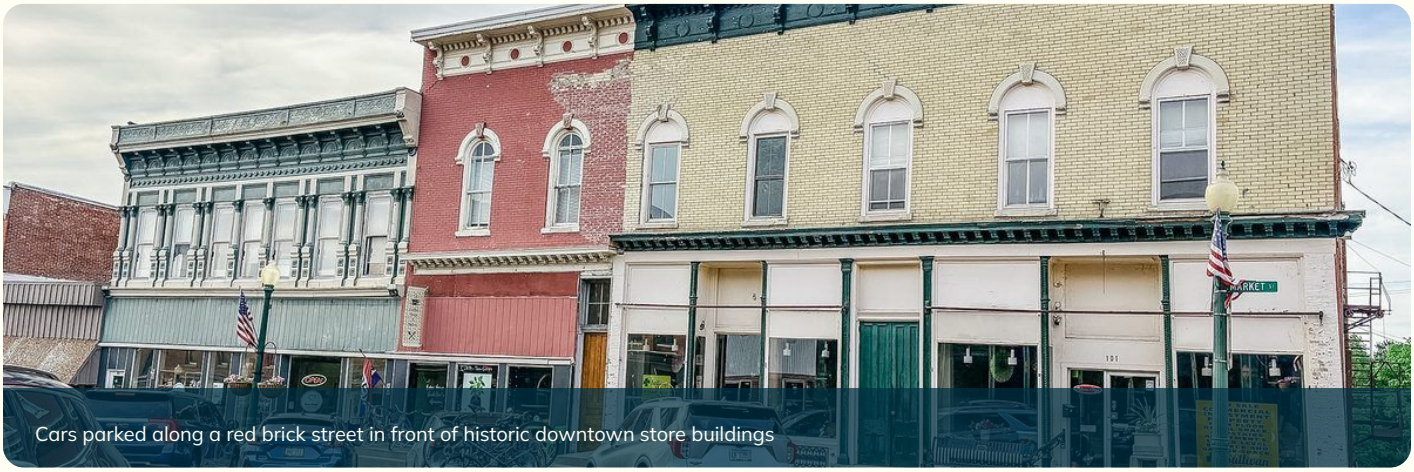
SIGNATURE TRAIL · NORTHWEST ILLINOIS

SMALL-TOWN ANTIQUE & MAIN STREET TRAIL

Four main streets, eight shops and a former piano factory with two floors of dealers. Mount Carroll to Polo to Oregon to Dixon, a hunting trip through the region's best-preserved downtowns, with ice cream halfway and no chain store the entire day.



Cars parked along a red brick street in front of historic downtown store buildings

Full Day	8	3	3
HOW LONG	STOPS	COUNTIES	BEST FOR
		Carroll County, Ogle County, Lee County	Friends, Couples, Budget-Friendly

OPEN ONLINE

Open the live itinerary
visitnwillinois.com/itineraries/small-town-antique-and-main-str...

DAY 1

THE ROUTE

Nobody in Northwest Illinois calls this an antiquing trail; they just tell you which town has the good stuff on which day. This is that conversation, written down and put in driving order. Two rules: bring cash, and call ahead for the by-appointment shops. Half the best inventory in the region is behind a door that opens when the owner is home.

West to east, Mount Carroll to Dixon, about seventy miles end to end. Most shops keep Thursday-to-Saturday hours, so a Friday or Saturday run catches the lot.

DRIVING ROUTE

Open this day in Google Maps

www.google.com/maps/dir/?api=1&origin=42.10...

8 PLANNED STOPS



ATTRACTION

Mount Carroll National Register Historic District

45 min - Mount Carroll

WHY IT BELONGS

Start on foot. More than thirty listed buildings around the courthouse square, and a self-guided tour brochure you can pick up in almost any shop on the street. It is the best-preserved small downtown in the four counties, and it takes twenty minutes to walk.

