

WALKING TOUR

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For more information on the history of Syracuse,
visit the Onondaga Historical Association's History Museum
at 321 Montgomery Street
Open 10 am to 4 pm Wednesday - Friday
11 am to 4 pm Saturday & Sunday

For more visitor information, visit

The Downtown Information Center
at 440 South Warren Street
Open 9 am to 4:30 pm weekdays

or

The Syracuse Heritage Area Visitor Center
at the Erie Canal Museum
318 Erie Blvd. East
Open 10 am to 5 pm Monday - Saturday
10 am to 3 pm Sunday



DOWNTOWN SYRACUSE WALKING TOUR

**This walking tour begins in Clinton Square, the centerpiece of the city.
However, you may wish to begin your tour at any point along the way.
Just follow the centerfold map on pages 14-15.**

Downtown Syracuse, from its earliest beginnings, was a crossroads city, a place where travelers from north and south, east and west, crossed paths in pursuit of land, employment, and a market for their goods.

There was an abundant supply of salt and potash, limestone and timber, good crop land and grazing for dairy herds. All of these factors contributed to the emergence of Syracuse as an important commercial gateway to western New York and provided the substance that you see evidenced in the historical buildings of the city's commercial center.

Downtown Syracuse is a storehouse of historical facts and a repository of sometimes forgotten custom and legend. It is the buildings, the structures of this city that transcend time and provide us with a window on both the past and the present. And the commercial center of the city - downtown - sets the tone for Syracuse's vitality and progress.

As you begin the tour, remember to look up! You may see crouching figures, grinning faces, or interesting elements and designs on the roof lines, corners and surfaces of the buildings in downtown Syracuse.



Above: Clinton Square at the turn of the century.

Cover photo: The former Dennison Building on the corner of East Fayette and South Warren streets. Visible in the second floor window is a sign for City Opticians, a business that opened downtown in 1939 and still operates today in The Galleries of Syracuse, 441 South Salina Street.



1) Clinton Square was one of the busiest spots in the city during the 1800s. The Erie Canal intersected the village crossroads here, and the Square teemed with canal boat crews loading and unloading cargo, farmers' wagons, peddlers' carts, hawkers, and street entertainers. This public square hosted a number of events, including John Greenway's "feast for the poor" on New Year's Day in 1870, which attracted 20,000 people. After the turn of the century, Clinton Square was transformed from a cluttered docking and market place into a public park. In 1917, the Erie Canal was officially closed to navigation and replaced by the Barge Canal, which bypassed downtown Syracuse. In 1923, the engineering wonder of the 1820s was filled, graded, and turned into a parking lot. Clinton Square has been redesigned several times since then; the most recent change in 2001, when Erie Blvd. was closed permanently to traffic between South Clinton and South Salina Streets. A reflecting pool and fountain now form the centerpiece of the park. Once again, this public square is a gathering place for Syracuseans who come to ice skate in the winter and attend many festivals and events held throughout the year.

From Clinton Square, walk west on Erie Blvd. West. On your right is the Clinton Exchange.



2) The Clinton Exchange was built in 1928 as a U.S. Post Office and Federal building. It is a prime example of the refined Neo-Classical architecture often used in the design of public buildings between 1900-1940. It was

originally designed to border the Erie Canal on its south side. Before construction was completed, however, the canal had been filled in and replaced by a boulevard. The only design change allowed was an entrance on Erie Boulevard. In 1985, the 170,000-square-foot building was converted to office space. With a focus on restoration rather than renovation, care was taken to preserve plaster ceilings, marble floors, staircases and columns.

Continue west on Erie Blvd. West one block. On the right is one of the most representative Art Deco buildings in the United States.

3) The Niagara Mohawk Building (now home to National Grid) was designed by Bley and Lyman and completed in 1932. It is a nationally-recognized example of the Art Deco style popular in the 1920s and '30s, but rarely done as profusely as here. Featuring glass and steel, the geometrically stylized metalwork is climaxed by "The Spirit of Light" statue over the main entrance, one of the first examples of stainless steel sculpture. The building is brightly illuminated with colored lights at night.



Turn back and walk east on Erie Blvd. West to the Amos Block.

4) The Amos Block is a Romanesque Revival building developed in 1878 by Jacob Amos, who served as mayor of Syracuse from 1892-1896. Originally, the Erie Canal ran directly behind the Amos Block and goods were loaded and unloaded from the building's upper levels onto canal boats. The Water Street façade, which housed retail stores, was designed by noted architect Lyman Silsbee. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. In 2006, the Amos Block was renovated and now serves as a multipurpose structure, with residential apartments on the upper floors.



Retrace your steps back to Clinton Square. Two monuments reflecting significant periods in Syracuse history enhance this city park.

5) The Soldiers & Sailors Monument

cornerstone was laid in 1909. The monument was dedicated in 1910 to honor those who fought and died in the Civil War. The bronze sculptures were designed by Cyrus Dallin - the east grouping entitled "A Call to Arms," the west figures called "An Incident at Gettysburg."



6) The Jerry Rescue Monument,

designed by Sharon BuMann, commemorates the dramatic 1851 rescue by local residents of a fugitive slave from federal marshals. William "Jerry" Henry, accused of escaping from slavery, was held in the police station that stood on this site. A crowd of African and European Americans broke open the door and freed Henry, who was eventually taken by wagon to Oswego, where he safely crossed Lake Ontario and into Canada. This successful rescue was one of several challenges to the Fugitive Slave Law in major cities across the North. It mobilized people in Syracuse to resist the Fugitive Slave Law, and helped make Syracuse a major haven for freedom seekers in the 1850s.



Look across South Salina Street to the Third National Bank Building.

7) The Third National Bank Building's

designer, architect Archimedes Russell, combined rusticated sandstone trim, decorative banding, a multi-gabled roof and a projecting circular bay in this Queen Anne style structure, erected in 1885. One of the feature ornamental decorations is the carved sunflowers in a Gothic trefoil, over the side door on James Street. The building is comprised of Trenton pressed brick and Carlisle red sandstone. It was rebuilt in 1912 and again in 1926 when an addition of the north half section was constructed. Inside, bank vaults and mahogany paneling remain. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



8) The Syracuse Savings Bank building, now Bank of America, was built in 1876 and designed by Syracuse architect Joseph Silsbee. The building is a masterpiece of the Victorian Gothic style, in contrasting tan Ohio and red New Jersey sandstone. Windows with pointed arches, sometimes grouped in threes, are important to the overall effect. Italian immigrant stonecutters carved the ornamentation. At the time, its 170-foot tower made it the tallest building in the city. A ride to the top in the city's first passenger elevator cost ten cents. Inside are murals of old Syracuse, painted by local artist Hall Groat in 1977. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Walk south and turn left onto East Water Street. Along the block are several buildings of significance.

