THE HOUSES OF MILLIONAIRES ROW

The A.D. Hermance House
405 West Fourth Street

This house was designed and built in 1855 by Eber Culver for A.D. Hermance, a New York state native who operated the Rowley-Hermance Company. The Rowley-Hermance Company manufactured woodworking machinery. This 20-room building is an example of the Richardson-Romanesque style of architecture. The lot originally the side yard of next-door neighbor Peter Heredic, who sold the land after going bankrupt in 1878. The interior features beautiful cherry and oak hand-carved woodwork by famed craftsman Giovanni Ferrari.

The Auguste Laedlin House
639 West Fourth Street

Probably designed by Eber Culver, this home was built in1866 for August Laedlin, a French immigrant who came to West Fourth Street to operate a confectionery shop at this address. The first floor contained an ice cream parlor, the second floor had apartments, and there was also on outdoor eating area.

The Smith-Ulman House
634 West Fourth Street

Built in 1870 for lumber dealer Henry Smith. This house is the largest example of the Victorian Second Empire style surviving in Williamsport. The mansard roof, arched doors and tall windows mark this style. The house is now used as the Annunciation Church Rectory. The original carriage house still stands behind the building and is now used as a private clubhouse.

The Elias Deemer House
707 West Fourth Street

Again, this home was designed and built by Eber Culver in 1887 for Elias Deemer, a lumberman. Another example of Culver's Queen Anne style of Architecture with 17 rooms and cherry woodwork.

The Lemuel Ulman House
411 West Fourth Street

Built in the mid-1800s, this house was designed by Eber Culver for clothier Lemuel Ulman. Built on land that had once belonged to Peter Heredic. The house still contains some of the original furniture and gaslight fixtures.

The William V. Emery House
535 West Fourth Street

The Emery House was designed and built by Eber Culver in 1888 for William Emery, a partner in the Emery Lumber Company. Yet another example of Queen Anne features. This house replaced the original built in 1865

The E.A. Rowley House
707 West Fourth Street

The Rowely house was designed and built by Eber Culver in 1888, and is considered on of the finest examples of Queen Anne architecture in Pennsylvania. It was one of the first houses on the street to have electric lights, bells, and a dumbwaiter. The home contains elaborately carved woodwork and remains in much the same state as it did originally, having only had three owners.

The Emery House
835 West Fourth Street

Built in 1889 by William Emery, designed by Eber Culver. The Emery House is an example of the Richardsonian-Romanesque style of architecture. Notable features are the pagoda – fireplace in the entrance way and two chandeliers suspended from the 35-foot ceiling.

The Peter Heredic House
407 West Fourth Street

The Peter Heredic House has a long and varied history. Built in 1854, it was the home of Williamsport's foremost lumber barons, Peter Heredic. The house remained in the family dwelling until 1957. In 1957 the house was converted into apartments and an addition was built to house a TV Repair shop. In 1977, a fire destroyed portions of the house and for several years, the house stood empty and its future looked bleak. In 1983, the Preservation Fund of PA bought the house with the understanding that Richard Lundy would buy and restore the house. The restoration took 10 months and was taken over by Marcia and Gloria Miele who opened it in 1984 as the Peter Heredic Restaurant.

The Hiram Rhoads House
522 West Fourth Street

The Hiram Rhoads House is yet another house designed by Eber Culver in the late 1880's for Hiram Rhoads, the man who first brought the telephone to Williamsport. This building is an example of the Queen Anne style design that Culver stated in his autobiography, was probably the most successful in his career. This house has many notable features such as an upstairs bathtub which is encased in mahogany, a solid pecan floor in the living room, and the most beautiful chandeliers.

The Park Place
800 West Fourth Street

Built in 1870 for lumber dealer Henry Smith. This house is the largest example of the Victorian Second Empire style surviving in Williamsport. The mansard roof, arched doors and tall windows mark this style. The house is now used as the Annunciation Church Rectory. The original carriage house still stands behind the building and is now used as a private clubhouse

The J.M. McMinn House
528 West Fourth Street

This home was built in the mid-1800s by John McMinn, a city engineer. Originally a simple Victorian frame home. It was later remodeled into the Colonial Revival Bulletin, the forerunner of the Williamsport Sun-Gazette.

