

1. OLD COLONY HISTORY MUSEUM

66 Church Green

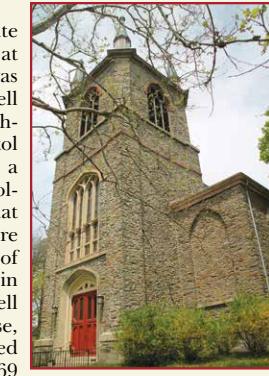
Originally a school called Bristol Academy, this building was built by well-known architect Richard Upjohn in 1852 to replace a smaller wooden structure on the site. The Old Colony Historical Society purchased the building in 1926, and today it is the home of the Society's museum, library, and archives, dedicated to preserving the rich history of the Old Colony region.



2. FIRST PARISH CHURCH

76 Church Green

A church has stood on this site since 1647, and you are looking at the fourth version. The first was Taunton's first meetinghouse as well as the first church established within the present boundaries of Bristol County. In 1671 it was here that a peace treaty was signed between colonists and King Philip, a treaty that was broken in 1675. The structure you see today is an early example of Gothic Revival architecture built in 1830. The belfry contains the bell (1804) from the third meetinghouse, and the sanctuary features 8 stained glass windows added between 1869 and 1957. In 1869 the sanctuary was extended to the east and a matching stone chapel was added. A further addition was made in 1965.



3. CARLETON BRABROOK HOUSE

79 Church Green

Built by James Rait ca. 1873, this home was purchased in 1896 by Col. Frederick Mason for his daughter upon her marriage to Carleton Brabrook. The house was later enlarged and exemplary Colonial Revival elements were added including the porch with stone foundation and garland below the cornice.



4. TAUNTON INN/MARIAN MANOR

Summer Street

Built in 1929 to replace the famous hotel destroyed by fire, the "new" Taunton Inn was home to the famous Herring Run Restaurant. The Taunton Inn closed in 1960 and was sold to the Diocese of Fall River.



5. ROBERT TREAT PAINE STATUE

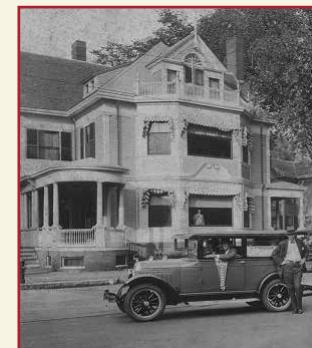
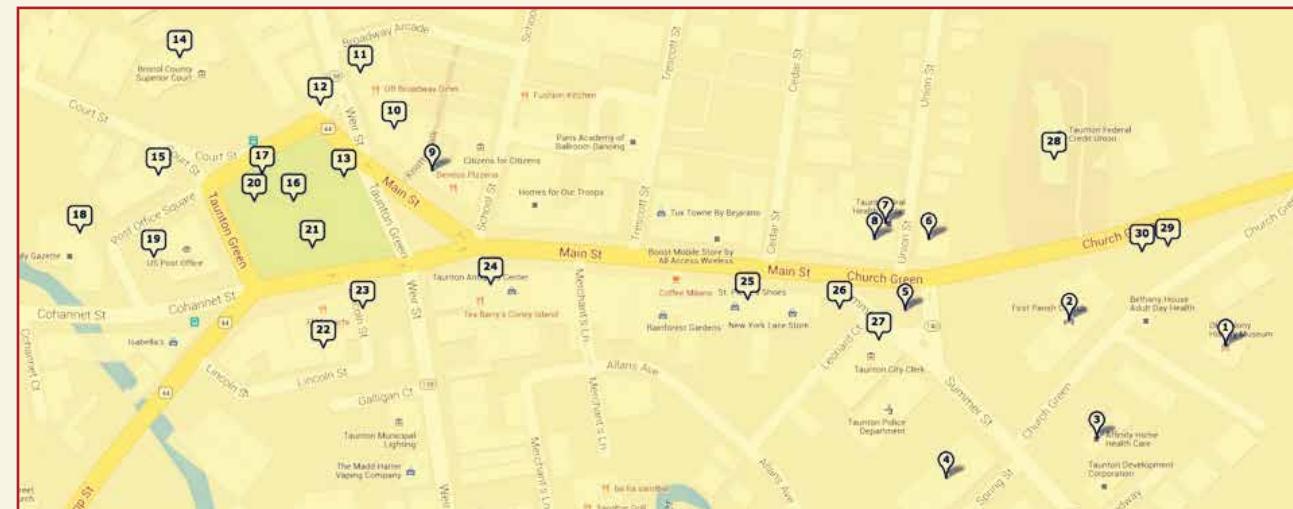
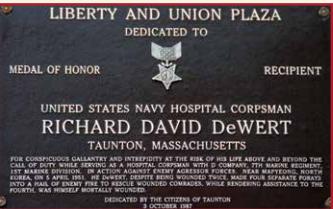
Intersection of Summer and Main Streets