9) The Gridley Building was designed by Horatio Nelson White in 1867. This trapezoidal building was originally built for the Onondaga County Savings Bank. It was sold in 1899 to Frances Gridley. The building is made entirely of limestone and mixes a number of different window sizes in its façade. The south and west fronts in Second Empire style were given the most attractive treatment, while one side is flat because it once faced the canal. The four-sided, 100-foot clock tower was originally lit by gas jets, and the clock served for many years as the city's official timepiece. The clock has old wooden hands and 12" high Roman numerals on the four gold leafed dials. The building, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was saved from demolition and renovated in the 1970s.



10) The Gere Building design is thought to be Syracuse architect Charles Colton's finest work. Erected in 1894, the facade has three unique sections: the street level features a number of Roman details, while the second floor forms a transition between the massive first story and the lighter upper portion. Vertical lines are emphasized in the three upper floors and are topped by a wide projecting cornice of delicately ornamented terra-cotta panels. The use of fine materials includes granite, light brick and terra-cotta. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the building was designed for Congressman James J. Belden, who named it for his father-in-law, Robert Gere. Inside, the building retains much of its original detail, including iron stairwells, marble floors and wainscoting. Each floor has two fireplaces and several remain complete with ornate marble and paneling. The building contains one of the few remaining open screen elevators in the country.





11) The Phoenix Buildings are the oldest in downtown Syracuse and were originally canal loft “double-enders.” This design allowed access for business from the street on the south, and from the Erie Canal on the north. Windows of both front and rear upper floors have wooden lintels done in a simple Federal motif. The large upper floor windows indicate that they were originally doorway openings for hauling goods up by block and tackle from the canal boats docked below. These buildings were constructed after fire destroyed 21 buildings in Hanover Square. It is thought they were named after the mythical bird, the Phoenix, which rose from the ashes.



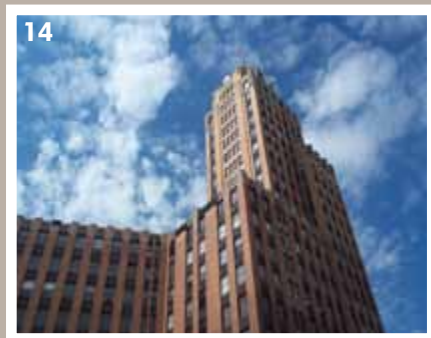
12) The Dana Building – Major Dana erected this building in 1837 to house his crockery and dry goods business. In 1861 a fourth floor was added in a simple Italianate style. Because it is adjoined to the Phoenix Buildings, the cornice was made to match, creating a continuous façade along most of the block.

13) Hanover Square was the site of the village well and Syracuse’s first commercial district. It was the main recruiting area during the Civil War, and the site of a spectacular bonfire made from recruiting booths at the War’s end. In 1871, a huge crowd gathered here to witness the first recorded hot air balloon ascension in the Syracuse area. Now designated an Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places, the Square contains a variety of 19th century buildings, some dating back to 1834 when a fire leveled the original Square. Extensive renovation of the Square was completed in 1981.



Directly across South Warren Street is the State Tower Building.

14) The State Tower Building, built in 1927 and designed by Thompson and Churchill of New York, is still the tallest building in Syracuse. It was constructed on the site of the Bastable Theatre, which burned four years earlier. The only major 20th century addition to Hanover Square, it is a fine example of the “Metropolitan” style of Art Deco; its forms arranged in “set-backs” with vertical stripes of windows and decorated panels to emphasize verticality. Note also the characteristic stylized details in ceramics and brass. This building was refurbished in honor of its 75th anniversary.



Walk east one block on East Water Street to see two landmarks in front of you.

15) The Erie Canal Museum houses the last remaining of seven weighing stations on the Erie Canal. The Weighlock Building was originally used for the collection of tolls and inspection of boats and barges on the Erie Canal. On the north side of the building, the piers formed a portico around the lock. Boats and barges rested on a scale when the water was drained from the locks; a toll was levied accordingly. The low-pitched pedimented roof and heavy supporting piers are characteristic of Greek Revival architecture. Tolls were abolished in 1883, but skippers continued to use the locks as a dry dock for emergency repairs. In later years, the lock was enclosed and eventually the canal was filled in and is now Erie Boulevard. The building is now home to the Erie Canal Museum, which houses one of the few collections in the U.S. devoted solely to canal history. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Turn right onto Montgomery Street. City Hall will be on your left.

16) City Hall - Designed by local architect Charles Colton, this building is typical of the Romanesque and Gothic styles popularized by H.H. Richardson during this period. The style is highlighted by thick and robust rock-faced walls with turrets and deep-set windows. The peaks and massive arches are also characteristic; note the sharp, pitched roofs, the arcaded entrance porch and rusticated stone work. Built of Onondaga limestone, it stands on the site of the old market hall, and contains the bell from that building in its 165-foot bell tower. In early Syracuse history, the bell was rung as a fire alarm. The reward of one dollar per alarm resulted in many false alarms.



At the end of the block on your right is the Courier Building.

17) The Courier Building – In 1844 this building was known as the Frazee Block. It was renamed Courier Building in October of 1856. Despite major alterations to the building, the historically important balcony remains intact on the Montgomery Street side. Daniel Webster gave his famous “Syracuse Speech” from this balcony on May 26, 1851. Webster warned local abolitionists that aiding and abetting fugitive slaves would be considered treasonous. Shortly after that speech, Syracusans, demonstrating what they thought of Webster and the Fugitive Slave Act, defied the extradition law and rescued a fugitive slave named Jerry from federal marshals and shepherded him through the Underground Railroad to safety in Canada.



At the end of the block, turn left onto East Washington Street. Past South State Street, a small two-story brick building will be on your right.

18) Teall Carriage House - A bay window has been added but the old loft windows and doors have been retained in the original style. Typically, in a structure such as this, the carriage used on Sundays and for special occasions was lifted by pulley to the second floor for storage. Grain and hay were also raised into the loft through a smaller door-window combination to the left of the center door. A stable for horses and grooms quarters were on the ground floor where the everyday carriage was kept. A wrought iron stairway leads to the loft. The carriage house was extensively remodeled in 1977 and now houses a salon.

Turn right (south) onto South Townsend Street and walk one block. At the corner of East Fayette Street, you'll see Park Central Presbyterian Church.



Look across the street from the Park Central Church to see Fayette Firefighters Memorial Park.

20) Fayette Firefighters Memorial Park

For over 150 years, this site has been an open public green space, originally set aside as a public square for residents of what was then known as the Village of Syracuse. The area became a fashionable residential district, hosting some of the finest homes in town. Commonly known as Fayette Park, this 1.2 acre park has been known as Centre Square (1827), LaFayette Park (1838), and Fayette Park (1917). The Syracuse Common Council officially changed the park's name to Fayette Firefighters Memorial Park on October 10, 1972, to honor and recognize those Syracuse firefighters killed in the line of duty. The park features three memorials to fallen firefighters, including the 19-foot tall Phillip Eckel Memorial, dedicated to the Syracuse Fire Chief who lost his life in 1886; the memorial to Hamilton S. White who died fighting a fire in 1899, and the Monument to Firemen in memory of the eight men who perished in the 1939 Collins Block fire. In 1985, a fire bell dating from 1871 was added to the park and presently hangs from a 12-foot tall bell tower.



