

Corporate Sponsors

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MetroWest Medical Center

Framingham Union Hospital • Leonard Morse Hospital



Safety Tips

- Check the "Rating" and "Length" to be sure that you are capable of walking this.
- If possible, walk with someone you know.
- Always know where you are.
- Let someone know where you are walking.
- Use the crosswalks and obey traffic lights.
- Carry a whistle or loud horn and cell phone
- Take water and a snack.
- Don't walk in the dark, trails are for daylight only

Parking

If there is no parking available; find a legal parking spot elsewhere and walk to the start.

Note: Parking is not allowed on private property.

Dog Owners

Keep dogs on leash. Pick up after your dog. It's the law.

Health Tips

- Consult your physician before strenuous exercise.
- Wear comfortable shoes that provide support.
- Eat and drink an hour before walking; bring water.
- Use the restroom before walking (most trails do not have access to bathroom facilities).
- Rest when you are tired.

NOTE

All public parks & trails in Natick are drug and alcohol free. No motorized vehicles. No weapons. No fireworks. No glass containers. No littering. No smoking. No fires.

* Available in alternative formats upon request.

For more information contact
natickwalks@mail.com



Town of Natick Sidewalk Tour Guide

From Downtown

S4 Henry Wilson Historic District

S5 Historic Cemeteries

S6 Henry Wilson Shoe Shop

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S6 Henry Wilson Shoe Shop

Basic Distance:

0.75 miles west along W. Central St. (RT 135) and then another 1.5 mi. west on Pond St and Mill St. to Henry Wilson Shoe Shop.

Start & End Points:

Start on the Natick Common facing Natick Center Graphics. End when you get to Henry Wilson Shoe Shop.

Conditions / Traffic:

Mostly flat with sidewalks; Moderate traffic along RT135; There are 3 traffic lights; Stay on sidewalks on the left side of RT 135 and Pond Street.

Facilities:

No public restrooms outside downtown, although there may be access at stores at Mill St./RT135.

Pay phones possible at Mill St/RT135.

Rating:

Challenge Level: A & I (some portions not handicap accessible).

S4 Henry Wilson Historic District

Begin at Natick Common, facing Natick Center Graphics. Proceed west on W. Central St (RT 135) for 0.75 mi, using left sidewalk. These fine Victorian houses, were the town's leading industrialists' and politicians':

#19 Sheraton Hayes House and **#25** – Carriage House: Richard Hayes built the structures prior to 1849, then sold them to his brother, Sheraton. Richard's shoe factory stood on Summer Street until 1988. **#24** – Herring-Daniels House: This turreted Shingle Style residence has a given date of 1847. Charles Herring lived here in 1853; he frequently entertained his brother, George, a New Hampshire senator and abolitionist. From 1972 - 87, it was a radio station. **#26** – Lucius Monroe House: This Greek Revival structure was built by S. B. Horton and sold in 1840 to Monroe, whose wife was a sister of Mrs. Henry Wilson. **#27** – Senator Walter N. Mason

House: Built ~1861 by William Bigelow and bought by Morse, a state Senator, in 1866. **#28** – Samuel T. Gilmore House: Gilmore lived here in 1874 when water lines were installed. He had a millinery and fancy goods shop in Clark's Block on Main St. **#29** – Nathan Rice House. An educator, he founded a school for foreigners in 1858. **#30** – Colbath-Walker House. George Colbath was a brother of Henry Wilson, who sold him this land in 1849. Colbath learned shoemaking but became a government employee. **#33** – Henry Wilson House. Wilson, the 18th Vice President of the US, built this in 1844. It was left to the VNA in 1952 by Mrs. Bancroft. **#35** – Dr. Charles H. Cook House. Dr. Cook bought the property from William Coolidge, an heir of Henry Wilson, in 1881, and built this Stick-Style residence soon after **#36** – Jonathan Colburn House. Colburn bought the land with his brother, David in 1836, built the house & ran the town's first livery stable. **#37** – Ferrin House. Built by Steven Hayes before 1851, it was owned in 1865 by Francis L. Ferrin, one of first makers of pegged shoes. **#38** – James H. Goodwin House. In 1864, Goodwin, a cordwainer, built this residence on land bought from an heir of Oliver Bacon, author of "A History of Natick" (1856). **#40** – John U. Morse House. Morse, brother of Leonard Morse and a leather cutter by trade, sold this Mansard-roofed house in 1868 to Charles W. Childs. **#43** – Whitney-Daniels House. Freeman Whitney, a shoe manufacturer, had a tannery at the end of Temple Place on Pegan Brook. He built this Greek Revival before the Civil War. **#44** – Walker-Brown House. Built in 1844 by Henry Wilson, the house originally included a shoemaker's shop. The road on the west was "laid out and opened by said Wilson." **#51** – Edwin C. Morse House. Built 1849, by Morse, a shoe manufacturer. Sold in 1867 to Rev. John Walsh, founder of St. Patrick's and Sacred Heart Roman Catholic parishes. **#53** – Royal Farwell House. Built 1831, by George C. Whitney. After many owners, it was sold to Farwell, Morse's partner, who served in the Civil War under General Fiske and was assigned to care for poor black and white refugees stranded by Sherman's march. **#74** – Edward Clark House. A Second Empire ~1870 for Clark, a grocer and co-owner with

father Nathaniel of Clark's Block on Main St. **#76** – Mary Clark Whitney House. Built for Whitney, wife of shoe factory foreman. She lived here until December 1915, when she died two weeks short of her 100th birthday. **#81** – John Cleland House. Built before 1860 by Daniel Wight Childs, this Mansard was sold in 1871 to John Cleland, a merchant, who lived here until 1899. **#83** – O.H. Burleigh House. Burleigh, in the real estate and insurance business, built this ~1878.

- The Historic District ends shortly after Cemetery St, and so does the sidewalk.

S5 To Cemeteries

You can reach the Henry Wilson Shop by continuing West on RT 135, but we suggest:

- Take a left onto Cemetery; go right onto Pond.
- Dell Park Cemetery and Fiske Pond will be on your right; Dell Park is the town's main cemetery, and the final resting place for many of Natick's most important families, including the Walcotts, the Harwoods and the Wilsons.
- St. Patrick's Cemetery and Dug Pond will be on your left. St. Patrick's, recently renovated, is the town's only Catholic cemetery and offers walkers several well-maintained routes.
- To visit the Framingham/Natick Jewish Cemetery, take a left onto Fiske St; cross a few streets and take a left onto Fairview.

Note: There is a Praying Indians Burial Ground on Pond Street about 200 yards west of the Natick Common.

S6 To Henry Wilson Shoe Shop

- Continue past the cemeteries, at lights cross Speen (Mill Street begins). Proceed up Mill; pass the West Natick Baptist Church and West Park all on your left. At the light at RT 135, the Henry Wilson Shoe Shop is across on the left.
- To reach the Framingham line, go left on RT 135 for 1 mile just past Beaver Brook

Content by

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