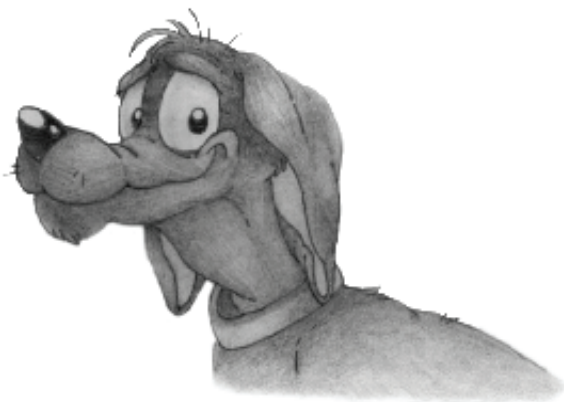


*Look up,
Philadelphia!*

25 Walking Tours of Towns
in the Delaware Valley

DOUG GELBERT



CRUDEN BAY BOOKS

About the author:

Doug Gelbert has written over 30 guidebooks on such diverse topics as public golf courses, the Civil War, movie filming locations and the best places to hike with your dog. For more information on this title visit the website *walkthetown.com*.

LOOK UP, PHILADELPHIA!: 25 WALKING TOURS
OF TOWNS IN THE DELAWARE VALLEY

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The towns...

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

| | |
|--|----|
| PHILADELPHIA - BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PARKWAY | 5 |
| PHILADELPHIA - CENTER CITY | 13 |
| PHILADELPHIA - GERMANTOWN | 23 |
| PHILADELPHIA - OLD CITY | 29 |
| PHILADELPHIA - RITTENHOUSE SQUARE | 37 |
| PHILADELPHIA - SOCIETY HILL | 43 |

DELAWARE COUNTY

| | |
|-------|----|
| MEDIA | 51 |
|-------|----|

CHESTER COUNTY

| | |
|----------------|----|
| KENNETT SQUARE | 57 |
| PHOENIXVILLE | 65 |
| WEST CHESTER | 75 |

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

| | |
|------------|----|
| NORRISTOWN | 83 |
| POTTSTOWN | 89 |

BUCKS COUNTY

| | |
|------------|-----|
| BRISTOL | 95 |
| DOYLESTOWN | 101 |
| NEWTOWN | 109 |

MERCER COUNTY

| | |
|---------|-----|
| TRENTON | 115 |
|---------|-----|

BURLINGTON COUNTY

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| BURLINGTON | 125 |
| MOORESTOWN | 133 |
| MOUNT HOLLY | 139 |

CAMDEN COUNTY

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| CAMDEN | 145 |
| HADDONFIELD | 151 |

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

| | |
|----------|-----|
| WOODBURY | 157 |
|----------|-----|

NEW CASTLE COUNTY

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| NEW CASTLE | 163 |
| WILMINGTON - DOWNTOWN | 173 |
| WILMINGTON - WEST END | 181 |

How to use this book...

There is no better way to see the Delaware Valley than on foot. And there is no better way to appreciate what you are looking at than with a walking tour. Whether you are visiting a new town or just out to look at your own town in a new way, a walking tour is ready to explore when you are.

Each of the 25 walking tours in *Look Up, Philadelphia!* describes a mix of historical and architectural and cultural and ecclesiastical landmarks. A quick primer on identifying architectural styles seen on Philadelphia area streets can be found at the back of the book on page 187.

Where are the maps?

Let's face it, in today's world of GPS, Google Maps and Mapquest trying to squeeze a detailed map onto a 7" by 10" piece of paper can be a superfluous exercise. The best way to get a map of these towns is to pick an address from the tour and plug it into your favorite mapping program. Adjust the map to whatever size best suits your needs and print it out to carry with you.

These tours are designed to be followed and enjoyed without maps. Each entry includes a street address and step-by-step directions. Note that when following a tour, street crossings are omitted. Always continue walking on your current street until a turn is indicated. Whenever possible the tours complete a circular route but sometimes retracing your steps is required. The tour starting points have been selected to be near convenient parking.

Where are the pictures?

They are all online. You can see photos of all the tour stops included in the book at this website: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/walkthetown/>. Click on "sets" and choose the town you are touring.

One more thing. Consider tearing out the pages from this book when you take a tour - the book is created so that each tour can be pulled out without impugning another tour. You may find it easier to tour with just a few foldable pages in your hand than holding an entire book.

And, one really last thing. Look twice before crossing the street. So get out and look up, Philadelphia!

Look Up,

Philadelphia

(Benjamin Franklin Parkway)



A Walking Tour of Benjamin Franklin Parkway...

The model for Benjamin Franklin Parkway is the Champs Elysees in Paris, France — a wide, pastoral avenue connecting City Hall to the world's largest municipal park, Fairmount Park. It did not come easy. When formal planning got underway prior to World War I there was a mass of buildings between there and there.

The designers of the Parkway were Paul Cret and Jacques Greber and the mass removal of those buildings - and the displacing of the people who lived in them - was a startlingly bold stroke for a conservative city often accused of preferring to live in the days of the Founding Fathers. By 1919 a stretch of Parkway could be seen and within a decade fountains, small parks, statues and monuments and formal public buildings began to take their place on the Parkway. By 1935 the Franklin Institute, the Free Library of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Museum of Art at the head of the avenue, and the Rodin Museum could be seen along the mile-long parkway.

Our walking tour will begin in the heart of Center City and head out along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway...

1. LOVE Park

John F. Kennedy and Benjamin Franklin parkways

LOVE Park was designed by Vincent Kling in 1965 as the anchor space for Benjamin Franklin Parkway. It covers an underground parking garage. The main features of the plaza are curved granite steps and a single spout fountain which was added in 1969. The now famous LOVE sculpture, designed by Robert Indiana, was first placed in the plaza in 1976 as part of the United States' Bicentennial celebration.

**WALK WEST ON ARCH STREET,
TOWARDS THE SCHUYLKILL
RIVER.**

2. Insurance Company of North America 1600 Arch Street

Since 1925, this 16-story, steel frame, brick-and-stone structure has been the home of the oldest capital stock insurance company in America. Incorporated in 1794, INA pioneered many forms of insurance, in particular marine underwriting.

3. Arch Street Presbyterian Church 1724 Arch Street, southeast corner of 18th Street

Regarded as a magnificent example of the classical revival in American architecture, Joseph C. Hoxie of Camden was built as the West Arch Street Presbyterian Church. The cornerstone was laid in May, 1853 and the church was dedicated in October, 1855. The large copper dome surmounts a Corinthian-porticoed corner building that is one of Philadelphia's most beautiful.

TURN RIGHT ON 18TH STREET.

4. Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul 18th and Race streets

Opposite the monument, across Race Street, was the residence of the cardinal of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Behind the residence, The reddish brownstone Cathe-

dral of Saints Peter and Paul was built between 1846 and 1864 under the direction of Napoleon Le Brun, who designed the Academy of Music, and John Notman, whose buildings include the Athenaeum and the Church of the Holy Trinity. Notman worked the exterior Palladian facade and copper dome in the Italian Renaissance manner and the interior is spacious with magnificent proportions reminiscent of Roman churches. It was largely decorated by Constantino Brumidi (1805-90), who painted the dome of the Capitol in Washington.

TURN LEFT ON RACE STREET.

5. Academy of Natural Sciences southwest corner of Race and 19th streets

America's first natural history museum was founded in 1812 in John Speakman's apothecary shop by a small group of local devotees to nature to advance scientific knowledge for people, encourage learning, and as a way to "occupy their time in the fashionable interest of Nature." The Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences was chartered by the Pennsylvania legislature four years later and opened its collections to the public in 1828. Three times it outgrew its buildings but in 1876 the Academy moved into this building that has managed to corral its 17 million specimens. The Academy of Natural Sciences was the first museum in the world to display a mounted dinosaur skeleton.

TURN LEFT ON 20TH STREET.

6. St. Clements Episcopal Church 20th and Cherry streets

The Episcopalians have some of Philadelphia's most interesting and historic churches and by and large the ones with the greatest architectural beauty, such as this one by John Notman in 1859. It was actually built as golf courses are today - to attract new homebuyers.

**TURN AROUND ON 20TH STREET
AND WALK TOWARDS BENJAMIN
FRANKLIN PARKWAY.**

7. **The Franklin Institute Science Museum** 222 N 20th Street

The Franklin Institute opened in 1824 in Independence Hall and is the oldest organization in the United States devoted to the study and promotion of mechanical arts and applied sciences. The current building, braced by Corinthian porticos dates to the early 1930s and was designed by John T. Windrim. In the museum's rotunda is the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial, with a 20-foot-tall marble statue of the scientist and Founding Father by James Earle Fraser.

8. **Logan Square**

Logan Circle is one of Penn's original five squares - the generically monikered Northwest Square. Lick the others, save today's Rittenhouse Square, it was once used as a burying ground and site of public hangings. On February 7, 1823, William Gross was hanged here — the last public execution held on the spot. In 1825 it was renamed for James Logan and 17 years later, after being an open pasture for 150 years, it was a punishable offense to take a cow, horse, cart wagon or carriage into the square. Eventually the graves, mounds and hillocks were removed or leveled.

The square became a circle and in 1924 the Swann Memorial Fountain by Alexander Stirling Calder was dedicated as its centerpiece. William Cary Swann was the founder of the Philadelphia Fountain Society whose mission was to install drinking fountains and horse troughs across the city. The three figures in the center represent the trio of waterways that define Philadelphia - the Delaware River, the Schuylkill River and the Wissahickon Creek.

9. **Free Library of Philadelphia** 1901 Vine Street on Logan Circle

The Free Library of Philadelphia was founded in 1894, housed in City Hall. Horace Trumbauer, one of America's finest practitioners of France's Ecole des Beaux Arts, designed this building in 1917 and it opened in 1927. The Central Branch of the city's public library system soon became a popular repository for everything from Sumerian cuneiform tablets to the works of Beatrix Potter. With more than 100,000 books and manuscripts,

it is one of the country's great libraries. The Rare Book Department, which has holdings spanning 5000 years, is housed on the third floor in a handsome Georgian room that was removed from William McInitre Elkins' home in Whitemarsh, on the outskirts of Philadelphia, and installed in the library in 1949. Richly paneled, the room contains Mr. Elkins own fine library, a notable collection of Dickens' letters and editions, Dickens' desk and candleholder and even his pet raven which was stuffed in 1841.

TURN LEFT AND WALK UP BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PARKWAY.

10. **Benjamin Franklin Parkway**

More so than most, Philadelphia is a city of well-ordered right angles, much as William Penn envisioned it in 1682. But when the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893 ushered in a "City Beautiful" movement in America some began to dream of a wide, park-like boulevard to connect City Hall with Fairmount Park. Paul Philippe Cret was hired in 1907 to make the dream a reality, laying a diagonal vector across the city's checkerboard.

Demolition cleared away scores of residences in a massive urban renewal effort. Several of the city's biggest institutions - the library, museums and some government buildings moved to the new Parkway but many are sited at an angle leaving gaps in the route that are poorly defined.

11. **Rodin Museum** 22nd Street and Benjamin Franklin Parkway

This is the only building that Paul Philippe Cret designed along his parkway. It houses the largest collection of sculptures - more than 120 - by Auguste Rodin outside of France, brought together by Jules Mastbaum, an early film exhibitor in Philadelphia, who began assembling the works in 1913 with the idea of eventually donating them to the city. Mastbaum hired Jacques Greber, the French landscape architect responsible for the layout of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway to design the elegant gardens. He died before the project was completed in 1929.

12. Parkway House **22nd Street and Pennsylvania Avenue**

Erected in 1953, this colossal apartment complex that blends elements of Art Deco and International styles, steps down to the Parkway. It is not without its detractors, one of whom observed that the city allowed its crown jewel, the Museum of Art to be “overshadowed by the most monstrous apartment building ever to disfigure the skyline and physiognomy of Philadelphia - or perhaps of any great city.”

13. Eakins Oval **2600 Benjamin Franklin Parkway**

The plaza is named for Thomas Eakins (1844-1916), the great Philadelphia painter who is best known for *The Gross Clinic* and *The Agnew Clinic*, leads to three fountains. The center fountain, dedicated to George Washington, was erected by the Society of the Cincinnati of Pennsylvania. Executed by Rudolf Siemering in 1897, it was originally placed in Fairmount Park before moving to this prominent spot on the Parkway in 1928. The four figures and the animals overlooking the pools at the base represent four great waterways of America — the Mississippi, the Potomac, the Delaware and the Hudson.

Flanking the Washington Monument are twin fountains designed by the architects of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Horace Trumbauer, C. Clark Zantzinger and Charles L. Borie, Jr. One is dedicated to the inventor John Ericsson who designed the great Civil War ironclad Monitor; the other to Eli Kirk Price who spearheaded the movement to create the Parkway. Across the roadway, Auguste Kiss's *Mounted Amazon Attacked by a Panther* and Albert Wolff's *The Lion Fighter* flank the museum steps.

14. Philadelphia Museum of Art **2600 Benjamin Franklin Parkway**

Founded during the nation's first centennial in 1876 as a museum of decorative arts, the Museum soon outgrew its quarters in Fairmount Park's Memorial Hall. Horace Trumbauer, C. Clark Zantzinger and Charles L. Borie, Jr. collaborated to create Philadelphia's Parthenon majestically atop a rise at the end of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

Trumbauer devised the scheme of three linked Greek temples facing in toward a common court. Begun in 1919 the first section of the Beaux Arts building finished in golden Minnesota dolomite with blue tile roofs opened in 1928.

The pediment or tympanum on the north wing was done by Carl Paul Jennewein and illustrates the theme of sacred and profane love. There are thirteen classical figures, the central one of Zeus signifying the creative force, with Demeter, the laurel tree, Theseus, Aphrodite and Eros to the sides. Unfortunately, funds were never available to complete it with similar groups on the central and south buildings.

Movie-lovers will remember the long set of steps in front of the museum as the spot where boxing underdog, Rocky Balboa, made his triumphant run — arriving at the top with hands raised aloft in triumph. There is a ground floor entrance on the river side of the museum for those not similarly inspired.

WALK AROUND THE MUSEUM OF ART TO THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER.

15. Fairmount Waterworks **east side of Schuylkill River below** **the Museum of Art**

Perched on the banks of the Schuylkill River, the Water Works was not only a source of the City's water, its rambling Classic architecture and cutting-edge engineering made it an international 19th century tourist attraction. Built between 1812 and 1815 by Frederick Graff, the waterworks comprise a dam, pumphouse and reservoir. Water was pumped from the river into a reservoir (where the Art Museum now stands) and then distributed through the city via wooden water mains. Graff was a draftsman on the city's first waterworks built between 1799 and 1801 after which he became superintendent of the Philadelphia Waterworks. he remained at the post 42 years, becoming the young nation's foremost authority on supplying fresh water.

TURN LEFT ON KELLY DRIVE.

16. Boathouse Row
Kelly Drive on the Schuylkill River

Historically, the Schuylkill River became attractive to rowers after the construction of the Fairmount Water Works, where the dam slowed the water down to a calmer current and provided space for a wide, mile-and-a-quarter course that still exists today. Boathouse Row, home to Philadelphia's rowing community, is a leading epicenter of the nation's championship aspirations for the sport. It is a magnet for the grass roots development of national and world championship medalists and has been home to a long list of Olympic competitors and coaches. Philadelphia hosts nearly twice as many regattas as the closest competitor city, Boston.

The picturesque Victorian boathouses are simple, roomy and functional. The Undine Barge Club, erected 1882-83, was designed by Frank Furness, America's finest practitioner of the style. The clubs outline their boathouses with lights — always an enchanting sight for those driving the opposite side of the river by night.

WALK UP THE HILL ACROSS KELLY DRIVE INTO FAIRMOUNT PARK AND LEMON HILL DRIVE.

17. Lemon Hill
Lemon Hill Avenue above Boathouse Row

The estate was known in 1770 as The Hills, and from that year until 1799 it was the home of Robert Morris, Declaration of Independence signer, and a major financier of the Revolution. Morris built a greenhouse on the property, one of the first such in the country. He later went bankrupt due to his land speculations, and Henry Pratt, a Philadelphia merchant, purchased the main part of the property at a sheriff's sale in 1799. The present house was built in that year and the next. Pratt planted lemon trees here and hence the estate became known as Lemon Hill. Pratt died in 1838 and the city purchased the estate in 1844, the first of the Fairmount Park houses to be acquired.

The house is rectangular, with a central bay on the river side that rises three stories. Oval rooms give the home a unique flavor. The lightly concave doors have superb proportions and are strikingly

beautiful. The exterior walls are stucco with granite trim.

RETURN TO KELLY DRIVE AND BACKTRACK TO FAIRMOUNT AVENUE. AND TURN LEFT.

18. Fidelity Mutual Life Insurance Company Building
Fairmount and Pennsylvania avenues

The same firm that designed the Philadelphia Museum of Art did this building for the Fidelity Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1926. Zantlinger, Borie, and Medary created monumental entrance arches that flank the Beaux-Arts Deco block-long structure. The naturalistic carvings adorning the building were sculpted by Lee Lawrie. Ironically, the Museum of Art came calling in 2007 and opened an expansion in the building.

19. Eastern State Penitentiary
North 22nd Street and Fairmount Avenue

Eastern State Penitentiary has been called the most influential building constructed in the United States. When Eastern State opened in 1829, visitors from around the world marveled at the medieval fortress created by John Havilland. But it was the Quaker-inspired belief that solitary confinement could reform criminals that made Cherry Hill Penitentiary, as it was then called, a model for prison design world wide. An estimated 300 prisons on four continents are based on Eastern's distinctive "wagon-wheel" floor plan. Once the most expensive building in the USA, Eastern State was finally abandoned in 1971 after 142 years in use. A National Historic Landmark, the prison is open for tours that include include a restored 19th-century cell, the warden's office, several cellblocks, exercise yards, death row and critically acclaimed art installations.

WALK SOUTH ON 22ND STREET. TURN RIGHT ON GREEN STREET.

20. Kemble-Bergdoll House
2201-5 Green Street

This Renaissance Revival mansion was built in 1889 for People's Bank president William Kemble and later bought by the Bergdolls whose brewery on Girard Avenue was one of Philadelphia's largest and best known. Prohibition in 1920 caused the brewery to go out of business. The brownstone house was designed by James A. Windrim.

21. 2223 Green Street

This Green Street rowhouse with the unusual brick and tile facade was designed by Willis Hale. It was one of several in the area owned by the Fleisher family, wealthy textile manufacturers and one of several on the block done by Hale.

22. St. Francis Xavier Church
northeast corner of 24th and Green streets

The grand Romanesque structure adorning the northeast corner of 24th and Green Streets is the oldest church in the neighborhood. Completed in 1898, this building replaced the old church that was located at 25th and Biddle (approximately where the Art Museum steps are today). The parish itself began in 1839. While the building has many striking features, the tower is the most prominent. The spire is one hundred, fifty-two feet tall. It is one of the most recognized landmarks in the neighborhood. The stained glass windows are beautiful, especially the circular one above the main entrance. It's 22 feet in diameter, and its fine stonework reminds one of lace.

TURN LEFT ON 24TH STREET AND
TURN LEFT ON PENNSYLVANIA
AVENUE. TURN LEFT ON HAMIL-
TON STREET. TURN RIGHT ON
20TH STREET.

23. Reading Company Grain Elevator
411 North 20th Street

Philadelphia was once a distribution center for grain grown in the farmlands of Pennsylvania. For a long time grain elevators were a common sight

in the city, but only this one remains. The Reading Company Grain Elevator was built in 1925 on the site of a grain elevator that had been there since the Civil War and which was destroyed in a grain explosion. The hulking grey structure was designed by staff architects of the Reading Railroad and was built using a continuous poured in place concrete process. Grain was delivered by wagon to the entrance then stored in the silos until it was loaded onto trains and taken to the Port Richmond on the Delaware River. Abandoned in the 1950s, the building was purchased in 1976 by an interior designer, who converted the lower floors into offices. The silos were left untouched, but the machinery towers were transformed into a penthouse apartment. The place was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

CONTINUE TO THE BENJAMIN
FRANKLIN PARKWAY AND
RETURN TO THE TOUR
STARTING POINT.

Look Up,

Philadelphia

(Center City)



A Walking Tour of Center City...

When William Penn founded Philadelphia in 1682 he saw a city that would one day stretch from the Delaware River to the Schuylkill River. He had surveyor Thomas Holme lay out a plan for the city to match that far-reaching vision. For the next 100 years the city still clustered only six blocks from the Delaware River.

By the early nineteenth century, development had reached Center Square (now site of City Hall) and continued westward to the Schuylkill and beyond into West Philadelphia. Things were happening so rapidly that the Consolidation of 1854 recognized this fact by enlarging the city boundaries to match those of Philadelphia County.

The city's banks and businesses and small manufacturers marched westward as the city grew. By 1900 Center City claimed not only Philadelphia's government and moneyed interests but its railroads and great retail emporiums. Center City today continues to be the pulsing heart of the city with America's most formidable historical to the east and majestic residential neighborhoods to the west.

Our walking tour will begin at one of America's most magnificent buildings recently restored...

1. City Hall

Broad & Market streets

City Hall is built on the area designated by William Penn as Centre Square. It was a public square from the city's founding in 1682 until construction of City Hall began upon the site in 1871. Working on a French Second Empire design by Scottish architect John McArthur, Jr., it was intended to be the tallest building in the world but when it was finally finished 30 years - and eight mayors - later City Hall was surpassed by both the Eiffel Tower and Washington Monument. Instead, it hung its hat on the fact that at 547 feet it was the world's tallest habitable building, a title it held for less than a decade. Today it remains the tallest masonry building ever constructed.

The building is topped by an 11.3-m (37 ft), 27-ton bronze statue of city founder William Penn, one of 250 sculptures created by Alexander Milne Calder that adorn the building inside and out. The statue is the tallest atop any building in the world. Penn's statue is hollow, and a narrow access tunnel through it leads to a small (22-inch-diameter) hatch atop the hat.

LEAVE CITY HALL AND HEAD EAST ON MARKET STREET.

2. John Wanamaker's

1300 Market Street

John Wanamaker opened his first men's store in his hometown in 1861 at the age of 23. Called "Oak Hall," the new emporium stood at Sixth and Market Streets on the site of George Washington's Presidential home. Oak Hall grew substantially based on Wanamaker's then-revolutionary principle: "One price and goods returnable". In 1869, he opened his second store at 818 Chestnut Street under his own name. Wanamaker's genius for advertising soon created one of the world's great retailing empires.

This building, an unremarkable Renaissance palazzo of limestone and granite, opened in 1911. The splendor lies within, starting with a five-story central atrium. On the second level is the legendary pipe organ, 30,000 pipes strong. It is America's largest. How important was the opening of this new John Wanamaker's? President William

Howard Taft was on hand for the grand opening.

3. PSFS Building

12 S 12th Street, southwest corner of Market Street

This is the third headquarters for the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society. George Howe took the design for his tower in a completely new direction and built the first International style skyscraper in the country. The sleek 33-story tower rests atop a curving base of polished black granite and the guts of the building's operating system reside in an adjoining tower. The interior details, which included Cartier-designed clocks and custom designed furniture, fostered a new era of modernism when it was completed in 1932.

4. Reading Terminal

Market Street between 11th and 12th streets

The Reading Railroad is long gone, existing today only on Monopoly game boards. This is the line's only Center City facility, the arches and balustrades of the headhouse designed by Francis Hatch Kimball in 1891. Its outstanding architectural feature is a curved, arched bay looming over Market Street from its fourth floor perch where Kimball sliced away a corner.

5. Reading Terminal Market

12th and Market streets

When the Reading Railroad wanted to come into Philadelphia the only suitable location was already occupied by the venerable Franklin Market. To get the right to build its terminal the line had to incorporate the market into its design. The Reading Terminal Market, established in 1892 is the nation's oldest continuously operating farmers' market. Cuisine from across the globe is available from more than 80 unique merchants, three of which are descendants of original stand holders from when it opened more than 110 years ago. The northwestern corner of the market is devoted to Amish merchants from Lancaster County, who bring their farm-fresh products and distinctive prepared dishes to the Market Wednesday through Saturday.

6. The Gallery
Market Street, between 11th
and 9th streets

This pioneering downtown shopping mall was developed between 1974 and 1977.

7. United States Post Office and
Court House
9th and Market streets

The first buildings on this site were part of the University of Pennsylvania campus from 1800 to 1870. The current Depression-era classical monolith replaced a rambling Victorian post office from the 1870s. Along the 9th street side of the building are relief panels of energetic postal workers carved into limestone by Edmond Amateis.

8. Strawbridge & Clothier
8th and Market streets

Quakers Justus Clayton Strawbridge and Isaac Hallowell Clothier opened a dry goods store in 1862. In 1868 Strawbridge & Clothier purchased a 3-story brick building on the northeast corner of Market and 8th Streets which had been Thomas Jefferson's office in 1790 while he served as Secretary of State. Soon the old building was replaced by a new 5-story department store offering a variety of fixed price merchandise under one roof. By 1896, when the present building was erected, Strawbridge & Clothier was a Philadelphia retailing institution on a par with Wanamaker's. In 1929, Strawbridge & Clothier opened one of the first suburban branch department stores in the nation, located in the Suburban Square shopping center in Ardmore. The historical flagship closed in 2006.

9. Lit Brothers
Market Street between 8th and 7th streets

Samuel and Jacob Lit opened the first store at Eight and Market Streets in 1893. Over the next 15 years the brothers methodically bought up the surrounding stores until they had the entire block. The flagship store, with new structures on either end, opened in 1907. Like many department stores of its time, the store was an assem-

blage of several buildings built over time, which were joined so the interior appeared as one building. The unique façade of this building's front on Market Street caused it to become known as the "cast iron" building. After the store closed in 1977, it was in danger of demolition but was luckily redeveloped as office and commercial space in the late 1980s.

TURN RIGHT ON 7TH STREET.

10. Atwater Kent Museum
15 S 7th Street

John Haviland, who was also the architect of Eastern State Penitentiary, designed the 1826 Greek Revival building that was the original home of the Franklin Institute. A. Atwater Kent, a wealthy inventor who manufactured early radios in Philadelphia, bought the building in 1938 and gave it to the city to establish a museum dedicated to Philadelphia's cultural and industrial history.

TURN RIGHT ON
CHESTNUT STREET.

11. Jeweler's Row
8th and Chestnut streets

The first person to build here, when it was still on the outskirts of the city was Robert Morris, the "Financier of the Revolution." Morris retained Pierre Charles L'Enfant, who would layout the new capital of Washington, to work on his estate. The mansion would bankrupt Morris and land him in debtor's prison. "Morris' Folly" would never be finished.

Developer William Sansom bought part of the property and hired builder and architect Thomas Carstairs to construct one of America's first speculative housing developments. Now the area on Sansom Street, between Seventh and Eighth streets, and on Eighth Street between Chestnut and Walnut street, is home to Jewelers' Row. It is the oldest diamond district in America, and second in size only to the one in New York City. Some of the businesses have been owned by the same family for five generations; the oldest dates to 1851.

12. Benjamin Franklin Hotel
834 Chestnut Street

Opened in 1925 as the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Horace Trumbauer incorporated many Neoclassical elements in its limestone and brick design. In the mid-1980s the hotel was renovated and reopened as the Benjamin Franklin House. Affectionately referred to as “The Ben” by many Philadelphians, the building currently has 412 apartments and boasts one of city’s largest ball-rooms.

TURN LEFT ON 9TH STREET.

13. Walnut Street Theater
825 Walnut Street, northeast corner
of 9th Street

What began as a circus in 1809 is today the oldest continuously used theater in the country. It was once owned by the great classical actor - and brother of the presidential assassin, Edwin Booth. The Walnut Street Theater can claim installing the nation’s first gas footlights (1837) and air conditioning with Mr. Barry’s Patent Cool Air Machine (1855).

TURN RIGHT ON WALNUT STREET.

14. Thomas Jefferson University
1020 Locust Street

The main building dates to 1907. In Alumni Hall are three life-size portraits by Thomas Eakins, one of America’s greatest 19th-century realist painters. The gallery was inaugurated in 1982 to celebrate the portraits of three eminent university medical professors: Samuel Gross, Benjamin H. Rand and William S. Forbes. Two portraits hanging in the gallery offer sympathetic images of Jefferson professors whom Eakins knew — one, Dr. Rand, with his cat. The gallery also displays early stethoscopes, syringes and other medical instruments from the University’s collection.

Eakins actually studied anatomy at Jefferson, seeing it as a crucial part of an artist’s education. The compelling honesty of *The Gross Clinic* (recently sold to the Philadelphia Museum of Art and replaced with a copy) reflects Eakins’s uncompromising approach to art and life; he lost

his position teaching at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in a dispute over the use of nudity in an art class, and not until late in life did he begin to receive the acclaim he deserved.

TURN RIGHT ON 10TH STREET.

15. Federal Reserve Bank
10th and Chestnut streets

This classical government building, with a facade of square Doric columns, was designed by Paul Phillippe Cret in the 1930s. The highly fenestrated upper floors contain offices; the Federal Reserve, one of the 12 branches of the nation’s central bank, has since relocated on Independence Mall.

16. Victory Building
1001 Chestnut Street, northwest
corner of 10th Street

This Second Empire granite office building by Henry Fernbach was half its current size when constructed in the 1870s. The balustrade marks the former roofline when this was a branch office of the New York Life Insurance Company capped by a mansard roof.

17. St. Stephen’s Church
19 S 10th Street

This is the site where Benjamin Franklin flew his kite to conduct electricity experiments. Several of the 19th century’s greatest architects and artists had a hand in St. Stephen’s. William Strickland employed an early Gothic interpretation to build it in 1823. The church is the only surviving example of his Gothic style. In the late 1870s Frank Furness added the north transept and vestry and the marble Angel of Purity was sculpted by Augustus Saint-Gaudens.

RETURN TO CHESTNUT STREET
AND TURN RIGHT.

18. Widener Building
Chestnut Street between Broad
and Juniper streets

The Widener Building was designed in 1914 by Horace Trumbauer for Peter A. B. Widener, one of three men who built the trolley system in the late 19th century. The 18-story, 385,000-square-foot building was gutted in 1991 and \$80 million spent to restore the tower. There are superb Corinthian pilasters and soaring vaulted entries on both the south and north ends of the building.

19. Girard Trust Company
34-36 South Broad Street

The influential New York architectural firm of McKim, Mead & White left little imprint on Philadelphia but the office executed this stately Ionic temple crowned with a beautifully proportioned dome. The exterior is finished in sparkling white Georgia marble.

TURN LEFT ON
SOUTH BROAD STREET.

20. Union League Club
140 South Broad Street

John Fraser designed this Second Empire-influenced club building in the waning days of the Civil War when the union League split from the Union Club over war policy. This fine brownstone was given a Beaux Arts limestone addition a half-century later by Horace Trumbauer.

21. The Bellevue
southwest corner of Broad and
Walnut streets

George Boldt, a Prussian immigrant and his Philadelphia-born wife, Louise Kehrler Boldt, opened an earlier facility, the Bellevue Hotel, in 1881. A small boutique inn, it quickly became nationally-known for its high standard of service, fine cuisine, and elite clientele. The Boldts expanded by acquiring the Stratford Hotel across the street. Both were supplanted by construction of the grand Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, designed in the French Renaissance style by Philadelphia architects, brothers George and William Dewitt.

The present building opened in 1904. Over two years in the making and costing over \$8,000,000 (in 1904 dollars), the Bellevue-Stratford was described at the time as the most luxurious hotel in the nation and perhaps the most spectacular hotel building in the world. It initially had 1,090 guest rooms, the most magnificent ballroom in the United States, delicate lighting fixtures designed by Thomas Edison, Tiffany and Lilac glass embellishments, and the most celebrated marble and hand-worked iron elliptical staircase in the city. The rusticated building has gone through many owners in its 100+ years but is still one of America's most beautiful hotels.

22. Academy of Music
1420 Locust Street at the southwest
corner of Broad Street

Napoleon LeBrun built the Academy of Music in 1857, modeling its lavish interior on La Scala Opera House in Milan. It is the oldest known opera house continuously in use in the United States and has often been praised as the finest. The Academy is home to the Opera Company of Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Ballet and "Broadway at the Academy," a series of national productions. For more than a century, its most famous resident was the Philadelphia Orchestra, which returns every January to play the Academy Anniversary Concert and Ball.

23. The Kimball Center for the
Performing Arts
Broad and Spruce streets

The brightest light on the Avenue of the Arts is the dazzling regional performing arts center, whose discreet brick exterior rises to a bold 150-foot glass vaulted rooftop for startling views of the city. The Philadelphia Orchestra's need for a modern concert hall coupled with the city's need for a venue to serve the community and visiting artists proved the catalyst for the Kimball, completed in December 2001 by architect Rafael Vinyl and the acoustic team Artec. The facility is named for sportswear manufacturer and Philadelphian Sidney Kimball, the largest private donor.

24. University of the Arts
320 South Broad Street, northwest
corner of Pine Street

The serious Doric facade designed by John Haviland in 1826 was for the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb which it remained until 1893 when the College of Art and design moved here. It was spruced up in 1983 when it became the Broad Street face of the complex known as the University of the Arts.

TURN AROUND AND WALK
BACK UP BROAD STREET
TOWARDS CITY HALL. TURN
LEFT ON SPRUCE STREET.

25. Drake Tower
1512-14 Spruce Street

The Drake was designed as a hotel in 1929 by architects Ritter & Shay who delivered a 30-story slab skyscraper whose length is several times its width. The Drake is an Art Deco masterpiece with a Spanish Baroque red-tiled roof and turrets and sculptured terra-cotta ornaments. The warm orange brick has turned brown and drab as the building has made the transition to apartment house.

TURN RIGHT ON 15TH STREET.

26. Bookbinders Seafood House
215 South 15th Street

Philadelphia's most famous restaurant - name, at least - opened as an oyster saloon in 1893 on Fifth Street near South Street by Dutch immigrant Samuel Bookbinder. In 1898, Bookbinder moved down closer to the docks at Second and Walnut. The restaurant left the family in the 1930s when it was bequeathed to the Jewish Federated Charities.

In 1935 two of Samuel Bookbinder's sons opened Bookbinders Seafood House here. When new owners took over the Second and Walnut restaurant they added "Old Original" to differentiate it from the new family operation. The family business shuttered in 2004, the family's old restaurant, no longer in the family, closed in 2009.

27. Drexel Building
135-43 South 15th Street, southeast
corner of Moravian Street

Some buildings are designed to appear taller than they actually are; this one strives to seem shorter. The bottom two stores are designed to look like one story. The entire Florentine palazzo-styled building, executed in the 1920s, is faced with rusticated granite.

28. Packard Building
southeast corner of 15th and
Chestnut streets

Samuel Yellin, a Polish-born craftsman, contributed the pair of monumental 10-ten wrought iron gates at the entrance to the Packard Building, decorated with an overall design of squares within squares. At the center of each square is a flower surrounded by a ribbon and scroll work. Additional Samuel Yellin metalwork include two large sconces that flank the entrance. The Packard Building was designed by the busy firm of Ritter & Shay in 1924.

TURN RIGHT ON
CHESTNUT STREET.

29. Jacob Reed's Sons Store
1424-26 Chestnut Street

The large, inviting Palladian entranceway leads to one of Philadelphia's finest retail facades and interiors, built in 1904. The handmade tiles on the front of the building came from Henry Chapman Mercer's Moravian Pottery and Tile Works in Doylestown. The Reeds were selling fashionable duds for men of means.

TURN AROUND AND WALK
THE OTHER WAY ON
CHESTNUT STREET, TOWARDS
THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER.

30. WCAU Building
1620 Chestnut Street

Built in 1928 by Harry Sternfield and Gabriel Roth, this is one of Philadelphia's most joyful Art Deco buildings. It is meant to resemble a radio and the glass tower was lit in blue at night when the station was on the air. WCAU projected one of the most powerful signals in the country and could be heard clearly at night across the country. The building was renovated in the 1980s for the Art Institute of Philadelphia.

TURN RIGHT ON 17TH STREET.

31. Liberty Place
Market Street, between 16th
and 17th streets

For generations a "gentleman's agreement" was strictly abided by developers in Philadelphia - no building would be higher than William Penn's statue of City Hall. While other cities engaged in battles to build soul-less skyscrapers ever higher, Philadelphia retained a charm unique among major cities with its tradition. It all ended in the 1980s when Willard Rouse built One Liberty Place and Two Liberty Place, reaching sixty and fifty-eight stories, respectively.

32. Suburban Station
16th Street and John F. Kennedy
Boulevard

When Broad Street Station gave way to 30th Street Station the new depot across the Schuylkill River was just a tad far afield for the Center City commuter. So Suburban Station was created at the same time, 1924 to 1929. It is essentially a train station stuck in the basement of an office building. Little is done to announce its presence but the commuters know where they are going.

TURN RIGHT ON JOHN F.
KENNEDY BOULEVARD.

33. LOVE Park
John F. Kennedy and Benjamin
Franklin parkways

LOVE Park was designed by Vincent Kling in 1965 as the anchor space for Benjamin Franklin Parkway. It covers an underground parking garage. The main features of the plaza are curved granite steps and a single spout fountain which was added in 1969. The now famous LOVE sculpture, designed by Robert Indiana, was first placed in the plaza in 1976 as part of the United States' Bicentennial celebration.

TURN LEFT ON
NORTH BROAD STREET.

34. Masonic Temple
1 North Broad Street, northeast corner
of Filbert Street

Designed by architect James Windrim, the Masonic Temple was constructed over a period of five years - completed in 1873 - at the astonishing sum of \$1.6 million. The process of decorating the interior, performed mostly under the supervision of artist George Herzog, took nearly twenty years to complete. The Masonic Temple is the headquarters for the Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of Pennsylvania, and also serves as the meeting place for twenty-eight Philadelphia lodges. Freemasonry is the oldest continuously existing fraternal organization in the world and Philadelphia's were the first in the colonies.

TURN RIGHT ON ARCH STREET.

35. A.J. Holman and Company
1222-26 Arch Street

This well-preserved factory facade dates to 1881. A.J. Holman, America's oldest bible publisher, manufactured books here.

RETURN TO NORTH BROAD
STREET AND TURN RIGHT.

**36. Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
southwest corner of Broad and
Cherry streets**

The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts is the finest example of Frank Furness's work. The richly ornamented exterior — executed in juxtapositions of sandstone, pink granite, red brick and purplish terra-cotta — is somber by comparison with the interior where gold floral patterns are set on walls of Venetian red beneath a blue ceiling sprinkled with silver stars. The High Victorian Gothic building was completed in 1876; the Academy had its origins in Charles Wilson Peale's natural history museum that he opened in 1794.

TURN AROUND AND RETURN
TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT
AT CITY HALL OR CONTINUE UP
BROAD STREET ANOTHER FOUR
BLOCKS...

**37. Packard Motor Car Building
317 North Broad Street**

The early 20th century was an era of new prosperity for Philadelphia. The popular new automobile was becoming an affordable luxury and people flocked to the auto dealerships located along Broad Street to see the new models. The dealerships were lavish temples and the showroom of the Packard Motor Car Company was a prime example. Packard commissioned acclaimed midwestern architect, Albert Kahn, to create a building that would be unrivaled in Philadelphia. From the limestone and terra-cotta trim on the exterior to the majestic two-story lobby inside, the Packard was designed to be the model of excellence. The Packard automobile is long gone but the building has survived, still catering to those who long for luxury - this time as apartments.

**38. *Philadelphia Inquirer*/
Daily News Building
401 North Broad Street**

The *Philadelphia Inquirer* began on June 1, 1829 actually as the *Pennsylvania Inquirer*. The name became lost when, six months later, Jesper Harding purchased the paper as one of many he would acquire over the next 30 years. Harding built his own paper mill to supply his press and became successful enough to obtain the first American rights to publish several of Charles Dickens's novels in serial form in his paper, including Barnaby Rudge and Master Humphrey's Clock.

When his son, William W. Harding became the owner in 1859, the name of the paper was changed to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. Circulation grew from 7,000 in 1859 to 70,000 by 1863, possibly based on its excellent reporting of the Civil War. Harding sold the paper to British-born James Elverson in 1889 who used the paper to initiate civic improvements, promoting the Reading Terminal and Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

Elverson's son became publisher after his father's death in 1911 and built the Elverson Building in 1924, applying an Italian Renaissance style to a large building. He and his wife used the 12th and 13th floors for living space. The imposing white building, with its lantern top, housed the newspaper office and printing plant.

TURN AROUND AND RETURN
TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT
AT CITY HALL.

Look Up,

Philadelphia

(Germantown)



A Walking Tour of Germantown...

Germantown was founded in 1683 by a group of Netherlanders fleeing religious persecution. Francis Daniel Pastorius, rose to leadership, contacted William Penn, obtained land, and directly stimulated migration. Pastorius arrived on August 20 of that year, the other settlers reached Philadelphia on October 6. Germantown remained predominantly Dutch until 1709, when large numbers. of Germans began to settle here. Those immigrants overwhelmed the settlement and gave it a decidedly Germanic character for most of the 18th century.

The town grew rapidly. William Rittenhouse founded America's first paper mill on the Wissahickon Creek in 1690 and it was followed by textile mills and tanning yards. By 1758 some 350 houses stood in town, most of them occupied by Germans. The community was important enough to attract the attention of British General Sir William Howe who, after embarrassing the Americans at the Battle of Brandywine in the American Revolution in 1777, took a circuitous westerly route to occupy Germantown before marching on Philadelphia. General George Washington staged a bold counterattack on the British along today's Germantown Avenue and, although denied a great victory, infused his battered troops with critical confidence.

George Washington would return to Germantown after the war, this time as President of the United States. In 1793, when Philadelphia was the nation's capital, a Yellow Fever epidemic drove the government away from the foul air of the city and set up shop in Germantown. President Washington would come back the following summer to escape the heat of the city and establish America's first "summer White House."

Germantown remained independent until 1854 when it was absorbed by the city of Philadelphia. Five years later the street car ran from downtown up Germantown Avenue, providing an immediate and lasting effect upon the commercial nature of "Main Street." Despite the influx of shops and services, Germantown Avenue retained much of its mixed usage of churches, residences and schools. In 1965 the Colonial Germantown Historic District was designated a National Historic Landmark and many of its historical sites have been well preserved.

Our walking tour will take place entirely on Germantown Avenue that started as an Indian path and was enlarged into a road into the interior of young Pennsylvania. The thoroughfare boasts an unbroken heritage of residential and commercial use of over three centuries. We will begin in Market Square that was the center of the British line during the Battle of Germantown...

**1. Market Square
Germantown Avenue between Church
and School House lanes**

This half-acre was carved out for a market place as early as 1703. Crammed into this small space, in addition to the whirl of commerce was the engine house of the Fellowship Fire Engine Company, one of three Germantown volunteer groups, and the prison with its public stocks.

Today the public space has evolved into a passive park dominated by a Civil War *Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument*. This 1883 mustachioed soldier with gun in hand crafted by John Lachmier stands on a piece of granite brought from the Devil's Den, scene of fierce fighting at Gettysburg. The cannon on the north side was from the British frigate *Augusta*, sunk by the Americans during the Revolution.

**2. Impacting Your World Christian Center
5515 Germantown Avenue**

This is the third church built here, the first having been erected in 1733 for the Church of the German Reformed Congregation of Germantown. Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, German religious and social reformer and bishop of the Moravian Church, preached his first sermon in America here in 1741. During the Battle of Germantown the British captured a battalion of Virginians in the Ninth Regiment and locked them in the church until they were marched into Philadelphia after the battle was over. George Washington worshiped here when President of the United States and while a resident of Germantown. The old building was replaced in 1839 by one which made way for the present structure in 1888.

**WALK SOUTH ON
GERMANTOWN AVENUE.**

**3. The Germantown Historical Society
5501 Germantown Avenue**

Housed in a Colonial Revival brick building the Historical Society offers to the public a library and archives dating back to the 17th century. The museum on the ground floor has a changing exhibit from the Society's collection of over 20,000

artifacts. The organization was founded in 1900 as the Site and Relic Society of Germantown.

**4. Deshler-Morris House
5442 Germantown Avenue**

This fine Georgian house was built in 1772 by merchant David Deshler; British General Sir William Howe occupied the house after the Battle of Germantown. In 1793 with Yellow Fever gripping the nation's capital of Philadelphia President George Washington and his cabinet sought relief in Germantown. Washington lived and conducted business in this house, then owned by Colonel Isaac Franks.

Colonel Franks and the President had some disagreements about the rent and costs along the way. Franks charged Washington \$131.56, which included Franks' traveling costs to and from Bethlehem, the cost of furniture and bedding for his own family, the loss of a flatiron, one fork, four plates, three ducks, four fowl, a bushel of potatoes, and one hundred bushels of hay. Despite these extra costs, Washington returned to the house the next summer with his family.

Later the house was sold to Elliston and John Perot, and in 1834 to Elliston's son-in-law, Samuel B. Morris. Inside the house there is a portrait of the earlier Samuel Morris, signed by Washington. The Morris family lived in the house for over one hundred years before donating it to the National Park Service in 1948.

**5. Pine Place
5425 Germantown Avenue**

Louisa May Alcott was born here on November 29, 1832. Her father, Amos Bronson Alcott, came from Boston to teach in Germantown. Alcott started out writing sensational stories about duels and suicides, opium addiction, bigamy, and murder. She called it "blood and thunder" literature, and said, "I seem to have a natural ambition for the lurid style." She published under male pseudonyms to keep from embarrassing her family. But in 1867, an editor suggested that she try writing what he called "a girl's book." The result was the now iconic *Little Women*, based on her own family. Alcott was disappointed at how popular *Little Women* became since it obligated her to keep writing more books in the same vein.

6. Trinity Lutheran Church
19 West Queen Lane at Germantown
Avenue

Trinity Church dates to 1836; the church house was constructed in 1860, replacing the printing shop of Christopher Sower who manufactured America's first German Bible in 1743. The first Bible printed in America was in an Indian language. The first English-language Bible followed 40 years later.

7. Grumblethorpe
5267 Germantown Avenue

John Wister, a German immigrant, worked in his brother's button factory before building his own fortune in Philadelphia as a merchant and wine importer. Grumblethorpe was crafted in 1744 as a summer home. Stones for the house were quarried on the property and the timbers were hewn from oaks around the house.

The Wisters were staying in another home during the Battle of Germantown. General James Agnew occupied the house during the battle. He was wounded and died in the front parlor. His blood stains can still be seen on the floor. During the Yellow Fever epidemic the Wister family left Philadelphia and moved here full-time; family members lived here for over 160 years. Everything in Grumblethorpe, now open to the public, belonged to the Wister family. The equipment that Charles Jones Wister used for his endeavors as an astronomer, botanist and chemist is in pristine condition, so is the desk where Owen Wister wrote *The Virginian*.

8. Barron House
5106 Germantown Avenue

This house was owned by Commodore James Barron in the 1840s when he was commandant of the Philadelphia naval yard. Barron rose to prominence as commander of the frigate *USS Chesapeake* that confronted its British counterpart *Leopard* in 1807, one of the precipitating events of the War of 1812. Barron did not prepare the ship properly and quickly surrendered.

The *Chesapeake* affair was considered a disgrace to the United States Navy. Barron was convicted at a court martial and suspended from ser-

vice for five years. He sailed on merchant ships, and wound up spending the years of the War of 1812 in Denmark. When he finally returned to the United States in 1818, he tried to rejoin the Navy. Stephen Decatur, the nation's reigning naval hero, opposed the reappointment.

Barron felt that Decatur was treating him unfairly, and began writing letters insulting him and accusing him of treachery. Matters escalated, and Barron challenged Decatur to a duel. The two men met at a dueling ground in Bladensburg, Maryland, just outside the Washington, D.C. city limits, on March 22, 1820. The men fired at each other from a distance of about 24 feet. It has been said that each fired at the other's hip, so as to lessen the chance of a fatal injury. Decatur's shot struck Barron in the thigh; Barron's shot struck Decatur in the abdomen. Decatur died the next day. He was only 41 years old. Barron survived the duel and was reinstated in the Navy, though he never again commanded a ship. He died in 1851, at the age of 83.

9. Thones Kunders House Site
5109 Germantown Avenue

The Thones Kunders House was the site of the first meetings of the Society of Friends in Germantown. And it is where the first protest against slavery in the New World was signed in 1688.

10. Lower Burial Ground
corner of Logan Street and Germantown
Avenue

In 1692 Leonard Arets set aside by deed a half-acre of ground for burial purposes for Lower Germantown. By 1750 this cemetery was becoming crowded so the trustees limited burials to citizens of Lower Germantown, and, as in so many cemeteries of the time, a space was designated as "Strangers' Ground."

Here among the old trees, rose bushes, and weathered stones lie 41 soldiers who fought in the Revolution and soldiers from War of 1812, the Seminole War, Mexican War, and Civil War. One of the graves of interest is that of Sergeant Charles S. Bringhurst, who three times climbed to the rampart atop Fort Sumter to replace the flag when it was shot down by Confederates during the opening engagement of the Civil War.