The Foresman House
912 West Fourth Street

This home was built in 1905 for Henry Foresman,a lumberman. An example of the Colonial Revival architecture. Modeled after a similar mansion in Emporium, Pennsylvania. The four main iconic columns on the house are 74 inches around the base and 18 feet high. There are also 17 smaller columns around the base.

The Eutermarks-Harrar House
912 West Fourth Street

Built for Lucy Eutermarks as a wedding from her parents in the early 1870's. Designed by Eber Culver in the Italianate design. The house was originally assigned to 913 West Fourth Street, but the bride's parents thought the number was unlucky so they had it changed to 915 West Fourth Street.

Annunciation Catholic Church
700 West Fourth Street

Annunciation Church was designed by Amos Wagner on land donated by Peter Heredic. Built in 1886, the church took three years to complete and is an example of the Romanesque style of architecture. The rock and sandstone used to build the structure were quarried from the nearby town of Ralston. The church seats 1,000 people and has no center columns or steel structure.

The Parsons House
829 West Fourth Street

Built by attorney and former Williamsport mayor Henry Parsons in the late 1800s. A fine example of the Queen Anne style of architecture.

The Johnson House
901 West Fourth Street

Designed by Amos Wagner and built for Henry Johnson, a state legislator from Muncy. Johnson moved to the city to help his six daughters find suitable husbands among the wealthy men of Williamsport. This home represents the Queen Anne style of architecture. The Johnson's were so pleased with Wagner's work that they had him build a home similar next door for one of there daughters.

First Baptist Church
420 West Fourth Street

This Church was originally constructed around 1860 and was designed and built by church member Eber Culver on land donated by Peter Heredic. After being destroyed by floods, the original building was torn down in 1898. Soon after, a new foundation designedby Culver was laid, but the church wasn't dedicated until 1914, after he died. The church, built from mountain stone, is an example of Romanesque style architecture. The lead glass windows are by Young and Bonawitz.

Trinity Episcopal Church
850 West Fourth Street

Built in 1871 by Peter Herdic, originally designed by Fred Thorn, construction was completed under the supervision of Eber Culver. Herdic not only donated the land, but the entire building to the parish. His father–in–law, Judge John Maynard, presented the church with a set of Cambridge Chimes, the first time these chimes were introduced in the United States. This is an example of Victorian-Gothic architecture in which the mountain stone was quarried from nearby Bald Eagle Mountain.

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THE LOST HOUSES OF MILLIONAIRES ROW

White Castle
847 West Fourth Street

Built around 1855 for lumberman Robert Faries. The design was a mixture of Italianate Moorish and Gothic architecture. Because of flooding, the house was built on a raised terrace at the rear of the property, unusual for that time. When Faries died, a fellow lumberman, John White, bought the houseand the building became known as White's Castle. Following White's death in the early 1900's neighbor Roman Way bought the property and had the building demolished for he feared that it was going to be used as a boarder, a euphemism for a house of ill repute.

