

FINANCIAL HISTORY WALKING TOUR

The self-guided walking tour, which covers about two miles, highlights many of New Orleans' historic landmarks that played a role in the rich history of the city. See the brief descriptions of these numbered locations on the next page.



1 STATUE OF HENRY CLAY, LAFAYETTE SQUARE

Just outside the New Orleans Branch in Lafayette Square stands a statue of the senator from Kentucky who defended the Bank of the United States.

**2 COTTON EXCHANGE
231 CARONDELET STREET**

The Cotton Exchange was established in 1871 by 18 of the city's leading cotton merchants. The Cotton Exchange introduced such innovative financial practices as futures trading. The building is currently a hotel.

**3 OLD FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
147 CARONDELET STREET**

Built in 1923, this building housed the New Orleans Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank until 1966. It is currently a business that offers a variety of security services as well as safe-deposit boxes for rent in the old cash vault.

**4 BANK OF LOUISIANA
334 ROYAL STREET**

Built in 1826, this building first opened as the Bank of Louisiana in 1836 and is currently a police station.

**5 BANK OF THE UNITED STATES (SECOND)
343 ROYAL STREET**

The New Orleans branch of the Bank of the United States was one of the first banks to open in the city, at 301 Chartres Street. After the Bank of the United States was rechartered in 1816, it opened another branch in New Orleans, at 343 Royal Street, which now houses an antique shop.

**6 LOUISIANA STATE BANK
403 ROYAL STREET**

Louisiana State Bank was designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe, who was also known as the "Father of American Architecture" and whose work includes the U.S. Capitol Building. The building is now an event space that you can tour.

**7 LOUISIANA BANK (BANQUE DE LA LOUISIANE)
417 ROYAL STREET**

This bank and the Bank of the United States branch were the first two banks in New Orleans to open, in 1805. The site now houses a famous New Orleans restaurant.

**8 MASPERO'S EXCHANGE
(LA BOURSE DE MASPERO)
440 CHARTRES STREET**

Erected in 1788, this building was the site of a coffeehouse and exchange, most infamously of slaves. It is also believed to be the site where Jackson met Lafitte to discuss the Battle of New Orleans. The building now holds a restaurant.

**9 FORSTALL HOUSE
920 ST. LOUIS STREET**

The home of Edmond Forstall, a merchant turned banker and a director of the Citizens Bank of Louisiana, was built in 1857. The mansion has been converted to luxury condominiums.

**10 THE CABILDO
701 CHARTRES STREET**

The Cabildo was built under Spanish rule as a governing center and has since served as a city hall, courthouse, prison, and now, a museum. In 1803, it was the site of the Louisiana Purchase transfer. Just in front of the Cabildo, in the middle of Jackson Square, is a statue of Andrew Jackson.

**11 LAFITTE'S BLACKSMITH SHOP
941 BOURBON STREET**

Legend has it that the Lafitte brothers operated this blacksmith shop, built in 1772, as a front for their privateer enterprises.

**12 FRENCH MARKET
DECATUR AND ST. PHILLIP STREETS**

The French Market has existed on the same site since 1791. It serves today as a trading place for a large variety of goods.

**13 THE MINT
400 ESPLANADE AVENUE**

The Mint was built in 1835 to meet the coin demands of westward expansion and international trade. For a short time, it produced confederate coinage. It is now part of the Louisiana State Museum.



FEDERAL
RESERVE
BANK
of ATLANTA

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