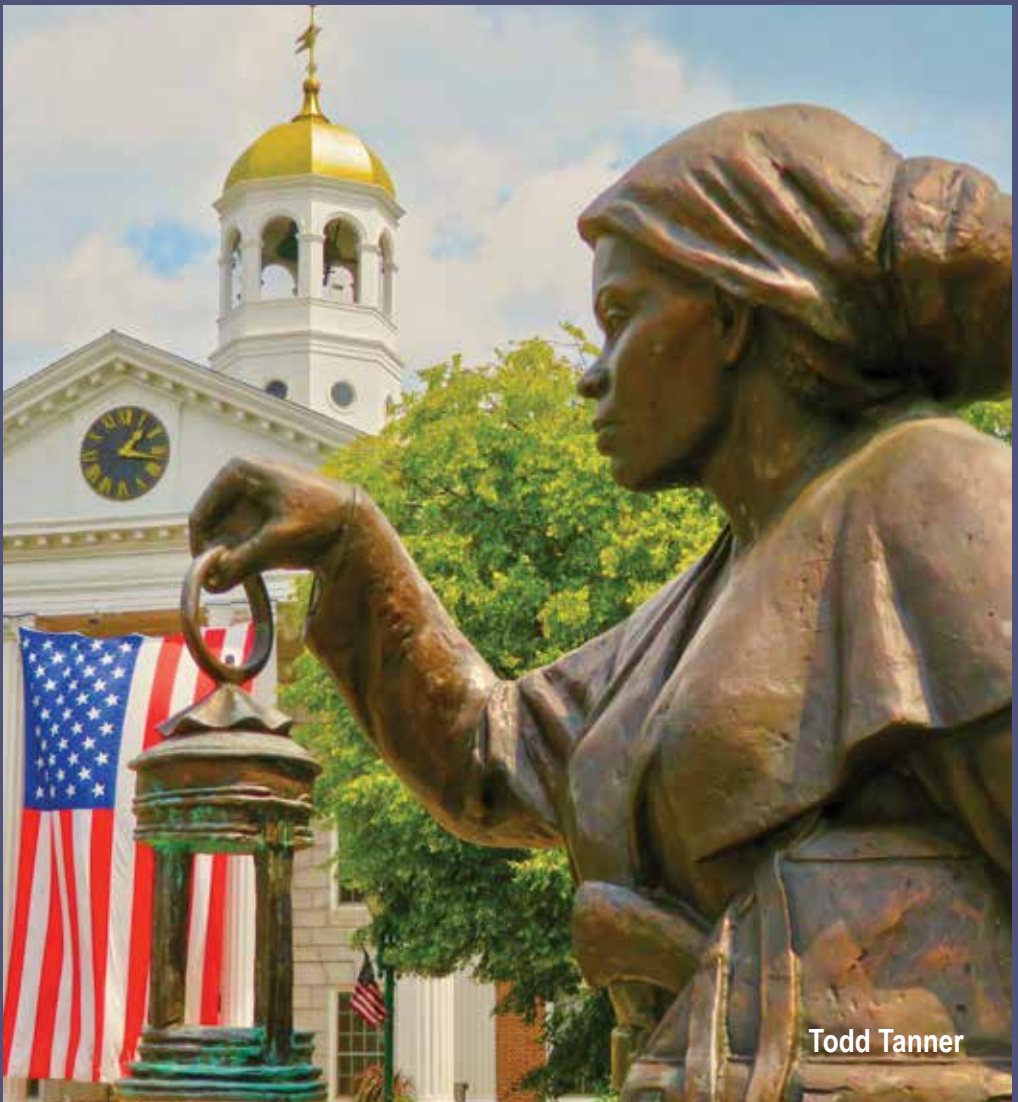


Meet me in
AUBURN

VISITOR GUIDE

New York



Todd Tanner



Shining a Light on Auburn, NY

Visiting Auburn

Begin your experience at Auburn's Visitor Information Center located downtown at 25 South Street adjacent to the Seward House Museum. Here you can...



Find traveler resources, public restrooms, and free WiFi. Our visitor specialists are here to assist you with the latest information.



Learn about the egalitarian history that makes Auburn the incredible city it is today.



Relax in the courtyard that is carefully watched over by our famous Harriet Tubman statue.



