

Look Up, Eastern Shore!

**Walking Tours of 9 Towns
on Maryland's Eastern Shore**

A Walking Tour of Berlin, Maryland

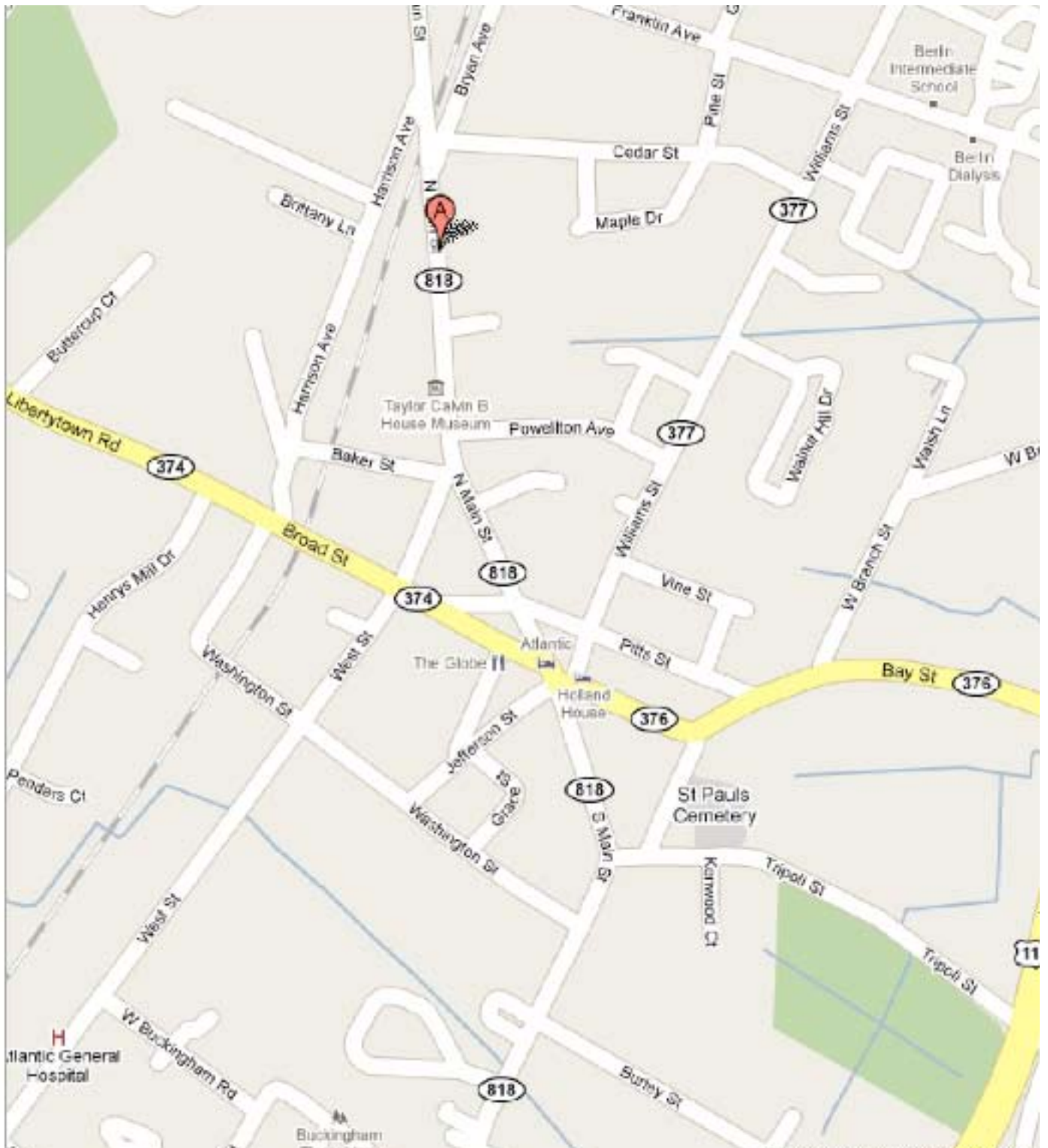
From its early beginnings in the late 1700s as part of the Burley Plantation, a 300-acre land grant dating back to 1677, Berlin was and remains an important place in the history of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The actual town was incorporated in 1868. At the time, Berlin boasted at least 12 stores and numerous light industrial businesses in industries such as milling, nurseries, lumber, orchards, brickmaking and coal.

Agriculture and farming, however, were the mainstays of the economy. Located on the crossroads of two railroad lines, the town was perfectly suited to ship manufactured and agricultural products to metropolitan areas. The Wicomico and Pocomoke Railroad, later to become the Baltimore, Chesapeake and Atlantic Railroad, connected Berlin to Salisbury and Ocean City. The Pennsylvania line intersected the town in a north-south direction.

Because of the rail lines, Berlin became one of the state's leading shippers of strawberries, Harrison's Nurseries became a world-leading supplier of fruit trees, shipping millions annually, and the brick factory, milling company and outlying farms were able to ship their products to distant markets. All of this made Berlin a viable economic center. Visitors from the urban areas west of the Chesapeake Bay also stopped in Berlin on their way to the new seaside resort, Ocean City. Today, many lovely old homes can be found on the railroad embankments.

The present-day streetscape contains few vestiges of that heady time in Berlin. Three times within a decade - 1895, 1902 and 1904 - the town was reduced to rubble by fire. The rebuilt post-1905 town retains an authenticity that twice attracted Hollywood, first in 1998 for the feature film *Runaway Bride*, starring Julia Roberts and Richard Gere immediately followed by the memorable children's film, *Tuck Everlasting*.

Our walking tour will start a few steps from the Town Center - and return three times - and see a number of those Hollywood filming sites along the way...



WALK EAST ON BROAD STREET TOWARDS TOWN CENTER.

1. Globe Theater
12 Broad Street



The Globe Moving Picture Theater was built in the Spanish Mission style around 1915 as the first movie house in Town. It operated into the 1950s. The building has been heavily altered since to function as a church, shop and restaurant among other things but the hanging marquee and arched entrances remain.

TURN LEFT ON N MAIN STREET.

2. Rayne's Reef Luncheonette
10 North Main Street



Established in 1901, the luncheonette and soda fountain remained in the Rayne family until 1962. For many years the building's original appearance was hidden beneath permastone and fronted by a tin awning on the south side. Still operating as a luncheonette, it has been restored to its two-story red brick-with wooden porch origins. The permastone can still be seen on the attached building to the north and also in the *Runaway Bride*, where Rayne's Reef was transformed to the Falcon Diner.

3. Powell Building
7-17 North Main Street

Alfred Powell leased this centrally located block from Henry Anderson in 1895 and constructed a series of two-story brick buildings with a common brick cornice. The southernmost of the buildings retains its original stamped sheet iron cornice. For many years the second floor was covered in corrugated steel cladding, most conspicuously by the Style Guide Clothing Store, but the alterations have since been removed.

4. “Hale Hardware” Store
16 North Main Street



This building in the center of the block, then occupied by the Berlin Hardware Store, was refitted as the Hale Hardware Store where Julia Roberts worked in the *Princess Bride*. It was built as the law offices of Williams and Shockley. The Treasure Chest next door is one of the few buildings in the Berlin Historic District to remain in its original or neat original condition. Each feature an identical decorative brick cornice.

5. Calvin B. Taylor Banking Company
24 North Main Street



Berlin had three banks before the turn of the century. The First National Bank of Berlin, Maryland, also known as the “Dirickson” Bank, closed its doors when a chocolate company its owner invested heavily in failed. A penned note, attached to a stock certificate of The Guth Chocolate Company of Baltimore, said, “Levin L. Dirickson, Founder of the First National Bank of Berlin, was a ‘Guthable’ man, taken in by a sweet thing, the ‘Guthable’ Candy Company of Baltimore, Maryland. He was brother to Dr. Edwin J. Dirickson, my grandfather, who I am named after. The bank building is a living monument to BAD INVESTMENTS.” The note was signed Edwin Dirickson France II, 31 May, 1876. When that bank closed, Calvin B. Taylor, the founder of Calvin B. Taylor Banking Company, bought its remaining assets so local residents would have a local bank to provide security

for the savings of thrifty citizens and so the community could more ably conduct business. The corporate seal of The First National Bank of Berlin is still in the possession of Calvin B. Taylor Banking Company. This eclectic-style brick building with a pyramidal tower topped by a weather vane was erected in 1902. Subsequent additions expanded the bank to the rear.

6. Renaissance Plaza
101 North Main Street at Pitts Street



Ned Furbish built this around-the-corner brick building with facades on two important downtown streets in 1900. This is another commercial property that was covered with fake stone when it was frequented by shoppers as the Berlin Variety Store. When the stone was stripped away in 1982 it led to an award for the restoration. The Plaza appeared in the *Runaway Bride* as the bridal shop. Berlin shop exteriors that appeared in the movie were compensated with \$1,000 each.

7. Evergreen Lodge
107 North Main Street

Evergreen Lodge #153 was formed on January 31, 1871 by dispensation from Grand Master Latrobe. At that time the Lodge met in Snow Hill. Upon moving to Berlin, the men met in what was known as “Dirickson Hall,” located on the third floor of a storefront building two blocks away. The lodge purchased this building on June 26, 1925.

8. Stevenson United Methodist Church
123 North Main Street



In the years before the Civil War, Perdeaux Chapel in Sinepuxent Neck, the mother church of Stevenson Methodist Episcopal Church, ministered to the families of the local plantations and farms. Cedar Chapel, the first permanent place of worship in Berlin, was erected in 1835 on a lot secured from Minos Timmons located on South Main Street near what is now Buckingham Cemetery. A second larger Methodist church was built here in 1847. The name was then changed

from Cedar Chapel to Stevenson in honor of Edward Stevenson who donated the ground for the new building, a neat one story wooden structure. After the Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches in town got new buildings following the 1904 fire, church members lobbied for their own new house of worship, erecting the present building in 1912 of Port Deposit granite.

9. Stevenson-Chandler House
125 North Main Street

Dating to the 1790s, this Federal-style house with gambrel roof is believed to be the oldest structure in Berlin. Hand-made wrought iron nails and beaded ceiling beams in the north half of this house lead to that conclusion.

10. Taylor House
208 North Main Street



The Calvin B. Taylor House was built by 1832 for Isaac Covington and his family who lived here during the Civil War. The Covingtons also owned plantations in Snow Hill and traded in the West Indies. Another early occupant was Robert J. Henry, a local businessman who owned a farm near today's Stephen Decatur Park and used this home as a town house. He was instrumental in bringing the railroad to Berlin. The house carries forward the name of Calvin B. Taylor; teacher, lawyer and founder of the Calvin B. Taylor Banking Company. He and his wife Mattie lived here from the 1890s until his death in 1932. During their occupancy they made several changes to the house including a back wing addition and the installation of stained glass windows. It was an apartment house in the 1970s and was slated to be demolished to make a parking lot. The Berlin Heritage Foundation was founded in November 1981 by a group of citizens interested in saving this house. They convinced the Mayor and Town Council to purchase the house and lot in 1982 for \$35,000.00 and to turn it over to the Foundation to administer as a town museum. Over \$100,000.00 was raised from the community and private donations for restoration. This historic house museum opened in 1983.

TURN LEFT ON WEST STREET.

11. Whaley House

100 West Street, southwest corner of Broad Street



The Whaley House is a good example of a gable-entrance house, one of a handful still standing in Berlin. Dating to circa 1805 and known as “Robin’s Nest,” this is one of the town’s oldest structures. Into its third century, the house retains many of its original features in addition to an important collection of 19th century outbuildings - a dairy, a privy, a smokehouse, and a granary.

TURN LEFT ON BROAD STREET AND WALK DOWN TO MAIN STREET IN THE CENTER OF TOWN FOR THE SECOND TIME. TURN RIGHT ON MAIN STREET.

12. Atlantic Hotel

2 North Main Street



This three-story, ten-bay brick Atlantic Hotel has anchored the center of Berlin since 1896, built by Horace F. Harmonson and his wife, Virginia Lingo Harmonson. In the early days there was a livery stable in back of the Hotel. It was on this site that sales of mules and horses were held. The livestock would arrive in Berlin by rail and then be driven up through the town from the station to the Atlantic Stable. The hotel was built immediately following the 1895 fire and is one of a very few in the central commercial district that survived subsequent fires in 1902 and 1904. The front facade is characterized by a large, pressed-metal cornice that ends abruptly at the corners and has a peaked pediment at its center. Pressed-metal hooded moldings decorated with a flower motif are located over each window on the front facade.

13. Peninsula Bank of Berlin
1 South Main street



The Peninsula Bank of Berlin, built in 1902 as the Exchange and Savings Bank, is one of a small collection of similar era banks erected in Worcester County villages. Oriented to face the principal intersection in Town, the front entrance is accented by a pyramidal roofed spire. Large, round arched window openings filled with colored glass transom lights are found within recessed bays to each side.

14. First National Bank
3 South Main Street

Another is Berlin's collection of whimsical early 19th-century bank buildings, the former First National Bank dates to 1905. Differing brick sizes and colors provide contrast; the entrance is through a round tower surmounted by a conical roof. Encircling the tower and enriching the various friezes are rows of garlands, while the pedimented gable ends are fitted with dentils and other period moldings. Dominating the west elevation is a single round arched window opening that was built with a colored glass transom light.

15. Paran Lodge
2-4 South Main Street



Town records indicate a meeting hall on this site since 1853; the Paran Lodge of the International Order of Odd Fellows with hipped roof was built in 1902. The pressed-brick exterior has seen few changes in the intervening 100+ years and retains an intact Victorian storefront of recessed entrances and plate glass display windows.

16. Buckingham Presbyterian Church
20 South Main Street



Buckingham Presbyterian Church was organized by Francis Makemie in 1683. It originally met on the Buckingham Plantation (now the Buckingham Cemetery) where a Meeting House was built. This cross-shaped church was erected after the 1904 fire that incinerated the standing wooden house of worship. Built of coursed, ashlar-cut Holmsburg granite with castellated parapets, the principle entrance is located in the base of the square bell tower. The Gothic-styled windows are filled with colored glass.

17. Pitts-Bounds House
23 South Main Street



This is one of five large houses, three of which remain, that was built on the east side of South Main Street after the 1904 fire. It features a hipped roof with cross gables of varying sizes and projections on three sides. The wrap-around verandah is accessed through two sets of steps.

18. Kenwood
101 South Main Street

Dating to 1833, Kenwood is typical of Federal-style houses around Berlin with its gable facing the street and being three bays long and three bays deep. The cornice is marked by a series of modillion blocks. The fluted columns and carved decoration call to mind the woodwork of the Taylor House on the north side of town, suggesting both were crafted by the same master carpenter.

19. Keas House

200 South Main Street

The builder utilized a small hillock to situate this crisp Victorian frame house south of Town. The Queen Anne-style house is accented with fishscale shingles, steeply pitched roofs and a wrap-around porch.

20. Burley Cottage

205 South Main Street

This 1834 brick house is architecturally unique in Berlin, sporting four slender chimneys that rise dramatically above the steeply pitched gable roof. The base of that roof is trimmed with a block cornice and a center gable is pierced by a splendid round window. The columned front porch features saw-tooth edged arches, familiar around Town.

21. Cantwell House

206 South Main Street

This side hall house from the early 1830s spans the architectural eras of the passing of the Federal style and the popularity of Greek Revival. The house has been restyled in the 1900s.

22. Burley Manor

313 South Main Street



Burley Manor was one of the earlier houses erected in Berlin, built sometime between 1832 and 1837 by John Mitchell and it was sold to Mrs. Elizabeth Hammond, widow of Edward Hammond. John T. Hammond inherited Burley Manor from his mother Elizabeth in 1871. The columned front porch is original.

**RETRACE YOUR STEPS ON MAIN STREET AND TURN RIGHT ON TRIPOLI STREET.
TURN LEFT ON CHURCH STREET.**

23. St. Paul's Episcopal Church
3 Church Street

St. Paul's Church was erected in 1825 as a successor to the old St. Martin's Church in Showell, which had been the center of Anglican worship in northern Worcester County since the early 1700s. The 1904 fire severely damaged St. Paul's, leaving only the 18" thick walls. The church was rebuilt at a cost of \$10,028.02 with a dramatically different look, employing the Romanesque style with rounded entrance and sanctuary windows.

TURN LEFT ON BAY STREET.

24. David Truitt House
16 Bay Street



The Burkhead House is an interesting frame dwelling that dates from two distinct periods; the rear two-story service wing dates to around 1840 and includes classically inspired bead molding under the cornice that takes the form of stylized swags. The two-story side hall/parlor front section is a modest Queen Anne style addition that boasts a corner tower.

25. Warhus House
11 Bay Street

The Warhus House is typical of the Berlin houses of the turn of the 20th century with wrap-around verandah and bay projections. In this case the back section is original but the front has been substantially rebuilt, another town fire victim.

26. Berlin Town Hall
10 Williams Street, northwest corner of Bay Street



This building was first conveyed to the Mayor & City Council in 1922. It was later occupied by the Berlin Fire Company and American Legion Post #123 before coming back to the Mayor &

City Council in 1965. Although its original integrity has been diminished by the altering of door and window openings and the removal of its corbelled cornice, it nevertheless is recognizable as an original component of the 19th century historic district.

CONTINUE TO TOWN CENTER (FOR THE THIRD TIME!) AND TURN LEFT ON BROAD STREET TO RETURN TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

A Walking Tour of Cambridge, Maryland

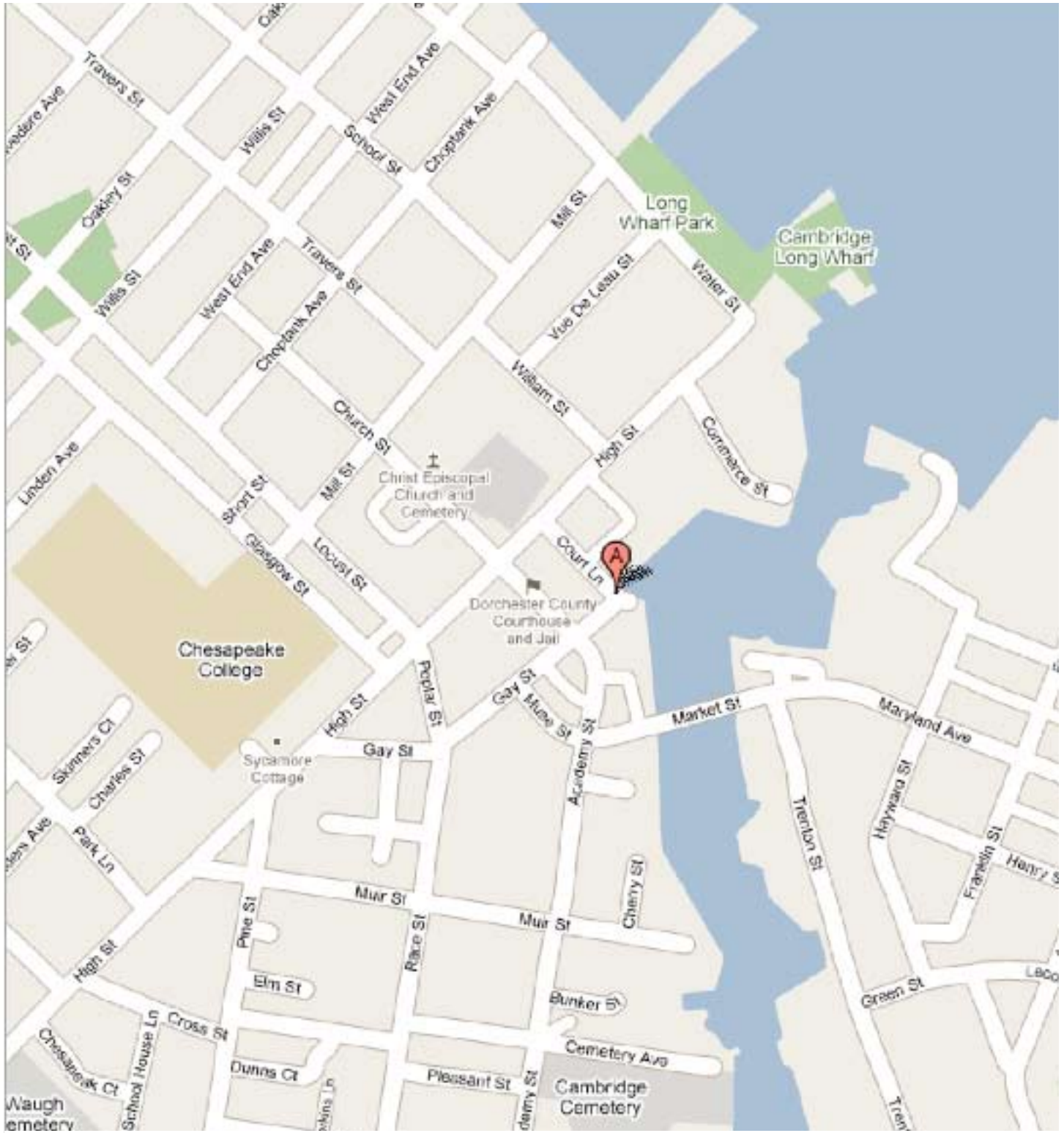
Cambridge, the county seat of Dorchester County and the fourth largest town on the Eastern Shore, is one of Maryland's oldest, settled in April of 1684. Located on the Choptank River, the land that was to become Cambridge was part of the Choptank Indian Reservation. In the early 1700s the town prospered from trade in tobacco, seafood, and muskrat.

The town incorporated in 1794 and was an area of growth due to the completion of the Dorchester and Delaware Railroad and a growing oyster and manufacturing industry. By the mid-1800's the first large manufacturing industry was located on the east side of Cambridge Creek. Large lumber and flourmills supplied timber to the Central Pacific Railroad for building rail cars, in addition to packing thousands of barrels of flour. This led to the building of large coastal vessels, made from local pine and oak, on Cambridge Creek. Skipjacks, bugeyes, and log canoes were just a few vessels that local builders developed, in order to meet the needs of those who worked and traded on the Chesapeake Bay.

The Choptank is home to some of the finest oyster grounds in the Chesapeake Bay where sailing skipjacks and hand-tongers still dredge for oysters. Oystering became so profitable that laws were passed restricting dredging of oysters in Dorchester waters to only citizens of Dorchester County. The Oyster Navy was armed to guard the oyster beds from poaching by residents of nearby Somerset County, Baltimore City, Philadelphia, and New Jersey. Conflicts resulted in at least one death.

This prosperity led Cambridge to become the home of governors, lawyers, and landowners. Their beautiful homes line High Street, Water Street, Mill Street, and Hambrooks Boulevard. The most famous resident, however, was Sharpshooter Annie Oakley who built her house at 28 Bellevue Avenue, on Hambrooks Bay. The roofline was altered so Oakley could step outside her second-story windows and shoot waterfowl coming in over the bay.

