunity for shipping. Early Dublinites shipped lumber, flour and bacon to the new capital, Columbus, and further south, to Kentucky. When the National Road reached Columbus in 1833 and the canals were completed, new settlers poured into Central Ohio, and Dublin boomed. Her virgin forests and rich land provided abundant opportunities for development. Stores, shops and taverns sprang up, as well as small industries, including factories for tanning leather and for manufacturing shoes, saddles, hats, chemicals,

barrels and wagons. High Street became a bustling center of commerce. From 1830 to 1850, Dublin was the fastest growing area in Franklin County.

Dublin's prosperity was short-lived. In 1855, when the Columbus, Piqua and Indiana Railroad passed well to the south of Dublin, a new town named Hilliard developed and Dublin's commercial aspirations suffered a major setback.

Still a center of trade for local residents and surrounding farmers, Dublin's stores and cottage industries continued to flourish. So did her taverns. In the third quarter of the century, Dublin began to develop a reputation as a town of drinking and brawling, attracting participants from the entire area. An old verse captures the spirit:

*Dublin, Dublin, city of beautiful roses,
Gouged out eyes and bloody noses,
If it weren't for the solid rock foundation,
It'd begone to hell and damnation.*

Dublin was incorporated as a village in 1881. The first ordinances passed by the village council controlled the sale of liquor, and prohibited drinking on Sunday, intoxication, fighting, stone-throwing, obscenity and swimming in the river during the daytime. Even so, Dublin remained a lively town on Saturday night and local legend has it that there is hardly a single building in Dublin that did not at one time house a tavern.

In 1970, Dublin was still a village of only 681 residents. By then, however, the completion of the outerbelt had firmly cemented Dublin into the Columbus metropolitan area, setting the stage for a new era of exponential growth.

Today Dublin boasts a residential base of more than 30,000. This explosive growth can be attributed to a number of factors, including the arrival of corporate headquarters such as Ashland Chemical Co. and Jack Nicklaus' development of the Muirfield Village Golf Club and residential area in the 1970s. Dublin was dubbed a city in 1987.

Today, the ambiance of nearly 200 years ago is evident when strolling through Historic Dublin, where there are charming examples of early 19th-century architecture. It is a National Historic District with all of the older buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

SELF-GUIDED

**WALKING
TOUR
of the
DUBLIN
HISTORIC
DISTRICT**

*Welcome to
Dublin, Ohio!
This booklet
features a map
in the center
to help guide
your tour of
Historic Dublin.*

1 53 North High Street

This stone building was built in 1844-45 as the Dublin Christian Church, the second church of that denomination to be built in Dublin. (The first was built on the NE corner of Bridge and High.) For 30 years it was one of four churches in Dublin. The other three were the Methodist, Presbyterian and United Brethren churches. When the congregation outgrew this building, a new church was built on West Bridge Street, a building that is now part of the Dublin Community Church.

2 56 North High Street

This structure was built ca. 1845 by James and Sarah Brown. In 1890, the house was purchased by Harry Artz and remained in his family until 1974.

3 45 North High Street

Built in 1849, this is the oldest surviving Dublin school building. It served as the school for Washington Township Dist. 2 until 1871, when a new larger school was built on the site where the Dublin Library now stands.

4 22 North High Street

This Early Victorian architectural gem was built ca. 1847 by John Webster, a shoemaker. It subsequently became the home and medical office of Dr. John Randolph Marshall, a prominent Dublin doctor from 1852-91. Notice the fine decorative woodwork on the porch and the unusual spoolturned trim edging the windows.

Indian Run Cemetery

You can walk to the Dublin Library to visit the oldest cemetery in the Dublin area. Indian Run Cemetery is the oldest cemetery in Washington Township and was the principal place of burial in Dublin for more than 40 years. The first person to be buried here was Rebecca Matthews Royal in 1813. The second burial took place in 1814, with the death of Ludwick Sells' oldest daughter, Polly King. The following year, Mary Ebey died and was buried in this cemetery. Ludwick Sells died in 1823 and was buried here. Approximately 133 burials took place in this cemetery, with the last one in 1877. In 1975, the Dublin Historical Society initiated a restoration of the stone fence surrounding the Indian Run Cemetery. The project was completed in 1980.

