

VISIT DOWNTOWN WADSWORTH'S ART MURALS

A series of heritage murals by artist Paulette Grubb | Location: 116 High Street (Alley)



SILVERCREEK MINE Coal was initially mined for heating houses and businesses, but with the addition of the railway system in 1863, the coal market opened up and became a big business in town. This era lasted for over 50 years and became a way of life for several generations. At one point in history, Wadsworth was one of the largest mining operations in Ohio.



CRACKER BARREL CROWD This group of businessmen and politicians would meet in a downtown alley each morning to discuss news and politics (today it can be found on the east side of Main Street between Domino's Pizza and Family Dentistry on the Square). E.J. Young, seated in the front center, grew up on a farm near Wadsworth in Loyal Oak and was a self-made millionaire who

founded the Ohio Match Co. (Blue Tip Matches), the Ohio Injector Co., the Ohio Salt Co., and the Ohio Boxboard Co.



McKINLEY BANNER A narrow building built in an alley at 120 Main Street, previously Central Repair (a shoe and boot repair shop), is Chuck's Coin and Gold Exchange today. In this painting the building was decorated for the 1896 Presidential race between William McKinley and William Jennings Bryan. William McKinley was friends with several families in Wadsworth.



CO-OPERATIVE BUILDING A general goods store in downtown Wadsworth in the late 1800's that sold boots, clothing, and groceries. The mural depicts workers, businessmen, and customers of that era. It was located on the east side of Main Street and is currently occupied by Domino's Pizza.



TROLLEY CAR In 1907, the electric interurban passenger rail lines connected different cities including Wadsworth, Barberton, and Akron. Pictured in the mural are John D. Rockefeller, founder of Standard Oil and once the world's wealthiest man, and his wife Laura Spelman Rockefeller, who was born in downtown Wadsworth in a house that was located on the east side of Main Street near the square.



FIRST CHRISTIAN - DISCIPLE CHURCH First Christian Church still stands on High Street just a few blocks north of City Hall. James A. Garfield, a field pastor (and later President of the United States) preached and recruited soldiers for the Civil War from the front steps as shown. He was friends with the Pardee and Hinsdale families of Wadsworth. Burke Hinsdale, a lifelong friend,

was the third president of Hiram College. Don Pardee was commissioned a Lt. Colonel during the Civil War. Hinsdale and Pardee are pictured in the front center of the mural.



KREIDER HOTEL Once located just north of Rise & Grind on High Street, the hotel was a wooden structure built in 1894. It burned down 10 years later and was replaced with a brick structure in 1904. This building was razed and became the location of a Ben Franklin 5 & 10 Store. Mr. Kreider and his wife are pictured on the front porch. William McKinley, Warren G. Harding, and Newton Baker (U.S. Secretary of Defense during World

War I) were registered guests of the hotel. Warren G. Harding and his wife can be found in the front left of the mural. William McKinley and his wife can be found sitting on the bench. The hotel had 4 owners and was renamed the Park Hotel before being demolished in the 1960's.



ICONIC WADSWORTH

Artist: Ben Schuh | Location: 141 Main Street

This mural contains images representing the Ohio Match Company, the Ohio Injector Company, and the Ohio Salt Company. The first two factories were located just south of this mural on Main Street and the buildings have been repurposed into a number of small businesses. The Ohio Match began operations in 1896 producing stick matches. Ohio Blue Tip Matches became world-known and were even used by Sir Winston Churchill. At its peak, the Ohio Match Company produced so many matches in a 24-hour period that they would, placed end-to-end, reach halfway around the world! The Injector produced injectors for steam engines and later, valves that were used on water and oil pipes. It began production in 1893 and was even recognized for its efforts during World War II.