Find regionally sourced products at the Taste NY Market.



Auburn, NY Visitor Center

25 South Street, Auburn, NY 13021
visitauburnny.com | (315) 258-9820

Kevin Rivoli



Welcome to Auburn

As Mayor of this vibrant city nestled in the heart of the Finger Lakes region, it is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all.

Steeped in history and innovation, Auburn boasts a legacy that spans centuries. From our historic and cultural sites to the stately architecture of our South Street Area Historic District, you will learn that every corner of Auburn tells a story, and we invite you to come experience it all. William H. Seward was President Lincoln's top advisor and the network of regional abolitionists that aided in the Underground Railroad led Harriet Tubman—one of our nation's greatest freedom fighters—to call Auburn her home for her final 54 years.

Whether you're observing exhibits at the Schweinfurth Art Center, viewing the Tiffany glass at the Willard Memorial Chapel, exploring the birthplace of sound film at the Case Research Lab, catching a show at Auburn Public Theater, or sampling our multicultural cuisine and

craft beverages at local establishments, there's always something new to discover in Auburn.

Our city has endless opportunities to connect with nature and experience the picturesque landscapes of the Finger Lakes. Enjoy skating at Casey Park or take in a summer concert at Hoopes Park and you will see that our beautiful parks enhance our small city lifestyle.

Whether you're a first-time visitor or a returning guest, our community takes pride in making everyone feel welcome, ensuring that your time in Auburn is nothing short of memorable and we hope you enjoy History's Hometown.

Warm regards,

James N. Giannettino, Jr.
Mayor of Auburn, New York



Harriet Tubman



Eliza Wright Osborne



William Henry Seward

Small City, Big History

From **Harriet Tubman's** chosen home to the creation of movies with sound, many of the City of Auburn's attractions are intertwined through world-changing people, places, and inventions.

Take William H. Seward, famous for negotiating the 1867 purchase of Alaska, which was criticized at the time as Seward's Folly. He moved to Auburn in 1824 after marrying



Seward House Museum and garden

Frances Miller and became a state senator, governor, U.S. senator, and secretary of state to Presidents Lincoln and Johnson. The home he and his family occupied is now the **Seward House Museum**, which contains one of the largest original collections in the United States.

Frances Seward befriended Tubman and opened her home as a stop on the

Underground Railroad. In 1860, Frances sold Tubman a farm at 180 South Street, where Tubman lived for 54 years and built the **Harriet Tubman Home for Aged and Infirm Negroes**. Tubman later

helped build the **Thompson Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church** on Parker Street, a center of Auburn's Black community for over 100 years. The church and Tubman's

home are part of the **Harriet Tubman National Historical Park**. The church is owned by the National Park Service, while Tubman's home and Home for Aged are run by Harriet Tubman Home Inc., an independent nonprofit.

Both Tubman and the Seward family are buried in **Fort Hill Cemetery**, as are Theodore Case, inventor of sound on

film; Martha Coffin Wright, suffragist and political activist; and Colonel John H. Hardenbergh, founder of Auburn. Also buried at Fort Hill are Silas and Jane Bradley, who funded construction of Bradley Chapel at the cemetery's main entrance. The chapel's architect was Auburn native Julius Schweinfurth, a Boston architect who set up a trust that was used in the late 1970s to build the **Schweinfurth Art Center**. Walter Long, former director of the **Cayuga Museum of History & Art**, also served as the Schweinfurth's first director.



The Diplomatic Gallery at the Seward House Museum

The Cayuga Museum is a central spoke for historical connections throughout Auburn. The museum is located in the former home of the Willards and Cases. Sisters Georgiana and Caroline Willard installed a Tiffany window in their home and, after the death of their parents, engaged Tiffany Glass and Decorating Co. to build and furnish **Willard Memorial Chapel** in their memory. The chapel, known as the Tiffany Treasure of the Finger Lakes, remains the only complete and unaltered Tiffany-designed religious interior in the world.

Cousin Willard Case inherited the Willard home. He and his son, Theodore, converted one of the property's greenhouses into a laboratory, where Theodore Case invented sound-on-film

technology. The building now houses the **Case Research Laboratory**, a museum that highlights the invention that forever altered the film industry. The site is featured on the Finger Lakes Film Trail, which also includes the George Eastman Museum in Rochester and the Wharton Studio Museum in Ithaca.