5 City Parking Lot

In 1833, a stone house was built on this site by John Sells for his daughter Lucy. It was a wedding gift to Lucy and her husband, Dr. Albert Chapman. This house once served as a telephone exchange operated by Bert and Geraldine Wing. Geraldine was known to listen to local conversations in order to keep track of what was going on in town. Geraldine also was the first to sell perfumed powders and makeup in the area. The original stone house was demolished in 1958. The site became a city parking lot in 1987.

6 8 East Bridge Street

Built in 1843 by Zenas Hutchinson, this building was occupied in its early years by John Griffith, a cooper, and was known as the Dublin Cooper Shop. In 1894, it was purchased by Dr. Llewellyn McKittrick, who set up his new practice in 1891, and later by Dr. Harry Whitaker, who took over in 1919. Dr. Whitaker was a well-respected doctor during WWI.

7 Bridge Street and High Street Intersection

A pump once stood in the middle of this intersection. It provided the only source of safe drinking water for the village, other than the Natural Water Spring, until about 1885. Early settlers, most often preteen children, would carry water in buckets from this pump to their homes. The pump was removed in 1925.

8 The Dublin Bridge

The first bridge across the Scioto River at this site was a wooden bridge built ca. 1840. Prior to that time, travelers heading east had to ford the river just below the mill at the south end of Riverview Street. The road to Worthington then ran along what is today Martin Road. The wooden bridge was replaced by a steel bridge in 1880, which was itself replaced by a handsome concrete-arch bridge in 1935. In 1986, the arched bridge was topped with a wider, four-lane deck. The original arches may still be seen from Kiwanis Park at the foot of Dublin Spring Road (see No. 45).



27 South High Street

Original Side Trip

A short distance west of the intersection on West Bridge Street are two historically important buildings.

At 32 West Bridge Street stands the brick blacksmith shop built in 1877 by Theodore Steinbower. Today it is the front part of the Dublin Veterinary Clinic. A blacksmith and wagonmaking shop had been located on this site since 1850, operated first, by Charles Fogelsang, and after 1859, by Jacob Weaver and John Steinbower, Theodore's father.

At 81 West Bridge Street stands the Dublin Community Church. Built in 1877, it represents the Gothic Revival style of architecture. This church was built as a successor to the Christian Church at 53 North High Street, which the congregation had outgrown. It served the Christian denomination until 1912, when a tornado severely damaged the Methodist and Presbyterian churches. At this point, the three churches united and joined the Congregational Church, which today is merged in the United Church of Christ.

9 6 South High Street

This large limestone building on the corner of South High and East Bridge streets was built by John Sells in 1835 as a wedding present for his daughter Caroline and her husband Zenas Hutchinson. Hutchinson ran an inn here from 1836-58. In time, it became a stagecoach stop on the Granville-Greenville Stagecoach Line and was known as the Hutchinson Hotel. Hutchinson became Dublin's first mayor in 1855, in Dublin's initial effort at village government. After Hutchinson's departure, the building continued to serve as an inn under different proprietors for many years.

10 14 South High Street

This brick building, ca. 1840, was the home and workshop of John Eberly, tinsmith and postmaster in the 1840s and 1850s. Henry's sons, Charles and Faye, continued the business into this century. Faye lived next to the tin shop with his son Parker. The lower story of the south half has been refaced in the 20th century with stone recycled from a house that once stood on North High St.

11 24 South High Street

This building was probably built as a store in the late 1840s by John Graham. When he moved away to take up farming, his son William operated a store here until he moved his business to the more spacious premises at 48-52 South High Street (see No. 17). This building, later known known as "The Mitchell House," was owned and operated by Mrs. Vina Mitchell Bates, who ran a boardinghouse in the building. Later, the structure became the medical office of Dr. Henry Karrer.

12 30 South High Street

This small house, probably built in the 1830s, was the home of John Graham in the 1840s. In the 1850s it became the home and pharmacy of druggist Addis Swain.



