



**Look Up,
Washington,
DC!**

**7 Walking Tours in
the Nation's Capital**

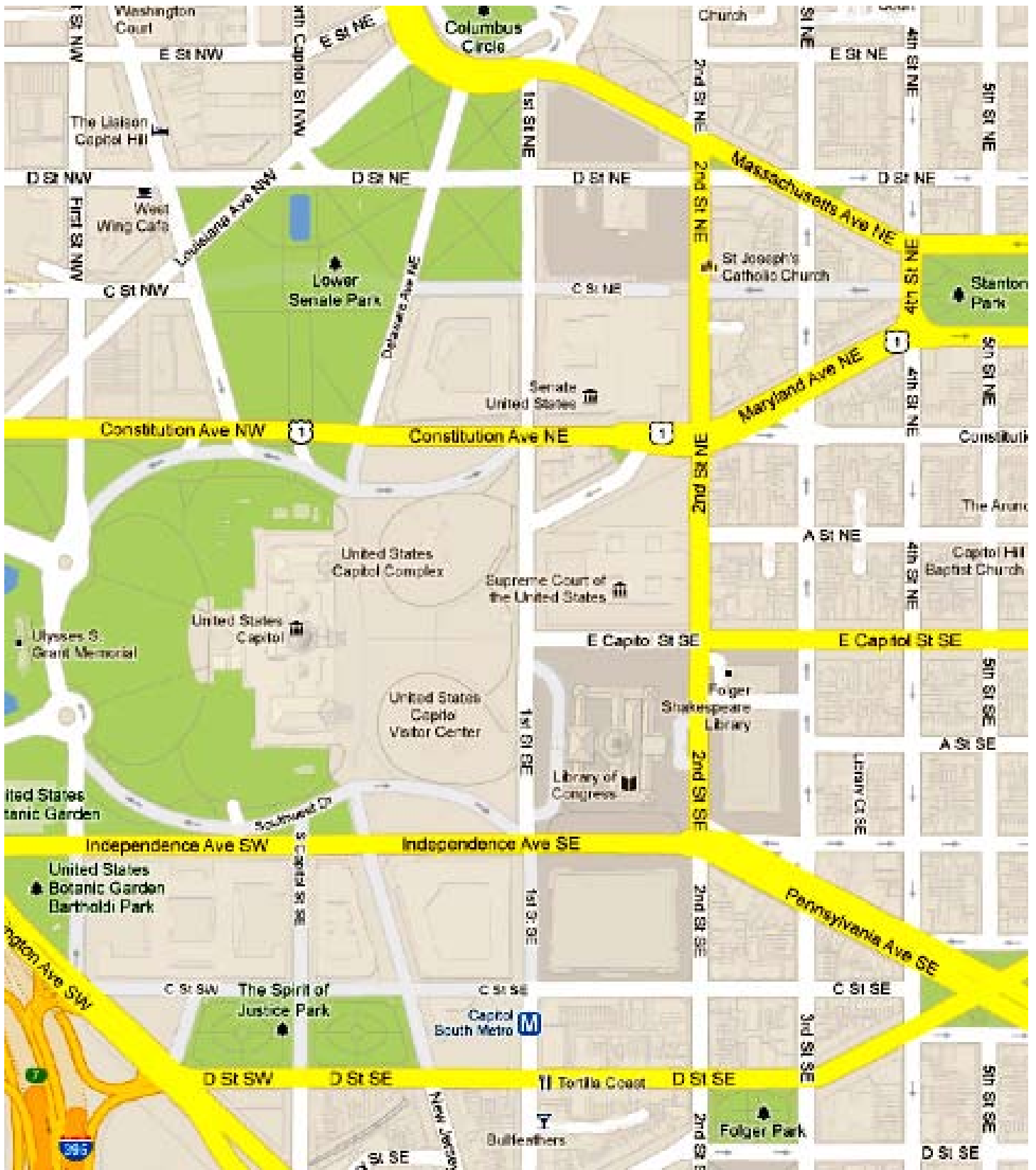
A Walking Tour of the Capitol District

from walkthetown.com

The hill of Capitol Hill rises in the center of the nation's capital and flows eastward. It was this protruberance, called Jenkins Heights in 1790, upon which Pierre L'Enfant decided to place "Congress House," a site which the French planner described as a "pedestal waiting for a superstructure." Stretching easterly behind the Capitol Building along wide avenues lies the residential area known as Capitol Hill, one of the oldest residential communities in Washington. Once an enclave of boarding houses for members of Congress who hated the idea of establishing permanent residency in Washington, it is now the town's largest residential historic district.

Nothing remains of this community today, having been razed to house the Capitol support buildings. Those support buildings are indicative how the government has ballooned in recent times. For more than 100 years the business of Washington was conducted almost exclusively inside the Capitol Building itself. The Supreme Court? Go to the Capitol. The Congressional library? Inside the Capitol. Your representative's office? Inside the Capitol. Today there are a half-dozen major office buildings and a few satellites for the Congress alone. The Supreme Court and library have their own buildings on the site of many of those early boarding houses.

Today's streetscape is a pastiche of rowhouses in a cornucopia of styles standing shoulder-to-shoulder with early 19th century Federal townhouses mingling with ornate mid-1800s Italianate bracketed houses and then stylish Victorian residences from a few decades later. The street pattern in Capitol Hill is still one L'Enfant would recognize from his original 1791 Plan for the Federal City, a vision of grand diagonals superimposed over a standard grid pattern. To take a look, our walking tour will begin at the top of old Jenkins Hill...



1. The United States Capitol



William Thornton, a Scottish-trained physician hailing from the British West Indies, won a design competition to design young America's most important building and President George Washington personally set the cornerstone in place on September 18, 1793, beginning a decades-long journey to the iconic structure we see today. Architect James Hoban, who was working on the President's House, was charged with carrying out the inexperienced Thornton's plan and he saw to enough building to host its first session of Congress on November 17, 1800. In 1803, construction resumed under Benjamin Henry Latrobe who completed the south and north wings. By 1813, Latrobe, with his job done, departed with the wings connected by a temporary wooden passageway. On August 24, 1814, invading British troops set fire to the building and only a rainstorm prevented its complete destruction. Latrobe trekked back to town in 1815 to make repairs, introducing marble into the interior. The restoration continued under Charles Bulfinch, Boston's master architect, who redesigned the central section, making the dome that topped the section higher. By 1850, the Capitol could no longer accommodate the increasing numbers of senators and representatives. Another competition was held offering \$500 for the best plan to extend the Capitol. Unable to decide between the plans, Congress divided the prize money among five architects and Thomas U. Walter was selected to supervise the expansion which necessitated a larger, fireproof cast-iron dome. A century later, in the 1960s, an extension to the East front added 102 more rooms but for the past half-century ongoing work has been confined to shoring up and preserving the iconic landmark.

START ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE CAPITOL (AWAY FROM THE MALL). WALK COUNTERCLOCKWISE.

2. Lampstands East Capitol Street

After building his reputation as America's greatest landscape architect with his work on New York's Central Park and elsewhere, Frederick Law Olmsted got the call from Congress in 1874 to design a comprehensive plan for the Capitol grounds. Olmsted designed not only the terraced lawns and traffic patterns but street furniture as well. The lampstands on the plaza are his.

3. Waiting Station northeast lawn of the Capitol

Olmsted anticipated everything in his grounds plan; here he created a pair of waiting stations for the horse-drawn trolleys that arrived each day. They were known as “herdics” for the Herdic Phaeton Company that held the trolley concession for the Capitol.

4. The Summer House northwest front of Capitol Building



After hearing grumblings from visitors that there was no drinking water and no place to sit, Frederick Law Olmsted responded by launching construction of the red brick Summer House around a spring in the hillside in 1879. The structure featured six walls punctuated with broad arched openings outfitted with wrought-iron gates. The spring water has been replaced by piped city water in the Summer House.

5. Cooling Tower northwest front of Capitol Building

This stone tower worked in tandem with the grotto to force fresh, cooled air into the Capitol via a vent and a series of underground tunnels.

6. *Peace Monument* Pennsylvania Avenue and 1st Street, NW

Originally known as the *Navy Monument*, this remembrance was created by Franklin Simmons in 1877 to honor Union naval efforts during the Civil War. The two allegorical female figures at the top of the 40-foot high memorial represent America weeping on the shoulders of History over the loss of her naval defenders. Simmons was a Maine native who came to Washington during the Civil War where he executed sculptures of members of Abraham’s Lincoln’s administration and his top military leaders.

7. *Grant Memorial*

1st Street and East Mall, east front of Capitol Building

This is one of the largest equestrian statues in the world and one of the most important in Washington. A relatively unknown sculptor, the self-taught Henry Merwin Shrady, was chosen from among 23 artists to honor the Civil War general and 18th president. Shrady labored for 22 years to complete the final memorial, which has 12 horses, 11 soldiers, 4 lions and soldier groups from the artillery, infantry and cavalry. The *Grant Memorial* was dedicated on April 27, 1922, the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Hiram Ulysses Grant in Point Pleasant, Ohio. Shrady was not among the dignitaries on hand for the unveiling - he had died two weeks earlier from strain and overwork.

8. **Reflecting Pool**

east front of Capitol Building

Necessity being the mother of invention, this six-acre reflecting pool was birthed when I-395 was tunneled just west of the Capitol. Nothing with roots could be planted atop the tunnel so a shallow pool of water was proposed to cover the space. The edges and angles of the pool were constructed so that it indeed could capture the reflection of the entire Capitol dome.

9. **Garfield Memorial**

northeast corner of the front of the Capitol Building

Like Abraham Lincoln, James Abraham Garfield, the second assassinated American President, was born in a rural midwestern log cabin. He rapidly advanced to the rank of major general in the Civil War and was appointed chief of staff of the Army of the Cumberland. This nine-foot statue by John Quincy Adams Ward was erected in 1887, six years after President Garfield died of an assassin's bullet, having been in office for not even a year.

TURN RIGHT ON MARYLAND AVENUE.

10. **United States Botanical Garden**

1st Street, Maryland Avenue and Independence Avenue

The United States Botanic Garden traces its beginning to 1816, when the constitution of the Columbian Institute for the Promotion of Arts and Sciences in Washington, D.C., proposed the creation of a botanic garden to "collect, grow, and distribute plants of this and other countries that might contribute to the welfare of the American people." A garden was duly established by Congress in 1820 to the west of the Capitol Grounds but the high-minded organization disbanded in 1837 and the grounds fell into disrepair. It was an era of scientific expeditions, however, and after the United States Exploring Expedition to the South Seas returned to Washington in 1842 with a haul of exotic plants the idea of a national botanic garden was re-visited. This classically inspired facility arrived in 1933; behind the multiple arches full-sized trees are grown; the aluminum greenhouse

ribcage was the world's largest when it was built.

WALK EAST ON INDEPENDENCE AVENUE.

11. Bartholdi Park

1st Street and Independence Avenue, SW

Frederic Auguste Bartholdi, designer of the Statue of Liberty, crafted this fountain for America's 1876 Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia. The fountain, enhanced by 11-foot female figures, was designed in three identical sections with turtles and large shells rising to the pedestal. The Park was created in 1932 with geometrically arranged beds to showcase the 30-foot high monument.

12. Rayburn House Office Building

Southwest of the Capitol bounded by Independence Avenue, South Capitol Street, First Street, and C Street, SW

In March 1955 Speaker Sam Rayburn introduced an amendment for a third House office building, although no site had been identified, no architectural study had been done, and no plans prepared. The Architect of the Capitol, J. George Stewart, with the approval of the House Office Building Commission, selected the firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson of Philadelphia to design a simplified, classical building in architectural harmony with other Capitol Hill structures. The cornerstone was laid in May 1962, and full occupancy of the building began in February 1965.

13. Longworth House Office Building

south of the Capitol bounded by Independence Avenue, New Jersey Avenue, South Capitol Street, and C Street, SE



Plans to provide the House of Representatives with a second office building were hatched in 1925, only 17 years after the first dedicated office space in the Cannon Building had been finished. Cut into a sloping lot, the Longworth Building varies in height from two to four stories above a rusticated granite base. With its projecting Ionic porticoes, the Longworth Building has been lauded as one of the town's best Neoclassical buildings; it was ready for duty in 1933.

14. Cannon House Office Building
southeast of the Capitol bounded by Independence Avenue, First Street, New Jersey Avenue, and C Street SE

For over 100 years America's government business was handled inside the United States Capitol. By the dawn of the 20th century it could no longer handle the sprawling federal government. In 1904 the prominent New York architectural firm of John Carrère and Thomas Hastings was called upon to deliver Beaux Arts office buildings to relieve the overcrowded Capitol. Hastings took charge of the House Office Building project, while Carrère helmed the construction of an almost identical office building (now named the Russell Senate Office Building) for the Senate. Both are dressed in limestone and marble. Legislators shuttle back and forth to the Capitol via underground passages. In 1962 it was named for former Speaker Joseph Gurney Cannon.

TURN LEFT ON 3RD STREET.

15. St. Mark's Episcopal Church
3rd and A streets, SE

St. Mark's Episcopal Church began life in 1867 as a mission of the Washington parish of Christ Church. The next year a small frame chapel was raised where the Library of Congress stands now; it was moved to this site in 1880. In 1888 the current Romanesque Revival house of worship was begun next door and the wooden structure trundled on as a choir room and parish hall until it was pulled down in 1894.

TURN LEFT ON EAST CAPITOL STREET.

16. Folger Shakespeare Library
201 East Capitol Street, SE

Henry Clay Folger, a millionaire Standard Oil executive, accumulated the largest collection of Shakespearean materials in the world. He purchased the land and retained Paul Cret to design his library in the modern classical style, to blend with its neighbors on Capitol Hill. Folger died two weeks after the cornerstone was laid in 1930; his will appointed the Trustees of Amherst College to administer the library, and it remains in their hands today. The entire collection consists of approximately 280,000 books and manuscripts, and 27,000 paintings, drawings, prints, and engravings. Perhaps the most famous work in the Folger Shakespeare collection is the first collected edition of Shakespeare's works, printed in 1623 and known as the First Folio. Out of a world supply of 238 First Folios, Folger collected 79 copies, one of which is always on display in the Great Hall. The library's north wall features nine elaborate bas reliefs of famous scenes from Shakespeare, by sculptor John Gregory.

TURN LEFT ON 1ST STREET.

17. Library of Congress
1st Street and Independence Avenue, SE



In 1800, Congress voted to buy books and create a library. From 1800 to 1814, the Library of Congress was shuffled through rooms inside the Capitol until it was burned by the British in the War of 1812. Congress then purchased Thomas Jefferson's personal library collection in 1815 at cost, to replace its losses. It wasn't until 1886 that funds were made available for a dedicated building for the collection. Drawing inspiration from the Paris Opera House and topped by a 23-carat, gold-plated dome, it has been called "the largest, costliest, and safest library building in the world. Formally known as the Jefferson Building, the collection opened to the public in 1897. Inside visitors will find approximately 90 million items on 540 miles of shelves.

TURN AROUND AND WALK NORTH ON 1ST STREET.

18. United States Supreme Court Building
1st and East Capitol streets, NE



For its first 145 years the Supreme Court never had a permanent home, convening in various chambers in the Capitol building. It took former President William Howard Taft, Chief Justice from 1921 to 1930, to persuade Congress to cough up money for a real home for the nine justices. Celebrated Minnesota architect Cass Gilbert delivered an appropriately somber temple of justice, highlighted by a parade of marble entrance columns. Capping the entrance is the pediment filled with a sculpture group by Robert Aitken, representing *Liberty Enthroned Guarded by Order and Authority*. Cast in bronze, the west entrance doors sculpted by John Donnelly, Jr., depict historic scenes in the development of the law. Each door weighs 13,000 pounds.

TURN RIGHT ON CONSTITUTION AVENUE.

19. Sewall-Belmont House
144 Constitution Avenue, NE

The Sewall-Belmont House was built on a tract of land originally granted to the second Lord Baltimore by King Charles of England. The property was divided several times, and it was Daniel Carroll who ultimately ceded much of the land to the United States as a site for the new capital. After Washington was laid out, Carroll bought a small parcel of land and later in 1799 sold the property to Robert Sewall. According to his tax records, Sewall built the main house in 1800. He attached it to a small one-room farmhouse believed by some experts to date from 1750. Tradition has it that British troops set fire to the house during the War of 1812. It is believed that gunshots from inside or behind the Sewall residence provoked the attack. The house remained in the possession of Sewall descendants until 1922, when it was purchased by Senator Porter H. Dale of Vermont. Seven years later, in 1929, Dale sold it to the National Woman's Party who have headquartered here ever since.