Case Research Laboratory

Willard Case donated the land and the money to build the **Seymour Public Library**, which was opened in 1903 and has extensive information about Tubman's life in Auburn. The limestone and brick structure was designed by the same New York City firm that designed

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Women's Education and Industrial Union, now the location of NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

the New York Public Library. Seymour Library has its own set of stone lions that can be seen above the original Genesee Street entrance.

In 1936, Theodore Case sold his mansion to Walter Long for “\$1 and a box of cigars” to create the Cayuga Museum and later donated his research lab and contents. The property also includes a brick carriage house outfitted with a movie theater and sound studio. In 1958, the carriage house became home to Auburn Children’s Theater, which later grew into the Merry-Go-Round Playhouse at Emerson Park, now known as **The REV Theatre Company**.

The Playhouse’s centerpiece chandelier came from the Women’s Educational and Industrial Union, formerly located across from Memorial City Hall where the **NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center** now sits. The Women’s Union later merged with the Auburn YMCA.

Both the WEIU and City Hall were gifts of the Osborne family, whose descendants include agriculture industrialist David Munson Osborne; his wife, Eliza Wright Osborne; and their prison reformer son, Thomas Mott Osborne.

D.M. Osborne & Co. became a world leader in machine manufacturing and was acquired by International Harvester Co. Learn more about this story at **Ward W. O’Hara Agricultural Museum**, located across from **Emerson Park**.

Eliza Wright Osborne—like her mother, Martha Coffin Wright, and aunt Lucretia Mott—made her home a hotbed of abolition and suffrage activity and founded the WEIU. She also was an associate of Harriet Tubman, helping the Underground Railroad conductor with her finances. The remaining wing of the former Osborne mansion is now the Osborne Center for Social Justice.

Auburn may be a small city, but it is large with history.



James Ewing



Iwan Baan

NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center

25 South Street
315.258.9820
equalrightsheritage.com

The official tourism hub for the City of Auburn, the welcome center has interactive displays, traveler resources, Taste NY Market, and a bronze Harriet Tubman statue in the courtyard. Make this your first stop before touring Auburn's historic and cultural sites.





Harriet Tubman National Historical Park

National Park Service
47-49 Parker Street
315.237.7197
nps.gov/hart

The park preserves the Thompson Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and Parsonage. Seasonal tours, exhibits, children's activities, and restrooms are available.



Harriet Tubman Home
180 South Street
315.252.2081
harriettubmanhome.com

This nonprofit manages and operates the homestead of Harriet Tubman, which includes the Harriet Tubman Visitor Center, Tubman Home for Aged and Infirm Negroes, barn, and residence.





\$8



Willard Memorial Chapel

17 Nelson Street
315.252.0339
willard-chapel.com

The chapel and adjoining Welch Memorial Building are the only remaining buildings of the Auburn Theological Seminary, an educational facility founded in 1820. The buildings were used for religious education until 1939. In 1990, the Community Preservation Committee bought the chapel when owners sought to sell the Tiffany windows.





Seymour Library

176 Genesee Street
315.252.2571
seymourlibrary.org

Housed in the historic Case Memorial Building since 1903, Seymour Library offers a rich blend of history, learning, and discovery. Designed by Carrère and Hastings, the architects behind the New York Public Library, Seymour Library is an Auburn landmark featuring robust programming, a diverse collection of books and resources, and a dedicated History Discovery Center for local history and genealogy research.





Schweinfurth Art Center

205 Genesee Street
315.255.1553
myartcenter.org

A leading art institution in Central New York, the Schweinfurth hosts more than a dozen contemporary art exhibits in its three galleries featuring local, regional, national, and international artists. The art center also offers classes for both youth and adults taught by artists.



