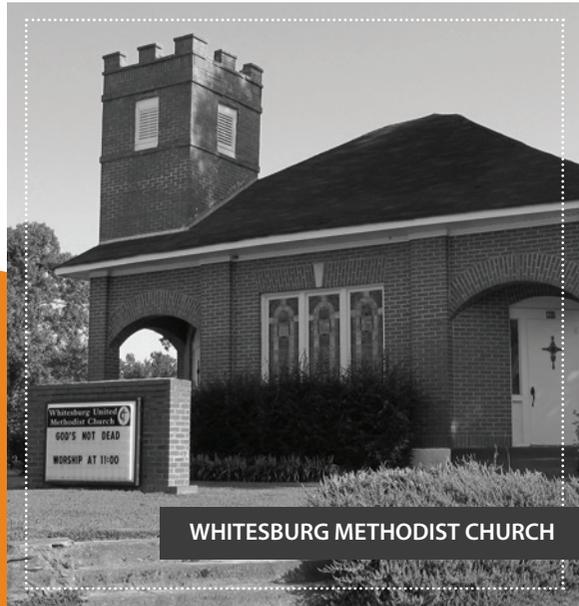
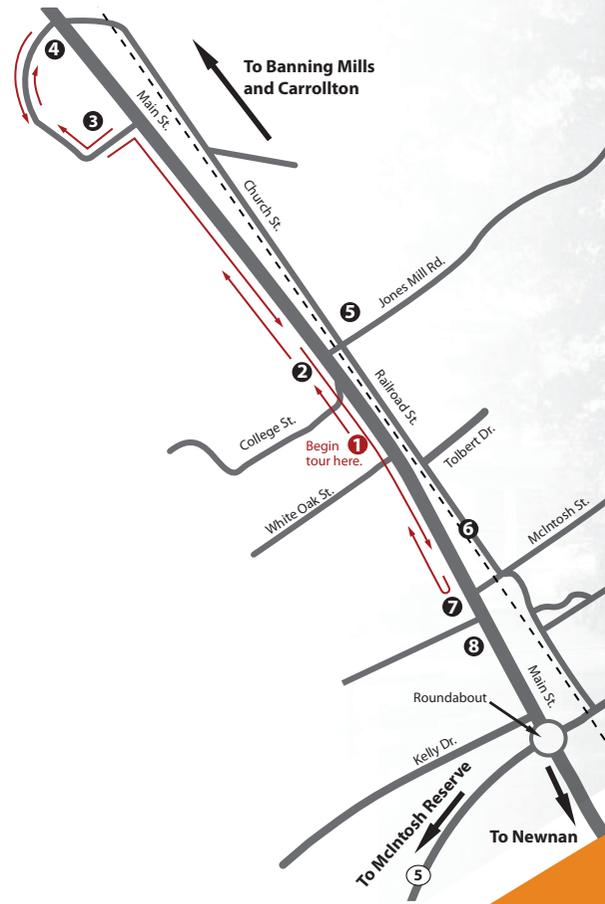


The city of Whitesburg was founded because of an obstacle. In 1873, while building the railroad, workers were stopped by a large rock deposit. A town sprang up there — a “wild west” settlement filled with rough railroad men, Confederate veterans and immigrant workers. At its peak in the early 1870s, the population swelled to about 1,000 people.

Eventually, the workers were able to clear out the rock and continue on toward Carrollton with the railroad. This temporary community was incorporated in 1874 and was named for the railroad’s president, Andrew Jackson White.

In 1926, a fire destroyed seven buildings in the town. The townspeople banded together, formed a bucket brigade and saved the remaining buildings. This strong sense of civic pride still remains here in Whitesburg. Although the population is less than half of what it was in the boom of the 1870s, the people still remain willing to help each other overcome obstacles.



**GET HEALTHY
LIVE WELL**

Whitesburg
HEALTH WALK

Whitesburg Public Library
800 Main Street
Whitesburg, GA 30185
770.834.0713

GET HEALTHY LIVE WELL

This brochure is the product of a partnership between the Whitesburg Public Library and Tanner Health System's Get Healthy, Live Well initiative. For reprints or to reproduce this brochure in full or in part, contact the Whitesburg Public Library at 770.834.0713.

Use this guide to exercise your mind and body. The entire historic loop of this walking tour is two miles.

1. WHITESBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY

Please park here for the tour. If needed, come in and use our restrooms.

2. WHITESBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

When the seminary in Whitesburg was closed in 1907, the land and buildings were donated to begin a public high school. In 1929, a new brick building was constructed to house grades 1 through 11. The school was renamed Whitesburg Public School. The current building was constructed in 1959.

