

Look Up, Arizona!

Walking Tours of
3 Towns in the
Grand Canyon State

A Walking Tour of Phoenix, Arizona

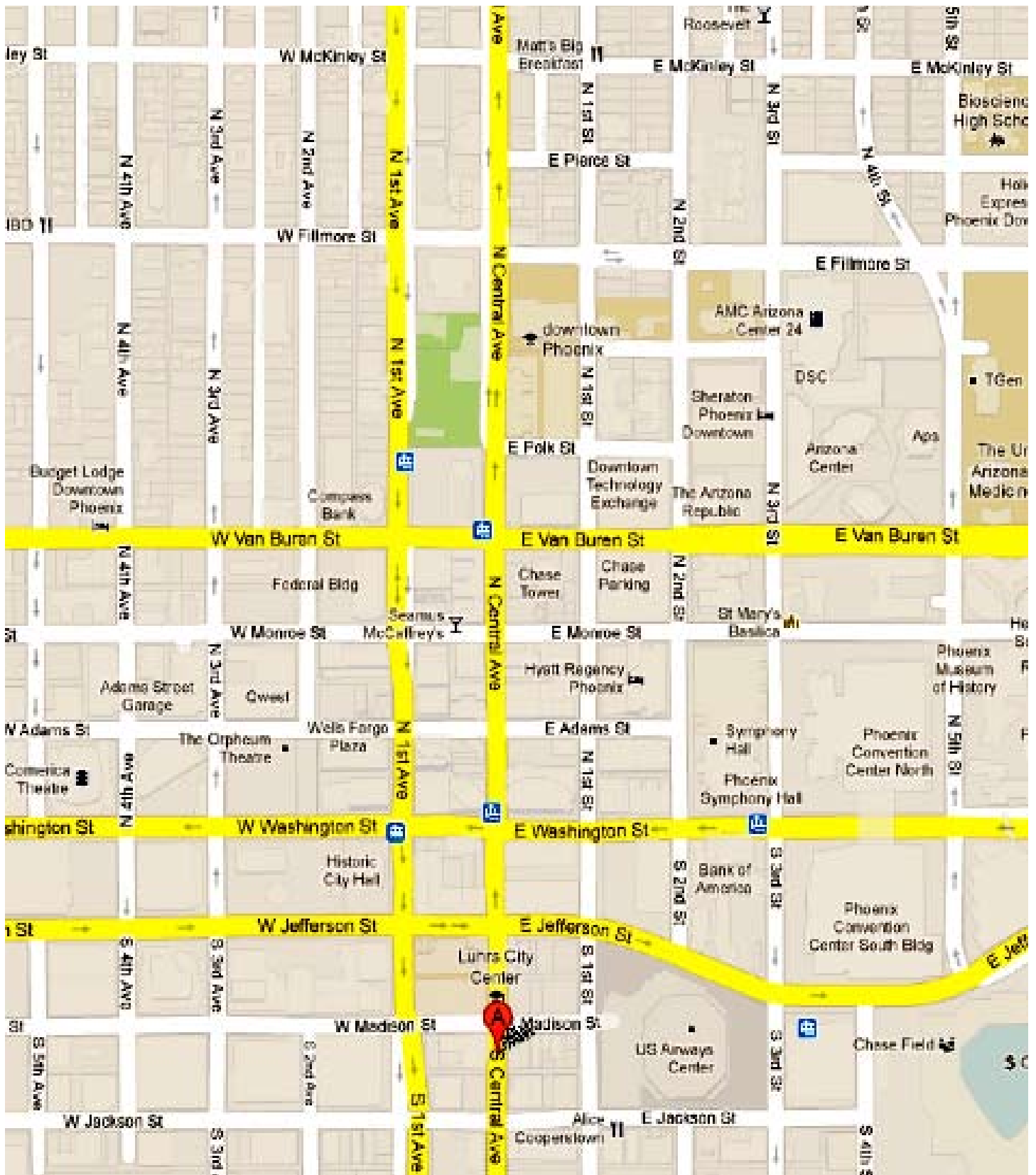
from walkthetown.com

More than 2,000 years ago the Hohokam peoples created the blueprint for modern Phoenix, digging over 100 miles of irrigation canals in the Salt River Valley. The ancient ditches were long abandoned when a pioneer prospector named Jack Swilling saw the valley for the first time in 1867 and his dreams turned from mining to farming. He raised \$10,000 in seed money from the mining camp at Wickenburg for the Swilling Irrigating Canal Company and got to work. The first crops were appearing in the irrigated fields within a year.

Pumpkins did especially well and the emerging community was first referred to as Pumpkinville. Phillip Darrell Duppa, an English native and self-proclaimed Lord, was a friend of Swilling's and an early canal digger with a more classical sensibility and, noting the community's debt to the Hohokam's canal system, he offered the name "Phoenix" for the mythical bird reborn from the ashes of destruction. The name stuck and the town was incorporated in 1881. In 1889 the Territorial Legislature left Prescott for Phoenix, then a village of about 2,000. Ten acres of land were provided one mile west of the town center and the Arizona government has been there ever since.

In 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt signed the National Reclamation Act, allowing dams to block western streams and Phoenicians, still reeling from a Salt River torrent in 1891 that swept into the town center a mile away, eagerly embraced the projects. By 1912 when Arizona became the 48th state and last of the contiguous states to be admitted to the Union the Salt River had disappeared from Phoenix and the streets were paved for the first time. The town of 11,000 inhabitants was connected to the main transcontinental railroad lines and functioning as the region's primary distribution center.

Today almost nothing remains of Territorial Phoenix before statehood. A city of 100,000 people in 1950 that would grow to over 1.3 million before century's end couldn't spend much time looking at the past. But there remain glimpses of 1920s Phoenix tucked into the modern streetscape and we will ferret them out, as well as important newer buildings, on our walking tour that will begin with a work from Arizona's most celebrated architectural team...



1. Maricopa County Courthouse
125 West Washington Street at southwest corner of 1st Avenue



Anchoring this corner and defiantly staring down hovering modern skyscrapers with its 1920s style is the one-time Maricopa County Courthouse and former Phoenix City Hall. The composition was a joint project of the county and the city, each of which provided their own architect. The main section was the courthouse, designed by Edward F. Nield, who hailed from Shreveport, Louisiana. Although most of Nield's work was confined to the Bayou State here he showed a facility with the indigenous Spanish Colonial style and terra cotta tile. The west wing was the City Hall and handiwork of go-to Phoenix architects Royal Lescher and Leslie Mahoney. In their long careers Lescher and Mahoney dabbled in almost every architectural style, and their firm, which at times numbered as many as 65, completed 2,541 commissions in virtually every community in Arizona.

FACING THE COURTHOUSE, TURN RIGHT AND WALK WEST ON WASHINGTON STREET.

2. Phoenix City Hall
200 West Washington Street at northeast corner of 3rd Avenue



The Phoenix City government exited “Old City Hall” in 1962 and moved across the plaza to the boxy Calvin Goode Building. In 1994 it was time to pack bags again and move across the Washington Street to these 20-story digs that was fashioned by the Los Angeles firm of Langdon Wilson. Ernest Clifford Wilson Jr and Robert Langdon were responsible for such disparate structures as the famed J. Paul Getty Museum in Malibu and the Richard M. Nixon Library and Birthplace in Yorba Linda, California.

3. J.W. Walker Building
30 North 3rd Avenue at northwest corner of Washington Street



Lee Mason Fitzhugh designed this ornate Beaux Arts structure with exquisite Corinthian columns to be the base of an eight-story high-rise for developer J.W. Walker in 1920. The counted-on financing never came through and construction stopped at the two stories seen today. With the original plans scuttled, a parade of tenants moved in, beginning with a branch store of the J.C. Penney Company. Looming in the background is the Phoenix Municipal Courthouse; when it was constructed in 1999 part of the deal was the restoration of the classically-inspired Walker Building.

4. Comerica Theatre
400 West Washington Street at northwest corner of 4th Avenue



This was the Dodge Theatre when it opened in 2002 as a 5,500-seat mid-size performance venue. In 2010 Dallas-based bank Comerica took over the naming rights.