© Jerry Smith, Smith Studio Gallery

75 South High Street

13 27-29 South High Street

This house, ca. 1880, is a nice example of an Italianate style Victorian house. This building, and the one next to it at 35 South High Street, are good examples of the new Victorian houses that replaced earlier buildings when Dublin was going through its second era of growth in the 1870s and 1880s. In the early 20th century, the house was owned by Newton and Anna (Mitchell) Dominy. They lived in the attached building and used the front room as a hardware store. The post office was also located in this building.

14 32 South High Street

This building was probably built by Edward Henry in the 1830s. Once the local grocery store, this building was operated by Adam Hirth and Clark Coffman during the early 1930s. In 1938-39, Walter and Dora Krouse bought the store, and in 1940, Dora added a post office so residents could get their groceries and mail at the same location. It was a local hot spot for friends to meet and catch up on the local news, especially on Saturday nights. In 1954, John Herron bought and ran the store, which was bulldozed in 1972.

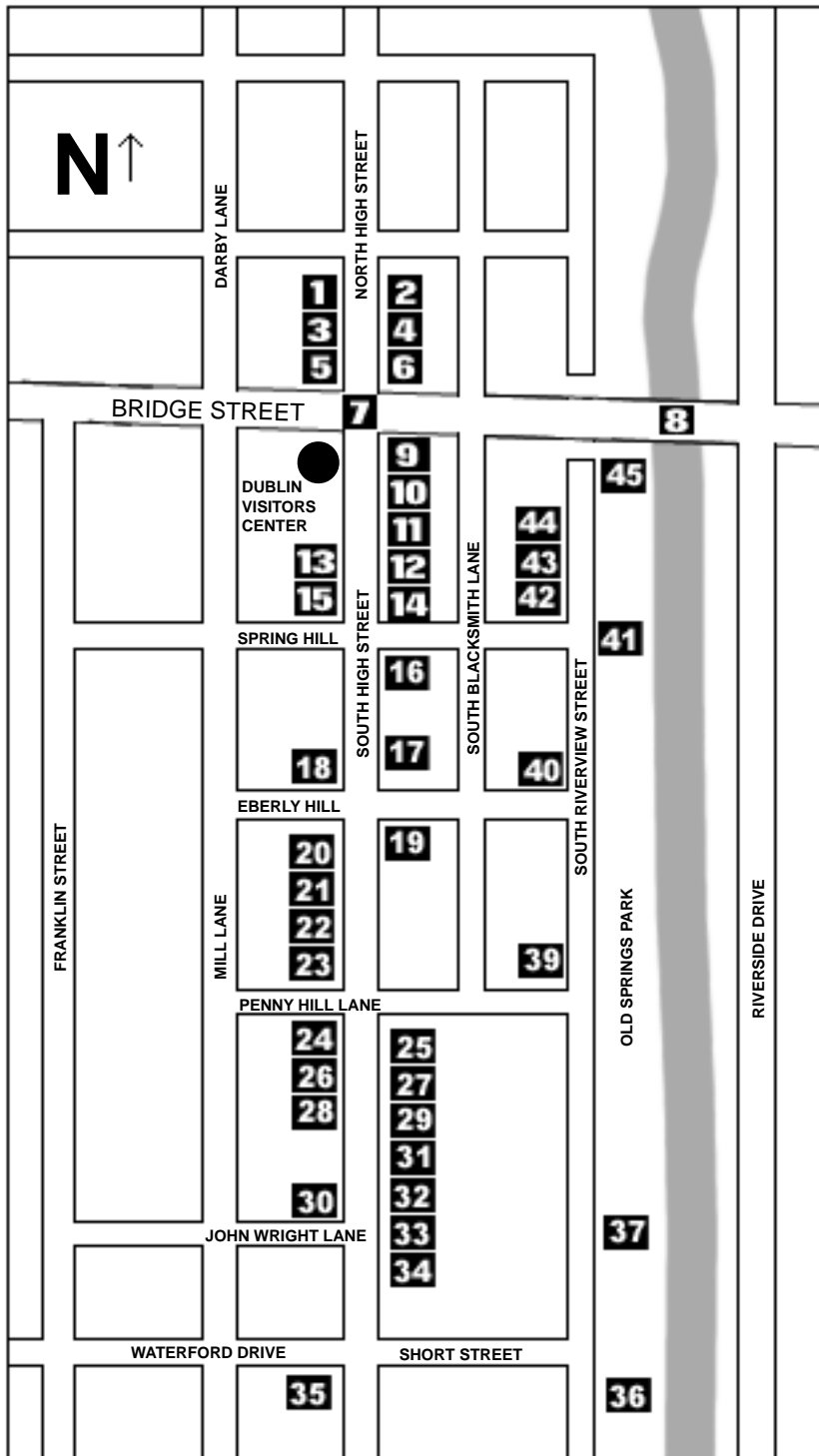
15 35 South High Street

George Butler built this building in 1880. It was used as a home and barbershop by Emmett Bonham in the years that followed. In 1932, it served as Dr. Henry Karrer's medical office.

16 48 South High Street

This large two-story house, with an adjacent store, was built by William Graham before 1851

DUBLIN HISTORIC DISTRICT



- 1** 53 North High Street
- 2** 56 North High Street
- 3** 45 North High Street
- 4** 22 North High Street
- 5** City Parking Lot
- 6** 8 East Bridge Street
- 7** Bridge Street and High Street Intersection
- 8** The Dublin Bridge
- 9** 6 South High Street
- 10** 14 South High Street
- 11** 24 South High Street
- 12** 30 South High Street
- 13** 27-29 South High Street
- 14** 32 South High Street
- 15** 35 South High Street
- 16** 48 South High Street
- 17** 54 South High Street
- 18** 63 South High Street
- 19** 76-78 South High Street
- 20** 75 South High Street
- 21** 83 South High Street
- 22** 87 South High Street
- 23** 91 South High Street
- 24** 105-109 South High Street