VIEW THIS PLACE OPEN IN MAPS

Mount Carroll



ATTRACTION

Tina's Ice Cream and Riverview Antiques

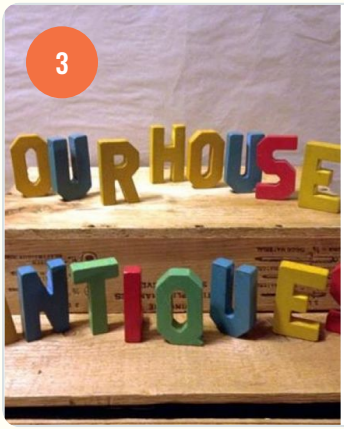
45 min - Mt Carroll

WHY IT BELONGS

Consignment dealers upstairs and down, plus an actual ice cream shoppe doing sandwiches, hot dogs and hard-scoop. The rare antique stop the rest of the family is happy to be dragged into.

VIEW THIS PLACE OPEN IN MAPS

Mt Carroll



SHOPPING

Our House Antiques

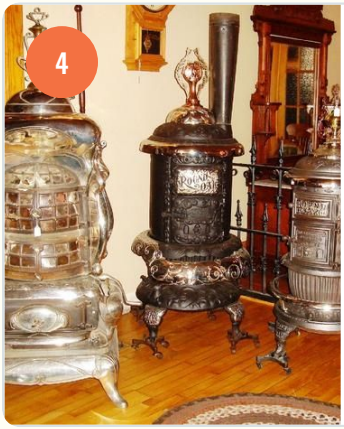
45 min - Polo

WHY IT BELONGS

An in-home shop in Polo running primitive through Victorian, with local handcrafts mixed in. Open Thursday and Friday 10am–7pm and Saturday 10am–5pm. The long Thursday evening is unusual and worth planning around.

VIEW THIS PLACE OPEN IN MAPS

Polo



SHOPPING

Trotter Restorations & Antiques

30 min - Polo

WHY IT BELONGS

The specialist stop: period lighting, architectural hardware, parlor stoves and restoration supplies for old houses. The showroom is open by chance or appointment, so ring first, but if you are fixing a Victorian, this is the one.

VIEW THIS PLACE OPEN IN MAPS

Polo



SHOPPING

Conover Square Mall

1–2 hrs - Oregon

WHY IT BELONGS

The centrepiece. Two floors of owner-operated shops inside Oregon's former piano factory (antiques, resale, boutiques, food) with free parking and posted hours of Monday–Saturday 10am–5pm, Sunday 10am–4pm. Individual shops set their own, so allow slack.

VIEW THIS PLACE OPEN IN MAPS

Oregon



SHOPPING

Oregon Mercantile

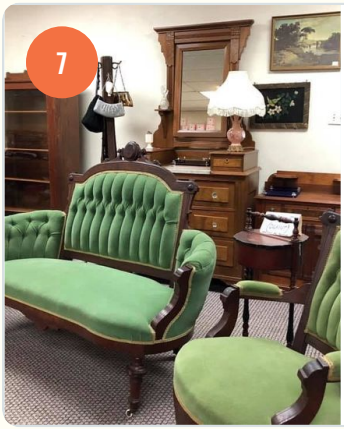
30 min - Oregon

WHY IT BELONGS

On Conover Square's ground floor: antiques and collectibles alongside hunting-and-fishing décor, handmade goods and Walton Wood Farm body care. They also service sewing machines, which tells you what kind of shop it is.

VIEW THIS PLACE OPEN IN MAPS

Oregon



7

SHOPPING

Black Hawk Antiques & Fiber Arts

30 min - Oregon

WHY IT BELONGS

Antiques on one side, handmade fiber art by Illinois makers on the other, and beginner classes when they are running. Open Friday to Sunday 9am–4pm, other times by appointment.

VIEW THIS PLACE OPEN IN MAPS

Oregon



8

SHOPPING

Rusted Relics

45 min - Dixon

WHY IT BELONGS

Finish in Dixon with primitives, vintage furniture and regional finds from a stock that turns over constantly: the sort of shop that rewards a second visit six weeks later.

VIEW THIS PLACE OPEN IN MAPS

Dixon