TURN RIGHT ON 4TH AVENUE AND WALK TWO BLOCKS TO MONROE STREET.

5. Grand Lodge of Arizona, Free and Accepted Masons
345 West Monroe Street at southeast corner of 4th Avenue



Masonry traces its origins to the first centuries of 1700s France. Today there are 11,000 Masons in Arizona and Lodge #2 here dates to 1879. This Neoclassical hall, accented with Ionic pilasters, has been the meeting place for the Masons since 1926; it is the work of architect F.C. Hurst.

6. Historic First Presbyterian Church
402 West Monroe Street at northwest corner of 4th Street



The Presbyterian congregation was the first church of any denomination to be incorporated in Arizona, back in 1879. The current meetinghouse dates to 1927 when the stretch of Monroe Street between 2nd and 4th avenues was known as “Church Row” with three other churches holding services close by. Today only the Spanish Renaissance church of the Presbyterians functions as a house of worship on Church Row. Spreading out over 60,000 square feet, the church cost \$400,000 to erect and includes a full gymnasium on the third floor.

TURN RIGHT ON MONROE STREET.

7. First Baptist Church
302 West Monroe Street at northwest corner of 3rd Avenue



The Phoenix Baptists erected this crisp Italian Gothic church in 1929, fashioned from plans drawn by George Merrill working with the Department of Architecture of the American Baptist Home Mission Society back in New York. What you are looking at is only the movie-set version of the church building - it was gutted by a fire in the 1990s and no longer sports a roof. But before it could be bulldozed down Phoenix got the facade listed on the National Register of Historic Places so it still stands.

TURN RIGHT ON 3RD AVENUE. TURN LEFT ON ADAMS STREET.

8. Orpheum Theatre
203 West Adams Street



Architects Royal Lescher and Leslie Mahoney blended Spanish Revival and Baroque Revival elements for this showcase downtown theater in 1929. Impresario Henry Nace, a one-time circus acrobat who would own some 30 theaters across Arizona, and his partner J.E. Rickards poured \$750,000 into its creation to present vaudeville acts and live stage productions. The exotic interior was typical of the atmospheric theaters of the day that transported patrons on fantasies of the mind as they experienced the shows. The Orpheum was converted into an 1,800-seat movie palace and eventually suffered the same fate as its downtown cousins across the country in a losing war with suburban malls and television. The Orpheum was one of the lucky ones however, dodging the wrecking ball and picking up a \$14 million facelift to re-open in 1997.

TURN LEFT ON 1ST AVENUE.

9. Title and Trust Building/Orpheum Lofts
112 North 1st Avenue at northwest corner of Adams Street



Royal Lescher and Leslie Mahoney assembled Arizona's largest office building here in 1931, designing the Art Moderne confection in a U-shape and appointing the interior with generous amounts of travertine tile, marble and etched glass. The 1st Avenue entrance is lorded over by regal pylons. The architects were pleased enough with the results to make their offices here for more than 30 years. When its days as an office tower fizzled the building's interior was completely reconfigured for residential use but the exterior, including the windows, was unaltered.

CONTINUE ON 1ST AVENUE TWO BLOCKS TO VAN BUREN STREET AND TURN RIGHT. AT CENTRAL AVENUE LOOK NORTH (YOUR LEFT) TO SEE...

10. Hotel Westward Ho
612 North Central Avenue



The 16-story Westward Ho held the title of tallest building in Arizona from its opening in 1928 until 1960. From the curb to the roof measured 208 feet; the 240-foot steel tower and 40-foot antenna came along in 1949 to send out signals for Phoenix's first broadcast television station, KPHO-TV. The Mediterranean-flavored hotel operated until 1980, during which time it took roles in several Hollywood productions including *Pocket Money* from 1972 where Paul Newman heaves a television off a fourth floor balcony and *Bus Stop*, a 1956 Marilyn Monroe starrer which included parade scenes shot in front of the Westward Ho. One movie in which the hotel does not appear, although it is commonly assumed to have done so, is the opening sequence of Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* where the flyover of the Phoenix skyline pans by the Hotel San Carlos down the street.

TURN RIGHT AND HEAD SOUTH ON CENTRAL AVENUE.

11. Security Building
234 North Central Avenue at southwest corner of Van Buren Street



Reaching a rooftop height of 108 feet, this was briefly the tallest building in Phoenix when it was completed in 1928. Ohio-born architect Claude Beelman, who did much to shape the streetscape of Los Angeles, provided the Renaissance Revival design. The money man was Dwight B. Heard, one of the largest landowners in the Salt River Valley who sold cattle, alfalfa, cotton and citrus fruits from his ranch south of Phoenix. The modernist, bunker-like apparition on the roof was an apartment built in 1958 by Walter Bimson, founder of the Valley National Bank. To Bimson, the look of his banks was almost as important as the money they generated and to that end he took pains to make sure each branch was a modernist contribution to the Phoenix landscape.

12. Chase Tower

201 North Central Avenue at northeast corner of Monroe Street



Whereas the Secutiry Building represented the limits of Phoenix skyscrapers in the 1920s, Chase Tower across the street has been the tallest building in Arizona since 1972. It was constructed for Walter Bimson's Valley National Bank on plans drawn by the prominent Los Angeles-based architectural firm Welton Becket and Associates. At 483-feet the glass curtain wall tower is the tallest building between Los Angeles and San Antonio, Texas.

13. Hotel San Carlos

202 North Central Avenue at northwest corner of Monroe Street



Charles Harris and Dwight D. Heard kickstarted the creation of the San Carlos Hotel, which celebrated its grand opening on March 19, 1928. It came with a price tag of \$850,000 and was constructed on the grounds of the first school in Phoenix, a four-room adobe lesson center raised in 1874. Guests to the San Carlos could enjoy the first air conditioning in Phoenix and it is still functioning as a guest house in the internet age. The San Carlos has gained national renown among ghost hunters in search of the spirit of Leone Jensen. Jensen, in her early twenties, jumped to her death (or was she pushed by an abusive boyfriend or romantic rival?) from the San Carlos less than two months after the hotel opened.

14. Professional Building

137 North Central Avenue at southeast corner of Monroe Street



This splash of Art Deco joined the Phoenix streetscape in 1932 as a place where the Maricopa County Medical Society could gather medical, dental and laboratory offices. At the same time the Valley Bank and Trust Company was seeking new quarters so they took the lower three floors and the medical offices consumed the upper seven. The 171-foot Professional Building plays up its verticality with streamlined elements and setbacks at the top. It is dressed in Indiana limestone on the lower levels and joined by concrete above painted to simulate limestone.

15. Heard Building

112 North Central Avenue



In addition to owning a good chunk of the land south of Phoenix, Dwight B. Heard purchased the 22-year old *The Arizona Republican* in 1912. Today, as the *Arizona Republic*, it is the state's largest newspaper. Heard published the *Republican* until his death in 1929 and constructed the first high-rise in Phoenix in 1920 to house his newspaper operations. The building was designed by Llewellyn Adelbert Parker, raised in Los Angeles and educated at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. With his engineering degree in hand Parker returned to the West and distinguished himself by building bridges, including the longest contract girder bridge in the world across the Salt River in Phoenix.

TURN LEFT ON ADAMS STREET.

16. Hanny's

40 North 1st Street at southwest corner of Adams Street



Hyman Goldberg founded a store in Yuma in 1864 and ten years later was running the first permanent general merchandise store in Phoenix. In 1939 his grandson Chester wedded his operation with that of Vic Hanny to form Hanny's. In 1947 the business moved into this new home created by Royal Lescher and Leslie Mahoney that was heralded as "the most modern building in the Southwest" and lauded as the finest International Style commercial structure in Arizona. Hanny's helped usher in the age of modern architecture in Phoenix and outfitted Phoenicians in sophisticated menswear until 1986. After the shoppers filed out the City acquired the building and regularly torched it as training for aspiring firefighters. Today the landmark building has been resuscitated as an eatery.

17. Symphony Hall

75 North 2nd Street



The Phoenix Symphony began presenting concerts around town on a sporadic basis in 1947. In 1972 the musicians got their own venue in the Phoenix Civic Plaza. Symphony Hall, which is also home for Arizona Opera and Ballet Arizona, took a star turn five years later in Clint Eastwood's *The Gauntlet* playing Phoenix City Hall which Clint treats rudely by driving his hijacked bus into. A generation later both Symphony Hall and Eastwood's bus received makeovers - the 2,837-seat venue got an \$18.5 million dollar renovation and *The Gauntlet* bus was rescued by a couple who spent \$60,000 removing hundreds of bullet holes and restoring it as a recreational vehicle.

TURN LEFT ON 2ND STREET. TURN RIGHT ON MONROE STREET.

18. St. Mary's Basilica

231 North 3rd Street at northeast corner of Monroe Street



Circuit-riding priests of the Franciscan order conducted the first Catholic services in Phoenix in 1872. Work began on an adobe church on this site in 1880 and was shepherded to completion by Eduard Gerard, the first priest ordained in Arizona. The Church of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary would remain the town's only Catholic parish until 1924. The adobe church was torn down in 1902 and replaced by a "basement church" that functions as a social hall today. Work picked up on the current structure, one of the state's best Mission Revival buildings, a decade later and dedication took place on February 11, 1915. The design features four domes spread across the structure and includes the largest collection of stained glass in Arizona. In 1987 St. Mary's was elevated to a minor basilica, the 32nd basilica in the United States and the only one in Arizona.

TURN RIGHT ON 3RD STREET.

19. Phoenix Convention Center

100 North 3rd Street



As late as the 1960s the city's biggest cultural and theatrical events were staged in high school auditoriums. To foster growth and become a major player on the national scene a first class convention center was a must and it became a reality in 1972. Since then Phoenix has grown exponentially and the event space has kept pace. It now covers 24 acres with over 300,000 square feet of exhibit space, decorated to mimic the Sonoran landscape.

TURN RIGHT ON WASHINGTON STREET.

20. Fry Building

146 East Washington Street at northwest corner of 2nd Avenue



Phoenix does not claim many souvenirs from the 19th century but here is one, considered the earliest commercial building still standing in the town. The core of the two-story structure was raised in 1885; it was expanded northward in the first years of the 1900s. It has since absorbed modern appearances for its street level shops.

TURN LEFT AT FIRST STREET AND WALK ONE BLOCK TO JEFFERSON STREET. AT THE CORNER, LOOK LEFT DOWN THE STREET TO SEE...

21. Chase Field

401 East Jefferson Street



Baseball's Arizona Diamondbacks have played every one of their home games in this stadium that was the first built in the United States with a retractable roof (Toronto and Montreal each had one at the time). Bank One Ballpark, as it was known from its birth until 2005, was the first to boast natural grass, however. Ground was broken on the park in 1995 and completed just in time for the opening pitch of the 1998 season, the inaugural campaign for the expansion Diamondbacks who celebrated a World Series championship in just their fourth season.

IN FRONT OF YOU IS...

22. U.S. Airways Center
201 East Jefferson Street



When the Phoenix Suns joined the National Basketball Association in 1968 they became the first professional sports franchise in Arizona, a distinction the Suns would hold for twenty years. Games were played at the Arizona Veterans Memorial Coliseum, as they would be for the next quarter-century before the team moved to this facility prior to the 1992 season. That season the Suns, led by league Most Valuable Player Charles Barkley, went to the NBA Finals where they lost to Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls. Despite owning basketballs' fourth best all-time winning percentage the Phoenix Suns have still never captured an NBA Championship.

TURN RIGHT ON JEFFERSON STREET.

23. Jefferson Hotel/Barrister Place Building
101 South Central Avenue at southeast corner of Jefferson Street



As any fan of Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* knows the eerie cabins of the Bates Motel are not the only hotel rooms featured in the classic thriller from 1960. The movie begins, after a panoramic tour of Phoenix, in the Jefferson Hotel where Janet Leigh and Sam Loomis scheme to steal \$40,000 that sends her driving off to Anthony Perkins' out-of-the way motel. Before the Jefferson was constructed in 1915 a large adobe trading post sat here. In the 1990s the Renaissance Revival structure became home to the Phoenix Police Museum which told the history of the local force from a single room until it skipped over to the old city hall.

24. Luhrs Building

11 West Jefferson Street at southwest corner of Central Avenue



Here is another in the progression of Phoenix “Sky Kings” - the Luhrs Building held the title of city’s tallest building from 1924 until 1927. In 1867 George Henry Nicholas Luhrs decided to skip out on an invitation to join the Prussian Army and come to America to chase gold. He eventually gave up, found his way to Phoenix and opened a wagon-making business and stable with a partner on this corner. In 1887 the partners opened a 20-room hotel which Luhrs eventually gained control over and named it after himself. He spent more than a half-million dollars to construct this office tower, the top four floors of which housed the cushy Arizona Club. Henry Charles Trost, one of the Southwest’s leading architects working out of El Paso, tapped the Second Renaissance style for his three-part high-rise rendered in dark brown brick and white marble.

25. Luhrs Tower

45 West Jefferson Street at southeast corner of 1st Avenue



George Luhrs, having suffered a stroke, was only two months away from death when ground was broken for this 14-story skyscraper in 1929. Once again Henry Charles Trost was called in and this time he delivered one of the town’s best specimens of Art Deco architecture, infused with Spanish Colonial influences. Luhrs’ son, George Jr., carried on the family property development tradition until his death in 1984.

TURN RIGHT ON 1ST AVENUE AND WALK ONE BLOCK TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

A Walking Tour of Tucson, Arizona

from walkthetown.com

A company of Spanish conquistadors, led by a mercenary Irishman named Hugh O'Connor, built a small fort on a shelf of land overlooking the east side of the Santa Cruz River in 1775. For the first 100 years of its existence life in Tucson had a decidedly martial flavor under Spanish rule, under Mexican rule and under American rule. Even after the settlement moved outside the fortress walls there was fighting between Confederate troops and Union supporters during the Civil War and the threat of attacks from the Apaches was a real menace for decades. It wasn't until the 1880s and the arrival of the railroad that the military presence in Tucson receded into memory.

By 1900 Tucson's population had edged above 7,000 and it was the largest town in the Arizona Territory - a distribution center for livestock and crops and newly discovered minerals. When Arizona entered the Union in 1912 Tucson was the first city of the 48th state, although it would shortly be eclipsed by Phoenix.

The county seat of Pima County began gathering a national reputation as a health and winter resort, favored especially by "lungers," as visitors with respiratory ailments to the dry heat of the Sonoran Desert were known locally. While the population of Tucson grew steadily by 1950 you could still clamber atop the roof of a three-story building and have an unobstructed view of the entire city.

Spurred by suburban sprawl and federal funds for rebuilding American downtowns, Tucson became an enthusiastic player in urban renewal in the 1960s. Even after preservationists woke up and recommended the saving of 75 buildings in 1969, 68 were torn down. Our walking tour of downtown Tucson will seek out those expressions of Southwest architecture that still remain and we will begin where the town began over 230 years ago, which has been rebuilt to look like it looked back then...

1. Presidio San Agustín del Tucson

33 West Washington Street at southeast corner of Church Avenue



After American settlement began in Tucson in 1856 the walls of the original fortress constructed by Spanish conquistadors was gradually dismantled with the final section being removed in 1918. In 2007 the northeast corner of the original fort was reconstructed on its original site using traditional earth brickmaking techniques - minus the nine-foot trench that was created 200+ years ago in digging out the dirt for the 10-foot adobe walls. An historical timeline of the history of Tucson has been created through the re-created presidio.

**WITH YOUR BACK TO THE PRESIDIO ON WASHINGTON STREET, TURN LEFT.
TURN LEFT ON COURT AVENUE AND MAKE A QUICK RIGHT ON TELLES STREET.**

2. Old Town Artisans

201 North Court Avenue at northwest corner of Telles Street



This was once the stable area for El Presidio San Augustin del Tucson and the site of some of the town's earliest adobe structures after American occupation in the late 1850s. The buildings have been converted to shops and galleries today and you can still see makeshift ceilings crafted with saguaro cactus ribs, packing crates, and whiskey barrel staves. Also visit a Spanish-style courtyard and a converted 1920s filling station.

3. La Casa Cordova
end of Meyer Avenue and Telles Street



You could be looking at the oldest standing building in Tucson, whose two back rooms may have been constructed before the Gadsden Purchase of 1854 when this was a Sonoran village in Mexico. Historians peg that belief on a small structure that seems to be appear on the earliest known map of Tucson, drawn by Major D. Ferguson and by stories told by the Cordova family which acquired the property in 1936. True or not, the single-story, flat-roofed adobe house with doorways spilling directly onto the street is representative of tradition Mexican village houses. Note the splash of style added by the lintels above the door and window openings.

TURN RIGHT ON MEYER AVENUE. AT WASHINGTON STREET TURN LEFT AND WALK A FEW STEPS TO SEE...

4. Leonardo Romero House
1104 West Washington Street



The original Presidio wall ran along today's Washington Street and parts of this adobe dwelling from the 1860s that sits flush with the street may even contain parts of it. It carries the name of the first known residents; Leonardo Romero was a skilled carpenters whose handiwork graces several early Tucson landmarks. The structure itself has been much altered in its 150 years, serving many masters.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS ON WASHINGTON STREET, CROSS MEYER AVENUE AND TURN LEFT ON COURT AVENUE.

5. El Charro Cafe
311 North Court Avenue



Jules Flin was a celebrated French stone mason who came to Tucson to build St. Augustine Cathedral and stayed to construct many buildings around town, including this one in 1896 that was the family home. Flin used black volcanic basalt rock to craft the residence, hauled from his claim on nearby Sentinel Peak. Monica Flin was the eldest in a brood of eight. She married and resettled in Mexico but after a second husband died in 1922 she returned to Tucson at the age of 35 and opened a one-room restaurant she named “El Charro” after the skilled horsemen she admired in Mexico. The restaurant thrived, skipping around town until 1968 when Monica Flin brought the eatery back to her homestead. Monica, who is well-known as “The Inventor of The Chimichanga,” was followed into the business by her niece and great niece and today the award-winning El Charro Cafe lays claim to being the oldest family-run Mexican restaurant in America.

TURN LEFT ON FRANKLIN STREET AND WALK TWO BLOCKS TO MAIN AVENUE.

6. Rosalia Verdugo House
323 North Main Street at northeast corner of Franklin Street



This traditional Sonoran adobe house covered in stucco was raised in 1877 with walls two feet thick. Although today it sports a modern roof you can still see the canales (drain pipes) that channeled any water off the roof onto Main Avenue.

7. **Kruttschnitt House**

297 North Main Street at southeast corner of Franklin Street



This elegant residence began life in the 1870s as a flat-roofed adobe similar to others in the neighborhood but took on Victorian airs as North Main Avenue evolved into the town's most-sought after residential address, soon known as Snob Hollow. This one was gussied up by Julius and Marie Kruttschnitt after they purchased the house in 1912. Kruttschnitt was born in New Orleans and educated at Yale University. He was only 27 when he acquired this property, having come to Tucson to helm the American Smelting and Refinery Company. The Kruttschnitt House was treated roughly in middle age, being subdivided into apartments but its graceful dignity has been restored as a bed and breakfast.

8. **Steinfeld Mansion**

300 North Main Avenue at southwest corner of Franklin Street



Few structures in town pack as much history inside its walls as this Spanish Mission-style hacienda. Start with the building itself and its architect, Henry Charles Trost. Trost hailed from Ohio where he attended art school and worked as an architectural draftsman. He worked his way around the West, developing a hankering for the design of the early Spanish missions of Northern Mexico and the American Southwest. He arrived in Tucson in 1899 when he was 39 and only stayed a few years before moving on to El Paso where he re-shaped that downtown as he became one of the country's most prolific designer. Trost was hired to construct this building in 1900 by the Owl's Club, that was formed by 13 Tucson movers and shakers in 1886. The Owls all had one thing in common - they were single men and it was not an easy thing to find a "suitable" wife in rough-and-tumble Tucson so the club was designed to promote their love lives. The frontier Club-Med stayed here only briefly before moving up to 378 North Main Avenue (you can take a quick detour to the next block to see their ornate next digs) and twelve of the 13 original Owls eventually did get hitched. The next owners of the brick and stucco mansion, in 1904, were Albert and Bettina Steinfeld. Steinfeld was born in Germany in 1854 but his family sailed for New York City when he was only eight years old. In 1876 he came to Tucson to work in his uncle William Zeckendorf's store. A

decade earlier, acting on a tip that Tucson was a booming town with no supplies, Zeckendorf's brother Louie had loaded up 12 wagons of merchandise and set off on a four-month trip through Apache country from Albuquerque to peddle his wares. He indeed sold out his inventory. The next year he repeated his trip but when the goods didn't move he opened a store instead. Family lore insists that the mild-mannered Steinfeld was so taken back by his first days in Tucson he was moved to tears. Among other things his colorful uncle was a hard-scrabble vigilante not unfamiliar with lynching parties. But Steinfeld persevered in the business and in 1904 opened the town's go-to department store at Pennington Street and Stone Avenue that was a Tucson institution until 1984.

TURN LEFT ON MAIN AVENUE.

9. E. Cheyney House 252 North Main Avenue



24-year old David Holmes came to Tucson in 1898 to teach mechanical drawing at the Territorial University School of Mines, today the University of Arizona. Five years later, rather than pay to hire an architect, the school asked Holmes to design a gymnasium, still around today as Herring Hall. The small Roman Revival building was so well received that Holmes was given greater responsibility in developing the nascent campus. In 1905 when Tucson's leading designer Henry Trost took off to El Paso, Holmes took the plunge and hung out his own architectural shingle with his brother Jack handling much of the business side. Holmes and Holmes quickly became the town's go-to architects, designing over 30 buildings around downtown before David moved on to San Diego in 1912. David Holmes was among the most versatile of early Tucson designers and here he fashioned a Flemish-inspired residence for Annie Cheyney, the widow of postmaster George Cheney.

10. Hughes House 221 North Main Street



Brought to Pennsylvania from his native Wales, Sam Hughes had such a thick accent that he quit school after three days rather than endure the taunts of classmates and instead went to work in a

cotton factory when he was 12 years old. Like thousands of other young Eastern men he headed for California to chase gold but found his fortune slinging hash and stew as a cook rather than sifting prospecting pans. Hughes arrived in Tucson in 1858 on his way to Texas to run cattle when he was 29 but he didn't expect to see 30 as he was stricken with tuberculosis. In the Sonoran Desert he found his lungs clearing and he stayed to open a butcher shop and supply meat to the army camps and stage line inns. Hughes would live another 60 years, along the way investing in mining, newspapers, flour mills and gobbling up huge swaths of desert real estate as he became one of the Territory's richest men. When he was 32 he fell in love with Atanacia Santa Cruz, not yet 12 years old, and they married in 1862. They built the core of this Greek Revival-flavored adobe house shortly thereafter and it grew significantly as Atanancia bore 15 children, 10 of whom survived beyond infancy.

11. J. Knox Corbett House

180 North Main Street at southeast corner of Washington Street



J. Knox Corbett followed his brothers to Tucson from South Carolina in 1881. William Corbett was appointed Postmaster and J. Knox slid into the position of assistant Postmaster in 1883, rising to the top spot in 1890. Four years later he started J. Knox Corbett Lumber which helped pay for this Mission Revival home in 1907. Corbett served as mayor of Tucson from 1915 until 1917, starting a family political legacy that included his son Hiram who was a state Republican operative and his nephew who was also a mayor. Hiram Corbett brought spring training baseball to Tucson in 1947 when he convinced Bill Veeck to switch his Cleveland Indians training camp from Florida to Arizona; the town's municipal baseball stadium is named for Hi Corbett. The house remained in the Corbett family for over 50 years and now is administered by the Tucson Museum of Art.

