

PRO-ACT Recovery Walks! 2014 Through Historic Philadelphia



We'll start by leaving the Great Plaza of Penn's Landing by the upper Chestnut Street gate. Continue to Front Street and turn left (south).

As you turn left, there are two monuments to immigrants in the small park. The first honors Irish immigrants and the second honors Scottish immigrants.



Turn right (west) onto Walnut Street. In a block, you'll pass Old Original Bookbinders on your right. Dating back to 1898, it was the city's oldest seafood restaurant but is now closed. It has an old-time stained-glass façade and the Gettysburg Address written in bronze near the front door.



Cross 2nd Street, bypassing the City Tavern on your right. The original City Tavern was the political, social, and business center of the new United States. Jefferson, Adams, Franklin, and Paul Revere all ate there. It burned down in 1854 and the current replica was constructed in 1975.

Continuing on Walnut Street, between 2nd and 3rd Streets you'll pass the impressive Merchants Exchange. Built between 1832 and 1834, the Merchants' Exchange Building was designed by William Strickland and is an exquisite example of the Greek Revival style popular at time. This is the oldest stock exchange building in the United States.



At 3rd Street and Walnut, you'll see the Dr. Benjamin Rush House Site. Benjamin Rush (1746-1813) was a Founding Father of the United States and lived here. He was a physician, writer, educator, and signatory of the Declaration of Independence and attended the Continental Congress. He was an opponent of slavery and was a physician of note at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School.



On Walnut Street, between 3rd and 4th Streets, you will see an inviting example of an 18th century garden on your right. Proceed from there and you will see some row houses, typical of the period from 1790 to 1800, when brick houses lined many streets. The first you pass will be the Bishop White House. The



Reverend Dr. William White, rector of Christ Church and St. Peter's Church as well as the first Episcopal Bishop of Pennsylvania, lived in this house from 1787 until his death in 1836.



Here you will pass Old St. Mary's Church. Built in 1763, this Church became the first Catholic Cathedral of the Diocese of Philadelphia in 1810. George Washington, John Adams and other members of the Continental Congress attended services at Old St. Mary's Church. Its cemetery includes the remains of Commodore John Barry, known as the "Father of the American Navy."

Just before 4th Street, you will pass Old St. Joseph's Church. The first Roman Catholic church was built on this site in 1733 by the Rev. Joseph Greaton. He was the Church's first pastor and the only Catholic priest in Philadelphia at the time. During a period of church-burning during the Anti-Catholic Riots of 1844, this church emerged unharmed.

Watch for the stately Todd House on the corner of 4th Street. Built in 1775, it was the home of John Todd and his wife Dolley Payne who lived in it for only two years before John succumbed to yellow fever in 1793. Dolley continued to live there and entertain, which is how she met James Madison. They married and when James Madison became the fourth President of the United States, they lived in the White House.



As you proceed on Walnut Street you will see a large garden/park area



on the right, which is the rear of Independence Hall. A statue of Commodore John Barry greets those who enter the garden. Continue past here to 7th Street, where you will turn right at the Pennsylvania Bible Society building, founded in 1808.

On your left on 7th Street, look up the street called Jeweler's Row (Sansom Street) where about 300 merchants are devoted to the buying and selling of gold, diamonds, and jewelry. It is the oldest diamond district in America. Continue along 7th Street and pass some beautiful façades.



When you reach Chestnut Street, you will see the Old City Hall. Built as the City Hall of Philadelphia, the building was used by the U.S. Supreme Court from the time it was completed in 1791 until 1800 when the Capital of the United States was moved to Washington D.C. As you turn right (east) onto Chestnut Street you'll see the wide expanse of Independence Mall on your left, as well as the Liberty Bell Center.

On your right will be Independence Hall, a Georgian building constructed by 1753, 21 years after its groundbreaking. It was here that the founding fathers of America drafted and adopted the Declaration of Independence and also appointed George Washington as the Commander of the Continental Army.



While the shell of the central portion of the building is original, the side wings, steeple and much of the interior are reconstructions--mostly to return the building to its 18th century appearance. An amusing fact is that the basement once served as the City's dog pound.

If you look to the right as you cross 5th Street, you'll see the impressive building of the American Philosophical Society. Founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743, the Society was a home for learned thinkers about nature, machines, industry and governance. Members included George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Alexander Hamilton. The Society has played an important role in American cultural and intellectual life for more than 250 years. Ben Franklin stands proudly above the front door.



