



HERITAGE
TRAIL
LEBANON COUNTY

Map

LEB

Downtown Lebanon

Thanks for making a visit to historic Downtown Lebanon part of your day. As you look around, be sure to look upward and take in the wonderful and unique architecture of our downtown buildings. They are an integral part of our history which dates back to the mid-1700s.

On October 17, 1732, George Adam Steitz arrived in Philadelphia en route to the Lebanon Valley. On December 19, 1737, he laid claim to 313 acres along the Quittapahilla Run where he took up farming. In 1756, after gaining additional acreage, he began to organize his lots according to a town plan and named it Steitztown.

Sometime later, Moravians in the area applied pressure to have the name of their town changed to Lebanon, as it was their custom to give Biblical names to geographical locations. The name Lebanon was chosen after the township in which Steitztown resided.

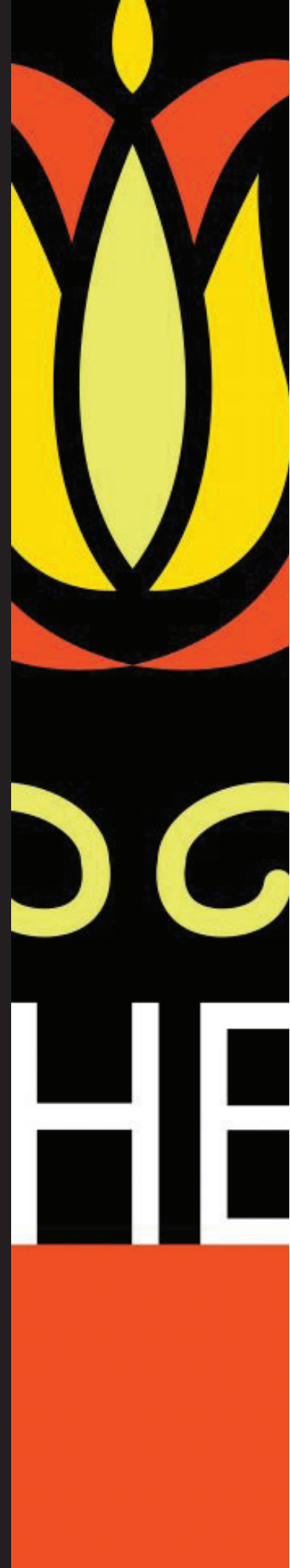
Both Lebanon and Lebanon Township originally were part of Lancaster County, which was established in 1729. In 1785, Lebanon and Lebanon Township were partitioned into Dauphin County. In 1813, the area was divided from Dauphin County to form Lebanon County as it exists today. After a spirited contest with Jonestown, Lebanon was chosen as county seat.