RETURN TO 1ST STREET AND TURN RIGHT.

20. Dirksen Senate Office Building
northeast of the Capitol, bounded by Constitution Avenue, Second Street, First Street, and C Street, NE

The Dirksen Senate Office Building was the second of three office buildings constructed for the United States Senate. New York architects Otto R. Eggers and Daniel Paul Higgins drew up plans for the seven-story building faced in marble. It was occupied in 1958 and carries the name of Everett McKinley Dirksen who represented Illinois in Congress for 36 years. The Republican senator was Minority Leader during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

21. Russell Senate Office Building
northeast of the Capitol, bounded by Constitution Avenue, Delaware Avenue, First Street, and C Street, NE

The Russell Senate Office Building is the stylistic twin of the Cannon House Office Building on the opposite side of the Capitol. The oldest of Senate office buildings was completed in 1908.

FOLLOW 1ST STREET TO UNION STATION PLAZA.

22. Union Station

50 Massachusetts Avenue



The ‘Union’ was of the Pennsylvania and Baltimore & Ohio railroads which announced in 1901 they would abandon their individual terminals and run their trains here. Previously the mighty Pennsylvania Railroad tracks ran through the National Mall. Their removal would create the treasured space seen today. Architects Daniel Burnham and Peirce Anderson angled Union Station to face the United States Capitol and designed an edifice worthy of comparison using the finest marbles, granite and gold leaf to craft their Neoclassical composition. Inside the coffered waiting room ceiling rises 96 feet above the passengers. As many as 200,000 people funneled through the Union Station gates each day during World War II but afterwards, with the rise of air travel and the decline in railroad traffic the station seemed destined to be mothballed like so many of its American cousins. But the space was reconfigured with shops, restaurants, and movie theaters and to accept Amtrak trains and today Union Station is again one of Washington’s busiest and best-known places, visited by 20 million people each year.

RETURN TO THE CAPITOL AND THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

A Walking Tour of Washington D.C. - Downtown

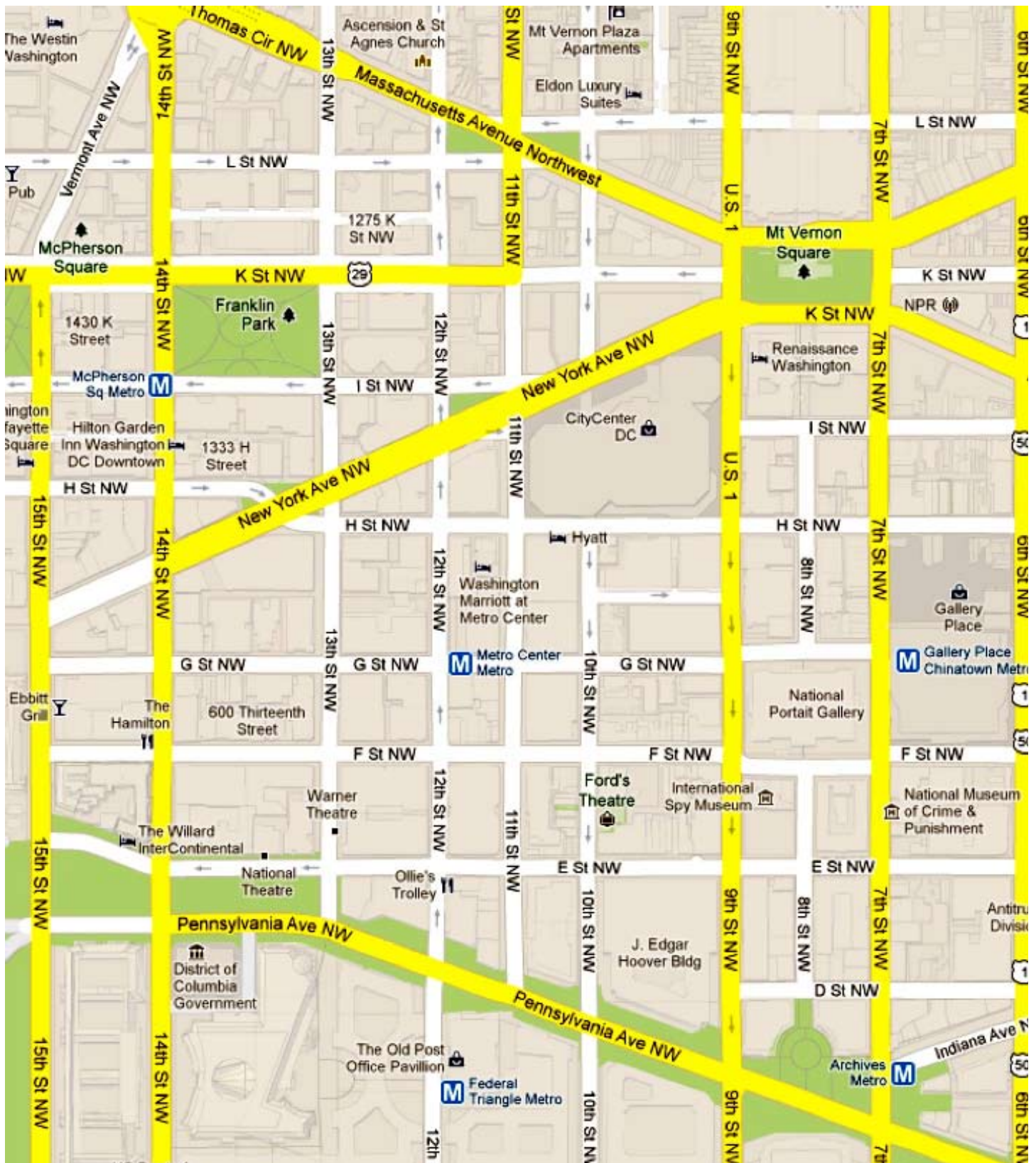
from walkthetown.com

Geographically, downtown Washington is broadly considered to be anything north of Constitution Avenue - this tour takes in the part of downtown between Pennsylvania Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue between the Capitol and the White House. It is a land of office buildings and hotels, Chinatown and the Verizon Center, home of Washington's professional indoor sports teams.

Unlike other large cities in America, Washington's downtown has a low skyline. In 1899, Congress passed the Heights of Buildings Act in response to the 14-story Cairo apartment tower, which at the time was reviled as a monstrosity overshadowing its Dupont Circle neighborhood. (It is now admired as one of Washington's most beautiful residential buildings.) The original law limited buildings to the height of the Capitol, but was amended in 1910 to the width of the adjacent street plus 20 feet, so a building facing a 90-foot-wide street could be only 110 feet tall. The basic intent was the same: No skyscrapers.

The result is a boxy appearance to the streetscape - as you walk around you can see older buildings that had extra floors built on their roofs to maximize the space allotted to them by law. The tallest commercial building in Washington DC is at One Franklin Square, only 210 feet high.

Our walking tour will begin at its northernmost point, in Mount Vernon Square...



1. Central Library
Mount Vernon Square, south side



The movement to provide a public library for Washingtonians began in the mid-1890s. In 1896, after considerable citizen effort led by *Evening Star* publisher Theodore Noyes and others, Congress passed a bill to establish a free public library and reading room in the city. About that time Andrew Carnegie was selling his U.S. Steel Company for \$400 million and was looking for ways to give away his money. One of his pet projects was libraries; he would eventually fund some 2,700 of them around the world, including \$375,000 for this one on Mount Vernon Square. New York architects William S. Ackerman and Albert Randolph Ross provided the Beaux Arts design and the first books were checked out in 1903. Today the classically inspired building does duty for the Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

WALK DOWN NEW YORK AVENUE TOWARDS THE WHITE HOUSE.

2. Greyhound Bus Terminal
1100 New York Avenue



This splash of Art Deco appeared on the Washington streetscape in 1940, based on the streamlined designs of Louisville-based architect William Arrasmith. The terminal came to be known as the “Ellis Island of Washington” since it welcomed so many African Americans moving from the American South. The limestone and terra-cotta terminal endured an insensitive makeover in the 1970s that so infuriated preservationists that a new way of landmarking a building was invented - 42 feet of the old station were saved and restored.

3. National Museum of Women in the Arts
New York Avenue and 13th Street, NW



The Grand Lodge of Free And Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia was established in 1811 with Valentine Reintzel as its first Grand Master. In the intervening two centuries 40 Lodges have formed across the region. The Masons, the world's oldest fraternal organization, moved into this limestone and granite trapezoid in 1908, liberally decorated with Masonic symbols. The Neoclassical hall survived a stretch of vacancy and indifference and lives on as a museum.

TURN LEFT ON 13TH STREET NW. TURN RIGHT ON G STREET NW.

4. Church of the Epiphany
1317 G Street, NW

An organization meeting on the Feast of the Epiphany in 1842 gave the parish its name. The following year the town's leading church builder, John C. Harkness, got busy erecting a one-story brick building for the congregation. In 1857, local architect A.B. Young constructed a new tower, transepts on the east and west of the nave, a shallow chancel and added gas lighting. Celebrated church designer Henry Dudley came down from New York City in 1874 to beef up the building's dimensions to its present appearance.

5. Colorado Building
1341 G Street, NW

It is hard to find many flat spaces on this exuberant 10-story yellow brick and limestone confection, the handiwork of New York architect Ralph S. Townsend in 1922.

TURN RIGHT ON 14TH STREET NW. TURN LEFT ON NEW YORK AVENUE.

6. Bond Building
14th Street and New York Avenue NW



Another decorative corner landmark, the Bond Building was designed in 1901 by George S. Cooper. It was among the first commercial spaces downtown that had additional floors added to its height to take advantage of relaxed zoning restrictions in the late 19th century.

TURN RIGHT ON 15TH STREET NW.

7. W.B. Hibbs and Company Building/Folger Building
725-727 15th Street NW



French-born architect Jules Henri de Sibour executed this tasty French Second Empire mid-block building in white marble for a brokerage firm in 1907. The decorative entrance next door fronting an unadorned modern addition is the remnant of the Playhouse Theater, designed by Paul Pelz.

TURN AROUND AND WALK DOWN 15TH STREET NW.

8. PNC Bank/Bank of America
1501 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Occupying one of the most prestigious corners in the capital city, this bank was built in the shadow of the White House in the early 1900s by America's foremost bank architects, Edward York and Philip Sawyer. In fact, the building could be glimpsed on the back of the old \$10 bill that featured an engraving of the Treasury Building across the street.

9. National Savings and Trust Company
15th Street and New York Avenue, NW



This Victorian respite from its Neoclassical neighbors slipped into the neighborhood in 1888. Philadelphia architect James Windrim drew up the plans for the Queen Anne-styled vault, executed in red brick with copper and terra-cotta trim. More than twelve decades later bank deposits are still being taken here.

10. Old Ebbitt Grill
675 15th Street

Established in 1856, Old Ebbitt Grill, just a few steps from the White House, was a favorite of Presidents Grant, Cleveland, Harding and Theodore Roosevelt and is still a popular meeting spot for political insiders and pundits. Its Beaux-Arts facade, mahogany and velvet booths and bars set in marble, brass and beveled glass are Washington at its finest and The Oyster Bar is one of the town's most famous noshing spots.

11. Hotel Washington 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

The Neoclassical hostelry was built in 1917 by master New York architects John Carrère and Thomas Hastings. Look up to see images of United States Presidents along a frieze under the cornice. The rooftop terrace of the Hotel Washington took star turns for Hollywood in the sequel nonpareil, *The Godfather Part II*, and the 1987 Kevin Costner and Gene Hackman thriller, *No Way Out*.

TURN LEFT ON PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

12. Willard Hotel 1401-1409 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW



American author Nathaniel Hawthorne observed in the 1860s that “the Willard Hotel more justly could be called the center of Washington than either the Capitol or the White House or the State Department.” The site upon which the Willard stands was originally part of the farm of David Burnes. In 1816 John Tayloe built a row of six two-story-and-attic houses as an investment but by 1818 the corner was being used as a hotel. In 1847 Benjamin Ogle Tayloe leased the establishment to Henry A. Willard and his brother, Edwin. After several expansions over the next 50 years, at the turn of the century, the Willard underwent a massive transformation. When New York architect Henry Janeway Hardenbergh was finished Washington had its first skyscraper. Presidents Taylor, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan, Lincoln, Grant, Taft, Wilson, Coolidge and Harding and scores of celebrities all signed the guest register at the Willard. Walt Whitman included the hotel in his verses and Mark Twain wrote two books there in the early 1900s. It was Vice President Thomas R. Marshall, irritated at the Willard’s inflated prices, who coined the phrase “What this country needs is a good 5-cent cigar.”

TURN LEFT ON 14TH STREET NW.

13. National Press Building **529 14th Street NW**

In 1925, National Press Club president Henry L. Sweinhart negotiated with the Ebbitt Hotel which allowed the Ebbitt to move to the Albee building and allowing the National Press Club to demolish the hotel to build the National Press Building. The building included shops and office space for Washington news bureaus while the Club nestled into the 13th and 14th floors. In order to increase their funding, the National Press Club struck a deal with Fox to build a theatre (now the National Theater on Pennsylvania Avenue) as part of the building. The National Press Building opened its doors in August of 1927.

14. Garfinckel's **1401 F Street NW**



33-year old Julius Garfinckel went into the mercantile business in 1905, originally employing 10 clerks. By 1929 the company was spending \$2,000,000 to open this flagship store. The Washington retailing institution made it to 1990 before going the way of so many big downtown department stores into bankruptcy. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1995, Garfinckel's has been redeveloped into a modern office building and shopping center.

TURN RIGHT F STREET NW.

15. *Baltimore Sun Building*
1317 F Street NW



When Alfred Bult Mullett was 32 years old in 1866 he was named head of the agency of the United States Treasury Department that designed federal government buildings. His tenure was a stormy one, wrapped in controversy for the elaborately showy Victorian piles he produced, most notably the French Second Empire Executive Office Building next to the White House. Mullett shepherded 40 government buildings to completion - the ones still standing are celebrated today but in their time were often branded “monstrosities.” In financial distress, Mullett took his own life in 1890. This commercial building from Mullett with oriel windows climbing the facade from the street to the roofline is an 1887 creation.

TURN RIGHT ON 10TH STREET NW.

16. *Ford’s Theater*
511 10th Street, NW



This three-story brick structure moved from the obscurity of one of John T. Ford’s theater properties into American infamy on the night of April 14, 1865, while the President Abraham Lincoln and Mrs. Lincoln were attending a performance of the play, *Our American Cousin*. Actor and Southern sympathizer John Wilkes Booth burst into the presidential box and committed the first presidential assassination in the country’s history. The National Park Service acquired the theater, that began life in 1833 as the First Baptist Church, in 1933. Today only the exterior walls remain from the 19th century theater and the entire interior has been reconstructed to recreate its appearance on the night of the assassination.

17. Petersen House
516 10th Street, NW

The Petersen House is the house where Lincoln died. At the time of Lincoln's death, the house across from Ford's Theater was owned by William A. Petersen, a German tailor. Petersen constructed the plain, red brick three-story and basement townhouse in 1849. The National Park Service acquired the house in 1933, and has maintained it as a historic house museum, recreating the scene at the time of Lincoln's death.

TURN AROUND, CROSS F STREET NW AND TURN RIGHT ON G STREET NW.

18. Martin Luther King Memorial Library
901 G Street, NW

The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, the main building of the District of Columbia Public Library, opened in August 1972. It replaced the original Carnegie Library, where we started in Mount Vernon Square.

TURN RIGHT ON 9TH STREET NW.

19. Old Masonic Temple
901 F Street, NW; northeast corner of 9th Street

This picturesque Italian Renaissance palazzo was a big deal when it was built in 1868. Fourteen United States presidents were Masons and Andrew Johnson laid the cornerstone. German-born architects Adolf Cluss and Joseph Wildrich von Kammerhueber, who did much to shape the mid-19th century Washington streetscape, availed themselves of a \$100,000 building fund to adorn the facade with multi-colored stone and cast-iron. Some of the capital's toniest banquets took place here until the Masons left in 1908. The next century wasn't treated the once-grand hall roughly but it has lately been taken over and preserved by the Gallup Organization.

