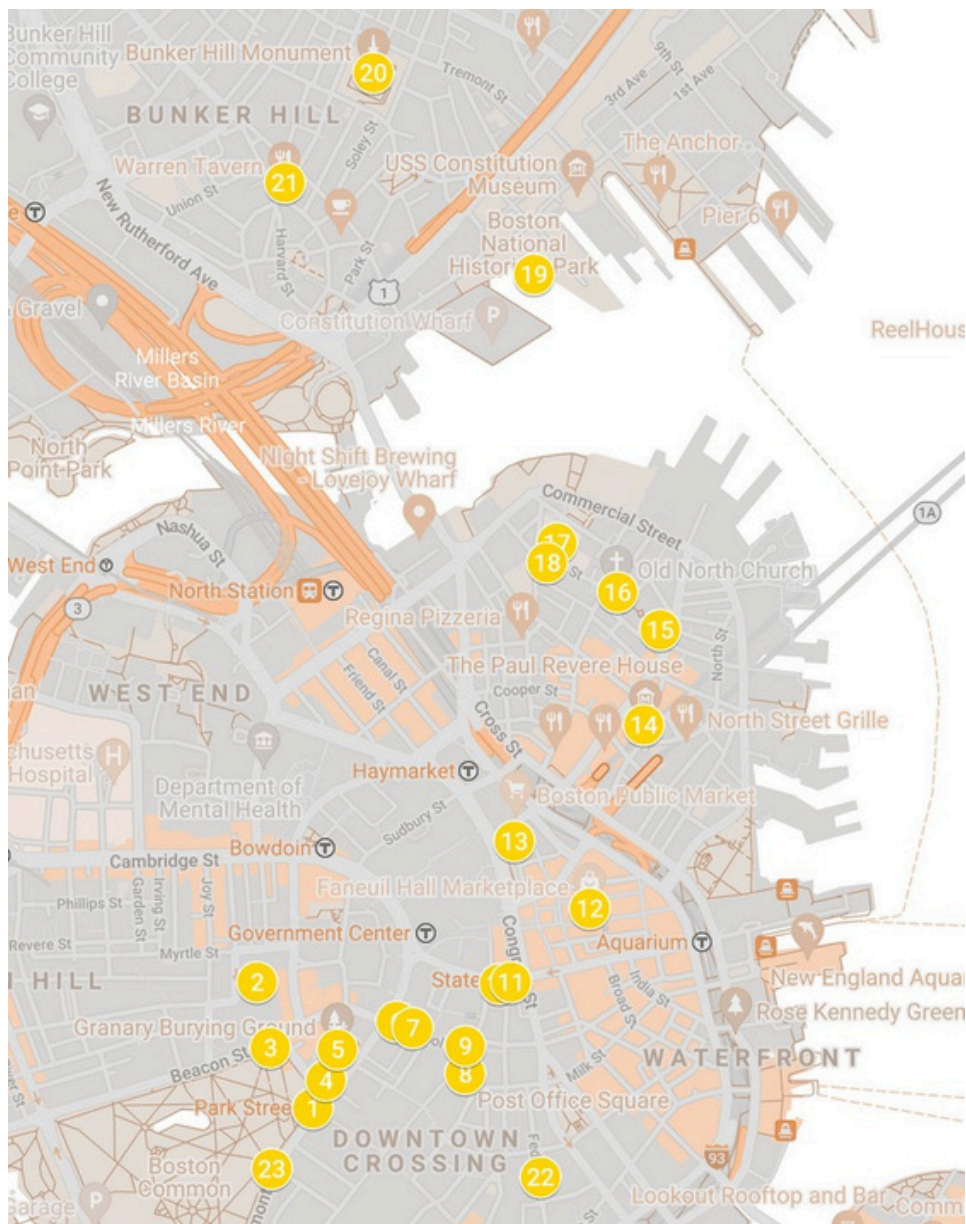


Freedom Trail Audio Tour

Atlantis Audio Tours
Tours by Foot

The Freedom Trail is a 2.5 mile/4k continuous double brick red line which runs along the sidewalks of the city of Boston connecting 16 historic, mostly American Revolutionary Sites. The Boston Massacre and the original Tea Party took place here. Sam Adams, Ben Franklin and George Washington all roamed these streets.

- Time: About 2 Hours
- Distance: About 2 miles (3 km)
- Start: Boston Common
- End: Bunker Hill Monument



The beginning stop can be listened to at any location on the Boston Common. For each stop has an underlined title and map which will link out to the audio stop and Google Map.

- [Intro & Boston Common History](#): The beginning stop can be listened to at any location on the Boston Common ([map](#))

Welcome to Boston's Freedom Trail. Boston's historic center may be small, but it packs in so much history. From an experiment in Puritan exclusiveness to an inclusive modern metropolis, every street, corner and building whispers stories from the past.

We start the tour outside the Park Street T Station on the Boston Common and will follow the Freedom Trail to the Bunker Hill Monument.

To follow the Freedom Trail is easy. Look for the continuous double brick line that marks the 2.5 mile (4 km) Freedom Trail. Feel free to pause this audio tour whenever you want to explore a stop more or feel the need for a bite to eat and start back up when you're ready.

A local journalist in 1951 suggested building a pedestrian trail to link Boston's most historic sites.

The mayor at the time John Hynes liked the idea and ordered the construction of the Freedom Trail and it has hosted millions and millions of visitors since it was first created.

Each historic site is marked with a small sign displaying a short description of the particular site.

There are also metal markers which dot the Freedom Trail denoting the sites. Most of the sites are free and open to the public.

There are a few sites which charge admission and they include: Old South Meeting House, Old State House, Paul Revere House and starting May 1, 2018 the Old North Church.

The Puritans founded Boston in the 1630s. The land was purchased from William Blackstone, the first European who came to what was known as the Shawmut Peninsula in 1625. Blackstone lived here until 1634 when he left for Rhode Island and sold the land to the Puritans on the way out.

When the Puritans came in the 1630s, they named this area Boston for the place in England where they came from.

The Puritans were Christians and were formed in England when King Henry the VIII split the church from Catholicism to Anglicanism. The Puritans didn't think the Anglican Church went far enough away from the Catholic Church.

Just think of the Puritans as being very strict Protestants.

Your tour starts on The Boston Common, the oldest public park in the United States, outside the Park St. Subway Station. This was the first subway station in the United States, built in 1897.

It is sometimes incorrectly referred to as the Boston Commons, plural, but it is singular... just Common. It is over 50 acres today as a public park.

The Boston Common was founded in 1634 as a common space for the grazing of cattle and was used for that purpose for almost 200 years until 1830.

This was a camp for the British Army leading up to the American Revolutionary War and the Common was used for public hangings up until 1817.

Today, the Common serves as a public park for all to use for formal or informal gatherings.

