Mary Todd Lincoln’s Downtown Lexington Quest

Lexington looked very different when Mary Todd was growing up here almost 200 years ago. But some buildings from that time have survived. To find them:

- Start in front of the Mary Todd Lincoln House (10).
- Follow the rhyming direction clues to get to each location on the map.
- Read the information clues (in italics) and fill in the blanks to complete the rhymes. To begin:

Walk left from the front door to Jefferson, then cross Main, walk to Short, and cross over again. Take Short to the right past two streets till you see a dark metal sign to the right of a tree.

1. Mary was b ____ ____ ____ in a house on this spot.
   Her grandma’s house stood at the back of the lot.
   Continue on Short, past the church and Saunier,
   By the Opera House, cross the street named Broadway.
   Go nearly one block, then look left and stop

2. Mary wrote letters to friends far and near,
   To mail them, she came to a p ____ ____ ____ office here.
   Now walk to North Mill, cross there, and turn left,
   Head down Mill past Church Street and a church with some heft.
   Past the church, the brick house with a door on one side
   Was linked to a man who was known nationwide.

3. Henry C ____ ____ ___, a Todd friend, practiced law in this place,
   And then ran three times in the president’s race.
   Keep heading down Mill and cross Second Street
   Past the big gray stone building to a tree-lined retreat.
   Then take the brick walk to the park’s edge at Third
   To gaze at a place where degrees are conferred.

4. This college was Robert Smith Todd’s alma mater,
   He passed on his fondness of books to his d ____ ____ ____ ____
   Go right across Market, and keep heading straight
   Till a corner house looms just beyond a black gate.
5. Its owner, Tom B ___ ___ ___ ___ hired Todd as a clerk, 
But Robert left law for more profitable work.

Cross Second and stop at the first house you see, 
Its dark red door's numbered one-hundred-ninety.

6. John W ___ ___ ___ 's academy stood on this site, 
It was here Mary first learned to read and to write.

Continue on Market past a small parking lot, 
The brick building just beyond that's the next spot.

7. McChord's c ___ ___ ___ ___ held services rather than masses, 
The Todd kids attended its Sunday school classes.

Continue on Market, cross Short Street, and stop 
By a big gray stone building with a clock at the top.

8. To the right is Cheapside, where Robert Todd's store 
Sold groceries, spices, fine liquors, and more. 
This site was also the town p ___ ___ ___ ___ square; 
Lexington's cruel slave market was there.

Pass Cheapside on Short to return to Mill Street, 
Then look across it to your left a few feet.

9. Baked treats and dances at this site drew M ___ ___ ___ 
To Monsieur Giron's famed confectionary.

Turn left, walk down Mill, and turn right onto Main, 
Go one block to Broadway and cross it again. 
Continue up Main back to Jefferson, then 
Cross the street and return to the place you began.

10. In 1832 the T ___ ___ ___'s moved to this place, 
The family was growing and needed more space! 
It's now a museum about Mary's life 
From a Lexington girl to a president's wife.