

### 18. West Ave. Trolley Tracks

The tracks of the Rochester, Lockport & Buffalo interurban rail line ran down West Ave to Adams Basin and beyond from 1908 to 1931. The Trolley provided affordable and quick travel to and from Rochester.



### 19. Spencerport Rail Station 131 Martha St.

The first railroad built through Ogden and Spencerport was the Falls Branch of the New York Central with stations in both Spencerport and Adams Basin. The rail line was used to ship produce and other local goods anywhere from Rochester to Buffalo.



### 20. First Congregational Church 65 Church St.

A New England Style Church, nicknamed the "White Church" because of its white exterior and interior. The First Congregational Church was organized primarily by members of the Ogden Center Presbyterian Church in 1850. The building was built in 1852 but burned to the ground that same year. After the fire the basement was covered over and used for services that winter.



### 21. Spencerport Union School No. 1 24 West Ave.

The building was constructed in the late 1870's and started as a grade school. In 1902 it was granted status as a high school. Increasing attendance led to the addition of a new wing. As attendance continued to grow the high school was moved to Lyell Ave, The building became the home of the Ogden Grange in 1920. Today it has been altered to hold offices, shops and apartments.



### 22. Ogden Telephone Company 21 West Ave.

The Ogden Telephone Company was founded by Donald Davison and his wife Maxine. During the war years Don repaired lines and installed phones himself while Maxine ran the switchboard, although local folklore has it that she could handle repairs if necessary. It was sold to Citizens Communication in 1997 who later merged with Frontier.



### 23. Ogden Senior Center 200 S Union St

The Moore Family operated a coal yard and eventually an insurance agency out of their home. The building now houses the Ogden Senior Center.



### 24. New York Central Railway Bridge

In the early 1950's seventeen cars came off the tracks of the New York Central Railway along this bridge and tumbled down the embankment and into the Moore's backyard. The accident was caused by too many spikes being removed from the tracks. With the advent of faster modes of transportation the railroad closed in 1982. The New York Central Railways Bridge was removed in April 2013.



### 25. Fairfield Cemetery

Fairfield Cemetery in Spencerport is where many notable residents of Spencerport have been laid to rest including Daniel Spencer. Can you find his tombstone?



### 26. Memorial Park

This park contains monuments that pay tribute to veterans and is host to Spencerport's annual Memorial Day ceremony.

### 27. Matheos Ice Cream 377 S Union St

In 1950 Matheos Ice Cream Co. was growing quickly and their current factory was too small so they moved to 377 S. Union St. The Company was known for their famous 'Matheos velvet ice cream' and chocolate-covered ice cream on a stick named 'OO-La-Las'. Matheos distributed their ice cream within a 80 mile radius of Spencerport using refrigerated trucks.



## Neighborhoods

Spencerport has many beautiful neighborhoods to explore. If you find yourself with more time check them out!

I. This old neighborhood in Spencerport has many beautiful old homes:



**A. 140 West Ave**  
Built 1905. Owned by the Walker Family, they were the founders Walker Brothers Funeral home. They built caskets in the wagon house.



**B. 72 West Ave**  
This house with intricate porch work is in the Queen Anne style constructed ca. 1880-90.



**C. 17 Martha St.**  
Known as the 'Upton House' it was built in the mid-1800s. Charles S. Upton earned his fortune manufacturing the 'Rochester Lamp'. The home has unique board and batten siding.



**D. 66 West Ave.**  
This home, built in 1853, is a combination of three styles, Greek revival and Victorian with a French mansard roof. It was first owned by William Curtis, a local merchant.

II. This neighborhood north of the canal has many original homes along Bowery St. and Mill St. that have remained generally unchanged since 1924. If you venture back to Bauers Cove there are many spacious late 20th century houses which reflect the growing desirability of Spencerport as a residential community with highway access to the City of Rochester.

III. This neighborhood is a nice place to take a stroll and see homes that reflect the expansion of the Village of Spencerport as a residential community in the 1970's and 80's.

IV. This neighborhood consists of many houses built post WWII as a result of the GI bill that was passed in 1944. These homes are particularly prominent along Coolidge Ave. and southern parts of Prospect and Coleman Avenues.



**E. 24 Coleman Ave**  
This home was built in 1925 by the McCabe family who also resided there. They also owned the McCabe Lumberyard.



**F. 110 Coleman Ave.**  
This house was built for the Matheos Family. Chris Matheos lived here with his family and was owner of Matheos Ice Cream Co. with his brother James.



**G. 151 Maplewood Ave.**  
This home is an 1890's construction in the late 19th century vernacular style using local techniques and materials.