Our walking tour will start on the banks of the Choptank River and walk down the street that James Michener used as a model for his sprawling novel Chesapeake into the heart of the Cambridge historic district that was so designated in 1990...



1. Long Wharf Park Water and High Streets at Choptank River



Overlooking the Choptank River, this waterside park and marina has been known in the past as Memorial Park with a marble monument composed of a central shaft topped by a carved eternal flame and flanked by low walls. The base of the shaft carries the carved inscription, “PEACE TO THE MIGHTY DEAD, 1941-1945.” The top edges of the walls carry the raised inscription, “IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF OUR VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II.”

The *Nathan*, a traditional Chesapeake Bay skipjack built to preserve the nautical heritage of Dorchester County is berthed at Long Wharf Park at the end of High Street. The *Nathan* offers two-hour sails on the Choptank River when she is in Cambridge.

2. Frederick C. Malkus Bridge Choptank River



Prior to the Governor Emerson C. Harrington Bridge which was built over the Great Choptank River in 1935, ferries were used to cross the river. It originally had a swing span to allow passage of vessels and President Franklin D. Roosevelt was on board his presidential yacht *Sequoia*, when it became the first vessel to pass through the draw. The President then came ashore and delivered a congratulatory speech at Long Wharf. A memorial to Franklin D. Roosevelt and the faux smoke stack (it was actually an elevator shaft) from his later Presidential yacht, *U.S.S. Potomac*, is located here.

Remains of the Depression-era bridge are used as fishing piers on both the north and south bank of the river. This bridge was replaced by the higher none-span Frederick C. Malkus Bridge in 1987. It is the second longest span bridge in Maryland after the Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

WALK SOUTH ON HIGH STREET.

3. Williams House
100 High Street



This house, constructed after 1878 by Thomas Williams, a doctor, was originally located several lots up High Street, on the west side of the road. The frame house features a mansard roof and Jerkin-head gables and dormers.

4. Ellen Goldsborough House
102 High Street



This house was built for Phillips Lee Goldsborough who was the governor of Maryland between 1912 and 1916. The architect was J. Benjamin Brown, whose fingerprints are all over historic Cambridge. A pediment with molded plaster ornamentation is the only standout decorative feature of the plain exterior.

5. Thomas House
103 High Street



This house was built in 1884 by Captain William J. Thomas, who inherited the land from his father. Several decades earlier the office of Captain Sadrack Mitchell stood on the property. The frame house is designed in the Second Empire style and features a covering mansard roof.

6. Byrn House
108 High Street



This property was once part of a lot stretching from Commerce Street to the river, known as the “Old Common.” Ownership dates back to 1747 and wound its way to Mrs. Clara W. Byrn in 1887, wife of W. Wilson Byrn, first president of the Dorchester and Delaware Railroad Company. She built this rambling house on the northern half of her lot, influenced by the Shingle Style and originally covered in brown shingles. It has since been converted to apartments.

7. Muse-Goldsborough House
111 High Street



James Muse, a local doctor, built this Greek Revival brick house in 1849. It was “Victorianized” a decade later by the addition of an elaborate scrollsaw porch with iron finials but retains original features such as long, narrow windows and the interior layout. It was later the birthplace of Phillips Lee Goldsborough, destined to be a governor of Maryland.

8. Cambridge House
112 High Street



In preparation for his book *Chesapeake*, James Mitchener stated that the two blocks of High Street was one of the most beautiful streets in the country. The original section is a small framed cottage built in 1830. It was expanded for a sea captain between 1847 and 1900 to become the Queen Anne style brick mansion it is today.

9. Grammar House
116 High Street



This was the original home of Reverend Daniel Maynadier, a French Huguenot who was forced from France following the revocation of the Edict of Nantes and sailed to the Chesapeake where he became rector of the Great Choptank Parish from 1765 to 1772. It was rebuilt in 1840 by Henry Page, a lawyer and state senator.

10. 117 High Street



This slice of High Street is dominated by large Queen Anne-style houses. This one is topped by a widow's walk at the peak of the hip roof. There is a large hip-roofed dormer on the front of the house with a Palladian window. The window is ornamented by metal tracery work in the upper light of the two end sections of the window and muntins forming a ray pattern in the arch of the center window. The entry porch is supported by Doric columns.

11. Goldsborough House
200 High Street



Charles Goldsborough once owned more than 10,000 acres of land in Dorchester County. His son, Robert, studied law in England, became sheriff of Dorchester County in 1761 and was eventually named a delegate to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia in 1776. His son, Charles, built this two and a half story painted brick Federal-style house with a five-bay symmetrical facade as a young lawyer in 1793. He later served as Governor of Maryland in 1818 and 1819.. The house features an

12. Stewart House **203 High Street**



Not much is known about the original house that stood on this property; its current appearance is attributed mostly to Judge James A. Stewart, who bought it in the 1850s. Stewart moved the house, painted red and sitting directly on the pavement with an overhanging portico like a store, back on the lot. He enlarged the building and added the Greek Revival columns.

Stewart was born in 1808 and practiced law in Cambridge. He edited the Cambridge Chronicle for two decades until 1843 and dabbled in real estate and shipbuilding over the years. After running unsuccessfully for several political offices he was appointed a judge and won three elections to the United States House of Representatives before the Civil War.

13. Sullivane House **205 High Street**



Dating to before the Revolutionary War, this is considered to be the oldest documented house built in Cambridge. The Dutch-inspired Gambrel roof is a Dorchester County rarity. John Caile, who was leasing the property, used English “ballast” bricks laid in Flemish bond to create this Georgian-style home sometime before 1763. It has undergone regular remodellings over the years but retains much of its original appearance and detailing.

14. Le Compte House
204 High Street



The Le Compte (translating roughly to “the Count” in French) family in Dorchester County descends from Antoine LeCompte who explored the coastal land of the Great Choptank River in the late 1650s and settled around a bay, later known as LeCompte Bay. This three-bay Federal-style brick house was built in 1803. The stone double keystone lintels over the windows are a tip-off of the owner’s affluence.

15. Bayly House
207 High Street



The core of this house dates to 1755 and is considered the oldest in Cambridge. It was owned there by John Caile who took it apart, shipped it across the Chesapeake and re-assembled it in Cambridge. Today’s appearance is attributed to Alexander Bayly in the mid-19th century.

16. Mexican War Bell
Dorchester County Courthouse, southeast corner of High Street and Court Lane



This bell was cast in 1772 and hung in a monastery in Mexico before being brought to America during the Mexican War in 1846. It served as the fire alarm in Cambridge until 1883. The fieldstone monument was erected in 1940 by the Dorset Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

17. Dorchester County Courthouse **206 High Street**



This Italianate-influenced courthouse was constructed in 1853. It was designed by English-born Richard Upjohn, who became most famous for his Gothic Revival churches in the 1840s and helped foster the Italianate style in America. He was a founder and the first president of the American Institute of Architects. The Cambridge courthouse is the only one Upjohn did in Maryland.

Another architect of repute, Charles L. Carson of Baltimore, also contributed work on this site. He designed the County Jail, a Queen Anne and Romanesque Revival style granite structure with brick and terra cotta features, which stood to the southeast of the courthouse from about 1882 until its demolition in 1994.

18. Christ Episcopal Church **northwest corner of High Street and Church Street**



The Episcopal Church of Great Choptank Parish has served the community since 1692. Originally parishioners worshiped in the Court House. With the help of tobacco taxes and the authority of King William, the construction of the first church building was completed in 1694. The present building, dedicated in 1884, is the third to be located on this site and stands as one of the outstanding examples of Gothic architecture on the Eastern Shore and the State of Maryland. structure. It was designed in green serpentine stone by noted Baltimore architect Charles E. Cassell on a cruciform plan. The adjoining cemetery is enclosed on three sides by a brick wall, and burials therein date from 1674 to the present. Church parishioners included five governors of Maryland, a state Attorney General, an Ambassador to the Netherlands, local judges and lawyers and several U.S. Congressmen, a number of whom are buried in the adjoining cemetery. The Maryland governors are: John Henry (1797-98), Charles Goldsborough (1819), Henry Lloyd (1885-88), Phillips Lee Goldsborough (1912-16), and Emerson C. Harrington (1916-20).

**19. Cambridge Post Office
301 High Street**



This Neoclassical building dates to 1917 and reflects an attempt by the United States government in the first part of the 20th century to provide local communities with architecturally significant buildings.

20. 303-309 High Street



This commercial building of two shades of brown brick is typical of the downtown look of Cambridge in the early 1900s. Although renovated on the ground story, the upper stories are unchanged.

**21. National Bank of Cambridge
304 High Street**



Established in 1880, The National Bank of Cambridge is the oldest chartered bank in Dorchester County, Maryland. During the Great Depression of the 1930s it was the only bank on the Eastern Shore to pay depositors in cash throughout the crisis. It remains a locally owned and operated independent community bank.

After the Great Fire of 1892 destroyed most of this block, J. Benajmin Brown designed this exuberant Romanesque headquarters of brick and granite. Brown was a local lumbermill owner who branched out to design and construct buildings. Among them were the Grace United Methodist Church, the local Masonic lodge and many commercial and residential properties. Brown won the first mayoral election in Cambridge after it organized under the 1882 charter. A popular leader, he served two terms but decline more.

22. Fletcher Mansion
308 High Street



Built of brick and richly ornamented, this is one of the finest Queen Anne-style houses in Cambridge and looks much the same today as it did when constructed in the 1880s. On the northwest corner is an elaborate three-story polygonal tower with round arched windows, small dormers with pointed arched windows and a finial at the peak. The heavy cornices of the tower and roof are decorated by a series of carved brackets.

23. Farmers and Merchants Bank
323 High Street, northwest corner of Locust Street



This corner building constructed for the Farmers and Merchants Bank features brick above concrete construction. The design blends simplicity with traditional ornamentation. Bricks are used for decorative touches such as beltcourses and lintels; however, there is no cornice.

24. Richardson Maritime Museum
401 High Street



This brick building, with an odd blend of Romanesque windows and Neoclassical cornice and second floor, began life in 1908 as Maryland National Bank. Today it houses the Richardsonian Maritime Museum, the legacy of master boat builder Jim Richardson. It was founded just after his death in 1991 for the purpose of preserving the artifacts, honoring the people, and passing on the skills associated with the Eastern Shore wooden boat building heritage. The Museum houses over 40 detailed wooden boat models.

25. Sycamore Cottage
417 High Street

Sycamore Cottage was built possibly as early as 1765. The house is a one and one-half story gambrel-roofed frame structure. Remodelings during the 19th century include adding Victorian windows, a central Colonial Revival entrance porch, 1840s Greek Revival interior decorative detailing, and the addition of a large one-story meeting hall. It was moved to this location in 1840. Since 1922, Sycamore Cottage has been the headquarters of the Cambridge Woman's Club.

TURN LEFT ON PINE STREET. TURN LEFT ON MUIR STREET. TURN RIGHT ON RACE STREET.

26. Arcade Theatre
515 Race Street



The Arcade opened in the 1920s and was operated by the Schine's circuit, one of several theatres in Cambridge. The Arcade operated into the 1950s. In the 1960s, the theatre was renamed the Dorset and operated as such into the early 1970s. In the intervening years the theater has been gutted and served a number of business uses.

TURN AND WALK NORTH ON RACE STREET.

27. Skinner & Brothers Grovery
507 Race Street



A plain brick facade partially obscures the front of a building once occupied by Skinner & Brothers grocery store. The advertisement still visible in the bricks on the side was for Lorillard's Sensation tobacco, a popular low-cost cigaretted during the Depression.

28. Grace United Methodist Church
501 Race Street



A Methodist society was formed in Cambridge in the late 1700s. On May 1, 1863, 48 Methodists from Cambridge joined together to organize a new church, the charter members of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church. They met in a “neat but small” wooden structure loaned by a Presbyterian Church that never really took root in Cambridge. In November 1881, land at the corner of Race and Muir Streets was purchased from the estate of Dr. Handy, a contractor and church member. He and J. Benjamin Brown took on the task of building the present sanctuary building. The church opened for services in August 1883, in what was called a “model of architectural beauty and symmetry.” The original gray stone exterior of the church has not changed, although several additions over the years have brought the church to its present design.

29. Phillips Hardware Company
447 Race Street



Born in 1868, Levi Phillips went to sea as a young man, oystering in season and sailing the West Indies trade routes at other times. At age 30 he opened a packinghouse and soon joined forces with his younger brother Albanus to form the Phillips Packing Company in 1902, canning 40 varieties of vegetables, fruit, fish and meat. During picking season the house employed more than 4,000 workers. Levi went on to be president of the National Bank of Cambridge for 32 years.

The tenatacles of the Phillips empire included this hardware store, currently housing artist studios. This building, and others on this block, were built shortly after a fire incinerated Race Street here in 1910. The style of these buildings is similar and is probably the handiwork of J. Benjamin Brown. Prior to the fire, Phillips Hardware was located across the street. The building is little altered since its construction.

30. 444-448 Race Street



This large three-story building, like the adjoining McCrory's Building, retains the character of its upper floors with decorative brickwork. Here, a large pressed tin cornice, typical of commercial buildings of the early 1900s, stretches across the nine bays. The ornamental oval windows originally featured opaque colored glass when it was built.

31. 1911 Building 431-433 Race Street



This three-story brick commercial structure was built immediately after the Race Street fire; it has served many retail masters over the years, including a shoe store and hair stylist.

BEAR LEFT ON POPLAR STREET TO LOOK AT THE NORTH SIDE OF THE STREET.

32. Hopkins Building 521 Poplar Street



The Hopkins Building, with its variety of architectural details, is one of the finest commercial structures in Cambridge and remains almost unchanged from its construction around the turn of the 20th century. Over the second-story center window is an elaborate molded ornamentation and above the two end windows are ornamental swags. The egg-and-dart motif occurs frequently as a border molding. The other commercial properties on this side of the street date to the same time but have probably been altered to a greater degree.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS AND TURN LEFT ON GAY STREET.

33. Cambridge District Court House
310 Gay Street



Now a government services building, the imposing grey masonry structure began life as an armory.

34. Municipal Building
305 Gay Street



Cambridge born-and-bred James Wallace was trained in the law and member of the Maryland house of delegates in the 1850s. After the outbreak of the Civil War, he helped raise the First Maryland Volunteers (Eastern Shore) in August 1861 and took command as its colonel. The unit was intended to protect Union interests on the Eastern shore and elsewhere in Maryland but in July 1863, the First found itself at Gettysburg fighting on the third day of the battle around Culp's Hill. In the regiment's only day of pitched battle during its entire service, and with Wallace in command, it met and mauled the First Maryland Regiment of the Confederate States Army that contained many of their friends and neighbors from coastal Maryland. The regiment, and its colonel, ended its enlistment and mustered out two days before Christmas in 1863.

By the late 1800s Colonel James Wallace began packing oysters. He was the first to start raw shucking and steam packing of oysters in Cambridge, building, with his son, a nationally known business. The Wallace family mansion stood here on heights known as "The Hill." The property was acquired in 1838 and remained in the family for 70 years. The City purchased the mansion in 1940 and eventually razed it for office space and the Rescue Fire Company. The Colonial Revival building was erected in 1949, dominated by a three-tier tower. The first tier is made of brick with stone quoins embellishing the corners. There is a balustrade with turned spindles around the upper edge of this tier. The second tier is also wooden with a spindle-turned balustrade. Above this is an octagonally-shaped tier with tall, narrow arched openings.

35. Wallace Office
301 Gay Street



From this small office James Wallace could keep track of the goings-on in his packing house below. he also used the office as his headquarters during the Civil War.

TURN LEFT ON COURT LANE.

36. Court Lane offices
119-121 North Washington Street



This was part of the land sold by the Commissioners of Cambridge to William Bond Martin in 1811, for \$165. The small office buildings on Court Lane are compatible in scale, with the exception of 513 which was renovated in the late 1800s. Decorated with Greek Revival details, they are significant as some of the earliest surviving commercial structures in Cambridge.

TURN RIGHT ON HIGH STREET TO RETURN TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT AT LONG WHARF PARK.

A Walking Tour of Chestertown, Maryland

There was nothing random nor serendipitous about the founding of Talbot Court House. It was not built on any navigable waterway and the site selected was not located on an established trade route. The name said it all - this was going to be a government town, centrally located to all sections of the county.

That court house was built in 1711; the county, named for Lady Grace Talbot, sister of the second Lord Baltimore, had been established a half-century earlier in 1661. From its very beginning as an English colony the county economy was based on tobacco agriculture and the bountiful harvest of Chesapeake Bay from its over 600 miles of tidal shoreline, the most of any county in the United States.

Talbot Court House was never envisioned as a bustling town - just a place to conduct occasional official business and move on. As such for decades the settlement consisted primarily of taverns and a few scattered houses. But in 1788 the Maryland legislature designated the village the "East Capital" of Maryland and renamed it Easton.

In short order Easton had become the largest town on the Eastern Shore. The founding families of the Delmarva Peninsula, which dominated the Eastern Shore social, political, and economic history - the Tilghmans, Lloyds, Goldsboroughs, Hollydays and Stevens built their principal seats of residence in town. Easton had the Shore's finest bank, its first newspaper, its first Federal offices, its first brick hotel, its first steamship line.

This wealth and building boom brought skilled artisans to town as well and the early 1800s buildings of Easton, many of which still stand, were the equal of those found in the big cities of Baltimore and Philadelphia. Our walking tour will start in the historic Town Center where a Visitor Center has been created and parking available...



1. **Chestertown Tea Party** **foot of High Street at Chester River**



On May 23, 1774, “a group of Chestertown citizens undisguised and in broad daylight” boarded the brigantine *Geddes*, owned by Custom Collector William Geddes, and threw its cargo of tea into the Chester River. The town then became a faithful supplier of provisions to the town of Boston, then suffering under the Boston Port Act. Chestertown remembers its REvolutionary heritage during the Chestertown Tea Party Festival held during the Memorial Day weekend.

2. **The Custom House** **101 S Water Street, southeast corner of High Street**



Chestertown was an official Port of Entry, one of just six in the Maryland colony created by the General Assembly, under pressure from the Crown in 1706. That original Custom House is no longer standing. This Custom House was constructed by Chestertown merchant Samuel Massey in 1745. Massey embellished his Flemish bond brickwork with glazed headers. In 1749, Massey sold the property to Thomas Ringgold IV, a member of the House of Burgesses, attorney, land speculator, slave trader and merchant who imported goods from Europe and the West Indies. In 1771, Ringgold built an addition onto the rear of the building, which was used as the residence, while the front was converted to a dry good store. Prior to the Revolution, Ringgold rented out space to the District Customs Collector, which was probably located in an adjoining building that was torn down and replaced the early 1900s. It was from this association that the Custom House got its name.

When Chestertown declined in economic importance in the late nineteenth century, the Custom House was converted into apartments. Fortunately, many of the original details of the house were restored by local preservationist Wilbur Ross Hubbard, using funds provided by the Maryland Historical Trust. When Hubbard died in 1993, he bequeathed to Washington College the landmark property.

WALK SOUTH ON WATER STREET (THE CHESTER RIVER IS ON YOUR LEFT).

3. Captain James Frisby Taylor
201 S Water Street



Captain James Frisby Taylor purchased this riverfront property in 1857. He built a wharf and leased it to the Chester River Steamboat Company, of which he was an agent. For his home, Taylor drew on his extensive travels around the Chesapeake and in Baltimore to select the latest style - the Italianate villa.

Despite passing through the hands of nearly a dozen owners since, the house retains its detailed lantern on a low-pitched roof and displays a rich series of ornamental brackets under the eaves of both the main roof and porches. Fine too are the jigsawn porch balustrades and the general proportioning of the building. Its symmetry and open, airy feel are hallmarks of the Italianate style.

TURN AND RETRACE YOUR STEPS ON WATER STREET TOWARDS HIGH STREET.

4. Hynson-Ringgold House
106 S Water Street



This impressive brick residence has dominated an important waterfront Street corner for more than two centuries. The compact massing of its all-header and Flemish bond brick walls, hipped roof and Greek Revival style portico contrast contrasts vividly with the Taylor House on the opposite corner. William Murray purchased the lot in 1743 from Nathaniel Hynson and erected the front section with its impressive facade. Thomas Ringgold, a wealthy merchant and Maryland legislator, remodeled and greatly extended this main block after acquiring it in 1767, installing a beautiful paneled parlor in the front section (dated 1771, attributed to the Annapolis designer and woodcarver William Buckland and now transferred to the Baltimore Museum of Art) while putting in a grand staircase to the rear. Besides Ringgold, there have been many other important residents, such as United States Senator James Alfred Pearce, and, more recently, the presidents of Washington College (which now owns and maintains the building). Also attached to the property is the large walled garden a spacious open lot in front which affords an unbroken vista of the Chester River.

TURN LEFT ON HIGH STREET.

5. **The Wickes House** **102 High Street**



This imposing Georgian style house is most associated with the Wickes family, one of Chestertown's most prominent families, who owned it from 1832 to 1943. But construction was initiated by the Wallis family, and the clean four-square Flemish brick construction fits the generation of building just prior to the American Revolution. It has five bays, a gabled roof with dormers, and 15 fireplaces - all original to the main house. Most mantels, moldings and floors are original.

6. **William Barroll House** **108-110 High Street**



This was originally a five-bay single residence, possibly built as early as 1743 by owner William Dougherty. William Barroll, a prominent local attorney, bought the Georgian home in 1797 and expanded it into a two-family home. The break in the brickwork, which in the earlier part is Flemish bond with glazed headers, makes the addition apparent. Noticeable also is the jog of the water table above the basement windows in the older section. The building has been well cared for in recent years and the comfortable front porches appear to be comparatively modern.

7. 123-125 High Street



This is an extremely handsome Victorian brick double-dwelling, especially notable for an ingenious repetition of an arch motif on the facade, beginning in the door panels, moldings and transom and carried out in the windows, arches and dormers. The building is unusually well-constructed and though broken up into a number of apartments it remains in excellent repair. It was designed as a double dwelling from the start.

8. Cahall Store 127 High Street, southeast corner of Queen Street



Thomas Hynson bought this corner of High and Queen streets between 1848 and 1855 for a total outlay of \$560. He built the double house next door and this vernacular Italianate building as store. It retains part of a tell-tale lantern atop its low hipped roof, has a bracketed cornice, and walls of hard brick with fine mortar joints. The large ground-storey windows can be explained by the fact that the old retail district of the Town began at about this point on High Street. After shopkeeper Cahall passed away in 1933 he willed the property to the Methodist Church and the building did duty as the Chestertown Library.

9. Buck-Bacchus Store
116 High Street, northeast corner of Queen Street



On this corner stands one of the earliest brick houses remaining in Chestertown, dating to 1735. John Buck, a merchant from Bideford, Devonshire, England, bought the lot and set about building two tenements. Buck, whose family exported pottery and woolen cloth to the American colonies as early as the 1600s, likely never lived here but used the building as a storehouse. Buck was known to have plantations in Maryland and Virginia and a sawmill in Maine.