Events such as concerts, protests, and ice skating often take place in the park. Martin Luther King Jr. and Pope John Paul II have both made speeches here. And Judy Garland gave her largest concert ever on the Common.

Follow the Freedom Trail up to the Massachusetts State House.

State House - 24 Beacon St, Boston, MA 02133 ([map](#))

The Massachusetts State House was built in 1798 and is the one of oldest continually running state capitol buildings in America. This remarkable dome at 30 feet/9 meters high and 50 feet/15 meters wide is gilded in 23k gold and was originally made of wood. The dome was covered in copper by Paul Revere in 1802 and was gilded in gold on our nation's 100th Birthday in 1876. Due to fear that it may come under attack during WWII the dome was painted black from 1941 to 1945.

Have you ever heard of Boston as "the Hub of the Universe"? Now, Bostonians are not known for lacking confidence, but the origin of this nickname is more benign than at first glance. In 1858 a story called the Autocrat of the Breakfast Table by Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr. referred to the dome of the State House as the Hub-of-the-Solar system. That is when one of the nicknames for Boston was first coined. That is why the Boston Bruins professional hockey team has a B in the hub of a wheel as its logo.



The stairs of the Bulfinch Entrance just in front of you are used on only two occasions: when the President or foreign heads of state visit Boston and during what is known as "the long walk" - when the out-going governor leaves the building on his last day of office, greets the newly elected governor and they shake hands on the stairs as the new governor enters the building. The former governor then crosses the street into the Boston Common symbolically re-joining the people as a citizen.

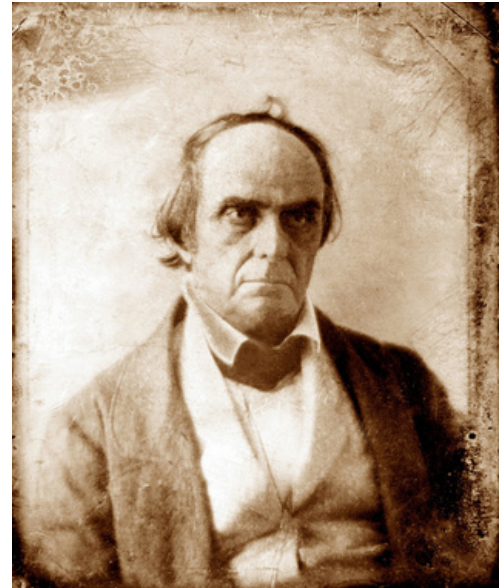
The architect of the Massachusetts State House was Charles Bulfinch, whose name you see posted on the front gate in front of the gold dome. Bulfinch is considered to be the first American born architect and also designed much of the architecture on Beacon Hill. Bulfinch also added the third floor to Faneuil Hall in 1804 during that building's expansion.

Charles Bulfinch was also one of the architects of the US Capitol Building in Washington, DC. Having a pub name for you is considered to be one of the highest honors in Boston, and Charles Bulfinch has also had that distinction. Now, some of you will likely visit the bar that inspired the hit TV comedy "Cheers". This particular bar was called the Bull and Finch, named after the architect Charles Bulfinch when it opened in 1968. In 1981 the pub changed its name to the more popular and famous Cheers Bar



To the left of the Gold Dome is Horace Mann. He was appointed the secretary of the Massachusetts State Board of Education in 1837, the first in the country, and had represented Massachusetts in the US House of Representative in the 1820s. An education reformer, he helped promote public education and is known as the Father of the American Public Education.

To the right of the Gold Dome is the statue of Daniel Webster. Daniel Webster was born in New Hampshire and represented both New Hampshire and Massachusetts in the U.S. House of Representatives for 10 years and as a US Senator for 19 years throughout the early 1800s. He was a Secretary-of-State under three different presidents (William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, and Millard Fillmore).



A great orator and lawyer. Webster argued hundreds of cases in front of the US Supreme Court and won about half them. In 1836 he ran for US President and carried only the state of Massachusetts.

Daniel Webster delivered the eulogy for two US Presidents at Boston's Faneuil Hall. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson who both died on the same day, July 4, 1826.

Further to the right is the main entrance of the Massachusetts State House, known as the Hooker Entrance. Name for the Civil War General Joseph Hooker who sits high on his horse at the entrance. One of only a few generals from Massachusetts, Hooker took over the Army on the Potomac in January of 1863. He was relieved of duty just a few days before the Battle-of-Gettysburg. His best-known battle as general was the Battle of Chancellorsville, a defeat for the Union Army, but one where Southern General Stonewall Jackson was killed.

Although General Hooker's camps were not vacant of alcohol, gambling, and call-women, the slang term for prostitution is not taken from his name as some may think. That name predates General Hooker by about 30 years.

The Massachusetts State House welcomes the public by hosting free tours every weekday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm from the General Hooker Entrance.

Walk back across the street and you will be at the Robert Gould Shaw Memorial.



Robert Gould Shaw Memorial - 26 Beacon St, Boston, MA 02108 ([map](#))

This memorial shows Colonel Robert Gould Shaw and his men of the 54th regiment of the Union Army. The 54th Regiment was the first all-volunteer black unit in the US Army, which was formed in 1863 during the American Civil War. The 1989 film *Glory* tells the story of the 54th regiment and stars Matthew Broderick as Shaw.

The sculpture was created by American sculptor, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, who also sculpted the Standing Lincoln statue in Chicago, and the William Tecumseh Sherman equestrian statue in New York City's Central Park. This memorial to Shaw, however, is considered to be one of his best works. It shows Shaw and his men marching down Beacon St. on their way to fight in the American Civil War.

The 54th became famous for the battle at Fort Wagner, South Carolina on July 18, 1863. At least 74 enlisted men and 3 officers including Colonel Gould-Shaw were killed in that battle and many more were wounded. The 54th was known for their tenacity on the battlefield and were very important reinforcements for the Union Army in the middle of that conflict.

Notice the two elm trees which flank the Robert Gould Shaw Memorial. They are the oldest elm trees in the Western Hemisphere and were planted by the famous John Hancock who lived across the street.

Follow the Trail back into the Boston Common to the starting point. Take a left down Tremont St. (follow the brick line) and cross Park St. to The Park St. Church (1809).