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Seward House Museum

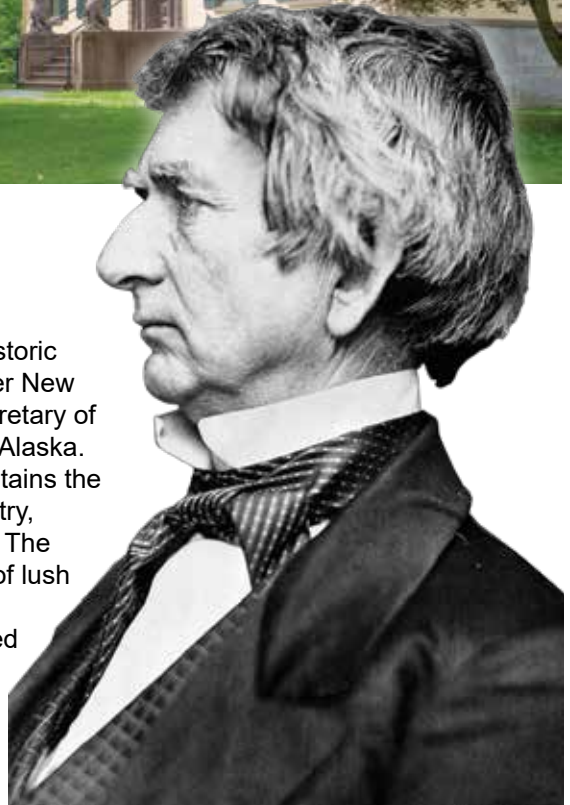


33 South Street
315.252.1283
sewardhouse.com

The Seward House Museum is the historic home of William Henry Seward, former New York governor, U.S. Senator, and Secretary of State responsible for the purchase of Alaska. The home has been restored and contains the largest original collections in the country, including travel and political souvenirs. The museum is surrounded by two acres of lush gardens and trees. The home's basement served as a stop on the Underground Railroad.



VisitAuburnNY.com





Cayuga Museum of History & Art

203 Genesee Street
315.253.8051
cayugamuseum.org

The Cayuga Museum operates three historic buildings: the 1836 Greek Revival Willard-Case mansion, the Case Research Laboratory, and the Carriage House Theater. The museum offers the Creative Explorers Children's Gallery and revolving exhibits on the people, places, and stories that shaped Cayuga County and the nation.





Case Research Laboratory

203 Genesee Street
315.253.8051
cayugamuseum.org/
caseresearchlab

Part of the Cayuga Museum of History & Art, the Case Research Laboratory is where inventor Theodore Case and his team developed sound on film. Join one of the museum's docents to learn about the history of sound film through a guided tour in the spring and summer months.



\$3



Auburn Public Theater



8 Exchange Street
315.253.6669
auburnpublictheater.org

Established in 2005, Auburn Public Theater is a non-profit, multi-venue performing arts center that celebrates diverse voices and artistic expression. The theater brings people together through affordable access to live performances, cinema, arts education, and community events, and operates Cafe 108 to support its mission.





Fort Hill Cemetery

19 Fort Street
315.253.8132
forthillcemetery.net

Steeped in history, Fort Hill is a must-see for history buffs. It is the final resting place for Harriet Tubman and many local historical figures. Due to its geographic location, Fort Hill was used by Indigenous Americans in the 16th Century and is regarded as one of the best preserved fortified villages of the Gayoghó:nq' (Cayuga) Nation. The cemetery is home to the iconic Chief Logan Monument.



Looking to buy or sell a home?

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Annual Auburn Events

YEAR-ROUND

First Friday (First Friday of every month): Participating venues – historic and cultural sites, eateries, breweries, & shops – offer free entertainment, food & beverage specials, & discounts

WINTER

Brave Brews (early March): Kick off Women’s History Month by celebrating women in the craft beer industry

Harriet Tubman Day (March 10):

Annual commemorations celebrating the life and legacy of Harriet Tubman Davis in her free home and resting place

SPRING

Memorial Day City Celebration: Parade followed by ceremony at Veteran’s Memorial Park; food truck rodeo & music in Market Street Park bandshell

City Summer Concert Series (late May



through early September): Free live music at city parks and in downtown Auburn

PRIDE Celebration (June): Community partners proudly collaborate on the annual LGBTQIA+ Pride Rally & more during Pride Month

Juneteenth City Celebration (mid-June): Commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans with speakers,

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Annual Auburn Events

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

events & a parade to Booker T. Washington Community Center for a festival

SUMMER

Downtown Saturday Market (Saturdays late June through late August): Local businesses, artisans & more provide family fun at the visitor center

City Summer Movie Series (July and August): Mondays weekly in various parks & playgrounds at dusk

Founder's Day (early August): Live music, antique & classic car show, street festival, food & family fun