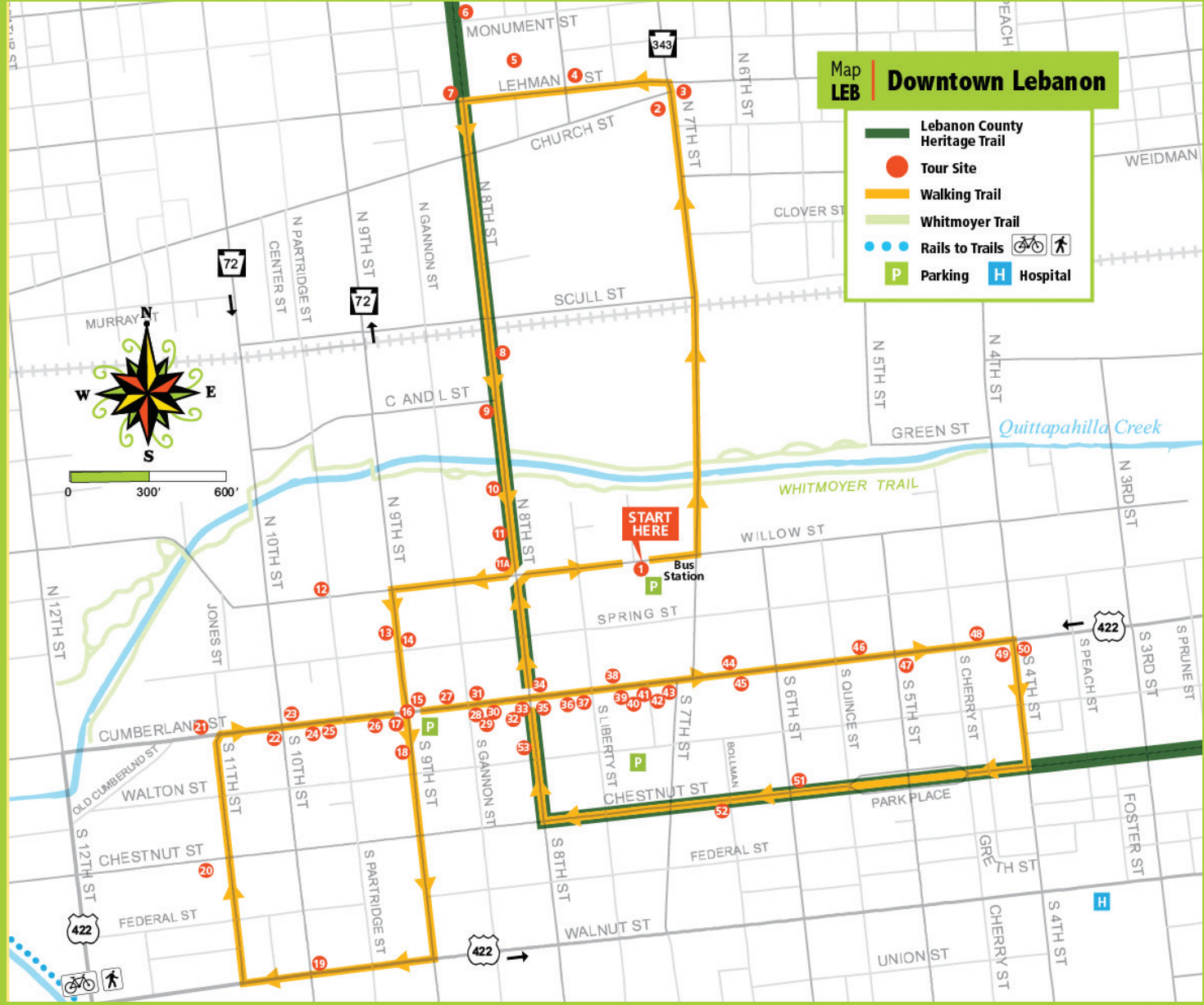
In 1821, the State Legislature designated Lebanon a borough. The town consisted of 300 dwellings, ten taverns, ten stores, a grist mill, a clover mill, a foundry, and a number of mechanic shops. In 1817, the Harrisburg and Reading Turnpike (Route 422), which runs through the center of the city, was built. Construction of the Union Canal in 1827, and the Lebanon Valley branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, built in 1858, meant further prosperity for the community.

The Downtown Lebanon Tour begins at the Lebanon Arts Center, 734 Willow Street. There is ample parking behind the COLT Bus Station. Additional Tour Sites follow in numerical order.

Light's Fort - Located just off map at 11th St. & Rt. 72.

Considered the oldest building in the City of Lebanon, John Light built this limestone structure circa 1742 in what was then Lancaster County. During the French and Indian War up to 60 families sought refuge behind the fort's stockade. The building is currently owned by the Historic Preservation Trust of Lebanon County.