Park Street Church Building - 1 Park St, Boston, MA 02108 ([map](#))

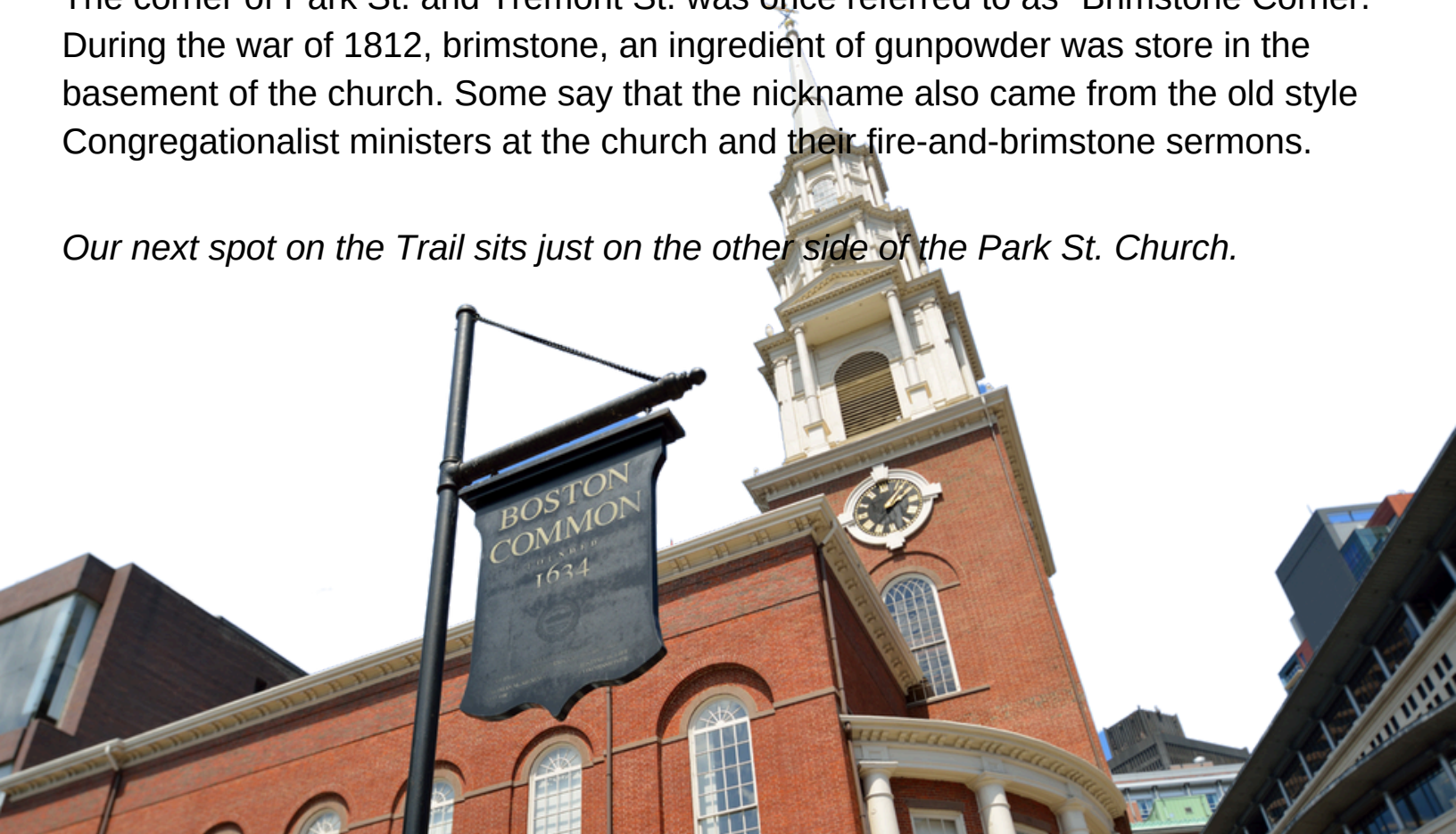
In 1804 the "Religious Improvement Society" began weekly meetings with lectures and prayer. These were mostly former members of the Old South Meeting House who wanted a more conservative and evangelical church. The society organized the charter of the church on February 27, 1809.

The Park Street Church building was designed by Peter Banner and the steeple was modeled after the spire of St. Bride's Church in London. According to legend, a baker's apprentice invented the first tiered wedding cake using the spire of St. Bride's Church as inspiration for his cake. Wide at the bottom and narrower as it goes up. The Park Street Church Steeple at 217 feet (about 70 meters) was the tallest building in Boston when it was built in 1809, and was the first building one would see when entering the city.

This church was the site where the abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison made his first anti-slavery speech on the church's pulpit in 1829; and the church choir sang for the first time ever in public the song "My Country Tis of Thee." on July 4th 1831.

The corner of Park St. and Tremont St. was once referred to as "Brimstone Corner." During the war of 1812, brimstone, an ingredient of gunpowder was store in the basement of the church. Some say that the nickname also came from the old style Congregationalist ministers at the church and their fire-and-brimstone sermons.

Our next spot on the Trail sits just on the other side of the Park St. Church.



Granary Burial Ground - Tremont St, Boston, MA 02108 ([map](#))

The Granary Burying Ground is where three signers of the Declaration of Independence rest, as well as Paul Revere, and Mary Goose, who is credited with being the children's author Mother Goose.

As you enter the Granary Burying Ground on Tremont Street, notice the Egyptian Revival gates. They were designed by Isaiah Rogers who was a supervising architect for the Ohio State House and who also played a role in designing and patenting four burglar-proof vaults built in the northwest corner of the U.S. Treasury Building.

First thing you will see in the center of the burial ground is an obelisk with the name Franklin on it. This is the resting place of Benjamin Franklin's mother, father, brothers, and sisters. All the Franklins rest here except Benjamin Franklin, who was born in Boston and left at the age of 17 to make a name for himself in the largest city in the colonies at the time, Philadelphia, PA.

The Granary Burying Ground, established in 1660, is Boston's 3rd oldest and was used as the main burial ground for Boston from 1660 to 1880. Because many of the plots have multiple burials no one is quite sure how many bodies are buried there. There is estimated to be between 3,500 and 5,000 bodies at rest here among the 1000 head-stones.



Follow the path to the most famous of all graves in Boston, Paul Revere's. You cannot miss it as it is directly behind the Franklin Monument and is in the shape of a pedestal. Paul Revere was made famous with a poem written in 1860 by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" (a poem many students have read or memorized in school) which tells the tale of his ride to Lexington and Concord on April 18, 1775 that resulted in the first shot fired in the American Revolution on April 19, 1775.

Paul Revere was a silversmith, a bell maker and was also appointed coroner for Suffolk County. His company sealed the dome of the Massachusetts State House in copper (it is gilded in gold today). They also made the bell and bolts for the USS Constitution and lined the keel of the ship with copper. Paul Revere died in 1818 at the age of 83.

Also buried here is the late great Samuel Adams. His bolder like headstone is one of only two bolder-like stones in the Burial Ground and serves almost like bookends in the Granary. Many visitors associate Samuel Adams with the beer named for him and while he was a maltster for a while (he worked in his father's business a malt-house used to brew beer), he has nothing to do with the Sam Adams Brewery in Boston.