- 25** 106 South High Street
- 26** 113 South High Street
- 27** 114 South High Street
- 28** 119 South High Street
- 29** 126 South High Street
- 30** 129 South High Street
- 31** 138 South High Street
- 32** 158 South High Street
- 33** 182 South High Street
- 34** 224 South High Street
- 35** Karrer's Barn
- 36** Swimming Hole
- 37** 180 South Riverview Street
- 38** 109 South Riverview Street
- 39** 83 South Riverview Street
- 40** 63 South Riverview Street
- 41** Riverview Street
- 42** 37 South Riverview Street
- 43** 25 South Riverview Street
- 44** 19 South Riverview Street
- 45** Dublin Spring Road and Kiwanis Park



© Jerry Smith, Smith Studios Gallery

76 South High Street

17 54 South High Street

This tiny house was occupied in the 1840s and 1850s by a plasterer, Hugh Watson, and later by a shoemaker, Hiram Judson.

18 63 South High Street

This house was built ca. 1848 by Joseph Button, a leatherworker. From 1849-64 it was the home of Eli Filler, who operated a store in an adjacent building. It was subsequently purchased by Holcomb Tuller and has been owned by his descendants ever since.

19 76-78 South High Street

This building's simple one-story south wing was built by Cornelius Ortman ca. 1835. The handsome two-story Greek Revival north wing was added by Holcomb Tuller, probably ca. 1840. Tuller was a prosperous merchant and entrepreneur, who operated many businesses, including a general store, an "ashery" to make potassium carbonate from wood ash, and a flour mill. He also invested in real estate. He occupied this house from 1836 to his retirement in 1861. In the 1890s, it served as a hotel run by Cicero Sells.

20 75 South High Street

Built in 1835 as a single-story stone house by Dublin merchant Orange Davis, this structure's second floor was added in 1890. The house was used as a private residence until 1983.

21 83 South High Street

This house was built about 1840 by Giles Weaver. Weaver and his family lived here until 1855. In that year, it was purchased by William W. Davis, the village druggist. Notice the roof of this building and several others around it. They are made of tin, which was commonly used in the construction of Dublin buildings because there was a tin shop in town.