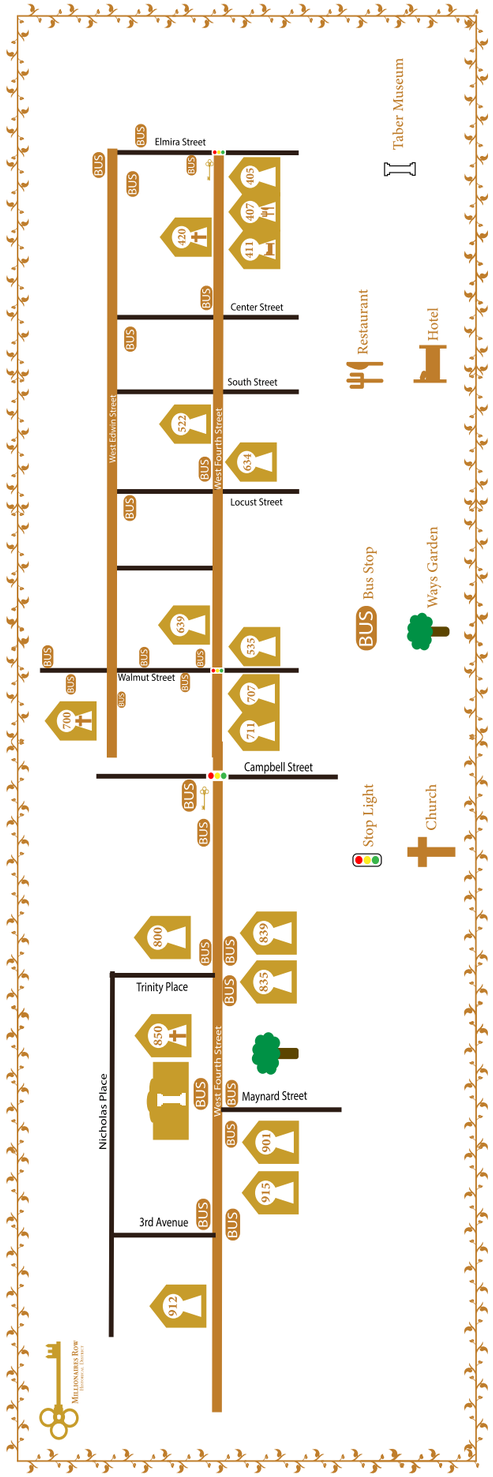
The Way Mansion (Lycoming CountyHistorical Society)
858 West Fourth Street

Built as a federal style farmhouse in 1840 for James Hepburn. Succeeding owners included Judge John Maynard, Peter Heredic, and J. Roman Way. Under these many occupancies the house underwent various changes. The Lycoming County Historical Society bought the property in 1939 and opened its museum in 1941. In 1960, fire destroyed the building. The new Museum was completed in 1968.

The Million Dollar Mansion (The Fisher House)
815 West Fourth Street

Eber Culver built this Itaianate Style mansion in 1866 for Mahlon Fisher. Renowned still life painter, Severin Roesen would stay in this 20 room mansion and paint in exchange for room and board. The house was torn down in 1928 to make way for the YMCA.

THE HOUSES OF MILLIONAIRES ROW



Peter Heredic

Williamsport's premier entrepreneur, Peter Herdic, arrived in the city in 1853 and soon after began his real estate ventures on farmland west of Hepburn Street. Herdic was already involved in the lumber business and on his way to becoming a millionaire when he built his Fourth Street home. Eventually, he owned part of nearly every business in town, including the water works, gas works, newspaper, the Susquehanna Boom Company and the Herdic House Hotel. He was the third mayor of Williamsport. He's known for his philanthropy and also for being the inventor of a horse-drawn carriage called "the Herdic", the forerunner of the taxicab.

Eber Culver

Eber Culver was originally from Ithaca, New York. Culver came to Williamsport to work with Peter Herdic on building homes for West Fourth Street. Culver designed many residential homes and public buildings using a wide variety of architectural styles common to the Victorian Era.

This poster was designed and printed in partnership with:

Lumber Heritage Region

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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WILLIAMSPORT
LYCOMING COUNTY, PA

Millionaires Row
Historical District

Williamsport, Pennsylvania Historical district Presents:

MILLIONAIRES' ROW

WEST FOURTH STREET TOUR

In the late 1800's, lumber was king. During the lumber boom, Williamsport was home to more millionaires per capita than anywhere else in the country. West Fourth Street was the crown jewel of Williamsport as the lumber barons built these magnificent homes and churches along what is now known as Millionaires' Row. Follow along and learn about the rich history of these elegant homes and the lumber barons of Williamsport.

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