

ALEXANDER HAMILTON (1757-1804),

one of the Founding Fathers of the United States, spent much of his time right here in Albany, New York. Now, visitors can walk in Hamilton's footsteps, and become intimately familiar with the society and issues that informed his most important decisions. This self-guided walking tour will highlight what Hamilton did when he spent time here, as well as some of the matters he grappled with. Though modern sensibilities tend to sympathize with Hamilton, and his writings in *The Federalist Papers* helped usher in our present form of government, we must understand that during his lifetime, Hamilton's ideas were considered controversial. During Hamilton's lifetime, the city was beset by boisterous public debate on a number of issues, and it was this debate that ultimately led to Hamilton's death.



DISCOVER
ALBANY

PRESENTS

Walking In Hamilton's Footsteps

1 DISCOVER ALBANY VISITORS CENTER

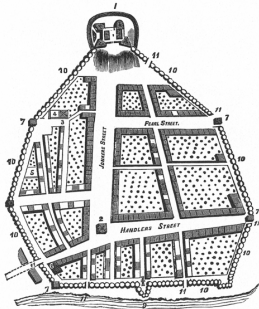
Start your tour off at Discover Albany Visitors Center for history on New York's Capital City!

2 THE QUACKENBUSH HOUSE

Now the home of The Olde English Pub, the Quackenbush House is the second oldest building in Albany. It was built c. 1730 for brick maker Peter Quackenbush and generations of his family lived here for nearly 150 years. During the American Revolution, the home belonged to Col. Henry Quackenbush who fought in the Battle of Saratoga in 1777. Quackenbush escorted British captive General Burgoyne to Albany. They briefly stopped at the Quackenbush house for refreshments before continuing the journey to Schuyler Mansion, where Burgoyne would be imprisoned.

3 THE FIRST CHURCH

The congregation of the First Church in Albany, part of the Reformed Church in America, was established in 1642. It is the second oldest congregation in New York State. State. Aaron Burr's daughter, Theodosia, was married here and Hamilton's in-laws, the Schuylers, were members of the church congregation. After Hamilton's death, the Reverend Eliphalet Nott from the First Presbyterian Church, gave a rousing eulogy at the church titled *On the Death of Hamilton*, which was considered a driving force in the eventual outlawing of dueling.



EARLY FEDERALIST

4 50 STATE STREET: FORMER HOME OF JUDGE JOHN TAYLER

Though the original structure no longer stands, this corner is the location of a pivotal moment in Hamilton's life. Judge Tayler hosted a dinner party at his home at 50 State Street attended by Alexander Hamilton, Philip Schuyler and Taylor's son-in-law Dr. Charles D. Cooper. Cooper later composed a letter detailing the evening, claiming Hamilton called Burr "a dangerous man and ought not to be trusted." The Albany Register obtained a copy of a letter and published it on April 25th, 1804. When Burr demanded a retraction, Hamilton would neither admit nor deny the allegation. Burr challenged Hamilton to a duel on July 11th in Weehawken, New Jersey, where he fatally shot Hamilton.

CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMER

5 ALBANY CITY HALL

Albany City Hall was constructed between 1880-1883, some time after the time of Hamilton. However, in front of its steps, a statue has been erected to celebrate an important figure in Hamilton's Albany life, Revolutionary War General Philip Schuyler. Schuyler was both father-in-law and mentor to Alexander Hamilton. Schuyler and Hamilton were federalist allies and it was Schuyler who chose Hamilton as a delegate for the Constitutional Convention. A lifelong resident of Albany, Schuyler served as member of the New York State Assembly, and was elected to the Continental Congress in 1775. Incensed by British colonial rule, he joined the Continental Army in summer of 1775, and helped the colony overthrow the British. Following the revolution, he was the first Senator for the state of New York. Schuyler lost his seat to Aaron Burr in 1791. This is considered the beginning of Hamilton and Burr's rivalry.



CAPITAL CITY

6 NEW YORK STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

The NYS Capitol Building construction began in 1867 and was declared completed in 1899 at the cost of \$25 million dollars. During Hamilton's life, state government resided in the more modest Stadt Huys, at the foot of State Street, which no longer stands. As the original city hall, the Stadt Huys was home to the local revolutionary movement during the Revolutionary War, and temporary home for the New York State Legislature after the U.S. won its freedom from Great Britain. In 1754, the Albany Plan of Union was drafted at the Stadt Huys with Benjamin Franklin, which was the foundation of the Articles of the Confederation.

HAMILTON AND BURR: POLITICAL RIVALS AND PERSONAL VENDETTAS

7 FORT ORANGE CLUB

The Fort Orange Club has been a private club since 1880. Built in 1810 as the private residence of Samuel Hill. Between 1819 - 1827 it was a boarding house named "Soulden House." Reportedly, Aaron Burr, then disgraced by the duel with Hamilton, stayed the night here.



HISTORIC ALBANY FOUNDATION

Historic Albany Foundation presents guided tours of
"Walking In Hamilton's Footsteps" this summer.
Visit history-albany.org for schedule of tours.