12. Duffield-Stevens House/Fish House

151/119 North Main Street at northeast corner of Alameda Street



These two 1860s adobe structures are today wedded under the auspices of the Phoenix Museum of Art that caretakes five pioneer properties on its "Historic Block," including the already seen

Cordova House, Romero House and Corbett House. Hiram Stevens was a larger-than-life character around whom the politics of Tucson swirled and Edward Nye Fish was a New Bedford, Massachusetts man who sailed a ship around Cape Horn during the California Gold Rush loaded with pre-cut and ready-to-assemble lumber to build much-needed houses in San Francisco. Both arrived in Tucson in 1865 and during their stays in these well-to-do 19th century houses each entertained lavishly. The Stevens story, however, did not end happily. During the financial Panic of 1893 that swept the country he shot his wife and then himself; she survived, Hiram did not.

TURN LEFT ON ALAMEDA STREET.

13. City Hall

255 West Alameda Street



The city government moved into this modern Brutalist style, 10-story home in 1967. The price tag was \$1.9 million.

LOOK BEYOND CITY HALL TO SEE...

14. Sentinel Peak/A Mountain

southwest of downtown Tucson across Santa Cruz River



Sentinel Peak is a 2,897-foot basaltic ridge that takes its name from the days when a look-out was stationed on the mountain by the Presidio of Tucson to keep a wary eye out for Apache invaders. Basalt rock was often carted down the mountain to build walls and foundations in Tucson. Today many know the volcanic remnant as A Mountain, stemming from a 1916 whitewashing of rock forming the letter “A” by University of Arizona students. Since September 11, 2001 the traditionally white “A” has been painted red, white and blue in an expression of patriotic solidarity that happens to coincide with the school colors.

CONTINUE EAST ON ALAMEDA STREET AND TURN RIGHT ON CHURCH AVENUE.

15. Pima County Courthouse

115 North Church Avenue between Alameda and Pennington streets



This is the third courthouse to stand on this ground; the first was an adobe structure erected in 1868, the year after Tucson had been designated capital of Arizona Territory. Architect Roy Place blended Spanish Colonial and Moorish influences for this courthouse in 1929. Place learned his architecture in Chicago and Boston before coming to Tucson at the age of 30 in 1917. For the next three decades he would do more to shape the look of Tucson's streetscape than any other designer. Most of Place's Spanish Colonial creations have disappeared and the Pima County Courthouse stands as the best example of his work. Dressed in pink stucco, the massive cement dome is layered with colorful ceramic tile.

16. One South Church

1 South Church at southeast corner of Congress Street



This is the tallest building in Tucson and the thirteenth tallest in the state. Completed in 1986 it stands 330 feet tall.

TURN LEFT ON CONGRESS STREET.

17. Fox Tucson Theater
17 West Congress Street



The Fox began life on April 11, 1930 with a screening of the romantic musical *Chasing Rainbows* that introduced the song “Happy Days Are Here Again.” Arizona film impresario Nicholas Diamos built the theater but before it opened Fox Studios offered to buy the movie house. The offer was “sell or we will build a larger theater across the street.” Designed by Eugene Durfee, the Fox is considered the only Southwestern Art Deco movie palace. It followed a similar life arc to its fellow downtown movie theater cousins across the United States and was done in by suburban malls and television in the 1960s and 1970s. It was one of the lucky ones, however, and dodged demolition long enough after its closing in 1974 to receive a \$13 million preservationist makeover.

18. Consolidated National Bank/Chase Bank
2 East Congress Street at southeast corner of Stone Avenue



This was Tucson’s first skyscraper, raised in 1929 and completed just 18 days before the New York stock market crashed. Consolidated National Bank was the oldest and largest bank in the city welding Tucson’s first banking house, The Pima County Bank with the bank of D. Henderson. Master architects Albert R. Walker and Percy A. Eisen came from Los Angeles to provide the Beaux Arts styling for the banking temple that is fashioned with brick and cream-colored terra cotta on its show sides. A slender red-tiled roof hangs over the edges. Walker and Eisen followed the convention that had been followed for forty years in designing skyscrapers to resemble a classical three-part column with a defined base (the elaborate ground floors) a shaft (the unadorned center floors) and a capital (the ornate upper floors and cornice). It was an old-fashioned way to build skyscrapers in 1929 and would seldom be seen again but was new to Tucson.

TURN RIGHT ON STONE AVENUE. TURN LEFT ON BROADWAY BOULEVARD.

19. U.S. Courthouse

55 East Broadway Boulevard at northwest corner of Scott Avenue



No grand columns or temple-like pediments for this federal building that was constructed in 1929 to house the post office on the ground floor and court rooms above. The Neoclassical detailing from James Wetmore, Supervising Architect of the Treasury, is so unassuming you have to look hard to find the main entrance.

TURN LEFT ON SCOTT AVENUE. TURN RIGHT ON CONGRESS STREET.

20. Chicago Store

130 East Congress Street at southeast corner of 6th Avenue



Walk around Tucson in the early 1900s and you would see streets lined with substantial masonry commercial buildings like this one designed in 1903 by David Holmes for the Los Angeles Furniture Company. In 1919 the Chicago Music Store moved into the expansive space and have been supplying Tucson with all types of musical instruments ever since. The Chicago Store even took a star turn in Martin Scorsese's 1974 slice-of-life feature *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* when 12-year old Jodie Foster shoplifts here.

21. Congress Hotel

311 East Congress Street at northeast corner of 5th Avenue



The two-story Hotel Congress opened in 1919, just before the enactment of Prohibition. As it

approaches its centennial Club Congress, with four bars, has been celebrated as one of the best watering holes in America. Alexander Curlett, who was one of the most stylish architects working in Los Angeles during its go-go days of the 1920s, provided the design for the guest house that greeted passengers disembarking from Southern Pacific trains. The Hotel Congress entered American cultural lore in 1934 when a fire swept through the upper floor, forcing the evacuation of guests that happened to include bank robber John Dillinger and his gang who were hiding out under assumed names. The 30-year old Dillinger, demonized as “Public Enemy Number One” by law enforcement, was soon captured, an arrest that the city celebrates each year during “Dillinger Days.”

22. Rialto Theatre **318 East Congress Street**



At the same time Alexander Curlett was working on the Congress Hotel for his father William’s architectural firm across the street, he was also designing one of the town’s earliest movie palaces here. The money man behind the Rialto was entertainment pioneer Emanuel Drachman, whose father Philip and uncle Samuel did much to shape the early Arizona Territory. Emanuel, known as Manny, managed an early Tucson baseball team and as a pitcher is said to have thrown the first curve ball seen by Arizona hitters. In 1903 Drachman set up a screen and hand-cranked projector in Elysian Grove Park and began showing the first movies in town. Ownership of the Rialto transferred to corporate hands in the 1930s and it operated as the Paramount until going dark in 1963. After a rocky middle age that saw lengthy bouts of vacancy between stints as a Spanish movie house and porno theater the Rialto has emerged as a performance venue.

TURN LEFT ON O’TOOLE AVENUE.

23. Southern Pacific Depot/Amtrak Station **400 North Toole Avenue**



The first Southern Pacific train reached Tucson on March 20, 1880, pulling into a small wooden depot located here. In 1907 the town received this Spanish Colonial-style passenger station from

the drawing board of Southern Pacific architect Daniel J. Patterson. The City purchased the property in 1998 and restored the depot and several outbuildings. Today the city is serviced several times a week by the *Sunset Limited* and *Texas Eagle* Amtrak trains.

TURN LEFT ON 5TH AVENUE AND FOLLOW SOUTH ACROSS CONGRESS STREET TO BROADWAY BOULEVARD.

24. Julian-Drew Complex

178-188 East Broadway Boulevard at southwest corner of 5th Avenue



This two-story commercial brick building with hints of Georgian Revival styling (note the keystone inserts above the windows) was constructed in 1917. The Hotel Lewis, spiffed up with screened-in porches, operated on the second floor and retail clients took the ground floor. Tucson's first indoor automobile showroom was in the Julian-Drew Building. The space received a complete makeover in 1994.

TURN RIGHT ON BROADWAY BOULEVARD. TURN LEFT ON 6TH AVENUE.

