Walking Tour
Granville, New York

A self-guided walking tour of Granville showing the many distinctive, creative and unique uses of slate.

17 Water Street
Granville, New York 12832
(518) 642-1417
www.slatevalleymuseum.org

Walking Tour Instructions

A map and instructions are included on the inside of the brochure.

Start at the museum and follow the written directions and/or the map. Corresponding numbers on both the directions and the map indicate and explain points of interest.

The tour takes approximately 1 hour.

Most of the tour (45 min.) is an easy walk on flat ground. It takes you past homes, churches and other landmarks with notables uses of slate. The tour passes several restaurants where you can stop and get a drink or a meal. Please see museum staff for a list of restaurants in the area.

The end of the tour includes an optional section (15 min.) on a somewhat steep hill through an attractive residential area filled with slate roofs and beautiful old homes.

The tour will conclude at the museum.

Before you go:

Roofs, sidewalks, cladding, sculpting, signs, fences and landscaping of slate are visible throughout the village of Granville and the surrounding areas, but due to space only a few of the more spectacular examples are noted in the brochure. Look everywhere, its all around.

The slate you will study on this tour is visible all over the world. Slate can be found on the roof of the Pentagon, in Blair House, the North Portico of the White House, the flooring of the Norman Rockwell Museum, the Kennedy family gravestones, Martha Stewart's innovative interior designs, roofs in California that meet fire proof building codes and cladding on sky scrapers in Japan.

Terms of Interest on the Walking Tour

Cladding-The use of slate panels to side a building, this is one of the rarest architectural uses of slate in the United States. However, in Europe slate cladding is more often an attractive architectural feature.

Sculping-The use of slate to either partially or completely cover the structure. The slate is split, cut, then divided with a wedge giving a rough hewn appearance.

Flagging-slate tile is cut in random shapes, sizes, and thickness. These are used for flooring outside and inside.

Marbleized Slate-Slate is dipped into vats of oil and paint, baked, polished and varnished before baking again. The process of marbleizing slate developed here in Granville in the mid eighteen hundreds, is nearly a lost art.

Sidewalks-Granville, Poultney, Fair Haven and other nearby villages had many sidewalks made up of large slabs of slate. Some of these were laid down over one hundred years ago.

Crushed Slate-One of the newest businesses in the area is crushing colored slate into small pieces for use on walks, driveways, and landscaping. The crushed rock serves for better drainage and makes an attractive alternative to the more traditional crushed stone.

Gabled Roof-A roof with two sloping sides.

Hipped Roof-A roof with four sloped sides.

Mansard Roof-A hipped roof with two sloped. The top typically flat and the lower almost vertical to allow for extra space for attic rooms. The lower slope can be straight, concave or convex.

Jerkinhead Roof-A roof having a sloping (hipped) end cutting off a gable. Also known as a clipped gable roof.
1. Carriage house of the home of slate king Hugh W. Hughes. Purple slate roof. The home stood where the Pember Library and Museum now stands. Turn right at end of bridge on Rathbun Ave. Note the slate windowsills on the brick building on the right. At W. Main St. turn left.


3. Norton House-This home with its intricate red slate roof was built for the slate king E.R. Norton. Continue on W. Main.

4. Franklin Pember House-Mansard Roof. Home of the builder of the Pember Library and Museum. Partially purple slate mansard roof. Note the inlaid slate tiles in the sidewalk. Turn left on Quaker.

5. Veterans Park Bandstand-Foundation of sculpting. Continue on Quaker St.

6. House at corner of Quaker & Irving-colorful patterned gabled roof. Continue on Quaker. Turn left on Bulkley Ave.

7. Granville Assembly of God Church, previously the Welsh Congregational Church. Purple roof with different shaped tiles. Original marbled slate pulpit now in the Slate Valley Museum. Continue on Bulkley Ave.

8. St. Mary’s Church-Purple roof with stripes of red and green scalloping on both the main roof and the steeple. Continue on Bulkley Ave.

9. 23 Bulkley Avenue-Rectory of St. Mary’s Church. Striped mansard roof. Sculping on the portion of the house that connects it to the garage. Turn around and return part of the way down Bulkley Ave. Turn right on Maple Street across from Granville Assembly of God Church. Turn left on Morrison Avenue.

10. 6 Morrison Avenue-Purple mansard roof. Continue on Morrison. At Quaker cross to other side, turn right.

11. 27 Quaker Street-Mansard roof with a striped geometric pattern. Continue on Quaker.

12. Baptist Church-Purple slate roof. Slate steps and side supports. Continue on Quaker.


14. Peniel Presbyterian Church-Striped Roof. Slate gravestones in the cemetery. Two examples to look for are “Amy E.” or “Jeremiah Potter”-both in purple slate. Continue down Quaker to intersection with Mettowee Street.

15. Bishops Corners/Granville Village Marker-Slate slab honors the founders of Granville. Continue on Quaker to Prospect St. Turn right. Continue on Prospect to Glen St. Turn right. Follow Glen to Mettowee. Note house at 3 Mettowee.

16. 3 Mettowee Street–Purple and green mansard roof. Continue on Glen to Main St. Note the slate foundation on the building on the other side of the river as you approach the bridge. Turn left on Main St.

17. Old Granville Pharmacy-Floor of entrance way is flagging. Cladding on the base of the building. Support columns of sculpting. Continue on Main St. to intersection with North St. Look across intersection to East Main St and Old Police Station on North St.

18. East Main Street-Formerly the site of the slate sales office of Hugh G. Williams. He used his roof as a sales tool. The roof facing the street is shingled with one inch thick colored slate utilizing all the colors available in the slate valley. The rear roof is made of standard one quarter inch thick roofing slate.

19. Former Police Station-Multi-colored scalloped roof pattern. Old sirens visible on the top of building. Turn left on North St.


*** If not continuing on the optional residential section of the tour turn around and return down North St., skip #21 and continue following the directions from the *.

21. Residential Area-Optional section (on a somewhat steep hill) through a residential area with beautiful old homes with a variety of slate roofs, sidewalks and other applications of slate. Continue on North St. Turn right on Broadview Terrace. Follow Broadview to the left. At the top of the hill Broadview becomes Columbia Terrace. From Columbia Terrace turn left on East Pine St. Turn right on Rogers St. Turn left on Pine St. Follow Pine as it merges with North St.

* Follow North to Main. Cross North, cross Main and turn right. Continue on Main.


22. Post Office-Slate Steps and cladding on the interior walls. Continue on Main. Turn left just before the old train depot. At end of street turn right. Museum straight ahead.

If you enjoyed this tour consider taking the