Continue to walk toward 4th Street on Chestnut Street and you will immediately recognize fine Greek Revival architecture of the Second Bank, designed by William Strickland and built between 1819 and 1824. It was one of the most influential financial institutions in the world for a very short time. In 1832, it became the center of bitter controversy between bank president Nicholas Biddle and President Andrew Jackson. The bank ceased to exist in 1836 after Jackson vetoed the bill to renew its charter.

From 1845 to 1935 this building served as the Philadelphia Custom House, but now houses a Portrait Gallery, "Faces of Independence," displaying life paintings of George Washington, Dolley Madison, and other leaders of the time. If time permits, it's worth walking around to the back of the building where you will see more columns that have undergone a lot of reinforcement and patching over time.



Facing the Second Bank on the opposite side of Chestnut Street is the very solid looking Philadelphia Bank Building, constructed in 1857. The original headquarters of the Philadelphia National Bank, it has since been converted to residences and condos.

As you proceed along Chestnut Street, you will reach the entrance to Carpenters' Hall. Carpenters' Hall was just completed when in September 1774 it found itself host to the seven-week First Continental Congress which met to oppose British rule. The Hall has been continuously owned and operated by The Carpenters' Company of the City and County of Philadelphia, the oldest trade guild in America since 1770. Simulating



the trade guilds of 18th century England, the Carpenters' Company has held regular meetings for more than 275 years, making it the oldest trade guild in the country.



Just across Chestnut Street from Carpenters' Hall is the National Liberty Museum. This Museum was created to help combat America's growing problem with violence and bigotry by celebrating our nation's heritage of freedom and the wonderful diverse society it has produced. It is dedicated to preserving America's freedom by fostering good character, civic responsibility and respect for all people. They explain that their primary art form is glass, as it supports their mission to promote nonviolence and acceptance of others by showing visitors that freedom is "fragile," like glass. It also makes the point that liberty is essential for self-expression.

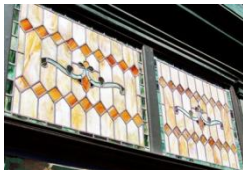
Beside the Liberty Museum is a courtyard in which Benjamin Franklin's three-story home stood from 1765 to 1812. Today, two steel framed "ghost houses" outline the site of Franklin's home and his grandson's printing office.

Just a few more steps down Chestnut Street you'll see a huge construction site for the future Museum of the American Revolution. Directly behind that on the corner of 2nd Street is the United States Custom House, a spectacular monument to the Art Deco period. The building is a product of the great federal building projects of the Depression era. Begun in December 1932, it opened on November 10, 1934, at a final cost of more than \$3,500,000. Distinguished by richness of materials, by the quality of its design, and by a decorative program by a major local artist, the U.S. Custom House is a fitting architectural monument to Philadelphia's status as one of the nation's largest ports. Notice the beautiful detail in the Art Deco lamps outside the building on Chestnut Street. As the Customs Service expanded to fulfill its growing duties, it had outgrown its home since 1845 in the renowned Second Bank building.

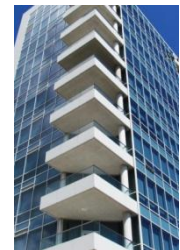


At this point on Chestnut Street, turn right (south) onto 2nd Street. On your left side you will notice the historic looking Thomas Bond House. In 1769 when Dr. Thomas Bond built this house and rented it to his son and namesake, the elder Bond was already a prominent physician and civic leader. Along with Ben Franklin, he helped to found the Pennsylvania Hospital and the American Philosophical Society. The exterior has been restored to its 19th century appearance and operates as a bed-and-breakfast inn.

Right beside the Bond House on 2nd Street is a large open area. If you look closely you'll see numerous engravings on the many (perhaps marble) slabs on the ground. On this site stood "The Slate Roof House," the home of Hannah Callowhill Penn and William Penn. Hannah was born in 1671 and married William Penn in 1696. They lived in Pennsbury and here in The Slate Roof House, which became Pennsylvania's Seat of Government from 1699 to 1701.



Make a left turn (east) onto Walnut Street and pass Bookbinders with its stained glass once more. Don't miss the beautiful modern building on the corner of Front Street, although after seeing so much history the design of the building seems somewhat out of place. Make a left turn (north) on Front Street again and proceed to Chestnut Street.



Turn right, cross the bridge and re-enter the Great Plaza of Penn's Landing.

There will be water and fruit available inside the gate and the Post-Walk Program and entertainment will begin shortly.

Thank you for participating in this year's Recovery Walk and for helping to bring hope, freedom and dignity to all those touched by the disease of addiction.