AUTUMN

Art in the Park (mid-September): Annual arts festival in Hoopes Park with 100-plus artisan vendors, plus food trucks, music, & activities



Christmas Tree Lighting (Saturday after Thanksgiving): City of Auburn tree lighting, visits with Santa, holiday shopping, & musical entertainment

Holiday Traditions (early December): Tour Auburn's historic & cultural sites, museums, & churches for free exhibits, musical performances, programs & refreshments

Experience the Sweet Treat

t r a i l



The family-friendly Finger Lakes Sweet Treat Trail is all about the unique sweets and treats that Cayuga County has to offer. Whether it is honey or homemade cookies, this self-guided tour has something to satisfy your sweet tooth cravings. Many of our treats are made using ingredients from local farms such as milk, butter and eggs. Learn about this important step to creating delicious and healthy Sweet Treats!



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Cayuga County Office of Tourism • 25 South Street • Auburn, NY 13021
SweetTreatTrail.com TourCayuga.com



Explore Walkable Downtown



SCENIC TOURS

Pick up a brochure at NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center for **Auburn Public Art Trail**, **Harriet Tubman's Lantern Trail**, and **South Street Historic Walking Tour**

LIFESIZE LEGENDS

Harriet Tubman Statue 25 South Street

A bronze statue of Civil War-era Tubman is the plaza centerpiece at the Equal Rights Heritage Center

William H. Seward Statue 35 South Street

This 9-foot statue depicts Seward as he addressed the U.S. Senate opposing the Fugitive Slave Act

Thomas Mott Osborne Statue 46 North Street

Honors the prison reformer who also was Auburn mayor and warden of Sing Sing Correctional Facility

Copper John Statue 135 State Street

A Revolutionary soldier has stood guard on the Auburn Correctional Facility Administration Building since 1821.