Samuel Adams is known as the Mob-master of Boston stirring up much of the discontent in the Boston against the Crown, and was a founding member of the Son's of Liberty. He was a charismatic, fiery speaker who whipped up dissent and wrote petitions against the British Crown. He signed the Declaration of Independence, and at the age 73-years-old took over the office Governor after John Hancock died in 1793

He is the oldest person to serve as Governor in the Commonwealth. Unlike John Hancock, Samuel Adams spent most of his life in poverty. Samuel Adams died in 1803 at the age of 81.

After you exit the Granary Burial Ground through the main gates follow the Freedom Trail down Tremont St. to the corner of Tremont and School Street and you will see King's Chapel.

King's Chapel - 58 Tremont St, Boston, MA 02108 ([map](#))

This church was the idea of James the 2nd of England who wanted to put an Anglican Church in Puritan Boston. The Puritans were very much against this idea of a non-Puritan Church being constructed in Boston. Because it was difficult to get land to build the church on, the Royal Governor, Governor Andros, ordered that King's Chapel be built on a town burying ground in 1688. They took a corner of the oldest burial ground in Boston, and put the church there. This stone church was built in 1756 around the original wooden church.

The most famous burial in the burial ground attached to the church is the first governor of Massachusetts John Winthrop.

Notice the church's bell tower. Paul Revere cast the bell in 1814. The original bell, cast in England, was hung in 1772. In 1814 it cracked and was re-casted by Revere and is reported to be the last bell that Revere cast himself. The bell was rung 83 times in Paul Revere's honor when he passed away in 1818 at the age of 83-years-old. Paul said the bell inside

King Chapel bell tower was the "sweetest bell I ever made" It is certainly one of his largest bells. The bell still rings today. The church is an active church. King's Chapel is a Unitarian Church today and welcomes visitors inside to tour the church.

Our next stop on the Freedom Trail is on School St. look down on the side-walk next to King's Chapel and you will see the monument for the Boston Latin School.



Monument to the Boston Latin School -
45 Freedom Trl, Boston, MA 02108 ([map](#))

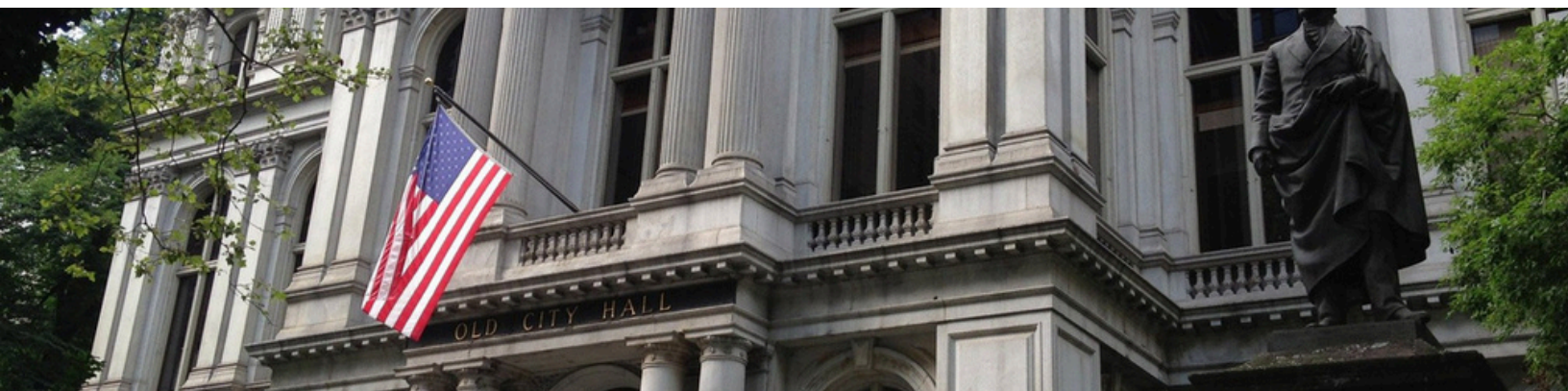
Open in 1635, it is the oldest school in American and still in operation today. The school's current location is near Fenway Park. The monument for the school is in the design of a hopscotch game. Some of its famous students include Benjamin Franklin (who statue stands on the former school's site), John Hancock, Sam Adams, John Adams, and Charles Bulfinch to name just a few.

Where the Boston Latin School once stood, stands the site of Old City Hall (from 1865). For 104 years Boston's mayor held court here until 1969 when they move into City Hall's current location across from Faneuil Hall, know as New City Hall. The Old City Hall Building now houses office space and a Ruth Chris's Steak House.

The statue of Boston Mayor Josiah Quincy stands in the courtyard. Josiah Quincy was the mayor of Boston during the construction of Quincy Market (which is named for him) which is the expansion of Faneuil Hall. Prior to 1820 the Boston Harbor came right up to the back of Faneuil Hall and the market was constructed between 1820 and 1826. When it opened in 1826 the expansion was named for the Boston Mayor.

In the courtyard of Old City Hall you can see the donkey of the Democratic Party. This sculpture is one of the only sculptures in Boston you actually can sit on and take a photo. There are also two bronze footprints on the ground at the head of the donkey with an Elephant on the sole of the each footprint. This is for Republicans to pose in front of while standing in opposition to the Democratic Party.

Follow the Freedom Trail to Washington St. and you will come to the Old South Meeting House.



Old South Meeting House -
310 Washington St, Boston, MA 02108 ([map](#))