20. Riggs National Bank
900 F Street, NW; northwest corner of 9th Street



James G. Hill followed Alfred Mullett as the head of the Office of the Supervising Architect of the United States Department of the Treasury and served from 1876 to 1883. He was accustomed to developing beefy office buildings like this Romanesque-styled effort which he executed in granite and brick in 1891. Riggs Bank traces its roots to a brokerage operated by William Wilson Corcoran. George Washington Riggs bought into the business in 1840 and eventually became known as “The President’s Banker.” Twenty-three United States Presidents or their families maintained accounts at Riggs.

21. Le Droit Building
southwest corner of 8th and F streets, NW



Designed in 1875 by James McGill in the Italianate commercial style, the Le Droit Building displays such hallmarks of the style as richly decorated window hoods and ornate roof brackets. Its first tenants included J. Bradley Adams and William H. Boyd (publisher of *Boyd’s Directory*), a barber, two auctioneers, various agents, twenty lawyers and others, including the architect, James McGill until 1880. It is one of the few large office structures from the 1800s without an elevator to survive until today when it is home to the International Spy Museum.

TURN LEFT ON F STREET NW.

22. Old Patent Office/National Portrait Gallery
8th and F streets, NW



William Elliott and Robert Mills, the first American-born professional architect, teamed to design and build the Patent Office Building, the third-oldest federal building in Washington, in 1836. The superb portico by Mills is supposedly an exact replica of the Greek Parthenon. Mills died in 1855 with the structure still unfinished and it took a small army of new architects and another dozen years to complete the city's largest office building at that time. Despite several fires, it has been occupied by a succession of government agencies, including the Patent Office, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (where poet Walt Whitman was briefly employed as a clerk), and the Civil Service Commission. While it was the Patent Office, displays of patent models in galleries on the top floor could be said to be the city's first museum.

23. Pension Building
4th and F streets, NW

Designed by Army Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs, an innovator in 19th-century building technology, in 1881, critics derided the Pension Building as "Meigs old red barn." Today, the Italian Renaissance Revival composition is acknowledged as one of the District's undisputed architectural masterpieces. Meigs designed the building to provide natural air-conditioning and light for its employees. By using air vents in the exterior walls hot air was encouraged to escape through the skylights in the roof. The Great Hall boasts massive Corinthian piers that are among the tallest interior columns in the world. An act of Congress in 1980 turned the Pension Building into the National Building Museum, celebrating architecture, design, engineering, construction and urban planning.

TURN LEFT ON 3RD STREET NW.

24. Adas Israel Synagogue
701 3rd Street, NW

This is Washington's oldest synagogue, dedicated in 1876. The building originally stood at 600 5th Street but the congregation left in 1908, leaving title to the District. Facing a date with the wrecking ball, the government gave the historic structure to the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington if they would move it. And so it came here. The exterior decoration is limited to whimsical iron fence.

TURN LEFT ON H STREET NW.

25. Chinatown Gateway
7th and H streets, NW



The world's largest single-span Chinese arch forms the gateway to an array of colorful restaurants. Alfred Liu designed this huge seven-roofed, wooden archway at the behest of the governments of Washington, DC, and the Municipality of Beijing, Washington's sister city. The Chinese characters on the arch read, "zhongguo cheng" - from left to right - which means Chinese city or Chinese quarters. Each winter, the Chinese New Year is celebrated in grand fashion with a parade and firecrackers, drawing crowds from the entire metropolitan area.

TURN RIGHT ON 7TH STREET NW TO RETURN TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT AT MOUNT VERNON SQUARE.

A Walking Tour of Dupont Circle

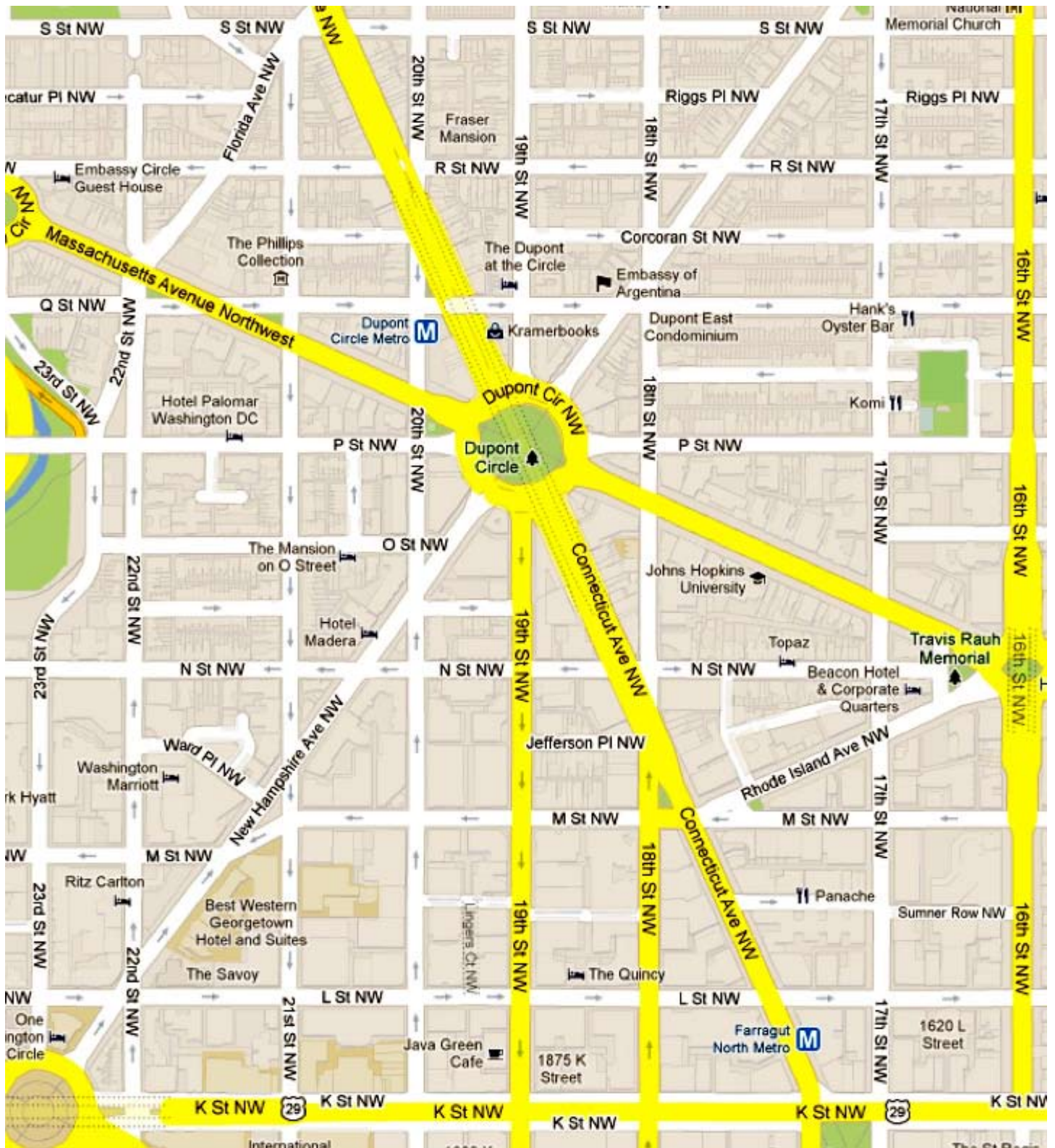
from walkthetown.com

It was the Board of Public works under the leadership of Alexander Shepherd that spearheaded the way for the development of Dupont Circle. Nevada Senator William Morris Stewart led the “California Syndicate” which bought up tracts of undeveloped land and the style of the neighborhood was set when Stewart erected his mansion (now demolished) in the 1870s. By the late 1880s the Dupont neighborhood was an affluent and vibrant residential enclave.

Two types of housing predominate in the historic district: palatial mansions and freestanding residences built in the styles popular between 1895 and 1910; and three-and-four-story rowhouses, many of which are variations on the Queen Anne and Richardsonian Romanesque Revival styles, built primarily before the turn of the century. The mansions line the broad, tree-lined diagonal avenues that intersect the circle and the rowhouses line the grid streets of the historic district. This juxtaposition of house types and street pattern gives the area a unique character.

The majority of the houses in the Dupont Circle Historic District are not mansions, however. The blocks along the grid streets are lined with rowhouses that were occupied by middle-class professionals and official Washingtonians. In recent years, pressure for large-scale commercial office development on Connecticut Avenue has been intense. A number of new office buildings, some unsympathetic to the historic district line the northern and southern fringes of Connecticut Avenue.

Dupont Circle Historic District is roughly bounded by Rhode Island Avenue, NW; M and N Sts., NW, on the south; Florida Avenue, NW, on the west; Swann St., NW, on the north; and the 16th Street Historic District on the east. Our walking tour will start in the circle itself..



1. Dupont Circle
Massachusetts and Connecticut avenues and 19th and P streets

In 1871 the Corps of Engineers began construction of Dupont Circle itself which at the time was called Pacific Circle. In 1882 Congress authorized a memorial statue of Rear Admiral Samuel Francis duPont in recognition of his Civil War service. The bronze remembrance was erected in 1884. In 1921 the statue of Dupont was replaced by a double-tiered white marble fountain sculpted by Lincoln Memorial creator Daniel Chester French and architect Henry Bacon. Three classical figures, symbolizing the Sea, the Stars and the Wind are carved on the fountain's central shaft.

2. Patterson House/Washington Club
15 Dupont Circle



This palatial Beaux Arts home, designed by celebrated architect Stanford White to resemble an Italian palazzo, is the only remaining mansion on a circle once ringed with eye-catching homes. Built for Robert Patterson of Chicago, editor of the *Chicago Tribune* and his wife Elinor Medill Patterson, it was the scene of elegant entertaining which continued after their daughter Eleanor “Cissy” Patterson, writer, socialite, and publisher of the *Washington Times-Herald*, was deeded the house in 1923. The Calvin Coolidge family lived in Patterson House in 1927 while the White House was being spruced up.

WALK EAST ON MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE.

3. Wadsworth House/Sulgrave Club
1801 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

This was the winter residence of millionaire gentleman farmer, Herbert Wadsworth from Western New York, and his wife, Martha Blow Wadsworth, an accomplished sportswoman. Architect Frederick H. Brooke designed one of the town's first Beaux Arts mansions with tan press-brick walls and cream-colored terra-cotta and stone trim; completed in 1902 it was one of the largest on Massachusetts Avenue. The house was a Red Cross office in 1918 during World War I and thereafter only sporadically used by the family until it was sold in 1932 for \$125,000 and converted into the Sulgrave Club, a private women's club for the pursuit of music, art and social gatherings.

4. McCormick Apartments/National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW



Chicago-based millionaire Stanley McCormick set out to create “the most luxurious apartment building in Washington” and tabbed French-born architect Jules Henri de Sibour for the job in 1917. With just one unit per floor it attracted such A-list tenants as Joseph Duveen, a British baron considered one of the most influential art dealers of all time; socialite and ambassador Pearl Mesta, and Secretary of Treasury Andrew Mellon. Today the Parisian-inspired building houses the National Trust for Historic Preservation, chartered by Congress in 1949 to save significant buildings like this one.

TURN LEFT ON 18TH STREET.

5. Boardman House/Embassy of Iraq
1801 P Street NW

After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1856 William Jarvis Boardman returned to his native Ohio and carved out an influential career in Cleveland business, civic, and political affairs before moving to Washington in the late 1880s. For this home in 1893 Boardman hired Washington architects Joseph Coerten Hornblower and James Rush Marshall. The duo was known for their substantial government buildings and this residence almost qualifies as such. It borrows elements of the brawny Richardsonian Romanesque style based on the work of Boston architect Henry Hobson Richardson such as its powerful entry arch. Despite his lengthy list of accomplishments when William Boardman died in 1915 he was identified in his obituary as the father of Mabel Boardman, a leader of the American Red Cross. The building is now the Embassy of Iraq.

6. Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects
1777 Church Street, NW

This typical Dupont Circle rowhouse from 1917 houses the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, one of the largest AIA chapters in the country with over 1900 members. The AIA was founded back in 1887. Morris Leisenring, chief architect for the United States Army Corps lived here for a half-century.

TURN LEFT ON Q STREET.

7. Weeks House/Women's National Democratic Club
1526 New Hampshire Avenue, NW



Harvey L. Page was a Victorian architect who specialized in houses of “moderate cost.” Here he created a rambling Arts and Crafts home of note in 1894 under a distinctive shed roof. The client was Sarah Adams Whittemore, cousin of acerbic writer Henry Adams. Banker John C. Weeks, who migrated from New England to serve as a congressman and senator, was its most prominent resident.

TURN RIGHT ON NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE.

8. Belmont House/Order of the Eastern Star
1618 New Hampshire Avenue, NW

Perry Belmont was the son of New York banker and horse racing patron August Belmont, the brother of August Belmont, Jr. developer of New York's subway, and grandson of Commodore Matthew Perry, who opened the Orient to western trade. Perry Belmont served as a Congressman from New York and was later ambassador to Spain. He lured designer Etienne Sanson from Europe to fashion a French Beaux Arts palace on an odd trapezoidal building lot of land purchased for \$90,000. Belmont poured an additional \$1.5 million into construction costs for his winter home. In 1925 Perry Belmont sold the building to General Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star (Freemasons, of which Belmont was himself a member) for \$100,000, on the condition that the Right Worthy Grand Secretary would live in the building. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

9. Thomas Nelson Page House
1759 R Street, NW



The Page family traces its way back to Jamestown in 1650 and the similarly rooted Nelson family dates to Yorktown. Descendent Thomas Nelson Page was a lawyer and writer of antebellum South novels who was tapped by Woodrow Wilson to serve as ambassador to Italy during World War I. Tipping his hat to the long-reaching family heritage, architect Stanford White broke from his trademark classical designs to birth this materfully proporioned Federal Revival manor house in 1897.

TURN RIGHT ON S STREET. TURN RIGHT ON 16TH STREET.

10. Temple of the Scottish Rite
1733 16th Street, NW

John Russell Pope of Jefferson Memorial fame, crafted another of the city's most striking monuments far from the National Mall as the headquarters of the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction of the 33rd Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite of Freemasonry. Pope used the tomb of King Mausolus at Halicarnassus, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, as his model for the Temple. The monumental sphinxes guarding the temple doors symbolize wisdom and power. In 1931, a survey of members from the Association of American Architects listed this as the fifth most beautiful building in the world.

11. The Chastleton
1701 16th Street, NW

Harry Wardman, an Englishman, was a major developer of Washington rowhouses in the early 1900s. By the 1920s he had branched into residential hotels and the Chastleton was one of his best. The eight-story buff-brick Chastleton is infused with Tudor and Gothic elements imported from the British Isles of centuries past; its dual entrances are separated by a massive two-story-high arched Gothic window, awash with stone gargoyles, tracery, and pseudo-buttresses. Some of the town's brightest luminaries sought shelter in the Chastleton, including Mrs. Wallis Simpson (later the Duchess of Windsor) and General Douglas MacArthur.

12. Church of the Holy City
1611 16th Street, NW

The Swedenborgian Church was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois on January 29, 1861 under the name of the General Convention of the New Jerusalem in the United States of America, Inc. The Church of the Holy City was founded with the mission to be a presence in Washington DC for the wider denomination. Designed in 1895, the style of the church is English Perpendicular Gothic, built of Indiana limestone. The designing architect was H. Langford Warren, Professor of Architecture at Harvard University, and a Swedenborgian.

TURN RIGHT ON Q STREET.

13. **The Cairo** 1615 Q Street, NW



Thomas Franklin Schneider returned from the 1893 Chicago World's Fair with a vision: build Washington, D.C.'s first residential skyscraper, designed in the image of the exhibition's "Transportation Building." Featuring a bold Egyptian Revival arch, the Transportation Building, located on Cairo Street at the Fair, became the blueprint and namesake for Schneider's project. Not everyone bought into Schneider's vision. Hardly any, in fact. Water and ladders from fire trucks could not reach the upper floors in case of a fire. Some believed a strong wind would knock the 165-foot high building right down to the street. That it was one of the first residential towers in America to employ steel-frame construction did little to ease fears. Acting swiftly, in 1894 Washington's Board of Commissioners enacted a building height limit to prevent another Cairo from ever happening again. The height limit law remains on the books to this day, and is the reason why Washington, D.C. is the only major American city that doesn't boast a skyline. The Cairo was promoted "as the largest and most luxurious apartment in Washington D.C." but quickly morphed into a glamorous hotel. For the first half of the 20th century socialites of the world would congregate at The Cairo Hotel when in Washington. After World War II, The Cairo began a steady decline as Washingtonians fled to the suburbs and in 1955 Schneider's daughters were forced to sell it for three million dollars. The building deteriorated steadily over the next two decades until it was rescued as a condominium restoration.