Dedicated in 1904 on a portion of original common land, this statue honors Robert Treat Paine (1731-1814) who resided in Taunton from 1761-1781. Paine played an active role during the colonies' fight for independence. He prosecuted the British soldiers accused in the Boston Massacre and was a signer of the Declaration of Independence as a representative of Massachusetts. The statue is the work of the distinguished Massachusetts sculptor Richard Edwin Brooks (1865-1919). The base and pedestal are of light brown granite and the figure of Paine, quill pen in hand, is bronze.

8. DEWERT PLAQUE

Liberty & Union Plaza

Taunton Hardware Company burned down on January 18, 1964 and Liberty & Union plaza was built on the site honoring Navy Medical Corpsman Richard David DeWert. DeWert posthumously received the Medal of Honor for repeatedly retrieving and treating wounded Marines under heavy enemy fire during the Korean War. DeWert's Medal of Honor is on display at the Old Colony History Museum on Church Green.



6. WINTHROP CLUB

One Church Green

The first bowling alley in Taunton was located in the basement of this building. It opened January 1, 1894 as a new meeting place for a men's organization known as the Winthrop Club.



7. MORTON BLOCK

This red brick building was built about 1840 by Marcus Morton, the only Tauntonian elected to the office of Governor of Massachusetts.

9. TAUNTON BANK BUILDING

9 Taunton Green

On this site once stood the home of Robert Treat Paine, signer of the Declaration of Independence, who moved to Taunton and later married Tauntonian Sally Cobb. Their home was a wooden structure and this brick building was erected in 1855 by the Taunton Bank.

10. TAYLOR BUILDING

10-14 Taunton Green

Past the alley, is the Taylor Building. This area was all once known as Knotty Walk, drawing its name from the knotty pine sidewalks, and was a popular 19th century commercial center. In the 19th century this was the site of McWhorter's Tavern, where Robert Treat Paine lived before he married Sally Cobb. In 1814 Marcus Morton lived here before building the mansion on Washington Street, which after his death became Morton Hospital. The red brick commercial building you now see was built in 1889 and over the years has been home to Woolworth's, Goldthwaite's drugstore, the Enterprise Store, the Big Z, Robell's, Taunton Savings Bank, and the New Bedford Institution for Savings.



11. JONES BLOCK

5-29 Broadway

Previously the Jones Athenaeum, a theater and public hall, this was one of the city's busiest meeting places. A fire on May 7, 1873 destroyed the building as well as Jesse Smith's nearby stables. The following year, Gardner Jones replaced the Jones Athenaeum with this red brick Italianate building, now the corporate headquarters of Bristol County Savings Bank.



12. CORNER OF TAUNTON GREEN & BROADWAY

Called North Street in the past, present-day Broadway once ran across the Green toward Cohannet Street. This area was the site of Jesse Smith's stable, one of the busiest stagecoach lines in the region in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Seen throughout Southeastern Massachusetts, Smith's stagecoaches were a sight to behold with their scarlet and yellow coloring and even a portrait of Jesse himself painted on the doors.

13. CIVIL WAR SOLDIER STATUE

Taunton Green

To the east of Taunton Green stands a Union infantry soldier, honoring the 1,700 Taunton men who fought to preserve the Union during the Civil War. Among them was Taunton resident Gen. Darius Nash Couch, who rose to become a Second Corps Commander in the Army of the Potomac, seeing action in the Battles of Seven Pines, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, and serving as the military commander of the Gettysburg ceremonies on the day that Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address.

14. BRISTOL COUNTY SUPERIOR COURTHOUSE

9 Court Street

The cornerstone was laid on June 30, 1892 after the Taunton Superior Courthouse (built in 1826) was moved on rollers around the corner to make room. Designed by local architect Frank Irving Cooper, the Superior Courthouse was completed in 1895. Neither the curved dome nor the torch (which has since been removed) were in the original plans. The first roof was red Spanish tiles and did not react well to New England weather. Within a year the tiles were covered with a thin layer of copper which is now green with oxidation – much like the Statue of Liberty!