By the time the house was sold in 1854 to William Bacchus, the lot had been reduced to a fraction of its 1735 bounds. Bacchus and his family not only kept up the store but made this their home as well. The building stayed in the Bacchus family until 1922. Finally in 1975 the building was purchased by Preservation, Inc., a local group, and the Maryland Historical Trust, and restored.

10. 201-203 High Street



Long neglected, this prize example of a retail establishment with a low-pitched hip roof, which must date to some time prior to 1877, has been beautifully painted and its cornice and brackets restored. The projecting display windows are among a very few originals that still survive in the town.

11. Imperial Hotel
208 High Street



The Imperial Hotel with double tiered verandah was erected in 1903 by W. W. Hubbard for use as office and store as well as a place of lodging. The entire building has been renovated for use as a hotel with the harmonious addition of an entrance court at the rear (visible from Queen Street) that includes a rustic outbuilding designed by local architect Marsha Fritz.

12. Prince Theatre 210 High Street



The first “movies” involved outdoor summer shows on the parking lot of the Bates Russell Motor Company building in the early 1900’s. In 1909 Russell bought Stam’s Hall and on Saturday, September 4, on the second floor, the movie house opened for a 7:30 p.m. show with an admission charge of five cents.

In 1928 Russell bought the butcher store next door (here) and built this movie house, that opened in 1928 as the New Lyceum. In 1957 Charles E. Prince purchased the business. “Pete” Prince, who started in the movies in 1922 at the age of nine selling popcorn at a Nashville movie house, had never lost his love for the movies. He preserved the old theater until his death in 1988. Then his wife Kit kept it open until 1991.

Now maintained by the Prince Theatre Foundation, the yellow brick in the front of this building is unusual for the town, though fashionable architects began to use this color by the 1890s elsewhere. The street-level doorways are clustered together and placed within a wide frame of bricks in parallel rows. Similarly, there is also the use of a checkerboard pattern of brick in conjunction with the second-storey window arches. Although the ground-story bricks have been painted, much of the roof and marquee treatment appears to be original.

13. Stam’s Hall 220 High Street



A Chestertown druggist/merchant, Colin Stam, undertook this large and ambitiously designed building in 1886 to house his flourishing business on the ground floor and provide spaces for public entertainment and gatherings on the second and third floors. The people of the town contributed \$1,000 to pay for a bell in the tower, which still tolls the hours. The Second Empire-style Stam building is remarkably elaborate for a town of about 2400 people, with its varied brickwork, white painted metal cornices, sandstone details and multi-level mansard roofs.

14. Chestertown Bank of Maryland
211 High Street



This impressive Beaux Arts bank was built in 1929, but it came at the expense of the tall five-bay brick Tilghman House that had stood here since the 1790s. amid some furore because It replaced a large 18th-century brick building at this location, the result is quite successful and untouched by later modernization. The entire facade is of sandstone and suggests a temple front in the Ionic order. The inset carvings of swags mid-way up this monumental facade reveal that the architect was softening the effect a little by introducing a device popular with French neo-classicists.

15. White Swan Tavern
231 High Street



This Colonial-era tavern was one of many in Kent County, of which few survive. The White Swan, as local legend calls it, dates to the mid-1700s. It is a two-and-a-half story, dormered brick building with colorful glazed headers in the Flemish bond facade on High Street. Another legend that passes through some history books is that George Washington bunked here in October 1774. During the 1800s the inn was known as the American Hotel.

A major restoration program in the late 1970s restored the old tavern building after generations of abuse and neglect. An archaeological excavation yielded some 70,000 objects from around the site, and the beauty of the Flemish bond brickwork with glazed headers was brought back to life. In 1981 the tavern reopened as a bed & breakfast.

TURN LEFT AT CROSS STREET.

16. 1908 Volunteer Fire Company
113 S. Cross Street



Constructed between 1908 and 1909, this was the Town's first sizeable volunteer firehouse. By the 1890s there was talk of upgrading the primitive engine house located near the market building on High Street. The style chosen was a severely geometrical one. The two-story, flat-roofed building is noted for its facade of concrete blocks and cast concrete lintels, sills, and name plaque. The firewagon and passage doors date to the original construction. Ironically, the firehouse was no sooner built than Chestertown suffered its worst general fire. The entire commercial block on the other side of Cross Street was destroyed in 1910.

17. Chestertown Railroad Station
Railroad and Cross streets



The railroad line on which this station is located was laid in 1869-72 for the Kent County Railroad. W.S. Culp, a local contractor built this station for the Pennsylvania Railroad, the owner of the line by that time, in a popular timber and stucco Queen Anne style in 1902-03. Then he became the first station master and telegraph operator. The railroad operated until 1968 when the Pennsylvania Railroad shut down freight service to Chestertown. The charming station was later moved 44 feet from the foot of Cross Street to allow for improvement of the thoroughfare. It is the only railroad station extant in Kent County and the only structure remaining associated in any way with transportation.

TURN AROUND AND RETRACE YOUR STEPS ON CROSS STREET, TO RETURN TO HIGH STREET.

18. Methodist Protestant Church
southwest corner of Cannon Street and Cross Street



Originally built as a church in 1859, this edifice has spent most of its life in secular uses, including a stint as the Kent News Building. The Methodist Protestants of Chestertown broke away from the main body of the church by 1830 and at first used a very simple building. Their new brick, temple-like structure of 1859 had, when still a church, tall windows along the flanks and a sanctuary (still visible) at the rear. After the congregation moved to High Street some thirty years later, the building became part of the adjacent public school buildings; and, finally, since around the turn of the century it has housed various printing operations. Although the flat vertical pilasters and the cornice around the building hint at the fading Greek Revival style, the heavy bracketing under the roof points to the later mid-century period.

19. Janes United Methodist Church
120 S. Cross Street



The cornerstone for Janes M. E. Church had only just been laid in 1914 when the twin-towered, Gothic style 1860's building belonging to the congregation on South Queen Street went up in flames. The church is named after Bishop Edmund S. Janes in response to his appreciation of this black congregation's work in Chestertown. This building, constructed of hand-made bricks, represents also the congregation's continued appreciation of the Gothic style - the style still visible at this date in both Christ Methodist and First Methodist over on High Street. The church has a well finished interior and remains virtually unchanged.

20. 108 S. Cross Street



This nicely proportioned three-story building is one of a number needed to replace the losses that this commercial block suffered in the great 1910 fire. Its tidy brick-faced facade seems to combine two style trends of the 'teens and 'twenties: the "Prairie" and Renaissance-revival styles. The simple band of rectilinear windows at top and the wide frame rectangle of the ground story fit the "Prairie," while the subdivided arched window of the middle storey is in the Renaissance mode. The short tile roof over the entrance is a later addition.

TURN LEFT AT HIGH STREET.

21. Bordley Corner 301 High Street



Thomas S. Bordley, a haberdasher claimed this prime retail corner in Chestertown in 1883. His shop burned in the fire of 1910 and this building was put up the following year.

22. Chestertown Pharmacy 329 High Street



The detailing of the roof zone in this delightful structure suggests that the builder had in mind that the facade would face all those approaching the business district via Spring Avenue. Its eye-catching steeple, triangular windows, stained glass, fish-scale shingles, etc., all fit the exuberance of the late 19th-century Queen Anne style. Below the cornice line, however, the building has been refaced; and a Colonial Revival frame, complete with broken pediment, surrounds the display window and doorway. This building must have been at the outer edge of the 1910 conflagration.

23. Lusby House
359 High Street



This frame house designed in the Italianate style replaced a one-and-one-half story structure that was the rectory for the Emmanuel Church around 1860. It was constructed by local carpenter William D. Smith and shows the familiar bracketed cornice (with corner pendants), heavy hoods above the windows, and a full-width porch that has unfortunately lost some of its detailing. Its list of owners include Harrison Vickers, son of Senator George Vickers who lived in a large Italianate house of his own on the opposite corner where the school was built in 1904, and Josiah Lusby, who purchased the house in 1885. It remained in the family until 1964. The house once had an outdoor kitchen at the rear of its larger back addition. The paint scheme has now been restored to one popular in the mid-19th century at the time the house was built.

TURN LEFT ON MILL STREET.

24. Sterling Castle
103 S. Mill Street



Ebenezer Blackiston was this first owner of this property, Lot No. 84, when he purchased it in 1730 from Simon Wilmer. Robert Sterling, a Lieutenant in the British Army, purchased part of the lot in 1756 and built a one-and-one-half story house three bays long and one deep. In 1759, Sterling was forced to sell the house and all its contents for 100 pounds. The creditor, Richard Porter, thought so little of the little abode that he referred to it derisively as “Sterling Castle.”

It kept the name, even as it picked up additions through the decades. This is the only remaining so-called “telescope” house in town. This type of additive construction can even be found in some of the grander residences of the Eastern Shore. The taller section was added some time in the nineteenth-century before 1877 and shared the large chimney that was on one end of the middle section. Here a change in type of clapboarding, dormers and other details can be discerned.

TURN RIGHT ON CANNON STREET.

**25. James Anderson House
400 Cannon Street**



It is likely that Elias Ringgold built on this lot after he purchased the land in 1733. James Anderson bought the property four years later when Ringgold died and replaced the frame house with this large Georgian brick home, one of only two in Town to feature an early lean-to addition, known locally as a “catslide roof.” It remained in the family until 1866.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS TO HIGH STREET AND TURN LEFT.

**26. Christ Methodist Church
401 High Street**



Despite the popular appeal of the Gothic Revival style in America from the 1830s onwards, very few examples can be found today in the Chestertown. Fittingly, the finest is an excellent church, designed by Baltimore architect Benjamin Buck Owens in 1887, and constructed at a cost of about \$29,000. This is one of the most richly ornamented buildings ever constructed in Town. Gothic arches, stained glass and buttresses are found all around.

CROSS HIGH STREET AT THE BUILDINGS ACROSS FROM THE CHURCH.

27. Hubbard House
402 High Street



This is one of a few surviving large-scale houses remaining on this side of High Street just above the Market Space. Built in 1877 in a rather conservative style for Thomas Hubbard, the facade is in five parts and absolutely symmetrical; and much of the detail, like the bracketed eaves and hooded windows had been in use for some decades. The ironwork atop the hip roof and the Eastlake style decoration of the porch columns give it an up-to-date appearance. Doubtless a more varied color scheme once set off this solid house.

TURN AROUND AND WALK BACK TOWARDS THE CENTER OF TOWN ON HIGH STREET.

28. Public School Building
400 High Street



This building was erected in 1901 as the public school and is a prime, early example of Colonial Revival in one of the Town's public buildings. The mass of the structure is emphasized by the entrance tower, a high gambrel roof, and a pair of large dormer windows (likewise gambrel roofed). The tower originally had two more stages; a balustrade, surmounted by an open cupola. Typical of early Colonial Revival is the use to excess of motifs like the Palladian window (in the tower and two dormers), expensive Flemish bond, and stone trim. on this site once stood one of the most imposing mansions of the Town, United States Senator George Vickers' three-storey Italianate residence that faced Mill Street. Now it is used as Kent County offices.

29. First United Methodist Church
105 N Mill Street, northeast corner of High Street



This handsome Gothic Revival church was built in 1875; the congregation organized in 1780. The tall spire and side-and axis pilasters and modillions remain from the original building.

TURN LEFT ON SPRING AVENUE.

30. Methodist Meeting House
southeast corner of Spring Avenue and Park Row



This was the first permanent Methodist church in town, put up between 1801-03 after a commission of the State Legislature granted the congregation a small portion of the western end of the Market Space. The brick structure, laid in Flemish bond, resembles, in somewhat simplified form, the appearance of the earlier Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal church situated to the east of the market Space; and the two are topographically aligned. There was originally a single main door, facing High Street, and another smaller one on Club Lane (now Spring Avenue). The first American Methodist Bishop, Francis Asbury, preached here and, according to his letters and journals, found Chestertown “a very wicked place.” The success of Methodism was such that other congregations arose in Town and this building became inadequate for the main group. It was abandoned to a variety of public and commercial purposes when the new house of worship was built further up on the same side of High Street.

31. Chestertown Post Office
104 Spring Avenue



The cornerstone of the present U.S. Post Office was laid in 1935 after the removal of a large, but nondescript old commercial hotel. The new structure, designed by the Baltimore firm of Lucius White and Henry Perring, is a striking example of Federal Revival architecture. Bearing a resemblance to such a mansion as “Homewood” (1803) still in Baltimore, the Post Office features a tall single-storey effect, with inset panels in the wall above the windows, and, above all, an elegant portico of slender columns with exquisite detailing above the doorway. Buildings of this elegance were not financially feasible in early 19th-century Chestertown. The local post office had had many locations, the last being Stam’s Hall, before this building was erected.

TURN RIGHT ON PARK ROW.

32. Hackett House
314 Park Row, northeast corner of Spring Avenue



Between 1765 and 1770 this lot, No. 41, was owned jointly by Benjamin Morgan and William Sluby, Jr., merchants trading under the name of Mrgan & Sluby. Charles Hackett bought the northwest half here in 1806 for \$500 - prime selling territory opposite the old Market Square. He built the five-bay, 2 1/2-story, central dorway clapboard building, the oldest still standing along Park Row and one of the few remaining in Town. Two lots to the rear off Spring Avenue, there stands an original, early, small brick smoke-house, belonging to another property.

33. Rockwell House
300 Park Row



The old tavern and restaurant, known as the Rockwell House (probably after the mid-nineteenth century owner) appears today to be a building of the immediate pre-Civil War era. Its narrow block-like form carries a low metal roof, clapboard siding (beneath the asbestos), and modest corner and window treatments, details that indicate the lingering popularity of Italianate design.

34. Fountain Park
bounded by High Stree, Spring Avenue, Park Row and Cross Street



Fountain Park was created by the Ladies Improvement Society, forerunner of the Chestertown Garden Club. The current fountain, crowned by Hebe, goddess of Youth and Beauty, and cupbearer to the Gods - was erected in 1899. Historically, this was the town's market place.

TURN LEFT ON CROSS STREET.

35. Kent County Courthouse
103 Cross Street



One of the most important acts in establishing a port of Chestertown in 1706 was the provision for a court house. The earliest known plat of the town shows the 18th-century, apsidal-ended court house in the center of a large area of public ground with Emmanuel Church in one corner and the cemetery or church yard using much of the rest. A small jail stood behind the court house, the latter

being of about the same size as the church in the late eighteenth century. The front section of the present court house was built in 1860, using a T-shaped plan whose main axis faces High Street. This, the oldest surviving part, is in essentially Italianate style, solidly built of hard, dark brick, with typically low roof, wide eaves, and elongated brackets along the cornice and on the doorframe. With the cemetery gone and the need for interior space pressing, a Colonial Revival addition was attached to the rear, with access from Cross Street, in 1969.

TURN AROUND AND WALK BACK TOWARDS HIGH STREET. TURN LEFT ON PARK ROW.

36. Emmanuel Church northeast corner of Cross Street and Park Row



Emmanuel Church is almost literally the physical cornerstone of the Chestertown plan, and it is in this building that an important new spiritual cornerstone was laid. In 1780 a small group of Anglican clergymen met in the 8-year-old building to coin a new title which would signify the break with England: The Protestant Episcopal Church. That term has, of course, been in use ever since. The structure has undergone much modification from its original 2-story, 5-bay format. The building was entered on the long side facing High Street and above the door was a costly Palladian window. The wall was in all-header bond. The Georgian effects were changed in the 1880s when the sanctuary was moved to the southeast (short) end, and the entrance shifted to the northwest end opposite. The pitch of the roof was changed, in keeping with a more medieval look; and the windows of the former entrance wall became single tall openings filled with stained glass. An entrance tower and parish hall improvements were effected in 1905. Among the many famous rectors of this church was Dr. William Smith, former Provost of the College of Philadelphia and founder of Washington College.

37. Masonic Temple 100 Park Row



In 1826 the Maryland General Assembly granted this small lot on the public land to the Masons and by 1835 the Masonic temple is referred to in a deed. The construction was of a very simple and consistent sort, resembling the two churches already on this axis, with the exception of the wide cross gable that breaks into the roof line above the main entrance. Undoubtedly, this once contained a circular window that has since been blocked off. The Masons had a fine hall on the second Storey, but as early as 1849 this was abandoned to a newspaper establishment. The structure was known for decades as the Kent News building while many other offices and enterprises operated on the ground Storey. A one-story clapboard addition was put on, perhaps as early as 1877, to accommodate the demand for this central location.

TURN LEFT ON COURT STREET.

38. Lawyer's Row 113-115-117 Court Street



It is common in small rural Maryland towns to find Lawyers' Rows in the county seat, near the Court House. These three buildings, all built sometime after 1850, are examples of those earliest buildings extant for that purpose in Chestertown. At No. 113 the tall entrance wall suggests a dignified chamber for consultation within. The hooded windows and the ornate pendant-brackets imply a certain restrained richness of taste, especially as compared with the more sparsely decorated cornice and doorway of the slightly earlier office at No. 115. Perhaps the most satisfying example of its type, at No. 117 one finds here a severe, dark, hard brick with thin tinted mortar joints, a formalizing pilaster effect at the two corners, and nicely related wood and tilted-brick friezes completing the top of the composition. The original dark door completes the authentic feeling of this office facade.

39. Original Library
119 Court Street



This one-story frame structure with simple brackets under a plain box cornice served as the original library building in Town.

TURN RIGHT ON CHURCH ALLEY.

40. Church Alley Store
106 Church Alley



This small building was one of a few such on the north side of Church Street, or Alley, at the end of the 19th century. It was built on the site of the “old Sturgis house” after it apparently burned down in the mid-1800s. It served as a store into the 1950s and has been neatly restored at ground level to its former appearance. A “catslide” roof can be seen around to the rear.

41. Geddes-Piper House
101 Church Alley



This impressive 3 1/2-story 18th-century brick building comes as a surprise in its cramped location on little Church Alley. In fact, the plot of land around the house was entirely open between Court and Queen Streets down to the late 19th century, and the 18th-century court house faced this street. It is assumed that a bricklayer, James Moore, began the work in the second quarter of the 18th century after acquiring the land. But the main portion of this tall, solidly built townhouse

seems to have been erected under the ownership of James Piper in the 1780s when full three-story elevations were common in Atlantic coastal towns and the present form of the house with its rear wing resembles the finest Federal homes in Philadelphia. All four corners of the structure are framed with unusual brick pilasters that taper at the top under the two heavy cornices which cap the front and back of the house. The tall double chimneys must have been especially impressive when the Queen Street side was open to view. Because Collector of Customs William Geddes (see No. 1) once lived here, the building is known as the Geddes Piper House. It is the headquarters of the Historical Society of Kent County, which bought and restored the property, using Henry Powell Hopkins, architect, to design the rather heavy Tuscan pedimented doorway.

TURN LEFT ON QUEEN STREET.

42. Nicholson House
111 N. Queen Street



Narrow Queen Street features many late 18th and early 19th century tradesmen's homes as well as more substantial merchant's homes, of which this is an example. Captain John Nicholson built this Federal-style town house in 1788. Nicholson was the youngest of three brothers, all of whom were prominent in the Navy during the Revolutionary War. John served as Commander of the Continental sloop *Hornet*; James was head of the Maryland Navy and then head of the Continental Navy; Samuel's career culminated in the 1790s when he commanded and supervised the construction of the United States Navy's flagship, the *U.S.S. Constitution*.

TURN RIGHT ON MAPLE AVENUE.

43. Burchinal House
113 Maple Avenue



The William Burchinal House, built for one of the town's prominent merchant families, is one of the principal essentially Greek Revival style frame dwellings in Chestertown, its original aspect marred only by asbestos shingles added in the 1950s.

44. 107 Maple Avenue



Stick Style decorations in the gables and dormers and on the roof enliven this L-shaped frame house. The late 1800s residence was designed to take full advantage of the lot's width at a time when traffic was beginning to increase on this primary thoroughfare through town. The one-story front porch runs parallel to the road and is set back, protectively, from the wing of the house. The occupants thus enjoyed a good view, both indoors and outdoors, of the passerby.

45. Pearce House 103 Maple Avenue



Built for judge James Pearce, son of United States Senator Pearce in the mid-1880s with the help of the capable Chestertown contractor H. M. Stuart, this house is one of the most striking in Town. Educated at Princeton, Pearce and his wife had undoubtedly seen some of the more extreme designs around the New York-Philadelphia area in the Queen Anne style. There is here an extreme picturesqueness of effect in the L-shaped plan. The roof is irregular and holds dormers of different shapes; the walls move in and out, supporting open porches and closed, shallow projecting bay windows. Above all, there is a dramatic variety of colors and textures: brick, timber, clapboard, wood shingle, stone, stucco, slate and terra cotta. The house is a tour-de-force (costing \$8,000) which one could not miss on reaching Town from the south. After leaving the Pearce family, the house served for a time as the Emmanuel Church rectory. In recent years it has been carefully restored.

46. Chester House

201 N Water Street, southeast corner of Maple Avenue



In 1805 a corporation built a wooden bridge across the Chester River at the foot of Maple Avenue (then Fish Street). This development added great importance to this comfortable three-bay brick house, which had been first constructed in the mid-18th century. In its present form, one can see additions to the left and rear (a cat-slide roof slopes towards the Chester River); and although a 19th-century porch that once surrounded the entire ground story has disappeared, the lowered, bracketed roof remains, as does the later main doorway. There once stood at the edge of this important property the small toll house which collected tolls until the bridge was made free in 1890 by the two counties.

TURN RIGHT ON WATER STREET.

47. 112 N Water Street



Dating from around World War 1, this substantial house stresses the virtues of solidity, dignity and restraint. Made of hard, dark brick with thin mortar, the essential lines are severe, while retaining such late 19th century amenities as a solidly built, full-width, large front porch, a two-story bay window, and the formal porte-cochere (at left rear).

48. Frisby House
110 N Water Street



For generations this early brick residence was the only dwelling on the town side of this Water Street block. Much of the adjacent land between Maple Avenue and High Street had been reserved by the waterfront houses for gardens and auxiliary uses. The house was probably built for the Frisby family around 1766 with a simple three-part facade. The front wall is in all-header bond while the ends are in common bond. Only the south wall had windows on two floors; the north wall windows and the porch are later changes.

49. Perkins House
115 N Water Street



Built in the third quarter of the 18th century, perhaps for Simon Wickes, this house resembles the Frisby House in most respects. It likewise has an all-header bond brick front, but the water table jogs above the basement windows and the north wall is in a fine Flemish bond with glazed headers. The restoration of the building includes a small porch with benches, such as are known to have existed in 18th century Chestertown.

50. 111-113 N Water Street



This waterfront double residence is actually a late 19th century building to which additions have been made. It harmonizes with other residences in this block because of the Colonial-Revival entrance porches and the simulated stone architraves above the facade windows.

