HISTORIC PUBS & SHOPS



421 Commercial Street

Located at 421 Commercial Street, this historic beauty was designed in 1852 by Charles A. Alexander. Originally owned by Frank P. Cummings, the first floor was occupied by a wholesale grocery store through the 1920's. Fast-forward to 1981 when Earl Eames. known as the "Indiana Jones of beer," opened this local watering hole, which is a favorite for Portland residents and visitors alike.

WHARF STREET

Between Union & Moulton Streets

Less than a block from 3 Dollar Deweys, up Union Street, you'll find the stunning cobblestone street known as Wharf Street, Before the mid-1800's, the waters of Casco Bay used to lap against the buildings along Wharf Street. Until that is, a substantial portion of Portland's waterfront was filled in to make way for rail transit and other economic development ventures. Today, Wharf Street bustles during the day with unique shops and restaurants, and at night becomes a mecca for those seeking fun and entertainment...and the occasional late night.

TOUR DURATION 15 - MINUTE WALK (PLUS EXPLORING!)

TRAVEL DISTANCE LESS THAN A MILE

.



3 LIFE IS GOOD

428 Fore Street

In 1924, Nathan Wood & Son called 428 Fore Street home - well, home for their business, which included bottling a wide array of 'remedies,' or botanic medicines. According to property tax assessment records from that year, the building was valued at \$5,251. Today, it is known as the E. Klaman Bottle Building after the bottle recycler that occupied the storefront in the second half of the 20th Century.



CENTRAL PROVISIONS

The name given to this award-winning restaurant, Central Provisions, pays homage to the original purpose of the building. Daniel Fox, a merchant specializing in goods from the West Indies, constructed the building in 1828 for use as a provisions storehouse. Fun fact: In the early 1800's, when the building was constructed, ships could sail directly up to the rear of the building and unload dry goods such as sugar, molasses, and



JOSEPH'S

410 Fore Street

Originally known as the Joseph Hall Block, this meticulously maintained building still features the original sea wall. Built in 1833, 410 Fore Street has housed as a number of business ventures over the years, including a wine importer, vegetable packing, paper company, and confectioner. Joseph Redman takes pride in the stunning restoration that proudly honors Portland's nautical history.



GRITTY'S

396 Fore Street

Serving their first beer "Best Bitter" in December of 1988, Gritty's continues to brew up and serve delicious craft beer to this day. The Portland Gritty's Brew Pub is located inside the "Oxnard Stores" block on Fore Street. You can still see the original brickwork and ceiling beams, which have held fast since the building was constructed in 1837.



HENRY'S PUBLIC HOUSE

375 Fore Street

This newly opened pub is named after Portland's famed 19th century poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Previously occupied by the former Bull Feeney's (2002-2023) this house was designed and erected by Charles Quincy Clapp in 1866-1867 after the Great Fire of July 4, 1866, which destroyed half of Fore Street and a large part of downtown. This beautiful Gothic Revival building, with its elaborate widows, is an iconic Old Port landmark. Fun fact: 375 Fore Street was also home to the notorious Portland Seaman's Club, known for its lively nightlife during the mid to late 1900's.



8 MARINER'S CHURCH

368 Fore Street/11 Moulton Street

For many years, this was the City's largest commercial building. Constructed in 1828, it was damaged during the Great Fire, but saved from demolition. It originally held religious services for the maritime community and Portland Mariner's Society. The fact that it s now occupied by several first-floor retail businesses as well as the Mariner's Church is an example of the resilience of Portland. Fun fact: In 1973 the National Park Service declared the Mariner's Church a National Landmark.



SAMUEL BUTTS HOUSE

332-334 Fore Street

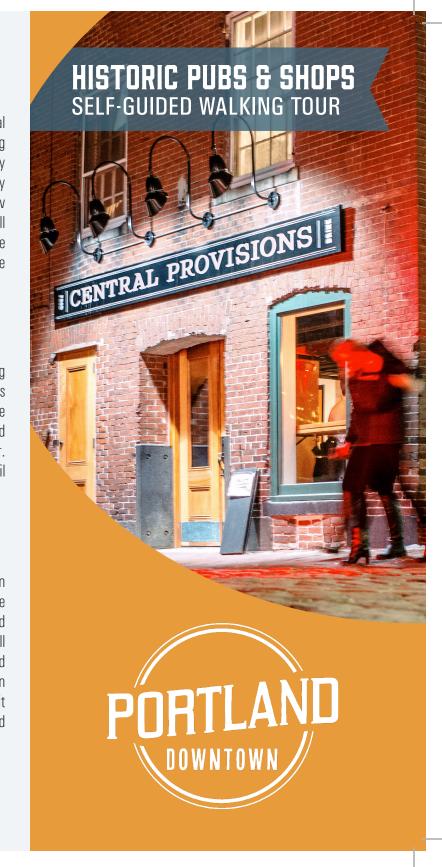
Built in 1792, this is the second oldest surviving structure on the Portland peninsula. Samuel was a tailor and 332 Fore Street was both his residence and the location of his business. The first and second stories are original and the third story was added later. In recent years, it has been home to a variety of retail shops.



THE ARMORY AT THE REGENCY HOTEL

20 Milk Street

Designed by Frederick Tompson and constructed in 1895 as the State of Maine Armory, it was said to be one of the finest and best equipped National Guard armories in New England. The armory's large drill hall was frequently used as a civic auditorium and hosted many concerts and gatherings. Today, it has been reimagined as a hotel and spa - and you can still visit the Armory, now a great place to grab a drink and discuss history!



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4 CENTRAL PROVISIONS 414 Fore Street

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6 GRITTY'S 396 Fore Street

1 HENRY'S PUBLIC HOUSE 375 Fore Street

8 MARINER'S CHURCH 368 Fore Street/11 Moulton Street

9 SAMUEL BUTTS HOUSE 332-334 Fore Street

10 THE ARMORY AT THE REGENCY HOTEL 20 Milk Street



ABOUT PORTLAND DOWNTOWN

Portland Downtown, a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization, stimulates a thriving, vibrant, and sustainable downtown community.

ABOUT THE WALKING TOURS

Undergraduate students from USM's Tourism & Hospitality program designed custom self-guided walking tours through a creative academic curriculum in partnership with Portland Downtown. The City of Portland provided a matching grant to have the walking tours made into professionally designed brochures, which are available for free at locations around Portland and on-line. We hope you enjoy!







CONTACT US

Portland Downtown 22 Free Street, Suite 201, Portland, ME 04101 207.772.6828

portlandmaine.com

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