The earliest tombstone is of Samuel Coulson who died at the age of nine weeks on October 18, 1707.

William Hood, a Germantown resident, gave money for the front wall and gate in exchange for being allowed to select his own burial spot near the entrance. Hood died in Paris in 1850 and was buried in his chosen grave the very day the work was completed on the entrance gate and wall.

11. Loudoun

4650 Germantown Avenue

This imposing home has stood on a perch at the gateway to Germantown since 1801. The east end was built first and the opposite end followed in 1810. The stately Greek portico came along in 1830. It is named for Loudoun County in Virginia from where builder Thomas Armat hailed. There is some evidence that this site could have been more prominent still - had Philadelphia remained the nation's capital, the capitol itself would have been built where Loudoun now stands.

TURN AROUND AND WALK BACK
UP GERMANTOWN AVENUE TO
MARKET SQUARE AND BEGIN
AN EXPLORATION OF UPPER
GERMANTOWN.

12. Wister Mansion

**northwest corner of Chelton Avenue and
Germantown Avenue**

The Wister Mansion in the park was built in 1803 by James Mathews and sold to A. John Wister in 1812. At one time part of the park was owned by Melchior Meng, a founder of Germantown Academy and a horticulturalist whose gardens were noted for their rare trees and shrubs. John Wister preserved and added to the collection while he lived here. The statue by the entrance is Wister, erected by his great grandson.

13. Green Tree Tavern

6023 Germantown Avenue

The Green Tree was built as a tavern by Daniel Pastorius, grandson of Francis Pastorius, the

founder of Germantown. High in the side wall near the roof is a stone lettered "DPS 1748." The initials identify Daniel and his wife Sarah as the owners and builders. It operated under a variety of names including The Hornet's Nest, after a large one that was kept there as a curiosity.

Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson wrote to his friend James Madison in 1793 after the government had relocated in Germantown during the Yellow Fever epidemic that he had found a lodging for the both of them in a private home, "They will breakfast you," he wrote, "but you must mess in a tavern; there is a good one across the street."

That tavern is now owned by the First United Methodist Church and is used for church offices. The church moved the Tavern 100 feet up the Avenue in 1930, so that the Memorial Chapel could be added to the church.

14. Wyck

6026 Germantown Avenue

Wyck was home to nine generations of the same Quaker family; the middle portion of the house dates to around 1700. Famous architect William Strickland did the alterations on the farm in 1824. Wyck's grounds include a nationally known garden of old roses which grow in their original plan from the 1820s and early outbuildings that were part of Wyck's farm.

15. Germantown Mennonite Meetinghouse

6119 Germantown Avenue

This fieldstone meetinghouse was erected in 1770, replacing the "little log church" that was the first Mennonite meetinghouse in America, standing since 1708. In 1683 thirteen Mennonite and Quaker families sailed from Krefeld, Germany led by Francis Daniel Pastorius, and landed in Pennsylvania. The first permanent settlement of Mennonites in the new world was in Germantown. By 1690, however, the two groups split due to a conflict of interests. The Mennonites wanted a minister and the Quakers did not. William Rittenhouse, known as the first paper maker in the colonies, was the first Mennonite minister here.

16. Johnson House
6306 Germantown Avenue

This house was built in 1768 for John Johnson. During the Battle of Germantown the Johnson family hid in the cellar as musket shot and cannonballs struck the house. Three generations of the Quaker family worked to abolish slavery and improve living conditions for freed African Americans. In the 1850s this house was a station on the Underground Railroad.

**TURN RIGHT ON
PHILADELPHIA STREET.**

17. Concord School
6309 Germantown Avenue at Washington Lane

The Concord School House, the first English-language school in Germantown, built on the corner of the Upper Burying Ground at Washington Lane and Germantown Avenue, was opened to students in October 1775. The burying ground was created in 1692 and the high front wall was completed in 1724. Here are buried fifty-two known and five unknown soldiers of the Revolution, as well as eleven from the War of 1812 and one from the Mexican War.

The school was supported by subscription and neighbors contributed to the fund, allowing any family that could afford the fee to enroll its children (around \$2 per quarter, plus .25 for spelling books), including families of African descent who rented the school house in the 1850s. It served as a school room until 1892.

18. Upsala
6430 Germantown Avenue

Upsala is one of the finest examples of Federal architecture in Germantown. Dirck Jansen owned the land before 1775. The older, back part of the house was built around 1740. John Johnson Sr. is said to have bought the land in 1766. There is speculation over whether father or son owned the house first. John Johnson III, inherited the property in 1797 and built the much-admired front section of the house.

19. Cliveden
6401 Germantown Avenue

Cliveden, built from 1763-64 as the country estate of Benjamin Chew, stands as both one of America's finest examples of Late Georgian architecture, and as one of the nation's most important surviving battlefield landmarks from the American Revolution.

In dense morning fog of October 4, 1777 George Washington, desperate for some sort of victory for his ragtag army, launched a counter-attack against the British, who were occupying Germantown on their march into Philadelphia. General John Sullivan smashed into an outpost led by Lt. Col. Thomas Musgrave and forced the outnumbered British into a rare retreat. Musgrave and about 120 men holed up in Cliveden.

The main American force approaching down the Germantown Road encountered the British-fortified Cliveden and General Henry Knox demanded Musgrave's surrender. Despite standing impotently isolated behind American lines, Musgrave refused, Knox began pounding the thick stone walls with six-pound cannon shells that produced no effect. A frontal charge achieved only American dead. The rebels attempted to burn the British out, but there was little that was flammable in Cliveden.

The fruitless half-hour assault bought the British valuable time and the American attack disintegrated into chaos in the still foggy morning. Although sent in disorganized retreat the Battle of Germantown buoyed the spirits of the Americans. Washington's audacious strike convinced European observers of American commitment to freedom and French military assistance would be shortly forthcoming.

Chew, a Colonial chief justice of Pennsylvania, refused to endorse either side in the conflict and was jailed for a time in 1777. He once again became a justice in Pennsylvania after the war, serving until 1808, two years before his death. The main house, with its battle-scarred walls, is fronted by garden statuary, including two stone lions on the doorstep, which observed the events of the morning of October 4, 1777.

**TURN AND WALK BACK DOWN
GERMANTOWN AVENUE TO THE
TOUR STARTING POINT.**

Look Up,

Philadelphia

(★ Old City)



A Walking Tour of Old City...

William Penn envisaged a beautiful waterfront for his city — something similar to the embankment in London, but this was not to be. The area early became a scene of great commercial activity, and wharves, warehouses, and taverns sprang up, as they have for centuries, in waterfront cities throughout the world. The district is thus one of the oldest and most historic in the city, for it was from the banks of the Delaware that Philadelphia grew westward toward the Schuylkill River.

Construction was started on Independence Hall in 1732, only fifty years after the founding of the city by William Penn. At the time, the area between 5th and 6th Streets, where the most ambitious building ever planned in the American colonies was being built, was still on the edge of things. Forty years later, when events leading to a declaration of independence by a gathering of rebels made this the birthplace of America the city had grown as far as 8th Street. The port was thriving but the streets were still unpaved.

There were dwellings in Old City — Elfreth's Alley and Loxley Court attest to that — but they were modest homes in contrast to the larger ones to be seen in Society Hill. By the 1960s Old City had long ago ceased to be the city's pulsing financial center. Manufacturers had departed as well. Cheaper rents now again attracted artisans and craftspeople. The spacious 19th century buildings offered a perfect locale for contemporary art galleries and stores offering the fine crafts of this new population — particularly furniture. Today, Old City is home to more than 30 galleries interwoven in the historic district.

This walking tour will start at Philadelphia's number one tourist attraction - at the south end of Independence Mall where the Liberty Bell stands opposite Independence Hall...

1. Liberty Bell Center
6th & Market streets

The Pennsylvania Assembly ordered the Bell in 1751 to commemorate the 50-year anniversary of William Penn's 1701 Charter of Privileges, Pennsylvania's original Constitution. Historians are skeptical that the Bell actually rang out the chimes of freedom as tradition holds. Abolitionists in the 1830s were the first to seize the bell as emblematic of their cause; after the divisive Civil War, Americans sought a symbol of unity. The flag became one such symbol, and the Liberty Bell another. To help heal the wounds of the war, the Liberty Bell would travel across the country. Back in Philadelphia, now a national icon, it has had several homes, this is the latest.

**2. Pennsylvania State House/
Independence Hall**
**Chestnut Street between 5th and
6th streets**

Construction of the Pennsylvania State House, which came to be known as Independence Hall, began in 1732. At the time it was the most ambitious public building in the thirteen colonies and since the Provincial government paid for construction as they went along, it took 21 years to complete. The building has undergone many restorations, notably by Greek revival architect John Haviland in 1830, and served a number of purposes. The second floor was once home to Charles Willson Peale's museum of natural history and the basement was once the city's dog pound.

In 1950 the National Park Service returned it to its 1776 appearance finalizing its status as the birthplace of the United States. It was within its walls that the Declaration of Independence was adopted. It was here that the Constitution of the United States was debated, drafted and signed.

3. Congress Hall
**southeast corner of Chestnut and
6th streets**

Independence Hall is flanked on its left by Congress Hall, occupied from 1790-1800 by the new United States Congress. The first floor was occupied by the House of Representatives. The

upper floor was occupied appropriately, by the upper house, or the Senate. In 1793, President George Washington was inaugurated here for a second term. Four years later, in a scene unlike any the world had ever seen, George Washington ended his presidency and voluntarily passed the reins of power to his successor, John Adams. At the close of the ceremony, John Adams waited for Washington to lead the exit, as everyone had grown accustomed to, but Washington insisted on leaving the room after the new President. Finally, and perhaps most important of all, the Bill of Rights was ratified while Congress met in these rooms.

4. Public Ledger Building
**southwest corner of 6th and
Chestnut streets**

The *Public Ledger* was Philadelphia's most widely read daily paper as soon as it hit the streets in 1836 as the city's first penny paper. After the Civil War the paper settled on this corner and in 1913 it was purchased by Cyrus H.K. Curtis who ran a magazine empire next door. He commissioned Horace Trumbauer to do this Georgian Revival office building in 1924. The Ledger had only a decade to live at the time, in 1934 it merged into the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

TURN AROUND AND WALK
UP INDEPENDENCE MALL, AWAY
FROM INDEPENDENCE HALL.

5. Rohm and Haas Corporate Headquarters
100 Independence Mall West

The chemical company was the first private investor to build on Independence Mall, moving here in 1964 from Washington Square. The nine-story building with translucent, corrugated sunscreens (made of Rohm and Haas's principal product, Plexiglass) became a standard for redevelopment around the historic area. Designed by Pietr Belluschi, with more than 1,000 building designs to his credit, the Rohm and Haas Headquarters and is considered one of the best examples of the International style.

6. The Bourse
11 South 5th Street, east side of
Independence Mall

Designed by brothers G.W. and W.D Hewitt in 1893, the Philadelphia Bourse was the first in the world to house simultaneously a stock exchange, maritime exchange, and grain-trading center. Under the guidance of Philadelphia businessman George Bartol, the exchange thrived but the building was cast adrift when the business center of the city moved away from the river in the mid 20th century. Unlike many of its Victorian-age cousins the Bourse did not meet a grisly end in front of a wrecking ball but was renovated in 1982 into a combination shopping mall and office complex.

7. Christ Church Burial Ground
southeast corner of 5th Street and
Arch Street

In 1719 the Christ Church burial ground was full, and the neighboring lands proved too marshy to be useful for burials. So land was purchased on the outskirts of the city (three blocks away at the time.) The earliest tombstone dates to 1720. Eventually five signers of the Declaration of Independence are buried here. Hundreds of Colonial, Revolutionary and Post-Revolutionary notables are interred in Christ Church Burial Ground but the most famous of whom is Benjamin Franklin who is buried here with his wife Deborah. The grave can be seen through the fence on Arch Street if the burying ground is closed.

8. National Constitution Center
525 Arch Street

The first-ever national museum honoring the U.S. Constitution tells the story of the document that framed the American idea. The center opened in 2003.

9. The United States Mint
5th and Arch streets

The United States' first mint — indeed the first structure sanctioned by the United States government — was erected in 1792, just two blocks from the present site. Many citizens of the new

nation were deeply suspicious of federal power. They were accustomed to using coins issued by their own state banks, along with various forms of foreign currency. The suggestion of a single federal mint producing a uniform coinage was disturbing. George and Martha Washington donated the silver for the first coins.

As a new capital city was being built along the banks of the Potomac, it was expected that the Mint would move there. Yet in 1800, when Washington, D.C., was ready, the government did not have the money to replace what was already an efficient operation. An Act of Congress in 1828 ensured that the Mint would remain permanently in Philadelphia.

This block-long monolithic structure is the fourth Philadelphia mint, completed in 1969. It is the largest mint in the world, capable of producing 30 million coins a day.

CONTINUE UP 5TH STREET PAST
INDEPENDENCE MALL. TURN
RIGHT ON NEW STREET.

10. St. Augustine Church
northwest corner of 4th and New streets

On the night of May 8, 1844 anti-Catholic, anti-immigrant rioters attacked and burned St. Augustine, at the time the largest church in the city. By dawn only a single wall of the church, whose cornerstone had been laid in 1796, was left standing. Amid the rubble, the historic Sister Bell, symbolic of Penn's dream of religious and personal freedom, lay burned and smashed, destroyed by the fire. Church records were spared however, by a quick-thinking pastor who hid them in a furnace to protect them.

Due to the burning of the church and other violence a state law requiring police forces was enacted in 1845. The violence also led to the consolidation of the city and county in 1854.

The architect chosen to rebuild was Napoleon LeBrun who also designed the Philadelphia Academy of Music. LeBrun gave the church a Palladian style. Inside are stunning ceiling frescoes by Filippo Costaggini who painted part of the frieze on the rotunda of the nation's Capitol.

The new church saw disaster of its own in 1992 when its steeple blew off during a brutal winter storm and fell onto the Benjamin Franklin

Bridge. the bridge was closed for three days and a fifty-foot hole opened in the church's ceiling but no one was hurt.

11. St. George's United Methodist Church
235 N 4th Street

Methodists scattered across Philadelphia met in private homes until this church, built in 1763 and belonging to a German Reformed Congregation, was purchased in 1769. Now known as "The Cradle of American Methodism," it is the world's oldest Methodist church in continuous use and the seat of the first three conferences of American methodism.

British forces occupying Philadelphia in 1777 noticed the church still had a dirt floor and a door that opened conveniently onto the street and set up a cavalry school inside. Engineers planning the Benjamin Franklin Bridge were ordered by the court to move the bridge 14 feet. The sidewalk was lowered in the process and that is why St. George's is entered via steps at its second level.

TURN RIGHT ON 4TH STREET.

12. Benjamin Franklin Bridge
Delaware River at Vine Street

For almost 250 years the only way to reach New Jersey was by ferry. It took the world's longest suspension bridge in 1926 to change all that (a title it held for only three years). Paul Phillippe Cret created one of the country's most beautiful bridges, far surpassing the quality of its original name - the Delaware River Port Authority Bridge. In 1956, befitting the grandeur and wonder of the span, it was renamed for Ben Franklin. As for cold hard facts, the length of the main span is 1,750 feet, the full length of the bridge is just short of two miles, the towers are 380 feet high and the drop to the water is 135 feet.

TURN LEFT ON ARCH STREET.

13. Arch Street Friends Meetinghouse
330 Arch Street

The religious Society of Friends was founded in 1600s England by George Fox. Originally the sect was derided for "quaking" before God but

the insult was good-naturedly adopted by the Friends. Persecuted in England, the Quakers, under William Penn, created their own colony of Pennsylvania in 1682. Penn donated the land here to be used as a burial ground in 1701. The long, center-pedimented brick building was begun in 1803 with the wings added in 1811. The Arch Street Meeting House is the oldest still in use in Philadelphia and the largest in the world.

14. St. Charles Hotel
60 N 3rd Street, southwest corner of Arch Street

The old hostelry with its bar on the ground floor and guest rooms above was typical of the accommodations travelers to America's largest city in the early 1800s could expect to find. It sports one of the city's earliest cast-iron facades, dating to 1851.

15. Betsy Ross House
239 Arch Street

Betsy Ross did not design the American flag; probably never sewed one in fact. She may never have even lived in this house, let alone be buried here. But the legend has helped make this modest dwelling one of the best preserved example of a working class abode in Colonial America. Today it is the third most visited historic site in Philadelphia.

TURN RIGHT ON 2ND STREET.

16. National Products Building
109 N 2nd Street

Harry Caplan opened National Products, a supplier of kitchen equipment to the restaurant trade, in 1929. Caplan acquired adjacent parcels to create what is now known as the National Products property. The orange tiled Art Deco facade was added in 1957. National Products stopped operating out of this facility in 1996. It sat empty and was in danger of demolition but a compromise was brokered to allow the facade to remain during its conversion into condominiums.

TURN AROUND AND CROSS
ARCH STREET AND MAKE A
RIGHT ON ELFRETH'S ALLEY.

17. Elfreth's Alley
between Front and 2nd streets, north
of Arch Street

The cozy confines of Elfreth's Alley are often referred to as the oldest continuously inhabited street in America. It was opened shortly before 1702 by Arthur Wells, a blacksmith, and John Gilbert, a bolter, when the Delaware River flowed next to the alley. Shortly thereafter it took on the name of Jeremiah Elfreth, a blacksmith and land speculator, who built and rented out many of the alley's homes. Often the homes were rented to fellow artisans.

The oldest houses are thought to be 122 and 124, which were built between 1725 and 1727. The early 18th century houses stand two-and-a-half stories and later Federal-era townhouses are a bit more lavish with a full third story and often boasting a porch. Try not to miss walking the cobblestones into Bladen's Court located midway down the street, which is basically an alley within an alley that leads into a charming circular courtyard. Mirrors called busybodies project from the second floor windows of many of the houses. These allowed those on second floors the ability to see who was knocking on their front doors.

TURN RIGHT ON FRONT STREET.

18. Smythe Stores
100-111 Arch Street, northwest corner
of Front Street

The warehouse district on Philadelphia's waterfront was peppered with commercial buildings gussied up with cast iron facades in the Victorian era of the mid-19th century. The finest of these facades belonged to the four-story Smythe Stores, an Italianate style built between 1855 and 1857. Look closely at the building and you will notice that the central section has been reproduced in fiberglass when the building was converted to apartments in the 1980s.

19. Girard Warehouses
18-30 Front Street

The rugged commercial buildings along Front Street were built to accommodate the busy waterfront when the Delaware River lapped up on its doorstep. The Girard Warehouses, faced in granite on the first floor storefronts with upper floors in brick, date to 1810. At 46 North Front Street, at the northwest corner of Cuthbert Street, is a 1785 home-store built for John Clifford. It became a store and warehouse from 1821.

TURN RIGHT ON CHURCH STREET.

20. Christ Church
2nd Street, northwest corner of
Church Street

Organized in 1695 during the reign of William and Mary, it was built between 1727 and 1744 by Dr. John Kearsley in the style of the fabulous English churches done by Sir Christopher Wren. Palladian elements such as double rows of arched windows and balustraded parapets have led architectural historians to praise Christ church as "the most advanced and completely English church in Colonial America."

The church's 196-foot high steeple that was the most identifiable city landmark for ships sailing up the Delaware River for decades was added in 1754 by Scotsman Robert Smith. Benjamin Franklin organized three lotteries to finance the payment of the church's steeple and bells. Inside is the "600-year-old font" in which William Penn was baptized; sent to the colonies by All Hallow's Church, Barking-by-the-Tower, England.

The Second Continental Congress worshipped here as a body in 1775-76. Pew 70 was Ben Franklin's; George Washington sat in Pew 56. The box pews were all rented, the balconies were rented with a few free pews there for servants and slaves of parishioners. There is ecclesiastical history as well - in 1789 the First Convention of the American Episcopal Church was held here.

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

21. Franklin Court
316-322 Market Street

Benjamin Franklin moved from Boston to Philadelphia at the age of 17. He was a printer, diplomat, inventor, publisher, author, statesman, Postmaster, and more. He founded the Library Company, Pennsylvania Hospital, American Philosophical Society, and the University of Pennsylvania.

Franklin's house and print shop were in the courtyard in the interior of this block but were razed in 1812. What is known of the house is that it was 3 stories high, covered 33 feet square, and included 10 rooms. The house was razed in 1812. Because no historical records of the look of the exterior exist, the space once occupied by the house is marked by an oversized "Ghost Structure" designed by world-famous architect Robert Venturi. You can look through portals to see into Franklin's privy pits, wells, and foundation.

At 316 Market Street is the only active post office in the United States that does not fly a United States flag (because there wasn't yet one in 1775). The postmark "B. Free Franklin" is still used to cancel stamps. James Wilson, an editor of *The Aurora*, lived at 322 Market Street. His grandson, Woodrow, became the 28th President of the United States.

RETURN TO 3RD STREET
AND TURN RIGHT.

22. Leland Building
37-39 S 3rd Street

Stephen Decatur Button designed this commercial building in 1855. The use of continuous vertical piers and lack of ornamentation are said to have influenced a young Louis Sullivan, the father of the modern skyscraper, when he lived in Philadelphia while working for Furness & Hewitt in 1873.

TURN LEFT ON
CHESTNUT STREET.

23. Elliott and Leland Buildings
235-237 Chestnut Street

These handsome commercial buildings were designed by Joseph C. Hoxie in the Italianate style, executed in granite. They date to 1853-54.

24. Customs House
**100 S 2nd Street, southwest corner
of Chestnut Street**

Built in 1933, this is the final major work by Ritter & Shay, Philadelphia's most prominent designers of Art Deco skyscrapers.

TURN RIGHT ON 2ND STREET.

25. City Tavern
**northwest corner of 2nd and
Walnut streets**

City Tavern, also called the Merchants' Coffee House, was the political, social, and business center of the new United States. Jefferson, Adams, Franklin, and Paul Revere all ate here. When the British occupied Philadelphia, they and their Tory sympathizers partied here. In 1789, George Washington celebrated here with 250 Philadelphia bluebloods prior to his inaugural in New York City. The Tavern burned down in 1854; this building is a 1975 reconstruction.

TURN RIGHT ON WALNUT STREET.

26. Merchants' Exchange
**143 S 3rd Street, northeast corner
of Walnut Street**

After Dock Creek was filled in Philadelphia suddenly had a curved street intruding on William Penn's carefully laid out street grid of 90-degree angles. When the city decided in 1832 to rescue traders from the cramped and noisy meetings in coffeehouses and taverns by building a grand "temple of commerce" architect William Strickland solved the conundrum of the odd-shaped lot with a semi-circular Corinthian portico.

The Philadelphia Stock Exchange followed most city businesses to Broad Street after the Civil War and the much-admired building began a steady decline. In 1922 it was sold to a firm that

made it a Produce Exchange. An open-air market surrounded the Exchange. Vendors hawked vegetables from pushcarts. A gas station was built on the Dock Street side. Finally in 1952 the building was incorporated into Independence Park and today is the oldest standing stock-exchange building in America.

TURN RIGHT ON 3RD STREET.

27. First Bank of the United States
120 S 3rd Street

This building, considered the oldest in America with a classical facade, was built in 1797 to be most imposing building in the country - at a staggering cost of \$110,168.05. Samuel Blodgett delivered one of the best works of public architecture of the 18th century with his Corinthian portico and fully marble facade. The bank was championed by Alexander Hamilton and chartered in 1791 to mitigate the colossal war debt from the Revolutionary War. The central bank's charter was only in effect for 20 years; Congress voted to abandon the bank in 1811. Stephen Girard, one of the first financial moguls, purchased the building and operated it as a private bank for a time. America's first bank building was restored for the Bicentennial in 1976.

TURN LEFT ON
CHESTNUT STREET.

28. Carpenters' Hall
320 Chestnut Street

The Carpenters' Company was founded in 1724 and is the oldest trade guild in the country. This building was brand new in 1774 when it was let to the First Continental Congress who were planning a rebellion against England. Later it also served as the headquarters of the First Bank of the United States.

Carpenters' Hall is important architecturally as well as historically. Designed by master builder Robert Smith, a Carpenters' Company member, it is the first Philadelphia building to employ a Greek Cross plan behind a handsome pedimented doorway with Doric detailing. Three Palladian windows line the second floor under which are stone balustrades. The belt course (band separat-

ing the floors) is unusual in that it is outlined in wood instead of brick.

29. Second Bank of the United States
420 Chestnut Street

Just as war debt spawned the First Bank of the United States debt after the Revolution, so too did it cause the creation of the Second Bank of the United States. To help a cash-strapped nation after the War of 1812, Congress authorized and President James Madison signed a bill chartering the bank for 20 years.

William Strickland, a 27-year old painter, won a design competition to create the new bank in 1815. Strickland chose the Parthenon in Greece as his model for the exterior; inside he built a Roman rotunda. Strickland became America's foremost proponent of the Greek Revival style, launching the first truly American architectural movement. Today the building houses an extraordinary portrait gallery including, among other treasures, George Washington's death mask.

30. Bank of Pennsylvania
421 Walnut Street

Bank Row emerged across the street from the Second Bank of the United States. The ornate Italian Renaissance Bank of Pennsylvania building was designed in 1859 by John M. Gries.

31. Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank
427 Chestnut Street

In its systematic cleansing of all obsolete buildings erected after 1840 by Philadelphia's urban renewal plan, this sparkling Italianate marble bank was somehow spared and lovingly restored in the 1980s. It was also designed by John M. Gries with corner quoins, heavy modillions and relief panels.

CONTINUE WALKING ONE
BLOCK ON CHESTNUT STREET
TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT
AT THE LIBERTY BELL.

Look Up,

Philadelphia

(Rittenhouse Square)



A Walking Tour of Rittenhouse Square...

Rittenhouse Square, one of William Penn's original five, was known as the southwest square until 1825 when it was named for the astronomer-clockmaker, David Rittenhouse (1732-96). This amazing man of universal talents — one of many in 18th century Philadelphia — was a descendant of William Rittenhouse, who built the first paper mill in America in Germantown. He was at various times a member of the General Assembly and the State Constitutional Convention, and president of the Council of Safety. His survey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary in 1763-64, to settle a dispute between the Penns and Lord Baltimore, was so accurate it was accepted and followed by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon when they surveyed the “line” for which they are still remembered. Professor of Astronomy at the University of Pennsylvania and inventor of the collimating telescope, he was also president of the American Philosophical Society and the first director of the United States Mint.

Rittenhouse Square has always denoted quality. The first house facing the Square was erected in 1840. During its next century the Square kept its residential quality. In 1913, the architect Paul Cret, who was one of the men responsible for Benjamin Franklin Parkway and many of its buildings, designed the Square's entrances, central plaza with the stone railings, pool and fountain. To have lived near or on the Square was a mark of prestige. Today, private homes are gone, but it still counts for something to live on the Square. There are several houses still standing, but they have been converted into apartments. With cooperative apartments and condominiums displacing private dwellings in the last three decades, some of the Old Guard still live on here — in these homes in the sky rather than family mansions.

The immediate surrounding streets around Rittenhouse Square are a microcosm of all Philadelphia has to offer. Within easy walking distance are eclectic shopping boutiques, world-class restaurants, the skyscrapers of the city's business community, the cultural resonance of unique museums and galleries and, to the south and east, some of America's most charming big city residential streets.

Our walking tour will begin strolling the leafy walkways that crisscross the plaza of Philadelphia's most desirable address...

1. **Rittenhouse Square**
bounded by 18th Street on the east,
South Rittenhouse Square on the south,
West Rittenhouse Square (an offset of
19th Street) on the west and Walnut
Street on the north

The Rittenhouse Square one sees today is mostly the work of Paul Phillipe Cret who laid out this urban oasis in 1913. The main walkways are diagonal, beginning at the corners and meeting at a central oval. Classical urns, many bearing relief figures of ancient Greeks, rest on pedestals at the entrances and elsewhere throughout the square. Ornamental lampposts contribute to an air of old-fashioned gentility. A low fence surrounds the square, and balustrades adorn the corner entrances.

Several of the city's best-loved outdoor sculptures reside in Rittenhouse Square. The dramatic *Lion Crushing a Serpent* by the French Romantic sculptor Antoine-Louis Barye, created in 1832, symbolizes the power of good (the lion) conquering evil (the serpent). This bronze cast was made about 1890.

At the other end of the central plaza, within the reflecting pool, is Paul Manship's *Duck Girl* of 1911, a lyrical bronze of a young girl carrying a duck under one arm. A favorite of the children is Albert Laessle's *Billy*, a two-foot-high bronze goat whose head, horns, and spine have been worn to a shiny gold color by countless small admirers. The central gatehouse once stood in Fairmount Park during the Centennial of 1876.

WALK TO THE SOUTHEAST
CORNER OF THE SQUARE.

2. **Thomas A. Reilly House**
1804 Rittenhouse Square

Frank Furness, America's finest Victorian architect, did much of his residential work on the streets around Rittenhouse Square. Here he is represented on the Square itself with this memorable stone townhouse from the 1890s, packing a great deal of decorative detail into an obviously limited space.

3. **Philadelphia Art Alliance**
251 South 18th Street

This serious looking building was not a bank or arsenal but a house, the former Samuel Price Wetherill mansion. It was designed in 1909 by Philadelphian Frank Miles Day. Christine Wetherill Stevenson, who grew up here, founded the Philadelphia Art Alliance in the building in 1926. One of the most active organizations of its kind, the Art Alliance sponsors art exhibits, dramatic and poetry readings, dance and musical events, architectural displays and lectures of all kinds. Most are free to the public, as are the galleries.

4. **Barclay Hotel**
237 South 18th Street

On the southeast corner of Rittenhouse Square is the site of what was once the most famous hotel in Philadelphia. It was owned by John McShain, the millionaire Philadelphia builder who also owned the Lakes of Killarney in Ireland. The scene of some of society's most glittering private parties, it has also housed almost every distinguished celebrity who has traveled to Philadelphia. It has since been converted to condominiums.

LEAVE RITTENHOUSE SQUARE
BY WALKING EAST ON LOCUST
STREET.

5. **Curtis Institute of Music**
1726 Locust Street, southeast corner
of 18th Street

Founded in 1924 by Mrs. Mary Louise Curtis Bok Zimbalist, The Curtis Institute is a unique conservatory of music for it is entirely a scholarship school. Some of the noted musicians who have attended Curtis are Samuel Barber, Leonard Bernstein, and Anna Moffo.

The Institute occupies three townhouses around Rittenhouse Square. The main building was the home of George Childs Drexel, a banker and son of the founder of Drexel Institute, Anthony Joseph Drexel, co-founder of the *Public Ledger*. Across Mozart Place is the school library housed in Knapp Hall. Originally it was the home of Theodore F. Cramp, a shipbuilding magnate, and later the salon of Elizabeth Arden, the

cosmetician. A copy of a French townhouse, as is the one adjoining it, Knapp Hall strikes a note of elegance along the quiet street.

6. 1629 Locust Street

This white limestone Beaux Arts townhome was created by Horace Trumbauer in 1892.

**7. St. Mark's Episcopal Church
1625 Locust Street**

St. Mark's Episcopal Church was founded in 1848. The church building was begun that year on plans drawn up by John Notman, dedicated in 1850, and finished in 1851 when the tower was completed. An example of Gothic Revival, the parish buildings and the garden create an effect not unlike that of an English church.

8. 1622 Locust Street

This Italian Renaissance Revival in brownstone by John Notman dates to the 1850s. It is one of three he designed on the 1600 block of Locust Street, including 1620 next door and 1604.

9. 1606 Locust Street

George W. Childs (1829-94), the publisher of the Philadelphia Public Ledger and one of the most influential men in America made his home at 1606 Locust from 1855 to 1872.

TURN RIGHT ON 16TH STREET
AND RIGHT ON LATIMER STREET.

**10. Print Center
1614 Latimer Street**

The Print Center has been a Philadelphia institution since 1915. This famous organization has more than a 1000 members from all over the world, composed of artists, collectors and others whose interest in prints has brought them together. There are shows continually throughout the year and it is extremely pleasant to stop by and browse. Next door, at 1616, is the Cosmopolitan Club, a women's club with a long history of interest in the arts, politics and the humanities, has its clubrooms.

RETURN TO 16TH STREET AND
TURN LEFT. TURN RIGHT ON
WALNUT STREET.

**11. Le Bec-Fin
1523 Walnut Street**

Owner and founder Georges Perrier trained at La Pyramide in France and started working in Philadelphia in the late 1960's. He started his own restaurant in 1970, naming it after the French colloquialism for "Fine Palate." By 1981, Le Bec-Fin was known as the leader of the "Philadelphia restaurant revolution" and began garnering numerous awards. It consistently rates five-stars and is widely regarded as the best restaurant in Philadelphia and the finest French restaurant in America.

TURN AROUND AND WALK WEST
ON WALNUT STREET BACK TO
RITTENHOUSE SQUARE.

**12. Van Rensselaer House
northwest corner of 18th and
Walnut streets**

Facing the Square on the northeast corner is the former home of Alexander Van Rensselaer, a financier and supporter of the Philadelphia Orchestra under Leopold Stokowski. One of the few splendid old mansions to survive, it once housed the Pennsylvania Athletic Club. The Alison Building next door contains the offices of the Presbyterian Ministers' Fund, the oldest life insurance company in the world (1717). Adjacent to it, at 1811 Walnut Street and also facing the Square, is the Rittenhouse Club, another of the city's old and exclusive clubs. The author Henry James used to sit at a window and view this Square, too, with his worldly eye.

**13. Holy Trinity Church
Walnut Street, northwest corner of
West Rittenhouse Square**

The Church of the Holy Trinity, designed by John Notman in 1859, provides an ecclesiastical presence on the square. It is one of the first accurate Romanesque buildings in the United States,

replete with an asymmetric tower, rose window, and recessed geometric doorway. One of the city's most fashionable congregations, one of its rectors, Reverend Phillips Brooks (1835-93), penned the words to the Christmas standard "O Little Town of Bethlehem."

14. Rittenhouse Hotel
210 West Rittenhouse Square

The unusual white horizontal zig zags have drawn mixed reviews on this 33-story tower. The Belgian stone courtyard, fountain and manicured gardens featuring the beguiling statue Welcome by Evangelos Frudakis draw more universal praise.

LEAVE RITTENHOUSE SQUARE
TO THE NORTH ON 19TH STREET.
TURN LEFT ON CHESTNUT
STREET.

15. Boyd Theater
1908 Chestnut Street

Opened on Christmas Day 1928, the Boyd is the last surviving major movie palace in Philadelphia - although it has had to weather some rough times. The 2,450-seat capacity, Art Deco first-run moving picture theatre was built for Alexander R. Boyd and designed by one of the great Philadelphia theater architects, Hoffman-Henon. Its carved limestone facade was etched with touches of color. A towering vertical sign with many angular surfaces towered over the handsome marquee, the underside of which was crafted into swirls of crystallized glass illuminated from within. On the inside, custom designed area and aisle rugs, ceiling height carved mirrors of many hues, modern statues in wall niches, and multitudinous crystal and glass lighting fixtures added to the rich ambiance. The Boyd had a fully equipped stage and an organ and orchestra pit, which could be raised and lowered electrically. The National Trust for Historic Preservation named the Boyd Theater on its 2008 List of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places.

16. First Unitarian Church
2125 Chestnut Street

Philadelphia's most famous Victorian architect Frank Furness designed this church for his father, the Reverend William Henry Furness. The First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia was founded in 1769. The Parish House was finished in 1884; the cornerstone for the church was laid in 1885 and it was dedicated in 1886.

17. The Coronado
**northwest corner of 22nd and
Chestnut streets**

When the Coronado, a 10-story building designed by Milligan and Webber in 1910, was sold in 2003 for \$5.7 million, or \$175,000 a unit it established a new threshold for the highest per-unit sale price for the region.

TURN RIGHT ON 22ND STREET.

18. Mutter Museum
19 S 22nd Street

The world-famous Mutter Museum is run by the College of Physicians, founded in 1787. It was named for Dr. Thomas Mutter and is a fantastic collection of medical curiosities — there is no other description for it. Some of it is not for the faint-hearted. Among the rarities exhibited are part of President Grover Cleveland's jawbone. There are bones shattered by bullets, others showing wounds, breaks, etc., and skulls bearing the personal data and medical history of their owners. Particularly fascinating is a cast of the original Siamese twins, Chang and Eng Bunker, who were sixty-three at the time of their death in 1874. The chair they used is here, a pathetic small wooden one, and their liver has been preserved in a jar. An entire drawer is devoted to buttons, coins, and other objects that have been retrieved from human stomachs.

TURN AROUND AND WALK SOUTH
ON 22ND STREET. TURN LEFT ON
WALNUT STREET. TURN RIGHT
ON 21ST STREET.

19. Thomas Hockley House
235 S 21st Street

An unusual recessed corner entrance sets the stage for this picturesque house by Frank Furness from 1875. A rich diversity of materials, pointed dormers, steep mansard roof, pointed arches with polychrome voussoirs are all thrown into this Victorian home.

TURN RIGHT ON SPRUCE STREET.

20. 2132-34 Spruce Street

These Second Empire townhouses were designed by Frank Furness.

21. 2123-25 Spruce Street

Wilson Eyre designed this fine Neo-Georgian house on Spruce Street.

22. Rudolf Ellis House
2111 Spruce Street

This 1878 house is another by Frank Furness; restrained under a mansard roof.

TURN LEFT ON 22ND STREET.
TURN LEFT ON DELANCEY PLACE.

23. Rosenbach Museum and Library
2008-2010 Delancey Place

This elegant 1860s townhouse was the home of brothers Abraham Simon Wolf Rosenbach and Philip H. Rosenbach for a quarter-century beginning in 1926. Abraham was a rare book dealer and Philip was expert in fine arts in antiques. The Rosenbach Museum & Library houses one of the world's great collections of manuscripts, literature and rare books. Their rare book business was widely considered the most successful in the world and launched many a library collection.

A list of some of the treasures amassed by the Rosenbach brothers is amazing in itself – Lewis Carroll's own copy of *Alice in Wonderland*, a first edition of *Don Quixote*, James Joyce's handwritten manuscript for *Ulysses*, and the earliest extant letter from George Washington – but the real treat is to see them among the Egyptian statuary,

Persian rugs, 18th-century furniture and Thomas Sully paintings that graced the 1860s mansion during the Rosenbachs' lifetime.

A list of some of the treasures amassed by the Rosenbach brothers is amazing in itself – Lewis Carroll's own copy of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, a first edition of *Don Quixote*, James Joyce's handwritten manuscript for *Ulysses*, and the earliest extant letter from George Washington – but the real treat is to see them among the Egyptian statuary, Persian rugs, 18th-century furniture and Thomas Sully paintings that graced the 1860s mansion during the Rosenbachs' lifetime.

In 1954, after the deaths of the Rosenbach brothers – Dr. A.S.W., a dealer in rare books and manuscripts, and Philip, a dealer of fine arts and antiques – their individual libraries and collections were organized in the Rosenbach townhouse at 2010 Delancey. The library has more than 130,000 manuscripts and 30,000 rare books; the museum boasts the largest U.S. collection of miniature portraits painted in oil on metal. In 2002, the museum expanded into the historic house next door for more research and display space.

24. Delancey Place
between 19th and 20th streets

There are a myriad of things to see in this block of Delancey Place: the caryatids (female statues) as mullions (vertical window separators) on the window of 1810, perhaps the only ones in the city; the acanthus leaves and grape design on the iron-work fence at 1823; the leaded and stained glass windows at 1821; or the small garden with the iron fence at 1835. From the vantage point of the garden we can have a fine view of 1900 Delancey Place, now the offices of the law firm. Designed by Frank Furness, it is generally considered one of the finest examples of his townhouses. The ornate decoration, the oval window above the entrance door give it a distinctive appearance in this age of austerity in architectural decoration. Be sure to observe the cherubim and seraphim on the pediments.

TURN LEFT ON 19TH STREET AND
RETURN TO THE TOUR STARTING
POINT IN RITTENHOUSE SQUARE.

Look Up,

Philadelphia

(Society Hill)



A Walking Tour of Society Hill...

The Free Society of Traders, a stock company that invested in William Penn's colony, set up shop on Dock Creek (later filled in and called Dock Street) in 1682 to oversee their new assets which soon included a sawmill, a glasshouse and a tannery in the the new settlement of Philadelphia. The Society barely saw the 1700s before they went bankrupt and disappeared. But their name lives on in the city.

It is this long-gone stock company for which Society Hill is named, even though the area attracted locally and internationally wealthy residents when Philadelphia was the capital and dominant city of the new Republic in the late 1700s. As the land juxtaposed the river and the seat of government, it was the most valuable in the city. From greed and speculation, lots were divided and divided again. The result: the serpentine walkways, abrupt angles, and tiny alleys that today make the area so appealingly intimate.

By the mid 1900s. Society Hill had lost its cachet and ultimately became a dilapidated slum. The city redevelopment plan called for every building built after 1840 to be torn down and everything before 1840 would be saved and rehabilitated. About 600 Georgian and Federal buildings were renovated but countless Victorian buildings that gave the neighborhood its diversity were lost forever. To insure the area retained its Colonial look all new buildings were made to blend in seamlessly with their older models.

Society Hill is loosely defined as the land between the Delaware River and Washington Square, bounded by Walnut Street to the North and Lombard Street to the South. This walking tour of Society Hill will begin on the waterfront in Penn's Landing which has been severed from Society Hill by I-95 but where parking is plentiful...

1. Penn's Landing at Delaware River

William Penn first sailed up the Delaware River in the fall of 1682 aboard the ship *Welcome*, an aptly named vessel, for in Penn's progressive vision of his colony, all religions would be welcome to pray as they pleased. Penn arrived in Philadelphia by barge from the downriver town of Chester where the *Welcome* had moored. He alit near a tidewater basin called the Dock fed by a creek of the same name. At the time of Penn's arrival, the area was inhabited, though sparsely, by some landowners in his "holy experiment," as well as by Swedes, Dutch, and Indians. Many of these locals gathered to welcome Penn near the Blue Anchor Tavern, an inn being built along Dock Creek.

Nineteenth-century historian John Fanning Watson, author of the nonpareil "Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania," believed that the landing of Penn in Philadelphia rivaled the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock in importance and should have been similarly canonized.

The area today known as Penn's Landing stretches along the Delaware River for about 10 blocks from Vine Street to South Street, and encompasses the spot where William Penn, Philadelphia's founder, first touched ground in his "greene country towne." After Penn's arrival, this area quickly became the center of Philly's maritime soul and the city's dominant commercial district. Starting in 1967, the city began to redevelop the area's dilapidated docks into a recreation park along the river. Walkways were put in, an amphitheater was built, a World Sculpture Garden installed — and finally, trees were planted along the river.

CROSS I-95 AT SPRUCE STREET.

2. A Man Full of Trouble Tavern 125-127 Spruce Street

A Man Full of Trouble Tavern, built around 1760, is the only tavern from Colonial Philadelphia that stands today. Looking much like the surrounding buildings it shows there was little design difference between commercial and residential properties at that time. It was built on the banks of the Little Dock Creek that still flowed at the time and most of the patrons came from the

dock area. Inside the rooms feature low ceilings and there is a cellar where the workers slept. Pipe smokers dropped a penny in an "honesty box" - so named because it was assumed the pipe smoker would extract only one pipeful of tobacco from the bowl.

3. Society Hill Towers 2nd and Locust streets

This is the project that kicked off the renovation of Society Hill after it had become a widespread slum by the middle of the 20th century. After winning a design competition Ieoh Ming Pei designed three modern International-Style towers built with poured-in-place concrete. Pei also designed a group of three-story townhouses across Philip Place at 3rd and Locust streets. The new houses were designed to blend in with their centuries-old neighbors and utilize red brick laid in a Flemish-bond pattern (the stretcher, long side, alternate with the headers, short side).

4. Abercrombie House 270 South 2nd Street

This house was one of the finest and tallest structures in Philadelphia when it was built in 1758 for Scottish sea captain James Abercrombie. The townhouse was rehabilitated by Leon Perelman, a Philadelphia native and president of American Paper Products, in 1968 to start the Antique Toy Museum. Perelman's private collection included more than 1,000 early American tin and cast-iron toys and the world's largest collection of mechanical toy banks.

TURN RIGHT ON 3RD STREET.

5. Powel House 244 South 3rd Street

Samuel Powel was the last colonial mayor of Philadelphia before the Revolution. He was the first mayor after the Revolution. His grandfather, also Samuel Powell, came to the colonies in 1685 and through an advantageous marriage and an extraordinary gift for carpentry and bridge-building, became the wealthy owner of dozens of Philadelphia homes.

Young Samuel dropped the second “l” in his surname to become Powel. He also declined to move into one of the 90 houses he now owned and instead purchased this house on 3rd Street from Charles Stedman. Stedman was the part-owner of a forge and a substantial landowner, who eventually fell upon hard times and wound up in debtors’ prison in 1774.

The Powels became known as great entertainers. George and Martha Washington became good friends and when Benjamin Franklin died Samuel served as one of the pallbearers. Samuel Powel, “the Patriotic Mayor,” died in the Yellow Fever epidemic that swept the city in 1793. The house was almost demolished for an open-air museum in 1931 but survives today as a museum.

TURN LEFT ON WILLINGS ALLEY.

6. St. Joseph’s Church 321 Willings Alley

On the north wall is a commemorative plaque that pays tribute to William Penn, who in his Charter of 1701 granted religious toleration and understanding in his colony. the plaque reads:

When in 1733 / St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church / was founded and / Dedicated to the Guardian of the Holy Family / it was the only place / in the entire English speaking world / where public celebration of / the Holy sacrifice of the Mass / was permitted by law.

The first church was built on this site in 1733, enlarged in 1821 and rebuilt in 1838. During a period of church-burning during the Anti-Catholic Riots of 1844, this church emerged unharmed, perhaps because it is tucked away in a courtyard accessed through a narrow arch with iron gates. Today it is the oldest Roman Catholic church in Philadelphia.

TURN RIGHT ON 4TH STREET.

7. Philadelphia Contributorship 212 South 4th Street

In 1730, the most disastrous fire to rage in Philadelphia’s history burst from the timbers of Fishbourn’s wharf, a Delaware River structure. All

the stores on the wharf burned and the fire spread across the street destroying three more homes. Damage ran into several thousand pounds. Benjamin Franklin commented in his Gazette that as there was no wind that evening, if people had been provided with good engines and firefighting instruments, the fire would likely have been contained.

Franklin’s recommendations ultimately led in 1736 to the forming of Philadelphia’s first volunteer fire brigade, the Union Fire Company. So many men wanted to join Franklin’s Union Company that he suggested it would be more beneficial to the salubrity of the city if they formed their own fire brigades. In 1751, Franklin and members of his Union Fire Company met with firefighters from other brigades to form the oldest fire insurance company in the United States.

Afterwards rival fire companies would literally fight each other at the scene of a blaze to determine who would have the opportunity to extinguish the fire and receive payment from the Contributorship. Philadelphia would not get a city fire department until 1871 but, through luck and its aggressive firefighting-for-pay system, never suffered a citywide catastrophic conflagration. The Contributorship Greek Revival building that dates to 1836 caught fire once — it was quickly extinguished. .

TURN RIGHT ON WALNUT STREET.

8. Pennsylvania Savings Fund Society 306 Walnut Street

Founded in 1816, the Philadelphia Savings Fund Society was the first savings bank in the United States. This is their first headquarters, designed by Thomas Ustick Walter, who would later have a hand in the United States Capitol in Washington DC, in the Greek Revival style in 1839. Marble quarried in Chester County was used in construction; the pediment is an 1880s addition.

TURN AROUND AND WALK WEST ON WALNUT STREET, AWAY FROM THE RIVER.

**9. Curtis Center
northwest corner of 6th Street and
Walnut Street**

Cyrus Curtis founded what was to become the largest magazine publishing company in the country, largely on the strength of the Saturday Evening Post and the Ladies Home Journal, in 1883. This Beaux Arts office building was designed for the company in 1910 by Edgar V. Seeler.

**10. Washington Square
bounded by Walnut Street on the north,
6th Street on the east, South
Washington Square on the south and
West Washington Square on the west**

Washington Square was one of five squares - called Southeast Square at the time - by William Penn in 1682. For most of the next 100 years this was a potter's field and among the bodies buried beneath the square are fallen Revolutionary War soldiers. Burials were generally done on the cheap: bodies bound in canvas — sans coffins.

It was in the air over Washington Square that Americans first witnessed flight. Aeronaut Jean Pierre Blanchard made the first balloon ascension in America from the Walnut Street Jail in 1793.

It picked up the name of America's first president, who served his two terms in Philadelphia, in 1825 but the statue, a bronze cast of the 1791 marble original by Jean-Antoine Houdon, dates to the 1920s.

TURN LEFT ON 6TH STREET.