22 87 South High Street

This elaborate Greek Revival building is not what it first appears. It is a 1907 replica of an earlier building on the site. When Giles Weaver came to Dublin in 1836 to practice his trade of tanning and leatherworking, he moved into a log cabin on this site. He quickly upgraded it by facing it with siding and ornamenting it with pilasters and pediment in the latest Greek Revival fashion. As his business prospered, he built the large handsome house immediately to the north (see No. 10).

23 91 South High Street

Built ca. 1847, this building was the home of carpenter George E. Hutchinson.

24 105-109 South High Street

This structure was built in 1842 by Eliud Sells as the third Black Horse Tavern. Sells lived here from 1842 until his death in 1849.

25 106 South High Street

This Late Victorian house of Isaac Morgan Miller incorporates a small stone building that originally housed the hat factory of Charles and Eliud Sells in the 1820s and 1830s, and after 1842, the medical office of Charles Sells' son-in-law, Dr. Eli Morrison Pinney. The stone structure is now stuccoed over and forms the NW corner of the building. Charles Sells and Dr. Pinney both lived in the house that stands behind it at 109 South Riverview St. (See No. 38)

26 113 South High Street

Built in 1871, this building was the home of Hiram Hays, who ran a tavern in the front room, while his wife ran a dressmaker's shop in the rear.

27 114 South High Street

Dr. Henry Karrer built the present structure in 1945. He was a physician in Dublin at that time. It is said that Dr. Karrer delivered seven members of Dublin's basketball team in 1954-55. Frank Pinney owned the property before Dr. Karrer. Pinney ran a store and garage on the property that featured a gas pump, a watering trough and a water pump for use by the residents who lived at the south end of the village.

28 119 South High Street

Built around 1880, this brick house became the home of the bricklayer Samuel Paulus and his wife Mary. If you look along the street, you will find a horse-mounting block with the family name on it.

29 126 South High Street

This house was built in 1849, probably by Jesse Wing, a local shoemaker, and purchased by Eliza Coffman Buckley in 1851. Houses with the gable facing the street became fashionable in Dublin about 1848.

30 129 South High Street

Originally a small house built ca. 1840-45, this building now houses the Dublin Chamber of Commerce. At one time, the front room of this building served as the town hall.

31 138 South High Street

This building, the Wilbur Pinney House, is a nice example of a Victorian house. It was probably built in the late 1870s by George Harlow, the son of Jonas Harlow, a longtime Dublin boot and shoemaker.

32 158 South High Street

Even though it appears to be a duplex, this house actually was owned by two different families. It was built as two houses with a common wall.

33 182 South High Street

This building is the home of Robert Karrer. It is the only house in Dublin to have been owned by the same family since Carley Karrer built it in 1897. The land on which it sits has been in the Karrer family since 1876.

34 224 South High Street

Adam Hirth built this house in 1930 for John Snouffer. Then, in 1938, the home was purchased by Dr. Henry W. Karrer. It is still owned by his family.

35 Kaffer's Barn

At the end of Short Street is Karrer's Barn. It was built around 1870 by George Michael Karrer to house farm animals. Notice the stone fence around this property and throughout the area. Most of these fences were created by the Pinneys, Dan Eger and Ticky Wing, all of whom were stonemasons. The stone came from local quarries or from basement digs.

36 Swimming Hole

Across from and a little south of Dr. Pinney's house, was the first Dublin swimming hole. The big boulder that you see was moved, creating a large hole that was dubbed "Old Rock" swimming hole. You can see the swimming hole from the green fence at 180 South Riverview Street.

37 180 South Riverview Street

From this location, you can see Frank Pinney's stonework, the spot where Corbin's Mill once stood, the stagecoach road, the place where the river was forded and the old swimming hole.

38 109 South Riverview Street

Charles Sells, a hatter, built the first story of this structure, Dublin's oldest brick house, in 1822. After his death, his daughter Marilla Sells Pinney inherited the property. If you look closely at the brick, you can see where Dr. Eli Morrison Pinney, Marilla's husband, added the second story in 1842. In 1946, the house was purchased by Emmett Kaffer.