19) Park Central Church - The current building, opposite Fayette Firefighters Memorial Park, was built in 1872. Its design is the work of famed Syracuse architect, Archimedes Russell. The Henninger Memorial organ, installed in 1967, is one of the finest instruments of its kind in Central New York.

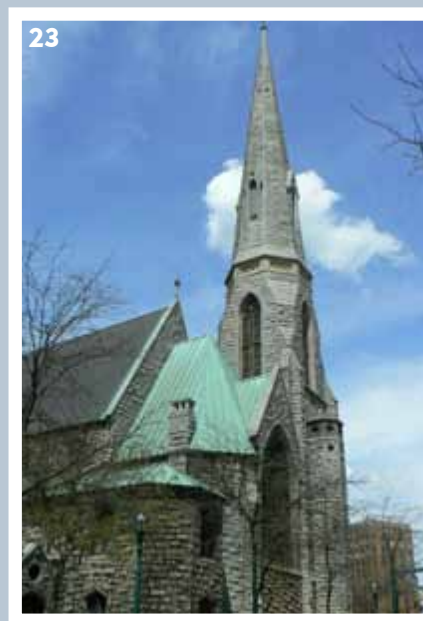
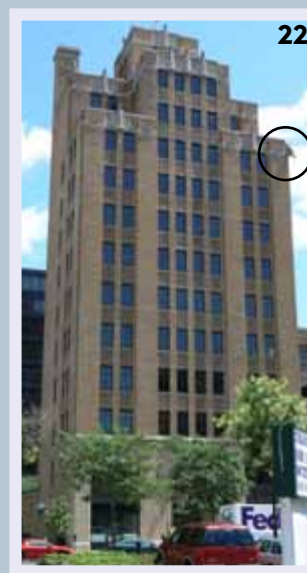
Next door to the church is the Hamilton White House.

21) The Hamilton White House was originally built for banker, investor and railroad promoter Hamilton White. The house was one of many large residences belonging to prominent families, which surrounded Fayette Park. The Greek Revival building was extensively renovated in 1980 and is now used for commercial office space. The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



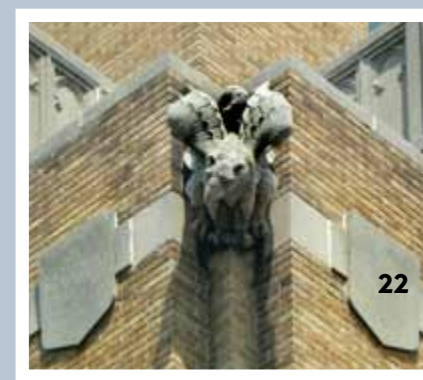
On East Fayette Street, walk west to the corner of Montgomery Street.

22) The Hills Building is a local example of efforts by architects in the 1920s to adapt Gothic designs to tall buildings. The Hills building was designed by Melvin King. The structure is primarily a "Metropolitan" style with its roof line setbacks, but is ornamented with many Gothic design elements to the point of having an elaborate but stylistically misplaced gargoyle.



On the opposite corner is St. Paul's Cathedral.

23) St. Paul's Cathedral - Designed by Henry Dudley of New York, the Cathedral is the third home of an Episcopal congregation founded in 1826. This beautifully severe, English Gothic composition of Onondaga limestone culminates in a 225-foot stone spire with a 7-foot cross at the top — a remarkable example of masonry skill. The Anglican-style interior features glazed brick and intricately carved woodwork and stained glass windows, including one fashioned and signed by the famed Tiffany Company. This church has had little alteration from its original design and was designated a cathedral in 1972.



Walk south on Montgomery Street.

24) 311 Montgomery Street - This building was erected in 1895 for the CNY Telephone & Telegraph Company. The sophisticated adaptation of Italian Renaissance Revival was designed by Henry Wilkinson to mask the commercial nature of the building on a primarily residential street. A bicycle storage room was provided for employees who commuted by that popular 1890's mode. Now used as residential and office space, the building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



25) Onondaga Historical Association-

In 1906, after only 10 years occupying the building (above) at 311 Montgomery Street, the telephone company needed a larger structure and built this five-story Second Renaissance Revival building. Several residences were razed to make room for the building, including one that Horatio Nelson White designed and lived in. The light colored brick façade is embellished with fine stonework. One of the most distinctive features of the building is the bold cornice with a series of lions' heads, which symbolize the sun and its powers in Renaissance architecture. The operators who worked at the telephone company were trained to use the new dial telephone, which arrived in Syracuse in the 1920s. The building now houses the Onondaga Historical Association's general History Museum, Research Center, and Museum Store.

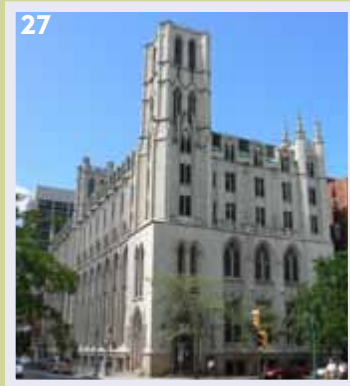


Continue south on Montgomery Street to the corner of East Jefferson Street. The Carnegie Building is on the corner on your left.



26) The Carnegie Building was designed by Syracuse architect James A. Randall as Syracuse's first public library. It housed 40,000 volumes. The project was made possible by a \$200,000 donation from Andrew Carnegie. The building is constructed of Indiana limestone and Italian marble. The round-arched entrance is flanked by colossal columns. The sculptured medallions and heavy keystones above the window are typical features of the Beaux Arts style.

Directly across the street is the First Baptist Church & Mizpah Tower.



27) The First Baptist Church & Mizpah Tower - Architect Gordon Wright designed this building for a unique combination of religious and commercial uses in the English Gothic style, typified by its pointed arch. The tower is modeled after that of the Canterbury Cathedral. The First Baptist and Central Baptist churches were organized in 1821 and 1848, respectively, and consolidated in 1910. In 1912, the congregation moved into this church. In 1981, the tower was struck by lightning, prompting the removal of its spires.

Cross East Jefferson Street to see the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

28) The Cathedral of Immaculate Conception

(formerly St. Mary's Catholic Church) - Four different architects contributed to the design of the Cathedral. Michael J. O'Connor designed the main part of the building. The church was dedicated and the cornerstone laid in November of 1874. The sanctuary and towers were added in 1903 and 1906 respectively, designed by Archimedes Russell. Because the bell tower would not support the weight of a 30,000-pound cast iron bell, many years later electronic Flemish carillons were installed. The adjacent rectory was built in 1913 by James Randall and the added baptistery was completed in 1958, designed by James Curtin. The spectacular Rose Window, above the entrance to the church facing Columbus Circle, has a cluster of eight highly embellished windows. These Lancet windows remained hidden from sight for many years by a protective covering for the organ pipes. They were rediscovered in 1978 when the church restored the organ and interior of the building.