Urban Retreats



Violet Sky Photography

Casey Park

150 North Division Street

Cayuga County's Emerson Park

6877 East Lake Road

Falcon Park & Leo Pinckney Field

130 North Division Street

Freedom Park

17 North Street

Hoopas Park

100 South Herman Avenue

Miles/Lepak Permaculture Park

53 Garrow Street

Owasco River Trail

Canal Street

River Overlook

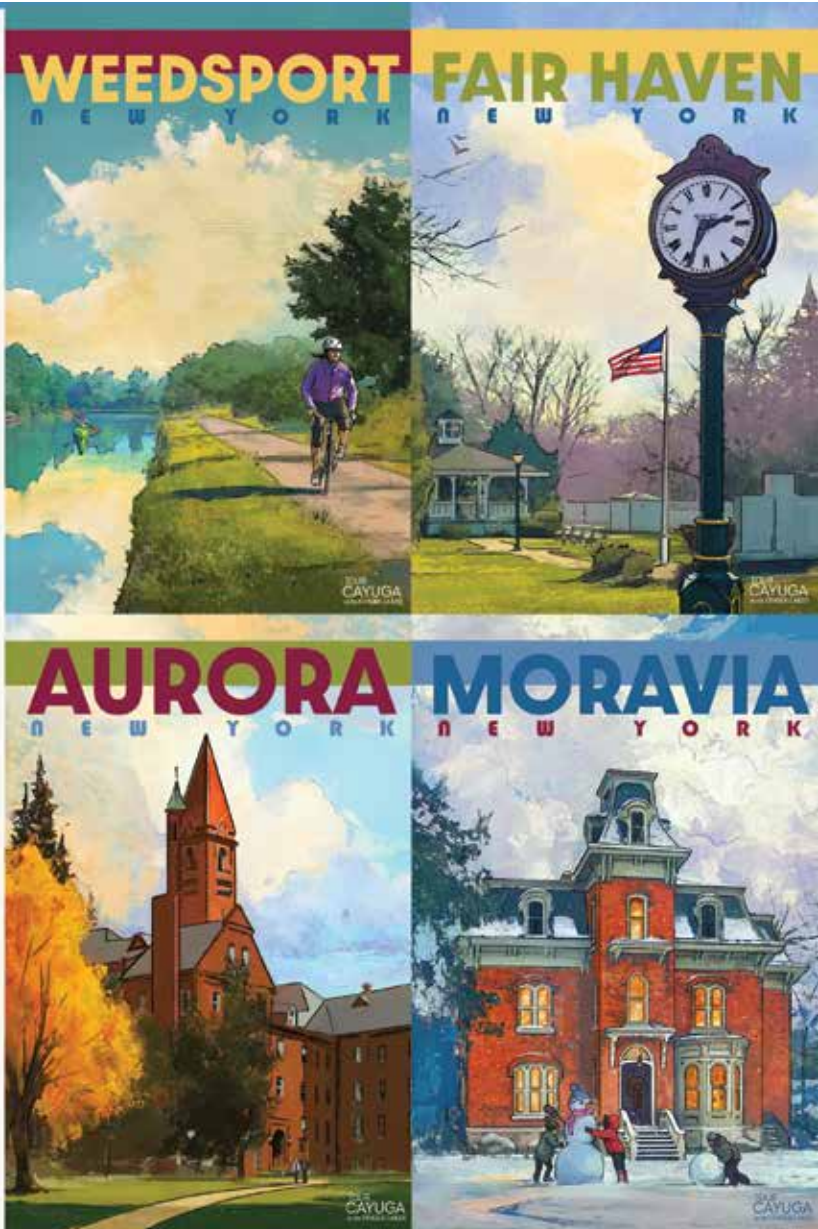
West Garden Street

Veterans Memorial Park

172 Genesee Street



E.J. Vivencio



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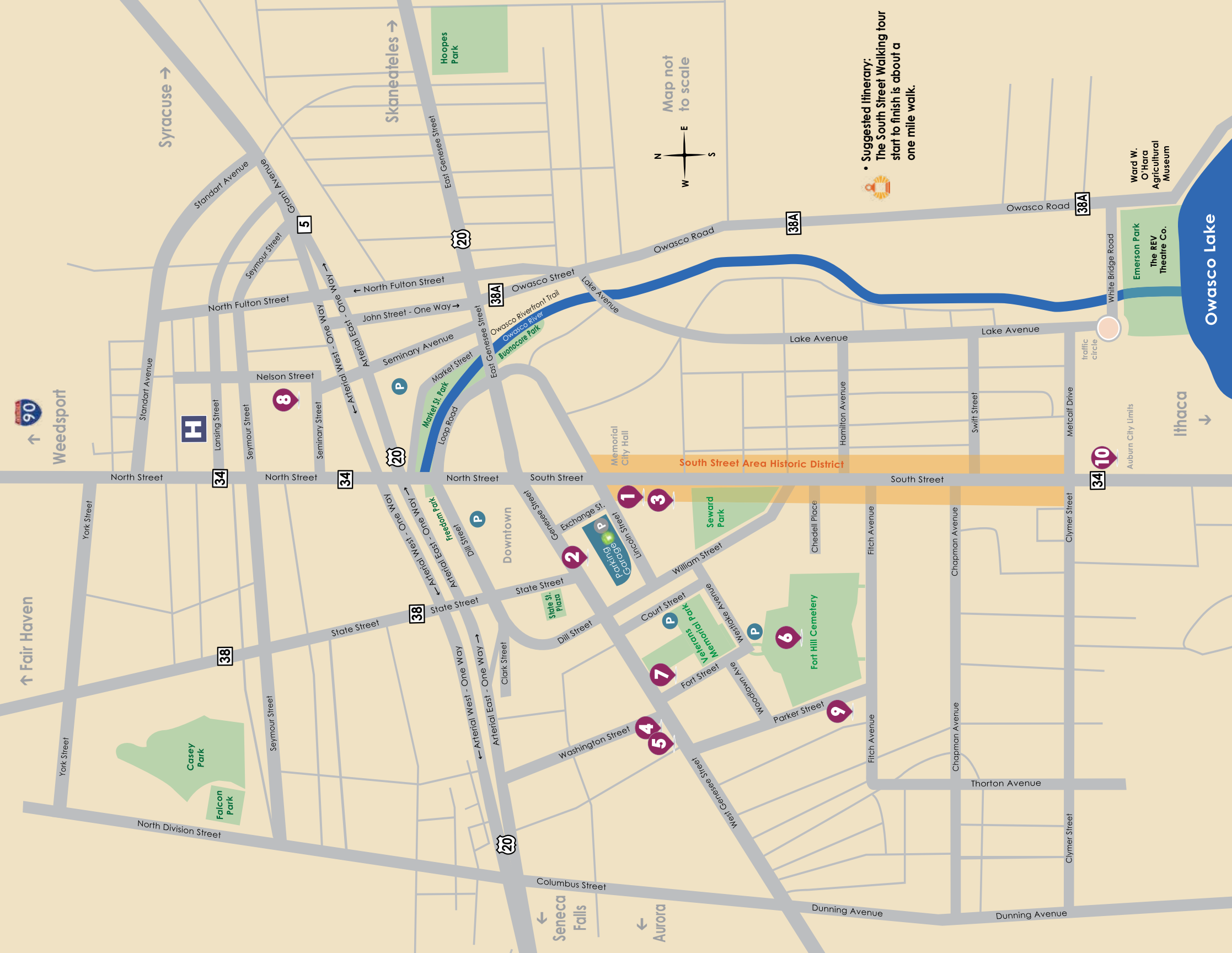
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Auburn Wayfinding Map

