

Guide Notes – Arts & Architecture Tour May 17, 2023

Field Guide – You will be quizzed

Birdseye Map – Mark all extant buildings.

Classical orders

Masonry

Overlapping historic districts

What does culture mean to you? The arts. Heritage. Cuisine. Historic buildings? Others??

1 Parson Main Statute 1896 Bronze, by Giuseppe Morretti (1857-1935). Amos Main (1709-1760), parson, doctor and lawyer. Rochester's first church 1731 was on Rochester Hill. Higher elevation to be closer to God, and away from the vapors. Church dismantled in 1842 and erected on the Common. Moved to S Main in 1872.

2 Hayes Block 2 N Main 1878 Victorian Commercial. Windows topped by lintels with incised ornamentation. Arched corbelling at roofline. Third floor housed the Hayes Opera House; 4th floor a ballroom.

What does P of H stand for? Patrons of Husbandry

3 Isidore Salinger 10 N Main 1879, 1897, 202_? NeoClassical: grandeur of scale, simplicity of geometric forms, Greek—especially Doric (see order)—or Roman detail, dramatic use of columns, and a preference for blank walls. The new taste for antique simplicity represented a general reaction to the excesses of the Rococo style.

White glazed brick. Egg & dart moldings. Spandrel panels with raised floral decoration. Brick pilasters.

4 Scenic Theater 14 N Main 1912 Vernacular Georgian Revival Both plays and movies. Rusticated brick (exaggerated joints and not smooth). Note bond with many enders. Dentils on cornice. First talkie in 1929.

What type of bond? Does this Georgian Revival style reflect Rochester's colonial past? 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. Style dominated 1910-1930. Spaulding High (1939) prominent example.

What do we think of this plaque? Should there be more in Rochester?

5 Dodge Block 1908 Ornamental corbelling. Rock faced granite lintels. Stone sill course. Cornice with blocks and dentils. Metal rail.

Compare the arches

6 Old Bank 16 Wakefield St c. 1850 (Greek Revival) 5 bays along front.

What prominent structure downtown is this similar to in proportions and materials?

What were original first floor windows like?

Who were the workers in 1850? A. Irish 1850 – 1870. French Canadians 1870 – 1900. Irish built a church in 1868. Then they built a new St. Mary's on Charles Street in 1884. Many French Canadians intended to return to Quebec via RR, and many did. **Where was Dublin? Frenchtown?**

Nashua Celebrating its industrial heritage – Informative plaques, along the river
 Celebrating its ethnic heritage - Le Parc de Notre Renaissance Francaise
 Positive Street Art – murals, modern dance workshops, community events

Would some of this resonate in Rochester?

7 Dr. Ray House 18 Wakefield c. 1900 Polygonal Frontspiece.

8 Betsy Pinkham Lyman (teacher) 24 Wakefield Colonial Revival Originally a 5 x 2
Federal cape. Renovated c. 1930 Colonial Revival. Fan and sidelights imitation Federal & Greek.

How do we know it's early 19th century? A: Cut granite foundation.

What is this roof shape called? A: Gambrel. More spacious than a pitched roof. More common in PA among the Pennsylvania "Dutch," i.e. Deutsch.

9 City Hall 31 Wakefield 1907 NeoClassical. Projecting central pavilion. Broken segmental pediment. Keystone in arch. Variety of materials is Queen Ann. Round-headed windows reminiscent of Romanesque, and brick window hoods similar to Methodist. Not unlike the Methodist Church. Decorative belt courses. Opera House décor is Colonial Revival. Bostonian George Adams.

What is a pilaster? Order? Who knows what a quoin is?

10 Fire House c. 1904 Arch and heavy stone lintels reminiscent of Romanesque style. Central pavilion like City Hall.

What type of roof? What kind of roofing material? Why is this noteworthy? History of slate roofs. How many slate roofs downtown?

A. Vinyl Post Cards Credit to Matt W.

How do we like this blend of public art and local history? What other themes in local history would you like to explore? Industrial Heritage? Immigration? Diversity?