RETURN TO 16TH STREET AND TURN RIGHT.

14. Jewish Community Center 1529 16th Street, NW

Architect B. Stanley Simmons, a Maryland native, began designing buildings in the Victorian age of the 1890s and continued into the Art Deco era of the 1930s. For this building he tapped the Neoclassical style, rendered in granite and limestone in 1920. Inside, a large ballroom, state-of-the-art stage, gymnasium, billiard room and swimming pool beckoned. A red-tiled roof garden provided a quiet respite from a hectic day.

15. Carnegie Institution for Science 1530 P Street, NW

In 1901, after Andrew Carnegie sold his U.S. Steel interests to J.P. Morgan for \$400 million, he set out to give away his money. One idea was a national university devoted to scientific research to which he pledged \$22 million. John Carrere and Thomas Hastings designed the Beaux-Arts palazzo for the institute to move into in 1910.

16. Embassy of Australia 1601 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

The Embassy of Australia typifies the clean, restrained lines that dominated 1960s architecture in Washington, D.C.

TURN RIGHT ON MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE.

17. Wilkins House/Peruvian Chancery
1700 Massachusetts Avenue, NW



This was one of the first commissions for Jules Henri de Sibour, one of the town's busiest architects in the first three decades of the 20th century. The client was Emily Wilkins, widow of Ohio congressman Beriah Wilkins and heir to a majority stake in the *Washington Post*. With a rusticated base and European sensibilities, the limestone-dressed structure has performed embassy duty since 1946.

18. Clarence Moore House/Uzbekistan Embassy
1746 Massachusetts Avenue, NW



Another creation of Jules Henri de Sibour, this one was for Clarence Moore, a wealthy West Virginia coal baron, in 1909. Moore, one of the best-known sportsmen in America, was to enjoy his elegant residence only briefly - in 1912, after sailing to Europe to purchase a brace of twenty-five hounds from the best packs in the north of England he perished aboard the *Titanic* on the return voyage. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. It was used by the Canadian government until the 1980s and opened as the Uzbekistan Embassy in 1993.

RETURN TO DUPONT CIRCLE AND TURN LEFT ON NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE.

19. Heurich House

1307 New Hampshire Avenue, NW

Commonly known as the Brewmaster's Castle, this exuberant Victorian brownstone was built in 1892-1894 by German immigrant, Christian Heurich. Heurich was a brewer when he emigrated to the United States at the close of the Civil War. By 1873 he was the sole owner of the Christian Heurich Lager Beer Brewery. Heurich lived to the age of 102 before passing in 1944. On April 19, 1955, his wife deeded the beer-inspired house to the Historical Society of Washington, DC, which occupied the house until 2003 when the newly formed Heurich House Foundation bought it and as a museum.

TURN RIGHT ON O STREET.

20. Mansion on O Street

2020 O Street

The Mansion is a private club, a small luxury hotel as well as an internationally recognized conference center and museum. The five interconnected town houses, include a Conservancy, Grand Ballroom, European Wine Cellar, seven dining rooms, 12 conference/ meeting rooms, 23 guest rooms, 32 secret doors, and 18 fireplaces.

RETURN TO 20TH STREET AND TURN LEFT. TURN LEFT ON MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE.

21. Blaine Mansion

2000 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

The oldest remaining mansion in the Dupont Circle area, this is the sole surviving example of at least seven imposing Second Empire and Queen Anne residences executed by the transplanted Philadelphian architect John Fraser. The roomy red brick Second Empire structure was raised in 1881 for James G. Blaine. Blaine was a senator from Maine, Speaker of the House, and a three-time unsuccessful candidate for the White House. The Blaines lived here only two years. Hall-of-Fame inventor George Westinghouse called this mansion home from 1901 until his 1914. In 1921, it was converted to apartments and morphed into office space in 1948.

22. Beale House

2012 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

Designed in 1897 by Glenn Brown in the Italian Renaissance style, this house is notable for its monochromatic exterior even though it is composed of two different materials. The liver-colored man-made brick matches the hue of the natural sandstone flawlessly.

23. Walsh McLean House/ Indonesian Embassy

2020 Massachusetts Avenue, NW



This elaborate 60-room mansion was designed by Danish-born and educated architect Henry Andersen in the classically inspired Beaux Arts style. It was built for Thomas Walsh, an Irish immigrant who became a multi-millionaire in the Colorado gold fields in 1896. The price tag was

\$835,000 in 1903, making it the most expensive house in Washington. To emphasize his rags-to-riches tale, Walsh had a bar of gold ore embedded in the front porch. When daughter Evalyn inherited the house, she refused to move in after a series of tragedies befell the family. She married Edward Beale McLean, whose family owned the *Washington Post* and she would eventually come to own the 45.52-carat deep blue Hope Diamond, known for its curses as well and now in the Smithsonian Institution. The house became the headquarters for the Federal Writers Project during the New Deal, was used by the Red Cross during World War II, and became the Indonesian Embassy in 1951.

**24. Larz Anderson House/Society of the Cincinnati
2118 Massachusetts Avenue, NW**



Here is another one-time winter residence, this one built between 1902 and 1905 for Larz Anderson, an American diplomat, and his wife, Isabel Weld Perkins, an author. Architects Arthur Little and Herbert Browne of Boston designed the white limestone Venetian palazzo around a stately entrance court. Following Larz Anderson's death in 1937, his widow donated the Anderson House and its contents to the Society of the Cincinnati, of which Larz Anderson had been a devoted member for more than forty years. The Society opened Anderson House as a museum in 1939.

**25. Townsend House/Cosmos Club
2121 Massachusetts Avenue, NW**

The luxurious taste of the Gilded Age is reflected in the Townsend House, completed in 1901 for railroad magnate Richard Townsend and his superstitious wife Mary Scott. Mary insisted that architects John Carrere and Thomas Hastings build her new French-influenced mansion around the existing Hillyer house, because a gypsy once predicted that she would die “under a new roof.” The Cosmos Club, founded by explorer John Wesley Powell in 1878, acquired the property in the 1950s.

WALK EAST ON Q STREET.

26. Phillips Collection
1600 21st Street, NW



Duncan Phillips founded what is considered to be America's first museum of modern art in 1921. He opened two rooms of his 1897 Georgian Revival house to the public to view his private collection of impressionist and modern American and European art, with works by Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Vincent van Gogh, Edgar Degas, Henri Matisse, Pierre Bonnard, Paul Cézanne, Pablo Picasso, Paul Klee, Claude Monet, Honoré Daumier, Georgia O'Keeffe, Arthur Dove, Mark Rothko, Milton Avery, Jacob Lawrence, and Richard Diebenkorn.

27. Thomas T. Gaff House/Colombian Embassy
1520 20th Street, NW

Thomas Gaff made a fortune in the distillery and heavy machinery business in Ohio. Architects Bruce Price and Jules Henri de Sibour designed his mansion in 1904 as a rendition of an early 17th century manor house. Following a brief tenure by the Gaff family, the showcase was leased to several high-power Washingtonians, including President Calvin Coolidge's Secretary of War, Dwight F. Davis, and to the governments of Greece and Columbia. The Colombian government purchased the house in 1944 from Thomas Gaff's daughter, Mrs. Carey D. Langhorne, who lived next door on Q Street at the time.

TURN RIGHT ON 20TH STREET TO RETURN TO DUPONT CIRCLE AND THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

A Walking Tour of the Federal Triangle

from walkthetown.com

In the 1900s, as the American government grew well beyond anything the Founding Fathers ever imagined, it became necessary to leave rented private offices and find permanent homes for workers. It was decided to fill the space created between Constitution Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue as the two thoroughfares fanned out to the west from their meeting point at 6th Street with a unified group of important and prominent Federal office buildings.

The result was the 1926 Public Buildings Act, launching the largest public building construction program yet seen in America in a 70-acre swath of capital city ground now known as the Federal Triangle. Secretary of Treasury Andrew W. Mellon and a Board of Architectural Consultants set down guidelines with each board member designing one of the office buildings that would line Pennsylvania Avenue, "America's Main Street."

Begun in 1792 on the plan of Pierre L'Enfant as a "Grand Avenue" connecting both the "President's Palace" and the "Federal House," Pennsylvania Avenue was a long time coming. Until 1871 when wooden blocks were laid down it was either dusty or muddy as the season demanded. Asphalt did not arrive until 1907 when Theodore Roosevelt was in office.

Streetcars were still running down Pennsylvania Avenue when ground was broken on the Federal Triangle and the promenade was transformed into what George Washington and Thomas Jefferson had in mind 150 years earlier. Our walking tour of the "Pathway of Presidents" will start at a remembrance of the man who kickstarted the whole thing...



1. Andrew W. Mellon Memorial Fountain
6th Street at Constitution and Pennsylvania avenues, NW

Andrew William Mellon was set up in business by his banker father in western Pennsylvania while still in his teens. His financial interests were in steel, shipbuilding, banking, coal and more. When he was tapped by President Warren Harding to serve as United States Secretary of Treasury in 1921, only John D. Rockefeller and Henry Ford paid more federal income tax than Andrew Mellon. Art was his passion and his collection formed the basis of the nearby National Gallery of Art across the way. This three-tiered memorial fountain in his honor was dedicated on May 9, 1952. Otto Eggers was the architect and Sidney Waugh the sculptor and the price tag was \$300,000.

WALK WEST ON CONSTITUTION AVENUE.

2. Federal Trade Commission
6th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) was the last to arrive at the Federal Triangle party, in 1937. By that time America had plunged into the Great Depression which resulted in a stripped-down classical design from architects, Bennett, Parsons & Frost from Chicago reflecting the austerity of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal programs. In fact, the building budget was chopped twice before the FTC building came online.

3. National Archives

Constitution Avenue between 7th and 9th streets, NW



For its first 150 years America had no place to safeguard historically important records and documents, including such treasures as the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. Congress ponied up money for a document vault in 1926 and John Russell Pope went to work designing the most decorative ornament on the Federal Triangle, dressed in limestone atop a granite base. Pope outfitted the National Archives with thousands of feet of shelving, reinforced floors and special air filters. It required more than four years to construct after groundbreaking in 1931.

4. Department of Justice

Constitution Avenue between 9th and 10th streets, NW

One of the first orders of business for the inaugural United States Congress back in 1789 was to create the Office of the Attorney General to “advise the President and occasionally other officials about legal matters.” In 1870 Congress established the U.S. Department of Justice but there was never a home for the legal eagles until the 1930s. Philadelphia architects Clarence C. Zantzing and Charles L. Borie, Jr., blended classical influences with Art Deco and Greek elements into this block-swallowing house of justice. The building is faced in limestone under a red-tile hipped roof; where bronze was traditionally used in trim and doors, aluminum can be found here.

5. Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW



The Internal Revenue Service building was the first of the Federal Triangle's Neoclassical behemoths to go up, completed in the early 1930s. The taxmen work on storied ground - the Carusi's Assembly Rooms, social halls that once held the inaugural balls of Presidents John Quincy Adams through James Buchanan. This was also the heart of the bawdy section of 19th century Washington called Hooker's Division, in reference to Civil War Union Army troops who camped nearby under the direction of General Joe Hooker. As estimated 50 saloons and more than 100 brothels conducted tax-free business here with wanton impunity.

6. Interstate Commerce Commission
12th Street and Constitution Avenue



San Francisco architect Arthur Brown who shepherded many landmarks to completion in the City By The Bay designed this group of three buildings for the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Customs Department and the Andrew J. Mellon Departmental Auditorium in 1932. The ICC was abolished in 1995 and this is now the home of the Environmental Protection Agency that was created by Richard Nixon via executive order in 1970.

7. Department of the Treasury
14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW

Arthur Brown kept at it and did the work on the five-story Department of Treasury. A two-story rusticated basement and a series of corner porticoes add visual interest to the monumental facade.

TURN RIGHT ON 15TH STREET.

8. Herbert C. Hoover Building

Constitution Avenue, NW; 14th Street, NW; 15th Street, NW; E Street, NW

Built in 1932 for the Department of Commerce, this was the largest office building in America when completed. Its facade along 15th Street stretched three city blocks and was longer than three football fields. Total floorspace exceeded 1,000,000 feet on its seven stories. Scored walls and pedimented windows offer an Italianate flavor to the giant structure. In addition to housing the Department of Commerce, the Hoover Building also houses the White House Visitors Center at the northwest corner, and the National Aquarium in the basement.

TURN RIGHT ON PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

9. John A. Wilson Building

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

This marble-faced Beaux Arts confection predates the Federal Triangle, raised between 1904–1908 as the District Building that contained the government of the District of Columbia. Walter Cope and John Stewardson of Philadelphia drew up the plans and it eventually took the name of long-term District politico, John A. Wilson. As the federal government's role expanded and the District's power receded, so to did the building's maintenance. After a period of vacancy in the 1990s the building picked up a much-needed facelift and government employees once again stream through its Corinthian columns.

10. Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW



Ronald Reagan, champion of small government has second-largest federal office building in Washington named for him. At the time it was built, the Ronald Reagan Building carried the biggest construction tab ever picked up by the American taxpayers - \$768 million. The parking garage is the town's largest. It requires an acre of glass to cover the interior 170-foot atrium.

11. Ariel Rios Federal Building
12th Street, NW, between Constitution and Pennsylvania avenues

One way Franklin Roosevelt tried to ease unemployment during the Depression of the 1930s was to build thousands of post offices across the country, attempting to provide every community with a building of distinction. An army of New Deal artists were deployed to decorate the interiors with locally relevant murals. This building, constructed between 1931 and 1935, housed the U.S. Department of the Post Office and boast 25 murals of its own. The semi-circle formed by the building's curve on its eastern façade was to be mirrored by a similarly curved façade in a building planned across the street where resided the hulking former post office. The Building Commission eagerly wanted the Victorian pile gone but long-fought preservation battles staved off the wrecking ball and left the circle broken.

12. Old Post Office Pavilion 12th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW



Pennsylvania Avenue became Washington's first downtown street with shops, markets, and a financial district growing along it during the 19th century. However, at the end of the 19th century, and continuing into the 20th century, the Avenue became an eyesore to local residents with tattoo parlors, rooming houses, and cheap hotels lining the street. An early attempt at improving Pennsylvania Avenue occurred when Congress authorized the construction of a new combined Post Office Department and City Post Office building at 12th St. and the Avenue in 1892. Designed in the Romanesque Revival style by Willoughby J. Edbrooke, the building was completed in 1899, and its 315-foot tall clock tower remains an Avenue landmark today thanks to a citizens protest that saved it.

13. *Evening Star* Building 1101 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

This stretch of Pennsylvania Avenue was known as Newspaper Row when this handsome Beaux Arts style office was erected in 1898. Captain Joseph Borrows Tate put out the first issues of the *Daily Evening Star* in December of 1852 but by 1855 had sold complete ownership to William Douglas Wallach, an engineering surveyor turned newspaperman. Wallach built the *Star* into a formidable voice in Washington before dispensing of the paper in 1867. There were many versions of the *Star* name before it folded as the *Washington Star* in 1981; 57 of its 129 years were spent here.

14. J. Edgar Hoover Building 935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW



From its inception in 1908 as the Bureau of Investigation until 1975, the Federal Bureau of Investigation worked out of the Department of Justice Building. When it got its first building it was a study in the stark form known as Brutalism, delivered from the architectural shop of Charles F. Murphy and Associates out of Chicago. The entire was constructed from poured concrete.

15. Ford's Theater

511 10th Street, NW

This three-story brick structure moved from the obscurity of one of John T. Ford's theater properties into American infamy on the night of April 14, 1865, while the President Abraham Lincoln and Mrs. Lincoln were attending a performance of the play, *Our American Cousin*. Actor and Southern sympathizer John Wilkes Booth burst into the presidential box and committed the first presidential assassination in the country's history. The National Park Service acquired the theater, that began life in 1833 as the First Baptist Church, in 1933. Today only the exterior walls remain from the 19th century theater and the entire interior has been reconstructed to recreate its appearance on the night of the assassination.