The plaza in front of the Cathedral is known as Columbus Circle.



29) Columbus Monument and Fountain

Erected in 1934, the monument centered on Columbus Circle was unveiled to a crowd of 40,000 people. The 11-foot bronze statue atop the monument was sculpted in Florence, Italy by Lorenzo Baldi and financed by Syracusans of Italian descent. It faces west since this is the direction in which Columbus sailed to America. The surrounding fountain is by James Dwight Baum, who supervised the entire project. A popular outdoor meeting and luncheon spot, the circle is surrounded by several of Syracuse's architectural jewels. Columbus Circle is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the buildings immediately surrounding the circle form one of Syracuse's Preservation Districts.



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Looking northeast from Columbus Circle, you will see a small red church.

30) Wesleyan Methodist Church - The oldest religious building in the city was built in 1874 in the simple style of a Greek Revival meetinghouse. The congregation was formed in 1843 by a group of Methodists who separated from the parent church because it would not take a stand against slavery. Many abolitionists had a hand in organizing the congregation. Alterations were made to the building in 1877 and in 1910. The brick was painted and stained glass was put in the windows. The tower was added later. During renovations in 1994, African-style carvings were found on the cellar walls, lending credence to the theory that this building was a stop on the Underground Railroad. The carvings are now on display at the Onondaga Historical Association Museum.

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Across East Jefferson Street stands the Fourth Onondaga County Courthouse.

31) The Fourth County Courthouse's cornerstone was laid in 1904. The building opened to the public on the first day of 1907. The grand scale and intricate stonework typify this Beaux Arts building, a style popular for public buildings at the turn of the century. Also common is the projecting central portico, which faces Columbus Circle. Syracuse architects Archimedes Russell and Melvin King further dramatized the



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entry with a large copper dome and grand staircase. The main lobby, also called the atrium, has marble columns and marble floors. It is finished in dull gold and blues with an ornamental plaster work and beveled glass. Four murals by William Dodge depict incidents in the lives of Minnehaha, Hiawatha, Pere LeMoyne and Asa Danforth. Three symbols of law and justice on murals at the head of the main marble staircase are the work of Gustave Gutgemon.

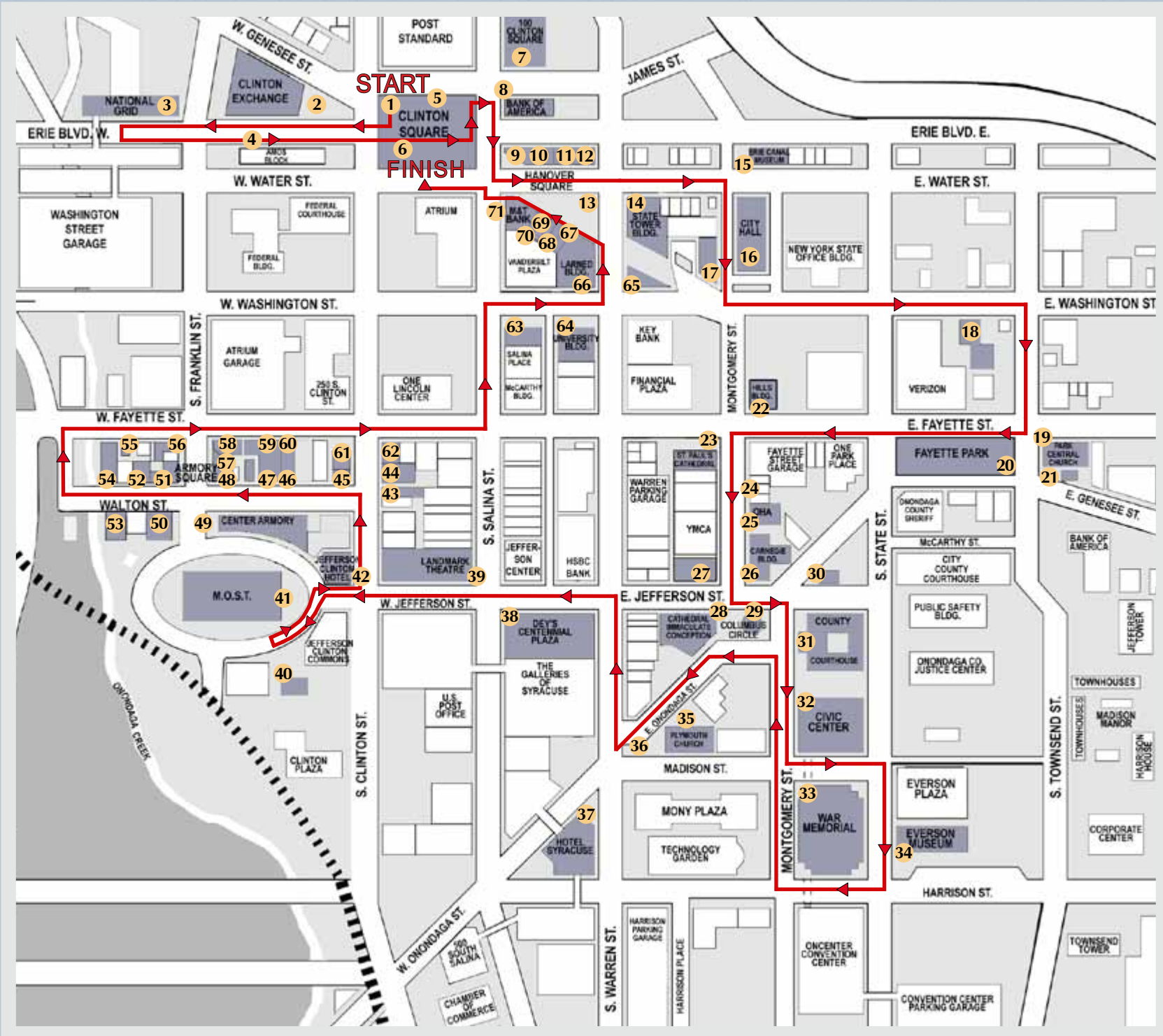
To the right of the Courthouse stands the John H. Mulroy Civic Center.

32) The John H. Mulroy Civic Center, completed in 1976, contains a 2117-seat concert hall, a 463-seat studio theater and a 300-seat community room. With superb acoustics, it is an ideal performance space for symphony and opera. Many touring Broadway shows and national recording artists perform at the Civic Center.

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DOWNTOWN SYRACUSE WALKING TOUR



Walking south on Montgomery Street to the corner of Madison Street, you will see the Onondaga County War Memorial.



33) The Onondaga County War Memorial is dedicated to men and women of Onondaga County who served in the armed services. Designed by Edgerton & Edgerton, the cornerstone was laid in 1950 by the Gold Star Mothers of Onondaga County. When it was completed the following year, it was considered one of the finest multi-purpose buildings in the country and an engineering feat. The main hall, which is 250 feet long, 138 feet wide, and 60 feet high is spanned by a roof of poured concrete that does not require interior supports. The names of 50,000 veterans are on the walls of the promenade, and the names of 55 battles are boldly inscribed on the exterior.