11 Albert Linscott (owned a shoe company) 32 Wakefield c. 1905 Colonial Revival. Truncated hip roof. Palladian window – Andrea Palladio. Bow window with curved window glass. Note granite curbstones. We'll see them again.

What type of columns?

12 W.S. Stanley 36 Wakefield c. 1884 Queen Ann (1880-1910) Asymmetrical, playful, variety of materials, shapes, colors. Overhanging eaves, dominant front facing gable, polygonal towers, balconies, pedimented porches, bay windows. Colored glass windows. Stick Style details.

Who can point out the 3 types of shingles? A: staggered butt, diamond and sawtooth.

13 Richard McDuffee House 40 Wakefield c. 1850 Siding obscures surviving detail. Vinyl or aluminum? Vinyl traps moisture. Rust spot belies claims of no maintenance. Granite block foundation indicates old building. Compare with other foundation materials to the east.

Where does the 1850 section of this house end?

14 Point out **Mansard House** in distance at 64 Wakefield c. 1870 2nd Empire. Explain F. Mansart, Louis III re-do of Paris (like Robert Moses) 1850's. Gained a 7th floor when zoning allowed 6. Concave early. Straight later. Some fast food restaurants continue the tradition. St. Charles Home/School another example.

Is this concave roof sheathed with slate?

Then to Barker Court. Possible sites for pop-ups? Outdoor performance venues? More art in Barker?

B Art

15 Union Street Point out Metal Mansard on Union, and pulley on the rear of the Elm Block. What is the pulley for? Like Amsterdam.

C Art – If you go on Google Maps street view, you'll see the artist in action.

Brickwork North side of Hartigan – masonry issues. White mortar that doesn't blend with the 1901 brickwork. If used at a large area, it will change the character of the building. Cautionary re Portland concrete. Make sure the masons get it, then check up on them.

16 Post Office 1913 (Neoclassical) and Beaux Arts, 19th century Parisian. flat roof, symmetry, monumental scale, polychromatic, arched windows and doorways.

Cross N Main Street to Post Office

(James) Gibbs surround frames entrance and windows (Roman origin). Heavy cornice and brick parapet. Sandstone foundation.

Does anyone see a USGS benchmark? What is its purpose?

17 Hartigan 1901 Late Victorian Commercial Framed by brick piers. Arched corbelling, and pressed metal cornice. Paired round-headed windows. Stone sills. Original sash. The Irishman Patrick Hartigan was a grocer.

Bonus Question – Does anyone know when this building was built?

18 Elm Bock c. 1900 Late Victorian Commercial. Roger said the windows had 2/2 sash. Rock faced lintels. Corbelling at roofline. Two brick stringcourses.

Anything a little off about the proportions on this building? (right windows spaced out more)

19 Grange Hall 1887 (Revolution Tap) Used to have rusticated block wall on front.

How many stories originally?

Nice pocket park. Where else could the city install small urban parks downtown?

20 Hoffman Under construction. Site of c. 1930 Art Deco. Some preserved.

Density. Bringing (affordable) housing back downtown.

What do we think of the scale, massing, and height? Does the design contribute or detract? Share Brick Market photo. Design that does not pretend to be old, but rather a product of its era.

21 44 N Main Gable end building set back. Was the front and back built at different times? c. 1840 Greek Revival in rear. 6/6 sash suggests it might be earlier. Why did they not replace window on 3rd floor rear? Yes, this one is on the birds eye.

D Alley Way Art – How is it holding up to the weather? Solutions? Pocket park potential? Performance space or pop-up potential? What would that look like?

22 Storehouse – Norway Plains Woolen Company – c. 1890 Roofline embellished with corbelling.

23 Riverfront – Dam is on site of 18th century dam, rebuilt c. 1926. Cocheco has low visibility in downtown Rochester. Other communities migrating toward waterfront. More potential here?

