

Rus

N 29th St

N 28th St

This walk begins and ends at Job Carr Cabin Museum in Old Town Park – 2350 N 30th St, Tacoma. Explore the neighborhood where the city of Tacoma began to develop. Find out about the people and places that were important in the history of this area.

Map of Old Town Tacoma

Ruston Way

Ruston Way

Ruston Way

Ruston Way

Ruston Way

Ruston Way

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1 5 N Start St

N 29th St

N 28th St

N 29th St

N 28th St

SAFETY GUIDELINES

- Stick together with your group.
- Stay on the sidewalks and cross streets at intersections. Use crosswalks safely.
- Please be respectful and courteous to our Old Town neighbors walk (no running), use quiet voices, avoid stepping on private lawns, and respect all plants and landscaping.
 - You should be able to complete this route at a comfortable pace in about 30-40 minutes.



STOP 1

Directions: From the Museum, follow the brick path to the sidewalk and continue east along N 30th Street. For Stop 1 pause outside the Anthem Coffee Shop.

Job Carr Painting



Sidewalk Markers



Quick Facts and Questions

Imagine that you are standing here when Job Carr arrived in 1864. There are no roads, lightbulbs, phones, cars, or airplanes. The land is covered in dense forest and the water is full of fish. Would you want to live as a pioneer like Job Carr more than 150 years ago?

As you walk along N 30th Street, look down and notice the sidewalk plaques. They honor 10 women leaders in Tacoma history. How many can you find?

STOP 2

Directions: Continue along N 30th Street to the intersection with Carr Street. *Do not cross Carr Street yet.* For Stop 2, look NE across the street to the building with the mural painted on the side.

Mura



Job Carr and his original log cabin



Quick Facts and Questions

Did you know that Job Carr Cabin Museum is a replica of Job's original cabin? The Museum is located in Old Town Park, but Job built his original cabin in 1865 down the hill along the waterfront. Why would this be a good place to build a house and start a city?

The mural on the building represents how Tacoma grew into a city by 1890. What types of transportation do you see in the painting?

STOP 3

Directions: Cross Carr Street and continue along N 30th Street to the bus stop before the intersection with McCarver Street. *Do not cross McCarver Street yet*. For Stop 3, look NE across the street to the brick building facing McCarver.

Annie Squally Painting



Canoes on the waterfront



Quick Facts and Questions

This painting shows Annie Squally, a Puyallup woman, weaving a basket. The Puyallup people would come to this beach to harvest shellfish. They used cedar trees to make homes, canoes, clothing, baskets and other items. The Puyallup Tribe continues to care for their traditional home, helping to protect the land and water.

Did you know that the word "Tacoma" comes from Lushootseed, the Puyallup language? It is a version of the word for Mount Rainier.



STOP 4

Directions: Wait for the walk signal to cross McCarver Street at the stoplight. Pause by the blue USPS mailbox. For Stop 4, look north across the street to the brick building.

The Spar

Tacoma's main street in 1871

Quick Facts and Questions





This was the center of Tacoma when the town first started to grow in the 1870s. Many businesses lined this street including hotels, groceries, restaurants, and bars. In 1917, The Spar opened in the brick building across the street. It has been a favorite local hangout for over 100 years.

Have you ever eaten at the oldest restaurant in Tacoma (The Spar)?

STOP 5

Directions: Continue along N 30th Street to the intersection with Starr Street. *Do not cross the street here.* For Stop 5, look NE across the street toward the clock in Gateway Park.

Gateway Park

Hanson & Ackerson Mill

Quick Facts and Questions





In the 1870s, Tacoma's first jail stood on this site. On the hillside below was the location of the first sawmill in Tacoma. Sawdust filled the air as machines cut huge trees into lumber for building homes, businesses and boats. Ships came from around the world to carry lumber from the mills to California, Hawaii, and beyond.

How many boats can you see on Commencement Bay today?

STOP 6

Directions: Turn right and walk uphill along Starr Street to St Peter's Church.

St Peter's Church

St Peter's Church in 1874

Quick Facts and Questions





This was the first church built in Tacoma in 1873. The townspeople constructed it in just 7 days! It is now Tacoma's oldest existing building.

Children in Philadelphia raised money for a bell and sent it to Tacoma as a surprise in 1874. The church used a 40-foot tall tree stump as the bell tower for many years. In 2020, the church installed a stronger but shorter bell tower that will last for many years. Look closely at the picture to find out how they used to ring the bell. Would you have been brave enough climb all the way up to the top of the tower?



STOP 7

Directions: Continue uphill along Starr Street until you reach the intersection with N 28th Street. Cross to the SE corner of Starr and N 28th Street. For Stop 7, look at the rock monument by the yellow "Dead End" sign.

Corner of Starr and 28th Street



Schoolhouse Marker



Quick Facts and Questions

This was the location of Tacoma's first public school built in 1869. It was a one-room log cabin. The first year there were 13 students at the school with one teacher. They learned about reading, writing, spelling, penmanship, math, history, and geography. There were no computers, libraries, or playgrounds here yet.

Would you like to attend a school like that?

STOP 8

Directions: Cross Starr Street and walk along N 28th Street to the intersection with McCarver. *Do not cross McCarver Street yet.* For Stop 8, pause to look at the rock monument on the corner and down the hill to Old Town Dock.

McCarver Marker



McCarver Family Home



Quick Facts and Questions

Morton Matthew McCarver arrived in 1868 and was very excited about the new town of Tacoma. His family built the first non-log cabin in Tacoma. In 1873, he built a dock at the bottom of the hill so that ships could stop here. He wanted to tell everyone that Tacoma was going to be amazing!

What do you think is the most amazing thing about Tacoma?

STOP 9

Directions: Cross McCarver Street and walk along N 28th Street to the intersection with Carr Street. Cross to the NW corner of Carr and N 28th Street. For Stop 9, pause by the teal home on the corner.

Seaman's Rest



Seaman's Rest in the 1890s



Quick Facts and Questions

This house was built in 1883. In 1897, Birgette Funnemark and her daughter Christine moved in and opened their home as a place of safety and rest for sailors during their time in Tacoma. Hundreds of travelers visited to write letters to their families, read the latest newspapers, play dominoes, and enjoy free cookies and coffee. The Funnemarks helped many homesick sailors to feel like they had a family in Tacoma.

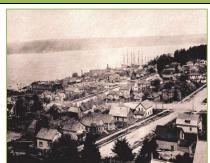
How can you help others to feel welcome in your school and community?



STOP 10

Directions: Continue downhill along Carr Street to the intersection with N 29th Street. For Stop 10, pause at the intersection with the traffic circle.

Carr Street ST 2 300



Old Town Tacoma in the 1908

Quick Facts and Questions

The Northern Pacific Railroad decided to build their train tracks 2 miles away and start the town of "New Tacoma" in 1873. The two towns kept growing and in 1884 they merged to form one Tacoma.

You can view the original NPRR train tracks along the Prairie Line Trail in Downtown Tacoma. The train tracks that you can see along the Old Town waterfront today were added in 1913.

Why do you think the railroad was important for Tacoma?

STOP 11

Directions: Continue downhill along Carr Street to the intersection with N 30th Street. Turn left on N 30th Street and return to Old Town Park. For Stop 11, pause at the canoe.





THANK YOU!

We hope you enjoyed exploring Old Town and learning about Tacoma history.

We invite you to visit Job Carr Cabin Museum and check out the history displays in Old Town Park.

What was your favorite stop along this tour?