51. Watkins-Bryan House
109 N Water Street



Known as the Watkins house because Esau Watkins received the land as a wedding gift in 1739 from his Ringgold in-laws, this may be the oldest house surviving on Water Street. It is hip-roofed with a coved cornice and is oriented perpendicularly to the street. The walls are chiefly of Flemish bond with glazed headers but a simpler section was added to the river front. Much of the detailing is restored.

52. River House
107 N Water Street



Now known as River House, this National Register landmark was first owned by Thomas Smythe, merchant and shipbuilder, and then Peregrine Letherbury, attorney, during the 1780's. Law professor Peregrine Letherbury was first secretary and later President of the Washington College Board of Visitors and Governors. Letherbury is thought to have completed this very elegant mansion, perhaps the finest of the immediate post-Revolutionary period in Chestertown. Tremendous attention was paid to the high three-storey facade, which rises above a tall basement. The Flemish bond street wall is framed by slender brick pilasters at the sides, a cut stone water table, and an extremely fine cornice under the low pitched roof. The two main floors are separated by a simple stone belt course and their windows topped with rusticated stone flat arches. The moldings of the cornice are especially refined (egg and dart, dentil, etc.) and serve to tie in the pilaster capitals. The superimposed porches of the river front and the entrance doorway are the work of Orin Bullock, nationally known restoration architect. The building is currently privately owned and paneling from a second floor parlor is now in the Winterthur Museum outside Wilmington, Delaware.

53. Anderson House
103 N Water Street



Perhaps the most radically transformed early house in Town, the Thomas Anderson residence of the 1790s seems to have been five bays and 2 1/2 stories at first and then modified to suit the Italianate style at mid-century when the third floor, bracketed cornices, hooded windows and front porch were added. A service wing was in place at the north end by the later century, certainly, and a marvelous two-story oriel window of the Queen Anne type was put on at the south end. Today, its lengthy and irregular facade is one of the most interesting in this impressive section of the waterfront streetscape.

54. Whitehall
101 N Water Street



Whitehall is in many respects the Town's signature mansion. Thomas Smythe, merchant and shipbuilder and perhaps the wealthiest man in Kent County, placed his residence in this pivotal location around 1770. Smythe served as the head of Maryland's Revolutionary Provisional Government from 1774 until the State's first Constitution was adopted in 1776.

The mansion is a picture of symmetry and proportion that stands with the best of Georgian architecture in the Middle Atlantic region. It is notable for its half-columned Doric portal and a five-bay facade that remains flat to reveal the beauty of its all-header bond brickwork. Fine frames surround the 12-over-12 windows that are capped by keystone flat arches.

The house takes its name from the large space allotted for the hall and staircase on the street side of the house (reminiscent of Mount Pleasant). The dormered hip roof was restored shortly after 1905 when Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Hubbard acquired the much-altered house. The tall Ionic porch on the river front is also of this later era, but to Mrs. Hubbard belongs the credit of being the first leader of historic restoration in Chestertown. One of the appreciative early residents of this gracious home was United States Senator Ezekiel Chambers, later judge and President of Washington College's Board of Visitors and Governors.

YOU HAVE NOW REACHED THE TOUR STARTING POINT AT THE FOOT OF HIGH STREET.

A Walking Tour of Easton, Maryland

There was nothing random nor serendipitous about the founding of Talbot Court House. It was not built on any navigable waterway and the site selected was not located on an established trade route. The name said it all - this was going to be a government town, centrally located to all sections of the county.

That court house was built in 1711; the county, named for Lady Grace Talbot, sister of the second Lord Baltimore, had been established a half-century earlier in 1661. From its very beginning as an English colony the county economy was based on tobacco agriculture and the bountiful harvest of Chesapeake Bay from its over 600 miles of tidal shoreline, the most of any county in the United States.

Talbot Court House was never envisioned as a bustling town - just a place to conduct occasional official business and move on. As such for decades the settlement consisted primarily of taverns and a few scattered houses. But in 1788 the Maryland legislature designated the village the “East Capital” of Maryland and renamed it Easton.

In short order Easton had become the largest town on the Eastern Shore. The founding families of the Delmarva Peninsula, which dominated the Eastern Shore social, political, and economic history - the Tilghmans, Lloyds, Goldsboroughs, Hollydays and Stevens built their principal seats of residence in town. Easton had the Shore’s finest bank, its first newspaper, its first Federal offices, its first brick hotel, its first steamship line.

This wealth and building boom brought skilled artisans to town as well and the early 1800s buildings of Easton, many of which still stand, were the equal of those found in the big cities of Baltimore and Philadelphia. Our walking tour will start in the historic Town Center where a Visitor Center has been created and parking available...



**1. Easton Welcome and Resource Center
11 S. Harrison Street**



The Easton firehouse stood here until 1833; it was refitted in the late 1990s to serve as the hub of visitor activity in Talbot County.

TURN LEFT ON S. HARRISON STREET AND WALK TO THE INTERSECTION OF DOVER STREET.

**2. Avalon Theatre
40 East Dover Street**



Built in 1921, at the cost of \$100,000, The Avalon Theatre immediately became, as one newspaper reporter proclaimed, the “Showplace of the Eastern Shore.” Visitors were greeted by leaded glass doors at every theater entrance and inside was an 18-foot dome with 148 lights, a 300 pipe electric-pneumatic organ, an electric player piano, and a ballroom on the second floor.

However, when the Schine Theatre Chain purchased the Theatre in 1934, they completely refitted the building. Schine closed the ballroom, and redesigned the theater with an Art Deco theme that still stands today. It became a movie hosue of renown; three world premieres took place at the Avalon including *The First Kiss* starring Gary Cooper and Fay Rae, which was filmed in Easton and St. Michaels.

The Avalon’s run as Easton’s premier movie house ended in 1985 after a 64-year run. Renovations of the neglected building began in late 1987 and the Avalon was magnificently restored and upgraded to a performing arts center, retaining its proscenium stage, domed ceiling, and incredible acoustics.

TURN LEFT ON DOVER STREET.

3. Townsend Building
36-38 East Dover Street



Alphonse Townsend built this brick commercial building in 1879. The pent roof over the first floor has been altered but the roof cornice and decorative brick work above are unchanged.

4. Hill's Drugs
30 East Dover Street



This family-owned pharmacy has been serving Easton since 1928. The structure on this property, like most of its surroundings, burned in an 1878 fire. The present structure was built a year later as a double store and residence. In 1931 it was purchased by John Noble to form the seeds for Noble Ford Company. William Hill brought his pharmacy here in 1945. This Italianate brick building was modernized and remodeled in 2007 but retains its original iron cresting at the roofline and weathervane on top.

TURN AND RETRACE YOUR STEPS ON DOVER STREET TO HARRISON STREET.

5. Pollard Edmondson House

41 East Dover Street at southwest corner of Harrison Street



The unusual brick building is a composite of two styles 100 years apart. The earlier portion is a two-and-a-half story Federal house facing Harrison Street, built in 1794 by Pollard Edmondson for his daughter Lucretia. Edmondson was descended from two early Maryland families; John Pollard, a cooper, who emigrated in 1662 and James Edmondson, a planter. He was a member of the Lower House of Assembly from 1751 to 1768 and a member of Provincial Conventions in 1775 and 1776. Edmondson's grand-daughter would later marry a Wallis and further down on the family tree came Bessie Wallis Warfield, for whom Prince Edward, Duke of Windsor, would abdicate the throne of England to marry.

Between 1891 and 1896 the Victorian facade facing Dover Street was constructed. It is about six feet wide with a belt course of protruding bricks and rosettes. During that time the building began its commercial life for the Farmers and Merchants National Bank.

6. Tidewater Inn

101 East Dover Street



As Easton grew, the community became a center for travelers in the Tidewater area. By the late 19th century, the various taverns and hotels had given way to two larger hotels and a few boarding houses. In 1891, a new frame hotel was erected on the site of the present-day Tidewater Inn. It operated for several years under the name of the Avon Hotel. When it was later sold, the name reverted to Avon until the Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1944. The destruction of the Avon left Easton without a major hotel. In 1947, A. Johnson Grymes broke ground for the Tidewater Inn. and the grand opening took place two years later.

7. Bullitt House
102 East Dover Street



This home-and-office complex was built in 1801 by Thomas James Bullitt, an early president of the Easton National Bank, financial leader of the Eastern Shore and progenitor of the noted Bullitt family of Philadelphia. The outstanding brick masonry and ornamental woodwork of the inside qualify the house as one of Maryland's finest from the Federal period. The house remained in the family until the 1930s.

8. United States Post Office
116 East Dover Street



The Neoclassical Easton post office was built in 1933, typical of Depression-era projects across the country.

9. Inn at 202 East Dover
202 East Dover Street



Built in 1874, this Victorian-era mansion reflects many architectural styles. For years the building was known as the Wrightson House, thanks to its early 20th century owner, Charles T. Wrightson, one of the founders of the S. & W. canned food empire. Locally it is still referred to as Captain's Watch due to its prominent balustraded widow's walk. Renovated in 2006, it is now home to an inn and restaurant.

TURN LEFT (NORTH) ON HANSON STREET.

10. Standpipe
southwest corner of Mills Place and Hanson Street



This standpipe was constructed in 1886, establishing Easton's central water system, complete with pumping station. When the 84,000-gallon tank was being built, townspeople would climb the 100' 2" tower to enjoy the view from above the rooftops. A local newspaper report from September 1886 noted that the 100-foot high standpipe was originally painted a bright red.

TURN RIGHT ON AUGUST STREET. TURN RIGHT ON AURORA STREET.

11. John S. McDaniel House
14 N Aurora Street



These two blocks of North Aurora Street between Dover Street and Goldsborough Street were known as "Silk Stocking Row" for its well-heeled residents in the late 1800s. The property was purchased by Thomas Robson, proprietor of the Union Hotel and editor of the *Eastern Star*, one of two leading newspapers in town, in 1851. A Southern sympathizer during the Civil War, Robson lost his businesses and the house he built here. This home, with prominent octagonal corner tower, was built in 1865 and has been the home of many prominent Maryland families. The Reverend Henry Lay, first bishop of the diocese of Easton, was one. He bought the property from Robert Lloyd Tilghman. Although known locally as the McDaniel House, that family lived here only nine years before losing it when they couldn't cover the payments on the hefty mortgage.

**TURN AND WALK NORTH ON N. AURORA STREET TO GOLDSBOROUGH STREET.
TURN RIGHT.**

12. Foxley Hall
24 N Aurora Street



The corner property on the southeast side of Goldsborough and Aurora streets was purchased from Joseph Haskins in 1794 by Deborah Perry Dickinson, widowed descendent of Admiral Wiliam Perry. The free-standing brick Federal house subsequently built here, originally called Burnside and later Foxley Hall, is one of the most impressive in Easton. The structure has been greatly changed since construction, most notably in the late 1800s by local historian Oswald Tilghman.

TURN AND WALK WEST ON GOLDSBOROUGH STREET.

13. Trinity Cathedral
315 Goldsborough Street



Trinity Episcopal Cathedral on “Cathedral Green”, is of traditional Gothic design in granite, brought in by water. The Diocese of Easton was formed in 1868 and stipulated that a Bishop be in residence here. Trinity Cathedral purchased two lots on Goldsborough Street and the Chapel was started at once. The first Bishop was the Right Reverend Henry C. Lay. The architecture of the building derives from a movement in England around 1840 to construct Churches based on early Gothic parish churches and chapels. The steeple was added to surmount the tower in 1978.

TURN AND WALK WEST ON GOLDSBOROUGH STREET.

14. Bishop's House
214 Goldsborough Street



This picturesque house, an historic inn since 1988, was built a century earlier by Captain Edward Roberts for Philip Frances Thomas, governor of the state of Maryland from 1848 to 1851 and the first state Comptroller of the Treasury 1851 to 1853. Thomas lived in the house barely two years. When he died in 1890, the house and property were sold to the Episcopal Church for use as the residence for the Bishop of the Diocese of Easton.

TURN LEFT ON GOLDSBOROUGH STREET.

15. Benholme
120 Goldsborough Street



This crisp home was built in 1880, typical of a street that looks much as it did almost 150 years ago. Greek Revival, Queen Anne styles proliferate in the windows, gables and porches along Goldsborough Street.

16. Jump House
107 Goldsborough Street



The varied architectural styles on Goldsborough Street sometimes mix in the same house, such as the Jump House with Queen Anne turret, Italianate roof brackets and Greek Revival porch. It was built for a family of merchants who operated on Washington Street.

17. Gregg Building

30 Goldsborough Street, southwest corner of Harrison Street

This corner building of dark brick was built in the 1920s as a Dodge Brothers Motor Car dealership.

18. Old Frame Hotel/Nevius and Frampton Hardware

1 Goldsborough Street



This building was constructed in 1866 as a downtown hotel called the European House, replacing an earlier structure that was razed. George Haddaway was proprietor. The name never penetrated the local consciousness as the townsfolk called it the “Old Frame Hotel.” In 1899 Simon Nevius and Charles L. Frampton who remodeled it and added a warehouse for their hardware business. A fire in 1955 consumed the large hipped roof that originally covered the building but otherwise looks much the same.

TURN RIGHT ON NORTH WASHINGTON STREET.

19. 110 North Washington Street



This fine Italiaate house, since modified for office use, dates to 1866.

20. Coates Lodge #102
114 North Washington Street



Freemasonry has existed on the Eastern Shore since the 1700s; five lodges were active when the country formed in 1787. Dr. John Coates formed the first Grand Lodge of Masons in Maryland, having received a dispensation from Pennsylvania for a charter. Although named for Dr. Coates, the Easton Lodge #102, was not founded until May 12, 1855, the third lodge in town. The group first met in the Talbot County Court House before moving into this colorful structure of light orange brick in 1881. A rear addition was added in 1930.

21. Langsdale House
120 North Washington Street



This Victorian frame house is one of four Langsdale houses in Easton remaining in its original location. It features fish-scale shingles and jigsawn woodwork.

22. Hollyday House
131 North Washington Street



This house may have once been a tavern and may be one of the oldest structures in town. Or not. It certainly dates to at least the early 1800s and is notable for its steeply pitched roof and outsized chimneys that rise high above the roofline. Those brick chimneys are enclosed within the end walls and sport corbelled caps.

TURN AND WALK SOUTH ON NORTH WASHINGTON STREET.

23. Perrin Smith House
119-121 North Washington Street



Walking south on Washington Street, the Perrin-Smith House is the first of five Federal-style row buildings on the west side of the street and one of the most finely crafted structures remaining from Easton's infancy. A brick passageway separates it from its most immediate neighbor. Inside and out many elaborate original details remain. Built circa 1795, it was named not for the original owner but for Thomas Perrin Smith, founder of the *Republican Star*, Easton's oldest newspaper and the third oldest in Maryland (now the *Star Democrat*). Next door the Brick Hotel, built in 1812, was the Eastern Shore's leading hostelry. It is now an office building and the newspaper offices were purchased by the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club in 1911.

24. Easton National Bank
36 North Washington Street



The Easton National Bank was established in 1810. After its original building was lost to fire, this Beaux Arts replacement rose in 1904.

25. McCrory's
24 North Washington Street



The largest building in the Washington Street commercial district was built of brick laid in Flemish bond before 1805, making it one of Easton's earliest structures. Owen Kennard, the dominant land owner along North Washington Street, is thought to have erected the well-proportioned building on his property to serve as a store and residence.

In 1876 the building was sold out of the Kennard family to John W. Jump who ran a fine dress and household goods store until World War I. In 1915 David Gregg bought the property and made it even more imposing with the addition of a fourth floor under a mansard roof. McCrory's store operated in this space for many years.

TURN RIGHT ON FEDERAL STREET.

26. 9 Federal Street



Here you'll see a splash of English Tudor in downtown Easton, facing Court House Square.

27. Sheriff House and Jail

northwest corner of Courthouse Square, on the southeast corner of Federal Street and West Street



This High Victorian structure of grey granite was built in 1881, replacing the previous jail on this site that had stood since 1710.

TURN LEFT ON WEST STREET.

28. Court House South Wing

4 North West Street



This wing contained many of the public services for Talbot County, including the library before it moved across the street.

TURN LEFT ON DOVER STREET.

29. 6 West Dover Street



This block of Victorian commercial/residential properties was built after the flames from the 1878 Market Place Fire swept down the street. This brick structure features round Romanesque windows.

TURN LEFT ON WASHINGTON STREET INTO COURTHOUSE SQUARE.

30. Talbot County Courthouse
11 North Washington Street



In 1709, 2 acres of land known as “Armstrong’s old field, near Pitte’s bridge was designated by a group of leading citizens to be the site of the new court house. Philemon Hemsley oversaw the construction of the building which was twenty feet by thirty feet in size. The courthouse was razed and replaced with a new brick structure in 1794 to serve as Maryland’s Eastern Shore Capital. This new and present courthouse was remodeled in 1958 which included removal of the front porch and the addition of two wings.

31. Talbot Boys Monument
Courthouse Square



The memorial honors the Confederate soldiers of Talbot County. The name of Admiral Franklin Buchanan, whose home was here and who is buried in the town’s Wye Cemetery, heads the list. Buchanan commanded the Souther ironclad C.S.S. *Virginia* before being wounded.

32. Daylight Building
northeast corner of Dover Street and Washington Street



The Daylight Building, so named for its large windows, was built after the 1878 fire that took away several Federal houses on this block. You can still see remnants of the name “Daylight Building” in the brick facade.

33. Shannahan & Wrightson Hardware
12 North Washington Street



Dating to 1791, when a 2 1/2-story Federal brick shop/home was erected on the site of a frame dwelling owned by Philemon Hemsley, builder of 1710 Court House, this store can qualify as the oldest in Easton. Dates on the building show when additions were made in 1877-1881-1889. In 1877 the property was purchased by the Shannahan and Wrightson Hardware Company who raised the roof and later adding a full third floor with Victorian facade. The present front was completed in time for a grand opening on Dec. 7, 1941 - Pearl Harbor Day.

TURN AND WALK SOUTH ON WASHINGTON STREET AND TURN LEFT ON DOVER STREET.

34. 7 East Dover Street



This is an early Federal-style building, circa 1788. The second-story windows are original.

35. Talbot Bank
18 East Dover Street



The Talbot Bank of Easton, Maryland was chartered in 1885 and has operated continuously as an independent bank since its beginning. The Neoclassical headquarters on Dover Street, crafted in limestone, was built in 1908.

TURN AND WALK BACK ONE-HALF BLOCK TO WASHINGTON STREET AND TURN LEFT.

**36. Odd Fellows Hall
1 South Washington Street**



Miller Lodge, Number 18, organized in 1832 with 43 members and is the oldest in Talbot County. After meeting in Washington Hall opposite Port Street until 1839, the lodge moved to this site. Its original hall burned to the ground in 1855. Up and going again the next year, that building fell victim to the fire that broke out in Market Square on October 1, 1878. The present building, one of the most impressive on Washington Street, was dedicated on September 25, 1879. The designer incorporated an eclectic combination of symbols and stylistic elements in composing the four-story brick exclamation point at Easton's most important intersection.

**37. Emergency Hospital/Tred Avon Building
13 South Washington Street**



Like its neighbor next door, the Odd Fellows Hall, the buildings on this site perished in fires in 1855 and 1878. The three-story, seven-bay building with a facade of red-orange, machine-made brick was built shortly after the second fire, probably as a hotel. It is best known as Easton's first hospital, opened in 1907. The Easton Emergency Hospital occupied the upper two floors. There were two surgeons, three general practioners and fifteen beds; a "colored" ward had four more beds. By 1913 the hospital was severely overcrowded and a campaign was waged to build a new structure.

38. Historical Society of Talbot County Auditorium
15-17 South Washington Street



The Historical Society of Talbot County was founded in 1954 to preserve and celebrate the history and culture of Talbot County, Maryland. The Historical Society's campus and features historic houses surrounded by award-winning gardens, maintained by the Talbot County Garden Club. The historical Society of Talbot County's Auditorium, completed in 1987, is recognized as an outstanding example of the preservation, graceful restoration, and adaptive use of a historic interior space. The Society used the sanctuary of the former Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1856 with bricks from an 1824 structure, to create a multi-purpose community facility.

39. James Neall House
27 south Washington Street



The centerpiece of the Historical Society collection is the superb interpretation of Federal architecture created by Quaker cabinetmaker and craftsman James Neall between 1804 and 1810. The Neall House compares favorably with the finest Federal homes built in the big cities in Baltimore and Philadelphia at the time. The brickwork on the exterior features fine Flemish bond courses with unusual raised jointing. The steeply pitched roof of the 3 1/2-story brick house is set off by a prominent chimney. The windows are set in heavy, pegged wood frames with wood sills and splayed stone lintels.

40. Mary Jenkins House
30 South Washington Street



Another Historical Society property, the frame Mary Jenkins House was constructed circa 1790.

41. 43 South Washington Street



This five-bay frame building dates to 1857.

42. 105-109 South Washington Street



These brick Federal houses are representative of many that lined Washington Street. The Askins House (#105) is one of the best preserved modest homes in town with a fine Flemish bond brick facade, brick lintels and tall end chimneys. The neighbors to the south also feature a Flemish-bond facade that is enlivened by double-keystone lintels at the window openings.

TURN LEFT ON SOUTH STREET.

43. Hughlett Henry House
10 South Street



This house from the first decades of the 19th century, apparently built and owned by Samuel Hopkins, a carriage maker, is much-admired for the quality of its masonry. The bricks are perfectly formed and laid in a Flemish bond pattern with fine mortar joints.

44. Christ Church Rectory
12 South Street



This property was deeded to the members of the Vestry in 1842 from Dr. William H. Thomas and whatever structures existed here at that time were razed for the church and rectory. Constructed in 1856, Richard Upjohn, architect of New York City's famed Trinity Church, supplied the plan. The Gothic-influenced story-and-a-half Parish House is beautifully proportioned in grey and brown granite.

45. Christ Church
southwest corner of South and Harrison streets



Christ Church, St. Peter's Parish, was founded in 1692 and this is its fifth place of worship, built between 1840 and 1845 under the guidance of Reverend Dr. Henry Michael Mason, who brought with him the architectural plan of famed architect William Strickland for a church which had recently been erected in Salem, New Jersey. The original structure, built of Port Deposit granite, consisted of the nave and the tower with its steeple. Additions and subtractions (pinnacles in the tower) have come at a regular clip over the years without compromising the English Gothic design.

46. Easton Armory

40 South Harrison Street on the northeast corner of South Street



The brick fortress with crenellated roofline once housed the Maryland National Guard headquarters but now is home to the Waterfowl Festival, a wildlife art and sportsman's expo since 1971 that features nature and wildlife paintings, sculpture, carvings, duckstamps, photography, books, gifts and antique decoys and activities at numerous locations around Easton.

47. Academy Art Museum

106 South Street



Talbot County's first public high school located at has been reconfigured into a fine arts museum, founded in 1958. Considered one of the finest regional art museums in the country, the Academy Art Museum is dedicated to presenting rotating exhibitions of national significance and the best from the region's artistic community.