V. S. Union Street has many lovely historic homes with outstanding architecture along the walking tour route:



**H. 291 S. Union**  
Upton Sinclair, author of "The Jungle" once had dinner in this home. Example of 1870s and 80s high-style design



**I. 296 S. Union**  
Stop by and say hi to 'Liberty' one of the horses from Rochester's Horses on Parade in 2001.



**J. 304 S. Union**  
built in 1907 by the owner of the original hardware store in Spencerport.

VI. This neighborhood began with the construction of homes on Harwood Rd. in the 1950's and 60's. You will find more modern constructions as you walk further back in the neighborhood towards Coventry Dr.



# A Walk thru History



## Village of Spencerport New York

Inc. 1867

With reverence for the past and an eye to the future

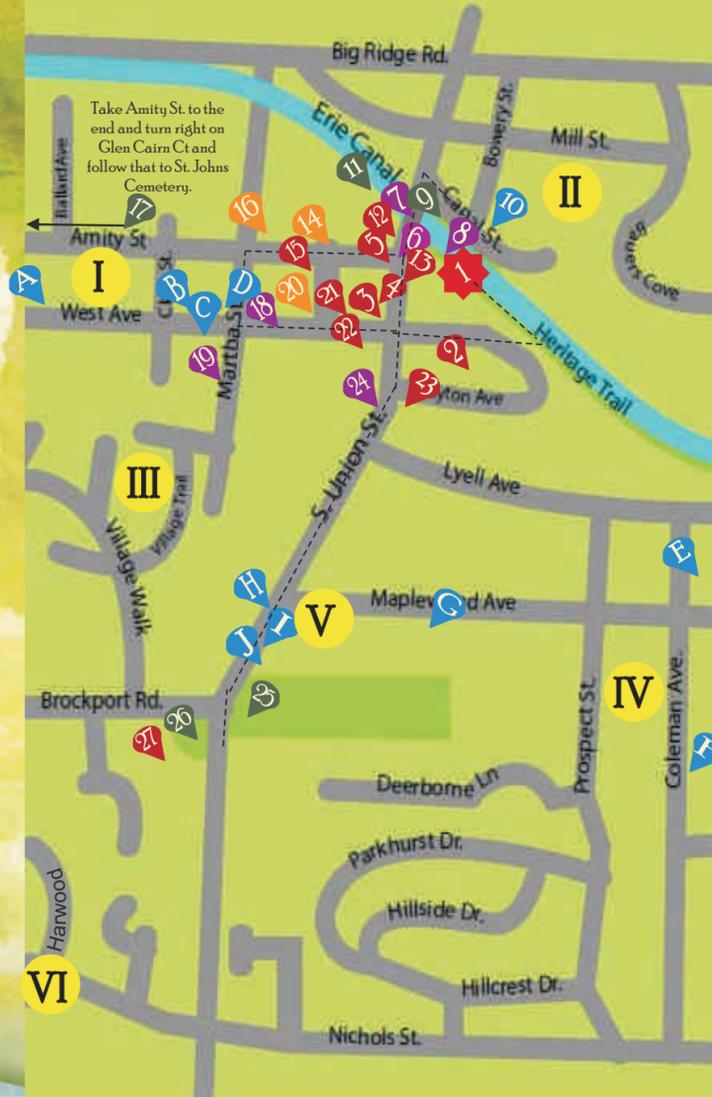


Experience Spencerport:

From the heyday of commercial traffic in this busy Erie Canal port, to the bustling neighborhood community of today;  
From mule traffic along mid-19<sup>th</sup> century canal paths, to bike and pedestrian traffic along the present day Heritage Trail;  
From early industries, to current specialty shops, restaurants and commercial districts;  
Home to many, and a popular destination for others:  
**WELCOME!**

Sponsored by:  
Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor • National Park Service • Village of Spencerport  
Researched and Designed by:  
Nora Venezky  
Contributions from:  
Doreen Castano, Spencerport Depot and Canal Museum Director • Carol Coburn, Town of Ogden Historian • Sandy Mitchell, Village of Spencerport Historian  
Front Photo Credit: Abodey.com

# Village of Spencerport



Take Amity St. to the end and turn right on Glen Cairn Ct and follow that to St. Johns Cemetery.

- Business
- Park/Outdoor Space
- House
- Church
- Transportation Modes
- Neighborhood

The tour should take approximately 60 minutes. Please be aware of traffic and use cross walks and sidewalks when possible.

## 1. Depot & Canal Museum 16 East Ave

The trolley depot was constructed around 1907 and was originally located at the corner of East Avenue and Water Street (West Ave), just a few hundred yards away from its current location. The depot served as the only stop in Spencerport on the Rochester Lockport Buffalo interurban trolley line from 1908 to 1931. When the trolley service was discontinued, the depot fell into disrepair and was eventually moved to a location on Amity Street Extension in the early 1940s, where it was renovated into a private home. In 2002 the building was bought and donated to the village by Maxine Davison. It was moved to the current location and restored in 2005 with the help of many volunteers.



