Want a Tour Guide?

Preservation Burlington provides tour guides for the Waterfront Tours upon request. We meet at Perkins Pier at the end of Maple Street.

Please contact us for a reservation.

Preservation Burlington

P.O. Box 481
Burlington, VT 05402

Phone: 802-985-8435
E-mail: gwenethaline@gmail.com
www.preservationburlington.org

Looking to the future with respect for the past…
1. Old Stone Store (1827), Corner of Maple and Battery Sts.
This building is a significant remnant of the waterfront’s commercial heyday, and was built for the mercantile and shipping firm of Timothy Follett, whose imposing house is several blocks north. The massive load bearing walls were built of Isle la Motte limestone shipped to the wharf by barge.

2. Merchant’s Bank (1850), 202 Battery Street
As waterfront businesses increased so did the need for banks specializing in commercial accounts. Built in the Greek Revival style, the heavy granite piers and lintels lend a solidity designed to signify power.

3. Gideon King House (1798), 35 King Street
Probably the oldest brick building in the city, this was the home of the Lake Champlain shipping industry pioneer. In the early 1800’s, King’s fleet of sailboats held a virtual monopoly on transportation from Whitehall, NY to St. Jean, Quebec. The city’s street plan was approved at a meeting here in the late 18th century.

4. Captain White Place (c. 1830), 43-45 King Street
Like the Gideon King House, this building is closely associated with Burlington’s early maritime history. The earliest known occupants were the Whiet brothers who captained the King’s boats. From the 1970’s to the 1990’s the building was home to the Chickenbone, a colorful bar that became a part of Burlington’s history in its own right.

5. Duggan Row (c. 1885) 94-106 Maple Street
Built and owned by Loomis and Horace Smith, builders and slaters. The prominent mansard roof exhibited the patterns available from the Smith’s slate yard located on South Champlain Street. Polychromatic slate roofs were an important element in architectural styles of the late 19th Century and Vermont quarries were the suppliers of multicolored slate nationwide.

6. Follett House (1840), 69 College Street
Built for Timothy Follett, partner in one of the largest wholesale firms in Vermont and first president of the Rutland Railroad. He went bankrupt along with the railroad in the early 1850’s. The grand Greek Revival residence with a monumental portico was designed by Ammi B. Young, who first worked in Burlington, then Boston, and eventually became the supervising architect to the U.S. Treasury Department. He also designed the State Capitol Building in Montpelier.

7. Union Station (1916), One Main Street
In 1849 not one but two railroads came to Burlington. Competition caused problems for both lines but rail transportation played a vital role in the city’s post Civil War prosperity. Lumber came by water from Canada to be milled in Burlington and shipped by rail to southern markets. The station, which replaced an earlier one, was built by Central Vermont and Rutland railroads Neoclassical Revival Style.

8. Holloway Block, east side of Battery Street between Main and King Streets
Buildings from the early waterfront area have been adapted to new uses and vitality with shops and offices. The centerpiece is the yellow brick home of Dr. John Pomeroy (1793) with a graceful, Federal Style elliptical fanlight and raised entrance. Pomeroy kept a small medical school here before being appointed first medical professor to UVM in 1809.

9. King Street Ferry Dock
This has been the site of shipping activity since the late 18th Century. In 1808 the world’s second steamboat, “The Vermont,” was built and launched here. Today ferries owned by the Lake Champlain Transportation Company run between here and Port Kent, NY. The company operated under the original 1826 charter, the oldest continuous service in the country. The building on the southwest corner of Battery and King was the old office of the steamboat company. At the Burlington Shipyard, one can witness the construction of the 1862 Schooner Louis McClure at the Burlington Shipyard which is being coordinated by the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum.