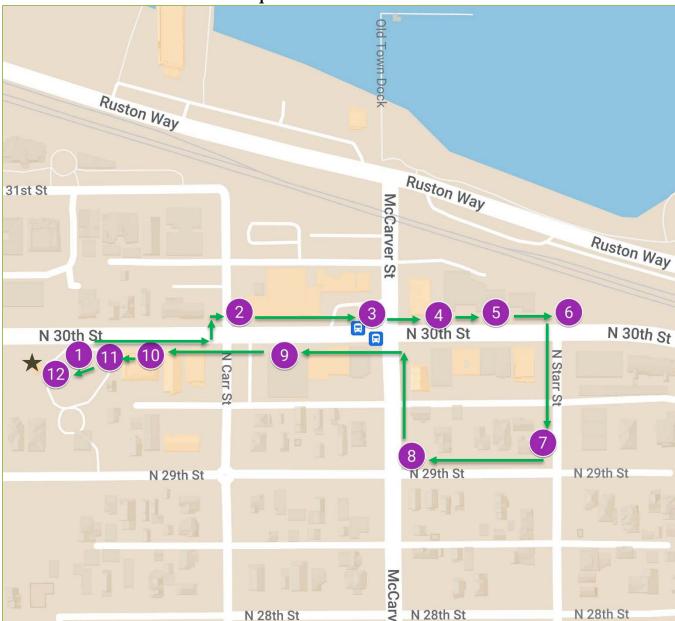


This walk begins and ends at Job Carr Cabin Museum in Old Town Park – 2350 N 30th St, Tacoma. Find out about people and places that were important in local history while exploring this neighborhood.

Map of Old Town Tacoma



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 St. For Stop 1 pause at the bulletin board in Old Town Park to read a little about Job Carr.

Old Town Park Bulletin Board



Job Carr's Cabin in 1866



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. Your nearest neighbors are the Puyallup people; one of their main villages is about 3 miles away.

Why do you think Job Carr chose this location as a good place to build a home and start a city?

STOP 2

Directions: Continue east along N 30th St to the intersection with Carr St. Use the flashing crosswalk to help you safely cross N 30th St. Then turn right to cross Carr St. For Stop 2, pause at the mural painted on the side of the building.

Mural of Tacoma in 1890



First Train to Tacoma



Quick Facts and Questions

Job Carr knew that a railroad was being built from the Great Lakes to Puget Sound. He believed this would be the perfect spot for the trains to arrive. Can you find the image of Job Carr's cabin in the mural?

In 1873, the Northern Pacific Railroad announced that Tacoma was selected as the terminus of its transcontinental railroad. The train brought thousands of new people to the growing city.

The mural on the building represents Tacoma in 1890. What different types of jobs are people doing in the painting?

STOP 3

Directions: Continue east along N 30th St to the intersection with McCarver St. *Do not cross McCarver Street yet.* For Stop 3, look across the street to the painting on the brick building and down the hill to the waterfront.

Annie Squally Painting



Puvallup weavers



Quick Facts and Questions

This painting shows Annie Squally, a Puyallup woman, weaving a basket. The Puyallup people came 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 St at the stoplight. Continue east along N 30th St just past the brick building (The Spar). For Stop 4, pause by the metal railing and look across the street to the Old Towne Apartments. *Please do not block business entrances*.

Old Towne Apartments



Old Town Tacoma in 1908



Quick Facts and Questions

As Tacoma's population grew, several Jewish families opened stores on this street. Many were immigrants from Germany and Poland. Some had fled religious persecution. Others were drawn to the possibilities in America.

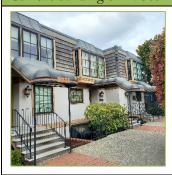
From the 1880s to 1920, brothers Amil and Sol Zelinsky owned a grocery store in the location that is now Old Towne Apartments. Their friend Louis Wolff had a clothing store on this side of the street from 1872 to 1896.

Why do you think immigrants might have wanted to move to Tacoma?

STOP 5

Directions: Continue east along N 30th St. For Stop 5, pause at the building with the three awnings (2111/2107/2105 N 30th Street). *Please do not block business entrances*.

Current building on N 30th



Janet Elder Steele



Quick Facts and Questions

Janet Elder Steele arrived in Tacoma in 1869 with her husband and two toddlers. She purchased land and building supplies, and soon opened one of the first businesses, the Steele Hotel. It was known as the best place to stay for travelers between Olympia and Victoria.

Janet is just one of many notable women in Tacoma history. As you walk along N 30th St, keep an eye out for markers in the sidewalk. They honor 10 women leaders in Tacoma history. How many can you find?

STOP 6

Directions: Continue east along N 30th St to Gateway Park. For Stop 6, walk to the edge of the park overlooking the water. Look east to see two large naval ships at dock. Chinese Reconcilitation Park is hidden by the freeway overpass.



Chinese Reconciliation Park



Quick Facts and Questions

In the 1870s, Chinese migrant workers helped build the railroad tracks to Tacoma. Many of them started homes and businesses in the growing town. Other settlers were fearful of the Chinese community because they looked and spoke differently. In 1885, a mob led by Tacoma's mayor forced all the Chinese residents to leave.

A century later, Chinese Reconciliation Park was created to acknowledge and heal from this tragic history. How do you think it might feel to work on a big project for your community, and then be excluded?



STOP 7

Directions: From Gateway Park, use the flashing crosswalk to help you safely cross N 30th St. Walk uphill (south) along Starr Street to St Peter's Church. For Stop 7, pause by the church bell tower.

St Peter's Church



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 8

Directions: Continue uphill to the intersection with N 29th Street. Turn right and walk west to the intersection with McCarver. *Do not cross McCarver Street.* For Stop 8, look at the large house on the opposite corner of the intersection.

Pohlman House



Quick Facts and Questions

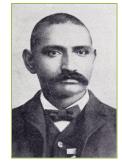
In 1903, French shipbuilder William Pohlman built the house on the opposite corner of this intersection. He and his new wife Pearle welcomed many immigrants and travelers from around the world to spend their first days in America here. The house became known as "Shining Hill" where no one was a stranger.

How can you help everyone in your school or community to feel welcomed and included?

STOP 9

Directions: Walk down the hill to the intersection with N 30th Street. Wait for the walk signal to cross McCarver St at the stoplight. Continue west along N 30th St. For Stop 9, pause by the Tacoma Power Old Town Substation.





Iohn Conna

Quick Facts and Questions

John Conna arrived in Tacoma in 1883 with his wife and nine children. They were the first African American family to live in Tacoma in a house several blocks up the hill.

Like Job Carr, John Conna was a Civil War veteran looking for new opportunities. He quickly became the city's leading real estate broker working in an office building that was located where the substation now stands. John was also active in politics. In 1889, he became the first black appointee in the Washington state legislature, serving as the Sergeant At Arms.

How do you show leadership in your school or community?



STOP 10

Directions: Cross Carr Street and continue to walk west along N 30th Street. For Stop 10, pause by the fish statue in front of Slavonian Hall.

A Fish Story

Slavonian Hall in 1907



Quick Facts and Questions

In the early 1900s, famine and war in their home country brought Croatian immigrants to Tacoma. By the mid-20th century, about 60% of Old Town's residents were of Croatian descent. These fishermen and boatbuilders saw a familiar landscape on the shores of Puget Sound. The Old Town waterfront soon became the center of a large fleet of fishing boats.

In 1907, the close network of the Croatian community opened this hall to serve as a gathering place. The hall continues to celebrate Croatian heritage with traditional foods, music, and language classes.

How do you celebrate and share your cultural traditions?

STOP 11

Directions: Continue walking west along N 30th St. For Stop 11, pause at the sidewalk marker for Thea Foss, near the entrance to Anthem Coffee.

Thea Foss Sidewalk Marker



Thea Foss



Quick Facts and Questions

As you walked along N 30th St, how many markers did you find in the sidewalk? They honor 10 women leaders in Tacoma history, including Thea Foss.

Immigrants from Norway, Thea and Andrew Foss came to America in search of adventure and opportunities for their growing family. In 1889, they began renting rowboats in Tacoma, and soon added tugboats to their fleet. Their company quickly grew, and Foss Maritime is now one of the largest marine transportation companies on the West Coast.

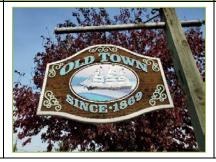
STOP 12

Directions: Continue walking to Old Town Park. For Stop 12, pause at the canoe.

Job Carr Cabın Museum



Old Town Since 1869



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?