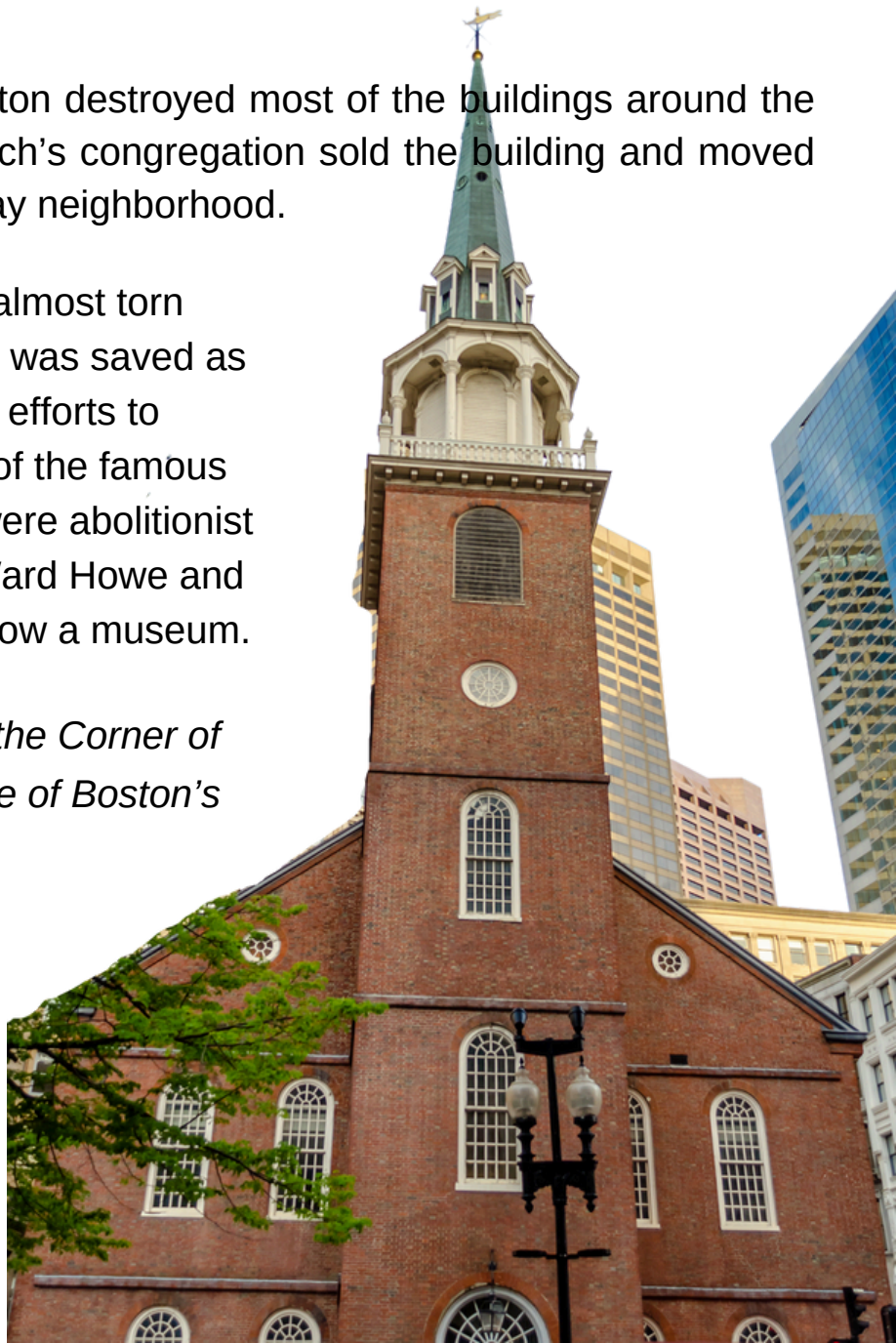
This church is where the Sons of Liberty departed a meeting on Dec. 16, 1773 and dumped 242 chests of tea, over one million dollars' worth of tea today, into the Boston Harbor. The famous Boston Tea Party.

Built in 1729, the church's clock tower is the oldest clock tower in Boston. The bell here was also cast by Paul Revere. When war broke out in 1775, British troops, in retaliation for the Boston Tea Party, ripped out the pews and made a bar out of the first floor balcony. They used the church as a riding school to train the British Cavalry. It took 7 years to restore the church after the British were forced out of Boston in 1776.

In 1872 when the Great Fire of Boston destroyed most of the buildings around the Old South Meeting House, the church's congregation sold the building and moved to a new church in Boston's Back Bay neighborhood.

The Old South Meeting House was almost torn down in the aftermath of the fire, but was saved as a result of one of the first successful efforts to preserve a historic structure. Some of the famous people who help save the building were abolitionist Wendell Phillips, and writers Julia Ward Howe and Ralph Waldo Emerson. The site is now a museum.

The next Freedom Trail Site sits on the Corner of Washington and School Street is one of Boston's oldest brick structures.



Oldest Commercial Building in Boston -
283 Washington St, Boston, MA 02108 ([map](#))

The structure here was built in 1712 is the oldest commercial building in Boston. It houses the former site of The Old Corner Bookstore. The bookstore was made famous for the publishers Ticknor and Fields, who resided on the second floor and were at the heart of American book publishing in the mid-1800s.

From this building, Ticknor and Fields published the works of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Ralph Waldo Emerson, John Greenleaf Whittier, Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr., Charles Dickens (who lived in Boston for two years) and Louisa May Alcott.

Many of these writers were frequent visitors to the building for meetings on the second floor. These and other authors would meet and discuss poetry, politics and literature. A very intellectual and literate place back in the day. Now it is the site of a Chipotle.

The next stop following the Freedom Trail down Washington Street you will be at the Old State House.



Old State House - 206 Washington St, Boston, MA 02109 ([map](#))

This was the center of civic life in Colonial Boston and was where folks like Sam Adams and James Otis would argue against the policies of the British Crown. On the Washington St. side of the State House look up and you will see the gilded gold eagle, the symbol of America.

We call this the American side of the state house. The eagle was place there in 1789 when George Washington visited Boston as president. At that time Washington St. was called Orange St. and the city of Boston re-named street as Washington St. in honor of America's first President on his visit to Boston.

Walk down the Freedom Trail to the front of the Old State House. Look up at the balcony. On this balcony on July 18th 1776 the Declaration of Independence reached Boston from Philadelphia and was read for the first time. The reading caused a mini-riot during which the symbol of the British Crown, the Lion and Unicorn which sits on top of the Old State House, was ripped down and burnt in a fire.

The gilded Lion and Unicorn was put back up on the Old State House in 1883 when the building was refurbished. Every July 4th at 10:00am the Declaration of Independence is read from that balcony. The Lion and Unicorn however, are not torn down.

An interesting combination of historic and modern, the State Street subway station can be reached through the basement of the Old State house.



On the walkway in front of the Old State House is the monument for the five victims killed on March 5, 1770 during the Boston Massacre which took place in the middle of what is now called State Street (formerly known as King Street).

In the center of the monument is a five pointed star signifying the 5 deaths enclosed by six cobblestones, signifying the six wounded that night, and stretching from the center are 13 cobblestone spokes representing the original 13 colonies. The Boston Massacre was more of an incident than a massacre and was a rallying cry for the American Revolution.

It was riot of angry Bostonians aimed at British soldiers and was spun into what is referred to as the Boston Massacre by the famous plate which was etched by Paul Revere. The etching shows “innocent” Bostonians being fired on by British Soldiers. The etching appeared in all the papers in the colonies at that time and was one of the most famous pieces of American propaganda.

Follow the Trail to “the Cradle of Liberty” Faneuil Hall.



Faneuil Hall - (map)

This building, which was given to the city of Boston by merchant Peter Faneuil, is famous for the meetings and protests that led to the American Revolution.

Peter Faneuil was a rich Boston merchant who never married or had children. He had the building constructed to carry on his legacy. Notice the grasshopper on top of the building. The grasshopper, whose name is Gus, was copied from the grasshopper on the London Royal Exchange Building (which Peter Faneuil modeled his build after of) and was chosen as a sign of prosperity.

The grasshopper has been on that building for 175 years and witness all the events leading up the American Revolution, including the Boston Massacre just down the street.