39 83 South Riverview Street

This building is the oldest stone house in Dublin and was built by Eliud Sells, son of John Sells, in the early 1820s. A datestone reading "1824" was added over the front door in the 1920s. The house was originally a two-room cottage. The second story and rear kitchen wing were added by 1832. The second story is characterized by more carefully hewn, squared stones. The outline of the gable of the original one-story house



© Jerry Smith, Smith Studio Gallery

119 South High Street

can be seen from the street on the north side. Eliud Sells was a hatmaker, working with his brother Charles. From 1832- 42, he also ran a tavern in his home, the second Black Horse Tavern. When the erection of a bridge across the Scioto resulted in a change of traffic patterns, he moved to 105-107 South High Street, where he continued to operate his tavern until his death in 1849. In 1860, George Michael Karrer bought this house and lived here until 1879. Karrer was a blacksmith, and his shop was located across the street on the bank of the river.

40 63 South Riverview Street

William Kilbourn, Esq., built this structure, the oldest frame house in Dublin, ca. 1820-1822. Kilbourn, nephew of James Kilbourn (founder of Worthington), had a wool and flax carding business, was justice of the Peace and was married to Matilda Sells, daughter of John and Elizabeth Sells. The building was twice a post office. Isaac N. Walter owned the house as postmaster from 1828 to 1831, and Henry Thomas Eberly was postmaster here between 1867 and 1879. The Eberly family owned the house until 1991. The siding is similar to that on Washington's Mount Vernon. The tin roof applied over original wood shingles was one of many installed by H.T. Eberly in the mid-1800s. This post-and-beam Cape has had five additions, but retains its early New England charm.

41 Riverview Street

This street was originally named Water Street. The first houses in Dublin were built along it in the 1820s. At the south end of the street stood Corbin's Mill, with access to the ford across the river. Later, the name of the street was changed to Front Street, then to Lower Street, and in recent years, to Riverview Street.

42 37 South Riverview Street

Isaac N. Walter, an itinerant minister in the Christian Church, built this home in 1841. Reverend Walter eventually became a minister in the First Christian Church of New York City. The house changed owners a number of times, but one of the more interesting owners was James Yeager, who lived here in the 1940s. He was Mayor of Dublin, and his home served as his office and the Mayor's Court.

43 25 South Riverview Street

On this site in 1809, John Sells, the founder of Dublin, built a two-story log cabin as his home, conveniently located just above the spring. It was eventually sided over and painted red. Here Sells operated the first Black Horse Tavern. It was from here that he was summoned for an unsuccessful attempt to save the life of his friend, the Wyandot Indian chief Leatherlips. The house was torn down in the last years of the 19th century. The current stone house was built in 1935 by Frank Pinney. It was built of stone taken from the old Livery Stable on Bridge Street, when the stable was torn down to widen the road for the new concrete-arch bridge. The frame part in the rear is said to have been a blacksmith shop that formerly stood behind the house at 19 South Riverview Street (see No. 44).

44 19 South Riverview Street

The house on this lot was originally built one lot north, ca. 1880, by blacksmith Henry Karrer. The house was moved to its present location in 1934 to make space for the new stone arch bridge. In the 1930s, the home was occupied by Dr. Henry W. Karrer, a well-known Dublin physician.

45 Dublin Spring Road and Kiwanis Park

At the end of this road is the Dublin Spring. This spring was the main source of clean drinking water for the first settlers and the reason they decided to settle at this site. The steep road to the Scioto River was built for an important purpose. In the 1840s, there was no electricity so people had no means of refrigeration other than ice. In the winter, the river would freeze, providing an ice layer 8 to 10 inches thick. The ice would be cut into thick blocks, loaded onto carts and pulled up the road by teams of horses to the ice barn. The ice was packed in sawdust, a good insulator, allowing it to be kept through August or September of the following year. From fall until the river froze again, residents had to store perishables in their stone cellars. Electricity didn't come to Dublin until 1920.

The old Spring Road was used in later years by the Village of Dublin Fire Department to remove water from the river to right fires. This volunteer fire department was formed in 1937.



Dublin Convention & Visitors Bureau
9 South High Street • Dublin, Ohio 43017

(61) 792-7666 • 1-800-245-8387
(614) 760-1818 (fax)

www.dublinvisit.org