16. Petersen House

516 10th Street, NW

The Petersen House is the house where Lincoln died. At the time of Lincoln's death, the house across from Ford's Theater was owned by William A. Petersen, a German tailor. Petersen constructed the plain, red brick three-story and basement townhouse in 1849. The National Park Service acquired the house in 1933, and has maintained it as a historic house museum, recreating the scene at the time of Lincoln's death.

RETURN TO PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE AND TURN LEFT.

17. U.S. Navy Memorial

701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW



Machinations to honor America's seamen from the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and the Merchant Marine during the presidency of Jimmy Carter, a Navy man himself. Dedication of the Memorial designed by the New York firm of Conklin Rossant took place on October 13, 1987, the 212th birthday of the United States Navy. Memorial Plaza includes the moving depiction of *The Lone Sailor* by Stanly Bleifield and a replica of the world's oceans in granite with markers commemorating American naval actions. The plaza was later joined by the Naval Heritage Center and the Memorial's Visitor Center in twin buildings.

18. Market Square

Pennsylvania Avenue, between 7th and 9th streets, NW

Although there are no longer markets -and it's not square - there once were vendors here along "America's Main Street." The guy on the horse is General Winfield Scott, executed by Henry Jackson Ellicott. It was dedicated in 1896 in a ceremony attended by every major official in Washington, honoring one of 15 officers who received the thanks of Congress for his service at Gettysburg. Hancock defused a Confederate assault on Union lines in Pennsylvania, despite being shot from his horse. Hancock's try for the presidency in 1880 fell short by only 10,000 votes.

19. Temperance Fountain

7th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

The Temperance Fountain was donated to the city in 1882 by Henry D. Cogswell, a San Francisco dentist who specialized in false teeth, made his fortune in real estate and mining, and wanted Americans to drink water instead of liquor. One way, he proselytized, to curb drunkenness was to provide easy access to a sip of cool drinking water so he paid for fountains across the country. The fountain has four stone columns supporting a canopy on whose sides the words "Faith," "Hope," "Charity," and "Temperance" are chiseled. Atop this canopy is a life-sized bronze heron.

20. National Bank of Washington

301 7th Street, NW



Here is a glimpse of Market Square from Victorian Washington. Architect James G. Hill borrowed elements of the Henry Hobson Richardson's interpretation of the Romanesque style with rough-faced stone, powerful entry arch and roof gables for this three-story vault in 1889. The National Bank of Washington took its first deposits in 1809 and almost made it to the 21st century before liquidating in 1990. It kept headquarters here until 1954.

21. Apex/Brady/Gilman Buildings
625-633 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW



This building is actually three structures built at different times. The Brady Building (in the back) housed Civil War photographer Matthew Brady's studio until 1873, while the twin-towered front was the Central National Bank and the twin-towered portion of the building is now the headquarters of the National Council of Negro Women. For many years it housed the Apex Liquor store, which, to the ironic amusement of passersby, showcased a statue to temperance out front.

22. Canadian Embassy
601 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

The Canadian Embassy had long been a fixture on Embassy Row in the DuPont Circle neighborhood but in the 1970s a much expanded consulate went looking for a new home. In a controversial decision Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau ignored four finalists chosen by a selection committee, and gave the design job to his longtime friend, Arthur Erickson. Erickson, of Vancouver, has been acclaimed as Canada's greatest architect and he capped his long career with the creation of this embassy. His building proved no less controversial than the architect selection derby. *Washington Post* architecture critic Benjamin Forgey called it "a mighty battleship of a building." Others were not so sanguine. An article on *Forbes.com* in 2002 named the embassy one of the world's "10 ugliest buildings." Canada, with whom we share the world's longest international border at over 5,500 miles, is the first, and so far only nation, to build an embassy so close to the U.S. Capitol.

RETURN TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT AT THE POINT OF THE FEDERAL TRIANGLE.

A Walking Tour of Georgetown

from walkthetown.com

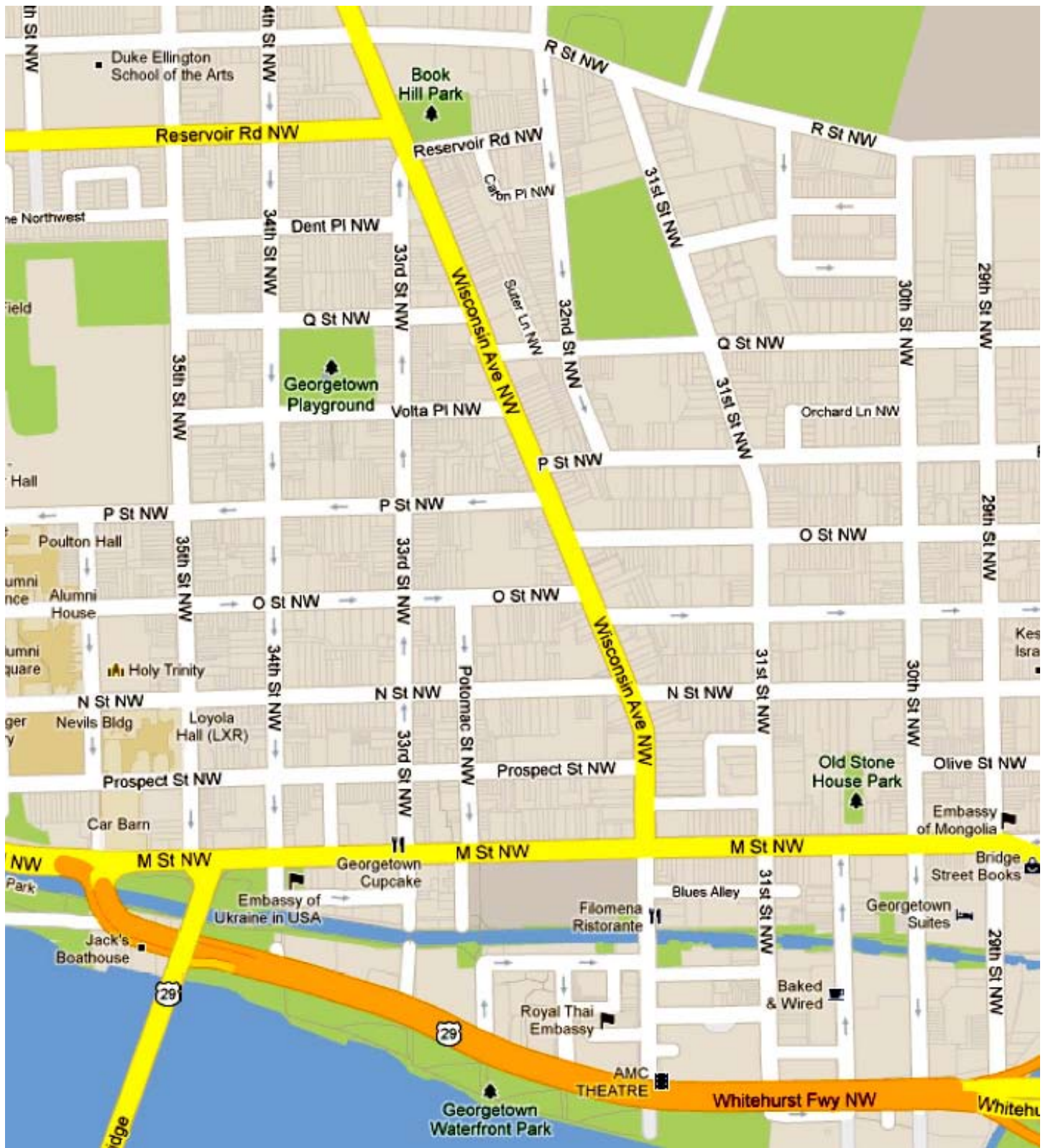
Georgetown was formally established in 1751 when the Maryland Assembly authorized a town on the Potomac River on 60 acres of land belonging to George Beall and George Gordon; hence Georgetown. Tobacco was the lifeblood of the community and Georgetown soon prospered as a shipping center with a profitable European and West Indian trade. Commerce and industry developed along the waterfront, where wharves and flour mills were constructed. During the American Revolution, Georgetown served as a great depot for the collection and shipment of military supplies.

The town was finally incorporated in 1789 but only two years later it was included in the new Federal District with the establishment of the nation's capital to the east. Georgetown retained its own character, however, and rapidly gained a reputation as the fashionable quarter of the new capital, drawing high-profile residents to its leafy streets.

The economic engine for Georgetown was provided by the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal which aimed for western Pennsylvania but petered out in western Maryland. Still, the waterfront prospered until a flood in the 1890s swamped the waterway and the Canal Company went bankrupt. Georgetown spiraled into decline and gained an unsavory reputation as one of Washington's worst slums. New Deal stimulus money from the 1930s helped break the fall and the cachet returned in the 1950s when a junior senator from Massachusetts named John Fitzgerald Kennedy moved into the neighborhood.

Although there are some pre-Revolutionary buildings in the district, most of the housing stock dates from the period after 1800 when brick replaced stone in construction of both residential and commercial buildings. The mansions of wealthy shipowners, merchants and land speculators were built above the harbor on Prospect and N Streets. Hotels, taverns, banks and other commercial buildings were constructed along M Street and in the waterfront area. There are 58 Georgetown houses that have been recognized as landmarks of pre-Civil War importance.

The Georgetown Historic District is roughly bounded by Reservoir Rd., NW, and Dumbarton Oaks Park on the north; Rock Creek Park on the east; the Potomac River on the south; and Glover-Archbold Parkway on the west. Our walking tour will start on the campus of Georgetown University on the western fringe of the old town...



1. Healy Hall
Georgetown University



Georgetown University, founded in 1789, is the oldest Catholic University in America and since 1805 has been administered by the Society of Jesus. The first buildings were constructed around the “old quadrangle,” including Healy Hall, begun in 1877 and completed in stages as monies became available from designs by John Smithmeyer and Paul Pelz, creators of the Library of Congress. Reverend Patrick S. Healy shepherded the project to completion for the school and the building, with a 200-foot-high central clock spire, in 1909.

2. Copley Hall
Georgetown University

Construction of Copley Hall, named for Father Thomas Copley, was completed in 1932 and was a popular venue for informal school dances. Today it does duty as an upperclass residence hall.

3. White-Gravenor Hall
Georgetown University



White-Gravenor Hall was built atop the White Memorial Quadrangle from 1932-1933 and carries the name of two of the Jesuits who arrived in Maryland in 1634 on the *Ark* and the *Dove* - Andrew White and John Altham, also known as Gravenor. The building has been called a “sermon in stone” because of the abundance of Catholic and Jesuit symbolism in its exterior detailing.

WALK OFF CAMPUS EAST ON P STREET.

4. Convent of the Visitation
11400 34th Street, northwest corner of O Street

Joseph-Pierre Picot de Limoëlan de Clorivière was an officer in the French army and a counter-

revolutionary implicated in an assassination plot against Napoleon Bonaparte. It failed and he fled to the United States in 1803 where he became a priest and ministered in Charleston, South Carolina. He ran into trouble with church authorities there and was sent to the Visitation Convent in Georgetown that had started as a girls' school in 1799. Father de Clorivière oversaw the building of the Federal-style chapel in 1925. When the monastery was built in 1857 it employed the popular ecclesiastical Gothic style of the day. In 1874 when an academy building was needed it was turned out in an ornate Victorian style. All reside happily cheek-by-jowl today.

TURN RIGHT ON 34TH STREET.

5. John F. Kennedy's 2nd Georgetown House 1400 34th Street, northwest corner of O Street



When John F. Kennedy came to Washington he decided to make Georgetown, that had been one of the city's worst slums just a few years before, his home. He eventually lived in five different homes in the neighborhood - this was his second.

TURN LEFT ON O STREET.

6. Bodisco House 3322 O Street, NW



One of Georgetown's largest brick houses was put up by banker and land speculator Clement Smith. He hooked a buyer with deep pockets - the Czarist government of Russia. The name that has

stuck to the grand house is that of Baron Alexander de Bodisco who represented the Kremlin under the Polk Administration in the 1840s. Everyone in the neighborhood knew the 60-year old Baron when he married a 16-year old Georgetown girl, Harriett Beall Williams. Not that it was another Washington scandal - Henry Clay, the most admired man in the Senate, gave away the bride and the wedding was attended by President Martin Van Buren and his full cabinet. By all accounts the union was a happy one.

TURN RIGHT ON 33RD STREET.

7. John F. Kennedy's Fifth and Last Georgetown Home 3307 N Street NW, at the corner of 33rd Street



This townhouse was the Senator Kennedy's fifth, and last, Georgetown home. John and Jackie lived here the longest, from 1957 until they left for the White House in January of 1961. The doorstep became famous as the place where the President-elect announced his cabinet choices.

TURN LEFT ON N STREET.

8. Smith Row 3255-3263 N Street, NW

These five brick Federal-style houses were erected by developers Walter and Clement Smith in 1815, designed so well they have been little altered in the two centuries since. Contrast this to Cox's Row in the block to the west at 3327 to 3339 that needed restoration due to remodeling. Cox was a prosperous merchant who married an heiress who brought the land now filled by Georgetown University into the marriage. Cox persuaded officials to jiggle the city boundaries so he could run for mayor and put in 22 years as Georgetown's top official. No one ever stayed in the post as long.

TURN LEFT ON POTOMAC STREET.

9. St. John's Episcopal Church
southeast corner of Potomac and O streets

The congregation organized in 1796 and is Georgetown's oldest Episcopal parish. The church building dates to 1804 and owes much to William Thornton, a Scotsman trained as a physician who was also a writer, horse-breeder and publisher. He also dabbled in architecture and his design won the competition for the United States Capitol, besting, among others, Thomas Jefferson. St. John's Episcopal Church has often been tinkered with over the years but the bell tower is believed to be original.

TURN LEFT ON O STREET. TURN RIGHT ON 33RD STREET.

10. Yellow Tavern
1524 33rd Street

The Yellow Tavern, later known as White Horse Tavern, was in business in 1788. The public house was a favorite stopping place for travelers and tobacco merchants and the odd notable dropped in from time to time. Thomas Jefferson could be found at a table on occasion and when the Marquis de Lafayette visited in 1824, Mayor John Cox entertained him here "with a dinner of reed-birds, followed by dancing to music from the balcony."

TURN LEFT ON VOLTA PLACE. TURN LEFT INTO POMANDER WALK.

11. Pomander Walk
south side of Volta Place, between 33rd and 34th streets

The buildings in this alley went up in the 1880s and were an overlooked slum for much of their life. Spruced up today, the ten tiny houses create a charming Georgetown nook.

RETURN TO VOLTA PLACE AND TURN LEFT. TURN RIGHT ON 35TH STREET.

12. Volta Bureau
1537 35th Street, NW



Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, Alexander Graham Bell moved to Canada with his family in 1870 and a year later moved to Boston to teach at a special day school for deaf children. He became a renowned educator by opening a private normal class to train teachers of speech to the deaf and as a professor of vocal physiology and the mechanics of speech at Boston University. In fact, the invention of the telephone in 1876 was almost a speed bump in his work with the deaf. The French government awarded him a \$10,000 Volt Prize for the telephone which he plowed into establishing the American Association for the Promotion of the Teaching of Speech to the Deaf, headquartered here in his father's house on 35th Street. Celebrated Boston architects of Robert Swain Peabody and John Goddard Stearns designed this yellow brick building in 1893 to resemble a Greek temple when viewed from the street but to appear like a more traditional office building when approached from the rear.

TURN RIGHT ON DENT PLACE.

13. John F. Kennedy's 3rd Georgetown Home
3321 Dent Place



This was the third of John F. Kennedy's five Georgetown homes and his first as a married man; he and Jackie moved in as newlyweds.

TURN LEFT ON 33RD STREET AND LEFT ON WISCONSIN AVENUE. TURN RIGHT ON R STREET.

14. Scott-Grant House
3238 R Street, NW

This classically proportioned house was built by Alabaman A.V. Scott in 1858. During the Civil War he put it out for lease and attracted some famous Union Army officers as tenants. General Ulysses S. Grant rented it one summer and General Henry Walker Halleck moved in, filling the house with soldiers, drilling troops on R Street and bugling reveille each morning.

15. 3259 R Street, NW



Although obscured by hedges a variety of Victorian elements can be seen on this 1854 house, including a Second Empire mansard roof and gingerbread trim around the porch.

