GUIDE TO CONYERS

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HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR

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OLDE TOWN CONYERS
HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR

Estimated distance: 1.5 miles
Estimated time: 1 hour
Distance and time may vary based on each individual.

GUIDE TO CONYERS

About the cover: Gailey’s Dry Goods was founded on Center Street in 1899 by Robert Owen Gailey, Sr. After Mr. Gailey’s death in 1936, another family generation took over with Gailey Summers and his brother, Herbert, taking charge. The name of the store was changed shortly thereafter to Gailey’s Department Store and closed in 1979 when Gailey Summers died. It was Rockdale County’s oldest store.

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and found his secret plan had not been discovered. General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping.

Established as a half mile in every direction from the Depot, the city of Conyers in 1854, Rockdale County, was incorporated as a town by the state legislature on February 16, 1854, the city limits were extended by adding parts of nearby Henry and Newton Counties. The first courthouse was constructed in 1852. Alexander Hamilton Stephens, vice-president of the (Southern) Confederate States of America spoke here before the election of 1856. This church and Conyers Presbyterian Church, which was located behind the present day library. The first water system for Conyers residents was constructed around 1900. It is now a prominent feature in the city's (1.5 acre) Lewis Vaughn Botanical Gardens.

GEORGIA HISTORICAL MARKER: FIGHTIN' JOE WHEELER
Located near the entrance of the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library, this marker celebrates the achievements of Major General Joseph Wheeler and his staff. Joseph Wheeler was captured by Union Forces on May 9, 1865 at Flat Rock near Panola Mountain in south Rockdale County. They were brought to the prison camp which was located behind the present day library.

GEORGIA CIVIL WAR HERITAGE TRAILS MARKER
Brigadier General Kenner Garrard brought troops through and burned the previous Depot on July 22, 1864. Nearly four months later, Major General William T. Sherman made his “March to the Sea” by way of Conyers, burning everything in sight.

GEORGIA HISTORICAL MARKER: SHERMAN AT CONYERS
864 Green Street
Located at the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library, this marker details Sherman’s arrival in Conyers. It is rumored that not far from the library, in the backyard of a residence at 973 Green Street on a large rock outcropping, General Sherman read the Augusta newspaper and found his secret plan had not been discovered.

GEORGIA HISTORICAL MARKER: ROCKDALE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
922 Court Street
Sixteen years after the founding of the city of Conyers in 1854, Rockdale County was founded in 1870 from parts of nearby Henry and Newton Counties. The first courthouse was constructed in Colonial Revival style in 1898. The present day Rockdale County Courthouse was built in 1905 Rogers steam locomotive. When Conyers was incorporated as a town by the state legislature on February 16, 1854, the city limits were extended by adding parts of nearby Henry and Newton Counties. The first courthouse was constructed in 1852. Alexander Hamilton Stephens, vice-president of the (Southern) Confederate States of America spoke here before the election of 1856. This church and Conyers Presbyterian Church, which was located behind the present day library. The first water system for Conyers residents was constructed around 1900. It is now a prominent feature in the city's (1.5 acre) Lewis Vaughn Botanical Gardens.

GEORGIA HISTORICAL MARKER: CONYERS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
921 North Main Street NW
Originally the Conyers Methodist Episcopal Church, now Conyers First United Methodist Church, was founded in 1852. Alexander Hamilton Stephens, vice-president of the (Southern) Confederate States of America spoke here before the election of 1856. This church and Conyers Presbyterian Church, which was located behind the present day library. The first water system for Conyers residents was constructed around 1900. It is now a prominent feature in the city's (1.5 acre) Lewis Vaughn Botanical Gardens.

WATER TOWER
Entrance on Commercial Street
The first water system for Conyers residents was constructed around 1900. It is now a prominent feature in the city’s (1.5 acre) Lewis Vaughn Botanical Gardens.

PINE LOG CEMETERY
Entrance via Adams Street, or Pine Log Road.
Located at South Main Street and Pine Log Road, the Pine Log Cemetery's earliest grave marker was placed in 1853. Geocache enthusiasts should be on the lookout for a hidden cache in this historic cemetery and final resting place of some of Conyers’ first settlers.

CENTER POINT PARK
Center Point Park, or Depot Park, was the original location of the Depot before it was destroyed by fire. Adjacent to the present day Depot, it serves as the home of the Dinky locomotive. When Conyers was incorporated as a town by the state legislature on February 16, 1854, the city limits were established as a half mile in every direction from the Depot, the center of town, and thus, Center Point Park.

THE DINKY intersection of Center Street & Green Street
The Milstead 104 “Dinky” is a 1905 Rogers steam locomotive (one of only three left in the world) that transported cotton duck fabric on a three-mile spur between the Depot and Callaway Mills in the nearby community of Milstead. The Dinky ran from 1903 to 1961 before it was sold to the Agrirama in Tifton, GA. In 1983, the Rockdale County Historical Society raised funds to purchase and restore the engine as a monument to the community’s railroad heritage. The Dinky returned to Conyers in time for its welcome home debut at the Olde Town Fall Festival.

OLD JAIL MUSEUM
967 Milstead Avenue
The Old Jail was constructed in 1897. All exterior walls are three bricks thick and all interior walls are two bricks thick. The floor and ceiling of the second floor area are constructed of steel with six inches of concrete above it. The main floor consisted of the sheriff’s office, living quarters of the sheriff and family, and a kitchen. The upstairs housed a jailer’s room that also served as the hanging room. The jail is now used by the Rockdale County Historical Society as a museum.

OLD COCA-COLA BOTTLING PLANT
682 M. Main Street
The Conyers Coca-Cola Bottling Plant operated from April 1907 – December 1967. The expansion of the building in the late 1950s added more than 70 employees. Today, many locals know the building as “The Landmark” office building.

BOTTLING PLANT
882 N. Main Street
The Conyers Coca-Cola Bottling Plant operated from April 1907 – December 1967. The expansion of the building in the late 1950s added more than 70 employees. Today, many locals know the building as “The Landmark” office building.

 historical information compiled for this walking tour was obtained from the following sources:
A History of Rockdale County (1987),
The Heritage of Rockdale County (1998) and Judy Bond, president of the Rockdale County Historical Society, rockdalehistory.org