

- Bishop Hill Tours — Apr. 1-thru Labor Day - The below buildings are open (State Historic Site Buildings) 5 days/week, being closed Mon. and Tuesdays only.

Restrooms located at the Bishop Hill Museum (Krans-south side of town) and Colony Church.

Bishop Hill tours generally begin at the 1854 Steeple Building. We begin with a 14 min. video presentation which highlights the descendants of the Colony who speak about the original Colony, its reasons for coming into existence, when it dissolved etc. and their life in the Colony growing up.

The tour guide can either be a *Step-On*, or a *Walking*. If it's a Step-On the guide actually will step onto the bus and take the microphone and discuss the use of the original Colony Building and many unknown facts about the Colony, its' founding, period technology and the economic climate surrounding the Civil War.



1848 Colony Church – 2nd stop on tour – older photo looks same today. Restrooms are located 25' west of this building.

The first stop will be at the 1848 Colony Church. The tour leader is very knowledgeable and can give your group much important information on this and all buildings. The Colony Church visitors will again continue with the bus around the ball-park to the 1852 Bjorklund Hotel where, again, they will stop the bus and learn about this building and its' many stories.



1852 Bjorklund Hotel – 3rd stop on tour.

The tour guide will lead visitors to the first and up to second floor relaying stories of this buildings' importance. After the Bjorklund Hotel visitors will travel east on Main St. with the tour guide who will continue to discuss Colony history and the tour will conclude at the corner of Bishop Hill St. (north/south st.) and Main. The 1853 Colony Store is right on the corner and the Bishop Hill Bakery just around the corner or P.L. Johnsons Restaurant on the north side of the park. That is basically the tour in a nutshell.

If you have any further questions, I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. My telephone again is: 309-927-3899 and my email is bhha@mymctc.net.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Todd DeDecker - Bishop Hill Heritage Assoc. Administrator