**11. Penn Mutual Insurance Company
510 Walnut Street ; east side of
Washington Square**

At the corner of 6th and Walnut Streets, on the Square's eastern side, is an office building belonging to the Penn Mutual Insurance Company. In 1913, Edgar Seeler, architect of the Curtis Center, also designed this structure. The adjacent skyscraper also belonging to Penn Mutual is of interest. The facade of John Haviland's 1838 Egyptian Revival design for the Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co. was retained intact and serves as a faux facade for the skyscraper.

Penn Mutual was built on the site of Robert Smith's historic Walnut Street Jail which stood from 1775 to 1835. This prison was the site of the earliest experiments in criminal rehabilitation in the United States. After serving as a brutal military prison for both sides in the Revolutionary War, it underwent change in 1790 when the Pennsylvania Assembly passed a series of prison reform bills. New prison practice included segregation of the sexes, separation of juveniles from adults, and the creation of distinct prisons for debtors and felons.

George Washington spent a good amount of time in the debtor's prison — visiting his good friend Robert Morris, the financier of the Revolution. Morris had fallen on hard times, in part due to his attempt at building a personal Xanadu on High (Market) Street which bankrupted him.

**12. Athenaeum of Philadelphia
219 South 6th Street; east side of
Washington Square**

Apparently drawing inspiration from English clubhouses, architect John Notham created the first Italianate building in America for the private library that began in 1818. This building is from 1845 and its reading room, the city's finest, saw the likes of Charles Dickens and Edgar Allan Poe. Notham had wanted marble for his Italian palazzo but settled for the cheaper brownstone.

**13. Lea & Febiger
600 South Washington Square; east side
of Washington Square**

America's oldest continuously operating book publisher, Lea & Febiger, spent about a third of its 225 years in this building they built in 1923. Mathew Carey started the company in 1785, thanks in part to a \$400 loan from the Marquis de Lafayette.

TURN RIGHT ON SOUTH
WASHINGTON SQUARE.
TURN RIGHT ON 7TH STREET.

14. *Farm Journal* Building

230 West Washington Square; west side of Washington Square

The *Farm Journal's* first readers in 1827 were "farmers living within a day's buggy ride" of Philadelphia. Today it is the largest farming magazine in the country. The *Farm Journal* Building, with its stone-carved horn of plenty overflowing at the entrance, was built in 1911.

15. W.B. Saunders Building

northwest corner of 7th and Locust streets; west side of Washington Square

Washington Square was the center of Philadelphia's robust publishing industry that began flourishing in the 19th century. The W.B. Saunders Company dates to 1888 and moved here in 1910. Though long a leader in the field of medical publishing, specializing in technical - and typically dry - works, it is best known for the landmark *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*, more popularly known as "the Kinsey Report" that was the first graphic study of human sexual behavior.

16. N.W. Ayer Building

210 West Washington Square; west side of Washington Square

Francis Wayland Ayer was 21 years old when he started a business in 1869 to represent religious weekly magazines. Ayer was the first agency to hire a full-time copywriter (1892) and the first to hire an artist (1898). Over the next hundred years it grew to be Philadelphia's largest advertising agency and the country's oldest before defecting to New York City in 1973.

The building, a paean to advertising and the Age of Art Deco, was built in 1928 by Ralph Bencker. Pairs of giant deco sculptures seem to grow out of each side of the top of the 15-story building. The bronze doors of the building's entrance facing Washington Square depict advertising employees at work while all about them signs of the zodiac are presumably influencing them. Curiously, the figures are all dressed in Pharaoh-like robes while doing their office work.

17. Bible House

701 Walnut Street; north side of Washington Square

This is home to the Pennsylvania Bible Society, the oldest such group in the country. The Society, formed in 1808, has distributed Bibles in 73 different languages.

TURN LEFT ON WALNUT STREET.

18. Philadelphia Savings Fund Society

700-710 Walnut Street; west side of Washington Square

This marble Italianate palazzo was the second of three headquarters for the venerable Philadelphia banking house that opened its doors down Walnut Street in 1816 as a benevolent institution without stockholders. The building has seen a couple of additions but the original slice was built in 1869 at the corner opposite Washington Square. Addison Hutton won a design competition for the commission and this is considered his first major success.

TURN LEFT ON 8TH STREET.

19. Reynolds-Morris House

225 South 8th Street

This Georgian-style house was built by physician John Reynolds in 1787. Later purchased by Luke Wistar Morris in 1817, it is one of two free-standing houses remaining in Philadelphia from the immediate post-Revolution period.

20. Pennsylvania Hospital

8th Street between Spruce and Pine streets

This is the oldest hospital in America, founded to take care of the "sick poor" and the insane. Benjamin Franklin and Dr. Thomas Bond raised money to found the hospital in 1751, the first patient was admitted a year later.

The hospital's original home was the Pine Building, still a section of the hospital, which was built in three sections over 50 years. The Federal-style central section is superbly rendered from a design by David Evans, Jr in 1800. The cells in the

basement were originally intended for mentally ill patients. The hospital has had fire insurance longer than any other building in the country.

RETURN TO SPRUCE STREET
AND WALK TOWARDS THE
DELAWARE RIVER.

21. Girard Row
326-334 Spruce Street

Built in 1831-33, these fine Greek Revival row-houses stand apart from other middle-class houses of the period for their stone trim and marble ground floor facings that contrast with the red brick.

TURN RIGHT ON SOUTH
4TH STREET.

22. Hill-Physick House
321 South 4th Street

Henry Hill made one of America's first fortunes importing Madeira, the wine from Portugese islands that wasn't taxed by the British. Madeira was the drink of choice for Thomas Jefferson who used it to toast the Declaration of Independence. Hill used his money to construct one of the most magnificent houses in Philadelphia on the site of the Old City Alms House. It is one of only two freestanding Federal townhouses extant in the city. Finished in 1786, the semi-elliptical fanlight across the entrance that was imported from England is the highlight of a textbook facade.

From 1815 to 1837 Dr. Philip Syng Physick lived in the house. Physick's grandfather, the renowned silversmith Philip Syng, designed the inkstand from which both the Declaration and Constitution were written, and which is still displayed at Independence Hall. Dr. Physick, who built his reputation fighting the Yellow Fever epidemic that claimed Hill's life in 1798, is credited with being the first doctor to use a stomach pump and is often called the "Father of American Surgery."

23. St. Mary's Church
252 South 4th Street

Founded in 1763 as the city's second Roman Catholic church, the Continental Congress met here officially four times. On July 4, 1779, the first public religious commemoration of the Declaration of Independence was held here. The church has been remodeled several times, the last in 1884 when the Gothic facade was added and the entrance placed on 4th Street. The cemetery dates to 1759. Inside a crucifix was carved by renowned sculptor William Rush. The front of the church's organ was crafted by Thomas U. Walter, the man responsible for designing the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

24. Old Pine Street Church
412 Pine Street

Philadelphia's first Presbyterian church was erected in 1704. Although Philadelphia is associated with William Penn and other Quakers, in fact by 1739, Presbyterians outnumbered all other religious denominations in Philadelphia. This building dates to 1768 and is the only Presbyterian church still standing in the city from the days before the American Revolution. The British occupied the Church in 1777 and used it for a hospital and stable. Notables buried in the churchyard include William Hurry, who rang the Liberty Bell the day The Declaration of Independence was read for the first time, Philadelphia symphony conductor Eugene Ormandy and mathematician David Rittenhouse.

TURN LEFT ON PINE STREET.

25. St. Peter's Church
313 Pine Street

The church was built by members of Christ Church, who were building houses in newly settled Society Hill, in 1761. George Washington worshiped here. Four of early America's finest architects and craftsmen all contributed at various times to the building of this church that is transporting in its beauty and colonial character. Robert Smith, a member of the Carpenters' Company, built the church in Palladian style. The tower and spire were added in 1842 by William

Strickland and the iron staircases (which are no longer there) were installed in 1846 by Thomas U. Walter (who designed the Capitol Dome in Washington, D.C.). Two wooden angels made by William Rush were brought from Old St. Paul's Church.

TO CROSS BACK OVER I-95 TO PENN'S LANDING AND THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

**26. Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial
northwest corner of 3rd and Pine streets**

This land has as eclectic a history as any in Philadelphia, with religious, political, military and commercial connections. The land was once owned by Jacob Duche who was the head of the Episcopal Church in the American colonies. It is believed that John Nixon, the first man to read the Declaration of Independence publicly, was born on the site, though not at this house. Edward Piszcek, the founder of Mrs. Paul's seafood donated the building to the National Park Service in the early 1970s.

But this Georgian townhouse built in 1775-1776 is on the national radar because it was briefly the home of Proceed to the northwest corner of 3rd and Pine Streets which was for a time was the home of Polish-born engineering genius, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, called by Thomas Jefferson, "as pure a son of liberty as I have ever known." As a commissioned colonel earning \$6 a month, Kosciuszko first planned forts along the Delaware River during the Revolution and then masterminded defenses from West Point to Georgia.

**27. Head House Square
2nd Street, between Pine and
Lombard streets**

In 1745 sheds, called the Shambles, were erected to allow merchants to gather in a marketplace to sell food and wares. By the early 1800s Federal-style headhouses were added at each end, used for city meetings and local fire companies. This is the nation's oldest firehouse and, restored in 1960, marketplace.

CONTINUE TO THE END OF PINE STREET AT FRONT STREET AND TURN LEFT. MAKE THE FIRST RIGHT AT SPRUCE STREET

Look Up,

Media



A Walking Tour of Media...

After receiving the colony of Pennsylvania from England's King Charles II in 1681, William Penn sold a parcel of land to Thomas Minshall, who emigrated from England in 1702. Minshall's farming land was set up outside the town limits of the Village of Providence, which contained a blacksmith, wheelwright, stables, outbuildings, and a few small houses and farmland areas.

The community name derives from Latin for "middle," because of its location in the center of Delaware County. It is also situated at the highest point in Delaware County and approximately 12 miles from Philadelphia. Over time, there was a growing public demand for the county seat to be relocated from its southern location in Chester to a more central site. In response, the Borough of Media was incorporated by a special Act of Assembly in 1850, and the Greek Revival courthouse was completed the next year.

The beauty and healthfulness of Media, the picturesque surrounding hills and valleys, the fact that the sale of liquor was prohibited in the borough from the start, and its easy accessibility from Philadelphia caused many people to seek summer homes in the town. For those just looking for a respite from the city there were spacious "country houses" that took on guests.

In this tradition of recreation and leisure our walking tour will begin at the Media Theatre on State Street in the eastern end of town...

1. Media Theatre
104 East State Street

Built in 1927 by Samuel Dembow as Media's third and largest movie theatre, it was designed by Louis Magziner as a Beaux Arts structure with Art Deco design elements. The interior was decorated in the English Renaissance style by Harris Brodsky. The theatre opened in August 1927 with a screening of *The Jazz Singer* starring Al Jolson, the first motion picture with sound. Admission was 25 cents. The theatre served for nearly 75 years as a movie palace displaying the magic of motion picture to generations of Media residents before Walter M. Strine converted it into the Media Theatre for the Performing Arts in 1994.

2. Media High School
northeast corner of East State Street and Monroe Street

Constructed in 1914 of local granite schist stone in Tudor Revival with strong medieval details, this was the Media High School through 1966. It was formerly the site of the county poor farm and the famous Shortlidge Academy for Boys.

3. Media Armory
12 East State Street

Built in 1908, the raised two-story Tudor Revival with flying Buttresses was headquarters for the Cooper Rifles, a military unit which was organized in 1877. It later housed Company M, 111th Infantry, Pennsylvania National Guard which left Media as a body in 1917 to serve in the First World War. It was designed by renowned architect William S. Price and M.H. McClanahan. Price is recognized as one of the fathers of the "Modern School" of American architecture.

4. Ledger Building
southwest corner of State Street and Jackson Street

John B. Robinson, a Congressman and local political figure, who was editor of the *Media Ledger*, a well known weekly newspaper at the turn of the century built this in 1895.

5. Old Media Borough Hall
1 West State Street, northwest corner of State Street and Jackson Street

In the days before the creation of the town, today's central location was the site of the Way Homestead, one of Media's original farms in 1850. Isaac Chalfont later built a livery stable here with stagecoach service to Chester. The fare was 25 cents one way. The present Neoclassical building was constructed as a post office in 1918. In 1969 it was converted into municipal offices and police station. Today it functions as a restaurant.

TURN RIGHT (NORTH) ON JACKSON STREET. TURN LEFT ON FRONT STREET.

6. south side of Front Street between Jackson and Olive streets

This typical block of Media row homes dates from 1880. They retain original brick walks and facades.

TURN RIGHT ON OLIVE STREET.

7. Soldiers' Monument
east lawn of the Delaware County Court House

This granite infantryman stands as a memorial to the Delaware County artillery, navy and cavalry - and the "patriotic women who aided the defenders of our country" - during the Civil War. The monument was dedicated in 1885.

RETURN TO FRONT STREET AND TURN RIGHT (WEST).

8. Delaware County Record Building
112 Front Street

The row of brick buildings between South Avenue and Olive Street and South Avenue was Media's first office district and dates from the 1850s. Number 112 in 1878 was the home of the *Delaware County Record*, a widely known and respected weekly newspaper of the period.

The *Delaware County Record* was established by J. W. Batting & Co., the company being C. D. Williamson and Joseph Chadwick, on March 23, 1878, as an independent local newspaper. Originally an eight-column paper, twenty by twenty-seven inches, page measure, it was so successful that the proprietors enlarged it to nine columns in less than a year from the time it was started. This block is now a borough historic district and retains the atmosphere of Media's early days.

RETURN TO OLIVE STREET AND
TURN RIGHT (SOUTH). TURN
RIGHT (WEST) ON STATE STREET.

9. Haldeman's Store
101 West State Street

Isaac Haldeman, first president of Media Borough Council, built this grocery and dry goods store in 1854. Haldeman was one of the original movers in the establishment of the First National Bank of Media, was a member of its board of directors, and its president from the day of organization until his death. The bank was organized February 22, 1864, chartered March 12th, and opened for business on March 21st in the second story of Haldeman's store building.

10. Burdsall & Adams Cigar Factory
106 West State Street

In 1900 this was Media's leading industry, employing fifty people. The famous Burdsall & Adams cigar cost 5 cents. The building dates to 1879.

11. First National Bank of Media (Provident National Bank)
114 West State Street

Designed by Albert Dilks and constructed in 1900, the first permanent home of the First National Bank of Media is a landmark example of the rare Chateausque style, with numerous stylistic references to French Renaissance and Richardson Romanesque detail and form. The great bronze doors at the front are original.

12. Phoenix Building
115-117 West State Street

This commercial building dates to 1895 and the facade features tiers of Romanesque arches and broad corner quoins.

13. Beatty Building
northwest corner of State Street and South Avenue

Dating from 1849, this was the first commercial structure erected in Media and continues in business use today. The lot on which it is located was purchased for \$367.50 during the original sale of ground in Media by the County Commissioners.

TURN RIGHT (NORTH) ON SOUTH AVENUE. WALK UP THE EAST (RIGHT SIDE OF THE STREET).

14. Delaware County Institute of Science
northwest corner of South Avenue and Jasper Street (Veterans Square)

The first meeting of the Institute was held in Upper Providence on the 21st of September, 1833, by five persons - George Miller, Minshall Painter, John Miller, George Smith, and John Cassin. An acre of land was purchased near Rose Tree, and in 1837 a two-story brick building was erected, which was formally opened in September of that year, upon which occasion an address was delivered by Dr. Robert M. Patterson, then director of the United States Mint. The present three-story temple-like Greek Revival brick structure was built in 1867. Dr. George Smith was president from the first till his death, February, 1882.

15. Delaware County Court House
Front Street at the head of South Street

The original section was completed in 1851 with one courtroom. The structure was later expanded and altered in 1871, 1913 and 1929. It is generally regarded as one of the handsomest court houses in the eastern United States. William Jennings Bryan once orated from the front steps and Ronald Reagan also spoke here.

TURN AROUND AND WALK DOWN
THE EAST SIDE OF SOUTH AVENUE.

16. Legal Row
South Street between Jasper and Front
streets

This was the first business district of Media, occupied by lawyers and early merchants in 1850. An early photographic studio, Thompson's Daguerreotypes, as well as a druggist and chemist were located here.

17. Plymouth Hall (Charter House)
northeast corner of State Street and South
Street

This house, one of the notable institutions of Media as a place of happy entertainment for "the wayfarer and the stranger," was a monument to those zealous friends of temperance who triumphed after a hard fight and made the prohibition of the liquor traffic one of the provisions of the town charter.

TURN RIGHT ON STATE STREET.

18. Delaware County American Building
212 West State Street

The first newspaper in Media was *The Union and Delaware County Democrat*, a small sheet started prior to June, 1852, by Charles B. Stowe. The town was then quite small, and it is not strange that the obituary of the little sheet should have appeared in the *Republican* as early as Dec. 29, 1854. It read as follows: "DEAD. - *The Union and Delaware County Democrat*, published at Media in this county, has adjourned sine die, its editor having removed to West Chester. A good opportunity is now presented to an enterprising man with a few thousand dollars, who desires to embark in the printing and publishing business."

The next newspaper venture in the new county-seat was destined to be a more successful one, and to result in the permanent establishment of the *Delaware County American*. The paper was started as the *Media Advertiser* by Thomas V. Cooper and D. A. Vernon on March 1, 1855. Its politics were Republican. The publication office was here on State Street.

19. Engle Bakery
216 West State Street

This was originally the German bakery of Christian Schur in 1892 and later purchased by Harry Engle who baked bread, cakes and confectionary here. Homemade ice cream was 5 cents a plate.

TURN RIGHT ON ORANGE STREET.

20. Williamson House
southwest corner of Orange Street and
Front Street

Built in 1850 by Charles R. Williamson, a borough councilman and businessman. The Federal-style house has been used as a residence, post office, grocery store and shoe factory during its history. The structure was restored as law offices in 1976.

RETURN TO STATE STREET AND
TURN RIGHT.

21. Cooper House
330 West State Street

This was the first home in Media of Thomas V. Cooper, state legislator and president of the Pennsylvania State Senate in 1878. This house was built prior to 1870. Number 330A was later used as an office by Dr. Philip Jaisohn, a famous Korean patriot and founding father of Korean independence from Japan. He settled in Media after service as a medical officer in three wars for which he was commended by Congress in 1946.

22. 331-341 West State Street

One of the last undisturbed blocks of old Media, Nos. 331-341 were built between 1855 and 1873.

TURN RIGHT ON LEMON STREET.

23. First School House
8 Lemon Street

In 1853 a small brick school-house was erected here, which was the first in the new town. Media became a separate school district early in 1856 and a new school was ready in 1860. The lot and building were sold to Charles R. Williamson for five hundred and fifty dollars.

TURN LEFT ON FRONT STREET.

24. Broomall House
West Street at the head of Front Street

Built in 1873 it was the home of John M. Broomall, a county judge, Civil War Congressman, and friend of Abraham Lincoln. It is a typical Victorian estate house of the latter half of the nineteenth century.

TURN LEFT ON WEST STREET.
TURN LEFT ON BALTIMORE
AVENUE. TURN RIGHT
ON ORANGE STREET.

25. Hillhurst
216 South Orange Street

Built in 1890 by John Biddle as a Queen Anne summer cottage, it was designed by Addison Hutton, a famous Quaker architect of the Victorian period. This site was once part of the John Hill farm, one of the original properties composing what is now Media. H. Jones Brooke purchased the ground and erected the Brooke Hall Female Seminary in 1856, one block to the west. It's most famous graduate was Ida Saxton, wife of President William McKinley.

26. Christ Church
311 South Orange Street

During the summer of 1853 the first Episcopalian religious services in Media were held in the court-house, then recently built. From that time until the present church edifice was constructed services were held in the courthouse and in the Methodist Church. The corner-stone of the present church edifice was laid July 5, 1858.

RETURN TO BALTIMORE AVENUE
AND TURN RIGHT.

27. Towne House
117 Veterans Square

The Towne House was founded in 1951 by Silvio "Babe" D'Ignazio. He acquired the nickname as either the youngest child in an Italian family or for his exploits on the football field as a center for the Pennsylvania Military College (now Widener University) where he was as strong as Paul Bunyan's blue ox, Babe. It was only one small row house at the time, but new rooms were added over the years. After D'Ignazio passed away in 2008 at the age of 90 the road in front of the Towne House was re-christened "Babe's Way."

28. Media Presbyterian Church
30 East Baltimore Avenue

The church - Media's first - was built on one of two lots donated to the church by Mr. John Beatty from 40 acres he had purchased in 1853. On October 11, 1855, the Media Presbyterian Church, designed by Philadelphia architect John McArthur, was dedicated. The church operated in the beginning as a mission of the Middletown Presbyterian Church. The total cost for construction was \$10,500, financed partly through contributions with the balance of \$3,500 paid for by the Presbytery of Philadelphia. The money promised by the Presbytery of Philadelphia was eventually paid but only after a long delay. Reverend Dale mortgaged his home and personally carried the debt for a long time. This was done so that the contractor could be paid and the construction of the church proceed without interruption.

TURN LEFT ON CHURCH STREET.
TURN RIGHT ON STATE STREET.

29. SEPTA Trolley Line

Media is the last suburban town in America with a trolley running down its main street.

RETURN TO THE TOUR STARTING
POINT AT THE MEDIA THEATRE.

Look Up,

Kennett Square



A Walking Tour of Kennett Square...

The name Kennett originates with Francis Smith who came to this region in 1686. He was a native of Devizes, in Wiltshire, England, in which there is a village called "Kennet." The name is first mentioned in court records in 1705. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries Kennett was a small village located where the road from Chester to Baltimore intersected with the road from Lancaster to Wilmington. It was at this intersection that the Unicorn Tavern was built in 1735 by Joseph Musgrave, the largest landowner in what is now Kennett Square. In 1776 Musgrave sold his property to Colonel Joseph Shippen, the uncle of Peggy Shippen, who became the wife of Benedict Arnold. His later treachery was said to be inspired by a need to keep her in the style she was born to.

Travelers found the village a good place to stop, including Baron Wilhelm van Knyphausen and General Sir William Howe, who stayed for one night before marching to the Battle of the Brandywine against George Washington at Chadds Ford in 1777. By 1810 there was a village of about eight dwellings, five of which were log, but it was not until 1853 that a group of citizens petitioned the Court of Quarter Sessions of Chester to form a borough. Antebellum Kennett was an important region in the Underground Railroad, and many prominent citizens of Kennett Square and the surrounding region played an important role in securing freedom for runaway slaves.

It was in Kennett Square that the grain drill was invented by Samuel and Moses Pennock (patented on March 12, 1841), and improvements for the corn sheller and harvester (1857), and the first four-wheel road machine (1877). Other local inventors included James Green (a hayknife), Bernard Wiley (the famous Wiley Plow), John Chambers (an asbestos stove plate), and Cyrus Chambers (a machine for folding papers and a brickmaking machine). It was on the Chamber's property that the first circular saw was built in 1835. Another large business was the Fibre Specialty Manufacturing Company, later known as NVE, which built its first plant in Kennett Square in 1898 and is now closed.

Kennett Square's most famous citizen was Bayard Taylor, a nineteenth-century author, diplomat, poet, and journalist who published over forty books, including *Views A-foot*, *Eldorado*, a translation of Faust (which Mark Twain called the best of all English translations), and a local favorite, *The Story of Kennett*. Bayard Taylor died in Berlin while serving as Minister to Germany.

Our walking tour will start one block north of the Town center at State Street and Union Street where there is a municipal parking garage...

1. The Brosius House
119 East Linden Street

Edwin Brosius built a pottery at the corner of Broad and Linden streets around 1844. The Brosius home serves as a fine example of the Federal style, having been updated later in the century. The more modern Italianate details of the structure are seen in the ornate bracketed cornice and the iron porch with the balcony above. An added wooden porch protects the center doorway with its sidelights and transom on the south elevation.

2. District Court and Old Ben Butler
southwest corner of East Linden and
North Broad streets

The official opening of the former municipal building was April 17, 1939. The building was completed by WPA labor. In 1861 Bayard Taylor presented the home guard of Kennett Square with a cannon cast at the Pennock Foundry at State & Willow Streets. It became known as "Old Ben Butler," fired to hail Union victories in the Civil War.

3. The Walls House
219 East Linden Street

At the turn of the 20th century the house served as parsonage for a church next door. Later it was the home of Dr. Orville R. Walls, a graduate of the Meharry Medical School in Nashville, Tennessee in 1936.

4. Bethel A.M.E. Church
301 East Linden Street

Early records show that a number of free blacks had owned land in the town of Kennett Square from as early as the 1850s. The African Methodist Episcopal Church was officially founded in 1894. A lot was purchased on East Linden Street and a building was erected and dedicated in July, 1895. The structure underwent extensive renovations in 1973, although the fine example of a federal steeple is still evident at the south end.

5. New Garden Church
309 East Linden Street

On September 4, 1824, the Union African Methodist Episcopal Church purchased one acre of land from Joseph Broman for \$50 at Buck Toe Hill in New Garden Township. A log building constructed on the site was later destroyed by fire, and was replaced by a stone building. In 1904, property was purchased on East Linden Street and a new building erected with the stone from the original church. The new church was dedicated on February 18, 1911.

6. The Vincent Barnard House
315 East Linden Street

Vincent Barnard, 1825-1871, was a local naturalist who came to Kennett Square to work for Samuel Pennock, and whose daughter Joanna, he married. At the time of his death he had a two-acre botanical garden containing numerous rare and indigenous specimens of trees and flowers.

TURN RIGHT ON WILLOW STREET.
TURN RIGHT ON STATE STREET.

7. The Kennett Square Inn
201 East State Street

Built between 1820 and 1839, this structure is a combination of a two-bay Penn plan on the west side and a four-bay Federal plan on the east side.

TURN LEFT ON BROAD STREET.
TURN LEFT ON APPLE ALLEY.

8. Hicks-Schmaltz House
120 South Marshall Street

Built before 1908 in the Queen Anne style by Harry K. Hicks, this home is characterized by its eclectic mix of contrasting materials and patterns: the use of stucco, clapboard, decorative shingles, and half-timbering. Hermann Schmaltz, a native of Germany, came to America in 1884. In 1903, he settled in Kennett Square, where he owned and operated a hardware, plumbing and heating business, and later moved into the Hicks house. Today it is home to Borough offices.

TURN RIGHT ON
MARSHALL STREET.

9. Sharpless Lewis House
211 Marshall Street

Most of the original features of this Stick style house are intact, although the stucco on the second floor was originally wood. Automation of wood working allowed for mass production of decorative elements.

10. Eli & Lewis Thompson House
221 Marshall Street

This 1882 Gothic house has wooden posts and scrolled brackets trimming the first floor porch. A barn which is approximately the same age as the house occupies the property as well. Eli Thompson was the father-in-law of William Swayne who built his greenhouses across the street. Swayne was not only a successful florist, but along with Harry Hicks, built the first mushroom house in Kennett Square in 1885, laying the skids for Kennett Square to become "Mushroom Capital of the World."

11. Roberts House
222 Marshall Street

This home is Queen Anne/Gothic stick style built about 1880. A gambrel-roofed cross gable has a decorative pendant and a window with a Gothic arch. A one-story shed roofed porch has chamfered posts and open brackets.

TURN RIGHT ON SOUTH BROAD
STREET. WALK OF THE EAST SIDE
OF THE STREET.

12. Chandler House
219 South Broad Street; northeast corner
of Juniper Street

This house was built by Samuel D. Chandler, a local pharmacist, in the Second Empire style. Note the three distinct slate patterns in the mansard roof - diamond, brick, and fish-scale. The detailed and carved cornices are similar to the closely related Italianate style.

13. Presbyterian Parsonage (Manse)
213 South Broad Street

Built in about 1884 in the Stick Style, this brick house is an excellent example of its type and appears to retain nearly all its original exterior features including roof and porch trim. Note the drop-finial at the apex and bargeboards with unique bulls-eye detail at the porch eaves, the Gothic window beneath the apex detail, and the type of bonding used between brick courses. It was used as a parsonage for the church next door until the 1960s.

**14. The Presbyterian Church of Kennett
Square**
211 South Broad Street

In the early 1860s when Kennett Square numbered between 500 and 600 people, the Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church organized when there was but one Presbyterian living in the town. In 1865 a brick building was erected at a cost of \$6,200. The major portion of the present stone church was built between 1909-1916. The building was further remodeled in 1928, after a damaging fire.

CROSS THE STREET AND WALK
BACK DOWN THE WEST SIDE OF
SOUTH BROAD STREET TOWARDS
JUNIPER STREET.

**15. United Methodist Church of the Open
Door**
210 South Broad Street

This church is now home to Methodists but in the past has been a Lutheran Church and before that, an Episcopal Church. Note the variety of patterns and character of the slate roof, modified buttresses, and Gothic windows.

16. McMullen-Walton House
216 South Broad Street

The house was built in 1869 by Joseph McMullen, a Burgess of Kennett Square. The decorative trusses in the gables are a common architectural detail in town. This one is in the form of a rising sun, a popular symbol for a rising country.

17. Gregg House
307 South Broad Street

This two-and-a-half story brick house dates to the early 1900s when A.W. Gregg, a physician, lived at this address. This is in the Queen Anne style, notable for its large and irregular shape. Note the upper balcony and lamp black used in the mortar. The gable also uses the sun motif.

18. Isaac Pyle House
312 South Broad Street

This 1870 house has beautiful filigree ironwork and a striped "circus tent" tin porch roof, a popular decorative effect.

19. Kennett Square Academy
313 South Broad Street

This large building is three stories high above a raised basement, and has a flat roof with projecting cornice. Stucco now covers the exterior brick walls. It was built in 1870 as Swithin C. Shortlidge's Kennett Square Academy for Young Men and Boys and Kennett Seminary for Young Ladies and Girls.

20. Mary Phillips House
318 South Broad Street

Now apartments, this 1871 Gothic-inspired house was the boyhood home of Hall-of-Fame baseball pitcher Herb Pennock. Pennock was born in Kennett Square on February 10, 1894 and began his 22-year big league career at the age of 18, winning 241 games, most with the powerhouse New York Yankee teams of the 1920s.

21. Woodward House
332 South Broad Street

This house was built in 1858 by Thomas Pyle for the Woodward family, resembling Colonial houses across the street at 323 and 325 South Broad Street. In about 1888, the exterior got a drastic facelift under the guidance of a Dutch architect who had recently come to town. At this time, the tower, circular porch, and Victorian gingerbread were added.

22. Gawthrop House
402 South Broad Street

This house was built in 1879 by James Gawthrop, founder a coal and lumber business. An eclectic combination of Queen Anne and Stick styles, it is one of the more unusual houses in the Historic District. Particularly interesting is the six-sided turret with the original cap. Note the Gothic window in the gable peak on the facade, and the cross gable filled with lattice work above the entrance. Heavy turned posts connected by a wooden balustrade, support the roof of the wrap-around porch.

TURN RIGHT ON MULBERRY STREET. TURN RIGHT ON SOUTH UNION STREET.

23. Catherine Reed House
401 South Union Street

Once the home of Catherine Reed, a seamstress, the entrances in the central bays are topped by transoms. A wooden balustrade connects the heavy turned posts with solid brackets which support the flat roof and its wraparound porch.

24. Lamborn House
341 South Union Street

This stucco house was originally brick and had an iron gate around the property. This house was built by Emma Taylor Lamborn, a sister of Bayard Taylor. It was here that their mother died in 1890. Note the ocular window. The original brick sidewalks still remain.

25. Kirk House
316 South Union Street

This is a brick house with wrap-around porch. Note the bonding mid-way between the second story and the barn in the rear of the property.

26. Philips-Grason House
306 South Union Street

This is a large Victorian house built in the Queen Anne style. Of special note are the beautiful tulip-shaped porch railing, stain glass win-

dows, and three-story tower with conical slate roof. There is a large carriage house in the rear alley.

27. Lydia Walton House
231 South Union Street

This 1860s house was the home of Lydia Walton, elected in 1869 to the post of school director. Since 1908, as stipulated in her will, \$40 annually has been distributed to buy shoes and mittens for needy children in the borough. Next door, at 233 South Union Street, is the former site of The Walker House, home of James Walker, who played a role in the Underground Railroad in antebellum Kennett Square.

28. Samuel Pennock House
222 South Union Street

Cypress Lawn was built in 1864 by Samuel Pennock, founder of the American Road Machine Company and inventor of the snow plow and various road grading machines. The house has a Queen Anne porch which was added later.

29. Dr. Sumner Stebbins House
221 South Union Street

Dr. Sumner Stebbins was a noted doctor, temperance orator, and abolitionist. His wife, Mary Ann Peirce, was the daughter of Joshua Peirce, who, along with his twin brother, began the planting of the arboretum known as Peirce's Park, which later became part of Longwood Gardens. Another noted resident of this house was William Marshall Swayne, an artist and sculptor. In 1878, he completed a plaster bust of local author Bayard Taylor, which is now prominently displayed in the Bayard Taylor Memorial Library. Another of Swayne's outstanding works was a bust of Abraham Lincoln. This Victorian home was built in 1845.

30. Samuel Martin House
209-211 South Union Street

Samuel Martin started his career in Kennett as a school teacher and went on to build many of its houses and a school.

31. Pyle House
208 South Union Street

This Queen Anne style house dates from about 1907, and has one of the most outstanding porches in town. Also of note is the octagonal tower and gable-roofed dormers with multi-pane windows.

32. Entriokin House,
204 South Union Street

This house dates from about 1907 and is in the Queen Anne style. Note the hexagonal dormer with peaked roof which faces the street.

33. Garage Community & Youth Center
115 South Union Street

This car garage, built in 1923, was vacant when a local business leader and youth pastor set about renovating the building to provide services for young people. The Garage Community & Youth Center is the only place in Kennett Square that is open just for middle and high school students.

34. Genesis HealthCare
northeast corner of State Street and
Union Street

Here, on September 11, 1777, 12,000 British and 5,000 Hessian troops gathered prior to marching east for what later became known as the Battle of the Brandywine. On the northwest corner was the site of the oldest building in Kennett Square, the Unicorn Tavern, and on the southeast corner was the site of Bayard Taylor's birthplace. On the northeast corner was the original site of Evan P. Green's mercantile store, and later the Chalfant Block. The structure was razed in 1996, and the present building constructed as the national headquarters of Genesis HealthCare. In the tower of the office building are three faces of the original workings of the Kennett Town Clock.

35. Miller-Hannum House
200 North Union Street

This Federal-style house dates from 1820. It has a dormer with a segmentally-arched roof and

brick dentillated trim on the cornice. The windows can be opened from the bottom and act as a walk through.

36. Chalfant Mansion
220 North Union Street

A fine example of Queen Anne architecture attributed to the firm of Frank Furness, the ornate north aspect date stone is inscribed "WSC 1884." Note the elaborate corbeled brickwork on the three chimneys, restored in 1987.

37. M. Ellen Taylor House
233 North Union Street

This Queen Anne/Stick style house, built in 1876 on land deeded to her by her father Joshua, has a gable roof with large cross gable on the facade tops. Fish-scale wood shingles cover a two-story bay window at the side and the cross gable. Ellen was Bayard Taylor's first cousin.

38. Gilmore-Marshall-Pennock House
234 North Union Street

"Robinhurst" was built in 1859 in the Federal style, and was once the home of Charles Pennock, local banker and well-known ornithologist. He was an eccentric who suffered amnesia, disappeared, and resurfaced in Florida under an assumed name. He eventually returned to Kennett. Behind the house is a large wooden carriage house with lacy barge boards and a steep gable roof.

39. Joshua Taylor House
315 North Union Street

Fairthorn is the oldest house in the historic district, and was the home of Bayard Taylor's grandparents. The house served as the setting for his novel *The Story of Kennett*, written in 1866.

TURN AROUND AND WALK BACK
DOWN NORTH UNION STREET TO
THE TOUR STARTING POINT AT
THE PARKING GARAGE ON LINDEN
STREET.

Look Up,

Phoenixville



A Walking Tour of Phoenixville...

One of the first Europeans to arrive in what would become Phoenixville was attorney Charles Pickering who sailed to America with colony founder William Penn. While Penn sought religious freedom for his fellow Quakers, Pickering sought financial opportunity in “Penn’s Woods.” He obtained a large tract of land around the creek that now bears his name and began silver mining operations. His silver ore was found to be worthless by inspectors back in England. Pickering’s financial affairs spiraled downward and he was eventually imprisoned for counterfeiting.

A few years later, a Moses Coates and his friend James Starr purchased a strip of land along the French Creek within the present boundaries of the borough. The entire 1000 acres of forest had been deeded to Chester County political figure David Lloyd, who called it the “Manavon Tract” after his birthplace in Great Britain. Starr cleared his portion of the land for agriculture and built a grist mill around which a little village grew.

After the Revolutionary War a small mill was built to make nails. It was to be the precursor of Phoenix Steel. The town was renamed Phoenixville, because the Foundry’s molten metal reminded the manager of the fabled bird that died and rose from its ashes. During the first half of the 19th century, the iron industry expanded enormously, growing from a few small rolling and slitting mills to several larger blast furnaces and finishing mills. With the completion of the Chester County Canal in 1828 and the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad in 1837 ironmasters gained easier access to raw materials and more efficient transportation of finished products. After the mid-nineteenth century Phoenix Iron and Steel became the largest iron and steel producer in Chester County, and one of the largest in southeast Pennsylvania. By 1881 Phoenix Iron Company used 60,000 tons of ore annually in the blast furnaces to produce 30,000 tons of pig iron, and employed 1,500 men.

Our walking tour will start in Reeves Park, a greenspace donated by David Reeves, founder and president of the Phoenix Iron Works, the economic engine that drove Phoenixville through its development years...

1. David Reeves Memorial
Reeves Park, center

Phoenix Iron Works arose from a small nail factory set up in 1812. It never produced more than three tons of nails per day, and was eventually sold. In the early 1820s, David Benjamin Reeves and James Joseph Whitaker provided a much-needed infusion of capital to the little foundry. In 1835, the Phoenixville enterprise was reorganized and incorporated as the Phoenix Iron Company with David Reeves, founder, as president and his son Samuel as vice president and treasurer and Phoenixville was on its way from small farming community to nationally known steel town. The monument in his namesake park was paid for by employees of Phoenix Iron Company and dedicated, two years after his death, in 1873.

2. Street Clock
Reeves Park, southeast corner of 2nd Avenue and S Main Street

This is a four-sided replica of a Victorian Seth Thomas Street Clock, installed in 2006. Connecticut-born Seth Thomas founded America's oldest clock company in 1813 when he was 28 years of age. The famous clock in the center of Grand Central Terminal in New York City is a Seth Thomas clock.

3. Griffen Cannon
Reeves Park, in corner along 3rd Avenue and S Main Street

In 1854 John Griffen, Superintendent of the Safe Harbor Iron Works, owned by the Phoenixville Iron Company, was hammering and rolling round iron for Government lighthouses. Griffen convinced Samuel Reeves, then President of Phoenix Iron, that the technique could be applied to guns and produced a prototype that was successful in Army trials. During the Civil War the company delivered 1,400 highly accurate rifled cannons to the Union Army. Gunnery like the one on display here were credited with laying the foundation for Northern success in many battles, including Gettysburg in 1863.

CROSS S MAIN STREET AT
3RD AVENUE.

4. Saint Ann Roman Catholic Church
southwest corner of S Main Street and 3rd Avenue

In 1905 Archbishop Patrick Ryan established the fourth Catholic Parish in Phoenixville, named in honor of St. Ann, the grandmother of our Savior Jesus Christ, the mother of the Mother of God, and the spouse of St. Joachim. Work on the new church began in March 1905 and on Sunday, September 15, 1907, Archbishop Ryan dedicated the new Church.

WALK SOUTH ON S MAIN STREET
(REEVES PARK WILL BE ON YOUR RIGHT).

5. Dismant House
northwest corner of S Main Street and 3rd Avenue

The beautifully preserved Queen Anne Victorian Dismant House with a turret, several gables, and tall slender chimneys was built around 1890.

6. Byrne Mansion
400 S Main Street, southwest corner of S Main Street and 2nd Avenue

Thomas F. Byrne was born on October 21, 1854 in the village of Carrigans in County Tyrone, Ireland. Nine days later his mother, Ann Lynch Bryne, died. Having migrated from Ireland to the United States, and with the consent of his father, the 18-year old Thomas F. Bryne entered into a three year indenture as an apprentice with the Phoenix Iron Company in order to be instructed "in the art, trade or mystery of a machinist." Byrne would develop and patent a number of inventions, and he made a fortune in the manufacture of seamless underwear. The Byrne Knitting Mill, once one of the largest such mills in the country, still stands at Lincoln and Morgan streets.

The south portion of the stone mansion house dates back to 1884. The remainder was added in 1898 by Byrne. The basement is home to the Schuylkill Valley Model Railroad Club that hosts open houses on weekends in November, December and January.

7. Phoenixville Public Library
northeast corner of S Main Street and 2nd Avenue

The Public Library of Phoenixville began its existence in 1896 when a group of prominent citizens took advantage of a law passed by Pennsylvania legislators making it legal for school districts to own and operate public libraries. A small collection of books from the Young Men's Literary Union, a private subscription Library set up in the mid 1850s, formed the core collection of the new Library, which was housed in a succession of rented buildings. In 1901, the Library trustees contacted famed steel magnate and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, who was then actively engaged in bestowing Library buildings on worthy communities in the United States and Scotland. Carnegie agreed to supply a town Library and sent architect's plans and \$20,000. The school Directors purchased a lot at Second and Main Streets and the new building of Avondale stone and Indiana limestone with a high covered ceiling was opened in September 1902.

8. 215 S Main Street

This brick Second Empire Victorian features a tell-tale mansard roof. It dates to 1890.

9. 208 S Main Street

Somewhere along the line the owners of this 1885 Dutch Revival duplex could not agree on an exterior color.

10. F.E. Bader House
northeast corner of S Main Street and Washington Avenue

The F.E. Bader House looks much as it has for over 100 years.

11. First Presbyterian Church of Phoenixville
145 S Main Street

The colonnade of Doric columns are not original; the facade is a 20th century addition to the Greek Revival-styled church.

12. Civic Center
123 S Main Street

The City Armory, built of bricks with battlements atop the roofline, was the gathering spot for servicemen during World War I. Today it is occupied by the Phoenixville Civic Center.

13. Phoenixville Historical Society
southwest corner of S Main Street and Church Street

The English Gothic Central Lutheran Church was built in 1873; today it is home to the Phoenixville Historical Society. The Society museum, dedicated in 1980, has many Phoenix Iron and Phoenix Steel Company artifacts, including a sample of the famous Phoenix Column. It is open Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

14. Farmers & Mechanics National Bank
southeast corner of S Main Street and Church Street

The Neoclassical Farmers & Mechanics National Bank dates to 1925.

15. Farmers & Mechanics National Bank
northeast corner of S Main Street and Church Street

The Phoenixville Trust Company building has not changed much in the past 100 years although the bank is no longer serving the community.

TURN RIGHT ON CHURCH STREET.

16. Sacred Heart Church
148 Church Street

During the late 1800s many Slovaks settled in eastern Pennsylvania to work in the coal fields and steel mills, including the Phoenix Iron Company. In 1901 the local Slovak population purchased a building that was being used as the town library and renovated it in a Romanesque Revival style for a new church. Its round arch window and column facade are dominated by the large square tower and broached spire. The recessed, round arch doorways face out from vaguely Gothic peaks and buttresses.

17. Phoenixville Senior Center
153 Church Street

The Phoenixville Senior Center began life as a Greek Revival Methodist church.

18. Saint Peter's Episcopal Church
121 Church Street

The Saint Peter's Episcopal congregation goes back 170 years. The church is in the style of a typical English parish church, built entirely of stone, and enhanced by many very beautiful stained glass windows that illustrate not only the history of the church but also honors important local leaders of the congregation. St. Peter's Episcopal is the classical epitome of a stone Gothic church, complete with heavy buttresses, cinquefoil tracery and stained glass windows, and ornate pointed arches. Designed by Philadelphia architect George Nattree, its Gothic embellishments and sprawling size are indicative of the financial support by its congregation.

AT THE END OF CHURCH STREET
CROSS STARR STREET AND CLIMB
THE STONE STEPS TO THE
PARKING LOT ON THE HILL.

19. Whitestone
Starr Street

Whitestone was built by John Griffen, Phoenix Iron Works superintendent, in 1858. Its style is Italianate, with a central tower and large window areas.

RETURN TO STARR STREET AND
TURN RIGHT. TURN RIGHT ON
BRIDGE STREET.

20. Mansion House Inn
37 Bridge Street

The Mansion House was built in 1830 and put in more than 100 years of service as an inn close to, first, water traffic on the Schuylkill River and then for railroad travelers. Those travelers from a century ago would still recognize the building. The Mansion House is an imposing Federal struc-

ture over three stories tall with double gable-end chimneys, gable dormers, and a two-story veranda with original spool-work railings.

21. Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Station
east end of Bridge Street at Schuylkill River

The Philadelphia & Reading Railroad was established in 1834 to haul coal from Schuylkill County. In the 1870s, it was the largest corporation in the world. This station handled passenger service while a depot on Vanderslice Street received freight trains. The Phoenixville station once sported two large spires but otherwise looks much the same as a catering business as it did when it serviced thousands of riders.

Bridge Street takes its name from the bridge that spans the Schuylkill River at this point, connecting Phoenixville with Mont Clare. That bridge at one time was one of the longest covered bridges ever built in Pennsylvania. The wooden bridge burned spectacularly in 1912 and was replaced with a concrete bridge. That in turn was replaced by the present bridge in 1997.

WALK AWAY FROM THE RIVER
BACK UP BRIDGE STREET.

22. Phoenix Iron Works Office
101 Bridge Street

Only two buildings remain from the great Phoenix Iron Works complex; this brownstone Victorian-era headquarters and the foundry down the street. The building has recently been rehabilitated and put back to use as a restaurant.

23. Columbia Hotel
148 Bridge Street

Frank H. Ecock opened his hotel and restaurant on April 6, 1893. He called it the Columbia House. The cherry and mahogany bar was built in London, England in 1892. The Columbia Hotel is a brick Period Revival inn built by T. D. Grover. It is three stories with an outstanding two story spool-work veranda topped by a third story single width porch and gable roof. The window treatments are typical of the Period Revival influence—half-round and elliptical arch/ accenting

plain and relieving arch styles. Today's Columbia Bar & Grille still looks much as it did then. When Steve McQueen was filming his first feature, the cult classic *The Blob*, he frequently ate at the Columbia, proclaiming it, according to legend, to serve "the best steak and apple fritters I ever had."

24. Molly Maguire's
northeast corner of Bridge and Main
streets

The Irish pub is a recent inhabitant; in the 1800s this building was the home of the Dancy Drugstore.

TURN LEFT ON MAIN STREET.

25. Old Post Office
15 Main Street

When this building served as the Phoenixville Post Office for decades through the 1930s it had a cornice over the first floor that matched the roof cornice, still unchanged, on the Main Street side of the building.

WALK BACK DOWN MAIN STREET
TO THE MURAL AT THE CORNER
OF BRIDGE STREET.

26. Phoenixville Mural
northwest corner of Bridge and Main
streets

This prime retail location was occupied by the John Smith business at the turn of the 20th century dealing in men's hats, neckwear and general haberdashery. Many other businesses followed until the building burned in 1970. Instead of rebuilding, the space was replaced with Renaissance Park and the wall mural in 1994.

CONTINUE ON N MAIN STREET.

27. Starr House
10 N Main Street

James Starr, one of the first settlers to arrive in the area, erected a grist mill and his home here,

considered now the oldest structure in Phoenixville. It wasn't nearly this large; merely a log cabin in 1732 that has been engulfed by alterations over the years. The nail factory that would evolve into the Phoenix Iron Company originated here.

28. The Foundry/Schuylkill River Heritage
Center
2 North Main Street

Built in 1882 along French Creek in the Richardsonian Romanesque style the foundry of Phoenix Iron & Steel Company poured iron castings well into the 1970s. The fortunes of the Phoenix works peaked in the early twentieth century. The company moved into steel production, but sales of bridges soon declined, in part due to a string of catastrophic failures of Phoenix bridges under construction, including the 1907 collapse of a bridge being built in Quebec that killed seventy-five workmen. The Phoenix works also encountered a formidable competitor, the United States Steel Company, organized in 1901. The growing use of reinforced concrete in bridges further reduced sales of metal bridges. The two World Wars temporarily increased sales of structural steel, but did not stave off the end. In 1962 the bridge company went out of business. The parent company struggled on, but, like much of the Pennsylvania steel industry during the late 1970s and 1980s, it too died, and the Phoenix works ceased production in 1984.

Abandoned after the decline of the steel industry and the company's shuttering in 1987, the symbol of Phoenixville's industrial past has been resurrected as the home of the Schuylkill River Heritage Center. Blending old and new, a unique band of clerestory windows divide the double-tiered roof structure allowing light to pour into the column-free open space. Inside, there is a huge wooden cantilever crane still in its original location and thought to be the last and largest of its kind in the United States.