Today there are four places connected by a cobblestone promenade. You can shop, dine or watch street performers as you wander through the markets. The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, which is the oldest chartered military organization in the western hemisphere, has a museum of the fourth floor of Faneuil Hall which is open to the public. *Follow the Freedom Trail down Union St. (notice the Union Oyster House - the oldest restaurant in the United States) and down Hanover St. into our Northend /Little Italy Neighborhood. On your left is the New England Holocaust Memorial.*



New England Holocaust Memorial - 98 Union St, Boston, MA 02129 ([map](#))

The New England Holocaust Memorial was built to remember and reflect upon the Holocaust. It was the idea of a group of survivors of Nazi concentration camps who came to in the Boston area after WWII. The memorial was dedicated in October, 1995. The Memorial is made up of mostly granite and glass and shows six, 54' towers lit internally so they glow at night.

The number six recalls the millions of Jews killed in the Holocaust; a row of memorial candles; the six main death camps; and the six years, 1939-1945, during which the "Final Solution," of the Holocaust, took place.

The word REMEMBER is inscribed in the pathway in Hebrew and English. There is an inscribed timeline of the Holocaust and walking through the towers you will see quotes from Holocaust survivors. Each of the towers represents one of the major death camps. The names of the camps are engraved beneath each tower. Smoke rises at the bottom of from each tower, symbolizing the crematoriums of the death camps.

Each tower consists of 22 individual panels of glass. The outside walls of the panels are inscribed with seven-digit numbers, representing the numbers tattooed on the arms of the prisoners. There are 2,280,960 different numbers listed on the panels representing the six million Jews who were murdered during the Holocaust. Visitors often leave stones at the site of the Memorial, reflecting the ages-old Jewish custom of marking a graveside visit.

When you're finished paying respects here, you can continue on to the next stop from here. It's a 5-7 minute walk so keep listening for some tidbits about things you'll see along the way. You can listen as you walk along the Freedom Trail.



Freedom Trail Walk (walk and talk)

When you follow the Freedom Trail down Union St. across from the Holocaust Memorial, on to Marshall Street at 10 Marshall St is the Ebenezer Hancock House. This is the only building in Boston that is associated with John Hancock, famous for his signature at the bottom of the Declaration of Independence. Built in 1767, the building was once home to Ebenezer Hancock who was John's brother, and also served as Paymaster General for the Continental Army.

Across the way from the Ebenezer Hancock House is the Boston Stone which is embedded in the base of this building. The stone was brought to Boston from England in the 1700s, and was used for many years as starting point for surveyors.

The Freedom Trail then crosses the Rose Kennedy Greenway. The Greenway is a series of parks which run through several neighborhoods in Boston. It was created as a result of the "Big Dig" which was a 16 year construction project. The Big Dig called for the demolition of the John F. Kennedy Expressway (which ran on an elevated bridge running through the city) and developed an underground highway (Rt. 93) which now runs beneath the park.

Named for the family's matriarch, her son, Senator Edward Kennedy, played an important role in creating the greenway.

The Freedom Trail crosses Cross St. and standing on the corner is Tony DeMarco. The 1955 World Welterweight Champion and Northend Native, born Leonardo Liotta, jumped into the ring as a professional at the age of 16-years-old using his friend's birth certificate, Tony DeMarco. Liotta fought under that name for the rest of his career. Notice the street named for him in the neighborhood he grew up in which crosses Hanover St.

You're now walking through the oldest neighborhood in Boston, established in 1630, and where many of the first Puritans arriving in Boston made their home. The trail winds down Richmond Street to North Square to our next stop, the Paul Revere House.

Paul Revere House - 19 N Square, Boston, MA 02113 ([map](#))

In North Square sits the oldest structure in Boston, the Paul Revere House (1680). It is one of the few remaining 17th-century buildings in a major city in the United States. The Paul Revere House sits on the site of the Second Church of Boston.

The famous Puritan Minister Increase Mather, and his family (including his son, Cotton Mather) lived here from 1670 until it was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1676. Paul Revere lived in the house for 30 years from 1770 to 1800.

Every March 5th on the anniversary of the Boston Massacre, Paul Revere would hang his etching of the Boston Massacre from the front window. Paul was forced to leave Boston in 1775 when the American Revolution began. He left the house with his wife and 15 of his 16 kids and moved to Cambridge. He left his 14-year-old son to stay and keep watch on the house for the 10 months he was in Cambridge.

By the mid-1800s, the house had become an immigrant tenement and the ground floor was remodeled for use as shops. It housed a candy store, a cigar factory, a bank, and a produce business.

In 1902, Paul Revere's great-grandson, John P. Reynolds Jr. purchased the building. Over the next few years, money was raised, and the Paul Revere Memorial Association formed to preserve and renovate the building.

In April 1908, the Paul Revere House opened its doors to the public as one of the earliest historic house museums in the United States and the museum welcomes visitors today for a small fee.

Follow the Trail to the Paul Revere Prado and you will be at one of the most photographed statues in Boston, the Paul Revere Statue.



Paul Revere Statue - Paul Revere Mall, Boston, MA 02113 ([map](#))

This statue sits in the shadow of the Old North Church, which made him famous and will be our next stop. It was designed by Cyrus Edwin Dallin. At the age of 22, this was Dallin's first commission. Born in Utah, Dallin is also the sculptor of the angel Moroni atop Salt Lake Temple in Salt Lake City, Utah; and one of his most famous work, Appeal to the Great Spirit, sits in front of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Dallin began working on it in 1883 but it was not finished until his 5th or 6th version was approved in 1899. Though it would not be until September 22, 1940 when the statue was opened to public, 57 years after it was commissioned.

It shows Revere atop his horse, on his famous midnight ride to warn that the "Regulars are coming"

If you go by the Paul Revere Statue when one of Boston's sports teams are in a championship series/game, Paul will be donning a shirt of the team playing for the trophy.

Walk across the Paul Revere Prado and to the Old North Church, the oldest church building in Boston.

The church is free to enter with a suggested donation and there are guides inside the church who will give you a quick overview of Revere's Midnight Ride the night of April 18, 1775 which resulted in the battle that started American Revolution.

In the steeple, lanterns would be hung to warn the patriots across the Charles River in Charlestown about the movements of British troops.

One if by land, two if by sea.



Old North Church - 193 Salem St, Boston, MA 02113 ([map](#))

When you enter the church notice the pulpit. This is known as a wine-glass pulpit because of its shape.

The pews of the church are called boxed pews and were practical as the building didn't have a heating system when it opened in 1723.

There are metal boxes on the window sills of the church which were used to place warm coals in and placed on the floor of the box pew to throw a little heat during the service.

Look up towards the clock and notice the set of four angels. These angels were donated to the church by the pirate Thomas Gruchy.

