This walking route was created to encourage walking and exploring throughout the beautiful area of Osakis, MN. This map was designed by Active Living Douglas County as part of a series in hopes that each walker may discover more about our great city.
1. **Post Office** – The Post Office is the oldest building in Osakis. In 1864, Donald Stevenson was appointed the first postmaster. In 1901, a fire destroyed all the records. A new building was built. Administration changed in 1915, and Frank Borchert, a democrat, was named postmaster. In 1922, the post office moved down the street, where it stayed for 38 years. Clyde Long took over in 1927, George Grestby in 1935, Paul Kinney in 1960, and Jim Holt in 1961. The post office moved in 1960 to its present location, constructed by Ralph Laven. Curt Aamold has been postmaster since 1993.

2. **Creamery** – The Creamery is 98 years old. In the spring of 1909, Osakis men organized a creamery using the cooperative plan with both area farmers and local businessmen purchasing stock. The first plant was built for $1,590 and opened in June of 1909. In 1914 a new building was built, and expanded again in 1951. In 1973, the dollar volume was one million; today it’s more than 22 million.

3. **Just Like Grandma’s** – Just Like Grandma’s was built in 1902 for $6,000. In 1910, Tom, John and Bill Brown purchased the home. In 1984 it was sold, and Just Like Grandma’s opened on May 25th, 1985. Over 800 people came through the first weekend. In 1987 the barn was converted into an ice cream parlor. The old school building was donated in 1988, and was used for a tea room. A gazebo outdoors opened in 1990. The old summer kitchen was converted into a bakeshop. In 1991 parking was added. In 1998, the conversion of the downstairs tea room to Grandma’s Underground opened. Another house was purchased in 2001, and named Grandma’s Quilt Cottage.

4. **St. Agnes School** – On July 10, 1959, ground was broken for St. Agnes School. The cost of the building was $256,932, and with a generous donation from Peter Rutten, the school was built. In appreciation for the donation, the school was named St. Agnes, after Agnes Rutten. The cornerstone was laid in November, 1959. In May, 1960, Bishop Bartholome came and blessed St. Agnes. St. Agnes opened in September, 1960, with an enrollment of 163 students. A kindergarten was opened in the fall of 1984.

5. **Osakis Elementary School** – The school opened in 1992, replacing the 1915 facility, which was a wood framed brick structure. The school was built on the present school block, for $75,000 on a site purchased for $7,000. When Osakis was a fledgling town in the late 1800’s, the first schoolhouse was a one room log building located on the corner of Nokomis and 1st Avenue West. Although no records exist, it was probably a structure heated by a pot-bellied stove with students sitting on log benches and writing on slates.

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