29. Phoenix Columns
The Foundry/2 N Main Street

The greatest claim to fame for the Phoenix Iron Works was the invention, fabrication, sale, and utilization of the versatile Phoenix Column. Invented by Samuel Reeves in 1862, the Phoenix

Column is hollow and circular and made up of four, six, or eight wrought-iron segments that are flanged and riveted together. Reeves had created a device that would greatly facilitate the construction of tall buildings by eliminating the need for brutally heavy and thick load-bearing walls. The column also had application in bridges, viaducts, and elevated lines. Phoenix Columns played a vital role in many noteworthy buildings in New York City and the Eiffel Tower.

STAND IN FRONT OF THE
FOUNDRY AND LOOK ACROSS
FRENCH CREEK TO THE
TOP OF THE HILLSIDE.

30. Vanderslice Mansions
47 N 4th Street

Phoenixville has one of the largest collections of high style mansions built by mill owners and entrepreneurs in northern Chester County. Levi Oberholtzer and John Vanderslice adhered to the Second Empire style for their mansions overlooking the valley on the north side of French Creek.

WALK UP THE STEPS BEHIND THE
FOUNDRY TO MILL STREET.

31. Worker Housing
1-31 Mill Street

Phoenixville has the largest collection of mid-nineteenth century worker housing in Chester County. Most of this housing is vernacular in appearance and has little ornamentation. In 1846 Reeves, Buck and Company, which was the forerunner of Phoenix Iron and Steel, erected 1-31 Mill Street for employees at their nearby nail factory. The construction helped alleviate an acute housing shortage when the mill increased its work force to 300 men and the town's population doubled during the mid-1840s.

RETURN TO BRIDGE STREET AND
WALK WEST (AWAY FROM THE
RIVER).

32. *Independent-News* Office
203 Bridge Street

This Italianate commercial building dates to 1856, erected for Vosburg N. Shaffer, editor and publisher of the *Independent Phoenix*, the town's first daily newspaper. Note the well-proportioned label lintels on the two-over-two windows that compliment the elaborate cornice fenestration. It wasn't always the *Independent-News* Office, but the ornate top of the building has never changed even when the lettering inside does. In the early 1900s this was the Benjamin Hardware Company and lettered as such. The original newspaper name was restored with the building.

33. Italianate Commercial Buildings
200 block of Bridge Street

Phoenixville's collection of Italianate commercial buildings constructed between 1850 and 1890 is unique in northern Chester County. For example, Vosburg Shaffer and John L. Dismant, as well as Philip, Christian and Frederick Wall popularized the Italianate style with their commercial buildings at 203 Bridge Street, 224-228 Bridge Street, and 214-216 Bridge Street.

34. Children's Plaza
Bridge Street opposite Bank Street

Children's Plaza was established on Bridge Street in 2008, built with Phoenix columns.

35. National Bank of Phoenixville
225 Bridge Street

The National Bank of Phoenixville building, with its Neoclassical facade of four fluted Ionic columns, dates to 1924. Today it houses the offices of *The Phoenix* newspaper.

36. Colonial Theatre
227 Bridge Street

The Colonial may be the only theater in the country more famous for being in the movies than for showing movies. After a fire and financial reversals in 1901 the world famous Griffin-Smith-Hill Pottery, producers of Majolica, at the bottom of Church Street went out of business,

casting secretary and treasurer Harry Brownback out of work. Now free to pursue his dream of bringing top quality theatrical productions to Phoenixville he used his proceeds from the sale of the pottery plant to purchase two adjoining properties on Bridge Street and built Harry's Colonial Opera House at a total cost of \$30,000.

The first stage show was held on Saturday, September 5, 1903. Internationally known actor, Fred E. Wright, starred in the musical extravaganza *The Beauty Doctor*. The first movie presentation, a series of four one-reelers lasting 40 minutes, was shown on Saturday, December 19th. Harry Houdini appeared in 1917, freeing himself from a burglar-proof safe. The last stage show appeared in 1925 and in 1928 the first talking picture, *The Jazz Singer*, was screened at the Colonial.

Meanwhile the restrained Italianate facade was modernized with marquee and colorful lights. In 1957 the theater was used as a location in the very low-budget sci-fi film, *The Blob*, with an unknown named Steve McQueen in the lead. In the movie patrons run in frenzy out of the theater after realizing a creature from outer space was among them. The marquee proudly announcing that the Colonial is "healthfully air conditioned" is clearly visible in the movie.

Years later, with McQueen a Hollywood legend and *The Blob* a cult classic, the Colonial Theatre, now restored to its former grandeur is the centerpiece for the Blobfest celebration every summer.

37. Odd Fellows Building 237 Bridge Street

The Odd Fellows Temple in the heart of the business district is a tall Italianate building with an ornate bracketed cornice and impressive inscribed fenestration frontispiece.

38. Hotel Chester 400 Bridge Street

The Queen Anne style Hotel Chester, built in 1894, had forty rooms offering both gas and electricity. The building has soldiered on into the 21st century.

DETOUR: CONTINUE THREE BLOCKS ON BRIDGE STREET TO ROUTE 23, NUTT ROAD...

The Fountain Inn, originally the William Fussell residence during Colonial times in the 1770s, was the furthest point inland reached in America by the British during the Revolutionary War. The British arrived in Manavon (Phoenixville) on September 21, 1777 with 14,000 troops. According to firsthand reports, the British camp stretched along Nutt Road from the old Bull Tavern one mile east of the borough, all the way to present-day Bridge Street. For the three days that they were here, the British and their hired military, the German Hessians, ransacked every home and business in the area. The spot is memorialized by a stone marker in the intersection.

TURN LEFT AND WALK EAST ON CHURCH STREET. IF YOU HAVE TAKEN THE DETOUR RETURN TO CHURCH STREET AND TURN RIGHT.

39. Benham Residence northeast corner of Church and Gay streets

A square brick addition for commercial purposes has been glued to the middle of an elegant house.

40. Baptist Church southeast corner of Church and Gay streets

This stone church with Gothic and Romanesque influences was built in 1911, replacing an earlier Baptist church located on the same site.

TURN RIGHT ON GAY STREET.

41. Phoenixville Post Office northwest corner of Church and Gay streets

The current post office, with Neoclassical Palladian elements, was built in the 1930s.

42. Charles Bader House
Gay Street at Morgan Street

The Charles Bader residence is an example of the Second Empire, late Victorian style from the 1880s. Many grand homes were built along Gay Street and most retain much of their original appearance. Along the street you can examples of Queen Anne, Gothic, and Craftsman-style homes.

43. Gay Street School
Gay Street between Morgan Street and Washington Avenue

The Gay Street School was built in the Italianate style in 1874. Over the years it has done duty as an elementary school and a secondary school. It no longer operates as a school but the four-sided clock is still visible across Phoenixville.

TURN LEFT ON FIRST AVENUE.

44. Forge Theatre
241 First Avenue

The Forge Theatre, a community theater founded in 1962, operates in the former F.B. Neiman and Sons Funeral Home. Performances range from classic to contemporary, musical to non-musical, comedy to drama.

RETURN TO GAY STREET AND
TURN LEFT TO CONTINUE
WALKING SOUTH. TURN RIGHT
ON 2ND AVENUE.

45. Barkley Elementary School
320 2nd Avenue

This brick building with engaged Greek columns was built in 1930 as a junior high school. In 1963 it was renamed the Samuel K. Barkley Elementary School and has been educating younger children ever since. A complete renovation in the 1990s retained the original appearance of the building.

TURN AND WALK EAST ON 2ND
AVENUE TO REEVES PARK AND THE
TOUR STARTING POINT.

Look Up,

West Chester



A Walking Tour of West Chester...

West Chester grew up at the intersection of two Colonial wagon roads, one that went from Philadelphia to Lancaster and one that went from Wilmington to Reading. The crossroads was roughly a day's ride for teamsters from each of the four cities and was an ideal location for a tavern. That tavern appeared in the 1760s and became known as Turk's Head Tavern.

By the 1780s the name "West Chester" was being used by petitioners trying to pry the Chester County seat off the Delaware River at Chester where it had been since since the county's creation in 1720 as Pennsylvania's first jurisdiction outside Philadelphia. In 1788 West Chester became that more centrally located seat and was incorporated as a borough in 1799.

But there was no industry here, no water to power it, no marketplace. For the better part of 50 years there was no development beyond shouting distance of the little courthouse. The first to take a gamble on West Chester was William Everhart who set up shop on Gay Street in 1824 to sell ceramics imported from England. Everhart's reputation was made when he survived a shipwreck off the Irish coast, losing \$10,000 in the tragedy. Afterwards he declined to accept any of the money found in the wreckage because he couldn't vouch that it was his.

In 1829 Everhart paid \$16,000 for 102 acres of farmland on the western edge of town. Confounding skeptics who had witnessed no growth in West Chester for decades, he divvied the land up into building lots and listed them for sale. On the very first day he sold fifty lots and recouped his original investment. He would continue to hold land auctions into the 1840s and built over 100 brick homes on his lots along the streets he laid out and named after his friends - Miner, Barnard, Darlington, Wayne.

Like its fellow suburban county seats Doylestown and Media, West Chester never became an industrial town despite its new residential appeal. It developed as the governmental, legal, cultural and commercial focal point of its county. Much of the downtown remains intact and the entire district is listed on the *National Register of Historic Places*.

In 2001 an exuberant *Philadelphia Inquirer* article declared West Chester "the perfect town" and borough promoters have taken the compliment and run with it. Our walking tour to see for ourselves will begin, appropriately enough, at the highest point in town...

1. Marshall Square Park
northeast corner of North Matlack Street
and East Biddle Street

The borough's oldest park was acquired from Anthony and Adelaide Bolmer in 1841. The five-acre park, initially used as a water basin, was named after Humphrey Marshall, a noted local botanist. Rare trees, some of which can still be found in the park, would be planted here over the years. In 1886 surviving members of the 97th Regiment raised \$5,000 to erect a monument to their service in the Civil War. The granite soldier at parade rest was dedicated on October 29, 1887; a brief history of the unit is inscribed on its base. The monument is sited at the highest point in West Chester.

LEAVE THE PARK ON THE
NORTHEAST CORNER AND
TURN LEFT, WALKING WEST ON
MARSHALL STREET. TURN RIGHT
ON HIGH STREET. TURN LEFT
ON WEST VIRGINIA AVENUE.

2. Four Sisters
100 and 200 blocks of West Virginia
Avenue, north side

Much of the land in West Chester from the northern edge of the business district along Chestnut Street to the current West Chester Country Club was farmland and orchards belonging to John Rutter. Rutter was a Delaware County farmer who migrated to West Chester in the 1820s to become a lawyer and businessman. The four lots that came to be known as the "Four Sisters" were all sold by Rutter in 1872 and each contains a home designed by Addison Hutton, one of the busiest architects of the age along the East Coast. Hutton's design for Main Hall, the first structure of the West Chester State Normal School won him these commissions. The four houses he designed feature Gothic and French Second Empire detailing and, most dramatically, all are created with green Chester County serpentine stone. A notoriously fragile building materials, the Four Sisters are weathering impressively towards their 150th birthdays.

The house closest to High Street (101 West Virginia) graces a corner estate owned by Thomas Marshall, president of the National Bank of Chester County). Moving west is a more modest home (121 West Virginia) built for dry goods merchant Samuel Parker and two houses (205 and 221 West Virginia) constructed for lawyers, Robert T. Cornwell and William B. Waddell.

RETURN TO CHURCH STREET
AND TURN RIGHT, HEADING FOR
DOWNTOWN.

3. Rothrock Manor
428 North Church Street

Joseph T. Rothrock, an influential 19th century conservationist and "Father of the Pennsylvania State Forest," lived in this house from 1876 until his death in 1922. He pioneered the development of forest fire control, reforestation and methods of scientific forestry. The brick house was built in the late 1850s for noted Chester County attorney Addison May and is one of the earliest Gothic houses to be built in West Chester.

4. West Chester Public Library
415 North Church Street

The West Chester Public Library was established in 1872 and moved into its current Queen Anne building in 1888. Note the festive "Library" inscribed in the corner tower.

5. Swedenborg Foundation
320 North Church Street

This handsome Georgian brick building houses the offices of the Swedenborg Foundation, founded in 1849 to propagate the words of eighteenth-century Swedish scientist, nobleman, civil engineer, and religious visionary Emanuel Swedenborg. His work covers such areas as the afterlife, heaven and hell, dream imagery, angels, and a new understanding of Christianity.

6. Washington Square
21 West Washington Street at
Church Street

Schools came early to West Chester, in 1837. The first public school was built on Barnard Street four years later. West Chester High School graduated its first class in 1866; bricks from that building, demolished during World War I, were used in building this Biddle Street School in 1917. The Colonial Revival-style elementary school has since been adapted for residential living.

TURN RIGHT ON GAY STREET.

7. Taylor's Music Store
116 West Gay Street

The family-owned music store has been in operation since 1929, although not in the family of founder John Taylor, who sold the business decades ago. In addition to being a full-line music store, Taylor's offers 25 studios. Its distinctive "keyboard awning" is a creative use of the distinctive Pennsylvania pent roof form.

8. St. Agnes Church
233 West Gay Street

This is the third Catholic church to stand on this site, the first being the first church in West Chester, erected in 1793. It was a one story brick structure containing three windows on each side with a front door facing west. It accommodated 150 people.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS ON GAY STREET TO CHURCH STREET AND TURN RIGHT.

9. First West Chester Fire Company
14 North Church Street

The First West Chester Fire Company dates its service to the community back to 1799. This station house, one of West Chester's most picturesque buildings, was designed in the Queen Anne style with red brick and terra-cotta by architect T. Roney Williamson in 1887. The side tower was used for drying fire hoses.

10. Judge Bell House
101 South Church Street

This highly refined Federal Style residence, the home of Judge Thomas Bell, is attributed to celebrated architect Thomas U. Walter. Note also the marble stoop and brass handrail.

11. Samuel Barber home
107 South Church Street

This was the boyhood home of orchestral and vocal works composer Samuel Barber, who twice won the Pulitzer Prize in music, in 1958 and 1963. Among his least important, though no less beloved pieces, is West Chester High School's Alma Mater song.

TURN RIGHT ON MINER STREET.

12. First Presbyterian Church
130 West Miner Street

This is the oldest extant church in West Chester and one of the first commissions for Thomas U. Walter, who would later become the Architect of the United States Capitol. The 27-year old old Walter gave the new Presbyterian congregation a Greek Revival temple entered through a pair of impressive Ionic columns. The first service was held on January 7, 1834 with 52 original members.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS ON MINER STREET, CROSS CHURCH STREET AND GO TO HIGH STREET. TURN LEFT.

13. Old Borough Hall
15 South High Street

This Colonial Revival building was built as the borough hall in 1912 but it has been a dining establishment nearly as long.

14. Buckwalter Building
11-13 South High Street

Henry Brinton, the leading bank and real estate developer in town, constructed this building in 1893. It is listed on the *National Register of Historic Places*.

15. Farmers and Mechanics Building
southwest corner of Market Street and High Street

This became West Chester's first "skyscraper" when it was constructed on the most prominent intersection in town in 1907. The roof of the building was used in World War II as a lookout station for enemy planes.

TURN LEFT ON MARKET STREET.

16. Lincoln Biography Building
28 West Market Street

The first published biography of Abraham Lincoln was printed in this building on February 11, 1860. It was prepared from Lincoln's own notes, and served to introduce him to the public as a potential presidential candidate.

CROSS OVER TO THE NORTH SIDE OF MARKET STREET AND TURN RIGHT, HEADING BACK FOR HIGH STREET.

17. Court House Annex
northwest corner of Market Street and High Street

In 1891 T. Roney Williamson designed the Court House Annex. Built of Indiana limestone, it is an interpretation of the Italian Renaissance style and was erected contiguous to the Greek Revival Court House. The interior was embellished with Italian marble wainscoting; stained art glass; and decorative wood garlands, diamonds, and pilasters.

TURN LEFT ON HIGH STREET.

18. Town Drinking Fountain
northwest corner of Market Street and High Street

The Town Drinking Fountain "for people, horses, and dogs" was donated in 1869 by John and Mary Hickman. This was its original location but it must have wandered off for a time because it was restored here in 1987.

19. Chester County Courthouse
2 North High Street

In 1682 William Penn established Chester County as one of three original counties in the Pennsylvania Colony and a Court House was constructed in 1724 in Chester near the Delaware River. Population density and immigrant migration necessitated moving the facility inland. Between 1784 and 1786 a Court House was built in the village of West Chester on High Street. The current Chester County Courthouse, the architectural centerpiece of West Chester, was designed by Philadelphia architect Thomas U. Walter in the Greek Revival Style and opened officially on Washington's Birthday, 1848. In 1859 the stone-and-brick Court House facades were faced with Pictou stone.

20. First National Bank of Chester County
9 North High Street

Founded in 1863, First National is the eighth oldest bank in the country, operating for nearly 150 years as an independent wholly owned financial institution. The current Neoclassical headquarters building was constructed in 1912.

21. Smith-Sharpless House
15 North High Street

This early Federal Style building was built in 1789 and includes most of the elements of the style: side-gable form, central front door with elongated sidelights, simple porch with classical elements, planar walls, simple exterior woodwork, and dormers. It is one of a handful of buildings that survive from West Chester's nascent days; another is across the street, a 1793 residence that was converted to a drugstore in 1866 and remains commercial to this day.

22. First Bank of Chester County
17 North High Street

The First Bank of Chester County was designed by Thomas U. Walter and completed in 1837, eleven years before the completion of the Courthouse and 13 years before he was chosen to re-configure the dome on the U.S. Capitol in Washington. The First Bank of Chester County was designed in the Greek Revival Style.

TURN RIGHT ON GAY STREET.

23. Chester County Trust Building
15 East Gay Street

This small mid-block bank vault was built in the newly popular Beaux-Arts style in 1905 for the Chester County Trust Company.

24. Post Office
northeast corner of Gay Street and
Walnut Street

This Colonial Revival post office was built at a time when the post office was the federal government to most people and it was intended to be an impressive bit of local architecture.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS ON GAY STREET TO HIGH STREET AND TURN RIGHT.

25. Green Tree Building
northeast corner of Gay Street and High
Street

Art Deco is not a common architectural style on the West Chester streetscape but there are some decorative touches of the style on the Green Tree Building, including the namesake symbols. The current building that houses luxury apartments remembers the Green Tree Hotel and Tavern that was built on this corner in 1787.

26. Iron Hill Brewery
3 West Gay Street at northwest corner of
High Street

This building, an excellent form of early 1900s commercial architecture once housed the town's Woolworth Store. It was built in 1928.

27. Warner Theatre
120 North High Street

Opened in 1930, the Warner Theatre was designed by the firm of Rapp & Rapp in flamboyant Art Deco style. The vertical sign and facade of the West Chester Warner was very similar in appearance to the Rapp's famous Warner Theatre in Erie, which opened a year after this theater. After its movie days ended in the 1970s, the Warner Theatre was renovated and live entertainment was presented for a few years, until the theater closed in the early 1980s. The Warner Theatre was listed on the *National Register of Historic Places* in 1979 but couldn't stave off demolition. Surviving are the lobby and one-story stores.

28. Major John C. Groff Memorial Armory
226 North High Street

The town National Guard armory is named for John Groff. Groff entered World War I as a captain and rose to the rank of major in action in Europe. When he ran for the office of Register of Wills in 1919 the *Daily Local News* wrote, "He is of Chester County stock, upon which there isn't a single stain, and so it happens in recognition of his merits in civil and military life his many friends are backing him for the count office he now seeks." He won the election.

29. Horticultural Hall
225 North High Street

When Thomas U. Walter designed this unassuming serpentine stone building with a round-arched Romanesque Revival entrance in 1848 it was only the second building in the United States built for horticultural exhibitions. Over the next 160 years it would be home to four different organizations. Besides the Chester County Horticultural Society, founded in 1846, the West Chester Opera House, the McCall Post of the Grand

Army of the Republic and the Chester County Historical Society would all set up shop here. In 1852 women's rights activist Hannah Darlington convened the first Pennsylvania Women's Rights Convention in the building. This convention passed resolutions promoting women's legal, educational, and vocational rights.

TURN RIGHT ON EAST
WASHINGTON STREET.

30. Simon Barnard Row
104-116 East Washington Street

Simon Barnard was a farmer until the age of 50 when he moved to West Chester and went into the lumber business and began building houses. The Barnard family was active in the antislavery movement in the southern section of Chester County as well as in the Underground Railroad. Many of the Federal-style houses on East Washington Street were Barnard's. Wild West show promoter Buffalo Bill Cody rented a house on East Washington for a winter in the 1870s.

31. Sharples Works
300 Evans Street at Franklin Street

Sharples Works was originally built in the 1890s to house the dairy industry's first tubular cream separator. At the time, it was considered one of the country's most significant industrial production plants as it efficiently churned out cream products for countless Chester County dairy farmers. Obsolete by the Second World War the complex of redeveloped brick buildings has been re-adapted as residential apartments.

TURN LEFT ON FRANKLIN STREET
TO RETURN TO THE TOUR
STARTING POINT IN MARSHALL
SQUARE PARK.

Look Up,

Norristown



A Walking Tour of Norristown...

There was nothing organic about the birth of Norristown. In 1784, Montgomery County was created out of Philadelphia County by an act of the Commonwealth. A 27-1/2 acre parcel in what is now Norristown Borough was stipulated to be purchased for the new county's seat of government, making it one of the earliest established in Pennsylvania. It took the name of an ancient landowner in the area, Isaac Norris. Norris had been mayor of Philadelphia 60 years earlier - Ben Franklin had just gotten to town and George Washington wasn't even born yet. Norris himself was born in England in 1671 - and thus may be the oldest person for whom a Pennsylvania town is named.

Norristown was not destined to be a sleepy government town. Water power draining into the Schuylkill River along the Stoney Creek and Saw Mill Run encouraged early industry and Norristown was superbly sited to take advantage of early American transportation. The Schuylkill Canal was completed in 1826 and the Reading Railroad arrived in 1834. Horse drawn trolley cars ran through town by the 1880s and Norristown had some of the earliest electrified trolley lines in America. When the Philadelphia and Western electrified high speed line was constructed in 1912, Norristown was in easy commuting distance of Philadelphia, 20 miles away. It was heady enough for borough boosters to proclaim in Centennial literature that year that, "Norristown is now the biggest, busiest, brightest Borough in the world."

Now on the eve of the centennial of that Centennial proclamation, our walking tour will investigate how that boast holds up, beginning at the county court house at the heart of the Norristown Central Historic District...

1. Montgomery County Court House
2 East Airy Street at southeast corner
of Swede Street

The oldest part of the Court House, which faces Swede Street, is of the Greek Revival style. It was built as the result of a competition of 1849 between Thomas U. Walter (architect of Girard College and later of the U.S. Capitol dome) and Napoleon LeBrun, designer of Philadelphia's Academy of Music and Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul. LeBrun's successful design originally featured a steeple that was even higher than the Presbyterian church's to the east, and it was criticized as being out of keeping with the Greek Revival style. The steeple was replaced by the dome in a substantial renovation of 1904. The interior of the Court House dates largely from that time, when the stained glass ceilings in courtrooms A, B, and C were installed.

WALK SOUTH ON SWEDE STREET.
(THE COURT HOUSE WILL BE ON
YOUR LEFT).

2. Courthouse Plaza and Public Square
Main Street at Swede Street

Courthouse Plaza is home to several notable memorials, the first being erected in 1868 to "the brave soldiers and sailors who fell defending the Union during the Great Rebellion." Others include remembrances of David Rittenhouse, who calculated and observed the transit of Venus at his home in Norristown in 1769, of Military Order of Purple Heart recipients, of Montgomery County sons and daughters lost in the Vietnam War, and to the victims of the World Trade Center attacks, sculpted with a twisted piece of I-beam from the North Tower. This square was owned by the University of Pennsylvania - rent was one acorn per year.

TURN RIGHT ON
WEST MAIN STREET.

3. Penn Norristown Trust Building
1 West Main Street at northwest corner of
Swede Street

In 1850, 24-year old Jacob Morton Albertson arrived in Norristown as a surveyor. By 1857 he was successful enough to establish his own private banking business. In 1889, with his sons aboard, the Albertson Trust and Safe Company was incorporated. In 1904 the bank was renamed the Penn Trust Company and when it merged with Norristown Trust twenty years later this handsome Renaissance Revival headquarters was constructed.

4. Cherry Court
104 West Main Street

Cherry Court, now a government office building, began life as a decorated Colonial Revival headquarters for the Town and Country Building and Loan Association that was founded in 1924.

5. Masonic Building
106 West Main Street

The Masons organized in Norristown in 1823; their Italianate-influenced temple with tall, slender windows, bracketed cornice and window hoods was constructed in 1854.

6. Montgomery National Bank
108 West Main Street

Norristown's first bank, the Montgomery National Bank, originally the Bank of Montgomery County when chartered in 1815, was built on Main Street in 1854. It was still the only bank in Montgomery County when it was built and would remain so another three years until the opening of the Bank of Pottstown. The Greek Revival building is brick with a marble front.

TURN AND WALK EAST ON MAIN
STREET TO GREEN STREET.

7. Humane Fire Company
129 East Main Street at northwest corner
of Green Street

Norristown's fourth fire department organized on July 27, 1852 and members officially adopted the name Humane Fire Engine Company No. 1 of Norristown, Pa. The name Humane was selected because the committee purchased their first piece of apparatus from the Humane Fire Company of Philadelphia No. 1. The company, still in operation moved into their current building in 1882.

RETURN TO DEKALB STREET
AND TURN RIGHT.

8. Centre Theater
208 DeKalb Street

This Greek Revival building opened in 1851 as a lodge hall and public auditorium for the Odd Fellows; a mansard fourth story was applied in 1858. Many famous figures spoke here, including Abraham Lincoln, Mark Twain, Charles Dickens, and Daniel Webster. Until 1873, when the Music Hall was opened on Main Street, the Odd Fellows auditorium functioned as the entertainment center in town. In 1868, native son, General Winfield Scott Hancock accepted the nomination of the National Democratic Party to run for President in the hall and ran his campaign from the Lodge.

Early acts on the Vaudeville Circuit performed here and Phineas Taylor Barnum presented General Tom Thumb, world famous midget, and his wife, Lavinia Snow to a Norristown packed house. In 1910 the building was bought by the Gas Company of Montgomery County and began its longest run as office suites. In the 1990s it was acquired by the Greater Norristown Corporation who have returned it to its roots as the Centre Theater.

9. St. George Coptic Orthodox Church
411 DeKalb Street

This splendid Greek Revival church was built in 1863 as the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran church, replacing an 1849 church. This building was renovated at the turn of the century by Louis Comfort Tiffany and boasts Tiffany stained glass

windows, a Tiffany glass mosaic, and an alabaster and gilt-bronze altar rail.

10. Jamison House
southeast corner of DeKalb and Airy
Streets

Built in 1850 in the Greek Revival style for William Jamison, son of the founder of Jamison Mills, this property once included stables and outbuildings extending all the way to Green Street. The original small spindly balustrade near the center of the flat roof has been removed. There is a story that the house was originally to be only three stories, but when Jamison heard of the plans for the vast church tower to be erected across Airy Street, he feared his manse would be dwarfed so he had another story added in such haste that it was one big room. This was used as a ballroom for the rest of the century except when used by the children for rollerskating.

11. The First Presbyterian Church At
Norristown
113 East Airy Street at northeast corner of
DeKalb Street

Completed in 1854, the soaring spire remains as much a landmark above the town today as it was 150 years ago. The Italianate building presents a Greek Revival façade on Airy Street.

TURN LEFT ON AIRY STREET.

12. Montgomery County Jail
north side of East Airy Street between
Church Street and DeKalb Street

The prison was constructed in 1853, as part of the same plan as the Court House. Also designed by Napoleon LeBrun, the original competition drawings show versions of the buildings in both Gothic and classical styles; Gothic was chosen here. The facade is of solid granite. There is an underground tunnel for conveying prisoners to and from the Court House.

13. Post Office
28 East Airy Street

This Art Deco structure was completed as a Depression-era project by James Wetmore and Harry McMurtrie. It has a lobby adorned with Works Project Association murals by Paul Mays and groundbreaking aluminum Deco/Classical metalwork. Note the decorative friezes at the top of the building.

14. St. John's Episcopal Church
23 E Airy Street

St. John's Church stands as the oldest church building in continuous use by an Episcopal congregation in Montgomery County and as the first Episcopal parish organized after the Revolutionary War in the Diocese of Pennsylvania. Founded during the Summer of 1812 as "The Rector, Wardens, and Vestrymen of St. John's Church at Norristown in the County of Montgomery," the church building completed in 1815 is the oldest in Norristown. At his consecration Reverend William Allen White, noted that "the size and beauty of the building does great credit to the zeal of the few members of our communion resident in the small town and its vicinity."

15. Stinson House
11 East Airy Street, northeast corner of Church Street

This Greek Revival townhouse was fashioned for Elijah Thomas in 1856. It was the former home of Mary Stinson, thought to be the first female professionally accredited psychiatrist in America. She left her fortune to found a home for elderly women.

WALK A FEW STEPS TO SWEDE
STREET AND THE START OF THE
TOUR.

Look Up,

Pottstown



A Walking Tour of Pottstown...

John Potts built a Colonial-era iron empire at the confluence of the Schuylkill River and Manatawney Creek in the 1750s. In 1761 he advertised building lots for sale in a new town he was calling Pottsgrove along the Great Road that led from Philadelphia out to Reading. The village grew slowly, inhabited mainly by Pottses - John had 13 children. There were still only a few hundred inhabitants a half-century later when Pottsgrove officially became Pottstown when it was incorporated as the second borough in Montgomery County, just three years after the first, Norristown, was established.

By 1840 there were still less than a thousand people living in the rural village when the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad made a fateful decision to run its tracks on Pottstown's side of the Schuylkill River and locate much of its car building and repair facilities in the town. The population would grow 16-fold before the end of the 19th century.

Pottstown's heavy industry became known nationwide. The first iron truss bridge in the United States was built in 1845 in the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad blacksmith shop. A girder from that bridge is on display in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. Iron and steel from Pottstown's furnaces and rolling mills were used in the George Washington Bridge, on the locks of the Panama Canal and in America's first skyscrapers. John Ellis had built a factory to produce his Ellis Champion Grain Thresher, which was being shipped to practically every grain growing country in the world.

Most of the building stock on Pottstown's present-day streets emanates from the boom days of the late 1800s through early 1900s. There are many fine examples of residential and commercial buildings from that time when Pottstown was an important iron center.

Our walking tour will explore the Old Pottstown Historic District that roughly adheres to the town laid out by John Potts in 1761 and we'll begin at the elegant Georgian home of the old ironmaster himself...

1. Pottsgrove Manor
100 West King Street

John Potts and his wife Ruth (Savage) had 13 children, several of whom made the family even more prominent. Potts, a successful ironmaster and merchant was appointed Justice of the Peace and Judge on the Philadelphia County Court of Common Pleas. He was elected to the Pennsylvania General Assembly from both Berks and Philadelphia counties.

He began construction of his manor house, one of the finest homes to be built in the region, in 1752. Considered one of the finest extant examples of Georgian architecture in Pennsylvania, Pottsgrove Manor features ashlar walls, pedimented gables and classic five-part symmetry under a cedar roof. Only about four acres of the expansive Potts plantation remain today but fortunately it includes this building, the oldest structure in the borough.

LEAVE POTTS GROVE MANOR ON KING STREET AND TURN RIGHT, HEADING FOR TOWN ACROSS MANATAWNEY CREEK.

2. 36 King Street

Various prominent Pottstown families owned this Federal-style home from the mid-19th century as a rental property. It underwent a facade restoration under the auspices of the former Old Pottstown Preservation Society. The simple decorative details and flat window trim are hallmarks of the Federal style.

3. Weitzenkorn House
53 King Street

Abraham Weitzenkorn was born in Leitmar, Germany. He came to America at the age of 17, settled in Pottstown, and began his trade as a peddler. He opened his first store in 1864 at 108 South Hanover Street before moving to High Street where it has remained for over 125 years. Weitzenkorn built this Second Empire house within sight of the family business in the 1870s. It features one of Pottstown's outstanding mansard roofs with dormer windows and heavily bracketed cornices.

TURN LEFT ON HANOVER STREET.

4. Trinity Reformed Church
58 Hanover Street

Trinity Reformed Church was built in the Gothic Revival style in 1865 of red sandstone. In 1926, lightning struck Trinity's spire, causing a fire which gutted the structure. It was altered during reconstruction the following year and the steeple was not replaced.

5. Transfiguration Lutheran Church
79 Hanover Street at southwestern corner of Chestnut Street

The English Evangelical Church of the Transfiguration was built catercorner from Zion's in 1861 in the Romanesque Revival style. Windstorms destroyed its original steeples in 1878 and 1934, and the latter was replaced with a shorter clock tower. The abundant use of masonry and arched windows lend the building an air of solemnity.

6. Old Brick Church
100 Hanover Street at northeastern corner of Chestnut Street

John Potts donated this land to German and Quaker settlers for a church in 1753. A log chapel was ready for worship in 1760. In 1796 this brick church was constructed by two congregations, the Lutherans and the Reformed, running over budget and reaching a cost of \$6,000. It is said that at the dedication nearly every member gave a silver dollar when the offering was made. The "Old Brick Church" was laid in Flemish bond brickwork with alternating headers and stretchers, an extravagance rarely found in Pottstown. Now the Zion's United Church of Christ, it is the oldest church in town and the only Georgian building in the Old Pottstown Historic District.

7. Emmanuel Lutheran Church
150 Hanover Street at southeastern corner of Walnut Street

This fine Romanesque Revival church was erected in 1868; a windstorm ten years later toppled its spire and it was never replaced. A memo-

rial plaque with the names of early Pottstown residents is located between Emanuel Lutheran and the neighboring Old Brick Church.

TURN RIGHT ON WALNUT STREET.

8. 239 Walnut Street

Popularized by the Sears & Roebuck catalogs of the 1920s, this American Four-Square house provided the homeowner with the most usable space for the least amount of money.

9. 243 Walnut Street

Another housing style popularized by the Sears catalog was the bungalow; this one and one-half story example is similar to one advertised in the 1920s. Unlike its neighbor this design was considered expensive in relation to the amount of living space provided to its occupants.

10. 245 Walnut Street

This house from around 1850 is one of the rare frame Federal period structures in the Pottstown Historic District. The flat-topped windows and 6/6 configuration of the window panes are typical of the style. The porch and rear addition came along later.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS TO PENN
STREET AND TURN LEFT. TURN
LEFT ON CHESTNUT STREET.

**11. Philadelphia Steam Engine Fire Company
#1
southeast corner of Penn Street and
Chestnut Street**

Pottstown's first fire company takes its name from its first piece of equipment - a hand drawn pumper apparatus, from the Philadelphia Fire Company #18. The company was organized on January 3, 1871 after a series of bad fires the previous year. The "Phillies" first firehouse was located on the south side of the 100 block of King Street; this Italianate-styled building with bracketed cornices and a hose drying tower was dedicated on June 12, 1880. There have been only two renova-

tions to the firehouse over the years, one in the 1930s to change the doors for bigger equipment and in the 1940s to move the social quarters from the basement to the second level replacing the parlor that had been used for meetings.

12. 249 Chestnut Street

This is Pottstown's finest Second Empire home. The building is entirely original with trademarks of the Civil War-era style such as arched windows and doors, a heavily bracketed cornice, and a concave mansard roof with dormer windows.

13. 258 Chestnut Street

Built in the late 1860s, this late Federal-style home makes use of Italianate windows. The red brick facade features a polished marble stoop and handcrafted wooden double front doors.

TURN RIGHT ON CHARLOTTE
STREET. TURN RIGHT ON KING
STREET.

**14. Pennsylvania National Guard Armory
261 King Street**

The red-brick armory, stripped of most of its original stone ornamentation, was built in 1909 for Company A of the 6th Regiment of the National Guard.

**15. Old Borough Hall
245 King Street**

This one-time home to Pottstown's government services was built in the Neoclassical style in 1924. The Opera House, which stood next door at one time, was the cultural heart of the town for many years.

TURN LEFT ON HANOVER STREET.

**16. Pottstown Mercury
24 North Hanover Street at southeast
corner of King Street**

In 1887, P. Elwood Baum purchased the newspaper, then the *Chronicle*, that would eventually

become the present day *Mercury*. He renamed it the Pottstown *Daily News*. After Baum's death in 1892, Thomas Taylor took over the paper and in 1896, built *The News* Building at 17 North Hanover directly across the street, where the paper would remain until 1926. To expand its facilities, the paper purchased this property and built a headquarters of concrete and buffed brick, with outside trimmings of Indiana limestone. The first paper was printed here on March 22, 1926. Finally, in 1933; The Pottstown *Mercury* purchased the publication and property of the *News*.

17. St. Clair Mansion Site
200 High Street at southeast corner of
Hanover Street

The St. Clair Mansion was built by John Potts, Jr., the third son of the founder of Pottstown. A judge of the Common Pleas Court, he elected to remain loyal to England during the American Revolution and had to flee the country when his properties were confiscated. In 1782, General Arthur St. Clair purchased the property for £6,700 in Continental currency. In 1785, he was elected to the Continental Congress and in 1787 became President of the Congress, the head of the country under the Articles of Confederation that governed America at the time.

The property changed hands a number of times over the next hundred years serving as a tavern, a dry goods store, Fegely's Hardware Store, and the Victor Movie Theater and Grant Koon's cigar factory and store. In June 1924, George Bros. Confectioners purchased the corner portion and William and Charles Mills the "L-shaped" 204 High Street. By 1926 two new, similarly constructed buildings stood in their place. The opening of the St. Clair Spa was marked "by the playing of music by O'Dell's Orchestra and every adult visitor received a box of candy." A bronze tablet marking St. Clair's house was removed from the mansion and installed on the new building.

18. Security Trust Building
152 High Street at southwest corner of
Hanover Street

Across Hanover Street once stood another stone house belonging to the Potts family, constructed in 1770. In 1842, Jonas Smith purchased

it from one of its subsequent owners and opened a store. In 1886, the Security and Iron Banks acquired the property and began construction of its bank on the town's most prominent intersection. A total of 700,000 bricks were used at a cost of \$8.00 per thousand. The ornate brickwork features many interesting patterns. Samuel Buchanan, a relative of President James Buchanan, laid 13,000 yards of plaster. The stone came from Monocacy and all other materials were supplied locally.

Each bank occupied a side of the first floor until 1915 when the Iron Bank moved out. The Security Co. reorganized as The Security Trust and expanded to the entire first floor. Since then a parade of tenants has followed into one of Pottstown's most significant landmarks.

TURN RIGHT ON HIGH STREET.

19. Weitzenkorn's Clothiers
145 High Street

Founded in 1864, Weitzenkorn's Clothiers is thought to be the second oldest family-owned men's clothing store in the United States. Around town several advertising murals have been restored to their original form and color; here is a painted sign for Hart Schaffner & Marx. A few doors down is a Coca-Cola advertisement at 113 High Street.

20. Reading Terminal
High Street and York Street

When people learned of the railroad coming to Pottstown in the 1830s, the two rival hotel keepers, John Boyer and Joshua B. Missimer, vied for their business by building hotels on either side of the railroad tracks. Both lost out. In 1839, the railroad built a small depot just west of Missimer's Hotel. After a short time the depot became too small, so the railroad bought Missimer's Hotel for \$10,000 and turned the small depot into a baggage and express office. This hotel, the first building on the site, served as Pottstown's passenger station for almost a century with but a few alterations.

In 1925, the Reading Railroad started buying properties on the south side of the tracks and in 1928, began demolishing the hotel to make way

for the present edifice. The building was dedicated on November 6, 1929. The building is of Seasholtzville granite of a pink hue, laid in a broken range ashlar with level beds and vertical joints. The base is of New England granite, while the trim and cornice are of ornamental terra-cotta. The former passenger station and freight office were connected by a corridor. The total cost of the structure, listed on the *National Register of Historic Places*, was \$250,000.

21. 71 High Street

This Gothic Revival building is a good example of the application of the tri-column pillared porch. Other notable features include bay windows and ornate wood trim. Built in 1890, this home reflects high design and quality materials found in the Victorian age.

22. Elks Home 61 High Street

Jacob Fegely constructed this striking Queen Anne mansion in 1888. Fegely began his business career in coal and later owned a hardware store across the street. He was also president of the Iron Bank and owner of the Merchant's Hotel. After his son, Calvin, died in 1913, the Elks, who had organized a decade earlier in 1902, moved in. Notable exterior features include ornamental woodwork in the flanking tower and gable, intricate balconies and a large stained glass window above the door.

23. Pottstown Brewing Company High Street and Manatawney Street

In 1886, Joseph M. Selinger moved his brewery from a stone building about a mile from Pottstown to a three story brick building on this site. The brewery changed hands frequently in its early years and was sheriffed in 1897 due to financial problems brought on by competition with rival breweries. The new owners razed the brewery and constructed another building for The Pottstown Brewing Company was born. At its high point, the Pottstown Brewing Co. produced 40,000 barrels a year. Prohibition sounded the death knell for the brewery; and in the latter part of 1920, the machinery and equipment were sold to

investors from Cuba for a brewery there.

In 1921, the buildings and property were purchased by the Pottstown Wholesale Grocery Co. that operated from that location until 1935. The Kleen Mattress Co. occupied the buildings from 1946-50 and the Kiwi Shoe Polish Company from 1953-79. During that period, the eastern buildings were torn down for parking and in the 1980's all existing brewery buildings were erased from memory.

CONTINUE WALKING WEST
ON HIGH STREET ACROSS
MANATAWNEY CREEK TO THE
TOUR STARTING POINT AT
POTTSGROVE MANOR.

Look Up,

Bristol



A Walking Tour of Bristol...

Bristol dates from 1681 and the arrival of Samuel Clift. To take legal possession of his grant of 262 acres from Governor Edmund Andros of New York, including today's town, Clift was required to start a "ferry against Burlington" and to maintain a public house. The town was named Buckingham and the county, in English tradition would be Buckinghamshire, shire being the county. The mouthful would soon be shortened to "Bucks."

During the last half of the 18th century Bristol gained prominence as a ferry landing and a way station for the New York to Philadelphia stagecoach. Between the 1780s and the 1820s it became famous for its spa, as people flocked to Bath Springs to take the waters. The curative powers were touted by Dr. Benjamin Rush and Benjamin Franklin - a golden endorsement in Colonial Philadelphia. Wealthy residents soon settled in the area and built large grand residences.

In 1832 a 60-mile canal was completed between Easton and Bristol, making the Delaware River navigable for barges floating anthracite coal out of the Pennsylvania mountains to the prime markets of Philadelphia and New York. The main railroad line arrived two years later and all the elements were in place for Bristol's economic growth. The first of the larger manufacturers was the Grundy Woolen Mill, which began production in 1876. Other mills followed with a variety of manufactured goods including wallpaper, ladies' garments, patent leather, fringe and braids, cast iron products, woolen rugs and carpets, hosiery, woolen cloth and wooden products.

Bristol, the third oldest town in Pennsylvania and most important industrial town in Bucks County, continued churning out manufactured goods well into the 1900s but by the time the town celebrated its Tricentennial in 1981 it was ready to turn the page. The canal was decades closed and its lagoon by the Delaware River filled in and converted to a park. A railroad spur into town also was closed and converted into a park. The land that had contained the famous mineral spas was a shopping plaza. As it looked forward to its fourth century, Bristol reached back into its past and created an historic district in its downtown. More than 300 residential and commercial buildings qualified for inclusion.

Our walking tour will commence at the confluence of the old canal and the Delaware River where a large parking lot provides easy access to the town, just as the water did centuries ago...

**1. Basin Park
parking lot at Delaware River**

Shipbuilding and completion of the Delaware Division of the Pennsylvania Canal in 1832 transformed Bristol into a transportation hub. Property along the riverfront soon filled with wharves, docks and warehouses to accommodate shipments arriving on the canal; and mills and factories were built along the canal where water provided power and transportation for goods. At a spot in the park marked by a concrete circle stood a giant crane that unloaded canal boats. Also in the park are statues of abolitionist Harriet Tubman, credited with the rescue of more than 300 slaves, and a replica of a Spanish guardhouse that lined the forts of San Juan, Puerto Rico, dedicated to the Puerto Rican people of Bristol.

LEAVE THE RIVER AND WALK UP
MILL STREET, THE FIRST STREET
NORTH OF THE PARKING LOT.
TURN RIGHT ON RADCLIFFE
STREET.

**2. King George II Inn
102 Radcliffe Street, northeast corner
of Mill Street**

The King George II Inn is known as the oldest continuously operating inn in the country. It was established by Samuel Clift in 1681 as the Ferry House. After a damaging fire, the hostelry was purchased in 1735 by Charles Besonett who rebuilt it on a much larger scale. The inn was officially named the King George II inn in 1765 and subsequently licensed as a hotel in 1768. It set the standard for inns along the main route from New York to Philadelphia, providing refined hospitality, fine refreshments and a warm and friendly atmosphere for the discriminating and weary traveler in the fashion of royal inns throughout England. The name was scuttled during the Revolution and became known as the Fountain House. The inn catered to wealthy travelers drawn to Bristol, then a popular resort and spa, to bathe and drink from the nearby "Bristol Springs" which were known for their medicinal qualities. It wasn't until the mid 1900s that the name, King George II Inn, was restored.

**3. Bristol Riverside Theatre
120 Radcliffe Street at Market Street**

Bristol Riverside Theatre is a professional regional theatre located in a renovated movie house since 1986.

**4. Fidelity Savings and Loan Association of
Bucks County
237 Radcliffe Street**

This Colonial-era building dates to the late 1700s; in 1791 this block, and the house, was conveyed to Robert Merrick who leased it to Don Louis de Onis, Spanish Ambassador to the United States. After a run of some two centuries as a residence it now does duty as a financial institution.

**5. Wachovia Bank
250 Radcliffe Street**

This building started as a private residence, built in 1818 for Philadelphia merchant Joseph Craig. The house features an identical quartet of Ionic columns on both the street side and the river side. In 1833 it became the headquarters for the Farmers National Bank and has served as a bank ever since. This building has been altered and enlarged on several occasions, most notably by the Philadelphia architectural firm of Heacock & Hokanson in 1927.

**6. Dorrance Mansion
300 Radcliffe Street**

The Dorrance Mansion is one of the grandest homes along Radcliffe Street. Finished in 1863, it is a distinctive example of residential Italianate architecture; the such house in the borough. The brick mansion is erected on a random coursed fieldstone foundation at river level. The home remains nearly unchanged since its construction, with a symmetrical front facade and proportionally decreasing windows on the upper floors, creating the illusion of greater height. A five-story center tower on the rear riverside facade adds a distinctive feature to the house.

John Dorrance, Sr. built the mansion while living across the street. Dorrance came to town in the 1820s and purchased an interest in the Bristol

Mills which dated back to 1701. He eventually bought out his partners to become sole owner. Prior to the Civil War, the mill supplied large amounts of corn meal to the South and the West Indies. When Dorrance's sons sold the mill, following his death, the property was comprised of grist and saw mills, a lumber yard, canal stables, coal sheds, a blacksmith shop, a store, two dwellings and a mill race and pond. The home remained in the family until 1921 when it was acquired by the Bristol Knights of Columbus. In 1982, it became a private residence again.

7. Washington Hall
339 Radcliffe Street at southwest corner
of Walnut Street

This three-story brick structure was erected by a subscription stock company as a public hall for the people of Bristol. The lower story, known as the Lecture Room, was rented to any of the popular societies of the day; the first meeting was held on August 16, 1847.

8. Leopold Landreth House
430 Radcliffe Street

Horace Trumbauer, who would later gain fame for his classical designs, created this interesting late Victorian home for Leopold Landreth in 1894. Landreth was a partner in his family's sowing and reaping machine business. David Landreth established 950 acres of seed farms outside Bristol back in 1752. Most of the county seats around Philadelphia were ornamented by trees from the Landreth nurseries; his son was among the founders of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society in 1827. Today, as for most of its history, the house serves as a funeral home.

9. Grundy Memorial Museum
610 Radcliffe Street

William Hulme Grundy, who had family ties in the Bristol area stretching back several generations, began in the woolen industry in Philadelphia in 1870. In 1876, at the age of 40, he moved his operation to the newly constructed Bristol Worsted Mills. It would become one of the county's most important industries.

Joseph Ridgway Grundy took over for his fa-

ther and also dabbled in Republican politics. He represented Pennsylvania in the United States Senate for a year in 1930 when he was 67 years of age. Grundy would live another 31 years, including three as the country's oldest living Senator. When he died in the Bahamas, he left no heirs. Overlooking the Delaware River, the Grundy house as stated in his will, was left to be preserved as a museum and is open to the public for touring free of charge. The interior of the house is an elegant statement of luxurious living. Woodwork imported from Europe is prominent throughout the house, including the carved oak paneling and staircase of the entrance foyer.