Carved in Belgium, the ship and these angels were traveling on voyage from Belgium to a Catholic church in Quebec when in 1746 the ship was hijacked and the contents of the ship were stolen.

The booty was smuggled into Boston via a tunnel from the harbor to Gruchy's home on Salem Street. Gruchy then donated the angel to the church where they have on display ever since.

After you leave the Old North Church follow the Trail up Hull St. to Copp's Hill Burial Ground.

Copp's Hill Burial Ground - 45 Hull St, Boston, MA 02113 ([map](#))

Copp's Hill Burial Ground was established in the North End in 1659. It is named after a local shoemaker, William Copp, and is the resting place of many of the merchant class from colonial Boston.

This is the second oldest burying ground in Boston.

Some of the people buried here include the

- Puritan Ministers Increase and his son Cotton Mather, who are often associated with their role in the Salem Witch Trials;
- Shem Drowne, who made the grasshopper weather-vain on top of Faneuil Hall as well as the banner weather-vain on top of the Old North Church;
- Robert Newman who hung the lanterns in the steeple of the Old North the night of Paul Revere's ride and
- Prince Hall, the first African American Mason and who the Prince Hall Masons are named after.

As you are exiting the Copp's Hill Burial Ground stand at the top of the stairs and look directly across the street to 44 Hull St. and you will see Boston's Skinny House.





Boston's Skinny House - 46 Hull St, Boston, MA ([map](#))

This is the skinniest house in Boston and built as a “Spite House”.

A spite house is a house to spite or aggravate one’s neighbors. The house was built by Joseph Eustus in the mid-1800s. Eustus, a boat builder, who was used to constructing narrow structures, inherited the land with his brother.

Joe was away from Boston and when he came home to claim his inheritance, he found the land was occupied by his brother’s house, leaving Joseph only a sliver of land.

To spite his brother he built his house 4 stories high, taller than his brother’s house to block not only the sunshine from entering the other home, but also the great view of the Boston Harbor which they enjoyed back then. The house has a width of 10 feet, two inches at its widest point, and is mere six feet, two inches width at its narrowest.

The Skinny House is on the market in 2021 for \$1.2 million

We'll continue on to our next stop, but there is a walk to get there so listen on for a few more facts about sites you'll see along the way.

Freedom Trail from Holt St to Commercial Street (walk and talk)

Following the Freedom Trail from Hull St. to Commercial St. look right just down the street is where the site of the molasses tank explosion and subsequent famous Molasses Flood of January 15, 1919.

On that day at around noon, a 50' 17 meters high 90' around tank of molasses exploded sending a two million gallon, 30' / 10 meters wave of molasses traveling at 35mph as it rumbled through the North End. The wave leveled buildings, killing 21 people, injured 150 and killed over three dozen horses.

The clean-up took two weeks use mostly fire hoses. There are rumors that on wicked hot days you can smell the molasses which seeped into the basements of the buildings and surrounding land.

To get to our next stop, you'll need to cross the Charlestown Bridge. As you cross the Boston Harbor over the bridge look to your left and will see the TD Garden home of both the Boston Bruins and Boston Celtics.

Once you're over the bridge you are in Charlestown. Charlestown was named for King Charles I of England, and was founded in 1628, so it is two years older than Boston, and was the first capital of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. It is also the place where the Puritans first landed in 1630 before settling in Boston a just few months later.

You're making your way to the USS Constitution and the Freedom Trail should continue to lead you there.

USS Constitution - ([map](#))

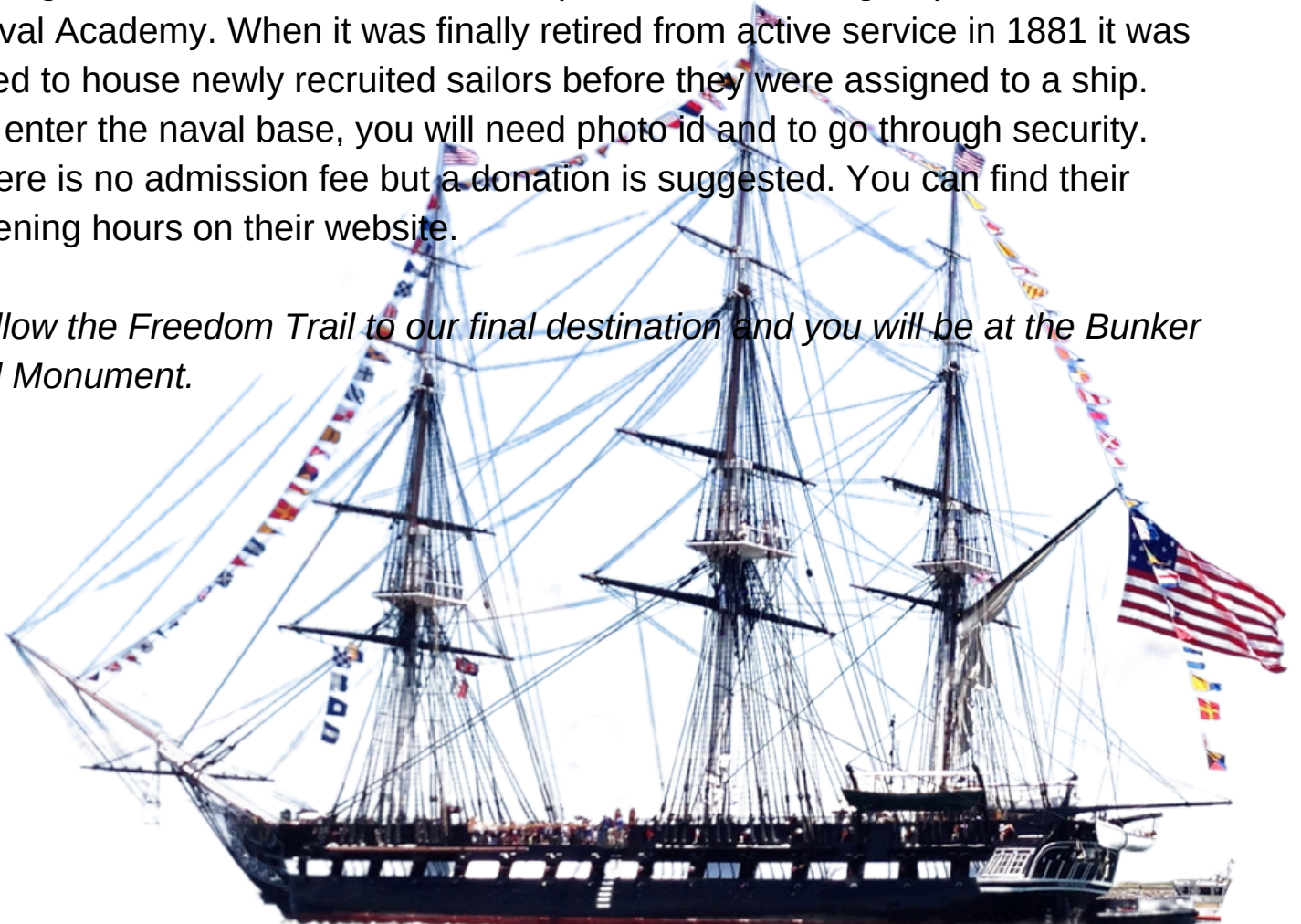
This is the oldest ship in the US Navy. The USS Constitution was the third of six ships built following the Naval Act of 1794 to protect American Merchant Ships from pirates off the coast of North Africa.