Walk east on Madison Street and cross South State Street and turn right. Proceed south on State Street. You'll see the Everson Museum of Art on your left.



34) The Everson Museum, named after its principal benefactor, Helen S. Everson, was designed by architect I.M. Pei – his first museum commission. The building is arranged as a squared pinwheel consisting of four cantilevered gallery blocks around a sculpture court. These forms were poured in concrete, the surface of which has a hammered finish to bring out its pink granite aggregate. The adjacent reflection pool offers another perspective of the building. The Everson is considered to be one of the ten most architecturally-exciting museums in the country. The Everson houses a

substantial collection of contemporary and traditional artworks, including nationally-recognized examples of Asian and American pottery, European porcelains, and American salt-glazed stoneware.

Continue south on South State Street. At the corner of Harrison Street turn right (west) and walk one block. Take another right back onto Montgomery Street. Continue north to the corner of East Onondaga Street. Take a left and walk west to the end of the block.

35) Plymouth Congregational Church

was completed in 1859. Architect Horatio N. White was commissioned to design the church to replace a one-room wooden chapel on the site that he also designed. It derived its name from Plymouth Church in Brooklyn, whose pastor, Henry Ward Beecher, was active in the anti-slavery effort. The congregation at Plymouth led the Syracuse abolitionist movement and the church became a key station on the Underground Railroad. In 1907, the steeple was removed after being badly weakened by gale-force winds. Four turrets were also removed, leaving the elegant church with its cross and crown windows above the porches of the west façade.

On the corner of East Onondaga and South Warren streets is a veterans memorial.

36) The Onondaga Country Korea/Vietnam Veterans Memorial

was designed by architect Kevin Kane and dedicated on November 11, 1984. The Monument is composed of two opposing vertical forms, representing the two conflicts. The base consists of five risers for the five branches of military services involved in Korea and Vietnam. The abrupt vertical edge of each reflects the lack of resolution of both wars. Following the rise of the top edge of each form leads to American flags; one for each theater of conflict. The material is mirror polished red granite. The monument is a "living" testimony to all who served.



From the corner of East Onondaga Street and South Warren Street look diagonally across the street at the Hotel Syracuse.

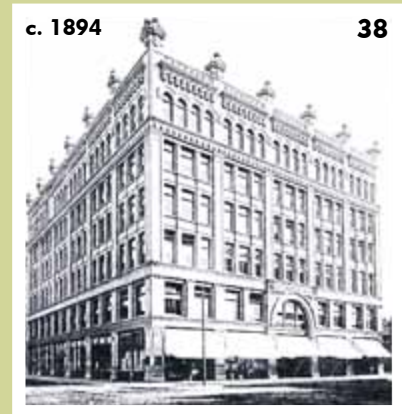


37) The Hotel Syracuse, designed by George B. Post & Sons, was built in 1924 at a cost of more than \$6,000,000. This beautiful building of 600 rooms had everything that the nation's leading hotel architects of the period could include. To quote the brochure published at that time, "Spacious, beautiful, dignified, the public rooms of Hotel Syracuse provide genuine comfort and pleasure for the guests of this great new hotel. The lobby lounge is not a mere passageway...but rather is a large parlor where groups may gather... or where the weary traveler may luxuriate in the comfort of deep seated lounging chairs..." In the fall of 1982, the tower addition was completed, and linked to the Hotel by an enclosed esplanade built over East Onondaga Street.

Turn right onto South Warren Street and continue one block. Turn left (west) onto East Jefferson Street. At the corner of East Jefferson and South Salina Street you will see Dey's Plaza on your left.

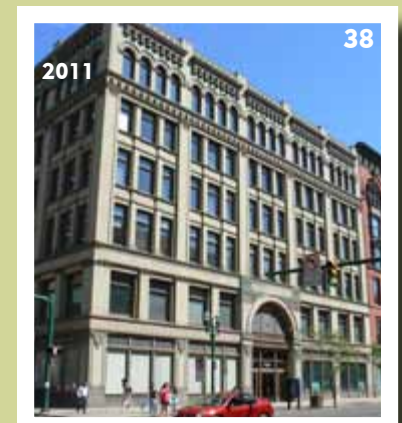
38) Dey's Plaza - The main structure of this five-building complex was constructed in 1893 for Dey Brothers Department Store. It was designed by noted architect, Archimedes Russell in the Italian Renaissance Revival style, using post and beam construction. Dey's was the leading retail store in Syracuse at the time. The first four stories contained sales floors and company offices. The fifth floor was used to store stock. Much of the sixth floor housed the factory of the Dey's Patents Company, which manufactured timekeeping equipment. Over a 76-year period, the store underwent periodic renovations to expand its footprint and stay

contemporary. In 1969, a year-long renovation added 40,000 square feet by connecting the store to adjacent buildings on East Jefferson and South Warren streets. Also at this time, the entire building façade, including windows, was covered with 66,000 square feet of sparkling white marble and embellished with a large-scale Dey Brothers logo in their signature blue. Store executives claimed, "We wanted a new Dey Brothers look for the 70s and 80s and a downtown store that would be as up-to-the-minute as our two branches." The blue logo on white marble was an attempt to move away from institutional colors to something more feminine. After the store's demise in 1995, the building was converted into a modern office building and the original facade was restored. Today, after another renovation in 2010, the building features upscale residential apartments.