10. Frank Bell House
824 Radcliffe Street

The estate is an excellent example of a late Victorian period mansion, with a unique blending of Second Empire, Queen Anne, and Romanesque Revival styles. Frank Bell, a local businessman, politician, and architect, purchased the house in 1889 and made numerous alterations while retaining the integrity of the original design.

11. 910 Radcliffe Street

The southern portion of this brick Georgian house, dating to 1765, is considered the oldest private home standing in Bristol. The expansion came along in 1811.

12. John Reed House
921 Radcliffe Street

The main part of this building, a handsome two and one-half story brick house, was constructed in 1816 by John Reed, one of the town's most prominent shipbuilders.

13. Church of Saint Mark
1025 Radcliffe Street

The Roman Catholic Church of Saint Mark was built in the year 1845. The commodious brick parsonage next door, now sporting a mansard roof, was built around the same time. The whole shebang cost the diocese of Philadelphia about four to five thousand dollars.

TURN LEFT ON LINCOLN AVENUE.
TURN LEFT ON POND STREET.

14. Grundy Mills Complex (*tower on your right*)
Jefferson Avenue and Canal Street

The clock tower you see on your right as you walk down Pond Street is located in the mill district of Bristol; the buildings date from the town's key period of industrial and population growth, from 1876 to 1930, and reflect Bristol's role as a premier industrial center of Bucks County. The mill was the first of five large manufacturing facilities built by the Bristol Improvement Company beginning in 1876. This facility was the most successful of all the textile operations launched in Bristol in the 19th century and by 1920 it was the largest employer in Bucks County - approximately 30% of the town worked here. Grundy Mills remained in operation until 1946, when the facility was sold; it has since been converted to other industrial operations.

15. St. Ann Church
southeast corner of Dorrance Street and Pond Street

St. Ann Parish was founded by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in 1906 to meet the spiritual needs of the many Italian immigrants who had come to America and settled in this area. Prior to the founding of St. Ann Parish, the priests and people of St. Mark Church were caring for the Italian community in the area. The church building was blessed in 1917; in 1920 St. Ann School opened up in the convent, but had a separate building in 1927.

16. Abraham Lincoln Speech/Spur Line Park
305 Pond Street

In the presidential election of 1860, Republican politicians from Bristol teamed up with some others in West Chester to decide that favorite-son William Seward couldn't win, so they backed Abraham Lincoln for the presidential nomination. On February 21, 1861, the train carrying the President-elect from Springfield, Illinois to his Inauguration in Washington, D.C., stopped briefly near this point. Mr. Lincoln appeared on

the rear platform and spoke to the assembled crowd, estimated at more than a thousand people. According to local accounts, when the train arrived, the crowd surged around the rear platform of his car, cheering the President-elect and his family.

17. American Hose, Hook & Ladder Company Firehouse
southeast corner of Mulberry Street and Pond Street

This firehouse was constructed in 1906 to replace the company's brick home that had been built in 1882.

18. Bristol Municipal Building
250 Pond Street

The town Municipal Building was constructed in 1927, designed by Philadelphia architects Heacock & Hokanson and paid for by local industrialist Joseph R. Grundy.

TURN LEFT ON MULBERRY STREET.

19. Bristol High School
northeast corner of Wood Street and Mulberry Street

The dedication of this ornate brick school building was held on November 10, 1894.

TURN LEFT ON WOOD STREET.
TURN RIGHT ON WALNUT STREET.

20. St. James' Episcopal Church
225 Walnut Street

Originally this church, Bristol's first, was called St. James the Greater. The first church was consecrated for worship on St. James' Day, July 25, 1712. The present Gothic Revival edifice came from the pen of Philadelphia-based architect Samuel Sloan and was completed in 1857 at a cost of \$10,000. Built of Trenton fieldstone with beaded moldings and corbels, the floor in the church vestibule is from the Moravian Tile Works in Doylestown. This art is fast disappearing in American and can be found now in only one tile works in the Midwest. The rural cottage-

style parish house was built in 1877 under the direction of the Ladies' Church Aid Society.

21. Spotlight Deliverance Temple
119 Walnut Street

The First Baptist Church of Bristol Borough was chartered by the proper Court of Bucks County in 1850 and after their congregation - about 100 strong - held some meetings down the block in Washington Hall this ground was purchased. The brownstone church was designed by Thomas U. Walter, who would be at work rebuilding the United States Capitol in four years, in 1851.

TURN RIGHT ON CEDAR STREET.
TURN RIGHT ON MULBERRY
STREET.

22. Bristol United Methodist Church
201 Mulberry Street

This stone church began serving the Methodist congregation in 1895.

RETURN TO CEDAR STREET
AND TURN RIGHT.

23. Bristol Masonic Temple
219 Cedar Street

The Masons in Bristol trace their roots back to 1780; the first lodge was built on this property in 1815. It was razed to make room for this Greek Revival temple in 1853. Built of brick, the building was stuccoed in an imitation of stone.

TURN RIGHT ON MARKET STREET.

24. Friends Meetinghouse
**southeast corner of Market and Wood
streets**

This land was given to the Friends "for a Meeting-house, burying-place and for pasture" in 1711 and Bristol's oldest extant building was soon erected. A "great fire" in 1724 apparently destroyed most of the town and accounts for the lack of other surviving settlement period buildings in the district. The meetinghouse probably received significant damage during this disaster, as records indicate that the building was partly taken down and rebuilt in 1728. This brick building, though somewhat altered by the infilling of windows and the application of stucco, is a direct connection to the earliest period of the community's history.

TURN LEFT ON WOOD STREET.
TURN LEFT ON MILL STREET.

25. Mill Street

The principal commercial street in Bristol remained heavily residential in character throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Most of these residences have been greatly altered over the years.

CONTINUE TO THE END OF MILL
STREET AND THE TOUR STARTING
POINT IN BASIN PARK.

Look Up,

Doylestown



A Walking Tour of Doylestown...

Doylestown is practically unique among prominent Pennsylvania towns. There is no water here to power industries; not even a mill. There is not a wealth of natural resources nearby. The railroad never rolled through town with the promise of progress. No important school was founded here to attract new residents. There were no great personal fortunes made here to kick-start economic growth.

The reason Doylestown is here today is because it was the exact spot where the Colonial road from the Schuylkill River at Swede's Ford to the Delaware River at Coryell's Ferry crossed the main road linking Philadelphia to Easton. In 20th century automobile-speak, it is where Route 202 crosses Route 611. To the Delaware Valley traveler of the early 1700s, it was simply "the crossroads." They met here to arrange transport of their goods; while they waited for the ferrymen they slept in their wagons and hoped for good weather.

In 1745 William Doyle obtained a license to build a tavern on the crossroads. Now weary road warriors could at least share a hot meal and a pint or two with other tradesmen and merchants before settling into their wagons for the night. Doyle's Tavern was situated at what is presently the northwest corner of Main and State streets and the second Doyle's Tavern still stands at the crossroads.

A friendly tavern does not a town make. While a smattering of establishments grew up around the crossroads the village's success was assured in 1813 when discontent with the location of the Bucks County seat in Newtown led to the selection of the more centrally located Doylestown as the county seat. Inns, public houses and shops followed and Doylestown evolved into the professional and residential character it retains today. The lawyers set up shop in existing houses or built new houses that doubled as offices. Even the buildings erected in downtown Doylestown as office buildings often don't look like office buildings.

In the early 20th century, Doylestown became best known to the outside world through the museum of the Bucks County Historical Society, following Henry Mercer's construction of the unusual reinforced concrete building in 1916 to house his collection of mechanical tools and utensils. Upon his death in 1930, Mercer also left his home, Fontheil, to be operated as a tile museum, which reinforced the community as a center for cultural attractions. Our walking tour will start at one, head for the other and take in Doylestown in between...

**1. Moravian Tile Works
East Court Street and Swamp Road**

Henry Chapman Mercer came from a privileged American background, growing up on a Bucks County estate. After a trip to Europe in 1870 at the age of 14, Mercer attended a military boarding school in New York, and then went on to Harvard. After his return home he helped found the Bucks County Historical Society and spent much of the next decade on houseboats sailing around Europe. During his travels Mercer continued his historical studies, published several books, and collected artifacts and art works for his private collection.

After a stint as a manager of the newly created Museum of Science and Art at the University of Pennsylvania, Mercer set out to revive the native Bucks County craft of pottery-making in the late 1800s. His attempts failed, but he turned his attention to hand-crafted tiles instead and became a leader of the Arts and Crafts movement of the early 20th century. The Moravian Pottery and Tile Works, completed in 1912, produced tiles and mosaics for floors, walls and ceilings. Mercer's artistry and abilities produced floor tiles for the rotunda and halls of the Pennsylvania State Capitol, depicting 400 scenes in the Commonwealth's history. His tiles adorn buildings throughout the United States and the world.

**2. Fonthill
East Court Street and Swamp Road**

In 1907 Henry Mercer inherited a large amount of money and bought 70 acres of land in Bucks County. He spent the next three years building Fonthill, an eccentric masterpiece. He used concrete, but in an unusual fashion. He and his workmen formed the structure a room at a time, building an interior frame from earth and wood. Decorative tiles, furniture, and other architectural elements were then placed on the surface, and concrete poured around and over them. Once the concrete hardened, the supporting earth was dug out, leaving a solid structure with inset decorations. Mercer eventually encased an adjacent farmhouse (original to the property) with concrete as well.

Built entirely of hand mixed concrete, Fonthill has 44 rooms, 18 fireplaces, 32 stairwells

and more than 200 windows of varying size and shape. The National Historic Landmark contains more than 900 prints and other objects that Mercer gathered throughout the world, creating an intensely personal statement of his genius. The lavishly embellished interior surfaces show an incredible array of Mercer's original decorative tiles.

**EXIT FONTHILL ONTO COURT
STREET AND TURN RIGHT.**

**3. Salem United Church of Christ
186 East Court Street**

Salem congregation was formally organized in March, 1861 with a membership of twenty. Services, first held in the public school building and later in the Masonic Hall, were in both English and German. A lot was purchased in 1863, located on the south side of East Court Street between Broad and Church streets; a brick church building was erected there and dedicated in July of 1865. By this time there were thirty three members and a Sunday school of eighty.

The year 1897 marked the completion of the new church building (the front portion of the present church) which took care of the congregation's needs until 1928, when a large addition was undertaken. In the chancel of the newly remodeled church were placed the Biblical tiles presented to the church by Henry Chapman Mercer, who personally supervised their installation.

**4. Doylestown Presbyterian Church
127 East Court Street**

The Presbyterian Congregation of Doylestown started when the Reverend Uriah DuBois came to Doylestown to found Union Academy in 1804, at what is now the corner of East Court and Broad streets. The building was razed in 1889 to make way for the Doylestown Borough School which was destroyed by fire in 1973. In 1871, the old church building was torn down and a new edifice was constructed facing East Court Street.

**TURN LEFT ON CHURCH STREET
AND TURN RIGHT ON EAST
OAKLAND STREET.**

5. Doylestown Friends Meeting
95 East Oakland Avenue

Friends met regularly in Doylestown by 1806, and the present meetinghouse was built in 1836. The meeting was indulged under Buckingham until 1951, when Doylestown Monthly Meeting was established. The basement expansion was done largely by the members in 1955.

6. Saint Paul's Church
84 East Oakland Avenue

Saint Paul's owes its birth to one woman - Elizabeth Pawling Ross - who in the 1840s was the only Episcopalian in Doylestown and who rode by horseback to Germantown once each month to receive Holy Communion. Perhaps at her encouragement, the Reverend George P. Hopkins journeyed to Doylestown from Philadelphia to see if he could stir any interest in founding a congregation here. For two years Hopkins "commuted" by stagecoach from Philadelphia to conduct a weekly service. In April, 1846, the parish was formally organized and shortly thereafter land purchased and money raised to build a church building. The first services in the church were held on April 23, 1848.

TURN LEFT ON PINE STREET.

7. James A. Michener Art Museum
138 South Pine Street

In 1988, with the support of many dedicated citizens, the James A. Michener Art Museum opened as an independent, non-profit cultural institution dedicated to preserving, interpreting and exhibiting the art and cultural heritage of the Bucks County region. The Museum is named for Doylestown's most famous son, the Pulitzer-Prize winning writer and supporter of the arts who had first dreamed of a regional art museum in the early 1960s. The massive stone walls and warden's house that make up the core of the Michener Art Museum today began as the Bucks County prison in 1884. After a century of use, the abandoned and antiquated buildings were being torn down when the County Commissioners agreed to preserve the historic landmark and lease the land and buildings to house the museum.

8. Mercer Museum
84 South Pine Street

In 1916, Henry Mercer erected this utterly unique 6-story concrete castle to house his collection of some 40,000 objects that document the lives of everyday Americans through the Industrial Revolution. The towering central atrium of the Museum was used to hang the largest objects such as a whale boat, stage coach and Conestoga wagon. On each level surrounding the court, smaller exhibits were installed in a warren of alcoves, niches and rooms according to Mercer's classifications -- healing arts, tinsmithing, dairying, illumination and so on.

RETURN TO THE CORNER OF PINE STREET AND ASHLAND STREET AND TURN LEFT. TURN RIGHT ON DONALDSON STREET AND FOLLOW IT TO THE END. TURN LEFT ON STATE STREET.

9. Masonic Temple
55 East State Street

Beneficial Hall, as it was known in the early 1800s, is now known as the Masonic Temple and has been occupied continuously by the Doylestown Freemasons since 1857. The Doylestown Free and Accepted Masons, York Rite, and Order of Eastern Star meet here. There have been a few renovations and additions, but the building would be recognizable to those first, long-ago congregants.

10. County Theater
20 East State Street

Moving pictures in Doylestown began in 1907 when Hellyer's Movie House opened on South Main Street in the back of what is now County Linen. In 1909 Hellyer's moved across the street to Lenape Hall where it operated until 1925. That year the Strand Theatre became Doylestown's first "real" movie theater. In 1938 the Strand was replaced by the Art Deco County Theater, which rose up in its place. The County featured that most modern of conveniences - air-conditioning. Designed by the Philadelphia architectural firm

of Silverman and Levy the theater had seating for 715 patrons.

After several successful decades the County staggered to its 50th birthday before closing in 1992. It re-opened a year later as a non-profit house for art films, which it remains today.

11. Lenape Hall

1 South Main Street and East State Street

Philadelphia architect Addison Hutton collaborated with Thomas Cernea to create this picturesque pile of over half a million bricks; storefronts, offices and an 800-seat theatre were all housed behind a trio of unified Victorian facades. The round Romanesque Revival arch is repeated in the tall windows and accented by belt courses. Classic Greek overtones are present in the roof pediments and the suggestion of supporting columns.

12. Doylestown Inn

18 West State Street

The Inn began life as three separate commercial buildings: a shoe store, a hat shop, and a book-binding business. All three were incorporated in a hostelry beginning in 1902. The Doylestown Inn was a favorite stopover for stage and literary celebrities on their frequent visits to Doylestown.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS TO MAIN STREET AND TURN LEFT.

13. Fountain House

West State and North Main streets

This building occupies the approximate site of William Doyle's second colonial roadhouse circa 1758; it marks the wilderness crossroads from which Doylestown grew. The inn and stagecoach stop was advertised in 1817 as being close to its present dimensions. The building was redesigned in the Second Empire style with a prominent mansard roof. The namesake fountain made its appearance in 1872 and thereafter the Doylestown Hotel, as it was called from 1770 to 1873, was renamed the Fountain House Hotel. Over the years the hotel was used as a furniture store, then a bank; it is presently a coffeehouse.

14. Hart Building

423 Chestnut Street

This 1900 structure is one of the town's earliest office buildings. The emphasis on massed and massive round arches, hallmarks of the Romanesque Revival, as well as the vertical pilasters banded by belt courses link these buildings to Lenape Hall, a predecessor in both form and function.

BEAR LEFT ON SHEWELL STREET.

15. Doylestown Fire House

68 Shewell Avenue

Doylestown Fire Company No. 1 was organized on August 4, 1879 with 25 charter members. The land for the firehouse on Shewell was purchased in 1900, only two years after the street opened. Oscar Martin, a Doylestown architect, drew the plans. The cornerstone was laid on Aug. 20, 1902. The project cost just over \$8000 including plumbing, heating, gaslights, and a fire bell, which is still in serviceable condition. The three new engine bays on the right and the single bay on the left were added in 2001.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS TO THE INTERSECTION ON COURT STREET AND MAIN STREET.

16. Civil War Monument

Courthouse Lawn at Court and Main streets

The surviving members of Bucks County's 104th Volunteer Regiment raised \$1,600 of the \$2,500 cost of this monument through a bakery they inherited from another regiment during the Civil War; the bread they baked was sold to the Union Army.

The monument is constructed of White American marble and is between 32 and 35 feet high above the base; it was designed to be as high as the three story buildings surrounding it. It was completed in time to be dedicated on the first official Memorial Day in 1868.

WALK A FEW STEPS UP
EAST COURT STREET.

17. *Intelligencer* Building
10 East Court Street

The Second Empire design of this building by architect Thomas Cernea was the fanciful former office of Bucks County's oldest existing newspaper, dating to 1876. It was built at head of Printers Alley and features carved keystones, balconies, and elaborate ornamentation.

RETURN TO MAIN STREET
AND TURN RIGHT.

18. Josiah Hart Bank
21 North Main Street

This is one of Doylestown Borough's only definitive Greek Revival buildings. It was probably designed by Thomas Cernea, however, the documentation is confusing and so no one is certain. It was built for Josiah Hart and Company Bankers in 1858. The Greek Revival style is obvious in the projecting pediment and large supporting columns.

19. Nathan James House
110 North Main Street

Nathan James was district attorney of Bucks County from 1853 to 1859 and a one-time President of the Bucks County Bar Association who spent his spare time as an apprentice under a clockmaker in Doylestown. This massive stone house was completed in 1888 and shows influences of the Queen Anne style (corner turret and tall, corbelled chimneys) and the Shingle Style (broad gambrel roof and the shingled upper floor exterior.) Like many of the Victorian homes around Doylestown it was modeled after the second courthouse that was built in 1877 and razed in 1960.

20. The James-Lorah House
132 Main Street

This plot of land was the original site of the Zerick Titus Harness and Saddle Shop which was demolished in 1844 by Judge Henry Chapman, the grandfather of the Henry Mercer. After 25 years he sold it to Oliver James for \$10,000, a town doctor who then lived here until he and his wife died in 1894. After that, his daughter, Sarah, who had married the Reverend Doctor George Lorah, and her sister Martha used the home as a summer vacation house.

The house exhibits three main architectural styles: Federal, Greek, and Italianate. The earlier Federal style can be found in the flat front elevation, symmetrical shape of the main structure, the connected double chimneys, and the fanlight found atop the side entrance door. The Greek Revival style is seen in the small third floor "eyebrow" windows (named this for their positioning above the other windows as an eyebrow is to an eye). The Italianate style is evident in the window hood moldings found over top of the first, second, and third floor windows.

TURN RIGHT ON
NORTH BROAD STREET.

21. W.H. Kirk House
87-89 North Broad Street

This house was built in 1888 with a combination of two Victorian styles, the Shingle style and the Queen Anne style. It was designed as a duplex home with one side for William Kirk and his wife and the other side for William's mother. The Shingle style can be seen in the upper floor where shingles are used as siding. The Queen Anne style is evident in the tall decorative chimneys, gingerbread on the porch columns, and other decorative detail such as the elaborate cornice treatment. The pediment over the front entrance is a feature of the Greek Revival style. Over 100,000 bricks were used to construct this home which is now used as law offices.

TURN RIGHT ON
EAST COURT STREET.

**22. Home of Civil War
General W.W.H. Davis
60 East Court Street**

William Watts Hart Davis was 41 when the Civil War erupted. He was wounded in the left elbow in Richmond and lost a finger on his right hand in Charleston during a rise to the rank of general. After the war he served as acting governor of the Territory of New Mexico. In a life that spanned 90 years, Davis was also a lawyer and historian, author of ten books and founding member of the Bucks County Historical Society in 1880. He lived in this house, built in the 1830s, from 1859 until his death in 1910.

TURN AND WALK EAST ON
COURT STREET, AWAY FROM
THE COURTHOUSE.

**23. Lawyers Row
East Court Street from Broad Street to
Church Street**

It was common for law offices to cluster in the immediate vicinity of a county courthouse and in Doylestown this block functioned historically as Lawyers Row. Though most of these buildings show evidence of later Victorian remodeling, this block of stately brick structures with decorative fanlights and double connecting chimneys epitomizes the conservative late Federal style architecture of the county seat's first buildings.

CONTINUE WALKING ON EAST
COURT STREET, PAST THE
CEMETERY, TO THE TOUR
STARTING POINT AT FONTHILL.

Look Up,

Newtown



A Walking Tour of Newtown...

When William Penn was granted all the land west of New Jersey, north of Maryland and south of New York by King Charles II as payment of a debt owed his father, he had big plans for his vast new empire. One was to establish several towns around Philadelphia to provide country homes for city residents and to support farming communities. So, the story goes that he traveled north from his “great town” in 1682 and stopped in the middle of some trees that bordered a creek flowing to the Delaware River to proclaim, “This is where I propose to build my ‘new town.’”

Straddling what is now called Newtown Creek, the site included 640 acres. In time, the name was shortened to Newtown. Penn’s plan included 16 farm plots that fanned out from a common in the middle of 30-40 acres. Each farm lot was connected to the common by a townstead lot so settlers could be integrally connected to the going-on in town.

The small village became the Bucks County seat of government in 1725 and many substantial Colonial residences and taverns followed. Its central location made it an important supply depot during the American Revolution and General George Washington made his headquarters in Newtown from December 24-30, 1776. From this location, Washington marched his army into American legend on Christmas to cross the Delaware and surprise a Hessian army in Trenton.

The county government left for Doylestown in 1813 and Newtown settled into a residential existence. Gradually the heritage farms gave way to houses and the borough was enlarged four times beginning in 1838. All the while the core of town in Penn’s original common resisted the overtures of modernization. The Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places with many of its buildings well into their third century of use.

Our walking tour of the Colonial shops and taverns and houses will begin at a relative newcomer to Newtown - the Friends Meetinghouse. Oddly for a town founded by William Penn it didn’t get its own meetinghouse for 130 years. Local Quakers were instead members of the Falls or Middletown or Wrightstown Meetings, forced to travel considerable distances to worship...

1. Newtown Friends Meeting
219 Court Street

The Newtown Meeting was co-founded in 1815 by Edward Hicks, a sign painter who evolved into an acclaimed folk artist. Hicks and his fellow Quakers assembled in the Court House that was left empty when the county seat shuffled off to Doylestown two years earlier. The main portion of this meetinghouse, simply designed as was the Quaker wont, was constructed in 1817. Several modest additions have accommodated expansions to the worship space and classrooms in the two centuries since, most recently a new Gathering Room on the main floor in 2004 where several full-size replicas of Hicks' paintings are displayed. Edward Hicks is buried in the graveyard, across from the south porch of the meetinghouse.

**WALK NORTH ON COURT STREET
(THE MEETINGHOUSE WILL BE ON
YOUR RIGHT).**

2. Francis Erwin House
127 Court Street

This Federal-style house built of native brownstone anchors a picturesque block of houses from the 18th and 19th century. This one was constructed by Francis Erwin in 1806.

3. Worstall House
123 Court Street

This stone house was built in 1774 by Joseph Worstall. For many years a tannery and leather shop operated here. It is said that George Washington, when headquartered in Newtown, walked out with a pair of boots purchased in the shop.

4. Chapman House
107 Court Street

This house was built in 1757 for Margaret Thornton who took over operation of the Court Inn up the block after her husband Joseph died. The brick front was added in 1764, using bricks left over in the construction of the town's Brick Hotel. Prominent lawyer Abraham Chapman

was the next owner and he sold it to Edward Hicks, who lived here from 1811 to 1821.

5. Half Moon Inn
101 Court Street

This famous Colonial watering hole began life in 1733 as the one and one-half story frame cottage of Margaret and Joseph Thornton. It was the gathering place of choice after court sessions across the street and became known as "Court Inn." In the 1890s the local telephone company purchased the structure and reconfigured one of Newtown's oldest and most historic buildings into two separate units. The LaRue family bequeathed the northern portion to the Newtown Historic Society which maintains its headquarters here.

6. St. Luke's Episcopal Church
100 East Washington Street

The Episcopalians organized in Bucks County as early as 1766 but their mother church was built in Bristol, not Newtown. It wasn't until 1832, when this brick sanctuary was constructed, that the congregation got its own local church. The present brick bell tower dates to 1904; it replaced a wooden one that had served since 1835.

TURN LEFT ON LIBERTY STREET.

7. Newtown Fire Association
14 Liberty Street

The first Newtown fire brigade appeared on town streets in 1824 as the Washington Fire Company with one piece of equipment, a hand-pumper known affectionately as "Old Washy." In 1889 the Newtown Fire Association officially organized; the firehouse seen today was the second on the site and third in the borough. It was constructed in 1901 and features the 800-pound fire bell from its predecessor. When modern bays were added in the 1950s the 1901 firehouse was turned into a museum and meeting rooms.

8. Wesley Hall
35 Liberty Street

Wesley Hall carries the name of John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement. It was built in 1846 for a congregation that formed six years earlier with a membership of 22 women and 11 men. The Methodists outgrew their first home in 1896 and moved to the new church a few steps to the north. Wesley Hall was enlarged in 1956 and is used today by the Newtown United Methodist Church.

9. Archambault House
115 East Washington Street

Joseph O. Archambault wore many hats around Newtown - he was the town dentist, the postmaster and an innkeeper who owned the Brick Hotel. He built this late Federal-style home in 1830; over the years it picked up fashionable additions including a western porch supported by fluted Doric columns and a front porch framed in beautiful ornamental ironwork. The house was reputedly used as a safe station on the Underground Railroad.

10. Newtown Library Company
114 East Centre Street at southwest corner of Congress Street

The Newtown Library Company was founded in 1760 as the third oldest private library in Pennsylvania. For the first 50 years the collection was kept in the homes of the librarians until the books could be stored in the abandoned Court House in 1813. This small Neoclassical building is the third home for the library and it will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2012.

TURN RIGHT ON PENN STREET.

11. Stonehurst
123 Penn Street at northwest corner of Congress Street

This stone manor house on the hill was constructed in 1833 by Isaac Worstall Hicks, son of Edward Hicks. Isaac apprenticed under his father and was in business with him in the 1830s and 1840s.

12. Edward Hicks House
122 Penn Street

Edward Hicks arrived with his family in 1811 at the age of 31 to set himself up in business as a sign and wagon painter. He did well enough to build this stone house in 1821. Besides signs, however, Hicks also painted what his fellow Quakers disapprovingly referred to as "ornamentals" - pictures of landscapes, people, historical events and animals. He became famous for a series of paintings interpreting the Bible called *Peaceable Kingdom* and is today considered one of America's outstanding primitive painters. He lived in this house until his death in 1849.

CROSS COURT STREET AND TURN RIGHT ON STATE STREET.

13. White Hall
127 South State Street

Squire Isaac Hicks, father of Edward Hicks, purchased this lot in 1796 and lived in a frame house here until his death in 1836. During the Revolutionary War that house had been used as a store and occupied by the Quartermaster Department for a time. Afterwards it began a long tenure as an inn that lasted into the 1970s. After a 1979 fire the original facade was restored and the building converted into commercial space.

14. Bird In Hand
121 South State Street

Records indicate a tavern was operating on this site as early as 1686 and it is considered the oldest frame structure still standing in Pennsylvania. It was known as the Red Lyon Inn during the American Revolution when George Washington used it as an overflow jail to hold Hessian officers before marching them to Philadelphia. When a Loyalist raid took place here in 1778 it marked the only action to take place in Newtown during the war. The name was changed in 1817 after Edward Hicks painted a sign depicting Benjamin Franklin's adage, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."

15. Thomas Ross House
119 South State Street

Thomas Ross built this three-story, Federal-style stone building as a hotel in 1810. Later on the international Order of Odd Fellows called this corner home.

16. Newtown Hardware House
108 South State Street

The Newtown Hardware House was built in 1869 by Cyrus Hillborn and Harrison C. Worstall. The business was destroyed by fire on March 4, 1899, one of the worst in Newtown's history. The building was rebuilt to the exact specifications of the original and is still in operation today. The Newtown Hardware House has been in continuous operation for over 140 years, which ranks as the longest tenure for any single business in Newtown.

17. Justice's House
107 South State Street

Anthony Siddons built this brownstone structure in 1768 to use as a tavern. During the American Revolution general William Alexander, Lord Stirling, sought refuge here to recuperate after the Battle of Trenton. The building ceased to be an inn in 1800 and has been a private residence for over two centuries.

18. Thornton House
101 South State Street at southeast corner of Centre Street

Built in 1747 at this prominent intersection in town, this native brownstone building was purchased in 1772 by Francis Murray from Margaret Thornton, owner of the Court Inn. When he wasn't distinguishing himself as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, Murray operated a general store here.

19. First National Bank & Trust Company
40 South State Street at northwest corner of Centre Street

The First National Bank & Trust Company of Newtown began modestly in a single room

in 1864. After twenty years of steady growth the bank constructed a tidy brownstone headquarters on this corner. In 1928 a larger Neoclassical shell was built around the still operating 1884 structure. The same year, the landmark clock on the corner was put into operation; the four dials of the clock operate from a master clock inside the bank. It contains a set of Westminster chimes set to ring every quarter hour.

20. Linton House
24 South State Street

William Linton built one of the finest mansions in town with the gable facing the street in 1796. It was changed to a place of business in 1916.

21. Temperance House
5-11 South State Street

When Andrew and Nancy McMinn built the first section of the current building in 1772 part of it was used as a tavern and part was used as a schoolhouse, where Andrew held classes. Not the first establishment to take its name from a sign painted by Edward Hicks, it began being known as "The Niagara Temperance House" to complement Hicks' sign depicting a moose standing by the famous falls. It is still an eatery today.

22. Brick Hotel
1 East Washington Avenue at northeast corner of State Street

Shadrach Walley, Newtown's first settler, lived in a dwelling on this site in the years before 1750. Amos Strickland, a farmer and entrepreneur from Philadelphia, came to town in 1760 and bought the property as his homesite. In 1763 he constructed a two-story house with bricks fired in his own kiln on the outskirts of town. After Strickland's death in 1779, the mansion house was sold and converted into a tavern known as the Brick Hotel. The brick addition to the west dates to 1835.

23. Newtown Borough Hall
23 North State Street

The borough was splintered off from the township in 1838 and this Greek Revival building put into operation in 1858. It is said to be the oldest building in Pennsylvania still serving its original purpose as borough chambers. The small building did double duty until the 1940s, also serving as the town lock-up. Oddly, the first “guest” of the town was the mason who built the walls, incarcerated behind his own handiwork for pig stealing.

24. Newtown Theatre
120 North State Street

Newtown Hall dates to 1831 when it was built to be a hall for town gatherings and a “non sectarian” church for traveling ministers. It soon became a center of entertainment in Newtown. In 1883, the building was reconstructed, larger than the first, and designed with stage performances in mind. In 1906 the first movie was shown, laying the foundation of its claim as the “oldest continuously operating movie theater in America.”

25. Randall Carriage Factory
156 North State Street

James and William Randall bought J. Ely Woolsey’s carriage-making business here in 1857. The brothers produced about 125 custom-built carriages each year as stock for highly anticipated spring auctions. Both sides of the street would be lined with sparkling new carriages on auction day. James Randall died in 1915 and five years later the business closed. The idle factory became a garage and was renovated in the 1960s for retail and office space.

26. Old Presbyterian Church
76 North Sycamore Street

This church was erected in 1769 to replace a log structure from 1734 about a half-mile to the west. In 1776 George Washington used the church and its session house to hold several hundred Hessian prisoners captured during the Battle of Trenton before they were marched

to Philadelphia and exchanged for American soldiers. When the building was renovated in 1842, workers discovered a poem scrawled in coal on the basement wall by a Hessian soldier. There are 22 graves of Revolutionary War soldiers in the burial ground.

27. Buckman Farm
2 Swamp Road at Sycamore Street

The Buckman Farm represents the last surviving agriculturally-related structures located directly adjacent to the Newtown Common. The barn on this site was built in 1705 by the Buckman family and rebuilt in 1901 after it was destroyed by fire. The Buckman House, an excellent example of Victorian Second Empire architecture, was constructed in the 1860s, probably using an earlier structure as its core.

Across Swamp Road stood a house that George Washington used as his headquarters before and after the Battle of Trenton on December 26, 1776. In the house he wrote two famous letters to Congress giving the official report of his victory at Trenton - a letter of cheery news Congress had not been used to receiving at that point in the war. The house was torn down in 1863 but soon rebuilt using stone of the original 1757 house. Alas the rebuilt house was demolished in 1964, an unfortunate event that helped trigger the historic preservation movement that pervades the town to this day.

TURN LEFT ON CENTRE STREET.

28. Centre Avenue Bridge

The stone Centre Avenue Bridge was constructed in 1796 and is the oldest remaining bridge in Bucks County and the fourth oldest in Pennsylvania. It shares a foundation on its western approach with the McMasters House, which was built in 1833.

CONTINUE TO COURT STREET
AND TURN RIGHT TO RETURN TO
THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

Look Up,

Trenton



A Walking Tour of Trenton...

The first settlement which would become Trenton was established by Quakers in 1679, in the region then called the Falls of the Delaware, led by Mahlon Stacy from Handsworth, Sheffield in England. Quakers were being persecuted in England at this time and North America provided the perfect opportunity to exercise their religious freedom.

By 1719, the town adopted the name “Trent-towne”, after William Trent, one of its leading landholders who purchased much of the surrounding land from Stacy’s family. This name later was shortened to “Trenton.”

During the American Revolution, the city was the site of George Washington’s first military victory. On December 26, 1776, Washington and his army, after crossing the icy Delaware River to Trenton, defeated the Hessian troops garrisoned there. The stunning sight of prisoners being paraded out of town not only gained the Americans highly elusive respect and rejuvenated morale but proved that Washington was the man who could successfully lead this revolt. After the war, Trenton was briefly the national capital of the United States in November and December of 1784. The city was considered as a permanent capital for the new country, but the southern states favored a location south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Trenton was a major manufacturing center in the late 1800s and early 1900s; one relic of that era is the slogan “Trenton Makes, the World Takes” displayed on the Lower Free Bridge just north of the Trenton-Morrisville Toll Bridge (the “Trenton Makes Bridge”). The city adopted the slogan in the 1920s to represent its then-leading role as a major manufacturing center for steel, rubber, wire, rope, linoleum and ceramics.

Trenton became the state capital in 1790, but prior to that year the Legislature often met here. Our walking tour will begin outside the second oldest state house in continuous use in the United States...

**1. New Jersey State House
West State Street**

The New Jersey State House began modestly in 1792, in a \$400 capitol built by Jonathan Doane. The building was two and one-half stories high and consisted of seven bays radiating off a center hall. A bell-tower was situated in the center of the roof. The legislative chambers were located on the first floor - Senate (then the Legislative Council) in the west and the General Assembly in the east. The Governor's and judicial offices occupied the second floor.

For decades the State House remained unaltered until a major addition was constructed in 1845 under the direction of John Notman, a well-known Philadelphi architect. He created a one, two and three-story stepped office wing on the north side of the original building, facing what is now State Street. The new entrance had a two-story porch and six fluted Doric columns. A grand rotunda with a stairhall connected the old and new wings. This area was capped by a spherical dome and cupola. A two-story portico with pairs of Corinthian columns and a classical pediment was added to the river-side façade.

Early in the morning of March 21, 1885, a fire broke out and raced through the empty building, totally destroying the State Street wing. Lewis Broome of Jersey City was selected to plan the reconstruction. He designed the building in a simplified Second Empire style with three stories and limestone facing. He also added a new rotunda and dome that were more proportional to the scale of the building. In 1903, under the direction of Merchantsville architect Arnold Moses, the Senate wing was reconstructed in American Renaissance style to mirror the Assembly quarters. The wing was enlarged using classical forms and rich materials, particularly in the decorative interior and exterior treatments. Since that time building activity around the State House has focused on preservation and restoration rather than addition.

FROM THE FRONT OF THE
STATE HOUSE WALK ACROSS
WEST STATE STREET.

**2. New Jersey World War II Memorial
West State Street**

Dedicated on Veterans Day, 2008 the Memorial is designed to capture the courage and grace of the World War II generation. The centerpiece of the plaza, a dramatic 12-foot, one-ton bronze sculpture of *Lady Victory* stands atop a 5-foot pedestal wielding a sword in her left hand and holding high a wreath of peace in her right. As she strides forward, her left foot crushes the swastika flag of Nazi Germany while her right trods upon the rising sun flag of Imperial Japan. Behind *Lady Victory* stands another sculpture, the *Lone Soldier*, a bronze life-size figure designed to represent any soldier, Marine, sailor or airman. The helmeted figure moves forward to meet the enemy, his M-1 rifle at the ready. Also featured is the symbol of the fallen warrior: a sculpture of a bronze rifle planted by its bayonet in the dirt, a helmet resting atop the butt. The sculptures are the work of Jay Warren of Rogue River, Oregon, who had a studio in New Jersey for a decade.

WALK WEST ON WEST STATE
STREET (RIGHT IF FACING THE
STATE HOUSE).

**3. New Jersey Capitol Complex
West State Street**

Filling out the plaza in the Capitol Complex are a number of state buildings, fanning out to the west of the State House. Directly next door is the Neoclassical State House Annex, built in the 1920s to house the State Library, State Museum and State Judiciary. Today it contains legislative committee rooms and offices. A recent restoration included refurbishing period details and adding several commissioned artworks, including a skylight featuring special places, people and events in New Jersey history. Moving down West State Street are the State Library, State Museum and Planetarium and the Department of State Building.

4. New Jersey Farm Bureau
168 West State Street

This handsome Italianate building with exuberant window hoods and brackets is the home of the New Jersey Farm Bureau, known as the Farmhouse.

5. Roebling Mansion
222 West State Street

This is the last remaining mansion of the Roebling family, built around 1900 by Ferdinand W. Roebling Sr., one of three sons of John A. Roebling, inventor of the wire-rope cable used to construct the Brooklyn Bridge, which he designed. Ferdinand believed in living modestly and scorned his brothers' more ostentatious homes. He was the financier of the trio, investing in some of the businesses that purchased materiel from J. A. Roebling Sons Company, such as Otis Elevator and Bell Telephone. The house was long neglected, vacant and threatened with demolition before it was restored as the new headquarters for the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

6. Lutine House
224 West State Street

The Lutine House dates to the early 1840s, built as a well-proportioned late Federal-era brick building. The ornamental cornice is more reflective of the Italianate period that followed.

7. Kuser Mansion/Thomas Edison College
315 West State Street

Rudolph Kuser was born in Zurich, Switzerland in 1818 and emigrated to America at the age of nineteen. A mechanical engineer, he settled in New York and then in Newark, where he became associated with Baxter, Kuser and Thompson who made the famous Baxter engine with boiler. He eventually made his home near Trenton where he sired five sons and a daughter.

One son, Colonel Anthony Kuser, founding member of the New Jersey Audubon Society and director of more than 50 corporations, and his wife Susie Dryden, daughter of Senator John Fairfield Dryden, founder of the Prudential Life Insurance Company, made the largest land do-

nation in the history of New Jersey when they deeded 11,000 acres for High Point State Park in 1923. Another, Rudolph V. Kuser was president of the Peoples Brewing Company, vice-president of the Lenox Incorporated, vice-president and director of the First Mechanics-National Bank and director of the Standard Fire Insurance Company of Trenton. He built this ornate Beaux Arts mansion that is now part of Thomas Edison College.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS TO
CALHOUN STREET AND
TURN LEFT.

8. Calhoun Street Canal House
Delaware & Raritan Canal, 25 Calhoun Street

The Delaware and Raritan Canal opened for business on June 25, 1834. Trenton, at 56 feet above sea level, was the summit with seven locks lifting boats between Bordentown and Trenton and seven more locks lowering them from Trenton to New Brunswick. Trenton was the hub of a transportation network that connected the city to major markets in Philadelphia, New York and Baltimore, and to raw materials (primarily coal) from Pennsylvania. At the blast of a coal boat or the whistle of a yacht, bridge tenders swung Trenton's bridges aside to make way for canal traffic. Each lock tender and bridge tender was provided with a home as a condition of his employment. In December 1932, the canal closed to commercial traffic. The D&R Canal, along with three canal houses, was entered on the State and National Registers of Historic Places in 1973 and the following year Governor Brendan Byrne signed a bill creating the D&R Canal State Park.

TURN RIGHT ON
BELLEVUE AVENUE.

9. Bellevue Avenue Colored School (Lincoln School)
81 Bellevue Avenue

A bill was passed in 1881 to allow blacks, who made up 5% of Trenton's 30,000 people, to attend the all-white Trenton High School but they were placed in special classes and allowed

to use the swimming pool only during specific time periods. At the same time a new elementary school for blacks was proposed for Bellevue Avenue, although it was far from most of the black families in town. There was also another school on Bellevue Avenue so it came to be known as the "Colored School." Black leaders objected to the designation and proposed that it be named after abolitionist Frederick Douglass. The school board rejected the proposal but agreed to "Lincoln School" as a compromise.

**10. Higbee Street School (Nixon School)
20 Bellevue Avenue**

The Higbee Street School is a brick Greek Revival building constructed in 1857, the first school built specifically for the free public education of African American children in the City of Trenton. By 1872 the student population had already outgrown the Higbee Street building and the students were moved to a temporary building while a new one was constructed.

TURN LEFT ON
NORTH WILLOW STREET.

**11. Philadelphia and Reading Railroad
Freight Station
260 North Willow Street (rear of tower)**

The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad (P&R) was one of the first railroads constructed in the United States. It was more commonly known as the Reading Railroad and reached eventually to Atlantic City, landing the line in the game of Monopoly. This freight station was built for the railroad in 1888.

WALK OVER TO THE
BATTLE MONUMENT.

**12. *Trenton Battle Monument*
intersection of North Broad Street,
Warren Street and Brunswick,
Pennington and Princeton Avenue**

The *Trenton Battle Monument* commemorates the American victory at the first Battle of Trenton which occurred on December 26, 1776. Three divisions of the Continental Army would

cross the Delaware River on Christmas night, attacking the British from three directions. Colonel Cadwalader's division would move north from Bordentown. General Ewing would attack at Trenton Ferry. Washington, with approximately 2,400 men, would lead the main attack from the north. But due to a cold, snowy night his planned three-pronged attack, however, failed to materialize. Cadwalader and Ewing were unable to cross the Delaware as directed due to heavy river ice and extreme weather conditions. Unknowingly, Washington was going to engage the enemy with only a third of his forces.

Hessian colonel Johann Gottlieb Rall was in command of the British forces in Trenton. Despite reports of an American attack, Rall, who considered the Continental Army to be little more than a loosely organized group of farmers, ignored the warnings. He, along with his fellow officers, continued to celebrate the Christmas holiday. As dawn approached, the American troops surprised the British forces occupying Trenton. In less than an hour, Washington's army met with victory. Thirty officers, 918 prisoners, 1,000 muskets and rifles, six cannons, six wagons, and 40 horses were captured. Colonel Rall lay mortally wounded, dying a day later. Not a single patriot was killed in the conflict.

The victory at Trenton was a strategic, as well as a military success. It also served to boost the morale of a dwindling and dispirited Continental Army and to galvanize the resolve of those Americans who still believed in America's war for independence. Three years after the battle, colonial secretary of state for King George III, Lord Germain, told Parliament "... all our hopes were blasted by that unhappy affair at Trenton."

The *Trenton Battle Monument* was designed by John H. Duncan, architect of President Grant's Tomb. It is a triumphal column of granite 148 feet high. Considered to be an early example of the Beaux Arts style, it is a Roman Doric column with a large base decorated with acanthus leaves. The capital has a ring of stars crowned by an observation platform with a railing. Above the platform is a circle of 13 electric lights, representing the 13 original colonies.

On October 19, 1893, elaborate dedication ceremonies were held. An estimated 20,000 people attended the commemorative exercises. Another 100,000 crowded the streets of Trenton.

Cannons boomed and bands played patriotic music. Souvenir ribbons sold for 25 cents. Although President Grover Cleveland was unable to attend, Governors of eight of the 13 original states did. The monument opened to the public on December 26, 1896.

TURN RIGHT AND WALK SOUTH
ON NORTH WARREN STREET ON
THE WEST SIDE OF THE MEDIAN.

13. Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption
151 North Warren Street

The site of the Cathedral is the place where Col. Johann Gottlieb Rall, commander of the Hessian troops, had his headquarters in December 1776 during the Battle of Trenton. St. Mary's was built between 1866 and 1871 to serve Catholics living north of Assunpink Creek. In 1878 a 256-foot spire was added but it was removed because of safety concerns in 1953.

14. St. Michael's Episcopal Church
140 North Warren Street

Founded by 1703, St Michael's began as a congregation open to all Protestant denominations a little north of Trenton in what was known as Maidenhead (now Lawrenceville). Some time between 1703 and 1748, according to a church summary of its history, the original St. Michael's Church was built in Trenton at the present location at Warren and Perry Streets. The original building was significantly rebuilt and enlarged in 1819. The crenellated towers were designed to honor of the Archbishop of Canterbury, whose residence, Lambeth Palace in London, sports a very similar façade. Fantasy Gothic is the term usually applied to this style.

St. Michael's is the burial spot of David Brearley, a signer of the Constitution and the State of New Jersey's first Chief Justice. It also is the final resting place of a niece of Napoleon Bonaparte.

15. Elks Lodge No. 105
120 N. Warren Street

This building opened on January 1, 1912 as the headquarters for the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. The ornamented lodge cost

\$100,000 to build and offered members bowling and billiards in the basement and a reception hall and grillroom on the first floor. The second floor had a library, a parlor, and an entertainment hall complete with a stage. The lodge room occupied the third floor and was two stories high. On the fourth floor were five bedrooms. The building was topped by a roof garden.

16. Mechanics National Bank
("The Corner Historic")
1 West State Street

On the southwest corner of Warren and State Streets, originally King and Second, respectively, historic events of local, state, national and international significance took place. For many years it has been appropriately designated "The Corner Historic." In the early days of Trenton this site at the southwest corner of King (now Warren) Street and Second (now State) Street, contained the handsome stone and stucco home of John Dagworthy, long classed as the largest and most handsome house in the community. It was erected in 1730, or thereabouts. During the American Revolution the French Arms Tavern operated here and the Continental Congress once deliberated. All told, four taverns have stood on this corner and their names have been emblazoned under the roof of the building.

The first Mechanics National Bank opened here in 1837, a two-story structure of brick, with slate roof, built at a cost of \$3,500. The current neo-Classical building dates to 1895. An N.C. Wyeth mural of Washington entering Trenton in triumph hangs in the bank.

TURN RIGHT ON
WEST STATE STREET.

17. Christian Science Reading Room
9 West State Street

The first Christian Science Reading Room was established in 1888 by Mary Baker Eddy to make her book, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* more widely available. Ms. Eddy is also the founder of the newspaper, *The Christian Science Monitor*.

There are more than 1,500 Christian Science Reading Rooms in 80 countries, serving their

communities by offering books, publications and other materials for the exploration of spirituality, prayer and health.

18. Trenton Trust Company
28 West State Street

As Trenton developed in a business way there came increasing demands for banking facilities and men of means began looking around for opportunities for investment in this connection. In 1888 the city's first trust and safe deposit company was organized. It was established under the name of The Real Estate, Safe Deposit, Trust and Investment Company of New Jersey. This was later changed to the Trenton Trust and Safe Deposit Company and became popularly known as the "Trenton Trust." The present 14-story, Neoclassical skyscraper was erected in 1924.

TURN AROUND AND RETRACE
YOUR STEPS ACROSS WARREN
STREET AND DOWN EAST
STATE STREET.

19. Trenton Savings Fund Society
123 East State Street

The Trenton Saving Fund Society was incorporated by an Act of the New Jersey Legislature on March 7, 1844 and began business in one of the offices of the old City Hall. After several moves, on June 30, 1881, title was taken to the property of Benjamin Fish, 123 East State Street. This building, long the home of Mr. Fish, was renovated and occupied by the society until July 5, 1899, when the managers decided upon the erection of a new banking house. This structure was completed in April 1901, at a total cost of \$104,433.61. The building was designed after the Italian Renaissance period of architecture, and the interior is of marble, bronze and mahogany, with all modern banking equipment and facilities. The beautiful stained glass ceiling, surmounted by a large dome, was removed in 1962.

20. YMCA
133 East State Street

The national concept of the "Young Men's Christian Association," otherwise known as the

YMCA, or simply the "Y," began its existence in 1851. This event was followed closely by the emergence of the Greater Trenton Area YMCA only five years later in 1856. The YMCA was located in various rented rooms throughout the city and offered a healthy assortment of lectures, debates and other educational programs. In the 1880s, the gymnasium was located in the second Masonic Hall. This Romanesque-styled building executed in thin ochre-colored Roman bricks, was erected in 1892. It featured an auditorium that could seat 1,000, a gym, a swimming pool, dormitories, bowling alleys, reading rooms and classrooms. Despite all that, larger quarters were required by 1919.