25. I.O.O.F. Building

135 South 6th Avenue



The Middle Ages in Great Britain saw the banding together of tradesmen into guilds to promote business and fellowship. The carpenters had their own guild, the bricklayers had their own guild and so on. Trades that did not have a large number of practitioners welded into hodgepodge guilds known as Odd Fellows. In 19th century America an International Order of Odd Fellows lodge building, usually exuberantly ornate, could be found in virtually every town. The Odd Fellows organized in Tucson in 1881, this Odd Fellows Hall dates to 1919. Across the street is the site of the Santa Rita Hotel, Tucson's fanciest guest house from the time of its construction in 1904, the type of place where movie stars, captains of industry and big-name politicians would sign the guest register. The five-story hotel, the town's largest building in its time, was torn down in 1972.

26. The Rubi House

175 East 12th Street at northeast corner of 6th Avenue



Owen T. Rouse was Kentucky-born and Missouri-raised. He became a busy attorney in rural Missouri and won election to the State Senate in 1880 but his political career stalled after four years. President Grover Cleveland appointed Rouse United States Attorney for Arizona and he eventually became a long-tenured Territorial judge. He had this Neoclassical house with curving Corinthian portico constructed in 1907. Its name today, Rubi House, comes not from its exuberant restoration but from a subsequent owner, a Justice of the Peace named Pete Rubi.

27. Armory Park

221 South 6th Avenue at southeast corner of 12th Street



Camp Tucson replaced the Tucson Presidio in 1860 and was captured by Confederate Texans in 1862. A corps of California volunteers re-took the fort and renamed it Post Tucson, managing the movement of supplies for the Union Army through the Territory. In 1866 regular Army troops took over the abandoned post and named it Camp Lowell in honor of a young officer killed in the just ended Civil War. The often exuberant soldiers and the townsfolk did not always mix and Camp Lowell was shifted seven miles out of town. Armory Park, where troops camped and paraded, remains as a souvenir of those martial times. The senior center is a 1975 addition, raised among war memorials to heroes from the Spanish-American War, World War One and the Mormon Battalion of 1846.

28. Children's Museum Tucson
200 6th Avenue at southeast corner of 12th Street



In 1901 Scottish-born industrialist Andrew Carnegie sold his steel company for \$400 million and became the world's richest man. He set out to give away all his money and one of his pet projects was public libraries. He funded over 2,500 of them around the world, including four in Arizona. Tucson received \$25,000 which was used for its library, which lent books for 90 years until it closed in 1991. Henry Trost provided the Neoclassical design, the style favored by the trustees at the Carnegie Foundation. As soon as the books were cleared out the Children's Museum Tucson, that had started five years earlier in a single room building at Ft. Lowell Park, moved in. At the 6th Street entrance is the Pioneer memorial, a curving chunk of onyx sculpted by Beniamino Bufano in 1920.

WALK BACK TO 12TH STREET AND TURN LEFT, WALKING PAST THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM. AT THE END OF THE BLOCK, WHERE 12TH STREET ENDS, IS...

29. Tucson Scottish Rite
160 South Scott Avenue at southwest corner of Ochoa Street



The first organizational meeting of Scottish Rite Masonry in Tucson was held on April 18, 1875 and six weeks later Santa Rita Lodge of Perfection No. 1, Territory of Arizona, held its first class of seven initiates on June 3, 1875. The lodge did not take, however, and was forced to surrender its charter in 1886. With the new century came stirring of the Scottish Rite once again and by 1916 the Masons were able to move into this Neoclassical temple. The Masons reached out to Henry Charles Trost, then in El Paso, for the design for the Cathedral - it was the last major building he would design in the town he did much to decorate fifteen years earlier.

TURN LEFT ON SCOTT AVENUE AND RIGHT ON CORRAL STREET, MOVING PAST THE SCOTTISH RITE CATHEDRAL. AT STONE AVENUE TURN RIGHT.

30. St. Augustine Cathedral

192 South Stone Avenue between Ochoa and Corral streets



The mother church of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Tucson traces its beginnings back to the chapel of the Presidio of San Agustin in 1776. The parish was revived in 1866 and a house of worship constructed two years later. The current two-towered cathedral was completed in 1897 in the Mexican Baroque image of the cathedral of the central-Mexican city of Querétaro. The outside of the building is dressed in cast stone decorated with native desert plants.

31. Old Pueblo Club

101 South Stone Avenue at southeast corner of Jackson Street



This century-old building boasts a royal Tucson architectural pedigree - it was designed in 1907 by David Holmes and received a makeover in 1932 from Roy Place. It was the first building in Tucson to be clad in buff-colored California brick. Members of the Gentlemen's Club enjoyed the use of a bowling alley, gymnasium, billiards room, dining privileges and a rooftop garden. The club operated into the early 1990s.

32. Bank of America Plaza

33 North Stone Avenue at southwest corner of Pennington Street



The Bank of America Plaza was built in 1977 and reigned for a decade as the town's tallest building.

33. Montgomery Ward Building/Roy Place Building
44 North Stone Street at southeast corner of Pennington Street



Hyped up on urban renewal in the mid-20th century, Tucson city planners tore down or covered up most of the town's Spanish Colonial face. Many of those buildings were designed by esteemed architect Roy Place, who kept his office in this building which he designed in 1929. When the corner building was rescued from its modernist makeover and the original Spanish Colonial trappings restored in 2010, the building was also re-named to recognize its creator.

34. Pioneer Hotel
100 North Stone Avenue at northeast corner of Pennington Street



The Tucson of the 1920s was a town of two- and three-story buildings until T.N. McCauley blew into town, acquired control of the Consolidated National Bank and announced he was going to build the first high-rise downtown. Shortly thereafter department store magnate Albert Steinfeld and his son Harold released *their* plans for the Pioneer Hotel that would do McCauley's ten-story bank and office building one story better. Roy Place drew up the plans and the two towers went up almost simultaneously - Consolidated Bank was first, the Pioneer Hotel was higher and the two lorded over the Tucson skyline unchallenged for years. The Pioneer - and the city of Tucson - were changed forever shortly after midnight on December 20, 1970 when fire broke out in the hotel with open stairwells and no sprinklers. Twenty-nine people, some leaping from upper story windows, died in the conflagration that was the town's worst ever catastrophe. Harold Steinfeld and his wife Margaret, who lived in the 11th floor penthouse, perished from smoke inhalation. Louis Taylor, a teen-ager was convicted of starting the deadly fire and he remains in prison, refusing to apply for parole because it would force him to confess to a crime he claims he did not commit. The hotel closed in 1974 and the original facade masked under new cladding; the building now houses offices and apartments.

35. Wells Fargo Bank
150 North Stone Avenue



Henry Wells and William Fargo organized a joint-stock company in 1852 to provide banking and express services to Gold Rush pioneers. Tucson was selected to be the company's first Arizona office, at first handling mostly shipments of silver and later fruits and vegetables from the irrigated desert cropland. This Wells Fargo branch was initially constructed in 1955 for First Interstate Bank; the architectural firm of Place and Place, with Lew Place at the head after the death of his famous father five years earlier, dipped back to the Italian Renaissance for the building that is dominated by a pair of arcades of seven arches stacked upon one another.

36. Pima County Public Library
101 North Stone Avenue at northwest corner of Pennington Street



The first books were lent in Tucson from a room in City Hall in 1883. The library moved to this location in 1990 into the footprint of the city's last full-service department store, Jácome's. Carlos Jácome was an employee of Louie Zeckendorf's early Tucson store who struck out on his own in 1896. Jácome's red-and-green packages were a staple of Tucson life for 84 years; the plaza out front remembers the family retailer.

TURN LEFT ON ALAMEDA STREET AND TURN RIGHT ON CHURCH AVENUE TO RETURN TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT AT THE TUCSON PRESIDIO.

A Walking Tour of Yuma, Arizona

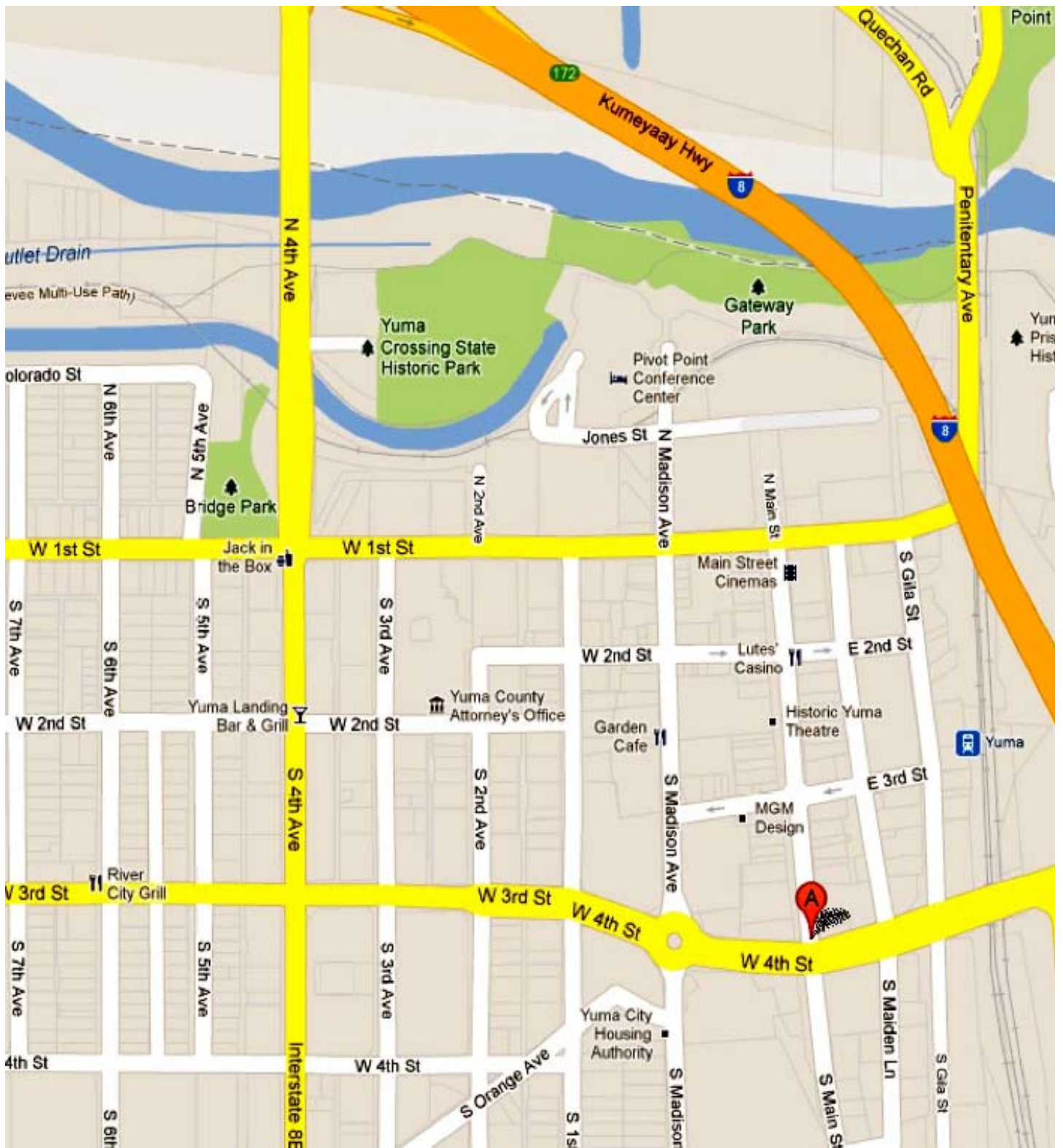
from **walkthetown.com**

Today, when watching people splash in the placid waters of the Colorado River, it takes a leap of imagination to picture the frothy, dangerous waters that flowed through Arizona for millions of years. There was almost no place where it was safe to cross the Colorado and travelers had to come south from the confluence with the Gila River to where modern day Yuma stands to find a place where the granite outcroppings caused a natural narrowing and calming of the river. The United States acquired this region via the terms of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, just in time for the California Gold Rush. It is estimated more than 60,000 gold hunters used L.G.F. Jaeger's rope ferry across the Colorado River in Yuma to reach the California gold fields between 1850 and 1851, paying \$2 a head.

The stream of traffic did not escape the attention of the United States Army which established Fort Yuma in 1852 on a hill overlooking the crossing. A town called Colorado City grew up here but it was washed away by the Colorado River and rebuilt as Arizona City. In 1866 a street grid was laid out with a 100-foot wide Main Street able to handle the most ambitious wagon trains. In 1871 Arizona City was officially incorporated and two years later became Yuma.

In 1876 the Yuma Territorial Prison was established on the banks of the Colorado River with prisoners hacking the first seven cells from the granite walls of granite. Prisoners would keep at work building the notorious prison until it closed in 1909 by which time a total of 3,069 prisoners, including 29 women, had been detained. In 1910 fire destroyed Yuma High School and for the next five years classes were held in the cellblocks and sports teams adopted the nickname, the Yuma Criminals.

In 1916 floodwaters on the Gila River swept into Yuma causing the worst of many floods that ravaged the town. It was also the last major flood, thanks to dams created by the Bureau of Reclamation. After that adobe buildings were banned in downtown Yuma and new construction adopted the newly trendy Spanish Colonial Revival style; in 1925 Main Street was paved for the first time. The streetscape we will encounter in downtown Yuma dates to that era but first we will begin our walking tour of the sunniest place in America along the Colorado River near the crossing that made the town famous...



1. Yuma Quartermaster Depot State Historic Park
201 North 4th Avenue at northeast corner of 1st Street



The United States Army established the Yuma Quartermaster Depot in 1864 to distribute food, ammunition and other supplies to frontier military posts. The depot's stables housed some 900 mules to accomplish the mission. The depot was supplied by steamship on the Colorado River, always insuring a six-month's supply of goods in the hostile region. The usefulness of the post was short-lived, however, as the railroad assumed most its duties after 1877. The United States Weather Service ended up getting the most use out of the depot. The State of Arizona began acquiring property here in 1969 and opened it as a park in 1990. Since then four of the five original buildings, among Arizona's oldest and best-preserved artifacts, have been incorporated into an historic park.

WALK DOWN THE HIKE/BIKE PATH ALONG THE YUMA VALLEY CANAL AND CROSS THE FOOT BRIDGE. PICK UP 2ND AVENUE AND WALK TO THE END AT 1ST STREET.

2. Old City Hall
180 West 1st Street at northeast corner of 2nd Avenue



Oozing classic Spanish Colonial Revival architecture, the Yuma city government moved into these offices overlooking the Colorado River in 1921. It was an early project of the design collaboration of Roy Place and John B. Lyman which would become one of Arizona's most acclaimed architectural teams before Lyman left for San Diego, from where both men hailed, in 1924. Place would become Tucson's go-to architect, dressing the streetscape in the Spanish Colonial style while carving out a national reputation.

TURN RIGHT ON 1ST STREET. TURN LEFT ON 3RD AVENUE. TURN LEFT ON 2ND STREET. TURN LEFT ON 2ND AVENUE.

3. Yuma County Courthouse
168 South 2nd Avenue at end of 2nd Street



This is the third house of justice for Yuma County, rising from the ashes of its predecessor in 1928. San Diego architects Ralph Swearingen & G.A. Hanssen provided the Second Renaissance Revival design for the courthouse that came with a price tag of \$100,000. When the Yuma County Justice Center arrived next door in 2005 most of the trials moved over there but this building was spared. Ghost hunters like to look for the spirit of Adolph Teichman, a long-time bailiff who lived in an attic loft in the courthouse until his death in 1949 at the age of 82.

**FOLLOW 2ND AVENUE AS IT BENDS RIGHT AND BECOMES 2ND STREET.
CONTINUE TO 1ST AVENUE.**

4. Gandolfo Theater
200 South 1st Avenue at southwest corner of 2nd Street



John Gandolfo sailed for California from Genoa, Italy with his family in 1866 when he was 20 years old. Ten years later he was on a stagecoach to Yuma where he went into business peddling fruit from a small shop on Main Street. From those humble beginnings Gandolfo built a retailing empire in Yuma, operating steamships on the Colorado River and acquiring swaths of desert real estate. In 1883 Gandolfo constructed the largest building in town to house his 50-room hotel. In 1914 Gandolfo moved his family to Los Angeles but “in retirement” he kept his expanding Yuma business interests. In 1917 Gandolfo opened a 635-seat theater in this brick building. The stage hosted vaudeville acts, musicals and entertainment troupes from Mexico. During World War II it functioned as a USO canteen but after the war the building was vacant until it was occupied by a furniture store and in 1960 by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Today it approaches its centennial as office space.