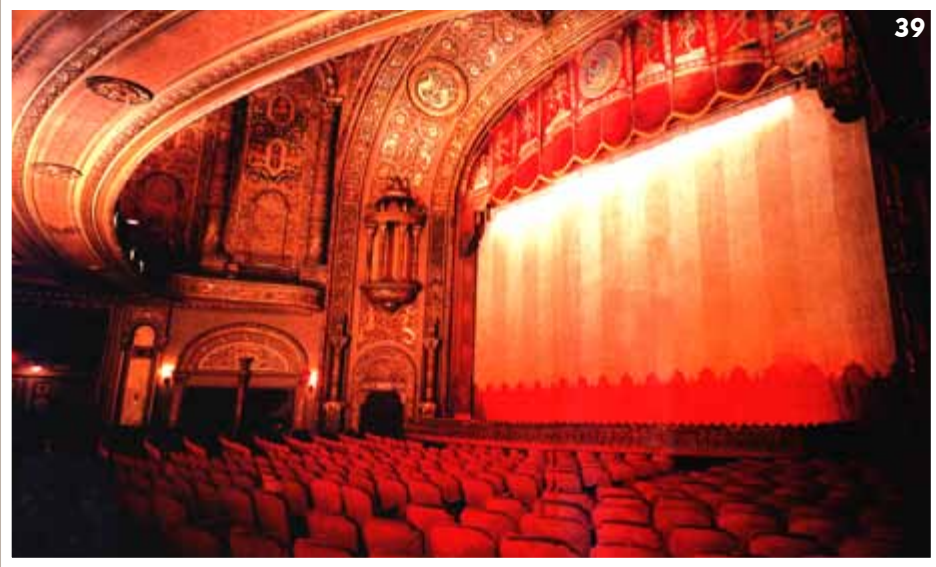
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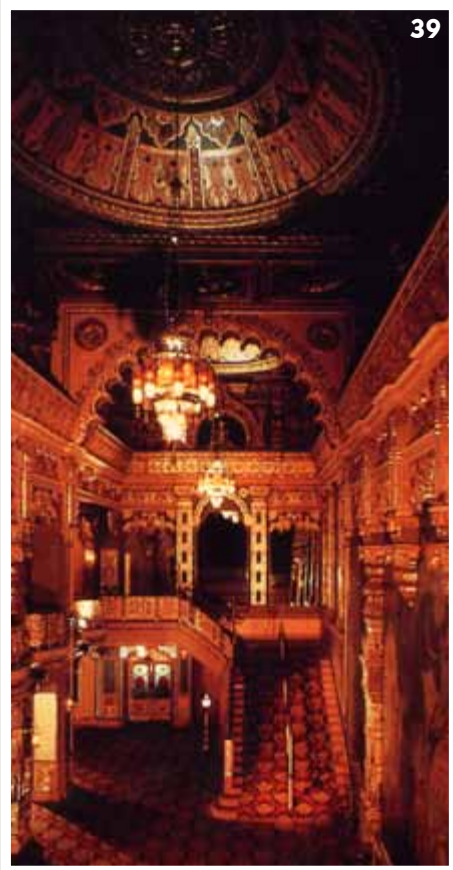


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Diagonally across the street from Dey's Plaza is the Syracuse Area Landmark Theatre.

39) The Syracuse Area Landmark Theatre,

built in 1927 at a cost of \$1.4 million, was the result of a collaboration between Marcus Loew and architect Thomas W. Lamb. Lamb, a prolific and imaginative architect, created an Indo-Persian "fantasy world." In the magnificent lobbies and auditorium, rich reds and golds are accented with ornate marble, terrazzo, tapestries, exotic furnishings and filigreed chandeliers, including one designed by Louis Tiffany. Featuring a sweeping grand staircase, a grand promenade, a gilded vault and a proscenium arch, this magnificent theatre was saved from demolition in 1977 by an outpouring of public support. The 2,900 seat theatre has excellent stage facilities and superb acoustics. One of only a handful of such gems remaining in the United States, the building has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Landmark Theatre stage house was expanded in 2011 to accommodate Broadway-sized theater productions.



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Continue west on West Jefferson Street. On the left side of the Jefferson Street Armory, tucked in the back, is a two story building.

40) The Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Station

was built in 1941. Architect Frederick B. O'Connor's modern, streamlined design was symbolic of speed and transportation. Constructed with a polished granite base, buff colored brick and limestone trim, the building was touted as "completely fireproof." Trains ran on elevated tracks behind the building that were built in the 1930s when new regulations prohibited rail lines from running at street level through the city. The Station served passengers until 1958. The front extension was added around 1961.



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Across the street is the Jefferson Street Armory.

41) The Jefferson Street Armory,

completed in 1907, was the third armory to be built on the site. Constructed of brick and limestone, it originally contained a drill hall, rifle and pistol ranges, a riding shed and a stable for horses. The structure is actually three buildings in one. The oldest building, on the west side, was once used to quarter the cavalry. The building on the east side housed the infantry. The two buildings were connected with the construction of an arched roof auditorium. As a result of the original deed that conveyed the land to the State, the grounds that surround the Armory are public property and known as Jefferson Park. The armory is now home to the Museum of Science and Technology (MOST) and boasts an IMAX Theater among its attractions.

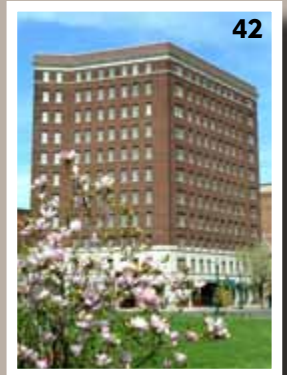


c. 1920s

41

Back at the corner of West Jefferson Street and South Clinton Street is the Jefferson Clinton Hotel.

42) The Jefferson Clinton Hotel was built in 1927 and designed by Syracuse architect Gustavus Young. It was one of approximately 20 hotels in the Armory Square area that serviced the railroads. With 11 floors, it was the tallest structure of its time. When standing on the western corner, the building's unusual shape presents the illusion of a façade with nothing behind it. Now the hotel features 60 well-appointed luxury suites.



42



42

Continue walking north on South Clinton Street. On the right is the Butler Building.

43) Butler Building - A distinguishing feature of this commercial building with its cast-iron storefront, is the vertical groupings of windows under arches. This widely used design feature was introduced by H.H. Richardson, and developed by Henri Louis Sullivan, both noted architects. The pilasters with ornate capitals separating window bays are Neo-Classical Revival elements.



To the left of the Butler Building are two small buildings at 307-313 South Clinton Street.

44) 307-313 South Clinton Street -

These two buildings were constructed in 1874. The smaller structure on the right served as a factory with lodgings, probably for its workers, on the upper floors. The building on the left was occupied by the Galvanized Iron Works as a foundry. The fifth floor and cornice were added in the early 1900s. The building later housed Milton's Furniture Mart with office space above.



Cross South Clinton Street at the corner of Walton Street. The first building on the right is the Neal and Hyde Building.



45) The Neal and Hyde Building, a striking example of the Richardson Romanesque style, was designed by architect Asa L. Merrick and built in 1883. It served as a dry goods warehouse and store for wholesalers William Neal and Salem Hyde until the mid 1900s. The keystone in the central arch bears Salem Hyde's initials. Original gabled towers were removed from the roof line in the 1950s. This impressive structure was renovated in 1999 and today houses offices and a restaurant.

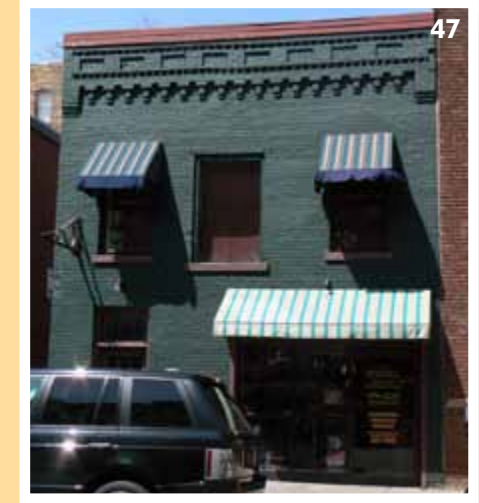


As you walk further west, you will see the Bentley-Settle Building.