21. First Presbyterian Church
East State Street

As the settlement at the Falls of the Delaware grew, there came demand for a chapel that the people on the river would not have to go all the way to Ewing for worship. A plot of ground was deeded in 1727 for church purposes, where the First Presbyterian Church now stands. The cornerstone for this church building was laid in 1841.

Buried on one side of the graveyard in an unmarked site are the Hessians who died in the First Battle of Trenton; on the other side is buried Reverend John Rosbrugh, the first American Army Chaplain to die in service to his country.

22. Broad Street Bank
143 East State Street

Among the several financial institutions which have helped make history for Trenton is the Broad Street National Bank. It was organized May 19, 1887, and immediately sprang into popular favor. Business was started in a small store at 188 South Broad Street, where its first day's deposits amounted to \$22,090.02. A plot of ground was purchased down the street at 201-203 South Broad and the bank erected what it was then believed would be a permanent home. It was not long, however, before the aggressive management began looking for a more prominent location, and a site for an immense banking and office building was purchased at State and Montgomery streets.

The new bank building was ready by 1900 as

the city's first "modern" skyscraper. It featured Trenton's first revolving door and first elevator. It was decided at that time to continue as the "Broad Street Bank" although the thoroughfare of that name no longer provided the setting for the institution. Two large annexes were added, in 1913 and 1924.

23. Municipal Building
309 East State Street

The cornerstone for this three-story Neoclassical container for the city services was laid in 1909. The plans were drawn up by Philadelphia architect Spencer Roberts and called for a colonnade of twelve Doric columns marching across the second-story front. When it opened in 1911 there was a mural by Everett Shinn depicting the pottery and iron industries of Trenton in the council chamber and a painting of the original crusier *Trenton* over the doorway.

TURN RIGHT ON SOUTH
STOCKTON STREET AND TURN
RIGHT ON ERNIE KOVACS PLACE.

24. Ernie Kovacs Pace

Ernest Edward Kovacs was born Jan. 23, 1919, the son of Hungarian immigrants who lived at 105 Union Street. Later the family moved to 1104 Parkway Avenue in Ewing. He began as a disc jockey on Trenton radio station WTTM. The affable and hysterically funny Ernie quickly became a huge hit with Trentonians and soon had his own newspaper column. This led to a stint starting in 1949-50 at WPTZ-TV, the NBC affiliate in Philadelphia.

The medium was brand new, and Ernie was young and brimming with fresh and innovative ideas to bring to this new toy. His manic approach would influence comedians and broadcasters for years. Hailed as "Television's Original Genius," Kovacs died in 1962 after spinning his Corvair station wagon out of control on a slick California highway.

TURN LEFT ON MONTGOMERY
STREET TO WHERE IT ENDS AT
FRONT STREET.

25. Mill Hill Playhouse
205 East Front Street

Built in 1873, this former Lutheran house of worship withstood a tremendous fire in the 1970s. Restored by the City of Trenton it is now home to Passage Theater Company.

26. Alexander Douglass House
**165 East Front Street at
Montgomery Street**

Alexander Douglass served as Quarter Master to the Continental Army. When Washington's troops fought the British on January 2, 1777, Douglass's small home served as the General's headquarters. That night he faced a most difficult decision -- how best to survive the following day? Come the dawn, the Americans would find themselves trapped. They were outnumbered by British troops on the opposite bank of the Assumpink Creek and to their backs was the Delaware River and no boats. His use of a deserted road to slip out of town in the dead of night earned him the nickname, The Sly Fox, by British General Lord Cornwallis. This is not the original location of the Douglass House, this Mill Hill park is its fourth location in town.

WALK PAST THE DOUGLASS
HOUSE INTO MILL HILL AND
TURN LEFT ON MERCER STREET.

27. Mercer Street Friends Meetinghouse
151 Mercer Street

When Mahlon Stacy and other Quakers arrived in the area in 1679, Trenton was known as "The Falls." Stacy was instrumental in establishing the Chesterfield Monthly Meeting in 1684, which included Friends from Crosswicks and Trenton. In 1827, the Society of Friends in the United States divided into two major branches, one known as Orthodox or conservative, the other known as liberal or Hicksite, after Elias Hicks. The meeting house at Hanover and Montgomery Streets in Trenton, finished in 1739, was retained by the Hicksites. The Orthodox Friends, who had been meeting in homes, completed this brick meeting house in 1858.

TURN RIGHT ON MARKET STREET.

28. Mill Hill Historic District

Mill Hill presently survives as a middle-class mid-nineteenth century residential district but its historical significance reaches back to the late seventeenth century. Indeed, its name refers to its importance as the area's first industrial site, a grist mill, erected in 1679. During the American Revolution, the ground adjacent to the mill was, on January 2, 1777, the site of the Second Battle of Trenton. A significant portion of this battlefield has been developed as Mill Hill park.

The Mill Hill District is a tight-knit group of homogenous residential structures. Largely built between 1850 and 1895 they are representative of a vernacular interpretation of the popular styles of the second half of the nineteenth century. The prevailing form is the two or three-story, three-bay wide brick row house. To these are applied, depending on the time construction, simplified late Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, or Eastlake decoration.

TURN LEFT ON
SOUTH BROAD STREET.

29. Old Eagle Tavern 431 South Broad Street

Built in 1765 as a private home, during the 19th century this tavern served travelers, soldiers, and Trentonians as a social and political center.

TURN AROUND AND WALK BACK
ALONG SOUTH BROAD STREET.

30. The Church of the Sacred Heart 343 South Broad Street

New Jersey's first Catholic Church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist on June 12, 1814, was built at Market and Lamberton streets. A small simple brick building 30 feet wide by 50 feet deep, St John's drew a congregation of 30 families from both sides of the Delaware River.

When Irish immigrants fleeing the potato famine began to swell the ranks of the congregation a new, much larger St. John's Church was

built at Broad and Centre (State) Streets in 1848. The new church was classical in design, built of stucco brick with a three-story bell tower. On Sunday night, September 30, 1883, fire destroyed St. John's Church, leaving only the exterior walls, belfry with its bell and cupola standing.

A new Romanesque Revival Sacred Heart Church was designed by Patrick Charles Keely, himself an Irish immigrant. He was 19th century America's most prominent and prolific Catholic architect - the designer of many cathedrals in Boston, Hartford, Buffalo, Albany and Chicago, as well as some 150 churches, including ones in New Brunswick, Jersey City, Mount Holly and Newark. Sacred Heart was dedicated on June 30th, 1889; on the north side of the church a rectory was built and on the south side a Catholic club house was built, both matching in design of the new Church of the Sacred Heart.

31. Mercer County Courthouse 209 South Broad Street

Soon after the formation of Mercer County in 1838, a Greek Revival structure was erected on the top of Mill Hill. In 1852 Daniel Webster, one of America's greatest orators, won a patent infringement case for Charles Goodyear in that courthouse that paved the way for America's greatest rubber company. In 1903 the current Beaux Arts sandstone building, with its pediments, columns and arches grand, classical structure was built.

TURN LEFT ON MARKET STREET.

32. William Trent House 15 Market Street

William Trent built his country estate north of Philadelphia, in New Jersey, at the Falls of the Delaware River about 1719. It was a large, imposing brick structure, built in the newest fashion. An "allee" of English cherry trees led from the entrance down to the ferry landing. Nearby, there were numerous outbuildings as well as grist, saw and fulling mills along the Assunpink Creek. In 1720 Trent laid out a settlement, which he incorporated and named "Trenton."

In 1742 the house was leased to the first Governor of New Jersey, Lewis Morris. Governor Morris used the house, then called "Bloomsbury

Court,” as his official residence until 1746, despite the fact that it was then owned by the Governor of Pennsylvania, George Thomas.

During the American Revolution, the Trent House was occupied by Hessian forces and played a prominent role in several battles fought at Trenton during December of 1776. Later, Dr. William Bryant, the owner of the property, was expelled for his Tory sympathies. Colonel John Cox, a wealthy Philadelphia patriot and Deputy Quartermaster General of the Continental Army, acquired the house and turned the grounds into a supply depot for Washington’s army.

The house was twice used as the official state governor’s residence in the 1800s; the last private owner, Edward A. Stokes, donated the building to the City in 1929 with the condition that it be returned to its appearance during the William Trent era and used as a library or museum.

**WALK BACK UP BROAD STREET
TO WARREN STREET AND TURN
LEFT. TURN LEFT ON LAFAYETTE
STREET.**

**33. War Memorial
1 Memorial Drive**

Opened in 1932, the War Memorial was built as “a great community center” dedicated to the memory of the soldiers and sailors from Mercer County who died fighting World War I. The building houses an 1,807-seat, fully-equipped theater for performances and assemblies, and also a number of stately rooms for other purposes such as meeting and conferences.

**TURN RIGHT ON
NORTH WILLOW STREET.**

**34. Old Masonic Temple/Trenton
Visitors Center
2 Barrack Street**

Built in 1793, this was the first home of the Masons in Trenton, an influential organization to which many of America’s early leaders, including George Washington, belonged. This building was originally located further up the street and rolled on logs downhill to its present location.

**35. Old Barracks Museum
101 Barrack Street**

The two-story stone barracks are the only surviving Colonial barracks in the United States. Constructed in 1758 for the French and Indian War because New Jersey citizens refused to put British soldiers up in their houses, it was occupied by British, Hessian and American troops during the American Revolution. It was these barracks that Washington targeted in the Battle of Trenton. The Old Barracks, with the exception of a part of the main section, stands today practically the same as when it was erected in 1758.

**TURN LEFT ON
WEST STATE STREET.**

**36. Kelsey Building
101 West State Street**

Originally the School of Industrial Arts and styled after the Palazzo Strozzi in Florence, Italy, the Kelsey Building was funded for the City of Trenton by Henry Cooper Kelsey, Secretary of State of New Jersey in 1910. It is a love token to his late wife, Prudence. The clock above the entrance has small notches that note the time of her death: 11:49.

**37. Ornamental ironwork
107 West State Street**

Ironworking was a critical early industry in Trenton and was on the curriculum in the School of Industrial Arts. You can see some of the city’s finest ornamental iron outside the buildings of the Thomas Edison State College.

**38. Princeton House
160 West State Street**

Many of the buildings on West State Street across from the State House date to the late 1800s and are built in the Richardsonian Romanesque style, characterized by bold arches and heavy, rough-faced rock bases.

**YOU HAVE NOW RETURNED TO
THE TOUR STARTING POINT.**

Look Up,

Burlington



A Walking Tour of Burlington...

This shoreline was settled by two groups of English Quakers in 1677, one from Yorkshire and the other from London. High Street (the traditional English name for a town's main street) was laid out with lots to the east for the Yorkshiremen and lots to the west for the men of London. A gristmill and a sawmill were quickly established and by 1681 the Colonial Assembly had designated the fledgling settlement as the capital of the province of West New Jersey and the official port of entry. By the mid-1700s Burlington ranked with New York, Philadelphia and Boston as one of the busiest ports in the country.

Among the many political figures attracted to Burlington was William Franklin, the last Royal Governor of New Jersey. During the American Revolution, in stark contrast to, and defiance of, his famous father, Franklin was the most intractable of Tory Royalists, until his arrest. Today's riverfront residential area is called Green Bank and was his estate. As the shipping trade waned through the 1800s that riverfront reverted from industry back to its natural beauty and began luring Philadelphians as a summer resort.

Burlington, however, still saw its share of industrial development through the years. The first iron plow made in America was crafted in 1797 by Burlington resident Charles Newbold. More than a quarter-million mulberry trees were planted in 1838 to jump-start a silk industry - a spring cold snap the next year short-circuited the enterprise. James Birch was a world-renowned carriage builder in the days before the automobile. But no great industry or employer emerged to energize modern development in Burlington after the county seat followed the population inland to Mount Holly in 1793. Much of the town west of the railroad tracks that split Broad Street in 1834 maintains the feel of a Colonial port.

Our walking tour will begin on the banks of the Delaware River and then follow the patterned brick sidewalks frequented by American luminaries from Benjamin Franklin to Ulysses S. Grant...

WALK SOUTH ALONG THE
RIVERFRONT PROMENADE
(THE RIVER IS ON YOUR RIGHT).

1. **Burlington-Bristol Bridge**
Reed Street

Beginning in the 1700s, the Doron family operated a ferry between the towns of Bristol and Burlington. The ferry, whose charter had been granted by Queen Anne, operated continuously under family ownership for two centuries. However, the ferry often shut down during inclement weather. That problem was solved in 1931 with the opening of this two-lane bridge after only 13 months of construction.

The innovative design for the bridge called for flanking truss sections approaching a vertical lift that could be raised to provide a clearance of 138 feet, high enough for the tallest vessels of the time to navigate up the Delaware. When the bridge opened, cars paid 35 cents to cross the span, pedestrians a dime.

2. **Doane Academy**
350 Riverbank

This private educational institution was established by Episcopal Bishop George Washington Doane in 1837 as a school for girls. That first year, the enrollment was 52. Tuition was \$100 per semester with an added charge of \$6.00 for bedding. The 10-acre campus, listed on the National Register of Historical Places, features three ivy-covered stone buildings and a chapel.

TURN AND WALK BACK DOWN
RIVERBANK, AWAY FROM THE
BRIDGE.

3. **Riverbank Homes**
Riverbank and Talbot streets

At 202 Riverbank the early 19th century home of Judge Edward Shippen typifies the elegant houses lining the Riverbank, often used as summer retreats from the poisonous air of Philadelphia. His daughter Peggy married Benedict Arnold and he struggled to keep her in a lifestyle to which she was accustomed, perhaps, some specu-

late, triggering his betrayal against America as he tried to sell West Point. Across Talbot Street is Stone Cottage, a fine example of Gothic Revival architecture designed by architect William Strickland, a leading proponent of the Greek Revival style in America and an early practitioner of Gothic styles. It was the home of Cortlandt van Rensselaer, founder of the Presbyterian Church in Burlington.

4. **Ship *Shield* Site**
**Riverbank, between Talbot and Wood
streets**

On this site, the ship *Shield* came to Burlington and tied up to a large buttonwood tree on December 10, 1678. Legend states it was so cold that overnight the river froze, and the passengers walked ashore on the ice. The *Shield* was the first ship to navigate the Delaware River from the Atlantic Ocean to Burlington, setting the stage for Burlington's eventual emergence as the third largest port in the New World.

5. **Grubb Estate**
46 Riverbank Street

Henry Grubb operated the first tavern in Burlington and his family was later involved in mining and manufacturing. This estate contained a tannery, a brewery and a brickyard. The Grubbs were abolitionists and reportedly built tunnels under their home to the river to hide escaped slaves. Henry's grandson Edward Burd Grubb, enlisted in the 3rd New Jersey Volunteer Infantry in May 1861 to promote the Union cause in the Civil War. He was wounded in action, promoted several times, and on March 13, 1865 he became, at age 24, the second youngest general in the Union Army. Several decades after the war ended, Grubb would be appointed United States Minister to Spain.

In 1872 Grubb retained another Civil War veteran, Frank Furness to create a "cottage" and matching guest residence on this corner. Furness was Philadelphia's leading Victorian architect with nearly 650 designs to his credit, including several of the city's most prominent structures.

TURN RIGHT ON WOOD STREET.

6. Revell House
213 Wood Street

This small brick house, laid in Flemish bond of alternating headers and stretchers, stands as the oldest building in Burlington County, and one of the oldest residences in New Jersey. It was constructed in 1685 by George Hutchinson, a wealthy Quaker distiller, and sold to Thomas Revell who used the house as an office from 1696 to 1699. Tradition places this as the home where Benjamin Franklin was sold gingerbread and given supper by a friendly Burlington woman. Thus, it is sometimes called the Gingerbread House.

7. Gemmere House
222 Wood Street

This was the home of the Gummere brothers, John and Samuel, prominent members of the Society of Friends. Distinguished scholars, they, with Dr. John Griscom of Burlington, played an important part in the establishment of Pennsylvania's Haverford College in 1833. The house dates to the early 1720s.

TURN LEFT ON UNION STREET.

8. Library Company of Burlington
23 West Union Street

The Library Company of Burlington was chartered in 1757 by King George II. It is the oldest library in continuous operation in New Jersey, only six are older in the the United States. The building dates to 1789. It was the first library in the country to publish a catalog of its books. Originally, over 70 individuals promised to pay 10 shillings a year to maintain and increase the library, the first patron was William Franklin.

TURN RIGHT DOWN THE LANE
ACROSS FROM THE LIBRARY.

9. Woolman Carriage House
23 Smith Lane

Tucked in the center of town, behind the main streets, this 1870s carriage house stabled the horses of the Woolman family who were prominent in West Jersey business affairs. This build-

ing is the City of Burlington Historical Society's Headquarters; the interior stables and lofts are original.

TURN RIGHT DOWN SMITH LANE
OUT TO WOOD STREET. TURN
RIGHT.

10. Ulysses S. Grant House
309 Wood Street

Seeking a quiet, safe place for his family during the Civil War, General Ulysses S. Grant sent his wife, Julia, and their children to Burlington in September of 1864. The connection seems to have been Captain Miner K. Knowlton, a retired army officer who resided at Wood and West Union streets. Knowlton had been an instructor at West Point when General Grant was a cadet.

On April 14, 1865 the Grants were en route from Washington to Burlington after declining an invitation to attend the play *Our American Cousin* with the Lincolns at Ford Theatre. Grant gave as his reason his promise to escort Mrs. Grant to Burlington to be with their children but the undisguised frostiness of Mary Lincoln towards Julia Grant may have played a part. Grant received the news that President Lincoln had been shot earlier that evening at midnight in Philadelphia while awaiting a ferry to Camden to complete the final leg of his journey home. The General completed the trip with his wife, turned around, and dashed back to Philadelphia in time to catch a 6:00 am special train back to Washington.

TURN AND CONTINUE WALKING
ON WOOD STREET, AWAY FROM
THE RIVER. TURN RIGHT ON WEST
BROAD STREET AND STAY ON THE
RIVER SIDE OF THE TRACKS.

11. Old St. Mary's Episcopal Church
**northwest corner of Wood Street and
West Broad Street**

Constructed in 1703, this is the oldest Episcopal Church in New Jersey. The early Georgian building is covered in stucco with white wood trim. The roof is topped by a modest, louvred

lantern. To this day the congregation uses a silver communion service that was a gift from Queen Anne before 1713. Despite that, during the American Revolution, this church served as the focal point of the activities of the American Loyalists.

12. New St. Mary's Church
West Broad Street

The Episcopalian congregation moved into this church in 1854, designed by Richard Upjohn, architect of New York's Trinity Church and the country's leading proponent of the Gothic Revival style. This church is one the earliest and important examples of Gothic architecture in America. St. Mary's churchyard is the resting place of prominent citizens including Governor Joseph Bloomfield, President of the Continental Congress Elias Boudinot, and several United States congressmen.

13. St. Mary's Guild Hall
northeast corner of West Broad Street and Talbot Street

The Guild Hall has served the community since 1799, from acting as a hospital, a soup kitchen, to meeting hall, and more.

14. Boudinot-Bradford Mansion
207 West Broad Street

Elias Boudinot was a New Jersey delegate to the Continental Congress and when America officially gained its independence in 1783 he was serving as president of the body and so he signed the Treaty of Paris. As such he stands in the rogue's gallery of characters holding a claim to the honor of being first "President of the United States" in the pre-Constitutional election days. Boudinot served in the United States Congress from 1789–95, as a Supreme court lawyer, Director of the U.S. Mint, and founder of the American Bible Society. He was also a trustee of what is now Princeton University. He built this brick mansion in the late 1790s. His daughter, the wife of the first United States Attorney General, William Bradford, lived here her entire life.

**CROSS THE RAILROAD TRACKS
AND WALK BACK DOWN BROAD
STREET, TOWARDS TOWN CENTER.**

15. 1799 Houses
130-136 West Broad Street

This trio of early Federal-style frame houses was built in 1799.

16. McIlvaine House
100-102 W. Broad Street

This large Federal-style house, now clearly converted into a double house, was built in 1813 by Joseph McIlvaine. In 1820 his son, Charles, became the Episcopal Bishop of Ohio. Earlier, when 17 years of age, Charles founded the first United Sunday School in New Jersey. In 1864, Mary and Margaret McIlvaine donated the bells to St. Marys Episcopal Church.

**TURN RIGHT ON HIGH STREET
AND STAY ON THE WEST SIDE
OF THE ROAD.**

17. Henry Carey House
406 High Street

At the core this three-story brick building is the oldest extant construction in the City of Burlington, a home built around 1680 by Thomas Olive, a town founder and one-time acting governor of West Jersey. Famous 18th century residents were international trader Richard Smith, Jr., and his son Richard Smith, Esq., a member of the Continental Congress who resigned because of his Quaker vows of nonviolence when war with Great Britain was imminent. A notable 19th century inhabitant was Henry C. Carey, an early political economist and muckraker.

18. Lyceum Hall
432 High Street

Lyceum Hall was constructed in 1839 as a public hall for lectures, theatrical productions and cultural programs. It was given to the City in 1851, and housed the municipal government for 140 years. In 1910, the hall was remodeled and

stylistically updated under the direction of architect Henry Armit Brown. The building, once again a cultural center for the arts, is the best example of Neoclassical Revival architecture in the City.

CONTINUE TO FEDERAL STREET
AND CROSS OVER HIGH STREET.
TURN LEFT AND WALK DOWN
THE EAST SIDE OF THE STREET.

19. Captain James Lawrence House
459 High Street

James Lawrence was born in this 1740s house in 1781. At 16 Lawrence entered the United States Navy as a midshipman on the *U.S.S. Gan- ges*. During the War of 1812 Lawrence, as commander of the *U.S.S. Chesapeake* tangled with the *H.M.S. Shannon* outside of Boston. After taking a terrible battering, the *Chesapeake* was boarded and Captain Lawrence, who had been mortally wounded, shouted to his men, "Tell the men to fire faster and not to give up the ship; fight her till she sinks!" This became paraphrased as, "Don't Give Up the Ship", and was sewn onto a flag, becoming the motto of the U.S. Navy. There have been six American vessels commissioned in his honor. He is buried in New York City.

20. Cooper House
457 High Street

William and Elizabeth Cooper were renting this house on September 15, 1789 when Elizabeth gave birth here to a son, James. Shortly after the infant's first birthday the family packed for upstate New York where William, later to be a United States Congressman, founded the village of Cooperstown. Young James was at Yale by age 13 and at sea as a merchant seaman a few years later. He published his first book in 1820 and three years later introduced Natty Bumppo, the prototypical resourceful American woodsman, to readers in the *Leatherstocking* series. James Fenimore Cooper's most famous novel, *Last of the Mohicans*, was published three years later and his place among the most popular of early 19th century American novelists secure.

21. Bard-How House
453 High Street

This building was probably constructed about 1743 by Bennett and Sarah Pattison Bard. It is the earliest of the historic houses maintained by the Burlington County Historical Society, which includes the neighboring Cooper House and Lawrence House. Samuel How, Sr. purchased the house in 1756. He was an Inferior Court of Common Pleas Justice, and a representative to the Provincial Congress of New Jersey.

22. Mercury
427 High Street

This cast iron statue was erected in 1881 and served as the centerpiece of the Birch Opera House which once stood here. The "Messenger of the Gods" was plucked from its former home when it was razed to make room, appropriately, for the new post office. The figure is believed to have been cast in England and is a copy of a sixteenth century work by Flemish sculptor Jean Boulogne. Now resplendent in gold leaf, it stands atop a base inscribed "BIRCH 1881" for the year it was placed at the Opera House.

23. Birch-Bloomfield House
415 High Street

This was originally the home of Joseph Bloomfield, a Continental Army captain and Mayor of Burlington. From 1800 to 1812, he served as Governor of New Jersey and during the War of 1812 was commissioned as a Brigadier General. Before his political career, as a lawyer Bloomfield successfully defended the American patriots who burned British tea at Greenwich, New Jersey.

The house received its fashionable Second Empire mansard roof when owned by James Birch. Birch built his first carriage repair shop in 1867 and eventually he was producing more than 200 models of carriages exported around the globe from his three-story factory in East Burlington. Henry Ford visited the Birch factory and offered to have automobile bodies built in Burlington. Birch refused, believing there would always be a market for carriages and the automobile business was suspect.

AT BROAD STREET MAKE YOUR WAY ACROSS TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF HIGH STREET.

24. Mechanics National Bank
southwest corner of High Street and
Broad Street

This Neoclassical bank was constructed in 1926 on the site of the historic Blue Anchor Tavern, established in 1750. During the Revolution, the inn served both Colonial and British forces. In the 1850s Republicans utilized this building as a headquarters during Abraham Lincoln's presidential political campaign. The bar within is the site of a legendary arm-wrestling match between candidate Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant.

CONTINUE WALKING DOWN HIGH STREET, TOWARDS THE RIVER.

25. Friends Meetinghouse
341 High Street

This building's location has been the meeting place of area Quakers for over 300 years. The original seats and tables built during the Revolution are still in use in this building that was completed in 1785. The original hexagonal meetinghouse was used from 1685 to 1785.

Among the noteworthies interred in the burial grounds behind the building are founder of Bryn Mawr College Joseph Taylor, printer Isaac Collins, and missionary Stephen Grellet. Under a huge sycamore is a plaque and stone marking the grave of Chief Ockanickon, Chief of the Mantas tribe of the Lenape, and an early Native American friend of the settlers. A boulder near the tree bears his mark, and a bronze plaque with his last words: "Be plain and fair to all, both Indian and Christian, as I have been."

Nearby, on Broad Street, is the West New Jersey Proprietors Office, a tiny one-room red brick building that contains rare documents relating to the establishment of West Jersey by William Penn.

26. Nathaniel Coleman House
320 High Street

Coleman, a Quaker, was a silversmith, whose work is today prized by collectors. He lived here for nearly a half a century after he moved in during 1793. The Friendly Institution, a local charitable society, was organized in this building on December 14, 1796.

27. Richard Smith House
315 High Street

The earliest parts of this building date to 1700 when it was constructed for Richard Smith, a physician. The Smiths evolved into one of colonial Burlington's largest and most influential families. Richard Jr. was an international trader and representative to the Provincial Assembly and built the Blue Anchor Tavern. His son Richard Smith, Esq. also served in the Assembly and served one term in the Continental Congress before resigning based on his Quaker opposition to the Revolutionary War. Later the building housed William R. Allen, a Whig, who served two terms as mayor, and for whom a school was named.

28. Burlington Pharmacy
301 High Street

This is New Jersey's oldest pharmacy in continuous operation. It was once a center of anti-slavery activity in town; poet John Greenleaf Whittier denounced slavery from its doorstep, and oral tradition has it that tunnels under this building hid slaves as part of the Underground Railroad. Isaac Collins, the royal printer, lived in this building from 1770 to 1778.

TURN RIGHT ON UNION STREET.

29. Endeavor Fire Co.
19 E. Union Street

Organized in 1795, the Endeavor is the oldest fire company in New Jersey operating under the same name. Each original member was required to obtain a bucket, a ladder and axe, and to pass a morals test. The spire once topped the original Town Hall and Market House which was on High Street at Union.

RETURN TO HIGH STREET
AND TURN RIGHT, TOWARDS
THE RIVER.

30. John Howard Pugh House
214 High Street

Known as the Counting House, this building was created after 1768 from two houses built in the first decades of the 18th century. It was then occupied by Samuel Allinson, author of a state laws compilation, and a member of the Friends prominent in local anti-slavery movements. His grandson, William J. Allinson, opened the Burlington Pharmacy. John Howard Pugh altered the Georgian house when he moved here in the 1850s. During the Civil War, he served without compensation at the U.S. General Hospital in nearby Beverly. After the war, he served in the House of Representatives, resumed his medical practice, was president of the Mechanics' National Bank of Burlington, and served on the State Board of Education. Pugh lived here until 1905.

31. Temple B'nai Israel
212 High Street

One of South Jersey's oldest synagogues, Temple B'nai Israel was established 1916 and occupies this 1801 Federal-style structure.. Originally built for Lydia Ritche, it was later the home of U.S. Senator Garret Wall and his son, James, first mayor of the City of Burlington under the 1851 charter. The building became the residence of the McNeal family, founders of U.S. Pipe and Foundry Company, and an adopted daughter, Marguerite V. Burton. Marguerite married a German baron in 1912 and later a German diplomat's son in 1917, provoking a duel between them, and inciting international controversy during World War I.

Just to the west was the location of the Isaac Collins' print shop. Collins arrived in Burlington in the 1760s and established himself as a printer of the first rank. His accomplishments included the state's first weekly newspaper, *The New Jersey Gazette*, superb almanacs, and several editions of the Holy Bible. Ben Franklin used America's first copperplate press here to print New Jersey's currency.

32. Hoskins House
202 High Street

This Colonial period structure stands as a model for restoration and preservation throughout the City of Burlington. There have been several archeological digs, where pottery, jars, and tools have been uncovered.

33. Hope Steam Fire Company No. 1
High Street at Delaware Avenue

In the mid-1800s, a series of consolidations took place among fire companies in Burlington that led to the Hope Hose Company. After merging with the Fulton Engine Company in 1869, fires were fought from a headquarters across the street until this building was constructed in 1967. The weathervane that sits on the domed steeple is a depiction of the horse-drawn fire wagons used in its early days.

34. Liberty Belle
Delaware River at foot of High Street

This 118-foot sternwheeler plies the Delaware River as a venue for special events.

35. Burlington Island

The first recorded settlement in New Jersey places Europeans on this island in 1624. They were Walloons from Belgium who established a trading post to barter with the local Indians. The first murder in recorded New Jersey history took place on Burlington island in the 1670s when two Indians murdered two Dutchmen. Since 1682 one of the oldest trustees in the nation, the Board of Island Managers, has administered funds from part of the island for the education of City students.

TURN LEFT AND WALK
DOWNSTREAM ON THE
RIVERFRONT PROMENADE TO
THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

Look Up,

Moorestown



A Walking Tour of Moorestown...

In 1682, when a wagon road from Burlington to Salem was carved out along a ridge, Quakers found their way here. John Rodman purchased 500 acres of land in 1686 and the western half of today's town became known as Rodmantown. The eastern portion was called Chestertown, although there was no vibrant unifying force to apply much definition to the scattered settlements in the vicinity. One hundred and fifty years later there were still scarcely 50 dwellings in town. It had by that time, however, acquired the name "Moorestown," named in honor of the village's first tavern owner, Thomas Moore. Moore purchased 33 acres of land in 1732 opposite the Friends Meeting House (established in 1700) and subsequently subdivided his land for private homes and business sites.

From its inception Moorestown was always a town of homes and small shops rather than an industrial community. There were a few mills nearby and a small tanning industry and a thriving nursery and fruit trade but nothing that substantially altered the residential ambience. Early on Moorestown developed a history of attracting the rich and famous. Samuel Leeds Allen, inventor of the Flexible Flyer sled, was one of the first. His house was later bought by Eldridge Johnson, who was manufacturing the world's finest record players in Camden.

In recent times Moorestown became the hamlet of choice for high-voltage Philadelphia Eagles football stars, Donovan McNabb and Terrell Owens among them. In 2005 *Money* magazine announced what residents had known for 150 years: Moorestown was the best place to live in America.

The historic district is stuffed with over 350 qualifying properties but we'll concentrate our explorations along Main Street, beginning in a building that first served the town 200 years ago...

1. Town Hall
40 East Main Street

This whitewashed brick building did duty as the heart of Moorestown civic life for 162 years. It began life as a humble, one-story structure in 1812. Records indicate that the lot was purchased from Thomas Hooton for \$138 and that the entire cost of the original building was approximately \$1500. In the 1850s the Moorestown Literary Association bought into the building and in 1859 it was doubled in size. A stage was installed inside and entertainers and lecturers began appearing here. A jail was constructed at the east rear corner in 1876.

The building's current appearance dates to 1888 when the Women's Christian Temperance Union agreed to spruce up the old town hall in exchange for stock in its ownership. The front was pumped up to 2 1/2 stories and adorned with elaborate Romanesque billet molding formed by alternating projecting and recessed bricks, especially noticeable in the arched window hoods. Entry was achieved through a compound arch.

The anti-drinking crusaders stayed about ten years before ownership reverted back to the town. The first silent moving pictures in Moorestown were screened here. Flower shows were staged here. The town's first police station was located here. The township offices eventually moved to a new municipal center in 1975.

WALK WEST ON MAIN STREET,
STAYING ON THE SOUTH SIDE
OF THE ROAD (THE SAME SIDE
AS TOWN HALL).

2. Greenleaf
28 East Main Street

Charles French, a direct descendant of Thomas French, who settled in West Moorestown in 1694, was a noted mill owner and road builder in Camden County. He was an extensive dealer in heavy lumber, supplying Philadelphia builders with their keels and largest pieces. He would accumulate over 1,000 acres in Gloucester and Burlington counties and purchased three acres in the center of Moorestown in 1800. He acquired an additional 33 acres in 1818. In 1820, at the age

of 67, French built this handsome, well-proportioned Federal-style brick home. But he didn't come to Moorestown to retire; he partnered with William Roberts in a large woolen mill and remained active in business and community affairs until his death in 1834.

The house was subsequently purchased by Edward Harris, Jr. who sold it in 1896 to the Moorestown Friends to become a residence for retired Friends. Green leaf served this purpose for more than 100 years. The small brick buildings to the east, Hathaway Cottage (36 East Main) and Parry House (38 East Main) were constructed in the 1830s as tenant houses for the estate, each in the Federal style.

3. Community House
16 East Main Street

The impetus for the construction of a community center in Moorestown came from the Moorestown Women's Club. They secured a promise from Eldridge Reeves Johnson, founder of the Victor Talking Machine Company that was the forerunner of RCA, to fund the building if the townspeople would create a permanent maintenance fund. Within eight months, more than \$106,000 was raised in a town-wide fund drive. Donations came from 740 individuals, 500 school children, and dozens of local civic and fraternal organizations. Johnson would contribute \$250,000.

The site for the new Community House was right in the center of town, on a three-acre property owned by Mary Sumner. The house on the property, originally a summer residence for a Philadelphia businessman, was one of the oldest in Moorestown, dating to about 1786. The house was sacrificed in 1924 and the brick-and-stone Community House, designed in a combination of English and Colonial styles, officially opened its doors to the public on April 11, 1926. A week-long series of events included Community Players Night with selections by the Moorestown Orchestra, a Teenage Tea for the girls of Moorestown, a concert by the Moorestown Community Chorus, and an exhibition match by the University of Pennsylvania Wrestling Team.

TURN LEFT ON HIGH STREET.

4. Smith-Cadbury Mansion
12 High Street

The Smith-Cadbury Mansion, now headquarters of the Moorestown Historical Society, was built by neither a Smith nor a Cadbury. Francis Hogsett built what today constitutes the eastern two-thirds of the central portion of the house between 1730 and 1738 when the house was acquired by Joshua Humphries, a carpenter who began a centuries-long tradition of alterations and additions. In 1766, Humphries sold the house to Samuel Smith, whose family occupied it until 1798. The Cadburys came along in 1921.

RETURN TO MAIN STREET AND
TURN LEFT, NOW MOVING ALONG
WEST MAIN STREET.

5. John C. Hopkins House
10 West Main Street

This 2 1/2 story, five-bay Second Empire style brick house was constructed in 1879 for John C. Hopkins, a prosperous merchant. The property is highlighted by an enormous copper beech tree that measures 16 feet in diameter and is as old as the house.

6. Our Lady Of Good Counsel Church
42 West Main Street

The seeds of the Catholicism in Moorestown began in 1832 when James and Fannie Laverty, recent emigrants from Ireland, settled on a farm in Fellowship. The Laverty home soon became one of the regular stops for itinerant missionary priests who served the scattered Catholic families of West Jersey. In the 1860s, because of strong antipathy toward Catholics, a third party, Peter Verga of Camden, had to be engaged to negotiate the transaction for new land. When asked what use he had in mind, Verga responded that he was acting as an agent for one who would open a business of repairing souls. Thinking only in terms of a shoe repair shop, the seller readily signed over the deed. And so in 1867 a brick church was built in the heart of the village. In the early 1890s a wind storm caused so much damage to the brick structure that it was replaced in 1896 with the current Gothic church built of Stockton gray stone.

CONTINUE TO CHURCH STREET
AND CROSS OVER TO THE
OPPOSITE SIDE TO TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

7. Trinity Episcopal Church
207 West Main Street

This landmark church was built in 1929 in the English Rural Gothic Revival style. The complex consists of the church, rectory, parish hall and chapel. All are constructed of coursed ashlar, trimmed with cast stone, and crowned with multi-color slate shingled roofs. The front entrance into a tower rises to stone spire fenestrated with dormers. A cemetery, surrounded by a stone wall, is in the rear of building complex.

WALK BACK UP MAIN STREET ON
THE NORTH SIDE OF THE STREET.

8. First Baptist Church
19 West Main Street

The church was officially organized in 1837 after more than two decades of affiliation with the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia. Land was purchased on Main Street and this church was constructed by members of the congregation.

9. 1 West Main Street

This 3-story, 5-bay late Greek Revival/Italianate frame house, built in the mid-1850s, launches the western end of the Moorestown historic district. The central entrance with side lights, transom, and entablatured frontispiece lend an air of Greek Revival to the ground floor while the window treatments, flat roof, brackets with pendants mark the Italianate style.

10. Moorestown Trust Company Building
41 East Main Street

The Moorestown Trust Company organized in 1913 and this imposing Neoclassical bank vault was built in 1926. The quartet of engaged giant stone Corinthian columns support an entablature with "Moorestown Trust Company" in the frieze.

11. Masonic Lodge
65 East Main Street

This temple-fronted building of orange pyrate brick was constructed in 1914 for the Masons. Over the years it has served many purposes, including a stint as the town post office. The central entrance into the first floor shop is beneath a wood porch; the second floor windows with transoms are separated by brick pilasters rising from first floor. A Bull's eye stares out from the gable beneath a crowning dentiled pediment.

12. 73-75 East Main Street

This telescoping hodgepodge of a building began in the 1840s as a three-story Italianate brick house. It picked up a Colonial Revival porch in the early 1900s and in the 1920s came a one-story brick commercial addition across the front with an Arts and Crafts-style influence and decorative tile work. Quite an eye-ful.

13. Burlington County Trust Company
91 East Main Street

Burlington County Trust Company was chartered as a commercial bank on January 1, 1890 and survived until 1984. This Georgian Revival-style bank was crafted of limestone on a granite foundation to serve as headquarters in 1926. It operates as bank to this day; out front are two bronze Art Deco lights and the town clock.

The Coles Hotel was razed to make room for the bank. Built as a tavern about 1800, it became known in 1846 as the William Penn Hotel, hosting many noted people of the day. C.C. & B.F. Coles purchased it in 1859 changing the name in 1890.

14. Doughten-Matlack Store
101 East Main Street

George F. Doughten came to Moorestown in the early 1830s and set up a mercantile business in an old frame building on this location with John Courtland Haines. After buying out Haines he constructed this brick store around 1849. The Colonial Revival porch with Tuscan columns is an early 20th century addition. It served for many, many years as the town general store.

15. Robert Annon Building
111 East Main Street

The core of this vernacular frame house on a brick foundation dates to 1786. It now sports three entrances that facilitate its later life as a retail facility.

16. Grange Hall
123 East Main Street

The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry is a fraternal organization for American farmers that encouraged farm families to band together for their common economic and political good. Founded in 1867 after the Civil War, it is the oldest surviving agricultural organization in America. This two-story brick building was erected in 1886 when the organization was approaching its zenith with over one million members.

17. 129-131 East Main Street

This Gothic Revival frame house with the signature steep-pitched roof dates to around 1860. The arrival of the 20th century brought a fashionable Colonial Revival porch with Tuscan columns and a one-story commercial addition with shop windows. Cornice brackets tie the whole package together.

18. Hessian House
139 East Main Street

Joshua Bispham sailed for Philadelphia from England on the ship *Mary & Hannah* on December 13, 1736 where he settled near his brother. He moved to Moorestown in 1744 buying this lot from Nehemiah Haines and building a stone Colonial house. It came to be known as the Hessian House after German officers commandeered it during the Revolutionary War as they retreated from Philadelphia on the night of June 19, 1778.

19. 141 East Main Street

The origins of this stone house with a gambrel roof go back to 1720. Now stuccoed, it is approaching its fourth century in Moorestown.

20. Breidenhart
255 East Main Street

Samuel Leeds Allen came from a prominent Philadelphia Quaker family. In the 1860s, he established the S. L. Allen Co. to manufacture farm equipment, including some items of his own invention. He was awarded almost 300 patents for farming machinery, including the fertilizer drill, seed drill, potato digger, cultivator, furrower, pulverizer, grass edger and numerous other farm implements. In order to diversify his product line and provide work during the winter months, Allen, himself a “coasting” enthusiast since boyhood, set about inventing a sled. Typical designs of the day employed a pair of fixed wooden runners with a third, pivotable steering runner attached to a handle. In 1889 he came out with a sled that attached the front pair of runner struts to a crossbar which floated on flexible runners that could be steered with ease, accuracy and safety, without shifting body weight. Allen called his new sled the “Flexible Flyer.”

But it was not with Flexible Flyer profits that Allen built his Tudor Gothic castle he called Breidenhart (meaning “broad hearth stone” or “hospitality”) five years later. Sales of the new sled were sluggish at best for many years until a new fondness for outdoor winter sports developed in America. By 1915 some 250,000 Flexible Flyers were being sold each year and the sled has remained essentially unchanged in design and construction ever since. It still features wooden seat slats bearing the distinctive red eagle trademark, wooden steering and handle bars, and steel runners and struts painted bright red.

In 1918, another iconic American inventor, Eldridge R. Johnson, inventor of the Victrola, purchased the property. Johnson substantially altered the interior of the mansion that had been designed by Philadelphia architect Walter Smidley. He commissioned Herman Kleiner, a locally important sculptor, to execute the new decorations. In 1947, Johnson’s widow sold the house and its 12 landscaped acres to the Lutheran Home of New Jersey.

**CROSS THE STREET AND TURN
RIGHT, WALKING BACK TOWARDS
THE CENTER OF TOWN.**

21. Haines House
124 East Main Street

This massive, three-story house, dating to 1756, is a testament to the prominence of its owner, Dr. Samuel Haines.

22. Friends School and Meeting House
Chester Avenue and Main Street

In 1785, members of the Religious Society of Friends erected a little brick schoolhouse at a point where Kings Highway passes over Route 73, in present day Maple Shade. The same year, they built a one-room stone schoolhouse on land just west of here. These two Quaker schools were opened 25 years before a district school was established in 1810 and 88 years before the opening of the first free Moorestown public school in 1873. Although attendance fluctuated, in 1811, there were 100 pupils at the Friends stone school. The centerpiece of the 48-acre campus is the 1802 Meeting House. Constructed of brick, the date has been worked into the west side gable.

23. Roberts Hall
86 East Main Street

This substantial brick house was built in 1800 by Joshua Borton. Through the 19th century it served as a general store and post office as well as a residence. The porch is a 20th century addition. The building was purchased by the Friends School in 1929 as a dormitory for teachers.

24. 76-78 East Main Street

This house dates to 1830 and over time morphed into a duplex. In recent years it has served as a funeral home.

25. Joshua Stokes House
60 East Main Street

This transitional brick house from the 1830s spans the late Federal period and the early Greek Revival age of American architecture. The paneled front door features a semicircular fanlight.

**CONTINUE A FEW MORE STEPS TO
THE TOUR STARTING POINT.**

Look Up,

Mount Holly



A Walking Tour of Mount Holly...

The distinctive bump of Mount Holly in an otherwise flat landscape soars 183 feet in altitude above the Rancocas Creek. Quakers began settling around the hill, indeed covered by holly trees, in the late 1870s. For the next 50 years there were land swaps and jockeying for farmland around the twisting, slow-moving waters of the Rancocas. That all changed in 1723 when Edward Gaskill and his sons hand dug a mill race connecting two loops of the meandering creek to power a grist mill. An ironworks followed and more industry and the foundation for a town became well established. There were enough bridges spanning the Rancocas - more bridges than houses one wag suggested - that the settlement was named Bridgetown (it would not become known as Mount Holly until 1931).

By the American Revolution there were over 200 houses in town and it was important enough for George Washington to use as a decoy in luring Hessian troops from Bordentown on December 23, 1776 to help make his surprise attack on Trenton three days later a success. Hessian commanders and 2,000 troops tangled for three fruitless days in an artillery duel with 600 Colonials, mostly untrained men and boys, on Iron Works Hill. A few years later the town was pressed into duty as the capital of New Jersey when the state legislature was forced to meet here for two months in 1779.

In 1796, when the original county seat at Burlington grew tired and poorly situated for the growth of the region, bustling Mount Holly was a natural choice for the new county capital. A half century later when the Burlington and Mount Holly Railroad rolled into town there were five mills, a woolen factory, nine stores, a bank, two newspapers and a boarding school for a population approaching 4,000.

Mount Holly has been diligent about preserving its history - even the original firehouse, little more than a shack, of America's oldest continuously operated volunteer fire company is on display on the town streets. Our walking tour will begin in the municipal parking lot where there are plenty of namesake holly trees and a 300-year old log cabin that was found in a rather surprising place...

1. Shinn-Curtis Log House
southeast corner of Park Drive and
Commerce Drive

This early settler's log house of hand-hewn logs dates to 1712; it was in the possession of the Curtis family for 147 years, beginning in 1802. It was discovered by accident in 1967, entirely entombed in a house that was being demolished on Water Street (now Rancocas Road). It is now owned by the Mount Holly Historical Society.

WALK SOUTH ON PARK DRIVE TO
WASHINGTON STREET AND TURN
LEFT.

**2. Mount Holly Township Municipal
Building**
23 Washington Street

The Neo-Georgian township building was a Depression-era project completed in 1932. It is distinguished by decorative brickwork to create corner quoins and window-topping lintels.

3. Post Office
28 Washington Street

Another Depression-era project, this one dating to 1935; the single story Neoclassical post office represents the government's effort to bring significant pieces of architecture to small towns. The window treatments mirror the earlier Municipal Building across the street and a highly decorative roof.

4. Union Hose Company #2
120 Washington Street

The Union Hose Company organized in 1805 and operated from a small building at the corner of High and Garden streets. This building, constructed of brick but now carrying a stone facing, became the company's new home in 1898. It featured a prominent hose-drying tower; the single-story addition is of more recent vintage.

TURN RIGHT ON WHITE STREET.

5. Old City Hall and Jail
8 White Street

These homes along White Street have been transformed into quaint shops and cafes known as Mill Race Village. The area has become known as a hotbed of paranormal activity - a phenomenon not hurt by the fact that this modest building once served as the town jail.

6. Michael Earnest House
14 White Street

Michael Earnest was a husbandman and there was a slaughterhouse near the Mill Race. His house has been altered very little since its construction in 1775. Only the porch has been added to the original structure.

7. Thomas Budd House
20 White Street

The Budd House, with a pedigree dating back to 1744, is the earliest known residence on its original site in Mount Holly. Thomas Budd was an early mover and shaker in town, a major landowner who was one of the main proponents of changing the town name from Bridgetown to Mount Holly (one of his projects was the maintenance of the namesake ironworks bridge). He was also a founding father of Saint Andrew's Church, one of the incorporators of the original Bridgetown Library and instrumental in digging the milrace that helped launch the town. The brick 2 1/2-story house laid in Flemish bond (alternating headers and stretchers) remains virtually unchanged; a third story added by his grandson, Dr. Stacey Budd, was removed in 1927.

TURN LEFT ON CHURCH STREET.

8. Joshua Humphries House
5 Church Street

Joshua Humphries patterned his house after an English cottage when he constructed it in 1747. This house is better known for its most famous early owner, High Sheriff Joseph Mullen, who acquired the property in 1765.

**9. Relief Fire Engine Co. No. 1 of
Mount Holly
17 Pine Street at the head of
Church Street**

This is the oldest continuously used active volunteer fire company in the United States. It was organized in 1752 as Britannia Fire Company. The original firehouse sits next to the present building which dates back to 1892.

**10. Mill Street Hotel
67 Mill Street**

Samuel Briant constructed his Three-Tun Tavern as a combination brewhouse and inn perhaps as early as 1723. A “tun” was a hogshead or measure for liquor and a tavern was known as a one-tun, two-tun or three-tun inn depending on its size so Briant had a substantial establishment. Although altered, the building continues to operate as it once did nearly three centuries ago.

TURN LEFT ON MILL STREET.

**11. Farmers Bank of New Jersey
21 Mill Street**

Organized on July 9, 1814, as the Farmers Bank of New Jersey, this was the first bank in Mount Holly and one of the first in southern New Jersey. The Federal style building was erected in 1815 with two later additions. Among its notable features are recessed blind arches, within which the windows are set.