5. Napoleon House
96 West 2nd Street at northeast corner of 1st Avenue



Architect-designed houses were seldom seen in early Yuma but by the 1890s vernacular adobe buildings began to display more adventurous floor plans. This well-constructed Anglicized Sonoran style house was typical of middle class homes seen in Yuma during Arizona's last territorial days.

TURN RIGHT ON MADISON AVENUE.

6. Sanguinetti House
240 South Madison Avenue



E.F. Sanguinetti arrived in Yuma in 1883 when he was 15 years old and found work clerking in the general store of Ginochio & Co. When Ginochio retired several years later Sanguinetti was able to buy a one-third interest in the business, with John Gandolfo taking a 2/3 stake. In 1898 he was on his own with Sanguinetti General Merchandise, the first of a chain of eleven branch stores scattered across the county. While the Sanguinetti name was associated with Arizona's largest retailing empire he also brought the first herd of registered Holsteins into Yuma which he grazed on his more than 1,000 acres of farmland. The operation included the town's first dairy and first ice plant. Sanguinetti purchased this two-room adobe house with a lean-to kitchen in 1890; it had been built in the 1870s. Sanguinetti lived in the house for more than 25 years before marrying Lilah Baisz at the age of 48. The couple stayed here another 30 years until Sanguinetti died in 1946, raising three children and adding rooms, gardens and aviaries to the property. It has served as a museum since 1963.

7. Yuma City Hall
One City Plaza between Madison and 1st avenues



This new city hall for Yuma came online in 2002. The grounds are meant to highlight the region's agricultural heritage with date palms, papyrus, lemon and olive trees gracing a courtyard studded with water conservation features such as misting towers.

TURN LEFT ON 4TH STREET. TURN LEFT ON MAIN STREET.

8. Lee Hotel
390 South Main Street at northwest corner of 4th Street



The Robert E. Lee Hotel began greeting guests in 1917 and stands as Yuma's oldest hotel. It is reported to be haunted, not by the ghost of the Confederate general but by the spirits of three women, one of whom was the original owner. The coast-to-coast highway that connected New York City and San Francisco via the Southwest ran right down Main Street and past the hotel was named after Robert E. Lee.

9. U.S. Post Office/Gowan Company
370 South Main Street



During the Great Depression the federal government went on a building spree to inject dollars into American communities. Thousands of post offices were built and Yuma's came in the Spanish Colonial Revival style in 1933. This is another Yuma work by Tucson's leading architect, Roy Place.

The building has be adapted for private commercial use.

10. Main Street Fountain
Main Street at 3rd Street



The fountain was installed in 2000 as the centerpiece of the then-pedestrian mall. Main Street welcomed cars back in 2007 after being closed to vehicles for 38 years.

TURN RIGHT ON 3RD STREET.

11. Hotel Del Ming/Hotel Del Sol
300 Gila Street at southwest corner of 3rd Street



The arcaded, three-story Hotel Del Sol that closed in the 1970s began life in the 1920s as the Hotel Del Ming, with 68 guest rooms each with a tub or shower - the mark of luxury back in the day. The money men were the Southern Pacific Hotel & Investment Company with Frank S. Ming at its head. In addition to his hotel duties Ming, a native of New Jersey who came to the desert to restore his health, served as Yuma mayor in the 1920s and pursued citrus farming. As a hotel man he pledged to give away free meals “every day the sun doesn’t shine.” After the hotel shuttered it quickly became run-down but did take a star turn in 1994’s *The Getaway* with Alec Baldwin and Kim Basinger reprising the roles of Steve McQueen and Ali McGraw in the 1972 original.

ACROSS THE STREET IS...

12. Southern Pacific Railway Depot
281 Gila Street at east end of 3rd Street



The Southern Pacific Railway, defying orders from the Secretary of War, bridged the Colorado River and ran the first train into Yuma from California on September 30, 1877 (at approximately where Madison Avenue is today). The move pre-empted the Texas and Pacific Railroad which had been building westward with a land grant from Congress in 1871 to lay track through Mexico and Arizona to meet the Southern Pacific at the Colorado River. A roomy two-story passenger depot was constructed by the Southern Pacific hard by the Colorado River and it was replaced by a landmark Spanish Colonial station in 1926 which served the line until Amtrak took over national passenger service in 1971. The Southern Pacific depot assumed duty as the Yuma Fine Arts Museum but burned in 1995. Amtrak, which comes through town three times a week, makes do with a loading platform and a room in an old Union Pacific freight building.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS BACK TO MAIN STREET AND TURN RIGHT.

13. Kress Store
284 South Main Street at northwest corner of 3rd Street



Samuel Henry Kress looked on his stores as public works of art and he retained a staff of architects to achieve that end. He took as much pride in the appearance of those stores as the nickels and dimes that piled up in his coffers. There would eventually be 264 Kress five-and-dime stores throughout the United States and many of them adopted the Art Deco style in the 1920s and 1930s. The Kress store in Yuma came along in 1927 and was no different; the company paid a reported \$10 for the lot. In its most recent incarnation since the demise of the five-and-dime chain the Kress Building has housed a restaurant and popular night club.

14. Yuma Art Center & Historic Yuma Theatre
254 South Main Street



This vaudeville and movie stage was built in 1912 for Anna Desmond on property she owned on Main Street. The local architecture firm of Brooks & Cargill drew up the plans and contractor Chalres Olcestor executed the work. Local impresario A.J. Zeller leased the new 900-seat theater for five years before it was constructed but he abandoned his lease in 1913 after barely a year. It was still the Zeller Theater later that year when the roof and stage area went up in flames. When repairs were made the building re-emerged as Riley's Garage. But Anna Desmond never lost her hankering for a theater and poured \$40,000 into the Yuma Theatre that enjoyed its grand opening on January 12, 1927. Another fire crippled the building in 1936 but this time Desmond rebuilt immediately and the Yuma Theatre re-opneed in months, not a decade. It has operated ever since and although the exterior was altered before restoration to its 1912 appearance, the Art Deco decor inside, including exuberant mermaid wall murals, is largely unchanged.

15. Lute's Casino
221 South Main Street



This building was constructed in 1901 as a general store but became a pool hall in 1920 and Lute's lays claim to being the oldest continuously operating billiards room in Arizona. There was actual gambling in the "casino" in the first half of the century and the business came into the Lute family in the 1940s as payment on a gambling debt. Patrons enjoy the eclectic decor, including the booted artificial leg of a "plumber" stuck in a hole in the ceiling and the one-way glass in the men's restroom so players could keep a wary eye on the tables when forced to take a break in the action.

16. San Carlos Hotel

106 East 1st Street at northeast corner of Main Street



Charles Harris built his first San Carlos Hotel in Phoenix in 1928 and by 1930 he had constructed his third, here in Yuma. The five-story reinforced concrete building with Art Deco styling dwarfed its neighbors as it continues to do more than 80 years later. The San Carlos boasted 107 rooms and guests enjoyed the first air conditioning in Yuma, provided by water pumped from a well and a water cooler on the roof. Costing over \$300,000, the San Carlos was the final word in luxury in Yuma. It was created as a couples retreat servicing the 20 or so wedding chapels that lured lovebirds to Yuma. The San Carlos was the bivouac of choice for Hollywood movie stars while filming in the desert with the likes of Marilyn Monroe and John Wayne signing the guest book. Wayne is remembered for bringing a favorite horse through the lobby and into an elevator for a ride up to the rooftop garden so he could have a look around Yuma. The San Carlos went vacant in the 1970s and was converted into low income housing.

TURN LEFT ON 1ST STREET.

17. Popular Drug Store

southwest corner of Madison Avenue and 1st Street



This souvenir from the 19th century was the town's drug store for many years; it still bears the stamp of its days in the 1940s and 1950s as a wedding chapel.

CONTINUE ON 1ST STREET TO 4TH AVENUE AND TURN RIGHT TO RETURN TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT AT THE QUARTERMASTER DEPOT.