Overview of the Davenport Civil Rights History Walking Tour

Tour Background

The Davenport Civil Rights Commission partnered with the Putnam Museum, St. Ambrose University and other concerned individuals to seek, to document, pay homage to, and share Davenport’s rich civil rights history with our community, especially the younger generation. As well as persons who may otherwise be unaware of the civil rights struggles and victories that took place right here in Davenport.

Davenport Civil Rights Commission
226 West 4th Street
Davenport IA 52801
Phone (563) 326-7888
TTY (563) 326-7959  Fax (563) 326-7956
www.cityofdavenportiowa.com/civilrights

Experience the Locations where Civil Rights Events Occurred!
Visit the Historical Sites of Civil Rights!

**A** Charles and Ann Toney’s Home
1010 Western Avenue
This is the former home of the recognized leader of Davenport’s Civil Rights History Movement.

**B** Toney’s Barber and Beauty Shop
SW Corner of 11th & Ripley Streets
On this site stood the barber shop which served as an informal meeting place for local civil rights activists.

**C** The Colonial Fountain
NE Corner of Harrison and 12th Sts
On this site stood The Colonial Fountain, where an event happened in 1945 which led to an important civil rights legal victory.

**D** St. Anthony’s Church
417 N. Main Street
Nearly 2,000 parishioners, members of the Catholic Interracial Council, and many other concerned citizens gathered here for a march for equality on August 23, 1963.

**E** Natatorium
104 S. Main Street
On this site stood the former outdoor public swimming pool which black residents were not allowed to use for many years.

**F** LeClaire Park Bandshell
400 W. Beiderbecke Drive
On August 23, 1963, the Catholic Interracial Council, including St. Anthony’s parishioners and other individuals held Iowa’s largest civil rights rally here.

**G** Cook’s Point
W. River Dr. between Schmidt & Howell
Near this marker was a Mexican-American barrio (ghetto) from the 1920’s through the early 1950’s. The residents in the barrio and their living conditions were invisible to most Davenport residents.