**12. Fountain Square
northeast corner of Mill Street and
High Street**

A fountain graced by the Greek goddess of Youth, Hebe, cupbearer to the gods, first appeared on this square in 1878 after possibly doing duty on the grounds of the Centennial exhibition in Philadelphia. It was a welcome addition to the Mount Holly streetscape and a favorite stopping point for horses on a hot day. The original was replaced in 1920 after horse traffic had disappeared from the town but a replica was replaced on its original site on October 15, 1988.

TURN RIGHT ON HIGH STREET.
TURN RIGHT ON BRAINERD
STREET.

**13. First United Methodist Church
25 Brainerd Street**

Methodism was introduced to Mount Holly around 1770 with meetings held over the town market when the West Jersey circuit-riding pastor came to town. This rough-stone church dates to 1883.

**14. Historic Old Schoolhouse
35 Brainerd Street**

Father John Brainerd was a pioneering Indian missionary in West Jersey, spreading the word of Calvinism south of the Raritan River. In 1759 he established a base here, including a one-story church. The church and Brainerd’s house were burned by the British but the small schoolhouse, laid in Flemish bond brickwork, still stands, the oldest school in New Jersey standing on its original site. It was used as a school until 1848. In 1951 the Colonial Dames restored and furnished this building; some of its furnishings include a schoolmaster’s desk, student desks, slates and a 1752 Bible. Several pre-Revolutionary buildings remain along the south side of Brainerd Street.

**15. Friends Meeting House
81 High Street**

Mt. Holly Friends history stretches back to 1682, to being one of the founding congregations of the Yearly Meeting of Friends of the Delaware, later Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. The first Quaker building was constructed in 1716; this roomy meetinghouse dates to 1775. The present building was used by the British as a commissary in 1778, and was the setting for 1779 meetings of the State Legislature.

16. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
121 High Street

St. Andrew's Church was founded as a mission church of St. Mary's, Burlington by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in 1742. The first building was located in the graveyard on Pine Street. The site is marked by the stone of Alexander Shiras who requested to be buried on that spot. The second church of St. Andrew's was erected on Church Street. It was begun in 1786, but not completed until 1813. The present church on High Street was built in 1844, designed by the Philadelphia architect William Johnston. In 1850 a frame building was built in the rear of the High Street church to be used as a Sunday School. This was enlarged in 1886 to include a combination gymnasium and audience room, with a large kitchen. The frame structure was replaced by the present parish hall in 1953.

17. Mount Holly Library & Lyceum
307 High Street

This elegant Georgian mansion was constructed in 1829-30 by James Langstaff, a wealthy farmer. The mansion was built of brick scored to simulate cut stone; it is crowned by a square cupola. Inside, random-width North Carolina yellow pine floor boards were used, put together with handmade nails. He called his estate "Langleland," a Welsh term meaning "a foot of high ground." The property was purchased by the Mount Holly Library in 1957, the last of many moves across town.

The Mount Holly Library, originally known as The Bridgetown Library, was chartered on June 11, 1765 by His Majesty George III of England, through William Franklin (son of Ben), then Governor-General of New Jersey. The library is the fifth oldest in the state. The original collection, of about 100 books of scholarly and moral instruction, is part of the present Lyceum Collection, along with the actual charter document. Books were purchased by members of the library association and were circulated only among the members. Fiction books were deemed improper and were not allowed. The Library was located in the Town Hall until 1798 when the building was torn down.

CROSS THE STREET AND TURN
LEFT, HEADING BACK TOWARDS
THE TOWN CENTER.

18. Sacred Heart Rectory
260 High Street

Disowned by the Quaker Meeting and burdened by a substantial debt amassed after several failed business ventures, Nathan Dunn sailed to Canton, China in 1818 with stories of huge fortunes acquired in a short time dancing in his head. Despite the vagaries of the China trade - persistent typhoons, attacks by Chinese pirates and sudden, unpredictable market fluctuations among them - Dunn indeed went on to make his fortune. In 1831 he returned to Mount Holly determined to share his transcendent experience in the mysterious China with America. While in Canton, he diverted a portion of his newly acquired wealth to the formation of the world's largest Chinese collection and installed it in a museum in Philadelphia. On his 23-acre estate he commissioned an architect to design for him a mansion in the Chinese style. Today Nathan Dunn's "Chinese Cottage" is used as a rectory for Sacred Heart Church.

19. 240-244 High Street

This trio of striking townhouses were built by a group of brothers and sisters on land willed to them by their mother in 1830. They reflect the transitional period of American architecture between the late Federal and Greek Revival styles. Originally all three buildings were just two rooms deep and four stories high. Number 242 was once used as a college preparatory school for ladies; Number 244 was the home of Samuel Rush, an active builder around town.

20. Joseph Read House and Office
200-204 High Street

Joseph Read was a judge and member of the Provincial Congress who had these buildings constructed in the early 1770s for his home and his office a few steps away. The Gothic roofline and third floors came along a hundred years later.

21. Burlington County Prison **128 High Street**

This formidable prison building was completed in 1811 at the cost of \$24,201.13 and was at one time the oldest prison in continuous use in the United States. The designer was Robert Mills, a Charleston, South Carolina native celebrated as the first professional American-born architect. Mills would later create the Washington Monument, the U.S. Treasury Building and other iconic works but this was one of the first independent commissions for the 30-year old designer.

With vaulted ceilings of poured concrete and brick and stone construction, the prison was one of America's first virtually fireproof buildings. It was essentially maintenance-free and served its role until 1965. The outside of the building has changed very little - the massive front door, the large hinges and the lock are all original.

Mills designed the prison with regard for the spirit of incarceration of the times that held that each "guest" of the county could be rehabilitated. Each of the 40 inmates was housed in his own cell with a slit window above eye level. Individual cells had a fireplace and included a prayer book to "improve the soul." Not all made the conversion. Numerous public hangings were conducted in the prison yard - the last being a double hanging of Rufus Johnson and George Small on March 24, 1906. The Burlington County Prison, a National Historic Landmark, is open today as a museum.

22. Burlington County Courthouse **120 High Street**

With over 200 years of continuous use, this is one of only a handful of courthouses in America that can trace its roots back into the 1700s. Burlington City was the capital of the Province of West Jersey and the county seat until 1796 when the site of the County Court House moved to Mount Holly. Samuel Lewis of Philadelphia was selected to design the new building and he delivered a near replica of his Congress Hall and Old City Hall, the buildings flanking Independence Hall in Philadelphia. This splendid example of Colonial architecture is beautifully preserved with painted brick. Flanking the court house are a pair of single-story office buildings that were constructed in 1807. The courthouse bell, cast

in England in 1755, was removed and installed from an earlier courthouse. It is said to have rung to signal the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

23. Elks Lodge No 848 **116 High Street**

This was once the home of John R. Slack, lawyer and prominent Democrat who was the oldest member of the Burlington County bar when he passed away in 1877. The brick house, with the cornice of the entrance porch mirroring the roofline, was constructed in 1856.

TURN RIGHT ON COMMERCE
STREET TO RETURN TO THE
TOUR STARTING POINT.

Look Up,

Camden



A Walking Tour of Camden...

In 1681, William Cooper, a Quaker, and his family settled on 300 acres in a wooded area near the mouth of the present Coopers Creek. Cooper named his estate Pyne Point and later established one of the earliest ferries to Philadelphia. For much of the next 150 years that was Camden's identity - the shoving off point to cross the Delaware River to get to the largest and most important city in America. The main east to west streets - Cooper, Federal, Market, Mickle - were developed as long, broad avenues leading to the ferry boats.

Camden, the name of the Earl of Camden was first attached a real estate deal in 1773 and became official in 1828, began to realize its own identity with the establishment of the county in 1844. The town was designated the county seat. Camden's legacy as a major manufacturing center began with a humble pen nib. Cornish Quaker, Richard Esterbrook, a stationer by trade, saw in Britain a move from handcut quill pens to steel nibs and recruited five craftsmen from Birmingham, England to come to Camden and set up operations in 1856. The United States Steel Pen Manufacturing Company, later changed to the Esterbrook Steel Pen Manufacturing Company, was the first steel pen manufacturer in America.

Camden's signature industry appeared in 1869 when Joseph Campbell and Abram Anderson began packing fancy peas and Jersey tomatoes. It was in the 1890s that an employee, chemist John T. Dorrance, developed a process for condensing soup. Dorrance came to work for \$7.50 a week. By 1914 he was president of the company and his soup fortune would grow to \$117,000,000. The Campbell's Soup Plant was by far the largest maker of canned soups in the world. The plant totaled 42 buildings across 8 blocks. Watertanks with cans painted as replicas of the iconic red and white soup cans marked the waterfront.

All are gone now, leveled in the name of redevelopment. Camden's tentative waterfront rebirth began with an aquarium and now includes concert venues, the reestablishment of a water ferry to Philadelphia, and the battleship *New Jersey*, the country's most decorated warship, and other family-friendly attractions. More than two million people a year visit the Camden waterfront. This is where our walking tour will start as we seek out some architectural treasures that remain from the days when Camden fancied itself "The Biggest Little City in the World"...

WALK NORTH ON DELAWARE AVENUE TOWARDS THE BEN FRANKLIN BRIDGE.

1. Ben Franklin Bridge Camden Waterfront

The first plan for a Delaware River bridge between Philadelphia and Camden was developed in 1818, when the proposed “Farrand and Sharp’s Bridge” called for a low-level, multi-span structure with several openings to permit passage by tall ships. This early plan was followed in the 1840s by two separate plans for suspension bridges. The desire for a bridge over the Delaware River was long held not only by Philadelphians, but also by New Jersey farmers who wished to transport their produce to Pennsylvania markets. However, none of the nineteenth-century proposals attracted serious interest. It took the introduction of the automobile to resurrect interest in the proposed Delaware River bridge.

Construction of the Delaware River Bridge (as it was originally known) began on January 6, 1922 and when it was completed in 1926 it boasted the longest main suspension - 1,750 feet - in the world. Ironically the bridge almost was not built due to a controversy over tolls - not how much to charge but whether to charge money to cross at all. Pennsylvania wanted a free bridge while New Jersey demanded a toll. Each side was so fiercely adamant that construction was halted and there were calls to tear down the bridge. The conflict went into the legal system and advance to the Supreme Court. It took the revelation of corruption in Pennsylvania to lead to a compromise. The toll was set at 25 cents and was an instant success - two million vehicles crossed in the first three months of operation, twice as many as forecast.

2. Campbell’s Field 501 North Delaware Avenue at Penn Street

When Campbell’s Field opened in May 2001 as the home of the Atlantic League Camden Riversharks it marked the first time in nearly 100 years that the city had hosted professional baseball. The first nine to take the field representing Camden was in 1883 in the Interstate Asso-

ciation. The last was in the Tri-State League in 1904. Neither team lasted out the season. With an assist from one of the more dramatic stadium settings in minor league baseball, the Riversharks are approaching their second decade.

WALK BACK SOUTH ONE BLOCK TO COOPER STREET AND TURN LEFT.

3. Johnson Park Cooper Street, between 2nd and Front streets

Inside the wading pool by street’s edge is a cast of *Peter Pan* by George Frampton, a notable British sculptor and leading member of the New Sculpture movement from the last decades of the 1800s. There are seven casts of the *Peter Pan* statue, with the mischievous boy playing pipes in the midst of woodland animals, around the world. This is the only one in the United States.

4. Rutgers-Camden Center for the Arts Johnson Park, 101 Cooper Street

This gleaming Neoclassical building fronted by six Ionic columns was erected in 1919 as the Cooper Branch Library. Behind the columns is a magnificent frieze, “America Receiving the Gifts of Nations,” made of over 100,000 pieces of richly colored American opalescent glass, all carefully selected with reference to their particular place in the design. The park, library, pool and statue were the gift of Eldridge R. Johnson, founder of the Victor Talking Machine Company. Built between 1914 and 1930, the complex is owned by Rutgers-Camden.

5. Edward Sharp House 202 Cooper Street

Edward Sharp was one of the initial schemers on bridging the Delaware River to Philadelphia. He bought up nearly 100 acres in what would become much of today’s Camden in the pursuit. His plan was to use Windmill Island, a sandy island en route to Philadelphia which served as an obstruction to river traffic. The eastern end of the bridge was to be at the foot of Bridge Avenue, and although the bill authorizing its construction

was approved by the state legislature in 1820, it was never built. Edward Sharp went into debt in 1821. He lost his house, built in 1812 and one of the city's best examples of Federal period architecture, was forced to abandon his bridge plans, and his land was seized by the sheriff.

6. Chalcar Apartments
218-222 Cooper Street

This multi-use residence was designed in 1925 with a touch of Spanish mission by Alfred Green and Byron Edwards, who were also involved in the Camden County Courthouse and Cape May Courthouse.

7. Taylor House
305 Cooper Street

This home was built by Dr. Henry Genet Taylor, a Brigade Surgeon in the Civil War and a founder of Camden's first hospital, the Camden Dispensary. Taylor was on the original staff of Cooper Hospital when it was founded in 1884. This house was built the following year, designed by prominent Philadelphia architect Wilson Ayre. The Taylor family remained at 305 Cooper Street in Camden as late as 1959.

8. Republican Party Headquarters
312 Cooper Street

The Republican Party dominated politics in Camden from the 1870s through 1935. This headquarters was constructed in 1914; after the Republicans departed in 1923 it was the home of the Camden County Red Cross.

9. Mitchell H. Cohen Federal Building & Courthouse
400 Cooper Street

In the 1990s the Federal Courthouse on Market Street was expanded through to Cooper Street and renamed the Mitchell H. Cohen U.S. Courthouse in honor of Camden-born lawyer and judge Mitchell H. Cohen.

10. Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church
southwest corner of Cooper Street and 5th Street

The original congregation was organized in 1866, and this building of Trenton brownstone, designed by architect Frank R. Watson, was built in 1892 to replace the original chapel.

11. Hotel Plaza
southeast corner of Cooper Street and 5th Street

The Hotel Plaza was built in 1927, and was originally called the Plaza Club Hotel. In 1947 it underwent a complete remodeling. Hotel owner S.N. Petchers of New York explained that the high cost of modernization was "justified in my belief that Camden will continue as one of the leading industrial cities in the country and entitled to the kind of top flight hotel service we provide." The Hotel Plaza closed in 1985.

12. Cheney Houses
538-542 Cooper Street

This trio of houses was designed for John Cheney in 1892 by Arthur Truscott. Unlike most of his contemporaries, Truscott, who did not receive any formal education in architecture, was involved in the design and building of several Camden buildings, including the New Jersey Safe and Trust Company in 1886, the Broadway public school at Broadway and Clinton Streets in 1886, and the Camden Post newspaper building at the northeast corner of Front and Federal Streets, which broke ground in 1887. His maternal aunt was Cheney's wife.

13. First Camden National Bank
southwest corner of Cooper Street and Broadway

This was Camden's first bank when it was incorporated in 1812, known as The State Bank at Camden. A century of mergers and name changes led the bank to this corner in 1928 when this Neoclassical vault was erected with a price tag of \$825,000.

TURN RIGHT ON BROADWAY.

14. Camden Trust Company
northeast corner of Broadway and
Market Street

The Camden Insurance, Safe Deposit & Trust Company opened its doors on Federal Street in 1873 during a business panic in the United States. It persevered, however, and grew into the largest bank in South Jersey and one of the ten biggest in the state. This property was first occupied in 1892 and this Neoclassical building with strong rusticated lower floors was constructed in 1928.

15. Church of the Immaculate Conception
southeast corner of Broadway and
Market Street

The sparse Catholic population of early Camden didn't get their own house of worship in the city until 1859. It was called the Church of the Immaculate Conception but quickly found wanting. New ground was purchased here and the cornerstone for the current building laid on May 1, 1864. It was built of Trenton brownstone, with Connecticut stone trimmings and represents the English decorated Gothic style of architecture.

TURN RIGHT ON MARKET STREET.

16. City Hall and Courthouse Annex,
5th Street, between Market and
Arch streets

This light gray granite skyscraper is the tallest building in Camden and, at some 371 feet, the tallest building in the Philadelphia metro area outside the city itself. The modified Grecian design is the work of Camden architects Byron Edwards and Alfred Green. From the main building of five stories rises a slender 17-story tower with a huge clock like those that have ornamented Camden's city halls since 1876.

17. Smith-Austermuhl Insurance Company
431 Market Street, northwest corner
of 5th Street

Andrew B.F. Smith and Charles W. Austermuhl erected this building in 1920 for their insurance business, one of the most successful in South Jersey.

18. U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
401 Market Street

A post office was established in Camden in 1803 and called Cooper's Ferry Post Office. It was located, appropriately, in the hotel at the foot of Cooper street since the first postmasters were Benjamin Cooper, 1803-1806; Charles Cooper, 1806-1810; and Richard M. Cooper, 1810-1829. In 1829 the name was changed to Camden, the post office moved to Federal Street and no more Coopers were involved in handling the mail. This hulking post office and federal building came along 100 years later as a Depression-era works project, built on the site where Ed Gondolff's Temple Bar and Hotel and the adjacent Temple Theater Building had stood. The exterior is richly decorated in symbols of government strength.

TURN LEFT ON 4TH STREET TO ITS CONCLUSION AT FEDERAL STREET AND TURN LEFT.

19. Central Trust Company
403 Federal Street, northeast corner of
4th Street

The Central Trust Company organized on April 9, 1891 at Read's Hall, a building which later housed the Camden *Daily Courier* newspaper. The enterprise was successful enough to move into this Beaux Arts vault on October 31, 1900. The Central Trust Company was absorbed by the Camden Safe Deposit & Trust Company in 1927. After the merger, the Central Trust building became the home of the Equitable Beneficial Insurance Company until 2003.

20. South Jersey Gas, Electric and Traction
Company building
418 Federal Street

This majestic Beaux Arts building fronted by a colonnade of engaged Corinthian columns was built in 1904 as headquarters for the South Jersey Gas, Electric and Traction. High atop the columns are three words carved into the facade: Gas, Electric & Railway. The building, constructed on top of the old courthouse, was a fallout shelter in the 1950s and in the mid-1980s it became the Camden Free Public Library.

TURN AND WALK TOWARDS THE RIVER. TURN LEFT ON THIRD STREET. TURN LEFT ON MARTIN LUTHER KING BOULEVARD (MICKLE STREET).

21. Walt Whitman House
330 Mickle Street

Walt Whitman was born on Long Island in 1819 and spent his most productive years in Brooklyn. He came to Camden in 1873 after suffering a paralytic stroke, to live with his brother. He spent the remaining 19 years of his life in the city, buying this 1840s frame house in 1884. Internationally renowned by that time, he spent his days in Camden mostly as an aging literary lion, although he continued to produce editions of his seminal work, *Leaves of Grass*. He died in 1892 and was buried at Harleigh Cemetery in Camden in a granite mausoleum of his choosing that cost a reported \$4,000. The house was bought by the city in 1923 and serves as a museum today.

RETURN TO 3RD STREET AND TURN RIGHT, CONTINUING TO MARKET STREET.

22. Security Trust Building
301 Market Street

The New Jersey Safe and Trust Company was organized in 1886 and this building, designed by Arthur Truscott, was erected the same year. The Late Victorian Eclectic architectural style tower would be copied many times across Camden in the coming years. The building housed a bank up until 1949.

The exterior of the facade consists of seven heads with crowns and two heads with inscribed names; five stars, and 20 clam shells. The words on the older man "Prudentia" is French meaning honor, virtue, duty; on the younger man "Audentia" is Italian meaning boldness and courage; the seven women with crowns symbolize the 'Seven Deadly Sins'; the Stars of David are for protection; and the clams hold the jewels that lay within.

TURN LEFT ON MARKET STREET.

23. National State Bank
northwest corner of Market Street
and 2nd Street

Tracing its history back to 1812, this Neoclassical bank building showed up on the Camden streetscape in 1926.

24. Victor Lofts
1 Market Street at northeast corner of
Delaware Avenue

Delaware-born Eldridge Reeves Johnson was a gifted student who was discouraged by a teacher of pursuing a higher education and instead found himself in a four-year apprenticeship in a Philadelphia machine shop. In 1886 the 19-year old Johnson took a position at the Standard Machine Shop at 108 North Front Street. By 1894, Johnson had purchased his employer's interest in the machine shop.

In 1896 an early record player, a hand-cranked Gramophone came into his shop for repair. Johnson could see the contraption was poorly designed and he soon rigged a spring-powered motor for the Gramophone that operated at a uniform speed, was affordable and functioned quietly, making the hand-cranked sound machine obsolete. Johnson's improvements led to the commercial viability of the record player.

Johnson manufactured Gramophones for a few years but after patent wars emerged in 1901 as the Victor Talking Machine Company and its record player, the Victrola. Its logo - Nipper, a small dog with its ear cocked to hear "His Master's Voice" - was already in place, having been purchased for 100 pounds British sterling. Camden became the center of the recording industry with singers and musicians from around the world coming to town to make the new phonograph records. Johnson would sell out in 1927 for \$28 million and the company would soon merge with the Radio Corporation of America (RCA). The RCA plant in Camden would cover 10 acres on the waterfront and employ over 14,000 workers. RCA Building #17, with its Nipper Tower, is all that remains, converted into a residential complex.

CONTINUE WALKING TO THE WATERFRONT AND THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

Look Up,

Haddonfield



A Walking Tour of Haddonfield...

On October 23, 1682, when he took up a tract of 400 acres, Francis Collins became the first settler within the boundaries of what is today Haddonfield. An English Quaker and a bricklayer by trade, Collins soon built his house, “Mountwell,” but things didn’t really get rolling until 20-year old Elizabeth Haddon arrived in 1701 to establish her father’s claims here. John Haddon was a wealthy businessman from London, a Quaker and friend of William Penn; in 1698 he purchased land in West New Jersey.

In 1702, Elizabeth married John Estaugh, a young Quaker missionary of some renown. In 1713 they built a beautiful brick mansion on what is now Wood Lane. This date of 1713 has been marked by several celebrations as the “founding” date of Haddonfield. As the furthest point inland of navigation on the Cooper River, Haddonfield flourished throughout the 18th century; by the Revolution it was the largest village in the area.

When the Industrial Revolution arrived in the 1800s, Haddonfield mostly took a pass, evolving into more of a center of distribution of goods to its neighboring regions than as a base for any kind of manufacturing. There were scattered exceptions, most notably in the pottery business (Potter Street) and some tanneries (Tanner Street). But by and large Haddonfield left the heavy industry to the manufacturing centers in Camden and Philadelphia.

The 1900s brought greater development, as Haddonfield evolved from an agricultural village to a fully developed suburban community. Residents recognized early on the value of preserving a village atmosphere. The Haddonfield Historical Society was founded in 1914; its historic district was the second in New Jersey after Cape May.

We will concentrate our walking tour on King’s Highway, the main road through the British colonies that was built wide enough for the King of England. That generous road never needed to be widened to accommodate automobiles or trolleys or parking and the result is a shaded “main street” under 200-year old trees as impressive as any in the region...

1. Greenfield Hall
343 King's Highway East

John Gill IV was a farmer and landowner in Haddonfield who dabbled in politics and banking. When he became a widower with four children he set his sights on Elizabeth French, a wealthy woman in her mid-40s from up the road in Moorestown. To lure her to Haddonfield Gill tore down the brick house that he had inherited on this property and built a more impressive red brick, center-hall Georgian mansion. It was 1841 and that architectural style was decades out of fashion but it resembled the French home.

Despite a parade of subsequent owners, including Colonel Alexander Brodie, former Governor of the Territory of Arizona, Greenfield Hall is very much unchanged from its original 1841 appearance. In 1960 it became the headquarters of the Historical Society of Haddonfield.

2. Samuel Mickle House
343 King's Highway East

This small plank house from the early 1700s, considered the oldest residence in Haddonfield, was owned by Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh, founder of Haddonfield, for 12 years. The small dormers on the front in the gambrel roof is a very early 18th century style. It was moved from another section of town in 1965 by Historical Society to the site of its headquarters. The exterior front portion, including a heavy batten door, has been restored with beaded New Jersey cedar boards.

WALK WEST (LEFT, IF FACING GREENFIELD HALL) ON KINGS HIGHWAY, STAYING ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE STREET.

3. Third Methodist Church
301 King's Highway East

This building with an eye-catching Greek portico was raised by the Methodists in 1857. In 1922, the building, now minus its steeple, was purchased by the Civic Association for town meetings. The Haddon Fortnightly, a civic and social club for women organized in 1894, bought

the building in 1931. In 1973 it was placed on both the New Jersey and National Register of Historic Places.

4. Richard Snowden House
265 King's Highway

This early Victorian house was built in 1844; the distinctive mansard roof and dormers were later additions. The cornice work and early classical dentils and moldings are particularly fine. Richard Snowden was engaged in the pottery business in town.

5. Hendry House
255 King's Highway East

Charles Hendry, son of noted physician, Dr. Bowman Hendry, built one of the town's most beautiful, elegant period houses in 1834. A semi-enclosed small porch added on the wing to accommodate a doctor's office is the only alteration. The doorways are the most noteworthy feature of the house; they are deeply paneled with leaded glass transoms in beautiful diamond and oval designs. It was later occupied by noted writer and publisher James Lane Pennypacker.

6. Indian King Tavern
233 King's Highway East

Built in 1750 and named for the local Lenni Lenape Indians, this early American public house and tavern was an important social, political and military stop along the King's Highway. In 1777, as clashing armies devastated Trenton, the Assembly reconvened in the Indian King to pass legislation officially creating an independent state of New Jersey and adopting its Great Seal. Legend has it that, throughout the 1780s, Dolley Payne -- who later became First Lady Dolley Madison -- was a frequent visitor. In 1903 the three-story brick building became New Jersey's first State Historic Site.

7. Buttonwood Tree
209 King's Highway East

During the Revolutionary War the British Army passed under this buttonwood tree when they evacuated Philadelphia June 19, 1778 on

their way to Monmouth Courthouse. A second, ailing, buttonwood tree was failing and was cut down in 1977.

TAKE A FEW STEPS BACK TO FRIENDS STREET AND TURN LEFT.

8. Friends Meeting House 45 Friends Avenue

This meetinghouse was built in 1851. It replaced the 1721 site which was torn down after a rift in the congregation in 1826 following escalating tensions between elders from the city and the farms. The walls of the Quaker burial ground are said to have been partly built from the bricks of the original building. This meeting house is the oldest church or building used to conduct worship in Haddonfield.

TURN LEFT ON LAKE STREET. TURN RIGHT ON HADDON AVENUE.

9. Haddonfield Public Library 60 North Haddon Avenue

On March 5, 1803, the Haddonfield Library Company, one of the first in New Jersey, was founded as a subscription library. Users had to pay an annual fee to join, although non-members could use the Library and borrow books at a nominal fee. Formed “to extend the benefit of learning and to promote a spirit of literacy,” the Library Company seldom purchased novels because Quakers of that era advised against reading such material. The early years of the Library Company were plagued with financial problems and the Library had no permanent home. It moved often between the Friends School and various locations around town.

In 1887 a second library, the Haddon Athenaeum, was organized. The Athenaeum was also a subscription library; but, unlike the Library Company, it purchased novels. The Athenaeum also had a game room (discontinued because of the noise) and sponsored lectures and educational courses. By 1900, although having fewer books (2150 to 2527), the Athenaeum’s circulation was 13 times higher than the Library Company.

In 1908 a merger of the two libraries was proposed. When no agreement was reached, the Athenaeum offered its books and building to the town on the condition that a municipal library be established. The voters overwhelmingly approved this referendum in 1909. The Library Company, although remaining a separate entity, agreed to place its books in the newly founded public library. Soon outgrowing the Athenaeum building, in 1917 the Library began construction at its present site. Most of the money for the building, jointly owned by the Library, the Library Company, and the Historical Society, was raised by donations. Modeled on Thomas Jefferson’s home, Monticello, the building was not completed until 1919 because of World War I.

TURN AROUND AND WALK BACK DOWN HADDON AVENUE TOWARDS KINGS HIGHWAY.

10. Friends School 47 North Haddon Avenue

The values of the Quaker philosophy are reflected in the simplicity of design of this two-story brick school. The Haddonfield Friends School was founded in 1786.

11. Haddon Fire Company No. 1 15 North Haddon Avenue

On March 8th, 1764, 26 men being among the chief owners of property and heads of families in the village, met in the Friends Meeting House, which at the time was located on the Ferry Road (now Haddon Avenue), and formed the Friendship Fire Company of Haddonfield. Each Member was required to furnish two leather fire buckets and the Company supplied six ladders and fire hooks. Various fines for not keeping the equipment in proper shape or not attending meetings were instituted.

In 1811 there was a reorganization, and the name changed to the “Fire Company of Haddonfield.” The first apparatus was hand drawn, then came a horse-drawn vehicle, and finally a motor vehicle. Haddon Fire Co. No.1 remains the second oldest volunteer fire company in continuous service in the United States. The current station was built in 1952.

TURN RIGHT ON KINGS HIGHWAY.

12. Gibbs Tavern & Smithy 127 King's Highway East

This building was constructed as a tavern in 1777. Despite its many different uses over the years (the center portion harkens back to its days as a bank), only the first floor has been significantly altered.

13. "Haddy" King's Highway East, opposite Chestnut Street

In a ravine carved by the Cooper River east of Grove Street in the northern end of the borough dinosaur bones were discovered in 1838. When a full excavation on the John E. Hopkins farm was initiated by William Parker Foulke in 1858 nearly 50 bones of a plant-eating, duck-billed dinosaur were discovered in the dense, slimy and sandy clay. Haddonfield was suddenly famous as the site of the first mostly complete dinosaur skeleton (there was no skull - at that time no dinosaur skull had ever been found) ever unearthed. Ten years later, *Hadrosaurus Foulkii* became the first dinosaur skeleton to ever be mounted in a museum. In 2003, this 8-ft. tall, 18-ft. long bronze likeness created by sculptor John Giannotti was dedicated.

14. Grace Church 19 King's Highway East

This early Episcopal Church was founded and built in 1842 of native New Jersey ironstone. The church, an excellent example of classic English Gothic architecture, was enlarged in 1891.

CROSS THE STREET AND WALK BACK EAST ON KINGS HIGHWAY.

15. First Presbyterian Church 20 King's Highway East

In 1858, the first Presbyterian worship services in Haddonfield were held in the Town Hall. Shortly after, these worshippers presented a petition to the Presbytery of West Jersey to arrange for a regular minister to lead their services. It

would not, however, be until 1873 that the first pastor began his ministry in Haddonfield. The present large Gothic church dates to 1906; the three large stained glass windows in the sanctuary were designed and constructed by Tiffany.

16. First Baptist Church of Haddonfield 124 King's Highway East

In 1817, Reverend John Sisty began preaching to a small group of Baptists in the Grove School in Haddonfield. At that time there was only one house of worship in the little village, the Quaker Meeting House. The First Baptist Church was organized in the school in 1818 and built its own meeting house the following year on land which is now the Baptist Cemetery. The present church building in the middle of the small business district was erected from 1885-1886 on designs from Isaac Purcell.

17. Reeves-Glover House 232 King's Highway East

Considered one of the most beautiful early 19th century brick mansions on King's Highway, this home was built in 1813 on the site of an earlier frame house. Samuel Reeves completed the western end of the house when he purchased the property in 1835.

18. Borough Hall 242 King's Highway East

Built in 1928 on designs by Walter William Sharpley, the imposing Neoclassical government building sits far back from the sidewalk and so rests lightly on the Haddonfield streetscape. Built of limestone, the portico is fronted by a quartet of classic columns and pedimented entrance.

19. Samuel Champion House 250 King's Highway East

Built by Samuel Champion in 1835, this frame structure spans the period between the end of the Federal era of architecture and the beginning of the Victorian age. Two entrances are very fine with paneled doors and arched fanlights. A one-story addition was erected in Victorian period for an attorney's office.

20. The Old Guardhouse
258 King's Highway East

This two-and-one-half-story structure of gray painted brick, constructed in the 1700s, was connected with the Indian King Inn across the street by an underground passage. Prisoners unfriendly to the American cause during the Revolutionary War were tried by the Council of Safety at the inn and brought to the guardhouse through the tunnel.

21. Jacob Clement House
264 King's Highway East

The original front part of this house was constructed in 1742 but in 1852 Jacob Clement ripped it from its sedate pack of Georgian Colonial neighbors by slicing away the facade, shuffling it over to Potter Street and giving the house a bold new Gothic appearance. Its most outstanding, unusual feature is the front portico, with metal roof and curved detail, painted in the original green and tan broad stripes. Look closely at the sides and rear and you can discern the simple colonial details and original windows.

22. Roberts House
344 King's Highway East

John Roberts was an owner of the Indian King Tavern and built this as a farmhouse in 1816. In its nearly 200-years it has been renovated and enlarged into a massive brick mansion that has been home to several prominent Haddonfield residents.

**YOU HAVE NOW RETURNED TO
THE TOUR STARTING POINT.**

Look Up,

Woodbury



A Walking Tour of Woodbury...

By 1715 the Quaker community had outgrown its initial riverside settlement and a new site was selected inland where the King's Highway bridged Woodbury Creek. By the time of the Revolutionary War, Woodbury had emerged as a hamlet of considerable importance with the rebel cause garnering strong support. Its close proximity by water to Philadelphia ensured many troop movements through the tiny town; it was alternately occupied by military forces on both sides.

Thaddeus Kosciuszko fortified the bluff above the Delaware River with nine-foot high earthen walls embedded with an abatis (sharpened tree branches) during the war. Fort Mercer - named for Scottish Brigadier General Hugh Mercer, who died at Princeton - was garrisoned by Colonel Christopher Greene and 400 of his fellow Rhode Islanders with 14 cannons that worked in tandem with Fort Mifflin across the river to form a considerable detriment to any force planning a water approach on the Colonial capital of Philadelphia. After using a land route from the south and west to take Philadelphia on September 26, 1777, it immediately became imperative to open the Delaware River to keep supplies to the British Army flowing.

The inevitable attack on Fort Mercer was not a month in coming, in the guise of 1,200 Hessian troops approaching from the north. Greene refused a demand of surrender and repulsed two German advances up the steep slopes. The fire from the American defenders was withering and the Hessian ranks were thinned by nearly half before leaving the Red Bank Battlefield. A few weeks later, however, the British stormed Fort Mifflin and rather than face the overpowering force now across the river, the Americans destroyed Fort Mercer as they surrendered Philadelphia completely to the British.

Woodbury continued to prosper after the Revolution and on into the 19th century. The oldest and largest city in Gloucester County, it became the official county seat in the 1790s, erecting a brick courthouse. Woodbury was officially formed as a Borough on March 27, 1854, within Deptford Township. On January 2, 1871, Woodbury was reincorporated as a city, based on the results of a referendum held that day.

By 1890 Woodbury was in the midst of its greatest vitality and had a population of 3,930. The patent medicine business of George Green was the primary economic engine but Woodbury boasted glass works, bottle plants, and steam mills as well. Our walking tour will begin in the shadow of the Green factory, the source of profits that would spawn landmarks on both the East and West coast...

1. **Woodbury Railroad Station** **Cooper Street and Railroad Avenue**

The Camden and Woodbury Railroad & Transportation Company opened to passengers on January 29, 1838. The rate of fare from Camden to Woodbury was twenty-five cents; after numerous “ups and downs,” the road was finally abandoned around 1850. In 1883, in the midst of Woodbury’s most vigorous period of development, this station was built to serve as the conduit for the town’s social and economic growth. Vegetables from surrounding farms, manufactured goods from nearby factories, and locally made patent medicines were shipped to market through this Stick Style station distinguished by a hipped roof with slate shingles and decorative “stick work” in exposed porch rafters. The station also served Philadelphia commuters who established homes in Woodbury’s new East Side district. By 1917 the number of daily trains through the town reached 139. The Woodbury Old-City Restoration Committee restored the train station in 2000.

WALK SOUTH ALONG GREEN AVENUE (THE RAILROAD TRACKS WILL BE ON YOUR RIGHT).

2. **L.M. Green Factory** **122 Green Avenue**

George Gill Green began a peripatetic life in Clarksboro, New Jersey on January 16, 1842. Green attended the University of Pennsylvania medical school for two years, but left in 1864 before he graduated. He enlisted in the Civil War - with the 142d Regiment, Illinois Volunteers - and rose to the rank of Colonel.

In 1867 he started a wholesale drug business in Baltimore, Maryland but the factory was destroyed by a fire. He then moved to Ohio where he found a wife and started a family. On Thanksgiving Day in 1872 he moved back to New Jersey.

Gill bought the rights to “Green’s August Flower” and “Dr. Boschee’s German Syrup” from his father, Lewis, and sold the elixir under the name “L.M. Green.” He was an early innovator of mass mailings of free samples and the distribution of thousands of his almanacs touting his cures. The

medicines were mostly laudanum whose main ingredient was opium with a dash of morphine. In 1879 he built this Victorian brick factory and by 1880 he was the town’s first millionaire and primary employer.

Never one to stay parochial, in 1898 Green built a complex of stunning Moorish Colonial and Spanish style buildings in Pasadena, California for the Hotel Green that became to go-to resort for the rich and famous wintering on the West Coast. Closer to home he built Woodbury’s Opera House. His patent medicine business declined after the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act in 1906 and by 1916 the products were discontinued. George Green died in Woodbury on February 26, 1925.

CROSS THE RAILROAD TRACKS AND WALK UP CENTRE STREET.

3. **John H. Bradway House** **40-42 East Centre Street**

This Victorian residence was constructed by John Hancock Bradway, a member of the New Jersey State House of Assembly, in 1880. An early photographer, Bradway is listed in the *American Amateur Photographer* magazine in 1889, along with other journals, for contributing important images of Woodbury.

4. **G.G. Green Building** **108-112 South Broad Street at** **southeast corner of Centre Street**

The G.G. Green Block Building was built in 1880 by Woodbury’s first industrial magnate, George G. Green. The building originally housed five stores and Green’s Opera House, with seating for 1,000 on the second floor. By 1919 it was being used primarily for motion pictures and was converted by the Woodbury Amusement Company into the Art Deco-styled Rialto Theater. The Rialto closed in 1955; the building’s marquee was removed and the first floor was hijacked for a clothing store that remained in business until January 2001.

5. 101 South Broad Street at southwest corner of Centre Street

Built in 1860, this Victorian building has long been used as a business/home establishment. The porch roof still remains after alterations to the first floor to accommodate a store front.

TURN RIGHT ON SOUTH BROAD STREET.

**6. Presbyterian Church
67 South Broad Street**

A handful of Presbyterians in the Woodbury region organized officially on August 10, 1721 when John Tatum provided one acre of land “for a meeting house and burial ground.” On that site a log meeting house was built. During the Revolutionary War, the British occupied Woodbury, taking over the church for use as a commissary. After hostilities concluded, the congregation refused to worship in the log house, claiming it was “haunted.” Permission was received to use the Academy, a private school on Broad Street, for worship until 1834 when a new church was built here, across the street. The Colonial-style church, built of red brick with white trim, was encased in stone and enlarged in 1906 to accommodate the growing congregation. In 1965 the church was restored to its original style.

7. 47-55 South Broad Street

This store/residence was built in 1890 in a variation of the Second Empire style. The property marked the entrance to the Stokes Lumber Yard.

8. 34 South Broad Street

This mansard-roofed Second Empire-style house was built in 1860. Renovated and restored in 1981, it retained its dramatic window eyebrows in a conversion to an office building.

**9. Kemble United Methodist Church
19 South Broad Street**

Methodism came to the Woodbury area around 1790 when the Bethel Circuit was formed at Hurffville. House meetings evolved into in-

corporation in 1799 when a Methodist Society of about thirty families was legally incorporated in Woodbury. Under the Pastorate of Richard Swain in 1803, a dwelling house was purchased from Benjamin Cloud and moved to the corner of Morris and West Streets. In 1832 a second place of worship was erected on the southeast corner of South Broad Street and German Street (now East Barber Avenue).

The Woodbury Methodist Episcopal Church outgrew that building and Colonel George G. Green pledged \$2,000.00 to begin work on a new church. Traction car magnate, William Kemble eventually became “...chiefly instrumental in the erection of this beautiful new granite church...” The new building was dedicated on Sunday, February 22, 1891 and named in memory of Elizabeth Duffield Kemble the mother of William.

TURN LEFT ON DELAWARE AVENUE AND WALK UP THE SOUTH (LEFT) SIDE OF THE STREET.

**10. Friendship Fire Company No. 1
29 Delaware Street**

The tradition of firefighting in Woodbury goes back to April 3, 1799 with the establishment of the Woodbury Fire Company. Although interest in the company waned it was revitalized in 1830 as the Friendship Fire Company and began operating out of a new firehouse on Broad Street and Cooper Street. To house newer equipment this brick building was erected in 1898. It once sported a much larger Italianate tower that was reduced to a cupola in the 1950s.

**11. City Hall
33 Delaware Street**

This 2-1/2 story Colonial Revival brick building has evolved piecemeal through the decades. The east lower half, now City Hall, was originally the first permanent school of the Woodbury Friends, built in 1774. The second story was added in 1820 and the seamless addition of a library didn't come along until 1953.

12. 125 Delaware Street

This Colonial-style house was built in 1844; the two distinct sections are unified by a stuccoed exterior.

13. 195 Delaware Street

This house is a 2-1/2 story frame Colonial style farm house that dates back to 1792. There are later additions both to the rear and east facades. It is believed that the property was part of the large White-Low estate.

14. 225 Delaware Street

This Queen Anne-style home has never been altered in any way. Built in 1890, the center front octagonal tower with conical roof dominates the front facade.

CROSS THE ROAD AND WALK
BACK TOWARDS THE CENTER OF
TOWN ON THE NORTH SIDE OF
DELAWARE STREET.

15. 122 Delaware Street

This brick Queen Anne Victorian mansion was built in 1884, on property that originally was the site of Hicksite Friends School established in 1840.

**16. Christ Episcopal Church
62 Delaware Street**

In 1854, the first organized attempt to introduce Episcopalian services in town was made when Bishop George Washington Doane commissioned the Reverend William Herbert Norris as a missionary to Woodbury. Father Norris purchased this property in 1855 and the present fieldstone Gothic structure was completed in 1856.

**17. Gloucester County Building
Delaware Street**

This Neoclassical courthouse annex was built on the site of the former county jail at a cost of \$300,000 in 1925.

**18. Gloucester County Courthouse
northwest corner of Broad Street and
Delaware Street**

Architects Hazelhurst and Huckel of Philadelphia turned to the burly Richardsonian Romanesque style, popular in late 19th century municipal buildings, for the new county courthouse in 1885. The building features Trenton brownstone and Dauphin County trim. The Colonial-style central clock tower soars 90 feet above the surrounding streetscape. The courthouse it replaced on the main intersection in town was a Colonial brick structure that had stood since 1787.

TURN LEFT ON BROAD STREET,
STAYING ON THE WEST SIDE OF
THE STREET.

**19. Woodbury Trust
19 North Broad Street**

Woodbury Trust created this classically inspired Beaux Arts headquarters in 1916. Constructed of smooth coursed stone with a series of large, round arched window openings, it was purchased by the county in 1991.

**20. Parish-Moore House
127 North Broad Street**

Built in the early 19th century, this fine brick home boasts a symmetrical Georgian five-bay facade. The fireplaces in the front of the house are typical of the simple Georgian mantle designs of the Delaware Valley region in the late 18th century.

CROSS BROAD STREET AND STOP
AT THE FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE
BEFORE TURNING RIGHT AND
HEADING TOWARDS THE TOWN
CENTER.

21. Friends Meetinghouse
120 North Broad Street

The first “Red Bank Meetings” were held in 1686 on the Wood estate along Woodbury Creek near the Delaware River. The present site was purchased for about three pounds in 1715 and when the west side of the current meetinghouse was erected it was the first documented structure built south of the Woodbury Creek. The east portion of the building was added in 1785. Following the Battle of Red Bank in the Revolutionary War in 1777 the Meetinghouse was used as a hospital for Hessian soldiers.

22. Hunter-Lawrence House
58 North Broad Street

Judge John Sparks built the Hunter-Lawrence house in 1765. The Reverend Andrew Hunter, a chaplain in the Revolutionary Army, owned it in 1792, and six years later it became the home of John Lawrence. Lawrence’s younger brother, James, lived in the house and received his education in Woodbury. During the War of 1812, the dying 31-year old Lawrence’s command to “Don’t give up the ship” became a rallying cry for the United State Navy (see *Lawrence House, Burlington*). In 1924 the Gloucester County Historical Society purchased the building and has maintained it as an 18-room museum.

23. 44 North Broad Street

The core of this house is the oldest in Woodbury, dating to before 1765. Logs still exist under the clapboards, as does a small fireplace of square handmade bricks.

TURN LEFT ON NEWTON AVENUE.

24. 31 Newton Avenue

This home was built in 1893 in the Queen Anne Style by M.W. Newton, who opened Newton Avenue and constructed six brick and stone houses here. Next to G.G. Green, he is considered the greatest influence in the development of the city.

TURN RIGHT ON EUCLID STREET.

25. 22 Euclid Street

This 1890 Victorian brick home is distinguished by decorated bands in darker shades of brick.

TURN LEFT ON COOPER STREET.

26. St. Patrick’s Church
64 Cooper Street

St. Patrick’s was first commissioned as a mission in Woodbury and a small house of worship built on Salem Avenue in 1865. At the time, St. Patrick’s served a small immigrant Irish population, but the parish also guided eighteen other missions in the area. Land for the present church was purchased in 1903 and the sanctuary was dedicated in 1909. In 1943, the G.G. Green eight-acre estate (across from the train station) was purchased and the next year St. Patrick’s School was opened. Initial enrollment was 61 students and the school was run by the Dominican Sisters. By 1949, the school grew to include all eight grades. In 1967, the old Green Mansion part of the school burned down and the school was enlarged in 1973 to its current appearance.

YOU HAVE NOW RETURNED TO
THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

Look Up,

New Castle



A Walking Tour of New Castle...

In 1651, Peter Stuyvesant, governor of the Dutch settlement of New Amsterdam (now New York City) sent a flotilla of eleven ships down the coast into the Delaware River where they established Fort Casimir. Sweden had colonized the river back in 1638 and the colony of New Sweden seized the lightly garrisoned fort in 1654. The next year Governor Stuyvesant sailed back down with seven ships and 317 soldiers. The Swedish settlers surrendered without a fight. Dutch rule was to last less than a decade more, however. In 1664 the British overwhelmed the Dutch in New Amsterdam and the stubborn peg-legged Stuyvesant was forced to cede all Dutch land to England.

In 1681 William Penn, a devoted Quaker and one-time prisoner in the Tower of London, was presented with a massive land grant from King Charles II to repay a debt of £16,000 owed to Penn's father. He was now in possession of much of present-day Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. Penn came to survey his new land in 1682 and on October 27, first set foot in America in New Castle. He stayed a day before hurrying up to Philadelphia.

For more than 150 years New Castle thrived as a trading center and the second-largest town on the Delaware River behind Philadelphia. Delawareans, however, chafed under strict Quaker rule and in 1702 what would become Delaware was granted its own government under Pennsylvania law and was called "The Lower Three Counties." New Castle was the capital city but after the governor was kidnapped the capital was moved further inland.

The business district was leveled by fire in 1824 and although the town was quickly rebuilt it was dealt a more lethal blow two decades later from which it could not recover: the main overland rail route bypassed New Castle in favor of Wilmington. Cut off from the commerce that followed the iron horse, a secluded New Castle began a long, slow decline. As commerce and people departed town, the historic brick buildings remained. In 1924 "A Day in Old New Castle" began a tradition of touring the town's colonial homes and gardens. Unlike many colonial towns, New Castle is neither reconstructed or a preserved historical district. It is a fully residential town roughly five blocks wide by two blocks long.

Our walking tour of this authentic Colonial town will begin at the southeast corner of Second and Chestnut streets, near the site of the original Fort Casimir. There is a small park here and on-street parking...

**1. Fort Casimir Site
southeast corner Second Street and
Chestnut Street**

The site where Fort Casimir was built is now under the water of the Delaware River, some 250 feet east-northeast of the stone marker that was placed here in 1905. After the English conquered the Dutch in 1664, the Dutch readily agreed to remain and live under English law, just as the Swedes had lived under Dutch law. Fort Casimir was destroyed by the British in 1670.

**2. Delaware Memorial Bridge
Delaware River**

These are the longest twin suspension bridges in the world. The first Delaware Memorial Bridge, 440 feet above the water at its highest point opened to traffic on August 15, 1951. It took \$44 million to build. By 1955, nearly 8 million vehicles were crossing the bridge each year—almost double the original projection. As a result, talks about building a second bridge were soon underway, and a twin span was dedicated in 1968. Although the spans look identical, there are differences. Today, more than 80,000 vehicles cross the twin spans on their combined total of 8 lanes daily. The largest single day of bridge traffic saw 72,249 private and commercial vehicles cross the bridge one-way on November 29, 1998.