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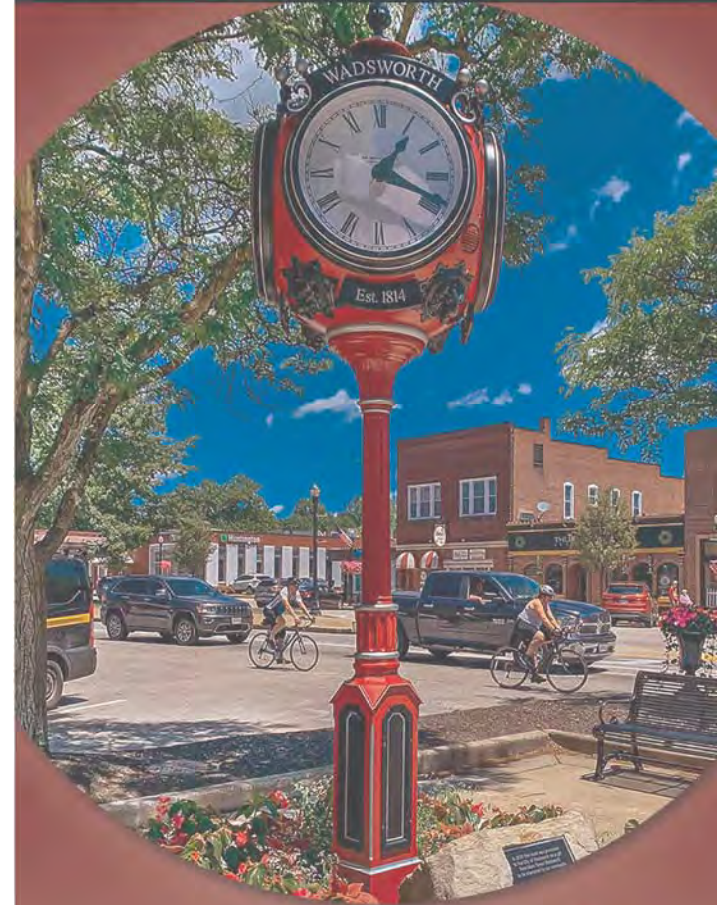
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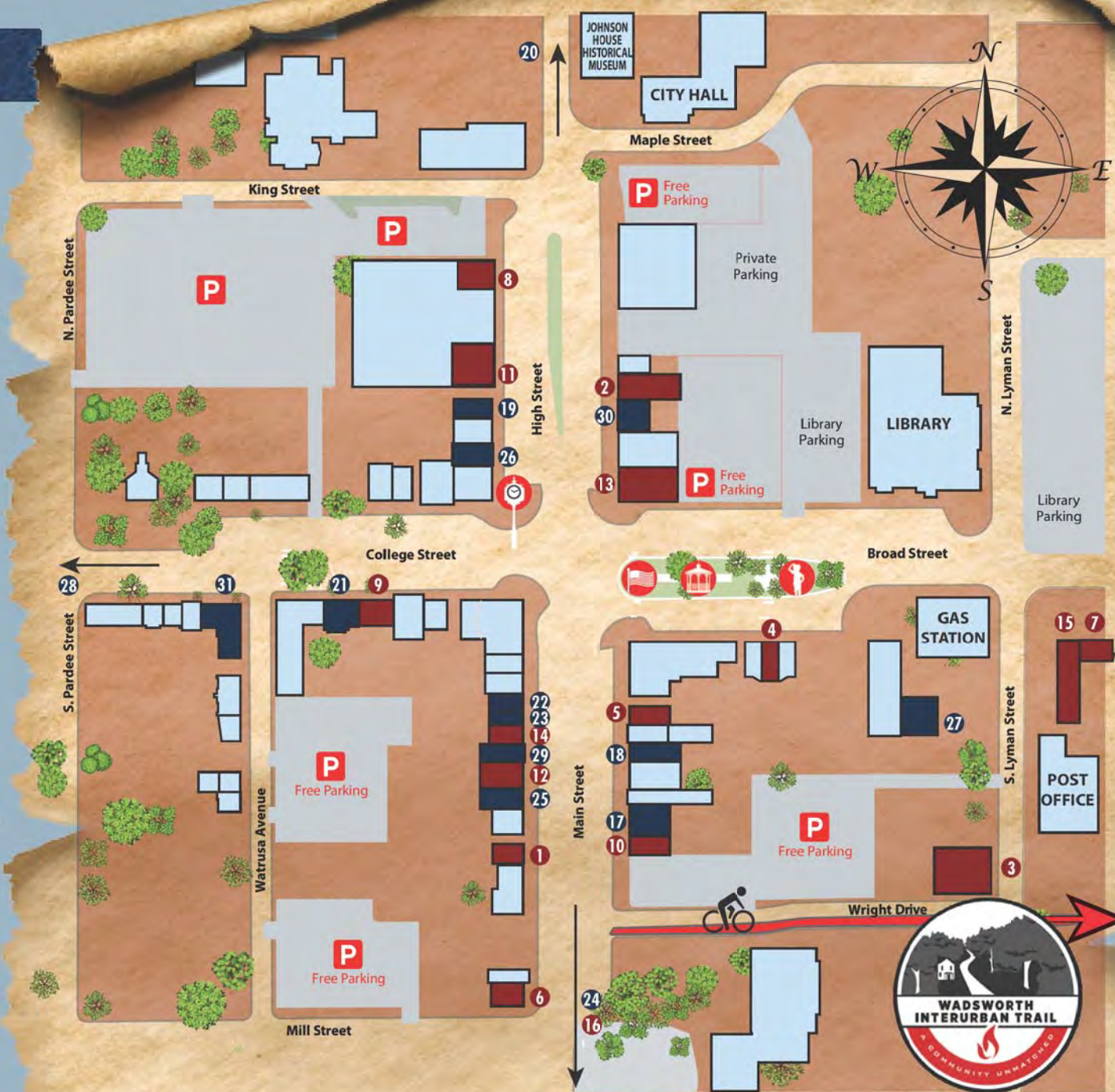


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