Overview of the Davenport Civil Rights History Walking Tour

Project 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 and persons who may otherwise be unaware of the civil rights struggles and victories that took place right here in Davenport.
Come visit the places where historic civil rights events took place!

**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.