TURN LEFT ON TALBOT LANE.

48. Talbot County Women's Club

18 Talbot Lane



This outstanding Federal home - its brickwork is considered among Easton's finest - was built by James Price, Register of Wills, shortly after he purchased the property in 1792. He first erected a wooden frame structure and completed the brick addition around 1800. The Talbot County Women's club acquired the building for a clubhouse in 1946.

TURN LEFT ON SOUTH LANE.

49. Stevens/Hambleton Building

28 South Harrison Street at southeast corner of South Lane



In 1790, Benjamin Stevens, son of John Stevens of Compton, a 1770s Georgian mansion on Trappe Creek, and brother of Samuel Stevens, a future three-term Maryland governor, bought Lots 24, 25 and 26 as laid out on Harrison Street by the Town Commissions. Benjamin built one of Easton's earliest homes, a three-bay brick building on this corner. Benjamin died in 1794 and left the property to his father, who survived him by only a year. The family wills directed that the house be rented until the young Stevens girls were married and then be sold out of one of Talbot County's most important families.

The property was bought in 1845 by Colonel Samuel Hambleton, a rising young Easton attorney. Hambleton also owned the Brick Hotel opposite the Courthouse. He enlarged his home here and remodeled it to include such touches as the prominent porch. The house would remain in the Hambleton family for more than 100 years until 1949, when it was sold and converted into apartments. Of late the building has served as an upscale restaurant, first the Inn at Easton and now the Bartlett Pear Inn.

TURN RIGHT ON HARRISON STREET AND WALK ONE-HALF BLOCK TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

A Walking Tour of Pocomoke City, Maryland

The first settlement on the banks of the Pocomoke River here evolved after Edward Stevens set up a ferry service in 1695. The cluster of structures at Steven's ferry landing came to be known as "Meeting House Landing," although there is no firm evidence that a primitive church stood on the site. A tobacco warehouse was built at the river and for many years the settlement took the common name, "Warehouse Landing." It acted, more or less, like a bank, where planters could put their tobacco on deposit and write drafts against it to pay off debts, buy land, or transfer funds for goods and services. After the United States government formed in 1787 and created the dollar as legal tender, the warehouse lost its purpose. The name "Warehouse Landing" fell out of use by 1790, and the old building itself fell into disuse and was left to decay, though it stood as late as 1820.

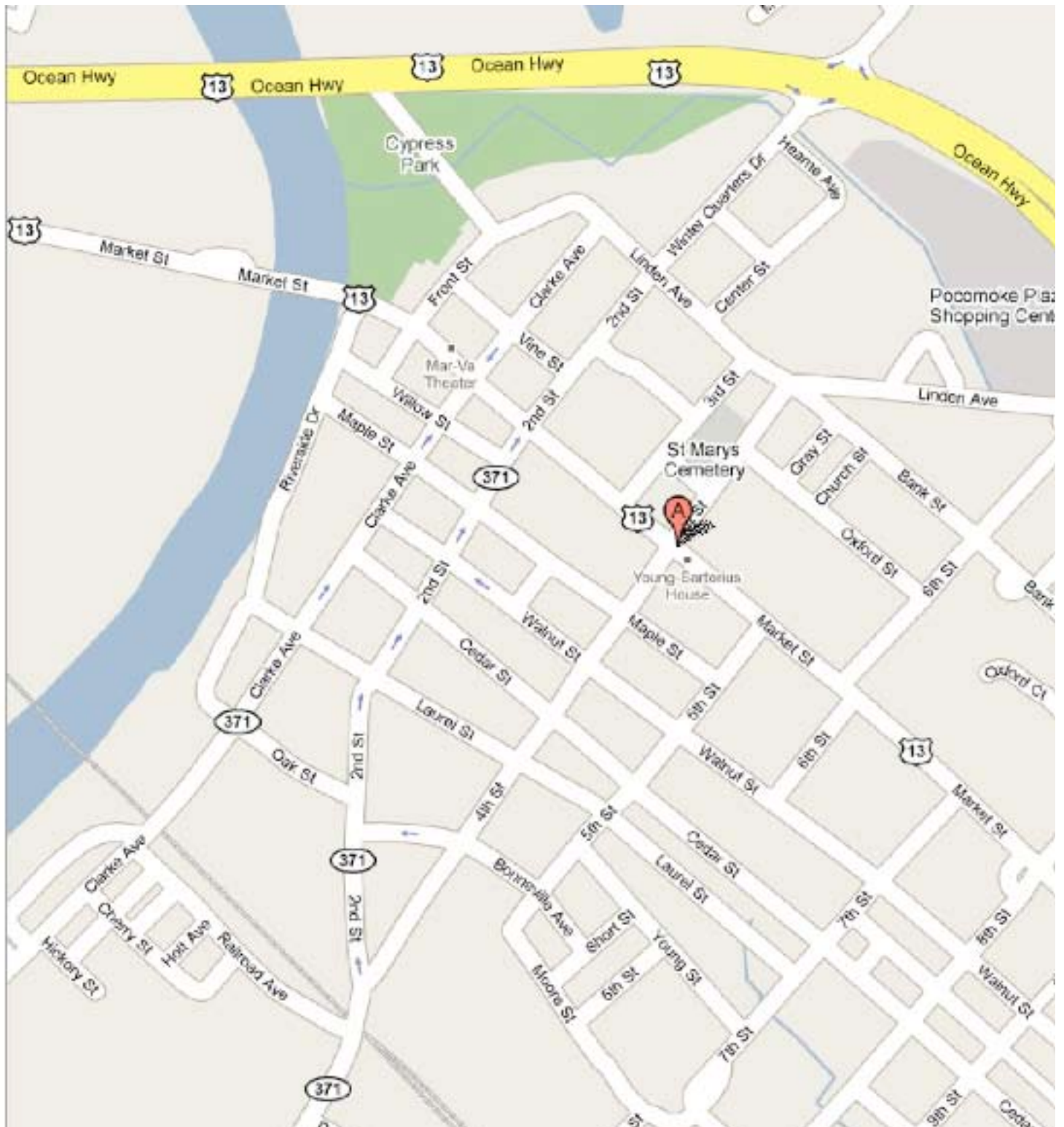
The land on which Pocomoke City is located originally came from five tracts, four of which appear to have formed a common corner near the ferry landing. An important one was a tract known as "Wooten Underedge", patented in 1682, but it was over 100 years later -- in the 1790s that about ten small lots were carved out of it and sold; then, about 28 lots were sold 1800-1809, a period of time when, also, about nine lots were sold from an adjacent tract of land, patented in 1670 as "Newtown". After the warehouse closed, the village took on this historic name.

Newtown developed steadily as a shipping port for surrounding agriculture and lumber interests. In 1878 the name of the town was changed to Pocomoke City, reflecting the river that was the lifeblood of the community. No river in America of comparable width is as deep as the Pocomoke - as deep as 45 feet for a river you can easily throw a baseball across.

In 1880 a railroad bridge spanned the river and Pocomoke City was now on the main line between Philadelphia and Norfolk. A steady stream of travelers and goods flowed to the old river town. Prosperity continued for decades. During World War II, a sewing factory operated in Pocomoke, and, in 1942, the Birds Eye Division of General Foods Corp. constructed a chicken-processing plant which soon had up to 800 employees. The Chincoteague Naval Air Station at nearby Wallops Island relied heavily on Pocomoke City for housing and shopping.

But by the 1960s farm goods were moving by truck and not ships, even on a deep river, and Pocomoke City fell into decline. The Navy base closed, Birds Eye left town. Not only had its economic engines disappeared but so too had much of the town's physical history. Although Pocomoke City is over 300 years old, it has almost no old structures - fires in 1888, 1892 and 1922 all laid waste to the town's building stock.

Our walking tour will start on the banks of the historic Pocomoke River...



1. Pocomoke City Bridge
Market Street at Pocomoke River



Erected in 1921, the Pocomoke City Bridge is one of only 20 movable bridges remaining in Maryland. It is of a type known as a double-leaf trunnion bascule movable bridge, the earliest type of movable bridge in the state. The Pocomoke City Bridge is notable for its decorative aspects and its intact bridge house at the draw.

TURN AND WALK EAST ON MARKET STREET.

2. Delmarva Discovery Center
2 Market Street



This former Duncan Brothers car dealership building from the 1920s has been re-worked into the multi-million dollar Delmarva Discover Center. Retaining the exterior look and roomy interior of the car showroom, the museum focuses on the river ecology and the human history of the Pocomoke River and Delmarva. The one-time garage features a handsome row of Tuscan columns across the front.

3. Atlantic Red Star Gas Station
6 Market Street



This early gas station was built of brick in the Colonial Revival style and features a substantial slate roof. The service station has been preserved for its second life as the town Visitor Center.

TURN RIGHT ON WILLOW STREET.

**4. Sturgis One Room School Museum
209 Willow Street**



Sturgis One Room School Museum, formerly known as Sturgis School, is the only African American One Room School in Worcester County retaining its original integrity. It is a small structure built about 100 years ago on Brantley Road on land that was purchased by William Sturgis in 1888.

Sturgis One Room School operated as a school for 37 years. Grades 1 - 7 were taught by one teacher until it closed its doors in 1937. At that time students were transferred to Stephen Long School in the town of Pocomoke City, Maryland. For several years afterwards the school served as home for the aging William Sturgis. After the school was vacated by William Sturgis, it remained unattended and fell into a state of disrepair.

In 1996, a group of interested citizens, under the leadership of the Worcester County Historical Society, purchased the school from the Sturgis family and moved it to its present location

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

**5. Salem United Methodist Church
corner of Second and Walnut streets**



The Salem Chapel, built in 1808, occupied the site of the present Salem Church at the southwest corner of Cedar Hall Road (now known as Second and Walnut Streets). The church was a small frame building only 30 x 32 feet in dimensions with seven windows, a gallery for the slaves, and seats made of thick boards laid on blocks of wood and lighted by candles. As Salem was the only church in town from 1808 until 1834, a large number of people attended the services. The building was remodeled in 1886 but completely demolished for this Pompeian-style brick building with a proportionate tower. This building was dedicated in 1905.

TURN LEFT ON WALNUT STREET.

**6. The Littleton T. Clarke House
407 Second Street**



Littleton Thomas Clarke built this fine home example of the Second Empire style in Worcester County around 1860. Clarke, a merchant, died of pneumonia at the age of thirty-six shortly afterwards and within two years, Ammaret Clarke had lost her home and four of her five children.

With its concave slate roof, bracketed eaves, decorative porches, and rare metal rooftop cresting on the wet bay window and porch, this house clearly stands out in Pocomoke City as a rare architectural survivor of the destructive fires that decimated the streetscape.

This block of Walnut Street between 2nd and 3rd streets is characterized by an especially distinctive collection of revival-style houses on roomy lots.

TURN RIGHT ON 4TH STREET.

**7. Young-Sartorius House
405 Market Street**



This house represents a practice common in the lower Eastern Shore during the late 1800s of taking a conservative vernacular house and outfitting it in the style of the day, in this case, Queen Anne. In this case the small main block of the house was transformed with flanking gables around a central entrance. The windows with multiple colored lights in the upper sash and the variety of siding materials reflect the popular Victorian influence. The house incorporates pieces of its earlier incarnation, such as doors.

TURN AND WALK WEST ON MARKET STREET.

8. First Baptist Church
southwest corner of 4th Street and Market Street



This house of worship, with steeple and bell, was dedicated on May 14, 1854. The cost of the house, furniture, lot and railing, was about \$2,700.

9. Pitts Creek Presbyterian Church
210 Market Street



The forebearers of the current congregation made an effort to build a meeting house out of logs near a ferry site on the Pocomoke River. Some local residents not friendly to Presbyterians threw the logs from their first building effort into the river. The Presbyterians persisted, retrieved the logs from the river, and rebuilt the meeting house. In 1735 the congregation moved five miles south to the head of Pitts Creek, a short distance from Virginia which recognized only the Church of England. Beaver Dam Presbyterian Church gave nearby persons in Virginia an opportunity to exercise their freedom in choosing a religion. The Pitts Creek Presbyterian Church was a missionary outgrowth of the Beaver Dam church and this finely built Gothic Revival church was built in 1845.

10. Pocomoke City Post Office
207 Market Street



This Neoclassical post office was, like so many similar small town federal post offices, a Depression-era project, built in 1937.

11. Costen House
206 Market Street



Isaac Costen was born on October 10, 1832 in Somerset County. He was educated at Washington Academy in Princess Anne and received his medical degree from Penn Medical College in Philadelphia in 1857. During the Civil War, in addition to his medical duties, Costen was a Confederate blockade runner, carrying food and supplies at great personal risk across the lower Chesapeake Bay to the Hampton Roads area. He was also noted for his work with typhoid fever during a severe typhus epidemic.

Costen purchased this lot and existing house in 1877 for \$1,000 and set about crating this Victorian Italianate home that was to come through the trio of home-swallowing Pocomoke City fires unscathed. Costen was elected mayor of Pocomoke City in 1888, by which time he had already served fifteen years on the Democratic State Central Committee. He had been elected to the Maryland State Legislature in 1881, where he served only one term, citing his patients' needs as the reason for not returning to Annapolis. Dr. Costen died at his home on April 1, 1931, just six months short of his 99th birthday.

12. Bethany Methodist Church
203 Market Street



The congregation's formed in 1832 and, after purchasing this ground from Sally Jones in 1834, built a new house of worship with a belfry from which they hung the first church bell in town. A more commodious church replaced it in 1853. They moved into this Greek Revival church in 1882; it was rebuilt after a fire in 2007.

13. Pocomoke City National Bank
144 Market Street



The walls of this Neoclassical bank building withstood the fire that swept Market Street in 1922 but the roof collapsed.

14. Peninsula Bank
105 Market Street



Another Beaux Arts-influenced financial building, this one has been reborn as an art gallery.

15. Lusby's
120 Market Street



This part of the west side of Market Street contains the oldest commercial buildings in Pocomoke City.

16. Mar-Va Theater
103 Market Street



The Mar-Va Theater opened on December 1, 1927. Built by Frank Barlett of Berlin, the finest materials were used in its construction. Ticket prices were 10 cents. Once used as a vaudeville theater complete with stage facilities, dressing rooms and orchestra pits, the Mar-Va was played by many famous performers, which included some old-time cowboys such as Tom Mix, Roy Rogers, Hop-a-Long Cassidy and Smiley Burnett.

The theater closed in 1993 but has been brought back to life, one of the Town's few strands to the past. The sidewalls have the original gold embossed paneling and the projectors, which were added around 1943, are of the carbon arc variety. The Mar-Va Theater is one of the few theaters on the Eastern Shore to boast of a draw drape. The balcony was once used for segregation purposes and has its own entrance, concession area, box office and bathroom. With its original 720 seats, the Mar-Va is the largest theater south of Wilmington, Delaware which has never been altered.

YOU HAVE NOW RETURNED TO THE START OF THE TOUR WITHIN SIGHT OF THE POCOMOKE RIVER.

A Walking Tour of Princess Anne, Maryland

The town of Princess Anne was created by an act of Maryland's General Assembly in 1733. Located at a narrow point in the Manokin River known as the "wading place," the land was well-elevated and conveniently suited for the purposes of a centrally located town in Somerset County. Twenty-five acres of David Brown's "Beckford" plantation were purchased and divided into thirty equal lots with "Bridge Street" (Somerset Avenue) serving as the main north/south thoroughfare. The new town was named in honor of the 24-year old daughter of King George II.

The original courthouse was erected on the corner of Bridge and Broad streets. When it burned in 1832 the court buildings were relocated a block to the south on Prince William street. During the 19th century the town was expanded beyond its 18th century limits with new houses erected in each direction, a testimony to the prosperity of the age. At the time the Manokin River was navigable all the way to town bridge.

Princess Anne is distinguished by many fine Federal-style dwellings as well as mid-to-late 19th century Victorian houses and early 1900s commercial stock.

Our walking tour will start on the banks of the banks of the Manokin River; where there is a parking area and some off the Town's oldest history...



WALK DOWN FLURER'S LANE BEHIND THE PARKING LOT.

**1. Nutter's Purchase
30455 Flurer's Lane**



Christopher Nutter obtained 300 acres along the Manokin River in 1667. A Presbyterian, he hosted services in his house along the river. This frame house was erected circa 1800 as part of a tannery complex. At the time it was common to situate tanneries, and their accompanying noxious fumes, on the outskirts of towns, often by rivers. The cottage is built on a foundation high enough to require steps to reach the front door.

WALK BACK TO SOMERSET AVENUE TO THE CHURCH AND GRAVEYARD.

**2. Manokin Presbyterian Church
11890 Somerset Avenue**



Manokin Presbyterian Church is one of the first organized Presbyterian churches established in America. The first preaching on this ground took place in 1672 when a group of Presbyterians who had settled on the lower Eastern Shore petitioned the Grand Jury of Somerset County for a civil permit to hold services of worship and to have their own minister. It was one of five churches organized by the Reverend Francis Makemie when he arrived from Ireland in 1683. The original church was constructed prior to 1692, the present walls were erected in 1765 and the three-story bell tower was added in 1888.

TURN RIGHT ON SOMERSET AVENUE AND WALK INTO TOWN.

**3. Election House
Manokin River Park**



This cozy little building was used as a gathering spot and polling place for Town residents in the 1800s. It has taken more than one trip around Princess Anne and was sited here in the 1980s as the centerpiece of the new park and a Visitor Center.

**4. Woolford-Elzey House
11828 Somerset Avenue**



John Woolford, a country doctor, built a simple home on this lot in 1788. Business was brisk enough that by 1798 the property sported a cook house, a smoke house, and a stable and it appeared in the town tax rolls as the most valuable house in Princess Anne. The elaborate portico on the south side of the house is a 19th century addition. The stone walls were thought to have been constructed by Manokin Indians using an ancient technique known as notching to pile up the stones that were probably found as ship's ballast. When the stone walls were restored in 1976, mortar was necessary.

**5. Charles Jones House
11816 Somerset Avenue, northwest corner of Broad Street**



Early deeds indicate a house stood on this prominent corner as early as 1743. Charles Jones obtained the property in 1782 and the house is estimated to date to that time. Jones is thought to have been an innkeeper and may have operated a tavern here. He died several years later and this lot was purchased by John Woolford who rented out the house. Renovations in this house reveal 18th century timbers, with bark still in place, in the upstairs rooms.

TURN LEFT ON BROAD STREET.

**6. Metropolitan United Methodist Church
30518 Broad Street**



In 1842 black members of the St. Andrew's Church, still bound by slavery, broke away to form their own congregation. Over the decades the group grew prosperous enough to buy this site in the 1880s for \$400. The cornerstone for the brick Gothic Revival church was laid in 1886 and services began two years later - a symbolically culminating the long struggle some members had endured for the site of the Metropolitan United Methodist Church was once a county jail and slave auction site dating back to the 1700s.

WALK ONE-HALF BLOCK BACK TO SOMERSET AVENUE AND TURN LEFT.

**7. Washington Hotel
11784 Somerset Avenue**



This has been the Town's inn for over 200 years. It was known simply as "The Tavern" until 1857 when it took on the name of George Washington, not for any historic tie to the first president. Stagecoaches departed for the two-day journey to the big city every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. When the railroad arrived, the hotel's horse and carriage would collect visitors at the train station. Inside travelers found a grand double staircase, one side for ladies, the other side for gents. In case non-gentlemen ascended the staircase it was partitioned to prevent any unplanned glances at the women as they lifted their skirts to negotiate the stairs. The men's staircase also sported a double handrail - the better to grasp on those evenings when one spent longer in the saloon than intended.

8. Littleton Long Mercantile & Crisfield Law Office
11787 Somerset Avenue



This is one of the few antebellum commercial buildings to survive in Princess Anne. Littleton Long, a merchant, favored this front-gable, Greek Revival-pediment form for both his house and this store that he built in 1847. Apparently John W. Crisfield, a successful attorney, owned the land and maintained his law office here as well. Over the years the building did service as a bank, a school, a fruit stand, an oyster bar and a pool hall, among others.

9. Somerset County Courthouse
30512 Prince William Street, northwest corner of Somerset Avenue



The first cases to be heard in Princess Anne took place in November, 1742. A wood frame courthouse was erected in Town and stood until 1831 when it burned. The next county courthouse rose on this site in 183-33, this time constructed of brick. It stood for 70 years until it was razed to make room for its Georgian Revival replacement. It is said that some of the bricks from the prior house of justice were salvaged and used in the current building that has now entered its second century of duty.

TURN LEFT ON PRINCE WILLIAM STREET.

10. Old Presbyterian Church Lecture Hall
30548 Prince William Street, northwest corner of Bechwood Street



This gable-front frame structure was originally used by the Manokin Presbyterian congregation beginning in 1859. In 1910 the Shoreland Literary Society of Princess Anne started the first lending library in Town. Books could be borrowed for a rental fee of two cents each.

RETURN ONE BLOCK BACK TO SOMERSET AVENUE AND TURN LEFT.

11. Mutual Fire Insurance Company
11739 Somerset Avenue



These were the offices of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Somerset and Worcester Counties, housed in an 1884 building that incorporates the rounded Romanesque motifs with the steeply pitched lines of Gothic Revival. The Bank of Somerset began operations here before moving across the street to its own building. The door on the right led to the first floor offices of the bank; the door on the left led up a staircase to the insurance office.

12. Bank of Somerset
11732 Bank of Somerset



The Bank of Somerset opened this one-story Neoclassical vault in 1903. It was constructed with yellow Italian brick on a granite foundation. Its wide central double door with semi-circular fanlight has stone trim with an ogee-carved keystone, set in a pedimented pavillion flanked by pilasters.

TURN LEFT ON WASHINGTON STREET.

13. John W. Crisfield House
30556 Washington Street



John W. Crisfield built this Late Federal/Greek Revival house a few hundred feet away on Somerset Avenue in 1852. When the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey wanted to build a gas station on the main drag through town in 1927 the owners of this house moved it off main street.

John Crisfield was a lawyer and United State Senator whose main interest for many years was bringing railroad service to the lower Eastern Shore. Earlier schemes to bring the iron horse down the peninsula had failed but Crisfield, as president of the Eastern Shore Railroad, was relentless, Even the Civil War sidetracked him only temporarily. In 1868 the railroad was finally extended to the sleep town of Somers Cove on Tangiers Sound. Not only did area farmers benefit but almost overnight Somers Cove became the seafood capital of America, shipping oysters and crabs by the trainload. A grateful citizenry rechristened the town, “Crisfield.” It was small consolation to John W., who went bankrupt in 1876.

14. Anna L. Haines House
30560 Washington Street



This T-shaped townhome erected in 1909 is one of the few brick houses in Princess Anne. Anna Haines patterned her home after dwellings she knew in Philadelphia. Two-story bay windows distinguish both street elevations and the roof is covered with slate shingles.