16. Dumbarton Oaks
3101 R Street, NW



This defining Georgetown estate was created by Mildred and Robert Woods Bliss, heir to a patent medicine fortune and a diplomat in the United States Foreign Service. In June of 1920, they purchased this much-altered 1801 Federal-style house and 53 acres, ending a lengthy search for a stateside home. Beatrix Farrand, one of the founding eleven members, and the only woman, of the American Society of Landscape Architects, transformed the grounds into a showplace of terraced gardens and grottoes; Dumbarton Oaks is considered her masterwork.

WALK DOWN 31ST STREET.

17. Tudor Place
1644 31st Street, NW



Part-time architect William Thornton was responsible for some of Washington's best early buildings and this residence was one of them. The wings were already here and Thornton added the central block and connecting elements. Thomas and Martha Custis Peter lived here; she was the granddaughter of George Washington, who left her the \$8,000 in his will that was used to purchase the property this block on the crest of Georgetown Heights in 1805.

TURN RIGHT ON Q STREET.

18. Bowie-Sevier House
3124 Q Street, NW



At the turn of the 19th century Washington Bowie, a merchant and shipper, owned this entire block. In 1805 he constructed the original five-bay center portion of the now much-expanded Federal-style house. How much has it expanded? In 2007 the mansion sold for \$24,000,000, shattering the record for the most expensive home sale in the District by \$10 million. Imagine how much Bowie's entire block would be worth today.

TURN RIGHT ON 31ST STREET.

19. John F. Kennedy's 1st Georgetown Home
1528 31st Street



This is the first house John Kennedy moved into when he settled in Georgetown. As a freshman congressman in 1950, this was his bachelor pad.

TURN LEFT ON P STREET.

20. Linthicum House
3019 P Street, NW

Edward Linthicum steadily improved his Georgetown circumstances as a merchant, his success eventually landing him in Dumbarton Oaks. But before that he was able to afford that exquisitely crafted federal home in 1829. Note especially the meticulous detailing on the wide doorway.

TURN LEFT ON 30TH STREET.

21. Francis Dodge House
1517 30th Street, NW



The Dodge brothers, Francis and Robert, operated the most successful antebellum shipping business in Georgetown. So successful that when Francis went looking for someone to design his new home in 1850 he couldn't land any bigger names than Andrew Jackson Downing and Calvert Vaux. It was noted by Vaux, in a letter from his client in 1854 that Francis complained about the \$15,000 cost of building his new Italianate villa, although he was quite satisfied with the comfort the excesses provided. Robert's villa stands nearby, at the corner of 28th & Q Street.

TURN LEFT ON Q STREET.

22. Cooke's Row
3307-3029 Q Street, NW



This spectacular quartet on the north side of Q Street provides a picturesque Victorian island in the Georgetown sea of Federal-style row houses. The two end units are French-inspired Second Empire designs and the middle pair are elaborately bracketed Italianates. The cornice brackets seen on these houses, built in 1868, are the best in the city

RETURN TO 30TH STREET AND TURN LEFT.

23. Oak Hill Cemetery
30th and R streets, NW

Oak Hill Cemetery was chartered by Congress in 1849 on land donated by banker William Wilson Corcoran. This sacred ground that slopes down to the lively waters of Rock Creek, stands among the finest Victorian garden cemeteries in America. At the entrance stands a handsome, three-story brick Italianate Gatekeeper's House in contrasting brick and sandstone by George de la Roche. The graves of many high-octane Washingtonians are here, including the cemetery's founder, Corcoran.

24. Oak Hill Cemetery Chapel
30th and R streets, NW



The Oak Hill Cemetery Chapel is the only known example of James Renwick's Gothic Revival ecclesiastical design in Washington, DC. The one story rectangular chapel, measuring 23 by 41 feet, was built in 1850 and sits on the highest ridge of the Oak Hill Cemetery. The beautifully proportioned chapel of local Potomac gneiss and red sandstone trim is considered an excellent example of Gothic Revival Architecture, as evidenced by its steeply pitched roof, buttresses, and its pointed arched windows with tracery. Renwick, one of the pre-eminent architects of the 19th century, designed both the Grace Church and St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York and was the architect for the original Smithsonian Institution.

WALK DOWN 28TH STREET AND TURN LEFT ON Q STREET.

25. Dumbarton House **2715 Q Street, NW**

Samuel Jackson constructed a stylish Federal-style on this promontory above Rock Creek in 1800. He sold the property to Joseph Nourse, the first Register of the U.S. Treasury, who commissioned Benjamin Henry Latrobe, considered America's first professional architect, to add balconies, portico and bays. One of the wealthiest men in young America, Charles Carroll, bought the house in 1814 and named it "Belle Vue." During her famous flight from the White House to escape British invaders during the War of 1812, Dolley Madison would take refuge here. In 1915 when the Dumbarton ("Q Street") Bridge was built over Rock Creek, the house was moved 100 feet to its present site, to allow the extension of Q Street into Georgetown. When the National Society of The Colonial Dames of America purchased the house for its headquarters in 1928 they changed the name to "Dumbarton House."

RETURN TO 28TH STREET AND TURN LEFT.

26. Benjamin Miller House **1524 28th Street, NW**

This rare wooden Federal house from 1840 stands in a forest of Georgetown brick as testament to the skills of its builder, master carpenter Benjamin Miller.

27. John F. Kennedy's 4th Georgetown Home **2808 P Street, NW**



This is the penultimate Georgetown abode of then United States Senator John F. Kennedy.

TURN RIGHT ON N STREET.

28. 2806 N Street, NW

These side-hall Federal brick townhouses from 1817, distinguished by elaborate splayed stone lintels with keystones.

29. 2812 N Street, NW



This fine Federal-style residence from the War of 1812-era features a beautifully articulated doorway. Legend says that the widow Decatur moved here from Lafayette Square after her husband naval war hero Stephen was killed in a duel with another commander in 1820.

**30. Foxall House
2908 N Street, NW**



This three-bay home bookended by its hulking three-story neighbors was home to Henry Foxall, who operated a munitions plant on the western fringe of Georgetown when he built this brick dwelling in 1820.

31. Colonial House

1305 30th Street, northeast corner of N Street



Prior to the Civil War this was the haughty finishing school for young women of means, run by Miss Lydia English. After the disastrous (for the North) First Battle of Bull Run the building was pressed into service as a Union hospital. The building has since morphed into an apartment house.

32. Laird-Dunlop House

3014 N Street, NW

The brick window arches designed by William Loring became a sort of trademark of the self-taught amateur architect. This very early example dates to 1799, built for John Laird, who earned his fortune trading tobacco.

33. Riggs-Riley House

3038 N Street, NW

Romulus Riggs, a local businessman, built a fine Federal house of modest size with a side-hall plan. A later owner, Joseph Riley, built an adjacent wing for his medical practice.

34. Wheatley Houses

3041-3043 N Street, NW

The cast-iron window heads and prominent cornice stamp were Italianate additions to the standard Georgetown Federal brick townhouse.

TURN LEFT ON 31ST STREET.

35. Custom House & Post Office
1221 31st Street, NW



Georgetown was established as a port of entry to the United States by an act of Congress approved March 22, 1779. This Italianate Custom House of granite ashlar came from the office of Ammi B. Young, the Supervising Architect of the Treasury from 1852 to 1862. Completed in 1858, the building housed a post office on its first floor and custom house and Georgetown city offices on its second floor. The basement was used for storage of goods awaiting inspection. After 109 years, in 1967, the Custom House moved out of its second floor space; the post office still occupies the first floor.

TURN LEFT ON M STREET.

36. Old Stone House
3051 M Street, NW



The Old Stone House was built in 1765, making it the oldest one built in Washington still upright. The exterior of the house is constructed of locally quarried blue granite. The house was built by Christopher Layman, a cabinetmaker by trade, as both a residence and a shop; he would die shortly after constructing the house. After nearly two centuries of duty as a residence and shop the United States government bought the pre-Revolutionary vernacular structure in 1953.

TURN AROUND AND WALK WEST ON M STREET. TURN LEFT ON 31ST STREET.
TURN RIGHT IN BLUES ALLEY.

37. Blues Alley

The Blues Alley Jazz Society was founded in 1985 by internationally celebrated jazz trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie and its corresponding nightclub namesake located in the nation's capital. Jazz acts are booked here 360 nights a year.

TURN LEFT ON WISCONSIN AVENUE.

38. Chesapeake & Ohio Canal



George Washington was one of the early American speculators who dreamed of the riches an inland American waterway could bring that would float goods from the West to Washington down the Potomac River. A canal that could connect the Potomac River to the Ohio River in Pittsburgh would provide a continuous water link from New Orleans to the Chesapeake Bay. The canal, dubbed the “Great National Project” by President John Quincy Adams, was finally started on July 4, 1828. It would take 22 years to complete - actually construction just stopped since the canal route never made it out of Maryland with only 184.5 of the planned 460 miles dug - and was obsolete before it opened. Battling the young and ever-improving railroads, the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal lasted for 75 years floating cargo from Cumberland, Maryland to Georgetown. The ditch survived filling in through the efforts of Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas who championed the canal as “a long stretch of quiet and piece.”

39. Grace Church
1041 Wisconsin Avenue, NW



Grace Episcopal Church was founded to serve the laborers, craftsmen, shopkeepers, and watermen of the Georgetown waterfront. By 1857 regular services were being held in a wooden chapel that stood in the southwest corner of the churchyard, where the World War I memorial cross now stands. In this poor district congregants pooled their talents to erect this humble granite Gothic revival church in 1866. Even today it is still the only religious institution in lower Georgetown.

CROSS WISCONSIN AVENUE AND WALK DOWN GRACE STREET TO POTOMAC STREET.

40. Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Warehouses

At the terminus of the waterway warehouses and mills sprung up in the first half of the 19th century. Mills for flour and cotton were especially abundant. Most have long ago disappeared but a few buildings have survived to be adapted to modern use.

RETURN TO WISCONSIN AVENUE AND TURN LEFT. CROSS M STREET.

41. Martin's Tavern
1264 Wisconsin Avenue, NW



A Georgetown institution since 1933 when it opened the day after Prohibition was repealed. Martin's was John Kennedy's hangout. Booth number one, known as "the rumble seat," was Kennedy's usual seat when he was a bachelor; number three is supposed to be where he asked Jackie to marry him. Booth number two was the favorite of JFK's 1960 presidential opponent - Richard Nixon.

TURN AROUND AND RETURN TO M STREET. TURN RIGHT.

42. City Tavern
3206 M Street, NW

In Colonial days every other building along this busy post road was a tavern. Most are gone but this one, from 1796, lives on. Much was replaced during a painstaking restoration but the top floors are probably original. Today it is a private club.

43. Georgetown Park
3222 M Street, NW

This urban shopping center from 1982 is located in a series of buildings built for the Georgetown and Washington Railway Company, a horse-drawn streetcar company, and later by Capitol Traction. During the excavation, archaeologists unearthed thousands of artifacts, some of which can be viewed as a permanent display in the Georgetown Park Museum, which is open daily.

44. Georgetown Market
3276 M Street, NW



Public markets have existed on this site since before the American Revolution. In 1795 the ground was deeded to the town “for the use of the market aforesaid, and for no other use, interest or purpose whatsoever.” The Italianate building with round-arched windows and central parapet, splendidly restored, dates to 1866.

45. Forrest-Marbury House
3350 M Street, NW

In March 1791 Georgetown mayor Uriah Forrest, at the urging of a weary George Washington, hosted a dinner party at his home here to hammer out an agreement to produce the nation’s new capital city of the District of Columbia. Forrest wanted little to do with the brave new world and sold the house in 1800 to Baltimore attorney William Marbury to reside at Rosedale, his farm that is now Cleveland Park. Marbury landed in the history books as the plaintiff in the case of *Marbury vs. Madison* that established the principle of judicial review. Marbury added a third story to the original house and built a two-story addition to the east.

TURN RIGHT ON 34TH STREET. TURN LEFT ON PROSPECT AVENUE.

46. Prospect House
3508 Prospect Street, NW



It's the fabulous view of the Potomac River that gives this handsome Federal manor house its name. Note the craftsmanship of the brickwork and doorways of this home built for 18th century tobacco merchant, James Lingan. It's believed that Lingan designed his own residence, using one of the architectural pattern books popular with scholarly, American builders of the period.

47. Benjamin Stoddert House
3400 Prospect Avenue, NW



This house was built for Benjamin Stoddert, the first Secretary of the Navy, in 1787. Stoddert wanted the house to look like the elegant houses he had admired while serving in Philadelphia. The Secretary would likely not recognize his house today as it was much enlarged and altered during 40 years of bizarre ownership by Albert Adsit Clemons. Clemons lived, it was reported, on money provided by his wife to stay away from her. He built an amusement park of hallways, stairs and rooms inside - most of which were never used.

48. Quality Hill
3425 Prospect Street NW



This fine Federal home was built for attorney John Thomson Mason, a grandchild of Martha Washington, in 1798. Dr. Charles Worthington purchased the mansion in 1810 and named it Quality Hill, presumably for its fabulous interior woodwork.

49. Exorcist Steps
Prospect and 36th streets, NW

These steep steps next to the Victorian D.C. Transit car barn were used in the seminal horror movie *The Exorcist* to film the scene where Father Damien takes a fatal head-first plunge down the 97 stairs.

TURN RIGHT ON 36TH STREET. TURN RIGHT ON N STREET.

50. Old Holy Trinity Church
3515 N Street, NW

A small brick church built here in 1794 was the first place for Catholics to worship in Washington, DC. This Greco-Roman church replaced it in 1849.

TURN AROUND ON N STREET AND WALK TWO BLOCKS WEST BACK TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

A Walking Tour of President's Park

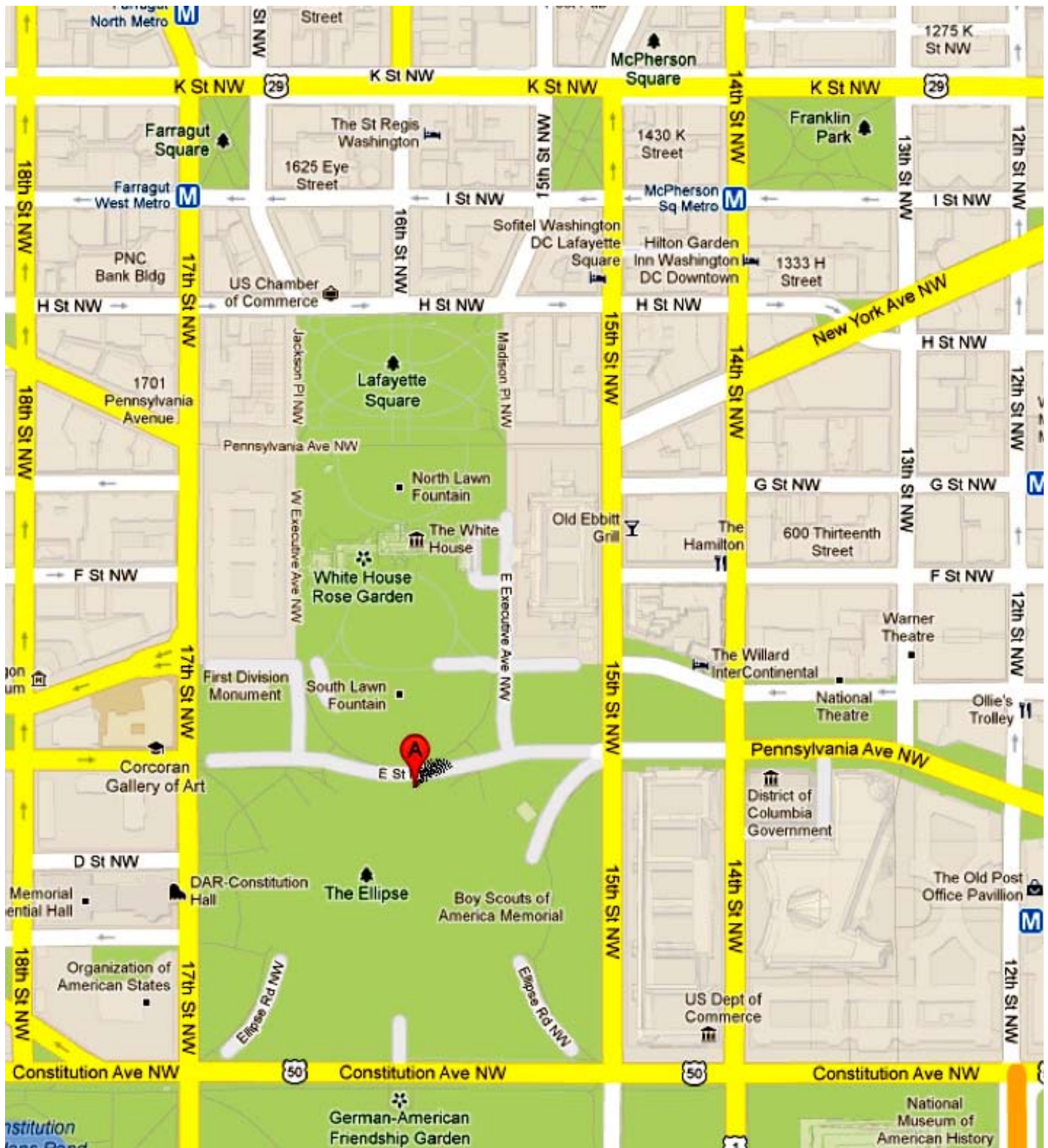
from walkthetown.com

Lafayette Square is a seven-acre public park located directly north of the White House on H Street between 15th and 17th Streets, NW. The Square and the surrounding structures were designated a National Historic Landmark District in 1970. Originally planned as part of the pleasure grounds surrounding the Executive Mansion, the area was called "President's Park." The Square was separated from the White House grounds in 1804 when President Jefferson had Pennsylvania Avenue cut through. In 1824, the Square was officially named in honor of the Marquis de Lafayette of France.