3. WHITESBURG RECREATIONAL COMPLEX

Many of the area's children play organized sports here. At one time, the land was used for farming, but was donated by the Hines family to build the recreational complex. **(Take the side road on your left into the complex.)**

4. BUNKHOUSE

Just north of the recreational complex is a bunkhouse that was typical of the housing that early railroad workers used during their time in Whitesburg. The rough accommodations reflected the rough men who made their home here. We imagine they slept, ate and played card games by the light of oil lamps. **(Return to the recreational complex and then back down Main Street to continue the walk.)**

5. WHITESBURG METHODIST CHURCH

The church was founded in 1887, but in 1912 a tragic fire destroyed the original wooden structure. The current building was constructed in approximately 1912 or 1913 in the Neo Gothic style fancied by church builders of the time. The church's fellowship hall was constructed in 1950.

6. OLD TRAIN DEPOT

In the late 1800s, this building served as one of the first rail centers in Carroll County and was a primary shipping hub for mills across the Snake River. Now an antique store, you can still see a pot bellied stove that may have been a gathering place in the wintertime. Directly across the tracks, behind the depot, is the location of the old hotel.

7. OLD THEATER

A small town movie house was often well attended by a community that was hungry for a glimpse into the world outside. During the 1940s and 50s, this building was not only used for a movie theater, it was also used as a pharmacy.

8. WHITESBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

Originally the New Providence Baptist Church, Whitesburg Baptist was established in 1860 in the small settlement that surrounded the cotton gin of John Gilbert. In 1875, the church changed its name to Whitesburg Baptist. The current building was built in 1875-1876 after a fire destroyed the original structure. In 2002, this church was listed on The National Register of Historic Places.



Restrooms are available along this route.

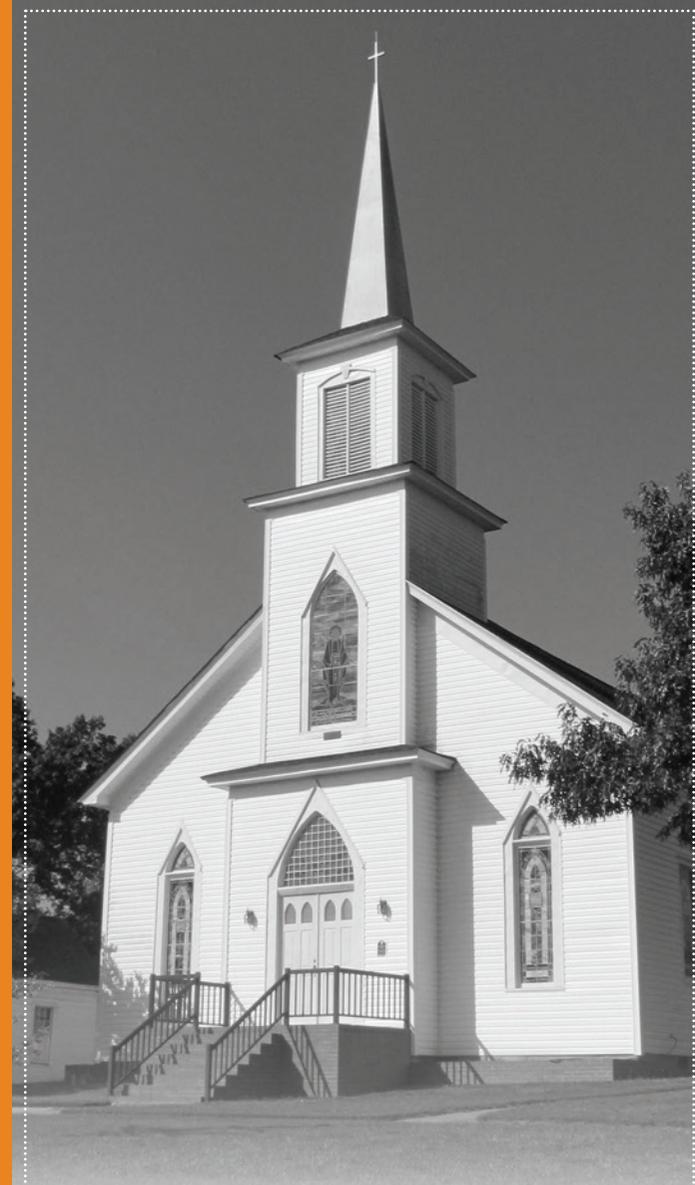
While you're in Whitesburg, check out other interesting local sites that aren't on the walking tour.

MCINTOSH RESERVE

Located off Highway 5 in Whitesburg, McIntosh Reserve is a 527-acre park operated by the Carroll County Parks Department. Some of this land served as the primary residence of Chief William McIntosh of the Lower Creeks. Born during the American Revolution, Chief McIntosh was marked a traitor by his tribe and murdered at his home by a party of Creek Indians. Today the reserve is used for horseback riding, hiking, biking and picnicking.

BANNING MILLS

Located approximately two miles from Whitesburg, Banning Mills was built by the Bowen Brothers on Snake Creek in 1846 to produce yarn. The mill operated until the Civil War when Union forces were sent to destroy it. The buildings were spared because they were "not operating." Currently at Banning Mills you can find a Country Inn and Conservation Center that hosts many outdoor and recreational activities, including conference facilities, a ropes course and zipline.



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