TURN LEFT ON BEECHWOOD STREET.

15. Colonel George Handy House
11719 Beechwood Street



This crisp, well-preserved Federal-style house was constructed in 1805 by George Handy. Handy enlisted in the Continental Army at the age of 18 and served from the beginning to the end of the American Revolution. A close friend of Alexander Hamilton and a colonel on the staff of General Light House Harry Lee, Handy distinguished himself at the storming of Augusta. After the war, in 1787, the 31-year old Handy married 16-year old Elizabeth Wilson. The union cause a bit of a scandal and the couple were forced to seek wedded bliss in South Carolina. Eventually they returned to Princess Anne where Elizabeth and George had 12 children. Handy was elected sheriff in 1797 so apparently all was forgotten and forgiven.

16. The Laura House
11728 Beechwood Street



This T-plan dwelling from 1905 is trimmed with modest Victorian features including the turned-post front porch.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS TO SOMERSET AVENUE AND TURN LEFT.

17. Boxwood Garden
southeast corner of Somerset Avenue and Washington Street



The French parterre boxwood garden has provided a green respite in the center of town for over 150 years. Started by the Handy family, the tradition of caring for the garden has continued through successive owners down to the present day.

18. General George Handy House
11695 Somerset Avenue



The General George Handy house carries an unusual degree of architectural and historical significance in Princess Anne. Built around 1845, this townhouse was initially only one room deep and covered by a hip roof. During the third quarter of the 19th century the man house was extensively reworked with a rebuilding of the roof and remodeling the first floor interior. Despite the extensive Victorian alterations, the house retains large portions of its late Federal woodwork on the second floor and in the rear service wing. Thus the house displays fine examples of craftsmanship from the two major stylistic periods found in Princess Anne.

19. Joshua W. Miles House
11673 Somerset Avenue



Joshua Miles was president of the Bank of Somerset but this contribution to the Princess Anne streetscape is anything but conservative. The exuberant Queen Anne house was built in 1890; its dominating feature is a three-story octagonal tower. The design has been attributed to Baltimore architect Jackson C. Gott.

20. William W. Johnston House
11653 Somerset Avenue



William Johnston was a Princess Anne merchant and also owned a gristmill and a sawmill. When he built this finely-detailed late Federal home in 1835, this was the southern edge of town. Desiring to face his customers and the town center, Johnston built his home facing north. When the town kept growing down Somerset Avenue, it left the orientation of the house appearing odd. Although it doesn't look out over the street, the double door is a particularly excellent Federal-era entrance.

TURN RIGHT AT ANTIOCH AVENUE. TURN RIGHT AT CHURCH STREET.

21. Littleton Long House
11696 Church Street



Little Long came from humble beginnings - he was indentured as a bootmaker for seven years beginning at the age of 14 - but married into money when he won the hand of Ann Costen. Her family heartily disapproved but the couple married in 1821 anyway and were known around town as the Runaway Match. The Longs built this Greek Revival frame house in 1829. Long began his post-marriage career as a merchant and then earned a law degree and entered state politics. Littleton and Ann raised eight children and one of their sons was credited as being the first Westerner to discover the source of the Nile River.

22. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
11700 Church Street



The first congregation representing the Church of England met near the river as a chapel-of-ease in the 1600s. In 1773 the first church was completed with money raised by selling tons of tobacco (it took 128,000 pounds to buy this land) and the congregation has operated continuously ever since. The church was consecrated as St. Andrew's in 1845 and the tower was added in 1859. The differing brickwork tells the tale of the sanctuary's growth.

TURN LEFT ON PRINCE WILLIAM STREET.

23. C.H. Hayman House
30491 Prince William Street



Legend has it that when Charles Hayman knew he was going to be building this house in 189 he opened a hardware store a block away so that he would be certain to have the finest materials available. The rambling Queen Anne/Colonial Revival design features a wealth of Victorian detail including Tuscan porch columns and urns perched on the balustrade posts. In the Colonial Revival tradition, the house is perfectly symmetrical.

24. Dougherty House
30466 Prince William Street



This house was clearly built in two different eras. The beginning block (west side) dates to the 1830s and is an austere Greek Revival design. After the Doughertys purchased the home after the Civil War they added the more light-hearted, bracketed eastern block.

25. Judge Levin T.H. Irving House
30459 Prince William Street



This 1850s house was cleaved from its northern neighbor, Mariner's Cott

26. Teackle Gatehouse
30466 Prince William Street



Originally access to the 10-acre Teackletonia was through a pair of twinned gatehouses facing the town. Both free servants and slaves lived inside the iron-gated homes. After Littleton Teackle's financial empire collapsed the northern gatehouse here was the last thing he owned; he lived here for years.

27. Fontaine-Fitzgerald House
30459 Prince William Street



This pure Greek Revival frame house dates to the early 1850s; the two-story portico and side-lighted doorway entrances are original.

28. Francis Barnes House
30449 Prince William Street



This is a well-designed example of the mid-19th century bracketed house crafted by master builder Steh D. Venables. Like all the surrounding houses, the Barnes House was built on the remnants of the Teackle estate.

29. Rufus Parsons House
30448 Prince William Street



Rufus Parson was a farmer and promoter of the Eastern Shore Railroad. He built this handsome Greek Revival house in 1858, setting it on a high foundation to give it an impressive stature and provide room for a basement. The Parsons sold the house in 1861 for \$3,300.

30. Teackle Mansion
11736 Mansion Street



Littleton Dennis Teackle figures prominently in the history of the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland on many levels -- as a merchant, entrepreneur, and (in later years) statesman. Born in Accomack County, Virginia to one of the wealthiest gentry families on the Eastern Shore, L. D. Teackle moved to Somerset County, Md. with his expectant wife, Elizabeth Upshur, in 1801. He followed in the footsteps of his successful father, John Teackle, by establishing a trans-Atlantic merchant enterprise in a family partnership.

Teackle began work on what would become a 10,000-square-foot landmark on the Eastern Shore following a grand tour of England and Scotland in 1799-1800. It is surmised that he modeled his home on a Scottish manor house he saw on his travels. The couple called it Teackletonia, a name intended to differentiate their house from his uncle's Beckford mansion sitting a few hundred yards to the southwest.

But the optimism L.D. Teackle had for the economic outlook was immediately met with complications: disastrous weather in 1802-04 that caused extensive loss of crops, the beginning of the Napoleonic wars in 1803 that disrupted trans-Atlantic trade, the Federal government's Non-Importation Act, the ensuing Jeffersonian Embargo in 1807, and several years of war with Great Britain, all took a tremendous toll on the Teackles' success. It would be 15 years before the hyphens and wings would be completed, enlarging the house to its full, five-part size.

Despite Teackle's varied business pursuits, he never maintained financial stability. In 1839, four years after his wife's death, he and his only daughter, Elizabeth Anne Upshur Teackle Quinby, sold the Mansion. Several years later, after selling the remainder of his property, Littleton Teackle moved to Baltimore, where he died alone in a hotel room in 1848.

In the century following Teackle's death, the Mansion and its adjacent property were separated into three deeds. Owned by several local families, the Mansion was gradually divided into apartments and in the 1930s and 1940s was primarily occupied by tenants. In the 1950s, a small number of Princess Anne residents founded Olde Princess Anne Days, Inc. to raise funds for the purchase and restoration of the south and central sections. The north wing was purchased around the same time by the Somerset County Historical Society. The two groups merged in May 2000, bringing single ownership to the Mansion for the first time since before the Civil War.

TURN RIGHT ON MANSION STREET.

31. Seth Venables House 11748 Mansion Street



Seth Venables, a master carpenter, built many Princess Anne houses. This one he built for himself, in 1852. He called it Simplicity. These were some of the last handmade houses in Town, being built before the railroad brought mass-produced goods and pre-cut lumber to the builders.

TURN RIGHT AT THE END OF ROAD ONTO MANOKIN STREET AND TURN LEFT ON BECKFORD AVENUE.

32. Police Headquarters - “The Grey Eagle”
11780 Beckford Avenue



The granite Soemrset County Jail was built in 1857. It was burned by prisoners in 1902 but rebuilt with three new Bessemer steel cages. The jail cruised into its second century of service before it was considered no longer fit for use in 1976 and closed. A restoration in 2008 has transformed the “Grey Eagle” into a police precinct building.

TURN RIGHT ON BROAD STREET.

33. William Geddes House
11790 Church Street



This is the oldest documented house in Princess Anne, going back to at least 1755 when it was owned by William Geddes, a merchant and shipper of wheat. Geddes would obtain a degree of immortality two decades later when, on May 23, 1774, “a group of Chestertown citizens undisguised and in broad daylight” boarded the brigantine *Geddes*, owned by then-Custom Collector Wiliam Geddes, and threw its cargo of tea into the Chester River. The town then became a faithful supplier of provisions to the town f Boston, then suffering under the Boston Port Act. Chestertown remembers its Revolutionary heritage during the Chestertown Tea Party Festival held during the Memorial Day weekend.

**CONTINUE ON BROAD STREET TO SOMERSET AVENUE AND TURN LEFT,
CROSSING THE MANOKIN RIVER TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT.**

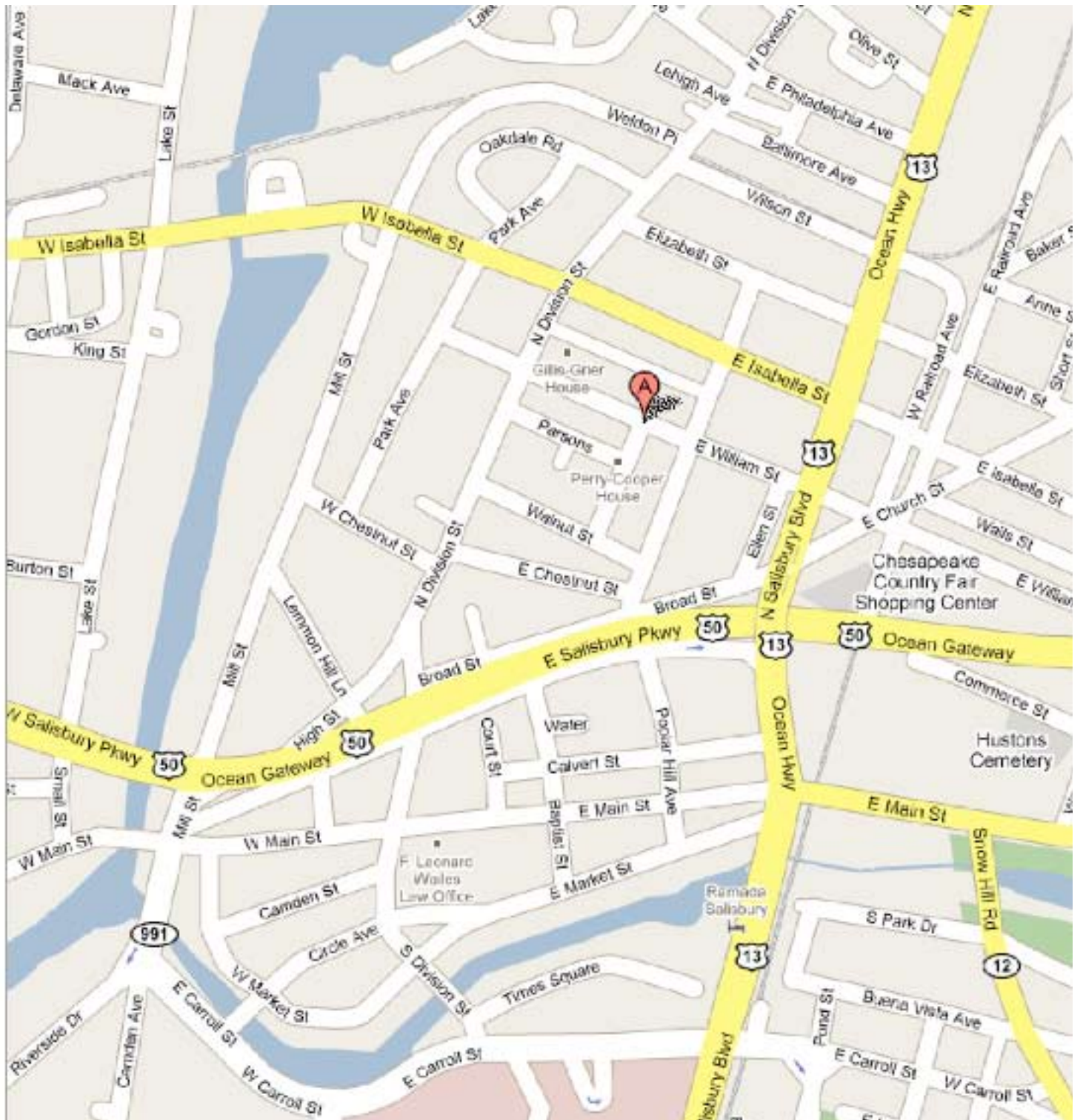
A Walking Tour of Salisbury, Maryland

Salisbury Towne was created by an act of legislation introduced by John Caldwell to create a county seat for Somerset County. Caldwell claimed that “there is a very convenient place for a town at the Head of the Wicomico River.” Its identical physical character and nationality of the founders have convinced most historians the village’s name was borrowed from the ancient cathedral city of Salisbury, England. A defect in the original town charter and the shallow harbor retarded growth for several decades. But by the 1750s Salisbury was a prosperous town, influenced in part by its chief promoter Caldwell who built the first dam on the east branch of the Wicomico and a bridge over the north branch.

During the 19th century, Salisbury was an active seaport, second only to the City of Baltimore and had been dubbed “the Hub of Delmarva. By 1817, the Downtown area had begun to emerge. The development concentrated itself along Bridge Street (Main Street), Dividing Street (Division Street), and Church Street. When the railroad lumbered down the Delmarva Peninsula in the Civil War it terminated at Salisbury, further enhancing its status as the destination city of the Eastern Shore. Incorporated in 1854, Salisbury became the seat of government when Wicomico was carved off from Somerset and Worcester Counties in 1867.

The face of Salisbury today was influenced by two great fires. The first swept through the central business district in 1860, effectively wiping away the City’s Colonial-era building stock. The commercial core was immediately rebuilt but on October 17, 1886 a small fire was discovered on Dock Street, now Market Street. The flames spread rapidly, so much so that the towns of Crisfield, Pocomoke City and Wilmington, Delaware loaded their fire department steamers on special railroad trains and sent them to Salisbury’s aid. It took 17 hours to control the fire but over 200 buildings were lost. Only one building survived in the center of the City.

Aftwards city zoning law required that important buildings be made only of stone and brick as Salisbury roared back. With the coming of the automobile and its central spot on the lower Eastern Shore cemented the city’s position as the largest city on the Eastern Shore. Our walking tour will start at that sole surviving building of the Great Fire of 1886 then explore the downtown area and finish in one of the original sections of Salisbury that has been made a historic district...



1. Wicomico County Courthouse
101 N. Division Street



Following the partition in 1867 of Somerset and Worcester counties in order to create Wicomico County, various government offices were scattered around Salisbury's central business district. In 1878 E.M. Butz designed this Victorian Gothic courthouse - built on the site of the historic Byrd Tavern, a famous hostelry in stage coach days - consolidated the city services, including the fire department and a jail. The exuberant facade features patterned and colored bricks with stone inserts. After fire destroyed the entire downtown area in 1886, it was the only building left standing. Since the 1930s the Courthouse has seen three enlargements.

CROSS DIVISION STREET TO THE SOUTH.

2. Masonic Temple, Wicomico Lodge No. 91
114 N Division Street



The Masonic Temple, Wicomico Lodge No. 91, erected in 1904, occupies a prominent location across from the county courthouse. The imposing three-story, six-bay brick building is executed in reddish-brown pressed brick with contrasting yellow-brown window and door arches. Over the years the building has played host to a bank, the post office, a business school, and scores of doctors and lawyers.

TURN RIGHT AND WALK WEST ON MAIN STREET INTO THE DOWNTOWN PLAZA.

3. Salisbury Building, Loan and Banking Building
southwest corner of Division Street and Main Street



One of the city's outstanding buildings anchors the principal intersection of commerce, designed by the New York firm of Hoggson Brothers in 1914 for the offices of Salisbury Building, Loan and Banking Association. Assembled of stone, brick, and terra cotta, the street elevations offer a rich display of bold architectural elements revived from 16th century Italian designs. The four-story building is divided visually into three sections that correspond to the classical column: a base, delineated by a stone belt course; the shaft, here executed in rich-colored brick; and the capital, a cornice of modillion blocks and a frieze accented with a series of circular medallions.

4. Alfred C. Dykes Building
107 W. Main Street



The two-story, three-bay rectangular brick commercial building, now Kuhn's Jewelers, dates to 1892. The face of the gable is distinguished by the date of construction, "1892," which is embossed in raised numbers along with a scroll that flanks the date. Dykes sold the building to Samuel Johnson in 1901 and it stayed in the Johnson family until 1974.

5. Thomas H. Williams Building
113 1/2 W. Main Street



Thomas Williams built this three-story, five-bay brick building quickly after the 1886 fire. The ground floor has been reworked but the brickwork above remains original. Plain brick pilasters rise to a corbelled brick cornice. The center windows are topped by round brick arches of raised soldier course bricks with a terra cotta ornament as keystone.

6. Greater Salisbury Building/Eastern Shore Trust Company
200 W. Main Street



A bank has been located here since the late 1800s; the first, the Salisbury National Bank was erected in 1885 only to fall victim to the great fire of 1886 a year later. A second bank quickly went up and it was razed in 1930 when the property was transferred to the Eastern Shore Trust Company.

Their new bank, in distinctive green marble and limestone, was executed in the popular Art Deco style with a metal framework of a repeating arrow motif laid over the entrance and window wall. The carved panels representing the bow and stern of a two-masted schooner tie the building to the Eastern Shore. A century of banking at this address ended in 1990.

7. Salisbury National Bank
201 W. Main Street



With its colossal Doric columns, the old Salisbury National Bank stands in stark contrast to the other bank buildings on the block. This was the site of the prominent Peninsula Hotel after the 1886 fire but it too burned in the 1920s. This Beaux Arts-inspired building followed around 1930 and features Flemish bond brickwork that includes brick surrounds on the window openings. The pediment that stretches across the width of the facade is executed in stone and features a dentiled crown molding. Highlighting the center of the tympanum is a carved shield and eagle draped in flanking swags.

8. Farmers and Merchants Bank
206 W. Main Street



The Art Deco stone façade of the 1929 Farmers and Merchants Bank boasts carved eagles perched atop a large glass entrance and window wall, which ascends two stories. The eagle tails, abstracted into a linear design, descend on each side of the window wall to frame the entrance. It replaced an earlier Farmers bank from 1903.

9. Gallery Building
212 W. Main Street



This large three-story, 11-bay commercial building with pressed brick painted white dates to 1890. Over the years the space was occupied by a sewing machine store, a wholesale grocer and a clothier but is best remembered as the home of Woolworth's. Although the interior has been completely remodeled, the exterior, with a repeating rhythm of arched window openings and terra cotta panels retains a large degree of its 19th-century character.

10. Vernon Powell Building
218-220 W. Main Street



Prominent among the 20th century commercial blocks on Salisbury's West Main Street, now Downtown Plaza, is the Vernon Building. Designed in the Renaissance Revival style, the two-and-a-half story brick and stone commercial building is distinctive for its large window openings framed by stone surrounds and featuring turned baluster railings. Three segmental arched dormers pierce a slate roof terminated on each side by parapets. The building was erected shortly after 1936 when the property was acquired by the Montgomery Ward Company for a department store. Following the 1886 fire and the reconstruction of Main Street this lot was occupied by a two-story, tee-shaped frame dwelling that doubled as a dentist's office.

11. Brewington Building
229 W. Main Street



The Brewington Building was built between 1905 and 1910 by Edwina C. Brewington, who purchased the lot on Main Street in 1892 from John White. Directly influenced by the designs of Henry Hobson Richardson with characteristic over-sized arched openings, the three-story, tan-colored brick building is one of the most distinctive commercial buildings in downtown Salisbury. During the mid-1900s the building was familiar as the home to the Goodman Department Store.

12. Dorman & Smyth Hardware Company
232-234 W. Main Street



The Dorman & Smyth Hardware Company occupied this handsome corner building during a large part of the 20th century, although it was built by the Jackson family only four months after the disastrous fire of 1886. Resting on a rusticated granite foundation laid with red mortar, the common brick building is accented with a variety of decorative elements including rusticated granite window sills and lintels, stringcourses of soldier bricks laid on a diagonal, and edge-rolled corners to the window openings. A bracketed cornice stretches across the top of the first floor elevation. A bold galvanized metal cornice finishes the top of the parapet wall.

13. Old Synagogue
302-304 W. Main Street



One of the most distinctive commercial structures on the Downtown Plaza in Salisbury. The Old Synagogue, so-called because the Beth Israel congregation held services here between 1932 and 1952, is also known as the H.S. Brewington Building. The pressed brick corner building, lighted by Gothic arched colored glass windows and a distinguished corner tower was built in 1892. Over the course of more than one hundred years, the corner storefronts have housed many businesses and organizations, including the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Salisbury and Masonic Lodge.

TURN LEFT ON W. MARKET STREET.

14. Feldman's Furniture
150 W. Market Street



This three-story brick commercial block dates to 1888-90 and was the home of B.L. Gillis & Son, wholesale grocers in its early days. The Victorian storefront with large glass display windows extended back to the Wicomico River where there as access to old wharves. In 1923 the property was transferred to Samuel and William Feldman for use in their furniture business that began in 1906. By the 1930s Feldman's was one of the largest furniture stores in the region. A faded advertisement on the brick side attests to the fact.

15. William D. Long Building
146 W. Market Street



The three-story, stretcher bond brick building was built in 1923 in an unusual five-side shape that conforms to the configuration of this corner lot. It was just one of a group of commercial buildings that once defined this downtown intersection but is now the sole survivor amidst a sea of parking spaces.

FOLLOW MARKET STREET AROUND TO DIVISION STREET AND TURN RIGHT.

16. Salisbury Fire Department Headquarters **115 S. Division Street**



One hot August night in 1860 a fire broke out at St. Peter's and Main that quickly overwhelmed the town's volunteer fire-fighting force of 12 men and their little wooden hand engine. The center of town was in ruins. Following the "Great Fire" of 1860, interest in firefighting was kept alive by a handful of volunteers with crude equipment. On August 25, 1872 the Salisbury Fire Department was organized and purchased a small hand engine with money raised by public subscriptions.

In October of 1886 Salisbury was again decimated by fire, ignited in a stable on Dock Street (Market Street today). Brisk south winds spread the flames and the fire department's L.P Almond pumper failed to function and did not get into action until the fire was out. The conflagration raced up Main Street until 22 acres were burned. Wilmington, Pocomoke and Crisfield all sent personnel and equipment to help fight the fire but almost one million dollars of damage was sustained by the city.