46) The Bentley-Settle Building was erected in 1895 as a warehouse for the Bentley-Settle wholesale grocery firm. Its advertisement is still visible on the west façade of the building. The firm was organized in 1896 when R.E. Bentley purchased interests of wholesale grocers G.N. Crouse & Company, and continued as a wholesale business until 1973. In the mid 1970s, a group of artists and early pioneers of Armory Square occupied studio space on the upper floors, before opening Eureka Studios at 210 Walton Street. The Bentley-Settle Building underwent a complete renovation in 1987.



Continue west to 128 Walton Street.



47) 128 Walton Street was constructed in the 1860s. The building was originally a horse stable for a building on West Fayette Street. Note the second level hayloft door where bales were stored for the horses on the first floor. The façade was embellished with fine brick detailing.

Continue walking west. At the intersection of South Franklin Street, the building on the right is 144 Walton.



48) 144 Walton Street - This building was built around 1903 to house a carriage repair shop. In the 1920s, the structure was altered to accommodate a gas station. In 1987, it was transformed into offices and retail shops.



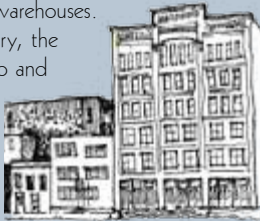
49

Looking across Walton Street is the Armory Square Park featuring a replica of the NBA's 24-second shot clock, which was first used in Syracuse in 1954 and is credited with changing basketball and saving the National Basketball Association.

49) Armory Square traces its beginnings to 1804 when Abraham Walton purchased a 50-acre plot that became known as the "Walton Tract." The area's proximity to the Erie Canal and major rail lines made it an ideal location for industrial operations. Most of the neighborhood's historic buildings were constructed between 1860 and 1890 as factories and warehouses.

At the turn of the century, the area was densely built up and bustling with activity.

There were more than 20 hotels in the neighborhood. With the closing of the Erie



Canal in 1917 and the decline of the railroads in the 1930s, businesses relocated or ceased operation and the area also declined. Between 1940 and 1960, many buildings were vacated and left to deteriorate, others were torn down. A decade later, with national emphasis on revitalizing the urban environment, the rebirth of Armory Square began. Today, Armory Square has blossomed into one of Upstate New York's brightest examples of urban renaissance.

Across South Franklin Street from the park is the Hall-McChesney Building.

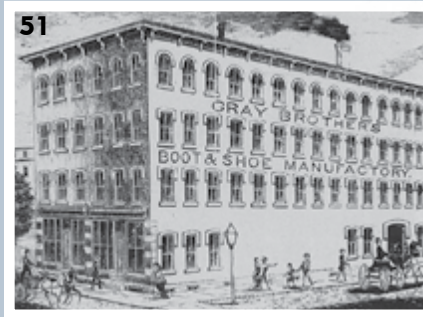
50) The Hall-McChesney Building was built in two sections, one in 1892 and the other in 1906. If you look closely, you can see the architectural differences in the two sections. It was named for the Hall-McChesney Publishing and Printing Company, which first occupied it. At the start of the Armory Square revitalization in the late 1970s, this was the first building to be rehabilitated for new uses. Edward Butler purchased the building and created residential, office, and restaurant space.



50

Cross South Franklin Street. The building on the right is the Misener Building.

51) The Misener Building - This commercial block was erected in 1873 for the Gray Brothers Boot and Shoe Factory. Note the painted sign still visible above the third story advertising Gray Shoes. The building was purchased in the 1920s by the Misener Company, a manufacturer of circular saws. The new owners constructed the three-story addition on the west side of the building in 1930. Steel-frame construction on the addition made the large windows possible. This along with fire-proofing, made the 20th century factory safer and more efficient than its 19th century predecessors. Today the mixed-use block features retail space on the first level and luxury residential space upstairs.



51



51

2011

Continue walking west on Walton Street to Eureka Crafts.

52) The Eureka Crafts building was originally constructed in 1850 as a horse stable. It is one of the oldest structures in the Armory Square District. In the 1950s, the company that owned the brick building advertised its product by covering the exterior with aluminum sheeting. The building now houses a craft store and studio space. The present occupants include artists and craftspeople who were among the first to move to Armory Square at the time of its rebirth in the mid 1970s.



52

Look across the street to the McArthur, Wirth & Cooney Building.

53) The McArthur, Wirth & Cooney Building was fire damaged, slated for demolition, and called an eyesore. This building now brightens the western-most border of the Armory Square historic district near Onondaga Creek. Onondaga Dynamo Works built and first occupied this three-story warehouse. McArthur, Wirth & Cooney, a supplier of tools and machinery for butchers and packers, owned the building for most of the 20th century. It was renovated in 1990 and most recently in 2010.



53



At the end of the block on the right is Millpond Landing.

54) Millpond Landing was originally built for wholesale grocer A.S. Coan & Company as a three-story building in 1878. Syracuse architect Horatio Nelson White was the designer. In 1896 a fourth story was added. During much of the 20th century, Lerman Carpet Corporation owned and used the building as a warehouse. Later it was occupied by Onondaga Paper & Twine Company. The structure was rehabilitated in 1989 and given new life as an office and retail building.



Past the building, turn right and walk along the Onondaga Creekwalk to West Fayette Street. Turn right to see the Stag Hotel.

55) The Stag Hotel - This Italianate building is the oldest in the row of seven structures that constituted this block. It was one of the first hotels in the district, built around 1870 as the City Hotel and functioned as a hotel through 2011. Note the fine brickwork along the cornice line and above the window openings.



Continue east on West Fayette Street to the intersection of South Franklin Street. The Crown Hotel building is on the right.



56) The Crown Hotel - Although it bears the name Hotel McAuliffe, this building is known as the Crown Hotel. Built in 1876, it was one of approximately 20 hotels in the area that accommodated the booming railroad industry. This hotel was located directly across the street from the New York Central Railroad station, which was torn down in the 1950s. The Crown Hotel was rehabilitated in 1990 for a restaurant and office space.

Before crossing the intersection at West Fayette and South Franklin streets, look to your right. Mid-block on the east side is the Labor Temple Building.



57) The Labor Temple Building, built by local businessmen Jacob and Charles Crouse in 1887, was originally known as the Crouse Building. It housed the Penfeld & Wilcox Bedding manufacturers. Around 1927, it became the office location for various local labor unions, which prompted the name change. A severe fire ravaged the building in 1948. In 1984, developers Robert Doucette and George Curry restored the structure for retail, office and residential space adhering to federal preservation standards.

As you cross South Franklin Street, the Hogan Block is on the right.



58) The Hogan Block - This commercial block was built in 1895 by attorney Thomas Hogan in two stages to house a warehouse, a retail business, and a restaurant. Charles Colton designed it in the Second Renaissance Revival style. A characteristic feature is the different articulation of each floor. Extensive renovations from 1985 to 1987 have created new space for retail, offices, and residential uses.

Next on the right is the Seubert & Warner Building.

59) The Seubert & Warner Building - Local architect Charles Colton designed this building for Seubert and Warner, manufacturers of cigars in 1875. Later the Garret Paper company operated here for many years. The first edition of the *Syracuse Herald* newspaper was printed in this building on January 14, 1877.



