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HISTORIC WALKING TOURS
WITH EDWARD J. HALLIGAN

W DOWNTOWN
WATERBURY

1. **Waterbury Union Station:** This former New York, New Haven and Hartford station opened in 1909 and was designed by McKim, Mead and White in the Second Renaissance Revival style with a 240-foot tower modeled on the Torre Del Mangia in the Piazza del Campo in Siena, Italy.
2. **American Brass Company (Anaconda):** The former headquarters for the company was built in 1913 using a Second Renaissance Revival design by Trowbridge & Livingston of New York which complemented Union Station. Today the building has been incorporated into the current Waterbury Superior Courthouse complex built in 1998 in the late Post-Modern style.
3. **Library Park:** The park was laid out in the 1890s and enlarged in the early 1900s. Its enlargement was part of a larger civic improvement program that ultimately led to the entire redevelopment of Grand Street. The architect Cass Gilbert worked with the Olmsted Brothers landscape architecture firm on the enhancement of the park.
4. **Telephone Building:** This former AT&T, now Frontier, building was built in 1930 by the architect Douglas Orr. It is an interesting blend of the late Georgian Revival and Greco-Deco ornamentation.
5. **Silas Bronson Library and Harrub Pavilion:** The West Wing of the library was completed in 1963 and the East Wing was completed in 1968; both by the architect Joseph Stein in Miesian Modern style. They replaced an imposing masonry building from 1894. The Harrub Pavilion was also designed by Joseph Stein in 1985 to replace an earlier wooden bandstand.
6. **Silas Bronson Terrace:** The Whale Sculpture was designed by Jerome Stein (brother of architect Joseph Stein) and was dedicated in 1983. It was constructed of 150 pieces of metal and paid tribute to the Connecticut state animal, the sperm whale.
7. **“On the Trail of Calder” Sculptures:** In 2017, the Italian artist, Eduardo Giannattasio and four other fellow artists came to Waterbury to create five new Alexander Calder-inspired sculptures. The works were ultimately set up at the Silas Bronson Library, the YMCA and other locations.
8. **City Hall Terrace, “the entourage” and Sculptures:** The elegant, Beaux-Arts inspired brick and marble terrace in front of City Hall was designed by the architect, Cass Gilbert and completed in 1915. The statue of Benjamin Franklin is by Paul Wayland Bartlett, 1921 and the statue of Christopher Columbus is by Frank C. Gaylord, 1984.

9. **Waterbury City Hall:** This impressive building was opened in 1915 and was designed by architect Cass Gilbert of New York in the Georgian Revival style with a particular emphasis on the design of the late 18th century English architect, Robert Adam. The architect won the competition in 1913 and originally wanted the entire exterior to be done in white marble but the city denied the request in favor of brick and marble. The interior is luminous and boasts some very fine Adamesque inspired decoration.
10. **Chase Municipal Building:** This former headquarters of the Chase Brass and Copper Company was designed by Cass Gilbert in 1916 and opened in 1919. The building is constructed of Indiana limestone in a Renaissance Revival style that contrasts with city hall but does not detract from it.
11. **Waterbury Fire Department:** When city hall was designed, it was unusual to incorporate police and fire departments into the overall plan of city halls. However, Cass Gilbert designed this handsome and utilitarian annex for the fire department utilizing wide, elliptical arches with radiating voussoirs for the fire truck bays. This type of arch system is very durable and visually distinctive.
12. **Lincoln House:** The extreme hardships caused by the Panic of 1907 made clear the need for a single facility from which all the city's charities could operate. After studying what other Northeastern cities had done, Waterbury's Associated Charities made recommendations to Cass Gilbert in 1915. In 1916, the late Federal Revival building of brick and marble trim opened.
13. **Chase Memorial Dispensary:** This was the last building of the Municipal Center Complex to be designed by Gilbert and opened in 1924 after the space in Lincoln House allotted for the dispensary proved inadequate. Like Lincoln House, it is of brick laid up in Flemish bond in the late Federal Revival style.
14. **Power House Site:** Cass Gilbert wanted to design a sixth building, a theater, using land owned by the Chases to the east of the Waterbury National Bank and the old Power House (circa 1900) to the rear of the bank.
15. **Waterbury National Bank:** Built in 1919-1922, this Cass Gilbert designed building exhibits a very refined and dignified interpretation of the Renaissance Revival style. The Chase family had a long association with the bank, which was founded in 1848 as Waterbury's first bank. Of particular note are the tall, rusticated arched windows with their distinctive radiating voussoirs

16. **John S. Monagan Federal Building:** This impressive, white marble post office was built in 1931-1932 and designed by George Oakley Totten in an eclectic, Art Deco style during the W.P.A. era. The lower façade of the building features eleven bas-relief panels illustrating the history of communication and transportation. These were done by the Swedish sculptor Vicken von Post Totten who was the wife of the architect.
17. **Buckingham Building (Demolished):** This multi-use building, which contained shops, offices and a large interior concert hall was constructed in 1906 and was commissioned by J. H. Whittemore and named in honor of his wife's family. It was a gift to Waterbury Hospital in that the revenue from the real estate and concert hall helped to support the hospital. Designed by two architects who worked in the firm of McKim, Mead and White, it was a fine example of the Renaissance Revival style with a heavy influence from Florentine and Roman urban palace design.
18. **Leavenworth Street:** The first building of note on this street is the former First Federal Savings Bank of 1930 whose architect is unknown. However, it is a dignified building with an entry portal consisting of unfluted, Ionic columns set in antis with three prominent rondels above the doorway.
19. **Superior Court Juvenile Division:** This building was the former New Haven County Courthouse and was originally built in 1895-1896 in an Italian Renaissance Revival style which was made prominent and popular at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. However, the building was remodeled in 1911 by Wilfred Eliza Griggs and William Allen in the Beaux-Arts Eclectic style which was at its peak before World War I.
20. **Citizen's & Manufacturer's Bank:** This attractive, limestone building of 1922 was designed by the architect of the Lincoln Memorial, Henry Bacon. He had worked at McKim, Mead and White in New York on many of their celebrated buildings before striking out on his own. The building is in a Neo-Roman style made explicit by the triumphal arched entry portal and enhanced by the ornate but formidable ironwork.
21. **Drescher's Cafe (End of Tour Venue):** This bar and restaurant was built in 1903 in a brick and limestone trimmed adaptation of the prevailing Beaux-Arts style associated with Belle Epoque bars and eateries. Since then it has continued operation with other owners. However, in 1982, an urban renewal project threatened the 300-ton building but it was saved and moved from its old location on Harrison Alley to 25 Leavenworth Street.