It was made famous during the War of 1812 where it never lost a battle and was nicknamed "Old Ironsides" because the ship was so strong that the cannonballs from British ships would bounce harmlessly off its sides, though it is made of wood. This ship is on a US Naval Base and visitors are welcome to board the ship and take free guided tour led by sailors of the US Navy.

In 1830 the USS Constitution was about to be dismantled and scrapped because it was in need of repairs. It was saved by a poem written by Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. (who was also Supreme Court Justice) called "Old Ironsides" which rallied public support for the ship and raised private funds to help restore the ship.

During the American Civil War the ship served as training ship for the US Naval Academy. When it was finally retired from active service in 1881 it was used to house newly recruited sailors before they were assigned to a ship. To enter the naval base, you will need photo id and to go through security. There is no admission fee but a donation is suggested. You can find their opening hours on their website.

Follow the Freedom Trail to our final destination and you will be at the Bunker Hill Monument.



Bunker Hill Monument

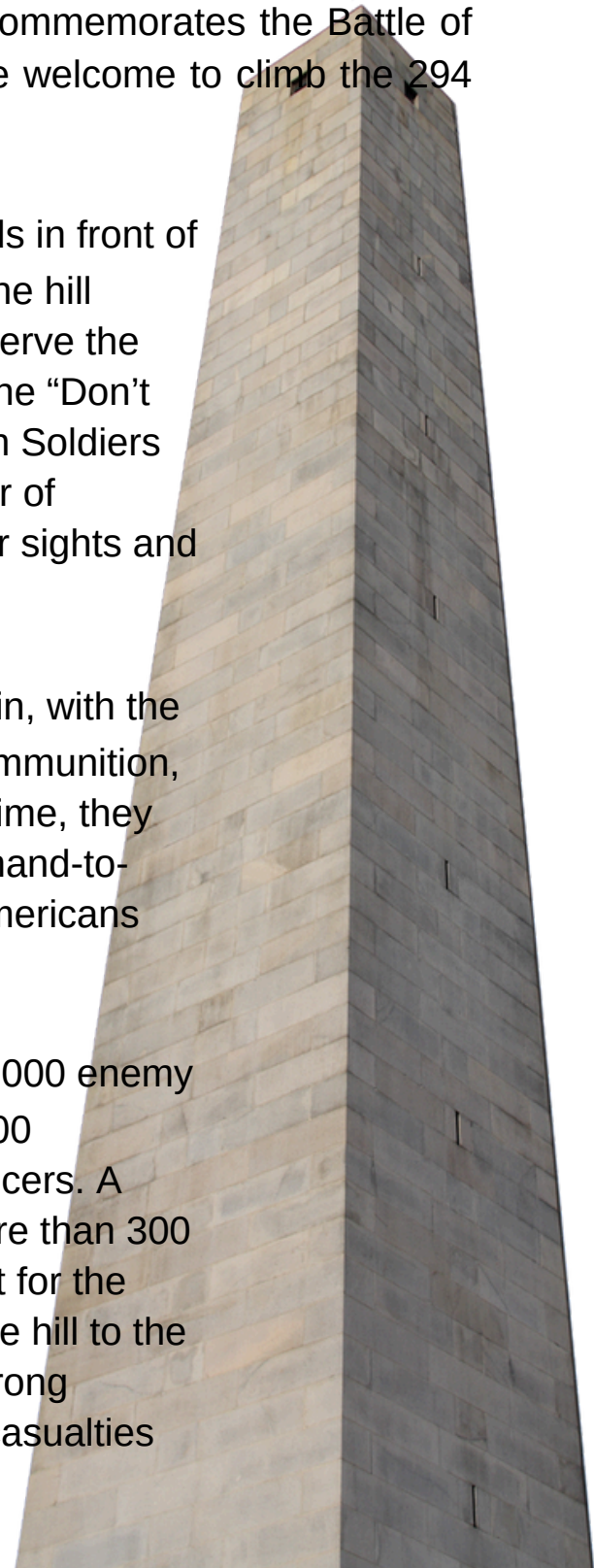
Monument Sq, Charlestown, MA 02129 ([map](#))

The monument was dedicated on June 17th, 1843, 68 years after the famous battle took place. At this site was one of the most important battles of the American Revolution. Although most of the fighting that day occurred on Breed's Hill, the event is known as the Battle of Bunker Hill. The 221 foot / 67 meter monument took 16 years to construct and commemorates the Battle of Bunker Hill. It is open to the public and visitors are welcome to climb the 294 steps to the top of the monument.

The Statue of Major General William Prescott stands in front of the Monument. As the British forces advanced up the hill against the Americans, Prescott in an effort to conserve the Patriots' supply of ammunition, yelled the famous line "Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes!" As British Soldiers continued up the hill, the Patriots following the order of Prescott, waited until the Redcoats were within their sights and fired, throwing the British Troops into retreat.

After re-forming their lines, the British attacked again, with the same result. Prescott's men were running low on ammunition, and when the Redcoats went up the hill for a third time, they reached the dug-outs and engaged the Patriots in hand-to-hand combat using bayonets. The outnumbered Americans were forced to retreat.

Even though they retreated, the Patriots' inflicted 1,000 enemy casualties, with more than 200 killed and at least 800 wounded. Many of the casualties include British officers. A little more than 100 Americans were killed; with more than 300 others were wounded. The battle, consider a defeat for the Patriots as in the they were forced to retreat give the hill to the British, but showed that the Colonist could stand strong against the mighty British Empire and inflict major casualties on their troops.



End of the Tour

Warren Tavern - 2 Pleasant St, Charlestown, MA 02129 ([map](#))

We end the Freedom Trail tour here.

You're now in Charlestown and after all that walking you may be hungry. We highly recommend a famous tavern called the Warren Tavern, which is named for Joseph Warren who was killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Built in 1780 it is reported to be one of the the first building re-built after the British burned Charlestown after the Battle of Bunker Hill. Some of the tavern's guests included George Washington and Paul Revere.

Here is their web address: warrentavern.com

If you need to get back to Boston Common, the best way to do so by foot is the follow the brick line of the Freedom Trail backwards. But there is an Orange Line station (Community College Station) about a 10-15 minute walk from here. Use the next stop in the app to navigate there if needed.

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Thank You!