The next building of significance is mid-block on the right - the Piper Phillips Block.

60) The Piper Phillips Block was constructed around 1872 as a residential hotel for railroad employees. Originally, a horse stable connected the building with the Bentley-Settle Building on Walton Street. The two structures remain connected through an interior corridor. After the railroads left downtown in 1930s, this building and many others were left vacant for years. Extensive renovations were completed in 1987 creating upgraded office and retail space.



Today the Seubert & Warner Building is connected to the building on the right and the combined facility is known as the Seneca Building.



Continuing east on West Fayette Street, look to the right on South Clinton Street at the Donohue Building.



61

61) The Donohue Building was constructed around 1885 by Syracuse physician Florince O. Donohue to serve as an office and residence. The grouping of windows and the variety of textures makes this building a good example of ornate Queen Ann style. Noteworthy is the ornate gable with two circular windows.

Cross South Clinton Street. The first building on the right is the Kirk Hotel building.



62

62) The Kirk Hotel Building - This and other nearby buildings were owned at one time by William Kirk, a wagon maker who later became one of the wealthiest men in Syracuse after investing in railroad stock. Although most of it was constructed around 1870, the top floor was added in 1910 and is made of pressed metal. This residential hotel was one of many hotels and boarding houses built in response to thriving railroad activities in the area.

Continue east on West Fayette Street. At South Salina Street turn left and walk north to the corner of East Washington Streets. On the corner is the White Memorial Building.

63) The White Memorial Building was built in 1876 and designed by Joseph Lyman Silsbee. This High Victorian Gothic style building was constructed by the sons of Hamilton and Horace White. Particularly noteworthy for its elaborately sculpted entry, complete with gargoyles; the iron cresting atop its slate roof; the pointed arches over the third story windows; and the decorative bands of black and sand colored brick contrasting with the dark red brick background. For almost a century, H.J. Howe Jewelers occupied the front corner of the building. The White Memorial Building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

c. 1873

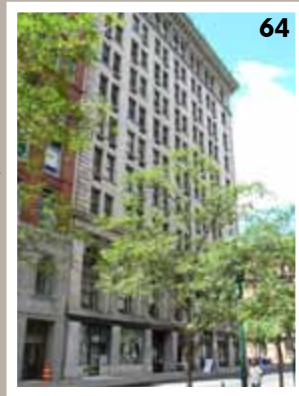


63

Turn right at East Washington Street. Pass the White Memorial Building and cross the alley to see the University Building.

64) The University Building -

Built by Syracuse University in 1897 on donated land, this Renaissance Revival building was originally a combined commercial venture and quarters for the University's Law School. The University has since sold its interest, but the name remains. It featured small ground-floor shops that faced the street, with a grand foyer and stairway leading to the main public floor above. The very high arched windows on the main floor are typical of the style. Above this are office floors, topped by an elaborate metal cornice.



64

At the corner of South Warren Street, cross East Washington Street, Look east across South Warren Street to see the oddly shaped SA&K Building.



65

65) The SA&K Building, originally known as the Granger Block, is a unique triangular structure that completely fills the block on which it stands. First built in 1842, the building burned in 1849, was rebuilt, and burned a second time. The present building was completed in 1867 with four floors. Three more floors were added in 1894. In 1898 the law firm of Sedgwick, Andrews & Kennedy purchased the building, and it became known as the SA&K Building. Presently, the building is referred to as City Hall Commons and has an attached glass atrium.

In front of you on South Warren Street is the Larned Building.

66) The Larned Building, designed by Horatio White and erected in 1869, was one of the most prestigious office blocks in Syracuse for several decades. Originally, the building was crowned with a mansard roof, but this was altered in the early 1890s. The window treatment still echoes the Second Empire style. The Larned Building was named for Capt. Samuel Larned who ran a boat line on the Erie Canal. He bought the site in 1830 and built a hotel which was eventually destroyed by fire. His sons built the present structure. When another fire destroyed the building's interior, developers cleverly used the exterior façade to conceal a new parking garage.

Turn left at the end of the Larned Building. The following collection of buildings is found on the south side of Hanover Square, beginning at South Warren Street and continuing down East Genesee Street to South Salina Street.

67) The Old Post Standard Building was

originally built for a confectioner in 1884. This building was designed to fit a narrow commercial lot. It is an adaptation of the Richardsonian Romanesque style, with decorative molded brick spandrels between floors. The *Syracuse Post* published its first issue here on July 10, 1894 then merged with *The Standard* paper, publishing the first *Post-Standard* on January 1, 1899. The entire façade of the building was remodeled during the merger. Note the symbol in the gabled pediment near the roof line. It represents a typesetter's pick, a tool used in preparing type for printing.



67



66



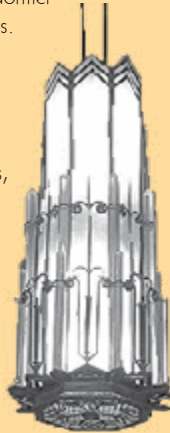
68) The Snow Drug Company Building was designed in the Second Empire style for a narrow street façade. Built in 1870, it has a slate mansard roof with circular dormer windows. Features such as arched window openings, contrasting colors, and incised

ornamentation, illustrate post-Civil War architecture.



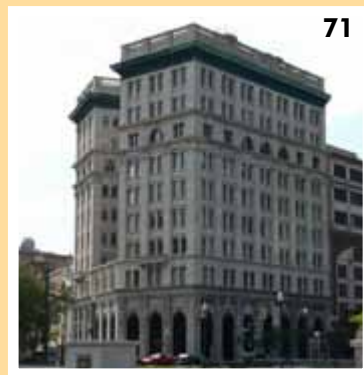
69) The Franklin Buildings, constructed in 1834, consisted of a much larger row of buildings than now exists. They made up the first shopping center in Syracuse. The four-story structure that now houses Koolakian & Manro Menswear is the only one that remains at its original height. Its Federal Style façade, marked by the white window lintels, is the only one of the three that was executed in stone.

70) The Bank of Syracuse, built in 1896, was the earliest steel-frame structure in the city. Albert Brockway designed the marble Neo-Classical façade to be imposing in spite of its small size. It is only 26 feet wide and made of white marble. Depicted in the pediments above the entrance are two sides of a coin from the ancient city of Syracuse, Sicily, for which Syracuse is named. The figures in the coin were used on the bank's checks and drafts.



71) The M&T Bank Building -

This ten-story "skyscraper" was one of Syracuse's first steel frame structures, built in 1897. The ornate Renaissance ceiling on the main level is the work of Angelo Magnanti, who designed the interior of the U.S. Supreme Court Building. The ceiling was painted by William Schwartz in 1931, with a replica of a 15th Century astronomer's map. The arched murals by Schwartz document important events in the history of Onondaga County.



Crossing South Salina Street brings you back to your starting point at Clinton Square. This concludes the walking tour of Historic Downtown Syracuse.

The Downtown Committee wishes to acknowledge the following sources:

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Landmark Theatre Lobby