24 Wyandotte Mill c. 1846 Greek Revival Granite window lintels. In 1982, they still had most of their original windows. Tell story of textile industry in New England. Slater's visit to England. Cabot's mill in Waltham. Lowell as planned industrial city. Water powered textile mills in Dover and Newmarket (Mary Kennedy, weaver in Cotton Mill #1). Point out waterworks remains.

What happened in late summer? Boston industrialists purchased water rights all over southeastern NH, right up to Winnepesaukee.

What was the belfry for?

What are those wood/metal fixtures on side of building for? Earthquake ties.

Who worked here? At first, it was farmers' daughters and experienced operatives from England and Scotland; Irish from 1850 to 1870; then French Canadians from 1870 to 1900.

Smoke stacks removed. **If the mill was powered by water, what were the stacks for?**
A: railroad brought coal to power the steam engines. Didn't have to worry about low water anymore.

Back on the sidewalk. **Anyone spot a slate roof?**

25 Snow Block 26 N Main c. 1870 and 1917 2nd Empire and Georgian Revival. Boomtown façade. Corbelling and projecting cornice. Splayed brick & stone lintels. Bad masonry repair.

How many of you had noticed the 2nd Empire building before I pointed it out?

26 Dodge Brick Store c. 1825 Greek Revival One of the oldest commercial buildings in the downtown. Gable end to street. Corbelled brick by roofline is concealed.

What did this building look like in the 19th century? The show photo with lintels and granite storefront.

Walk to Hanson Street. Once the busiest street in Rochester. **Why?** 40+ trains per day. It's pretty quiet now. Granite pavers.

Can anyone name the four railroads?

1849 Great Falls & Conway

1849 Cocheco, later the Dover & Winnipiseogee

1871 Portland & Rochester

1874 Nashua & Rochester

27 Foss & Came Insurance c. 1855 Italianate One of my favorite buildings in Rochester. Paired cornice brackets. Segmental arched window hoods. Unusual tripartite window on 3rd floor. Rusticated corner blocks.

Original sash. No exterior storm windows. National Park advice on replacement windows. Talk about interior storms.

Opinions on preserving these windows?

Alright, look around. Can anyone spot a slate roof? Answer: Methodist

28 Farrington 19 Hanson c. 1885 Italianate Pilaster or corner boards? Segmental arched window hoods and rusticated blocks similar to Foss & Came. Influenced by Foss & Came? **Could they have done a better job with window replacement on the 2nd floor?**

29 Masonic Temple 31 Hanson 1910 NeoClassic Now, these are pilasters! Explain difference between columns and pilasters. (Vincenzo) Scamozzi capitals. Denticulated cornice. Brick parapet. Stone lintels. Splayed keystones over side bay windows. Roger described the storefronts as "unaltered."

What does AF & AM stand for? Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

More pop-up or performance space possibilities around here?

Back up Hanson, then cross South Maine to

30 Site of McDuffee Block Roger: “The building introduced large scale Victorian architecture to Rochester and is still unsurpassed in size. It is the dominant architectural feature of downtown Rochester.” 1868 “totally intact.”

31 Ainslie’s Drugstore(Dominicus Hanson’s Apothecary) c.1830 Roger suspects it could be a bit earlier.

Note the change in brick color, what happened here?

3rd floor 1881 after a fire. Federal due to bow front, splayed granite lintels, and fanlight in early photo. Note change in brick color, but attention to window on 3rd floor.

32 Wentworth Block 1883 Roger says “a brick veneer with colonial motifs as been applied (c. 1960) to what was a 3-story Stick Style commercial block.”

Anyone know if there is an old building in there?

33 Rochester Trust Company 1903 NeoClassic Monumental scale. Brownstone. 4 fluted columns supporting full entablature with block cornice and parapet. Polished granite foundation.

Capital?

34 Methodist Church 1868 Italianate – quasi gothic Round headed elongated windows with brick hood molds. Rosette window. Arcaded corbelling similar to nearby commercial blocks (Three-part steeple. Gothic: verticality, spires on each side of entrance.

Did church inspire commercial block design? Same masons?