Lafayette Square has been used as a race track, a graveyard, a zoo, a slave market, an encampment for soldiers during the War of 1812, and scores of political protests and celebrations. The surrounding neighborhood became the city's most fashionable 18th century residential area - home to a number of Washington honchoes including Lincoln's Secretary of State William Henry Seward and South Carolina Senator John C. Calhoun.

Andrew Jackson Downing landscaped Lafayette Square in 1851 in the picturesque style. Today's plan with its five large statues dates from the 1930s. In the center stands Clark Mills' equestrian statue of President Andrew Jackson, erected in 1853; in the four corners are statues of Revolutionary War heroes: France's General Marquis Gilbert de Lafayette and Major General Comte Jean de Rochambeau; Poland's General Thaddeus Kosciuszko; Prussia's Major General Baron Frederick Wilhelm von Steuben.

This walking tour will explore Lafayette Square to the north of the White House and the buildings bordering the Ellipse to the south of the White House. We will start in the center of the square...



1. Jackson Statue Lafayette Square



In 1853 Clark Mills created the first equestrian statue designed by an American and cast in America. He came by his material honestly - he used bronze melted down from cannon captured by Jackson in the War of 1812. Mills did not approach his commission lightly. Before lifting a chisel he trained a horse to remain in a rearing position so he could study how the animal balanced his great weight.

EXIT JACKSON SQUARE TO THE EAST TO MADISON PLACE (to the rear of the rearing horse).

2. Lafayette Square rowhouses

In the urban renewal movement of the mid-20th century, wrecking balls began to swing indiscriminately around Lafayette Square. President John Kennedy personally halted plans to level row houses on the square but did not want to impede progress. He asked architect John Carl Warnecke to have his cake and eat it to. Warnecke erected his modern buildings but placed them in the center of the block, ringed by the historic residences on the perimeter.

TURN LEFT ON H STREET.

3. Old British Embassy
1525 H Street, NW



Mathew Clark, clerk of the House of Representatives, started building this house in 1836 but ran out of money. He sold out to the British government. It was in the formal parlor that Lord Alexander Ashburton and Daniel Webster hammered out the treaty that settled the border between Maine and New Brunswick. The house received a Second Empire makeover in the 1870s and acquired its present mansard roof and trimmings. Today it serves as the parish house for St. John's Church next door.

4. St. John's Church
northeast corner of 16th and H streets, NW



Benjamin Henry Latrobe, America's first professional architect, designed this church in 1815 to serve a growing residential community in the neighborhoods of the western end of Washington. Subsequent additions have greatly obscured the historical original church that has seen every President since James Madison attend at least a service here. Pew 54 is the President's Pew, and is reserved for the chief executive's use when in attendance.

5. Hay-Adams Hotel
800 16th Street, NW, northwest corner of H Street

This hotel sits on the site once occupied by two celebrated houses designed by architect Henry Hobson Richardson for John Hay and Henry Adams in 1885. Richardson, a Louisiana native working out of Boston was the most influential American architect of the post-Civil War era. Hay was a former private assistant to Abraham Lincoln and Adams a presidential descendent and prominent author. The homes were sacrificed in 1927 for this Italian Renaissance-style apartment-hotel designed by architect Mirhan Mesrobian. Its luxury appointments attracted the most prominent Washington visitors; most recently it was the temporary home of the Obama family as they waited to move across the square into the White House in 2009.

6. Chamber of Commerce Building
1615 H Street, NW

In 1802, when Washington was still a federal territory, this land was valued at two cents per square foot. Today the United States Chamber of Commerce stands on some of the most historic and valuable pieces of real estate in the nation's capital. Daniel Webster, a leading American statesman and senator from Massachusetts lived in a three-and-a-half story home here in the 1840s. Other high-powered Washingtonians funneled through the house until the Chamber purchased the property in 1922. Cass Gilbert, designer of the Supreme Court Building and three state capitol buildings, drew up the plans for this majestic Neoclassical office building.

TURN LEFT ON JACKSON PLACE.

7. Decatur House
southwest corner of H Street, NW and Jackson Place



This is one of the oldest surviving homes in the District and one of only three remaining residential buildings in the country designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe, the father of American architecture. Completed in 1818 for naval hero Stephen Decatur and his wife Susan, it was the first private residence on President's Park. Latrobe fashioned a wonderfully proportioned, nearly square, three-story town house of red brick in the austere Federal style of the time. The Decatur's became famous for their lavish Washington parties in the house but the good times were short-lived. Scarcely a year after moving into his home Stephen Decatur was mortally wounded on the dueling ground by Commodore James Barron. A parade of prominent Washingtonians inhabited the house for the next 130 years, many of whom carried on the Decatur's tradition of high living so that it was not difficult to convert the house into a museum.

TURN RIGHT ON PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

8. Blair House
1651-1653 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW



This restrained town house, its first section built in the 1820s, has been enlarged and remodeled several times as it has evolved into America's official guest house since 1942. The story goes that Eleanor Roosevelt wearied of British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's nocturnal habits when he was staying in the White House and insisted on some sort of guest residence for visiting heads of state. Blair House, named for Francis Preston Blair, Sr., who bought it in 1836, also did duty as President Truman's home during the time the White House was being remodeled. The complex was restored in 1988 and enlarged yet again at the same time.

9. Lee House
1651-1653 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

The house adjoining Blair House was owned by the Lee family of Virginia. It was here that Robert E. Lee turned down command of the Union Army at the start of the Civil War to cast his lot with his beloved Virginia and the Southern cause. Like its neighbor, the stucco on the facade of the Lee house has been scored to look like more expensive stone blocks.

10. Renwick Gallery

1661 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW; northeast corner of 17th Street



The Renwick Gallery (named for its architect, not the owner), was erected between 1859 and 1861 by William Wilson Corcoran, co-founder of the Riggs Bank, as exhibition space for his extensive collection of paintings and sculpture. The building was designed by James Renwick, Jr., a prominent New York architect who designed St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York and the Smithsonian Building in Washington. Before any art could be hung the Civil War intervened and the building was seized by the U.S. Army in August 1861 for use as a storage warehouse. It would not be until 1874 that the restored gallery could open as the town's first art museum. The collection quickly outgrew the space, however, and in 1897, the gallery moved a few blocks away. The government came back and the Renwick Gallery has been on the Smithsonian team since 1972.

11. Old Executive Office Building

17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW



Perhaps no building in Washington has generated more derogatory words than the Old Executive Office Building. Constructed by Alfred B. Mullett between 1871 and 1888, the building housed the Departments of State, War, and Navy. Detractors appeared immediately but Mullett did not have to listen to the negative comments long. Considering himself overworked, underpaid, and severely under appreciated, he sued the government for more money. When that came to nothing, Mullett killed himself. His gray Virginia granite office building that covered ten acres and featured 900 projecting and superimposed Doric columns lived on, not much more happily. President Herbert Hoover commented that it "was of all the buildings in town, the one we regret the most." President Harry Truman piled on two decades later calling it "the greatest monstrosity in America." The building was nearly demolished in 1957 but the money it would cost to tear it down was considered too great. Its second century of life has begun much happier - now considered an architectural treasure millions of dollars have been invested in its upkeep for use by America's Executive branch of government.

TURN LEFT ON 17TH STREET.

12. Winder Building
604 17th Street, NW

Built in the 1840s, this was an early speculative office built specifically to be leased to the federal government. It also pioneered the use of central heating and steel beams in construction.

TURN RIGHT ON NEW YORK AVENUE.

13. The Octagon House
1799 New York Avenue, NW



Colonel John Tayloe, reputed to be the richest Virginia plantation owner of his time, built this manor house in Washington at the suggestion of fellow palnter George Washington. He hired William Thornton, a Scotsman trained in medicine who dabbled in architecture and whose design was chosen for the United States Capitol, in 1798. Thornton responded with one of the most influential houses ever built in Washington, fitted into one of the city's odd building lots created by city planner Pierre Charles L'Enfant's love of diagonal avenues. Thornton's intricate plan combined a circle, two rectangles, and a triangle to create the elegant design. Sandstone was carted from Acquia Creek and the bricks and lumber were all manufactured locally while the luxurious interior appointments were imported from England.

RETURN TO 17TH STREET AND TURN RIGHT.

14. Corcoran Gallery of Art
southwest corner of New York Avenue and 17th Street



This is where William Corcoran's art collection ended up after shuffling down the street from the Renwick Gallery. Architect Ernest Flagg, a disciple of the classical training from the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, infused Greek details into his 1897 composition.

15. American National Red Cross
430 17th Street

Begun as a remembrance to “the heroic women of the Civil War” in 1915, this Vermont marble memorial has expanded to occupy an entire block. The building, which was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1965, houses some of the most exquisite art and artifacts acquired by the American Red Cross since its formal inception in 1881. At the forefront of this collection are the famous Tiffany Windows designed and constructed by the renowned studio of Louis Comfort Tiffany, son of the New York City jeweler. The three-paneled stained glass windows were commissioned in 1917 and illustrate the most significant values of the Red Cross: hope, faith, charity and love. They are reputed to be the largest set of windows still in their original state.

16. DAR Constitution Hall
1776 D Street, NW



Ground was broken for the Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Hall on June 22, 1928. The cornerstone was laid by Mrs. Calvin Coolidge on October 30, 1928, using the trowel George Washington used to lay the cornerstone at the Capitol in 1793. John Russell Pope designed three different classical facades for the hall, permitting an entrance on three sides and promoting excellent circulation of air through the building that fills an entire block. Mrs. Herbert Hoover was the guest speaker at the formal dedication on April 19, 1929. The first musical event in the hall was on November 2, 1929 and featured Anna Case, Efrem Zimbalist, Sophie Braslau, and Hans Barth.

17. Organization of American States
17th Street & Constitution Avenue, NW

Andrew Carnegie gave \$5,000,000 in part to build this marbled headquarters in 1910 for the world's oldest international organization, promoting peace and progress among the nations of North, South and Central America. The property is studded with memorials and statuary. It was erected on the site of the legendary Van Ness mansion that was erected by Benjamin Henry Latrobe in 1816 as the costliest residence in America.

18. Capitol Gatehouses
Constitution Avenue at 15th Street, NW and 17th Street, NW



Charles Bullfinch, the great Boston architect, who was working on the Capitol Building in the 1820s, designed these one-room gatehouses with rusticated Aquia Creek sandstone for the Capitol grounds. The classically inspired doorways feature flanking Doric columns and richly decorated entablatures. In the 1870s when the Capitol grounds were given their first formal landscaping by the Central Park designer Frederick Law Olmsted the old entrance buildings were salvaged and placed at the corners of the Ellipse.

WALK NORTH THROUGH THE ELLIPSE TOWARDS THE WHITE HOUSE.

19. Zero Milestone **north-center edge of the Ellipse**

In his plan for Washington, Pierre Charles L'Enfant intended a column to be placed one mile east of the Capitol, "from which all distances of places through the continent were to be calculated." Instead, in 1804 the Jefferson Pier was placed on the meridian of the White House due west of the Capitol to mark the Washington meridian. The current Zero Milestone monument was conceived by Good Roads Movement advocate Dr. S. M. Johnson, formally proposed on June 7, 1919. Designed by Washington architect Horace W. Peaslee, the squat marker of pinkish granite is about 2 feet square and about 4 feet high. The bronze disk on top of the milestone is an adaptation from ancient portolan charts of the so-called wind roses or compass roses from the points of which extended radial lines to all parts of the then known world—the prototype of the modern mariner's compass. The permanent Zero Milestone was dedicated in a ceremony on June 4, 1923. At present, only roads in the Washington, D.C. area have distances measured from it.

20. The White House **1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW**



The White House was designed by James Hoban, an Irish-born and-trained architect who won a competition organized by President George Washington and Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson in 1792. The competitions were held to determine who would design the nation's two most important buildings, the President's House and the Capitol. It is believed that Jefferson, competing under a pseudonym, submitted designs and lost both competitions. Hoban's inspiration was drawn from an Anglo-Irish villa called the Leinster House in Dublin. Although President Washington oversaw construction, he never lived in the house, the only President not to do so. Thomas Jefferson, upon moving to the house in 1801 was not impressed and dismissed it as being too big; he made several structural changes and landscaped the grounds. The White House was torched by the British in the War of 1812 and although the fire was put out by a summer thunderstorm, all that remained were the outside, charred walls and the interior brick walls. Madison brought Hoban back to restore the mansion, which took three years. It was during this construction that the house was painted white. Hoban later added the South and North Porticos, using a slightly altered design by Latrobe.

Expansion and further alterations came when President Theodore Roosevelt declared the house unsafe to inhabit. He turned the third-story attic into habitable rooms and added the Executive Office wing and the East Gallery. Although used informally for some time, it was President Theodore Roosevelt who gave the White House its official name. Finally, the last major renovation took place when President Harry Truman decided that again the building was unsafe and had to

be gutted. Steel replaced the original frame and paneling, and a balcony was added to the South Portico.

FOLLOW THE PATH TO THE EAST TO 15TH STREET AND TURN LEFT.

21. Treasury Building
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW



This is the oldest of the government's departmental buildings, sited by Andrew Jackson on the shoulder of the White House, obliterating the "reciprocity of view" down Pennsylvania Avenue to the Capitol ingrained in the city plan by L'Enfant. South Carolina native Robert Mills, the first trained American architect built the east and center wings between 1836 and 1842. Each of the 30 Ionic columns Mills outfitted the building with are 36 feet tall and carved out of a single piece of granite. Spreading across five acres, the Treasury Building, which has seen several additions, is the world's largest Greek Revival building.

TURN LEFT ON PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

22. Treasury Annex
northeast corner of Madison Place and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

This addition to the Treasury came on line in 1919, designed by Cass Gilbert with a profusion of columns in homage to Mills' Treasury Building.

YOU HAVE NOW RETURNED TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT AT LAFAYETTE SQUARE.