The city, which had been ravaged by fire so many times before, worked to implement a fire prevention program. In 1916 Salisbury bought its first piece of motorized fire equipment and this building was completed in 1928 to house the growing department's equipment.

TURN AND WALK NORTH ON DIVISION STREET TOWARDS MAIN STREET.

17. Wicomico Hotel **sutheast corner of Main Street and Division Street**



The construction of a modern hotel in the center of Salisbury was discussed for years in the early 1900s by city leaders who considered it essential to the future economic prosperity of the city. In the early 1920s the Wicomico Hotel Company was formed and the classically inspired seven-story tower, the largest structure in downtown Salisbury, was the result in 1923. The Wicomico no longer entertains guests but it remains a fixture as Salisbury's tallest building.

TURN RIGHT ON MAIN STREET.

18. F. Leonard Wailes Law Office
118 E. Main Street



The F. Leonard Wailes Law Office building, designed by Salisbury architect W. Twilley Malone and constructed in 1927, is a two-story brick building opposite the Wicomico County Courthouse in a line of early- to mid-20th century commercial buildings. The building is distinguished by the neo-Federal architectural finishes including Flemish and common bond brickwork, with arched window and door openings defining the first floor and four 6/6 windows lighting the second floor. The cornice is trimmed with a finely executed series of tapered modillion blocks. The interior is finished with raised-panel wainscoting and ogee molded backband surrounds. A secondary entrance on the east side of the building opens into a side staircase that rises to the second floor office space.

19. Colonial Building
126 E. Main Street



Construction of the Colonial Building is estimated to date to around 1927 when it was most likely conceived as a law office. The well-preserved Colonial Revival office in Flemish bond brick is dominated by its twelve-over-twelve sash windows on each of the first two floors. Even the trio of rounded roof gables fit nine-over-nine windows and the glazed front door is flanked by twelve-light sidelights and a glazed transom.

TURN LEFT ON BAPTIST STREET.

20. Old School Baptist Church
southeast corner of Baptist Street and Route 50



This single-story Colonial Revival brick building was constructed in 1920 to replace a small frame 1820 structure. Brick quoins accent the corners and round arched openings are filled with colored glass windows.

CROSS FOUR-LANE U.S. 50 AND TURN LEFT.

21. Wicomico Presbyterian Church
Broad Street at US 50



On March 12, 1672, Somerset County granted Presbyterians permission to conduct regular services on the Wicomico River. The first church located six miles down river, was one of five churches organized by Francis Mackemie in 1683. Makemie arrived from Ireland to minister to Presbyterians on the Delmarva Peninsula, organizing them into congregations. It moved to Rockawalkin, 1742, and to Salisbury in 1830. The present sanctuary was built in 1859.

22. Trinity United Methodist Church 112 High Street at Division Street



One of the architectural gems of Salisbury, Trinity United Methodist Church was designed in 1905 by Charles of Cassell of Baltimore in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The rusticated stone church executed in grey Port Deposit granite and trimmed with Indiana limestone features steeply pitched hip roofs covered with red slate. The church is conceived in an asymmetrical triangular form with a three-story entrance and bell tower rising 70 feet above US 50. The church displays eight sanctuary windows and two mosaic panel attributed to Louis Comfort Tiffany.

The Trinity congregation formed in 1866 when eight members withdrew from the Methodist Episcopal Church and began worshiping in a small chapel on Water Street until a large frame structure was erected in 1869. The building burned in 1884 and the replacement building was ready in the summer of 1886 - months before the Great Fire of 1886 engulfed Salisbury.

TURN RIGHT ON N. DIVISION STREET AND WALK INTO THE NEWTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

Established by ordinance in 1975, Newtown is distinguished by residential reconstruction after the two severe fires in 1860 and 1886. The Newtown Historic District is the oldest and larger of the two residential Historic Districts in Salisbury. It possesses a distinctive quality because of the repetition and continuity of significant historic features throughout this community. Massive late 19th- and early 20th-century Victorian style houses are found along North Division Street as well as along William, Walnut and Isabella Streets, and Park Avenue.

23. Gillis-Grier House
401 N. Division Street



Singularly outstanding among the Queen Anne dwellings that define Salisbury's Newtown neighborhood is the elaborately detailed Gillis-Grier House, named after the two inter-related families that held title to the property between 1896 and 1975. While this hyphenated name recognizes the property's long-term owners, the impressively designed and crafted house was assembled for Salisbury merchant James Cannon in 1887. Dominated by a three-story tower with a conical roof of patterned slate, the sprawling hip-roofed dwelling includes multiple pavilions, bay windows, and a variety of gabled dormers that provide a variety of form that is enriched with varying styles of exterior siding and applied decorations. The lively exterior is matched by equally rich interiors of late-19th century design. Parquet floors on the first floor are combined with cabinet style mantels with tiled fireboxes. Spotted throughout the house are colored glass windows that provide another rich source of interior decoration to the many-roomed interior.

24. Bethesda United Methodist Church
406 N. Division Street



The congregation formed in the late 1830s but considers its true start point December 15, 1841 when Dr. Augustus Webster, the President of the Maryland Conference of Methodist Protestant Churches wrote in his diary of preaching to a new congregation in Salisbury. It would be three decades before the organization got its own sanctuary on Broad Street; the present grey stoen church dates to 1922.

25. Charles Bethke House

601 N. Division Street, northeast corner of Elizabeth Street



Clothing retailer Charles Bethke financed construction of this two-and-a-half story Queen Anne frame dwelling in 1903. Bethke, of German descent operated a men's clothing store in downtown Salisbury until the outbreak of World War I when, it is thought, anti-German sentiment caused the family to relocate to Baltimore. The Bethkes sold the house in 1922. The asymmetrical design features a two-story octagonal tower, Tuscan-columned wrap-around porch and fishscale shingles in the gable.

TURN RIGHT ON ELIZABETH STREET.

26. B. Frank Kennerly House

103 Elizabeth Street



The well-proportioned and finely detailed exterior of this Queen Anne house was designed by architect Woolford Johnson and erected by his brother William, a prominent Salisbury builder around the turn of the 19th century. The house was built in 1904 for B. Frank Kennerly, a part owner of clothing retailer Kennerly, Mitchell & Co. The distinguishing glory of the home is the three-story octagonal tower capped by a conical roof and covered with fishscale shingles.

27. Poplar Hill Mansion
117 Elizabeth Street



Poplar Hill Mansion was built as the manor house of a farm outside the small eighteenth century town of Salisbury, which had slowly expanding since 1732 from a port landing site at the head of the Wicomico River, more than a half mile away. Construction was begun by Major Levin Handy, originally from Newport, Rhode Island. In 1795 the Major took out a deed for 357 acres of the original 700 acre land patent called “Pembertons Good Will.” The house Handy began in 1795-96 was an ambitious Federal-style structure, outdistancing most buildings in the area in size and fine detail.

Unfortunately, because of severe medical conditions, the Major’s architectural ambitions exceeded his ability to finance them. In 1803 the property was ordered to be put up for sale for payment of debts. The house was still incomplete. In 1805 the title was passed to a prominent physician in Salisbury, Dr. John Huston. When the Doctor died in 1828 there were fruit trees, vegetable crops, sheep, cattle, and eighteen slaves on the property, as well as \$110 “cash on hand.” Today Poplar Hill Mansion is the oldest documented structure in Salisbury.

TURN RIGHT ON POPLAR HILL AVENUE. TURN RIGHT ON E. WILLIAM STREET.

28. Perry-Cooper House
200 East William Street



The Perry-Cooper House has the only Victorian French mansard roof remaining in the City of Salisbury. It also retains in large measure the architectural details, including a delicate stenciled design, of its exterior. The house was the residence of one of Salisbury’s well-known civic leaders, Thomas Perry. An educator, newspaper publisher and editor, financier, industrialist, and official of county government, his family occupied the house from 1897 until 1950.

TURN LEFT ON DIVISION STREET. BEAR RIGHT ON HIGH STREET (TRINITY CHURCH WILL BE ON YOUR LEFT).

29. John B. Parsons Home
300 Lemmon Hill Lane



The highest elevation in the City has been known as Lemmon Hill since the late 18th century when one of Salisbury's earliest known physicians, Robert Lemmon, lived here. Early structures built here did not survive into the 1900s. The first Colonial Revival building on the property was constructed by William E. Booth, a contractor in the early 1900s.

In the 1920s John B. Parsons, a millionaire businessman originally from Wicomico County, bequeathed a liberal endowment to create a retirement home for aged women in Salisbury. The property was purchased, similar Colonial Revival wings added and the John B. Parsons Home has remained virtually unchanged ever since.

CROSS BACK OVER ROUTE 50.

30. Old City Hall and Firehouse
100 Church Street



In February 1896 the Salisbury City Council purchased what was then known as the "Tracy lot" on West church Street for \$1,000 from George C. Hill and in a July 4th ceremony that year the cornerstone was laid for the new City Hall and Firehouse. The municipal services building is one of the most distinctive public buildings erected during the late 19th century, designed by Thomas H. Mitchell, with its multi-faceted brick exterior accented with rusticated stone trim reflects Victorian eclecticism. An unusual, two-tiered pyramidal spire that incorporates babbled dormers as well as louvered vents distinguishes the four-story tower. The tower stands as the building's signature architectural feature but it had a practical use as well. The interior of the tower above the first floor was left open so that hoses could be hung on racks to dry. The fire department left in 1928.

WALK WEST TO ST. PETER'S STREET AND TURN LEFT.

31. St. Peter's Episcopal Church 115 St. Peter's Street



The present church is the third building to stand on this site. St. Peter's Church was built as a chapel on a two-acre site. It was completed in 1772, at a cost of 600 English pounds, and measured 45 feet by 65 feet. Many knew it then as "Head of River Chapel" or "Salisbury Chapel." By 1789, St. Peter's had fallen into disrepair. To rebuild it, some of the property was sold, which now corresponds with today's downtown Salisbury. The rebuilt church and much of Salisbury was destroyed by fire in 1860.

The second St. Peter's Church was erected in 1862. A rose window was added, along with other touches of the Romanesque style. Its deep-toned bell sounded the town's fire alarm. On Sunday, October 17, 1886, as the bell was calling the evening service, fire broke out in a livery stable in Salisbury. The church and most of Salisbury was again destroyed by fire.

The third and present St. Peter's was completed in 1887, and celebrated its first service, the Holy Eucharist, at 6 a.m. on Christmas Day, 1887.

CONTINUE TO THE END OF ST. PETER'S STREET AT MAIN STREET AND TURN LEFT. WALK ONE BLOCK BACK TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

A Walking Tour of Snow Hill, Maryland

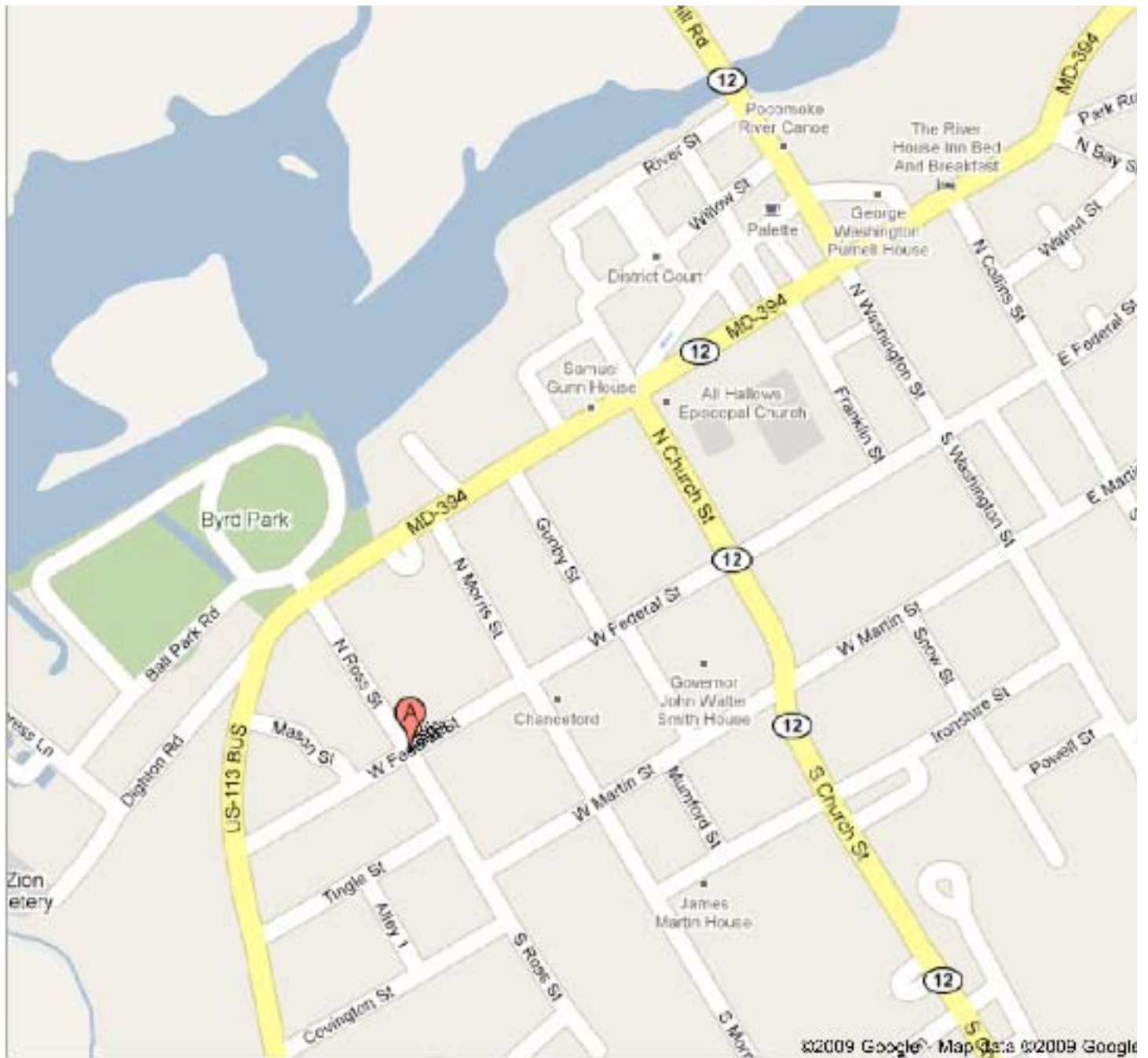
The town of Snow Hill was founded in 1642 by English settlers on the deep water Pocomoke River. In 1686 the Town of Snow Hill was chartered; in 1694 it was made a Royal Port by William and Mary; imported goods came through Snow Hill to be taxed. Exported goods included cypress lumber and tobacco. In addition, Snow Hill was the home of a thriving ship-building industry.

In 1742, the Houses of Assembly approved "An Act to Divide Somerset County and to Create a new County on the Seaboard Side by the name of Worcester." Snow Hill was named as that new county seat. In 1793 the town was platted into some 100 lots. As Snow Hill gained economic importance, the Pocomoke River became more heavily traveled. Large ships called on the little port town, offering overnight service to Norfolk and Baltimore. With the increase in river traffic, Snow Hill grew in other areas: hotels and boarding houses sprang up, and the Richardson, Smith and Moore Lumber Company dominated the waterfront as the largest employer in the County. General merchandise stores, liverys, coopers, smiths, and wagon-makers all took their living from the river traffic.

After the Civil War, the railroad found its way along Maryland's Eastern Shore, providing fast, inexpensive transportation of goods and passengers. As the technology of land transportation grew, the Pocomoke River was used less. Snow Hill went into decline: the shipyards closed, the boarding houses became vacant. However, the people turned to the agricultural industry, growing corn, soybeans and livestock. Thus, Snow Hill remains.

A disastrous fire in 1893 destroyed the original downtown area, and the early town and county records housed in the Courthouse. The replacement building stock stands largely intact today; Snow Hill, still the county seat, has the largest inventory of historic, stately homes on the lower Eastern Shore.

Our walking tour will start along the scenic Pocomoke River where a grassy greenspace has been established and there is plenty of free parking...



**1. Sturgis Park
River Street at Pocomoke River**



This slice of riverside greenspace (no river in America this narrow is as deep as the Pocomoke River) was named for James T. Sturgis, who was mayor of Snow Hill from 1960 until 1974. The Port Pavillion was dedicated in 1986.

WALK EAST ON RIVER STREET TO WASHINGTON STREET (THE RIVER IS ON YOUR LEFT).

**2. Pocomoke River Bridge
Washington Street at Pocomoke River**



This single-leaf bascule bridge, one of the simplest and smallest of Maryland's movable spans, was built across the Pocomoke River in 1932. Carrying MD 12 into Snow Hill, it measures only 90 feet long, including the approach span. Its Neoclassical concrete tender's house is unoccupied; boaters must call in advance to schedule an opening.

TURN RIGHT ON WASHINGTON STREET.

**3. Corddry Company Warehouse/Pocomoke Canoe Company
312 North Washington Street**



The old Corddry Company warehouse, now housing the Pocomoke River Canoe Company, is an interesting remnant of the frame industrial buildings that once lined both sides of the Pocomoke River. The weatherboarded balloon frame structure is covered by a low-pitched hip roof that rises to a distinctive monitor glazed by six- and eight-pane windows. Goods were moved between floors inside by a platform elevator on iron cables and a cast iron wheel. A date painted on an interior weatherboard suggests the building was erected in 1924.

TURN RIGHT ON GREEN STREET.

**4. Goodman's Clothing Store
110 Green Street**



William Goldman came from Baltimore in 1894 to open a clothing business and set up shop on Green Street. He moved into this building, erected shortly after a fire of August 7, 1893, in 1924. Constructed of beige bricks in a Romanesque style, the eastern side of the building stands out among its red brick Green Street neighbors. It features molded brick medallions and a corbelled brick cornice atop a parapet wall. After 100 years, Goldman's closed, ending the longest run of any business in downtown Snow Hill.

TURN LEFT AND STEP INTO PEARL STREET.

**5. Commercial National Bank
105 Pearl Street**



This picturesque little brick bank is typical of whimsical community banks built on the lower Eastern Shore in the 1890s; this one for the Commercial National Bank opened in 1897. The roof follows a modified pyramidal shape and the entrance goes through a short, pyramidal spire. The two prominent front windows are set within their own panels and still have their original colored glass in the transom. Rough stone sills and beltcourse indicate the influence of Richardsonian Romanesque style popular in the large East Coast cities at the time.

TURN LEFT ON MARKET STREET.

**6. Worcester County Courthouse
1 West Market Street**



The Worcester County has held session on this corner for over 150 years; until the Civil War the buying and selling of slaves was a common activity here. The first of two courthouses was destroyed by fire and the present courthouse, one of the finest on the Eastern Shore, was built in 1894. Baltimore architect Jackson C. Gott designed this brick five-bay building with an octagonal cupola set on an Ionic base which holds the town clock.

TURN LEFT ON WASHINGTON STREET. TURN RIGHT ON EAST GREEN STREET.

7. John Blair House
106 East Green Street



Now an art gallery and studio, tradition holds that this is the oldest existing house in Snow Hill. The one-and-a-half story frame structure, brick chimneys at each end, small rooms and wide pine flooring are all characteristics of early houses. But the entire northeast portion of the town was destroyed in an 1834 fire. That fact and clear Greek Revival interior detailing, mature cut nails and the first story windows with nine over six panes probably date the house to around 1835.

8. George Washington Purnell House
201 East Market Street, northeast corner of Green Street



Now known as the River House Inn, this circa 1860 mansion is one of the two most elaborate examples of Gothic Revival domestic architecture surviving in Worcester County. Only the George S. Payne House on Federal Street, built two decades later, approaches it. Defining features are steeply pitched gable roofs, wall dormers, hood molds over windows and gingerbread trim along the eaves and gable edges. Embellished with original Victorian details, this house is accented with bracketed eaves, rooftop finials, and decorative sawn eaves. An original cast-iron porch of grape-laden vines highlights the front yard.

Although the house is named for George Washington Purnell, whose association with the property stretched from 1877 to 1899, construction is credited to George Washington Purnell Smith, a Snow Hill attorney, who purchased the ground in 1853.

WALK ACROSS EAST MARKET STREET.

9. King's Necessity
106 East Market Street



This distinctive frame house features an entrance through the gable. Built around 1840 it spans two architectural era: the bold, gable-fronted elevation was characteristic of the late Federal period and the woodwork reflects some Greek revival influence in a style popular in America in the second quarter of the 19th century. At the elaborate front entrance are a fluted column portico, a diamond-shaped muntin transom and sidelights.

TURN RIGHT ON MARKET STREET, WALKING TOWARDS THE CENTER OF TOWN.

10. Snow Hill Inn
104 East Market Street, southeast corner of Washington Street



This land was developed, again after the 1834 fire, by prominent landowner and businessman, Levin Townsend. For more than 50 years, beginning in the 1870s, it was the home of John S. Aydelotte, the town doctor. Aydelotte added the gables and the east wing seen today.

In 1904, his son William James Aydelotte was found dead in Baltimore while attending the University of Maryland's School of Pharmacology, his throat slashed several times. A remorseful note to his father lamenting his troubles at school led to a finding of suicide in the case but the family was never convinced. To this day the house, now operating as the Snow Hill Inn, is said to be haunted by the young Aydelotte's ghost.

11. Oscar M. Purnell House
107 East Market Street



Dating to the first decade of the 20th century, this house, dominated by a colossal Ionic-columned front portico and wrap-around Tuscan -columned porch, stands out as the largest Colonial Revival dwelling erected in Snow Hill. Additional features include Palladian-style colored glass windows and rusticated stone dressings around window and door openings enhance the expansive center hall, double-pile house.

TURN LEFT ON WASHINGTON STREET.

12. Bates Memorial United Methodist Church
116 North Washington Street



Bates Methodist Church, established in 1833, was originally built on Franklin Street. The present construction on Washington Street was erected in 1901.

TURN RIGHT ON FEDERAL STREET.

13. Whatcoat United Methodist Church
102 West Federal Street



Whatcoat Methodist Church was first located in 1808 in the present cemetery on Federal Street between Washington Street and Collins Street. Two successive structures were built and moved before today's church was built in 1900.

14. Henry White House
101 West Federal Street



This two-store frame house dates back to 1826. it was originally built with a story-and-a-half east wing that extended southward with a colonnade and kitchen of similar height. Around 1870 the west wing was raised to two stories.

15. Walter P. Snow House
107 West Federal Street



Walter P. Snow, a lawyer, built this ambitious T-shaped house on property inherited by his wife around 1850. Known as “The Cedars,” the 14-room house with elements of the Late Federal and Greek Revival styles contains nine fireplaces. The house left the Snow family in 1881 and the colossal Tuscan-columned portico arrived sometime early in the following century.

16. All Hallows Episcopal Church Rectory
109 West Federal Street



The Episcopal Rectory is a fine Federal house, circa 1820, that was originally three bays long and three bays deep. An unusually large, gabled service wing was added to the western end of the building during the Civil War. It had been bequeathed to the All Hallows Church back in 1843. The house is distinguished by an arched fanlight over a six-panel front door and a cornice with a drilled fascia that was not carried over to the later addition.