## 2. Village Plaza 38 Slayton Ave,

The Village Plaza has been home to many business over the years. Before Bells, Jubilee, IGA and Tops, it was the home of McCabe's Lumber Yard. The lumber industry was thriving in Rochester and Monroe County in the 19th century. At the time this photo was taken it is likely that McCabe's yard was producing a tremendous amount of wood to be used for the reconstruction of the Erie Canal.



## 3. Old Fire House 147 S Union St.

The Spencerport Fire Department was housed in this building which still stands today, though it has a new facade. The fountain pictured in front was donated by the Women's Christian Temperance Union. The fire trucks were housed downstairs, while the Ogden Farmer's Library was housed upstairs from 1908 to 1947.



## 4. Masonic Lodge 133 S Union St.

The Masonic Temple was constructed in 1905. In 1911 fire broke out in a nearby outhouse and spread to surrounding buildings including the Masonic Temple. The Spencerport Fire Department came to the rescue. While putting out the fire the strong streams of water from the hoses almost threw Chief William Ireland off the roof of the firehouse, but he grabbed onto a cornice and saved himself.



## 5. Old Bank of Spencerport 129 S Union St.

The Bank of Spencerport was founded in 1907 and this building was constructed in 1925. During the Depression the Bank of Spencerport failed, however, the building continued to function as a bank until the 1960's. The facade of the building, including the pillars, was transported from a former bank building on State Street in Rochester in 1925.



## 6. Union Street

Before settlers came to this area, the Seneca Nation inhabited these lands. Previous to becoming Union Street it used to be a Native American trail called Canawagus Road.

## 7. The Union Street Lift Bridge

Pictured is the old bridge. With larger loads being moved down the Erie Canal some bridges, like the one on Union Street, were not tall enough for barges to fit under. Engineers devised a strenuous method for lifting up the old bridge, till it was replaced in 1910-11. The new bridge was an engineering marvel at the time of its construction. Riding up and down on the bridge became a popular pastime in Spencerport.



## 8. Erie Canal

Construction of the Erie Canal was completed in 1825 which connected the Great Lakes to the Hudson River. The canal allowed for faster and cheaper transportation of goods. Daniel Spencer, the namesake of Spencerport, owned the land that the Erie Canal was built through. The Canal became the lifeblood of Spencerport as the village began to spring up around it.



## 9. Towpath Park

This park along the canal is dedicated to Lester C. Mertz who was mayor of Spencerport from 1940-1968. It is a pleasant spot to sit and enjoy some shade while walking around the Village or along the Erie Canal.



## 10. King House 140 Canal St.

Located on the corner of Canal and Bowery St., this house was once used as the community jail.



## 11. Clyde Carter Gazebo

The Gazebo was built in 1997 and named after former mayor Clyde Carter (1993-1994). Throughout the summer there are many concerts and events held here.



## 12. Matheos Ice Cream Parlor 93 S Union St

Located in what is now Splatter's, James and Chris Matheos housed their candy and ice cream shop in the building. From 1926, when the current building was built, till 1932, the back half of the building was used to manufacture ice cream and candy. They created Matheos Ice Cream Co. which was very popular in Spencerport and the surrounding area.



## 13. 104-110 S. Union St.

This building is an example of late 19th century architecture. It still conveys its original commercial use and maintains the original window openings, brick corbeling and handsome cornice typical of the post-Civil War era.



## 14. Methodist Church 30 Amity St

It is believed that the first sermon preached west of the Genesee River was delivered by Rev. Peter VanNest in 1807 where this church now stands. The Church was constructed in 1870-71 and has undergone many renovations since. In 1909 the church installed a pipe organ towards which Andrew Carnegie donated \$750.



## 15. Wedgewood Nursing Home 5 Church St

Wedgewood Nursing Home started as a sanitarium for the care of convalescents in a house purchased by Mrs. Mary (Roy) Garrison and her two daughters. It originally had a 30 bed capacity. After changing ownership ground was broken in 1966 for a modern fireproof nursing home with a 48 bed capacity.



## 16. St. Johns Church 55 Martha St

In 1851 Father Michael Welch celebrated the first Catholic mass in Ogden. The first meetings were held in a wagon shop in Ogden Center. In 1857 a small wooden chapel was built on Coleman Ave. In 1867 a larger church was to be built, but while building a strong gust of wind blew it down. It was rebuilt in less than a year. It was converted into a school in 1927 and is now a home at 90 Martha St. The church that stands today was built in 1915 from cobblestones that were brought by parishioners from their fields.



## 17. St. Johns Cemetery

The land for this cemetery was purchased in 1873 by Father Story and is the final resting place of many St. Johns parishioners.