A Walking Tour of The National Mall

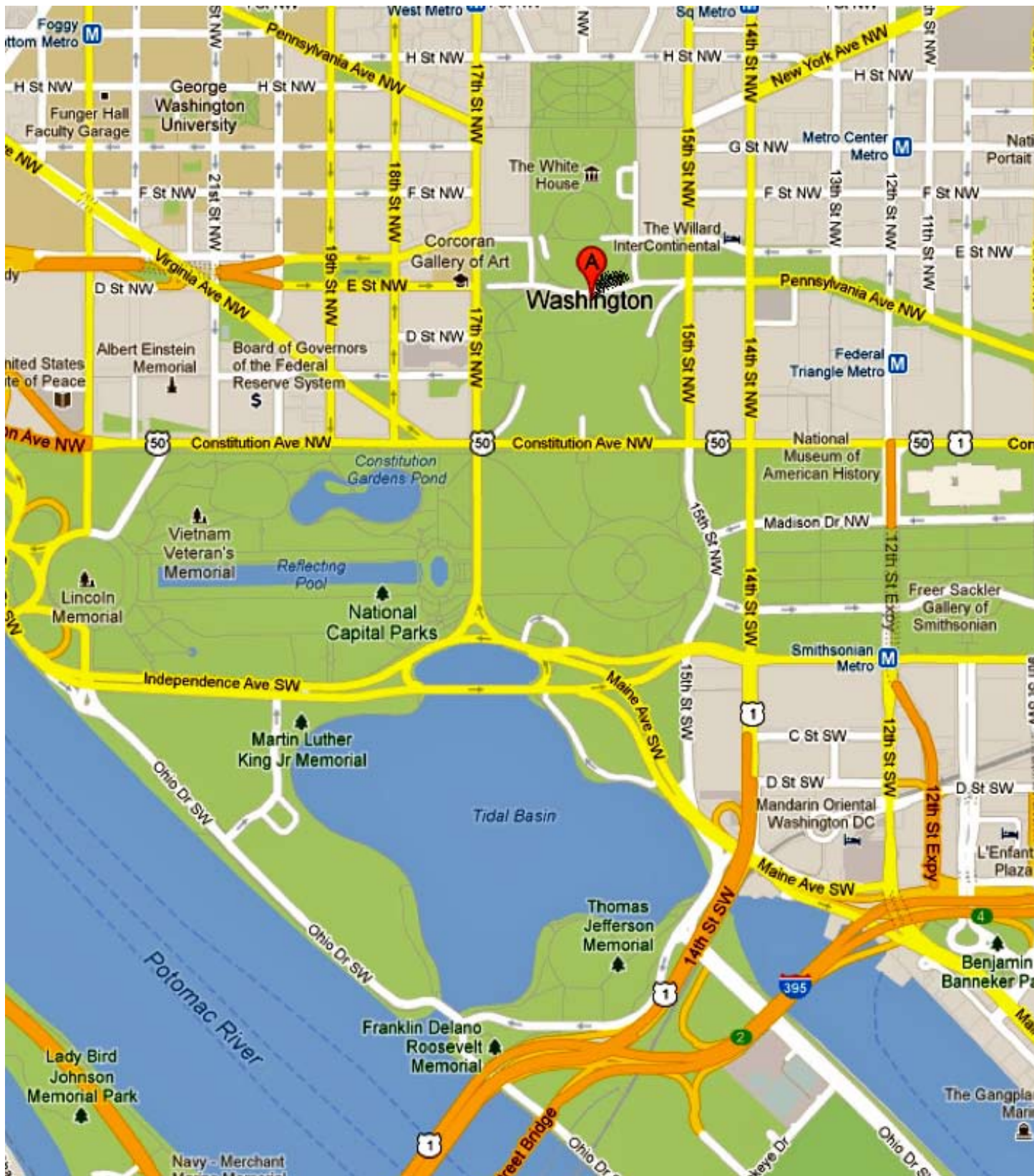
from walkthetown.com

Pierre Charles L'Enfant, who laid out the street plan for the District of Columbia, had a grand vision for the National Mall, the so-called "Grand Avenue." It was to run west from the Capitol to a point directly south of the President's House where its terminus would be crowned by an equestrian statue of George Washington. According to L'Enfant's plan, the Mall was to be "four hundred feet in breadth, and about a mile in length, bordered by gardens, ending in a slope from the houses on each side."

To realize L'Enfant's dream things started slowly and then petered out completely. Then the Civil War came and the Mall grounds were used for military purposes, such as bivouacking and parading troops, slaughtering cattle and producing arms. In 1872, at 6th and B streets, a 14-acre tract was given to the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad for construction of a depot; the railroad was also granted permission to lay tracks across the Mall.

The National Mall was on the verge of disappearing altogether when, in 1902, Senator James McMillan of Michigan opened hearings to revisit L'Enfant's original ideas. The first thing to do was tear down the railroad station and pull up the tracks. The swamps were drained and canals filled. Grass was planted and four rows of majestic American elm trees installed on the edges the entire length of the Mall. It was decided that all public buildings to be constructed would be created in the image of ancient Rome and Athens.

Today there are nine museums on the Mall, two entrances for underground museums, and the Department of Agriculture. Our walking tour begins at the east end in the shadow of the United States Capitol, following along the southern edge and returning along the northern side...



WALK DOWN THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE MALL.

1. National Air and Space Museum 6th Street, SW and Independence Avenue

The National Air and Space Museum was completed in 1976, designed by the St. Louis firm of Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum that had the mandate of creating an impressive building - but not so attention-grabbing that it would detract from the Capitol nearby. Their glass and granite cube with 200,000 square feet of displays is the most popular of the Smithsonian museums and one of the world's most-visited. Among the aviation stars here are the Wright Brothers' first Kitty Hawk flyer as well as the Apollo II space capsule.

2. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden Independence Avenue at Seventh Street, SW

Joseph H. Hirshhorn sailed to New York City from Latvia with his family in 1903 when he was four years old. His widowed mother settled with her thirteen children (Joseph was #12) in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn. In his teens the financially astute Hirschhorn was a stockbroker on Wall Street with a six-figure income. He cashed out his portfolio to the tune of some \$4 million two months before the stock market crashed in 1929 and then made real money in oil and uranium mining. He pursued art with the same zeal he used in business, becoming one of the world's foremost experts in modern art; his gift of 6,000 paintings, sculptures, drawings, and mixed-media works established his namesake museum on the National Mall. The architectural firm of Louis Skidmore, Nathaniel Owings and John O. Merrill designed the round concrete building in 1976 to be as controversial as the modern art that hung inside. Lester Collins added the sunken sculpture garden hard by the Mall in 1981.

3. Arts and Industries Building
900 Jefferson Drive, SW



Designed in a High Victorian style by the busy Washington architectural firm of Adolf Cluss and Paul Schulze, the Arts and Industries Building represents the least expensive and most quickly constructed major structure ever undertaken by the United States government. The hurry was that America's landmark Centennial Exhibition of 1876 had ended in triumph and Congress wanted to save the displays. The fireproof building, dressed in fanciful polychrome brick, was authorized in 1879 and opened in time to host the inaugural ball of President James A. Garfield in 1881.

4. The Smithsonian Building
1000 Jefferson Drive, SW



It must be said that British scientist James Smithson left one unusual will. Smithson left the entirety of his estate to a nephew with the provision that should said nephew die without heirs all the money will pass "to the United States of America, to found at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." Smithson never traveled to America and no correspondent on these shores has ever been identified. Smithson died in 1829 and his nephew passed six years later, indeed with no heirs. And so his entire fortune of more than 100,000 gold sovereigns landed on the doorstep of the United States Mint. The coins were converted into more than \$500,000. It took eight years of squabbling in Congress over the unexpected gift before the Smithsonian Institution was established. Completed in 1855, the original Smithsonian Institution Building came from the pen of architect James Renwick Jr., whose designed St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. Renwick tapped the Norman style from medieval England for the museum building, excuted with red sandstone carted to the site from Seneca Creek, Maryland.

5. S. Dillon Ripley Center
1100 Jefferson Drive, SW

The gallery opened in 1987 to house a gift of some 1,000 works of Asian art from Arthur M. Sackler, a New York research physician who made a fortune in medical advertising and trade publications. Among the highlights of his collection were early Chinese bronzes and jades, Chinese paintings and lacquerware, ancient Near Eastern ceramics and metalware, and sculpture from South and Southeast Asia. Sackler also donated \$4 million toward construction of the gallery. The copper-domed kiosk leads to underground galleries, a small conference center and meeting rooms.

6. Freer Gallery of Art
Jefferson Drive at 12th Street, SW



Charles Lang Freer was a New Yorker who made his money in Detroit building railroad cars. He made so many that by the end of the 1900s his Michigan-Peninsular Car Company was the industrial state's largest manufacturer. But his health was failing and doctors told him to pursue less stressful endeavors so Freer turned to art collecting. In the end, Freer's building and art represents the most valuable gift ever presented to the American government by a single individual. The Italian-Renaissance-style gallery, constructed in granite and marble, was designed by American architect Charles Platt.

7. Department of Agriculture
12th Street and Independence Avenue, SW

When the federal government designed a grand make-over for the city to build only in the Neoclassical style in 1902, this was the first project undertaken on the south side of the National Mall. The universal vision for the Mall was not fully formed at the time and planners initially sited the massive Department of Agriculture building smack in the middle of the Mall. President Theodore Roosevelt personally intervened to slide it back a bit. The cornerstone was laid in 1905 but funding problems delayed the completion of the building until 1930. The projecting center is fashioned of gleaming Georgia white Cherokee marble; the wings use Vermont marble and the foundation is Massachusetts granite. The entire building has a floor space of 300,000 square feet.

TURN LEFT ON 14TH STREET.

8. Auditors Main Building
14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW



This dark red-brick Victorian pile was designed in 1880 by James G. Hill, head of the Office of the Supervising Architect of the United States Department of the Treasury, as the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. This is what government buildings looked like before the wave of Neoclassical monoliths from the early 20th century washed over the town.

RETURN TO INDEPENDENCE AVENUE AND TURN LEFT TOWARDS THE TIDAL BASIN.

9. U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Raoul Wallenberg Place, between 14th and 15th streets, SW

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, designed with a sobering presence in 1993 by Pei Cobb Freed and Partners, is the American government's memorial to the genocide perpetrated by German Nazis in World War II. The collection includes more than 49 million pages of archival documents, 80,000 historical photographs, and a thousand hours of film footage

10. Jefferson Memorial The Tidal Basin



The Jefferson Memorial came late to the Mall party. Plans for a grand remembrance to the third President coagulated during the Franklin Roosevelt administration. The President himself chose a Neoclassical design by John Russell Pope, modeled after the Pantheon in Rome, and laid the cornerstone in 1939. The building of Vermont white marble, Georgia granite, Tennessee pink and gray marble and Indiana limestone was ready for dedication on April April 13, 1943 - the 200th anniversary of Thomas Jefferson's birth. The 19-foot bronze statue of Jefferson, gazing across the water in the direction of the White House, was crafted by Rudolph Evans in 1941.

11. FDR Memorial Tidal Basin



Designer Lawrence Halprin started work on this project, the fourth to honor a United States President on the National Mall, in 1974. More than 6,000 tons of Carnellan granite, quarried in South Dakota, with a small amount of “Academy Black” granite from California mixed in - enough to erect an 80-story building - was used in the construction of the memorial to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. That includes 75,000 square feet of granite pavers and 31,000 pieces of stone. The FDR Memorial is also the first presidential memorial to honor a First Lady and a dog. Fala, a Scottish Terrier, was a gift from Roosevelt’s cousin in 1940 and followed him everywhere until the President’s death in 1945. Fala lived another seven years and Eleanor Roosevelt claimed the dog never really adjusted to the loss. The memorial was dedicated by President Bill Clinton in 1997.

RETURN TO THE MALL.

12. District of Columbia World War Memorial on the Mall south of 19th Street, NW

This Doric temple of fine Vermont marble was a gift of the citizens of Washington to honor those who died during World War I; it was authorized in 1924 and dedicated on Armistice Day, November 11, 1931.

13. Korean War Veterans Memorial on the Mall between Independence Avenue and the Reflecting Pool

The Korean memorial, dedicated in 1995, is in the form of a triangle intersecting a circle. Within the triangle are 19 stainless steel statues designed by Frank Gaylord, each larger than life-size. The figures represent a squad on patrol, drawn from each branch of the armed forces.

14. Lincoln Memorial west end of the Mall



The movement to build a suitable remembrance to honor America's first assassinated President began almost immediately after his death. Decisions could not be made on the form and location. The Lincoln Memorial eventually took the shape of a Greek Temple placed in a reclaimed swamp directly opposite the Capitol building over a mile down the Mall. Henry Bacon gave the temple 36 Doric columns representing the number of states in the Union in 1865. Daniel Chester French sculpted the monumental sitting Lincoln of Colorado marble.

TURN AND WALK DOWN THE NORTH SIDE OF THE MALL.

15. Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the Mall in Constitution Gardens



Maya Ying Lin, a 21-year-old architecture student at Yale University, won the design competition for this memorial that was dedicated in 1982. The wall is fashioned from black granite quarried near Bangalore, India. In 1984, an American flag and a sculpture showing three servicemen were added to the memorial. In 1993, the Vietnam Women's Memorial was added to represent the work of America's women veterans.

**16. Reflecting Pool
on the Mall between the Lincoln Monument and Washington Monument**



The original 1902 plan for the Mall called for a reflecting pool but it took almost twenty years to become a reality. This is the largest of Washington's reflecting pools, stretching 170 yards short of a half-mile down the Mall.

**17. Signers Memorial
on the Mall in Constitution Gardens**

Built on a tiny island in a lake in Constitution Gardens, this is Washington's only monument to the signers of the Declaration of Independence, an event that took place before the city was even imagined. Each signer gets a block of red marble and his signature is immortalized in oversized gold script. The blocks are arranged in a semi-circle that is supposed to suggest the figures depicted in John Trumbull's famous painting of the rebellious gathering.

**18. National World War II Memorial
17th Street, between Constitution and Independence avenues**

The World War II Memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the United States, the more than 400,000 who died, and all who supported the war effort from the homefront.

19. Washington Monument

The Mall



Plans to honor George Washington began in 1783 before there was a federal government. Although the Monument was authorized by Congress, little action was taken, even after the capital city named for him was established. Washington's 1799 death rekindled calls for a memorial but lack of funds intervened. The cornerstone for a flat-topped obelisk designed by South Carolina architect Robert Mills would not be laid until 1848. Mills had in mind a busy memorial with a statue of General Washington helming a chariot inside a circular colonnade with statues of thirty prominent Revolutionary War heroes scattered about. But construction dragged on, Mills died and his successor, Thomas L. Casey, pared down the original plan to an unadorned Egyptian obelisk. Finally the monument was dedicated on February 21, 1885, and officially opened to the public on October 9, 1888. Here are its vital stats: height - 555 feet and 5 1/8 inch; weight - 81, 120 tons; walls - 15 feet thick at the base and 18 inches at the pyramidal top; steps - 896; composition - white marble blocks from Maryland with a few from Massachusetts, underlain by Maryland blue gneiss and Maine granite.

20. National Museum of American History

14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW

The National Museum of American History collects artifacts of all kinds - currently some three million in America's attic - to preserve a record of American life. That record is preserved in a less ambitious building that dates to 1964.

21. National Museum of Natural History
10th St. & Constitution Avenue, NW



This was the first building constructed on the north side of the Mall after the McMillan Commission's declaration that all of Washington be slathered in Neoclassicism. The architectural firm of Joseph Coerten Hornblower and James Rush Marshall, which had a knack for formal-looking monoliths, created this depository for what now exceeds over 125 million items. It was completed in 1911 with a price tag of \$3.5 million.

22. National Gallery of Art - West Building
6th St. & Constitution Avenue, NW

The National Gallery of Art was created in 1937 for the people of the United States of America by a joint resolution of Congress, accepting the gift of financier and art collector Andrew W. Mellon. Mellon started collecting with just that in mind more than a decade earlier and his foundation funded the building by John Russell Pope.

23. National Gallery of Art - East Building
4th St. & Constitution Avenue, NW

In 1974 I.M. Pei was called on to deliver an expansion building to the National Gallery on a difficult triangular adjacent. Pei delivered a similarly shaped planning grid with dramatic circulation space for a semi-underground building with pyramidal skylights. Washington's major art gallery provides 110,000 square feet of main exhibition space and 16,000 moer square feet of temporary exhibition areas. The building helped to shape attitudes to museum building throughout the country.

YOU HAVE RETURNED TO THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

IDENTIFYING AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE

Recognizing Early American Architecture:

Postmedieval English Colonial (1600-1700)

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

Dutch Colonial (1625-1840)

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

Spanish Colonial (1660-1850)

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

Georgian (1700-1780)

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

Adamesque (Federal) (1780-1820)

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

Greek Revival (1825-1860)

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

Recognizing Victorian Architecture:

General Victorian Features (1840-1910)

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

Gothic Revival Style (1835-1875)

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

Italianate Style (1840-1885)

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

Second Empire Style (1855-1885)

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

Stick Style (1860-1890)

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

Queen Anne Style (1880-1910)

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

Shingle Style (1880-1900)

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

Richardsonian Romanesque (1880-1900)

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

Recognizing 20th century Architecture:

Colonial Revival (1885 and beyond)

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

Neoclassical (1895-1950)

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

Tudor (1890 -1940)

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

French Chateausque (1890-1930)

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

Beaux Arts (1890-1930)

- * wall surfaces with decorative garlands, floral patterns or shields
- * masonry walls, usually of light-colored stone
- * facade with corner quoins and columns, 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 Moderns (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