The bridge is a lasting memorial to those soldiers who gave their lives in World War II, the Korean Conflict, Vietnam and Operation Desert Storm. Each year on Veterans Day, a special ceremony is held at the Bridge War Memorial, which overlooks the Twin Span.

**3. William King House
100 The Strand**

Built in the 1850s with subsequent additions, the King House stands on the site of the 17th century Governor Lovelace Mansion.

**4. Charles Thomas House
The Stand and Harmony Street**

This imposing double-entrance late Georgian style structure was built in 1801 as a hotel. It later became the Parish House for the Immanuel Epis-

copal Church. Note the elliptical fanlight over the door and the denticulated cornice that was added circa 1913 in a high-style interpretation of the Colonial Revival period.

**WALK SOUTH ON THE STRAND,
THE STREET THAT FRONTS THE
DELAWARE RIVER (THE WATER
WILL BE ON YOUR LEFT).**

**5. The William Aull House
53-55 The Strand**

This high-style Federal house dates to the 1780s. Details include a stone belt course separating the first and second floors and twin arch fanlights over the double entrance.

**6. George Read II House
42 The Strand**

George Read was a lawyer and signer of the Declaration Of Independence. His son, George Read II, was also a lawyer and followed his father as United States attorney for Delaware but he was not the great achiever his dad was. In fact, he was not well liked and considered pompous. As if to prove his detractors correct, Read the younger set out to build the largest house in Delaware in 1801.

He wanted the best of everything so even with skilled local craftsmen and abundant building materials nearby he built a wharf out front of the homesite and brought everything down, including 250,000 bricks, from Philadelphia. When completed, the total bill for the 22-room, 14,000-square foot mansion was \$11,000 - more than \$2 million today.

At the time this was a bad neighborhood; a wharf district when the Delaware River came right up to the edge of The Strand. Two doors down a brothel was operating. Most of the fine homes in town were built a block back on the The Green. With this house - one of the finest examples of Federal architecture in the country - things changed. Notable features include the monumental entrance with grand fanlight above and glazed panels at the sides; two similar broad windows on each side of the the Palladian window on the second story and a balustraded plat-

form extending along the ridge of the roof stopped by chimneys in pairs at each end. The dentils in the roof cornice show the lighter and more refined appearance of the Federal style that followed Georgian architecture in New Castle.

The garden at the Read House was installed by the second owner, William Cooper, in 1847. Designed by Robert Buist of Philadelphia, this garden is still intact after 150 years and ranks as the oldest surviving garden in the region. Encompassing one-and-a-half acres, the garden is divided into three sections: a formal parterre flower garden, a specimen garden filled with exotics and native favorites, and a large fruit orchard and kitchen garden with pear trees and trellised grapes set by formal boxwood hedges.

7. Sexton House **24 The Strand**

The Dutch-period dwelling that stood here until being consumed in the conflagration of 1824 was owned by another signer of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas McKean, who rented it out. The new brick building served commercial duty in the 1800s, the final business tenant being a newspaper printer.

8. McCullough's Row **27-33 The Strand**

These handsome late-Federal style rowhouses were built after the Great Fire of 1824, using the Federal style that was waning in America by this time. The roof dormers are high-style, well-proportioned examples of the form. Note the rhythmic pattern of the marble steps; finer stones like marble and limestone were often imported for use in detail work in New Castle.

The paired, exterior louvered doors seen here are evident throughout New Castle. These types of doors filtered up from the Tidewater region and points south in the mid-eighteenth century but were used mostly on country houses and not urban areas such as New Castle. Cityscape prints of the time do not show such doors in Philadelphia or New York and the wherefores and whys of their existence in New Castle at that time is a mystery. Louvered doors went out of fashion with the wholesale adoption of the screened door in the mid-nineteenth century.

9. Packet Alley **river side of The Strand**

Packet boats from Philadelphia landed here to meet stage coaches and railroad traffic from Frenchtown, Maryland, chief line of communication from north to Baltimore and South. Andrew Jackson, Davy Crockett, Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Sam Houston, Louis Napoleon, and Stonewall Jackson, among many others, all passed this way. One of America's earliest Ivory Soap advertisements can still be seen painted on the brick wall in the alley. Great Conestoga wagons hauling grain and loaded with goods for western-bound pioneers once rolled through here.

10. Samuel Couper House **14 The Strand**

One of the few remaining smokehouses in New Castle survived the Great Fire of 1824 and is at the back of this house. This store was a ship chandler's shop in the 1800s. The building is much altered; the windows filled in a recessed porch. The brick breezeway leads to the back garden.

11. McWilliams House **8 The Strand**

This is the oldest house on the block, from the early 1700s. Notable architectural details include the wooden front door and a pent roof over the first floor that is a popular feature found on Colonial Pennsylvania buildings. Richard McWilliams was a later occupant of the house who married Zachariah Van Leuvenigh's daughter, Mary.

12. Gunning Bedford House **6 The Strand**

Built around 1760, this was the home of Gunning Bedford, a Lieutenant Colonel in the Revolutionary War and 11th governor of Delaware. Later, Caleb P. Bennett, the 29th governor of Delaware lived here. George Read II lived here while his house was being built down the street. This house and the McWilliams house next door show the street elevation was lowered when the Strand was leveled in 1804. The doorway is indicative of the late Georgian period. The roof dormers in the front slope were added in the

early 1800s and employ engaged pilasters and a triangular pediment with raked cornices characteristic of the Federal period.

13. Old Farmers Bank
4 The Strand

This 1845 bank is an early example of the Italianate style. The corner quoins and flat roof are original details but the bracketed pediments on the first floor windows disguise different-sized windows and doors that have since been removed. The garden in the rear of the house is the site of stables for the horses that drew the first cars of the New Castle & Frenchtown Railroad.

In the mid-nineteenth century, improved transportation routes led to a widespread use of anthracite (hard) and cannel (soft) coal for heating. The burning of soft coal required a shallower fire box and a narrower, rounded flue that altered the form of the chimney itself. Chimneys from this period were generally shorter and incorporated terra cotta chimney pots. The introduction of shorter chimneys is well documented here.

TURN LEFT ON DELAWARE STREET AND WALK ONE BLOCK TO THE DELAWARE RIVER.

14. The Battery
End of Delaware Street

The wharf on the property to the left was the site of William Penn's landing. The Great Fire of 1824 started in the rear of the old Jefferson Hotel that stood here and was swept up The Strand by the wind, leaving the main part of town toward Delaware Street unharmed. The ice piers visible in the water were built in 1803 to protect the harbor from ice floes. They were the first such ice piers constructed in the Delaware River.

TURN RIGHT AND WALK INTO BATTERY PARK.

15. New Castle and Frenchtown Ticket Office
Battery Park

The New Castle-Frenchtown Turnpike that followed an old Indian trail 16 miles to the Chesapeake Bay, was a boon for New Castle after the American Revolution. By the 1820s rails had been laid strong enough for horses to pull carriages along the route. In 1832 the New Castle & Frenchtown Railroad became one of America's first. The small structure, now whitewashed and stripped of its functional trappings is actually the nation's second-oldest railroad building. The ticket office was moved to several locations around town after the demise of the NC&FRR and landed here in the 1950s.

WALK BACK TO THE STRAND BEHIND THE TICKET OFFICE THROUGH THE PARK.

16. Van Leuvenigh House
2 The Strand West

Zachariah Van Leuvenigh was the chief magistrate of New Castle during the American Revolution. The brick house was constructed in 1732 with a gambrel roof that was a reminder of the Dutch influence still in evidence in New Castle at the time. Common stone was not widely used for construction in New Castle; here you can see a foundation of rubblestone.

TURN LEFT ON DELAWARE STREET.

17. Colby House
110 Delaware Street

The Colby House dates to the early 1700s; the facade features a three-deep brick belt course and denticulated cornice. Miss Ruth Colby restored one of the town's most charming small houses in 1936.

18. Cloud's Row
117-125 Delaware Street

This is Delaware's oldest rowhouse block, built as speculative housing in 1803-04. The stone string courses add a touch of style to the rental properties.

19. Terry House
130 Delaware Street

This Federal townhouse, circa 1850, has been turned into a bed & breakfast. This side of the street was used as a set in the Oprah Winfrey movie production of *Beloved*. The entire street was covered with dirt and imitation cobblestones for scenes filmed in town.

20. William Penn Guest House
206 Delaware Street

The houses dates to 1682 and tradition holds that William Penn himself stayed in the house when he spent his night in New Castle but that is probably not the case. The bricks in front have been replaced but the sides are the oldest surviving brick walls in New Castle.

21. Old Town Hall
Second Street and Delaware Street

The three-story high brick square building with white tower and cupola was erected in 1823. It served as a headhouse for the stalls of the town market that operated to the rear. Farmers paid in the archway to sell their wares under cover; others set up for free. The market was held as early as 1682 and to make it successful buying and selling elsewhere in town was prohibited on market days.

22. Old Court House
north side of Delaware Avenue

The Early Georgian Colonial court house that dominates Delaware Street is one of the oldest public buildings in the United States. It was built, burned, reconstructed, added on to three or four times, and covered with stucco in the 1840s. The construction phases for the Court House were (1732, central block; 1765, east wing; 1801 ex-

tended east wing; 1845 west wing) The exquisite brickwork is Flemish bond where the stretchers and headers alternate along each course.

The cupola marks the center of "the 12-mile circle" that was drawn when Delaware broke away from Pennsylvania in 1702 to mark the boundary with its mother colony. The resulting curved border between Delaware and Pennsylvania is unique in all United States boundary-making. What is less known is that the arc does not stop at the Delaware River but is in fact a full circle that reaches across the water into New Jersey and there is actually a small part of land on the New Jersey side of the river that belongs even today to the State of Delaware.

WALK DOWN THE GREEN
BETWEEN THE COURT HOUSE
AND OLD TOWN HALL.

23. Old Sheriff's House
adjoining Court House on Market Street

This Italianate brownstone was constructed in 1858 on the site of an earlier jail and debtors' prison. Outside the jail to the rear stood the gallows and a whipping post. Public floggings took place in New Castle every Thursday at "Red Hannah" (a colloquial name for the whipping post, said to have originated by black convicts who "hugged Red Hannah" -- the red-painted post - - when undergoing their lashings). Flogging with a prescribed number of lashes using a cat-o'-nine-tails "well laid on the bare back", applied by the superintendent of the county jail, continued in Delaware into the 1940s although public displays like New Castle's "whipping day" were halted decades earlier.

24. William Penn Statue
Head of the Green

The statue of William Penn is by Charles C. Parks, a noted Wilmington sculptor, who completed the work in 1984. Penn is depicted holding water, turf, and the key to the city in one hand and a twig in the other to symbolize the breaking off of tiny Delaware from mighty Pennsylvania. The Green, now canopied under luxurious shade trees was an open area laid out by Peter Stuyves-

ant in 1655. Standing here in the early 1800s the fenced-in area would have had sheep grazing inside.

25. Old Presbyterian Church
east side of the Green on Second Street

The earliest church building in New Castle was believed to have been erected on this site by the Dutch in 1657 and the lawn was believed to have served as a burying ground. In 1707 it was replaced by a brick, one-story church that was used until a modern Gothic-style Presbyterian worship house sculpted in brownstone was built next door in 1854. Following World War II the congregation decided to raze the “new” church and restore the more fitting building standing today. Note the Jerkin-Head hoods on the Dutch gambrel roof.

26. The Arsenal
west side of the Green on Market Street

The one-and-a-half story brick building was commissioned by the United States in 1809 to stockpile ammunition when the threat of war with England loomed menacingly. The Arsenal was indeed used during the War of 1812 and again in 1846 at the outbreak of the Mexican War. Soon thereafter it was discovered that the land on the Green, including the Arsenal, could not legally be sold so a new deed was drawn up that prohibited the storing of ammunition without the town’s consent. So the Federal government gave the building to the town.

In 1852 a second floor, with cupola, was added and the original wagon entrances at each end closed off. Windows were installed and The Arsenal began a second life as an academy for high school students. New Castle High School was closed in 1930 but remodeled to serve as an elementary school. Since 1963 The Arsenal has been a restaurant.

**TURN RIGHT ON
HARMONY STREET.**

27. Rodney Willis House
126 Harmony Street

An excellent example of an early 1800s Federal-style townhome, the movable louvers and shutters are classic Colonial Revival embellishments.

28. Rising Sun Tavern
118 Harmony Street

The front section dates to 1796; the two-room section in the rear was added a few years later. The small window on the side was installed to serve unruly travelers who were not welcome inside. Note the horsehead hitching post at the curb. The simple box cornice devoid of ornamentation is the most common type of cornice found in the New Castle Historic Area.

**TURN AROUND TO RETURN
TO SECOND STREET AND
TURN RIGHT.**

29. Bull Hill House
**northwest corner of East Second Street
and Chestnut Street**

Ephraim Bull built a small house next to this one in the 1820s and operated this building as a restaurant and milk depot. In the 1970s it was converted back to a residence.

30. Apartment House
166 East Second Street

This building is an example of an early 1900s multi-family unit.

31. Jefferson Row
207-217 East Second Street

This is an example of employee housing from the 1880s that Elihu Jefferson constructed for workers in his two riverside warehouses. Each one is progressively wider from left to right.

HEAD WEST ON CHESTNUT STREET (AWAY FROM THE RIVER) AND TURN LEFT ON EAST THIRD STREET.

32. James W. Foster House
159 East Third Street

Here you will find an example of an 1800s Federal-style house not restored.

33. Pfrommer House
125 East Third Street

Away from the town core is a noteworthy example of a mansard-style roof dormer from the French-inspired Second Empire period of architecture from the mid-1800s. In this period, the dormer window became an integral part of the roof design, more than in any previous period.

34. Old Library
40 East Third Street

Famous Philadelphia Victorian architect Frank Furness created this whimsical composition in 1892. The Queen Anne-style library incorporates multi-chromatic materials and playful decorations. Designers often turned to octagons to save space and invite more light into the interior space. The splendid woodwork inside the Old Library is original. The ornamented chimney cap is typical of late Victorian architecture that incorporated chimney design into the structure.

35. Old Dutch House
32 East Third Street

This was once thought to be the oldest surviving house of the original Dutch settlement but that has been disproved. A log house stood on the property in the 1680s and this house may date to the 1690s but whatever the reality, it is a prototypical simple Colonial Dutch house with severely sloping roof around a central heat source. The house was purchased in 1937 by the Delaware Society for the Preservation of Antiquities, and restorations done. Today Dutch House operates as an historic house museum and is furnished with a collection of Dutch Colonial artifacts.

36. Gemmill House (John Wiley House)
18 East Third Street

This well-designed and well-preserved Georgian-style townhouse dates to 1801. The entrance with pediment and fanlight are particularly fine as is the motif in the eave pediment. The broad windows are 12-over-12 double-sashed.

37. George Rodney House
16 East Third Street

Twenty-eight year-old George Brydges Rodney, a cousin of Delaware patriot Caesar Rodney, and three years removed from law school built this beautifully proportioned brick structure as his home and office in 1831. A decade later he would begin the first of two terms representing Delaware in the United States House of Representatives as a member of the Whig party.

38. Dorsey House
8 East Third Street

The finest houses in town were built opposite The Green, as can be seen on this street in homes such as this well-proportioned Federal house, circa 1800.

39. Kensey Johns, Sr. House
2 East Third Street

Kensey Johns was born in Maryland in 1759, in the family that would one day become famous for Johns Hopkins.. He was a minuteman during the American Revolution and later practiced law for over a decade. In 1798 Johns became chief justice of the Delaware Supreme Court, a post he held for thirty years. He lived until the advanced age of 89 which means he had nearly 60 years to enjoy this exquisite Federal house that was built in 1789.

CROSS THE STREET
INTO THE GREEN.

40. Old Academy
The Green

The long brick building flanking the north side of the Green is the Old Academy, a private school that dates to 1799. The center hall is entered through an arched doorway with fanlight under a tripartite Palladian window.

41. Immanuel Episcopal Church
The Green

The Episcopal congregation first gathered on this site in 1689, one of America's oldest church organizations. The first church here was built in 1703. In 1980 the building was heavily damaged by fire and was painstakingly restored to its 1820 design - the year the steeple was added. In the adjoining cemetery are the graves of many Revolutionary War Veterans and George Read, signer of the Declaration of Independence.

**MOVE OVER TO THE CORNER
OF DELAWARE STREET AND
THIRD STREET.**

42. New Castle Trust Company
220 Delaware Street

The New Castle town government operates out of this former bank. The steady march of arches around the building are indicative of the Neoclassical style that was popular across the country in the early 1900s. The bricks for this commercial Revival structure were manufactured to resemble handmade eighteenth-century brick.

43. David Finney Inn
222 Delaware Street

The David Finney Inn was savaged by fire in 1998. During reconstruction hidden tunnels were found in the basement. A ghost is said to haunt the third floor. The hipped (slightly recessed) roof dormers are indicative of the Colonial Revival period.

**CROSS OVER DELAWARE STREET
DOWN THIRD STREET.**

44. Archibald Alexander House
26-28 Third Street

Archibald Alexander was born in Virginia in 1755 but his family moved to New Castle County when he was just a lad. A staunch patriot during the American Revolution, Alexander signed on with the Delaware militia, the Fighting Blue Hens, but soon joined the the 10th Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army as a surgeon. After two years of fighting with them, he left the army to serve as a privateer out of Norfolk. Eventually his ship was captured and he was taken prisoner, serving out the remainder of the war in a prison ship in New York Harbor. After the war he returned to New Castle and practiced medicine. He was also active in the Jeffersonian Democratic-Republican Party, being its first candidate for Governor of Delaware in 1795. Alexander died September 12, 1822 in New Castle County, Delaware, and is one of those buried at the Immanuel Episcopal Church Cemetery.

This large six-bay double house has been renovated. For most of its life the brick was covered with stucco and there was only one third-floor dormer window centered over the right house, not the four symmetrically placed dormer windows you see today. The original windows on the first two floors sported narrow keystone lintels that have not been replicated.

**TURN AROUND AND RETURN
TO DELAWARE STREET AND
TURN LEFT.**

45. Kensey Johns Van Dyke House
300 Delaware Avenue

Built in 1820, the relatively plain entrance facade is enlivened by the unusual geometric pattern in the door and first floor window shutters. The high-style, rounded roof dormers are finely proportioned. Bricks used during this period were prepared in metal molds, producing units with a more even color and form than found in previous times. The windows with narrow, unornamented frames are near perfect examples of an early Greek Revival window treatment. This was the home of Nicholas Van Dyke, Jr., first a United States congressman and later elected to

the United States Senate as a Federalist. He died in office in 1826 at the age of 56.

46. Old Opera House
310 Delaware Street

The town's most imposing edifice was constructed in 1879 as an opera house. It is crafted in the Italianate style that emphasizes the vertical - notice the windows on the second floor are taller than the floor above. The Victorian chimney incorporates multiple flues of corbeled brick.

47. Kensey Johns, Jr. House
northeast corner of Delaware Street and Fourth Street

Trained as a lawyer like his father, Kensey Johns was a two-time United States congressman in his thirties before succeeding his father as Chancellor of the State of Delaware in 1832. He served for the next 25 years until his death. This brick house, with its monumental parapet joining tall chimneys on the gable end, was built in 1823.

48. Amstel House
northwest corner of Delaware Street and Fourth Street

With its gable and entrance facing Fourth Street, this 18th century English Colonial was built as a mansion for the governor with a center hall, one room deep. The squarish Amstel House, laid out in Flemish bond brick with a projecting brick belt course, sits heavily on its corner. The glazed headers are a result of natural salts in the brick that produce a blue/gray/black glaze in the firing process. Bricks of the Georgian period were made using a high lime content mortar with clay and sand added.

Architects surmise that the ground floor kitchen may pre-date 1700 and could be the oldest structure in New Castle. The solid paneled door and ornamental surround creates one of the finest mid-Georgian entrances in Delaware. The pedimented dormer window is also indicative of the Georgian period.

The Amstel House's most celebrated room, though, is the wood-paneled music room. Here, on April 30, 1784, George Washington attended the wedding reception of Ann Van Dyke and

Kensey Johns. Chief Justice James Booth wrote at the time that General Washington kissed all the pretty girls - "as is his wont."

49. Nicholas Van Dyke House
400 Delaware Avenue

This is the first of three houses built by Senator Nicholas Van Dyke, erected in 1799. With its gable and pedimented entranceway it resembles the Amstel House across the street which his father Nicholas occupied as governor in the 1780s. The family home near Delaware City was on land that became the Delaware & Chesapeake Canal. The ornament found on the front door surround is a rich example of "punch and gouge" work found throughout New Castle. Punch and gouge refers to the incised ornament made by tooling the wood with a punch and gouging chisel.

WALK BACK DOWN DELAWARE STREET TO THE STRAND AND TURN LEFT TO THE START OF THE TOUR.

Look Up,

Wilmington

(Downtown)



A Walking Tour of Downtown Wilmington...

After periods of Swedish (1638), then Dutch (1655), then British (1664) colonization, the area stabilized under British rule (with Quaker influence) and was granted a borough charter in 1739 by the King of England which changed the name from Willingtown (after Thomas Willing, the first ‘developer” of the land who organized the area in a grid pattern like Philadelphia) to Wilmington, presumably after Spencer Compton, Earl of Wilmington, a favorite of the King.

From the granting of the charter until the Revolution, the town developed steadily into a prosperous business and residential community. During the Revolution, its milling industries, geographic location, key leaders and resources made Wilmington particularly strategic. Topography and soil conditions affected the residential development pattern in the City. Wilmington lies at the fall line that separates the flat coastal plain from the hilly areas to the west. East of Market Street, and along both sides of the Christina River, the land is flat, low-lying and marshy in places. The west side of Market Street is hilly and rises to a point that marks the watershed between the Brandywine and the Christina Rivers. This watershed line runs along Delaware Avenue westward from 10th and Market Streets. The hilly and therefore healthier west side, was more attractive for the original residential areas such as Quaker Hill, developed beginning in the mid- 18th century.

During the Industrial Revolution era Wilmington products included ships, railroad cars, gunpowder, shoes, tents, uniforms, blankets and other war-related goods. By 1868, the city was producing more iron ships than the rest of the country combined and it rated first in the production of gunpowder and second in carriages and leather. The modern age of Wilmington began in 1905 when the DuPont Company’s headquarters came downtown.

As an historically conservative city, Wilmington generally adopted architectural “high styles” about a decade after the style was introduced. Nonetheless, the city has a fine collection of extant buildings, displaying popular styles from the Revolution through late 20th century. Federal, Queen Anne, American Four Square are found in quantity; examples of Second Empire, Richardson Romanesque, Italian Villa, Greek Revival, Georgian, Art Deco and International Style punctuate the urban landscape. The vernacular row house makes up many of the stable neighborhoods, augmented by stylistic detailing from the high styles of its period of construction.

This walking tour will begin in the heart of the city around Rodney Square...

**1. Rodney Square
bounded by Market, King, 10th
and 11th streets**

A million-gallon water reservoir stood on this hilltop in the center of the city for half the 19th century. During development in 1917, the proposed courthouse for this site was shifted one block to the east to create a public square. The simple, but dignified square has been a favorite Wilmington gathering spot ever since.

The equestrian statue of patriot Caesar Rodney, famous for his desperate night ride from Dover to cast Delaware's vote for independence, was rendered in bronze by James Edward Kelly, known for his depictions of Civil War heroes. Unveiled in the 1920s, the statue was chosen to appear on Delaware's state quarter in 1999.

**2. Public Building of the City of
Wilmington
1000 King Street, east side of
Rodney Square**

This block-long Beaux Arts multi-use government building was erected of granite in 1916. "City Hall" was carved over the southern door and "Court House" over the northern door. A long Corinthian colonnade links the two. The government departed in the early 2000s and the monumental space has been converted to office space.

**3. Wilmington Public Library
10th & Market streets, south side of
Rodney Square**

Wilmington has had a city library since 1788; before this award-winning Neoclassical building was constructed in 1923 it was housed two blocks away at 8th and Market streets. Engaged columns face Rodney Square underneath a frieze of colored terra cotta. Sculpted owls of wisdom perch on second-story window sills. The majesty of the original building was much intruded-on during an expansion in the 1960s.

**4. DuPont Building
1007 N Market Street, west side of
Rodney Square**

The DuPont Building covers an entire block and, although it appears seamless, was actually built in six phases. Clad in brick and gray stone, it was begun in 1905 and completed in 1931. The yellow-brick section at Tenth and Market streets was the first to be completed in 1907, in a modified Italian Renaissance style. Decorative window balconies relieve its vertical lines.

The building also contains the city's premier hostelry, the Hotel DuPont, and the Playhouse, one of Wilmington's most important performance venues. Both opened in 1913. The lobby is of travertine with a 14-carat gold leaf ceiling.

**5. U.S. Post Office, Court House, and
Customs House
1100 N Market Street, north side of
Rodney Square**

Constructed during the Great Depression of the 1930s using relief monies, this Neoclassical government building reflects the colonnade of its mate on Rodney Square, the City-County Building. It is now a bank.

**WALK NORTH ON MARKET
STREET FROM THE
NORTHWEST CORNER
OF RODNEY SQUARE.**

**6. First and Central Presbyterian Church
1101 N Market Street**

Built in 1929-1930, this Colonial Revival church has many touches to make it look like it came from a different age. Exterior bricks were designed to look as if they were clay baked by hand. Even the boxwood hedge echoes long-ago England.

**7. Merrick Mansion/Wilmington Club
1103 N Market Street**

This area was once dominated by stately townhouses but only this brownstone, commissioned by carriage-maker John Merrick in 1864, re-

mains. Edmund Lind, a prominent Baltimore architect, executed the Italianate design with massive scroll-supported window heads, oversize bracketed cornice and alternating corner quoins.

8. Wilmington Tower
1105 N Market Street

This 286-foot tower was designed by renowned architect I.M. Pei in the Brutalist style of the 1960s. The cast-in-place concrete and oversized windows became trademarks of Pei's international works.

9. Hercules Headquarters
1313 N Market Street, northwest corner of 13th Street

Expanses of blue-green glass rise from a faux-stone base that mimics an older Wilmington streetscape in this 1983 tower. A hugely overscaled clock peering over the roofline adds a touch of Postmodernism.

**TURN RIGHT ON 13TH STREET.
TURN LEFT ON KING STREET.**

10. Starr House
1310 King Street

Stonecutter Michael Van Kirk built this Federal-style brick townhouse in 1804 for himself but sold it to a waterman, Jacob Starr, two years later. The banded lintels of brick and stone are a personal touch from the builder who also fabricated the marble trim. It survived the explosion of three DuPont powder wagons on the street nearby in 1854, cracking only its yellow pine doors. The building has served as law offices since the 1950s.

11. St. Patrick's Church
1414 N King Street

The St. Patrick's Church is the traditional end to Wilmington's St. Patrick's Day parade.

12. Brandywine Pumping Station and Waterworks Park
northeast corner of 16th Street and N Market Street

Grain mills operated on the south banks of the Brandywine River as early as 1671 and this Romanesque water pumping station from 1906 is said to stand on the ancient foundations. A modest water-powered pump was installed here by the City of Wilmington to send fresh water to the reservoir at today's Rodney Square.

13. North Market Street Bridge
Brandywine River

The Brandywine River has been spanned at this point, along the primary north-south road in colonial America, since 1764. This is the sixth bridge here and by far the longest-lasting. The 150-foot steel bridge, made to resemble a masonry arch, was built in 1928.

**TURN LEFT ON
SOUTH PARK DRIVE.**

14. Brandywine Park

In 1885, Wilmington's Board of Park Commissioners founded Brandywine Park, a wooded area in the heart of Wilmington. It became Delaware's first large urban park and was added to the National Historic Register in 1976. The 178-acre park features wooded trails, formal gardens, sculpture, architecture, a sports stadium, and a zoo. Stretching along a one-mile run of the Brandywine Creek, the park offers visitors outdoor recreation, picnic spots, and cultural events.

In 1954 the Brandywine Canoe Slalom, the first event of its kind in the country, was staged on the historic river. About 150 canoeists and kayakers from as far away as Toronto, Canada came to test the boulder-strewn waters. Held each April, the Canoe Slalom became one of Wilmington's most popular springtime events for twenty years and helped usher the sport into the Olympics in 1972.

15. Old First Presbyterian Church
below West Street along South Park Drive

The First Presbyterian Church was built in 1740. When the building, which originally stood on Market Street, was threatened with destruction in 1917, it was disassembled and moved to the park. The gambrel roof is typical of Dutch structures.

16. Washington Memorial Bridge
Brandywine River

The 720-foot structure of five reinforced-concrete arches - the longest is 250 feet - is Delaware's only open-spandrel concrete highway bridge. It is adorned with tall concrete centographs decorated with eagles. When the bridge, designed to be strong enough to hold two trains of sixty-ton electric railway cars, was dedicated on Memorial Day 1922 a parade of 1,200 girls dispensed flowers over the sides into the Brandywine.

TURN LEFT ON WASHINGTON STREET. TURN RIGHT ON 12TH STREET TO DELAWARE AVENUE.

17. Wilmington and Brandywine Cemetery
Delaware Avenue and Adams Street

This rural cemetery was established in 1843; the Gothic Revival chapel is constructed of fieldstone. Behind the entrance gates is a rare Cedar of Lebanon tree, brought here by botanist James Canby in 1850.

18. Trinity Episcopal Church
Delaware Avenue and Adams Street

This parish was founded in 1638 when a group of Swedes first settled in the area. The original Swedish Lutheran church was located within the walls of Fort Christina, near the site where the Swedes landed. As more Swedes made the voyage to the new colony, a larger church was needed. The stone church built on the new site in 1698-99 is what we now call Old Swedes'. The present Gothic Revival Trinity Church was built in 1890.

WALK EAST ON DELAWARE AVENUE. TURN LEFT ON 11TH STREET.

19. Central YMCA
501 W 11th Street

The building, completed in 1929, features brick upper floors over Indiana limestone lower floors - a style popular in the 1920s.

20. Brandywine Building
1000 N West Street, southeast corner of 11th Street

The 259-foot high Brandywine Building was the last of the office towers built by the DuPont Company in downtown Wilmington, first occupied in 1970 and sold in 1999.

21. Nemours Building
1007 Orange Street

Part of the DuPont Headquarters complex, the Nemours Building was completed in two phases, one that ended in 1936, and the second in 1941. It is faced with brick except for the first two stories, which are faced in limestone. Notable as an early example of an air-conditioned building, it was said to be the world's largest artificially cooled office building. Art Deco touches are still seen around the exterior of the first two floors.

TURN RIGHT ON ORANGE STREET AND TURN RIGHT ON 9TH STREET.

22. Grace United Methodist Church
northwest corner of 9th and West streets

Grace United Methodist Church, built in 1867, is Delaware's best surviving example of High Victorian Gothic, a richly ornamented architectural style imported from England. It is marked by polychromatic building materials; here noted Baltimore architect Thomas Dixon, a native of Wilmington, used green serpentine building stone from West Chester, Pennsylvania, reddish Connecticut brownstone and buff New Jersey sandstone.

TURN LEFT ON WEST STREET.
TURN RIGHT ON 8TH STREET.

23. West Presbyterian Church
500 W 8th Street

Samuel Sloan, an influential Philadelphia architect, created this steep-roofed, Gothic Revival Church in 1871. Sloan used red pressed brick and light-colored Ohio stone to build banded arches. The church was troubled from the beginning, barely surviving the national financial Panic of 1873. After World War II the mass migration of city population to the suburbs decimated one of Wilmington's largest congregations. Only 148 members remained when fire gutted the church in 1993 and lack of rebuilding funds forced the loss of many original architectural treasures.

RETURN TO WEST STREET
AND TURN RIGHT.

24. Cathedral of Saint Peter
500 N West Street

Beginning in the mid-1700s, the Wilmington area was one of many stations on an itinerant ministry conducted by Jesuit, Franciscan and Augustinian priests, successively, traveling on horseback from Philadelphia or Maryland. Land for the church, at the corner of Sixth and West streets, was leased from the estate of Martha Whitelock in 1816 and Pierre Bauduy, a French refugee, was hired as architect. The 30- by 40-foot brick, tin-roofed church was dedicated to St. Peter on Sept. 12, 1818. A series of enlargements and additions began in 1829 when the building was extended and the bell tower added.

25. Wilmington Friends Meeting House
401 N West Street

This Quaker meeting house, built of bricks and gabled at each end, dates to 1817 and is the third such structure to stand on this site.

TURN LEFT ON 4TH STREET.
TURN LEFT ON MARKET
STREET.

26. Central National Bank
501 N Market Street

This much-decorated Queen Anne-style building was built in 1890 of red brick and sandstone. Much decoration has also been lost but four carved lions' heads remain.

27. Clayton House Hotel/Queen Theater
northeast corner of 5th and Market streets

Noted Baltimore architects Thomas Dixon and Charles Carson were commissioned to build a hotel on this corner in 1871 to replace the Indian Queen Hotel that had been Wilmington's finest for 90 years. The Victorian hotel sported a slate mansard roof and exquisite craftsmanship that rivaled the finest Philadelphia hotels. The opening of the Hotel du Pont drained business from the Clayton to such a degree that in 1916 the interior was gutted and reborn as the 2000-seat Queen Theater.

28. Artisans Savings Bank
505 N Market Street

This Art Deco bank was built in 1930 and has been home to the Delaware Historical Society since the 1970s.

29. Delaware History Museum
504 N Market Street

The Delaware History Museum is located in a renovated Art-Deco Woolworth store that was the third-largest in the United States when it was built. The steel lunch counter ran a full block deep.

30. Market Street Arch
between 5th and 6th streets

The Market Street Arch was completed in 1995, similar to the four arches that were erected for the Marquis de Lafayette's visit in 1824.

31. Willingtown Square
west side of Market Street

Six historic Wilmington brick houses facing the wrecking ball were moved here in 1976. Most date to the 1700s and feature Flemish-bond brickwork with alternating stretchers (long side) and headers (short side).

32. Old Town Hall
512 N Market Street

A near-copy of Philadelphia's Congress Hall, this is one of America's oldest surviving town halls, dating to 1798. The building was Victorianized in the 1870s and given a taller, more prominent cupola. The City government departed for more spacious quarters in 1916 and the Historical Society of Delaware, with the help of Pierre S. duPont, saved the building and restored it to its original appearance. Tours today visit the upstairs Long Room where the city council met and the notorious jail cells below ground.

33. Security Trust and Safe Deposit Company
southwest corner of 6th and Market streets

This bank was designed by the firm of celebrated Philadelphia architect Frank Furness in 1885. Such modern amenities as fireproof steel vaults and safe-deposit boxes attracted depositors. The building was enlarged from a modest three-bay affair in 1908 and the facade has since been altered. No longer operating as a bank, it now houses a charter school.

34. Mullins Clothing Store
southeast corner of 6th and Market streets

Mullins was one of Wilmington's most fashionable clothing stores when it operated on Market Street. It was converted to apartments in the mid-1980s and is now a dormitory for the Delaware College of Art and Design. The Mullins faded advertising can still be seen on the brick south side of the building.

**TURN RIGHT ON 6TH STREET
ONE BLOCK TO KING STREET.**

35. Old Customs House
King and 6th streets

This Italianate, hipped-roof building dates to the early 1850s and was one of the first constructed under the direction of Ammi Young, Supervising Architect of the Office of Construction of the United States Treasury Department. Young's influence would spread across the country in the years to follow. The building is fireproof with three-foot thick walls and iron columns and stairs. The building has long been an island amidst a sea of urban renewal and its fate seems forever tenuous.

**RETURN TO MARKET STREET
AND TURN RIGHT.**

36. Delmarva Power and Light Company
northeast corner of 6th and Market streets

This was Delaware's largest Art Deco building when it was constructed in 1932. The huge ground level showroom was the state's most stylish with large windows, gleaming black marble fittings, chrome fixtures and a terrazzo floor. In the 1990s the building was converted to an art school.

**37. Reynolds Candy Store/Cavanaugh's
Restaurant**
703 N Market Street

When it opened in 1924 Reynolds was one of America's premier candy stores with a soda fountain that stretch 75 feet along the south wall. Two hundred hungry office workers could be served in a single sitting at lunch. Ice cream was manufactured in the basement. On display were more than 500 varieties of Reynolds candies. The store, with display windows framed in walnut, was sold in 1955 and today houses a restaurant.

38. Grand Opera House
818 N Market Street

Thomas Dixon and Charles Carson gave Wilmington the third-largest stage in the United States when they built this combination Masonic Hall and Opera House in 1871. The elaborate, Italianate cast-iron facade is the finest in Delaware. Symbols on the facade indicate the original ownership by the Masons. The first motion pictures were shown here in 1896. The building was renovated in the 1960s and today is the premier performance venue in the city.

39. Wilmington Savings Fund Society
838 N Market Street

This bank building went up in 1921 to replace an earlier Gothic Revival structure. The thirteen engaged limestone columns along 9th Street are copies of those on the Tower of Winds in Athens.

40. Delaware Trust Building
902 N Market Street

Alfred I. duPont built one of the state's largest office buildings for his bank to rival the DuPont Building on the next block after he had a falling out with his cousin Pierre and left the company. The classical Beaux Arts-inspired, 14-story structure was ready in 1921 and large wings were added a decade later. The Delaware Trust Company Building featured one of the country's first underground parking garages.

CONTINUE ONE BLOCK ON
MARKET STREET TO THE TOUR
STARTING POINT ON RODNEY
SQUARE.

Look Up,

Wilmington

(West End)



A Walking Tour of Wilmington's West Side...

Even before I-95 severed it from center city Wilmington, the west side of the city had developed its own sense of identity. A richly diverse population migrated to this residential area including pockets of Italians, Greeks and Irish, many of whom found work in the flour and gunpowder mills a short distance away on the Brandywine River.

When the trolley lines extended out west of center city in the late 1800s it became more convenient for commuters to live away from the downtown offices and long-time farms were converted into tony developments clustered around such wide parkways as Bancroft and Kentmere.

Our walking tour will begin at the gateway to Wilmington's West Side, a small triangular park at the intersection of Delaware and Pennsylvania avenues...

1. Fountain Plaza
Delaware and Pennsylvania avenues

This triangular plot at the intersection of two important entrance roads into Wilmington was once the site of the Kennett Apartments. Henry Belin duPont thought the tenement ugly so he bought them and tore them down to create this park. The sculpture of a boy and two dogs, American Youth, was done by Charles C. Parks in 1967. At the time Wilmington's parks boasted only ten statuary, compared to Philadelphia's 150.

**WALK WEST ON
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE,
AWAY FROM DOWNTOWN.**

2. Columbus Square
north side of Pennsylvania Avenue

Standing in his namesake square is a 1,600-pound bronze statue of Christopher Columbus by Leon N. Fagnani, a sculptor favored by Pope Paul VI when it was commissioned in the 1950s.

**TURN RIGHT ON
FRANKLIN STREET.**

3. Howard Pyle Studios
1305 Franklin Street

Magazine and book illustrator Howard Pyle, a native Wilmingtonian, built this English cottage-like studio in 1883 and later added three attached studios for the Howard Pyle School of Art he established in 1900. The Queen Anne buildings are distinguished by projecting half-timbered gables, tall chimneys and skylights to allow light into the studios. Pyle died in Italy in 1911 and most of his best work is on permanent display in the Delaware Museum of Art. Now owned by local artists, the studios still serve their original purpose.

**RETURN TO PENNSYLVANIA
AVENUE AND TURN RIGHT.**

4. Ursuline Academy
1106 Pennsylvania Avenue

Established in 1893 by the Ursulines, it is run independently within the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wilmington. Most of the campus was designed in a Gothic Revival style by Philadelphia architect Paul Monaghan.

5. Queen Anne row
north side of Pennsylvania Avenue

This row of Queen Anne-style brick houses from the 1880s are typical of what this main thoroughfare looked like in the 19th century. These remain, unaltered, with their complex massing, slate-shingled gables and steeply pitched roofs.

6. 1401 Condominiums
northeast corner of Pennsylvania Avenue
and Broom Street

This area saw the development of high-rise luxury apartment buildings in the 1950s. This 16-story tower features 182 air-conditioned units.

7. Church of the Holy City
southeast corner of Pennsylvania Avenue
and Broom Street

The original church of Swedenborg followers was designed by one of America's leading proponents of the Gothic Revival style in America, Baltimore architect Edmund Lind. It was rebuilt in 1903 in a different form with a broad spire of local Brandywine granite.

**TURN RIGHT ON
BROOM STREET.**

8. Soldiers and Sailors Monument
Broom Street and Delaware Avenue

This is the first public monument erected in Wilmington. The column was salvaged in 1868 when one of America's great early buildings, the Bank of America by Benjamin Henry Latrobe from 1799, was demolished in Philadelphia. Harry Lowe sculpted the globe and eagle in 1871 for the state's only Civil War memorial.

TURN LEFT ON DELAWARE AVENUE AND RIGHT ON NORTH RODNEY STREET.

**9. Frank E. Schoonover Studios
1616 N Rodney Street**

In 1905 Art patron Samuel Bancroft commissioned Wilmington's leading architect at the time, Edward Luff Rice, Jr., to build a quartet of studios for students working under Howard Pyle. Rice delivered a set of half-timbered Tudor Revival cottages anchored by a large brick chimney. Among the first four tenants were N.C. Wyeth and Frank Schoonover.

RETURN TO DELAWARE AVENUE AND TURN RIGHT, HEADING WEST.

**10. Kelly's Logan House
1701 Delaware Avenue, northwest corner
of North DuPont Street**

Built in 1864, the Logan House was originally constructed as a resort hotel to be the center of activity for the community of small houses located nearby. Across DuPont Street from the Logan House stood the Wilmington City Horse Railway Terminal, which opened the same year. The Logan House owes its name to General John A. Logan, a famous Union Army General who among other things instituted Memorial Day.

In the early days, the Logan House flourished in part because of its proximity to the Baltimore and Ohio railroad station, which was situated across Delaware Avenue. Travelers would frequently stop by for a meal or drink and then stay for the night. Guests of the Logan House included Buffalo Bill, Wild Bill Hickok, John L. Sullivan and Al Capone.

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

**11. Bank of Delaware
northeast corner of Lovering Avenue and
Union Street**

This is one of Delaware's finest buildings from the Federal era of the the late 1700s. It was moved here in the 20th century when it was threatened with its demolition. The Bank of Delaware was the state's first bank, established in 1795 and a long-time landmark half a block from Town Hall.

BEAR RIGHT AND WALK UP THE NORTH SIDE OF KENTMERE PARKWAY.

**12. Delaware Art Museum
2301 Kentmere Parkway**

The Delaware Art Museum was born when Samuel Bancroft offered his collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings - the finest collection in America - to the Wilmington Society of Fine Arts in 1937. Samuel Homsey created an arcaded Georgian Revival building to house the collection.

**13. Rockford Park
entrances on Red Oak Road and West
19th Street**

William Bancroft agitated for the creation of a parks department in Wilmington in the 1880s and donated 200 acres of land for this park. In 1902 the trademark Norman-style water tower was built, partly from the boulders of old barns on the property. When the 115-foot tower opened, complete with observation deck, ten million gallons of water flowed through the tank each year. Today it is four million gallons every day.

FROM RED OAK ROAD, TURN LEFT ON WILLARD STREET.

**14. Stirling H. Thomas House
2501 Willard Street**

When William Bancroft donated land for Rockford Park he also had his Woodlawn Company purchase adjacent land for a deed-restricted

community. These homes became the most architecturally adventurous in the city. This half-timbered Tudor Revival was the first such house, built in 1901.

TURN RIGHT ON GREENHILL AVENUE.

15. Gibraltar northwest corner of Greenhill and Pennsylvania avenues

Cotton merchant John R. Brinckle owned an extensive farm on what was the outskirts of the city here in the 1840s. He built a plain, square house on a rocky ledge - his "Gibraltar." In 1909 H. Rodney Sharp bought the property - mostly for the house's magnificent stairway according to legend - and tripled the size of the house. After his death in 1968 the property deteriorated steadily, temporarily abated in the 1990s when Preservation Delaware took over.

TURN RIGHT ON PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

16. Goodstay 2600 Pennsylvania Avenue

The farm known as "Green Hill" pre-dates the City of Wilmington, going back to at least 1732. The original stone farmhouse dates to 1740 although the property has been enlarged several times, most notably by the Pyle family in 1853 - Howard Pyle spent his childhood here - and in the 1920s when T. Coleman duPont purchased the property for his daughter Ellen.

TURN AROUND AND WALK EAST ON PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, TOWARDS DOWNTOWN.

17. Automobile Row Pennsylvania Avenue, Union Street to Clayton Street

The name "Automobile Row" was being applied to this stretch of Pennsylvania as early as

1912 - only five years after the first automobile appeared on Wilmington streets. Most of these dealerships date to the 1930s and 1940s.

TURN RIGHT ON DUPONT STREET.

18. St. Anthony of Padua 9th and DuPont streets

The center of Wilmington's Little Italy, this church was started in the 1920s after representatives of the congregation traveled to Italy to study churches. Their Italian Renaissance design is faced with gray Wissahickon schist from Pennsylvania. The impressive entrance porch is formed with orange terra-cotta designs above limestone columns. The bronze doors were crafted by local architect Leon N. Fagnani and Italian sculptor Egidio Giaroli.

TURN LEFT ON 9TH STREET. TURN LEFT ON NORTH RODNEY STREET. TURN RIGHT ON 10TH STREET.

19. Mauchline 1401 10th Street

The half-timbered Tudor Revival home of DuPont executive Frank G. Tallman is one of the city's best. Anchored by twin gables, Tallman kept one of America's finest collections of Abraham Lincoln memorabilia here before donating it to the University of Delaware. The rough-faced brick used here was a recent innovation in 1917 when Mauchline was built.

TURN RIGHT ON BROOM STREET.

20. University and Whist Club 805 North Broom Street

In 1760 the land on which the University and Whist Club now stands was purchased by Bancroft Woodcock. At the time, the population of Wilmington was nearing 1,000 persons and the site was considered rural. In 1792 Woodcock sold

the property to Dr. James Tilton, a Revolutionary War hero who crossed the Delaware River with Washington's troops to ambush Trenton, New Jersey.

In 1802 Tilton began construction of the nucleus of the present day building. The new stone structure was two stories high, 38 feet square, and had an attic with dormer windows and a basement with a kitchen. In the 1850s renowned Philadelphia architect Robert Morris Smith built new owner Charles W. Howland, a Wilmington industrialist, a house in what he called the "pure Italian style." The tower on the Ninth Street side, topped by an observatory, housed a spring water cistern with a power pump for running water in the house. Howland renamed the grand mansion Hilton.

In 1937 the property was sold to one of Wilmington's most venerable private clubs, the University Club. In 1958, it merged with another of the city's oldest clubs, the Wilmington Whist Club to form the University and Whist Club.

21. Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
808 N Broom Street

A decentralized Greek community spread across four states has congregated here since 1952. The Byzantine-inspired building features a lead-covered dome and two spires above a slate roof.

**WALK ONE BLOCK DOWN
8TH STREET TO FRANKLIN
STREET AND TURN LEFT.**

22. Frank Pyle House
**southwest corner of 10th and Franklin
streets**

Dominated by a massive round corner tower, this 1891 house is one of the few by Frank Miles Day that stands 100 years later virtually unaltered. Day blended elements of the Queen Anne and Shingle styles to create this showplace for Frank Pyle, a patent-leather manufacturer.

TURN RIGHT ON 10TH STREET.

23. Cool Spring Reservoir Pumping Station
**northwest corner of 10th Street and Van
Buren Street**

A reservoir was built on the site of "Cool-spring," the one-time country home of Caesar Rodney, Jr. in 1877. The picturesque brick Queen Anne-style pumping station followed a year later. It has been decommissioned and pressed back into service after World War II and was renovated at the beginning of this century.

**TURN LEFT ON
VAN BUREN STREET.**

**24. Ursuline Academy Performing Arts
Center**
**southwest corner of Van Buren Street and
Pennsylvania Avenue**

This impressive structure dates to 1912 when it was built for the Church of Christ Scientist. The Neoclassical pedimented portico supported by six Ionic columns is one of Delaware's finest. It is now a part of the Ursuline Academy campus.

**TURN RIGHT ON
PENNSYLVANIA/DELAWARE
AVENUE.**

25. New Century Club
1014 Delaware Avenue

This Colonial Revival clubhouse was designed in 1892 by Minerva Parker Nichols, a pioneering woman architect. Notable features include twin Palladian windows flanking the raised entrance-way, corner quoins and a curved gable. The building has gone through several histories and is currently home of the Delaware Children's Theater.

**TURN AROUND AND RETURN
TO THE TOUR STARTING
POINT A BLOCK AWAY AT THE
INTERSECTION OF DELAWARE
AVENUE AND PENNSYLVANIA
AVENUE.**

IDENTIFYING AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE

Recognizing Early American Architecture (1600-1840):

POST-MEDIEVAL 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-gambrel 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 (four-sided) or side-gabled (two-sided)
- * 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 (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 (EASTLAKE) 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 CHATEAUESQUE (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, often 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