17. Bratten-Jones House
110 West Federal Street



This is a combination frame swelling dating from two distinct periods. The front portion was built later, circa 1880, and the rear portion is believed to date as early as 1825. The nine-over-nine sash windows and beaded floor joists support the antebellum date. The cellar underneath the main house contains a brick-paved floor and an old hearth.

18. Shockley House
111 West Federal Street



This crisp 1917 dwelling is a classic example of the Colonial Revival style that swept residential design on the East Coast in the early 20th century. The two-story facade is topped with a hip roof crowned by a balustrade. Norwood Shockley operated a wholesale food business on the site of the current town library; the house left the Shockley family in 1950.

TURN LEFT ON CHURCH STREET.

19. 100 South Church Street



This well-proportioned house on a prominent corner lot in town is notable for its fine Federal-style doorway.

20. Hargis-Shockley House

101 South Church Street, southeast corner of Federal Street



Ella King Wilson Hargis purchased this centrally located corner in 1887 for \$650 “where Jonathan Hurlock now resides.” The modest selling price indicates a correspondingly modest abode, which this Second Empire-influenced Victorian house is decidedly not. The distinctive home displays a patterned mansard roof around decorative gables as well as a projecting bay window and Tuscan-columned porches.

21. 102 South Church Street



This Gothic cottage is unique to the Snow Hill streetscape.

22. George Wilson Bishop House

103 South Church Street



George Wilson Bishop was born on Duer’s Neck in 1826 and received a medical degree from Philadelphia’s Medical College in 1848. Bishop practiced medicine in Worcester County for two decades before drifting into state politics. He helped organize the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland and was a director of the First National Bank of Snow Hill. Bishop also held an early interest in the Worcester Railroad.

Bishop had this side-hall frame house constructed in 1872 with uniformly sheathed plain weatherboards. The frame house is that rare beast that has changed little as it remained in the Bishop family into the 21st century. The house features a distinctive arched porch of period sawnwork and decorated eaves that are a hallmark of this block of South Church Street.

23. Governor John Walter Smith House
104 South Church Street



Snow Hill native John Walter Smith engaged in the lumber business in Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina before becoming president of the First National Bank of Snow Hill and director in many business and financial institutions. He began a political career at the age of 44 when he was elected to the Maryland State Senate in 1889. He served as president of the Senate and was elected to the 56th Congress in 1898 from the 1st Congressional district of Maryland, but served for less than a year before being unexpectedly nominated for Governor of Maryland by the Democratic State Convention in 1899. Smith was victorious against incumbent governor Lloyd Lowndes, Jr. to become the 44th governor of Maryland. He capped his political career by winning two terms as the junior United States Senates from Maryland.

Jackson C. Gott designed this rambling frame house, one of the most elaborate Queen Anne homes ever built on the Eastern Shore, in the early 1890s. The asymmetrical exterior is punctuated by three-story polygonal towers and is sheathed in narrow weatherboards and fish-scale shingles. Stretching around the full front and around to the sides is a single-story porch supported by paired Tuscan columns on shingle bases.

24. Clayton J. Purnell House
107 South Church Street



Across from the Governor Smith House, this is another creation of Jackson C. Gott. It displays similar elements such as its corner octagonal tower and hip roof dormers. This house was built in 1894 for Clayton J. Purnell, a long-time attorney and author of an influential treatise, *The Law of Insolvency of Maryland, with Forms of Procedure*. Prior to that, this was a vacant lot. The Victorian house has been divided into apartments that have harshly compromised its original exterior.

25. The Hedges

119 West Martin Street, southeast corner of South Church Street



George Covington called this Italianate villa “The Hedges” when he built it in 1878. At the time it sat on edge of Snow Hill so he oriented the house to face northwest. Another victim of subdivision into apartments, the house nonetheless retains its three-story entrance tower, bay windows and bracketing everywhere.

The youngest of five sons in a Berlin family, George earned a law degree from Harvard University and served in the United States Congress for two terms in the 1880s. Afterwards he returned to Snow Hill to resume his law practice and help spearhead the construction of the Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church.

26. Mt. Zion One Room School House

southeast corner of Ironshire Street and South Church Street



The Mt. Zion One Room School House, now located on Ironshire Street was built in 1869 near Whiton and used as a school until 1931. It stood empty until Dr. Paul Cooper, Superintendent of Schools, had the building moved to Snow Hill. It was opened to the public in 1964 and has since demonstrated to students and visitors how their forebears were taught in the days of one room schools.

TURN RIGHT ON IRONSHIRE STREET.

27. James Martin House
207 Ironshire Street



Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the James Martin House, built circa 1790, is the only remaining representative of a gambrel-roof timber frame dwelling on the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. Two other buildings of similar form, Pemberton Hall and Bryan's Manor are brick buildings. The interior retains much of its original raised-panel woodwork. Extending from the southwest side of the house are service wings that have been reworked in the 20th century.

TURN RIGHT ON MUMFORD STREET. TURN RIGHT ON MARTIN STREET AND QUICKLY TURN LEFT DOWN DIVISION STREET TO FEDERAL STREET AND TURN RIGHT.

28. Cherrystone
208 West Federal Street



This three-part dwelling, including a hyphen that joins the former kitchen to the main house, was situated on a knoll that was the highest spot in town. Wrought iron nails found in the framing and exterior weatherboard of the hyphen roof have caused it to be called the oldest structure still standing in Worcester County. The east gable facing Church Street was the original facade. It features a central door with fanlight and pediment above pilasters, flanked by windows.

TURN AND WALK EAST ON FEDERAL STREET.

29. George C. Townsend House
205 West Federal Street



Buried in this double-gabled house is a structure dating from the second quarter of the 19th century that was significantly rebuilt after the Civil War. The distinctive chamfered post porch with scrolled corner brackets, the off-center entrance, and the nine-over-six sash windows all reflect a Victorian-age construction but interior finishes and the stair suggest an 1840s Late Federal style pedigree.

30. William Sydney Wilson House
207 Federal Street



This Italianate-style dwelling was built in 1881 for William Sydney Wilson, son of United States Senator Ephraim King Wilson. In 2005 the building, which had been converted into apartments, suffered extensive fire damage.

Ephraim King Wilson was born near Snow Hill on September 15, 1771. He graduated from Princeton College in 1790, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1792. He opened a practice in Snow Hill and was elected to the Twentieth Congress and reelected as a Jacksonian to the Twenty-first Congress. He resumed his law practice in Snow Hill until his death on January 2, 1834. William's brother Ephraim King Wilson II was also a Congressman and a Senator from Maryland. He lived on the next block at 304 West Federal Street.

31. Chanceford
209 Federal Street



Built by the family of Robert Morris, the financier of the revolutionary war, Chanceford Hall is a two-story, temple-front stuccoed brick house was erected in the early 1790s. Now an inn, the interior survives with much of its Federal and Georgian-style details - elaborate crown moldings, chair rails, fireplace mantels, paneled doors with original hardware and wide plank wood flooring. The stepped or “telescope” formed service wing to the rear is common to the lower Eastern Shore.

32. Captain Richard Howard House
211 West Federal Street



This Victorian house was built around 1895 by Captain Richard Howard who was the skipper on the last two steamboats to ply the waters of the Pocomoke River. Both burned and he lost two of his children in one of the devastating fires. The Queen Anne house is entered through an entrance tower in the northeast corner, which retains its original patterned slate covering. Fish-scale shingles, turned-post front porch supports and decorated eaves are trademarks of the Queen Anne style. The house stayed in the Howard family until 1961.

33. William H. Farrow House
300 West Federal Street



This five-bay house with two-story portion connected to a two-bay long lower wing appeared on the Snow Hill streetscape in the first decades of the 1800s. The large two-story that dominates the facade came along around 1850. It features a lattice-work balustrade on the second floor.

34. George S. Payne House
301 West Federal Street



The Payne House was built in the Gothic Revival style in 1881 with a steeply pitched, patterned slate roofs and gables trimmed with pierced sawnwork. Fish-scale shingles fill the front cross gable as well as each gable end. An early 20th-century Tuscan-columned front porch and a Colonial Revival conservatory replaced the original Victorian architecture.

35. Alfred Pinchin House
302 West Federal Street



This New Bedford-style house with belvedere was sold by Esther Gordon Pinchin to the Presbyterian Church in 1895 and served as the manse until 1950. The 1882 house has five fireplaces and probably boasted seven at one time.

36. Selby-Patterson House
305 West Federal House



This massive Victorian tour-de-force sports a distinctive chamfered-post porch with scrolled corner brackets features a patterned slate roof, elaborate frieze boards and overscaled eave returns, along with Gothic-style windows in the gable ends.

TURN AND WALK BACK TO MORRIS STREET. TURN LEFT.

37. Judge Walter Price House
103 North Morris Street



The two-story double-columned porch was added to this eclectic 1904 house at a later date.

CROSS MARKET STREET.

38. Benson-Morris House
302 West Market Street



The Benson-Morris house is one of the oldest dwellings still standing on Market Street, estimated to have been built around 1830. The two-story, four-bay house spans the late Federal and Greek Revival eras with its interior woodwork. Outside the house features bull's-eye glass over the front door and a central chimney with three flues.

39. Collins-Vncent House
210 West Market Street



Once the home of John L. Riley, a town doctor, this large Queen Anne house has survived in relatively unaltered condition. Typical features include multiple textures and trim and the signature wrap-around porch.

40. Julia A. Purnell Museum
208 West Market Street



This modest Gothic-style frame cottage was the St. Agnes Catholic Church in the late 1800s. It survives as the Julia A. Purnell Museum. Born in Snow Hill as Julia Anne Lecompte, Purnell married a storekeeper and had two sons. At 85 years of age she took a fall and became confined to a wheelchair. It was during her confinement that she began creating needlework pictures of Snow Hill and Worcester County historical buildings. She became well-known both locally and nationally for her fine craftsmanship in needlework. In 1942 Julia and her son, William founded the Julia A. Purnell Museum in Snow Hill, which housed many of Julia's needlework pieces, the tools she used and bits of memorabilia she had collected throughout her life. She died in 1943 two months after her 100th birthday. Her son William continued her legacy by advancing the museum, which thrives today as the Julia A. Purnell Museum. It is located on Market Street in Snow Hill and houses artifacts that interpret the history of the town from early civilization to the present day.

41. Purnell Shockley House
112 North Church Street, southwest corner of West Market Street



This corner was originally the town Market Square. By the arrival of 1900 the business section had migrated east and a small home was built on the site. Around 1905 the current dwelling was built by Mary and Thomas Purnell.

42. Samuel Gunn House
200 West Market Street



This 18th-century Georgian-style house is one of the oldest town house dwellings in Worcester County, dating to the 1780s. It boasts late Georgian detailing and classic symmetry. Attached to the west gable end of the house is a two-story kitchen wing, which was probably added in the 1920s.

43. All Hallows Episcopal Church
southeast corner of Church Street and Market Street



During the reign of William and Mary, Snow Hill Parish was established by an act of the Colonial Assembly. Early church records were destroyed in a Court House fire in 1834 but it is known, however, that the first church building stood near the bank of the Pocomoke River in 1734 according to the original plat of Snow Hill.

In 1748, an Act of the Colonial Assembly was passed for a levy of 80,000 pounds of tobacco for the building of “a parish church of brick to be erected at the east corner of Market and Church Streets, opposite the town market lot.” Eight years later an additional levy of 45,000 pounds was necessary to complete the structure. The church is one of the oldest and most elaborate of the mid-18th century structures remaining on the lower Eastern Shore. Some of the bricks used to construct the church came over as ballast from England. However, most of the bricks, laid in a Flemish bond with checkerboard glazed brick patterns and rubbed brick arches, were locally made. The ivy covering the outside came from Kenilworth Castle in England.

There have been alterations to the original structure. Box pews and side galleries were removed in 1872 and the original brick floors were covered. The present altar, reredos, ceiling, and slate roof were built in 1891. Stained glass windows replaced the original clear panes in 1899.

44. Truitt House
118 West Market Street



There was a George Truitt who sailed to Maryland as early as 1635. The Eastern Shore was subsequently peppered with George Truitts. Captain George W. Truitt probably built the core of this house around 1790. The eastern three bays, including the entrance and Palladian-style second floor window, were erected around 1805.

45. McKimmey Porter House
116 West Market Street



Built in 1805, this is one of the few buildings near the commercial district to survive the 1834 and 1893 fires. The cornice is unusual with shaped modillions, almost approaching the size of brackets. The house is highlighted by a fine Federal doorway with pediment, fanlight and semi-engaged columns; it is, however, partially hidden by the Victorian front porch which showed up during the late 1800s.

46. Adial P. Barnes House
107 West Market Street



This house is an interesting blend of the Queen Anne style that was passing out of fashion when this house was built in 1899-1900 and the Colonial Revival style that was becoming widely popular. The broad pyramidal roof and fish-scale shingles recall the Queen Anne style and the symmetrical proportions and Tuscan-columned porch point to the Colonial Revival influence.

47. Charles W. Corddry House
114 West Market Street



This well-executed 1924 Colonial Revival house displays excellent symmetry beneath a hipped roof with kicked eaves and exposed rafter feet, a nod to the popular bungalow style of the 1920s. The serpentine curve of the front porch roof is a distinctive feature of the house that was built for Charles Corddry, son of the founder of the Corddry Lumber Company. Standing behind the house is a contemporary early 20th century garage that is detailed in the same manner as the house. The house has remained essentially unchanged since its construction.

48. Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church
103 West Market Street



The original church was built in 1683 when Francis Makemie established the first Presbyterian congregation in the Americas. In 1888, Philadelphia architect Isaac Pursell was hired to replace a church that had been erected in 1795. He crafted a building in the High Gothic style that contrasted sharply with the existing buildings that populated Snow Hill. The Market Street facade is dominated by two entrances and bell towers sheathed with slate and metal ribs. No other church in Worcester County exhibits such an ambitious expression of Gothic Revival architecture.

49. First National Bank of Snow Hill
110 West Market Street



The First National Bank of Snow Hill is the longest operating financial institution in Worcester County, having opened its doors on September 12, 1887 with \$50,000 in capital assets and fronted by first president John Walter Smith, who would soon be governor of Maryland. This Romanesque Revival brick structure is characterized by round-arched windows that are accented by red sandstone lintels and sills. The round corner entrance tower is topped by a conical slate roof. Six years later much of the business district was destroyed by fire but the bank, although severely damaged, was repaired within six months. When it came time to expand and add a drive-in window, care was taken to follow the original scale and design motifs that characterized the 1880s bank.

TURN LEFT ON BANK STREET.

50. Municipal Building
103 Bank Street, southwest corner of Green Street



Finished in 1908, this building once housed both the fire department and the Snow Hill town offices. The first floor featured a wide entrance for the fire equipment to get in and out easily but when the fire company relocated around the corner on Green Street, the ground floor was refitted for the more classically appointed doorway seen today. Otherwise the building's exterior has remained unchanged, including the metal cornice that wraps around three sides of the brick building, supported by a poured concrete foundation.

51. American Legion Post 67

116 Green Street, northeast corner of Bank Street



The American Legion hall, a general merchandise store in its first incarnation, stands at the west end of an almost complete row of period brick commercial buildings that were erected shortly after the 1893 Snow Hill fire. Most of the buildings share intact Victorian storefront cornices as well as corbelled brick decoration that enriches the front parapet walls.

CONTINUE ON BANK STREET TWO BLOCKS TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT AT STURGIS PARK ON THE POCOMOKE RIVER.

IDENTIFYING AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE

Recognizing Early American Architecture:

Postmedieval English Colonial (1600-1700)

- * steeply pitched, side-gabled roof
- * small casement windows with many small panes (restored often)
- * massive chimney
- * vertical board (batten) door
- * little or no eave overhang, no cornice detailing
- * one room deep

Dutch Colonial (1625-1840)

- * side-gambrelled roof
- * usually one story
- * batten door, most divided into upper and lower halves
- * little or no eave overhang

French Colonial (1700-1830)

- * steeply pitched roof, either hipped or side-gabled
- * one story
- * tall, narrow door and window openings
- * doors and windows typically divided vertically into pairs
- * walls of stucco (over half-timbered frame)

Spanish Colonial (1660-1850)

- * low-pitched or flat roof
- * normally one story
- * few small windows
- * multiple external doors
- * walls very thick in stucco over adobe brick or rubble stone
- * long, narrow porches opening to courtyards

Georgian (1700-1780)

- * windows with double-hung sashes, typically nine or twelve small panes per sash; windows are never in adjacent pairs
- * paneled door, normally with decorative crown (most often pedimented but at times broken-pedimented) and supported by decorative pilasters
- * row of small rectangular panes beneath door crown
- * cornice usually emphasized with tooth-like dentils or other decorative molding
- * windows typically five-ranked and symmetrically balanced with center door; less commonly three-ranked or seven-ranked

Adamesque (Federal) (1780-1820)

- * windows with double-hung sashes, typically six small panes per sash; windows are never in adjacent pairs
- * semi-circular or elliptical fanlight over paneled door, typically accompanied by sidelights, elaborated crown and surround, and/or extended as small entry porch
- * cornice usually emphasized with tooth-like dentils or other decorative molding
- * windows typically five-ranked and symmetrically balanced with center door; less commonly three-ranked or seven-ranked
- * while similar to Georgian, features are often “lighter”

Greek Revival (1825-1860)

- * gabled or hipped roof of low pitch
- * entry porch or full-width porch supported by square or round, prominent columns
 - Doric: plain capitals
 - Ionic: capitals with scroll-like spirals
 - Corinthian: capitals shaped like inverted bells decorated with leaves
- * narrow line of transom and sidelights around door, usually incorporated into elaborate door surround
- * cornice lines emphasized with wide, divided band of trim

Recognizing Victorian Architecture:

General Victorian Features (1840-1910)

- * roof ornaments
- * bay (protruding) windows
- * three-part Palladian (rounded in middle) windows
- * gingerbread porch trim

Gothic Revival Style (1835-1875)

- * high-pitched center gables
- * pointed arch windows and doors
- * pendants and finials extending from roof

Italianate Style (1840-1885)

- * brackets under roof cornices
- * cupolas on the roof
- * narrow, square porch posts with chamfered corners
- * tall, slender windows

Second Empire Style (1855-1885)

- * mansard roof, concave or convex, with dormer windows on steep lower slope
- * molded cornices bound lower roof slope above and below
- * eaves normally with decorative brackets below

Stick Style (1860-1890)

- * stick-like bracketing on porches, often diagonal or curving
- * stick-like grid on wall surfaces
- * Jerkin-Head (cut-off triangular) roofs and dormers
- * pent (or shed) roofs on dormers, porches and bays
- * decorative trusses in gables; often steeply pitched gables
- * wooden wall cladding (boards or shingles)

Queen Anne Style (1880-1910)

- * asymmetrical facade
- * patterned shingles
- * turned porch posts and trim
- * corner towers and turrets
- * wraparound porch
- * steeply pitched, irregular roofline

Shingle Style (1880-1900)

- * shingled walls without interruption at corners
- * multi-level eaves above asymmetrical facade
- * extensive porches
- * walls and roofs covered with continuous wood shingles

Richardsonian Romanesque (1880-1900)

- * based on the innovative designs of Boston architect Henry Hobson Richardson
- * round topped arches over windows, porch supports or entrance
- * most have towers, usually round with conical roofs
- * always masonry walls, usually with rough-faced, squared stonework
- * facade usually asymmetrical

Recognizing 20th century Architecture:

Colonial Revival (1885 and beyond)

- * accentuated front door with fanlights and sidelights
- * symmetrical facade around centered entrance
- * windows with double-hung sashes
- * large dormers
- * round, smooth porch columns, often clustered

Neoclassical (1895-1950)

- * facade dominated by full-length porch supported by classical columns, typically Ionic or Corinthian
- * facade shows symmetrically balanced windows and center door
- * revivals may have curved porticos, two-story entrances, paired or tripled windows and/or bays not seen on originals
- * often very large

Tudor (1890 -1940)

- * massive chimneys, commonly crowned by decorative chimney pots
- * facade dominated by one or more prominent cross gables, usually steeply perched
- * decorative half-timbering often present
- * steeply pitched roof, usually side-gabled
- * tall, narrow windows, commonly in multiple groups with multi-pane glazing
- * walls of brick, stone, wood, stucco or in combination

French Chateausque (1890-1930)

- * busy roof line with many vertical elements (spires, pinnacles, turrets, gables, shaped chimneys)
- * steeply pitched hipped roof
- * multiple dormers, usually wall dormers extending through cornice line
- * walls of masonry, usually stone

Beaux Arts (1890-1930)

- * wall surfaces with decorative garlands, floral patterns or shields
- * masonry walls, usually of light-colored stone
- * facade with corner quoins and columns, oftne paired with Ionic or Corinthian capitals
- * first story typically rusticated (stonework) with exaggerated joints
- * facade symmetrical

Spanish Mission Style (1890-1930)

- * shaped Mission dormer or roof parapet
- * porch roofs supported by large square piers, commonly arched above
- * commonly with red tile roof covering
- * widely overhanging eaves, usually open
- * wall surface usually smooth stucco

Pueblo Revival (1910-present)

- * flat roof with parapeted wall above
- * stucco wall surface, usually earth-toned
- * projecting wooden roof beams (vigas)
- * wall and roof parapet with irregular, rounded edges
- * unpainted wood porch columns - maybe just tree trunks
- * tile or brick floors

Prairie Style (1900-1920)

- * low-pitched roof with widely overhanging eaves
- * two stories with one-story porches or wings
- * massive square porch supports
- * detail emphasizing horizontal lines
- * hipped roofs are more common than end or side gables
- * one of few indigenous American styles developed by Chicago architects Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright and built only during first two decades of century

Craftsman (1905-1930)

- * low-pitched gabled roof with wide, unenclosed eave overhang
- * roof rafters usually exposed
- * porches supported by square columns
- * decorative braces or false beams under gables
- * columns frequently continue to ground level without a break at porch level
- * generally one or one-and-a-half stories

Art Deco (1920-1940)

- * zigzags and other geometric and stylized motifs
- * towers and other vertical projections
- * smooth stucco wall surface
- * decorative motifs: geometric floral; chevron with lozenge; reeding and fluting, often around doors and windows; sunrise pattern

Art Moderne (1920-1940)

- * streamline, curved corners
- * smooth stucco wall surface
- * asymmetrical facade
- * flat roof, usually with ledge at roof line
- * horizontal grooves, lines, balustrades
- * windows can turn corners and can be roundly shaped
- * glass-block windows or sections of the wall

International (1925-present)

- * no decorative detailing at doors or windows
- * smooth, unornamental wall surface
- * asymmetrical facade
- * flat roof, usually without ledge at roof line
- * windows usually metal casements set flush with outer walls