Explore History's Hometown. See where iconic American heroes Harriet Tubman and William H. Seward helped lead enslaved people to freedom on the Underground Railroad. Marvel at the architecture in the South Street Area Historic District and stroll through Fort Hill Cemetery to visit the gravesites of Tubman and Seward. View outstanding examples of Tiffany glass at the Willard Memorial Chapel, Cayuga Museum of History & Art, and Westminster

Presbyterian Church. Visit the birthplace of sound film at the Case Research Lab and take in a contemporary art exhibit or quilt show at the Schweinfurth Art Center. Shop and dine in historic downtown, and enjoy live music, comedy, or dance performances at Auburn Public Theater. Start your journey at the Auburn NY Visitor Center.

Open for Auburn Wayfinding Map





PARKING IN DOWNTOWN AUBURN

P The Downtown City Parking Garage is located on Lincoln Street across from the NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center and offers convenient covered parking in the center of downtown. The garage is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and is equipped with electric car charging stations. The inside upper levels offer short and long-term pay-to-park options. The lower level of the garage, next to the Exchange Street Plaza, offers short-term metered and kiosk pay-to-park rates.

P Court Street parking lot is located near the Auburn YMCA and Cayuga County Office Building. A drive-up kiosk services the lot with a maximum time limit of 10 hours.

P Dill Street parking lot is located between Dill Street and Genesee Street. A drive-up kiosk services the lot, which has a maximum time limit of eight hours. The CENTRO bus stop is also located at this lot and serves as the main transfer location for CENTRO's Auburn bus lines.

P Seminary Avenue parking lot is located behind the building with the iconic Genesee Beer sign. A drive-up kiosk services the lot with a maximum time limit of 8 hours.

On-street parking is available throughout downtown. If an on-street spot does not have a parking meter, look on the block for the parking kiosk. On-street parking can also be paid for via smartphone with the Pango Mobile Parking app. Find all parking information and rates at auburdowntown.org/find-us or auburnny.gov/parking.

- 1 NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center & Auburn NY Visitor Center**
25 South Street
(315) 258-9820
equalrightsheritage.com
- 2 Auburn Public Theater**
8 Exchange Street
(315) 253-6669
auburnpublictheater.org
- 3 Seward House Museum**
33 South Street
(315) 252-1283
sewardhouse.org
- 4 Cayuga Museum of History & Art Case Research Laboratory**
203 Genesee Street
(315) 253-8051
cayugamuseum.org
- 5 Schweinfurth Art Center**
205 Genesee Street
(315) 255-1553
myartcenter.org

- 6 Fort Hill Cemetery**
19 Fort Street
(315) 253-8132
forthillcemetery.net
- 7 Seymour Library**
176 Genesee Street
(315) 252-2571
seymourlibrary.org
- 8 Willard Memorial Chapel**
17 Nelson Street
(315) 252-0339
willard-chapel.com
- Harriet Tubman National Historical Park A Partnership Park**
- 9 National Park Service**
47 - 49 Parker Street
(315) 237-7197
nps.gov/hart
- 10 Harriet Tubman Home, Inc.**
180 South Street
(315) 252-2081
harrietubmanhome.com



Auburn, NY Visitor Center
25 South Street
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Auburn Visitor Information
(315) 258-9820

FOLLOW THE AUBURN, NY VISITOR CENTER



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See back for expanded Auburn map