1 St. Joseph's Convent/Lebanon Arts Center, 734 Willow St.

This eclectic brick building was built in 1927 as a convent for the Sisters of St. Joseph. When the adjacent St. Mary's Catholic School was built two years later, it was considered one of the most modern school buildings of its kind in the country. It is currently the Lebanon Arts Center. (www.lebanonartsCouncil.org)

2 Lebanon High School Alumni Stadium N. 7th & Church Sts.

Constructed in the 1930s, its arched brick arcade and brick perimeter wall spanning several city blocks provides a backdrop for football and other events, surpassing the facilities of many small colleges. Restored in the mid-1990s, it serves the Lebanon School District.

3 North Side Bank & Trust Co. N. 7th & Lehman Sts., SE corner

North Side Bank & Trust Co. was founded in 1915, in the red sandstone building on the NW corner. In 1927 it moved to the new building on the SE corner to better serve the rapidly expanding north side.

4 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 723 Lehman St.

The coming of the railroad in 1858 made it dangerous for the members of Salem Lutheran who lived north of the tracks to get to services, so they established Trinity Mission. The cornerstone was laid for a small chapel in 1885. Salem deeded the property to Holy Trinity in 1891 and they became a new congregation. The Gothic structure which stands now was built in 1924, with additions in 1954.

5 Monument Park

Between Monument, Lehman, Spruce & 8th Sts. The grounds of this park were part of Camp Coleman, where the 93rd Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers trained in 1861 for the American Civil War. They went into service from October 1861 to June 1865. 1,020 men participated in 26 major battles, serving honorably with the Union Armies of the Potomac and the Shenandoah.

6 St. Mark's United Church of Christ 426 N. 8th St.

This site was established in 1885 as a mission church of Tabor Reformed Church located at 9th and Walnut. The Gothic inspired sanctuary was dedicated in 1901, with subsequent additions in 1968 and the early 1990s. Senator Barack Obama worshiped here while campaigning for president in 2008.

7 Kettering Home N. 8th & Lehman Sts., NW corner

This large Victorian brownstone/greenstone was built in the early 1890s by T.S. Walmer. It was occupied for many years by the Simon Kettering family.

8 Reading Railroad Station 250 N. 8th St.

This structure was built in 1900 and operated for the Reading Railroad until 1963, when passenger service was discontinued.

9 Cornwall and Lebanon Railroad Station, 161 N. 8th St.

This beautiful structure was designed by George Watson Hewitt, known as the Dean of Philadelphia Architects. The railroad station was built by Robert H. Coleman in 1883, and purchased by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1917.

10 Knights of Malta, 127 N. 8th St.

This was originally the Knights of Malta building, then became the Masonic Hall, Mount Lebanon Lodge, No. 226.

11 Salem Lutheran Church, 119 N. 8th St.

The original structure on the site was a log school and church built in 1766. The limestone church (11A) was built in 1796 by master builder

Christopher Uhlerwith. A second story was added in 1848. The bell that hangs from the tower was cast in England in 1773 and rung to celebrate Independence from Great Britain. A "roving preacher" by the name of John Casper Stoeber was the church's first pastor. From 1773 to 1774, Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg served as pastor. Muhlenberg later went on to become the first Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, under President George Washington, overseeing the adoption of the Bill of Rights. The red sandstone building to the north (11) was built in 1898 to accommodate the growing congregation.

12 St. John's United Church of Christ 931 Willow St.

Built in 1860, this large, brick, Romanesque church was designed by Stephen D. Button. Three sides are of sandstone construction, while the fourth is limestone. The stained glass windows were added in 1890.

13 Lebanon Courier, 41 N. 9th St.

By the turn of the century, the Lebanon Courier was a daily newspaper. It soon changed its name to the Evening Reporter, the name that still adorns the south side of the building. Prior to the fire in 1938 that literally destroyed the business, readers could purchase a copy of the Evening Reporter for 10¢.

14 Zion Lutheran Church, 9th & Spring Sts.

This church was built in 1894 as a new home for those who chose to split from Salem Lutheran Church in 1844. At that time, services were said in German. Part of Salem's congregation wanted to worship in English. The only resolution at the time was the building of Zion.

15 Lebanon National Bank 9th & Cumberland Sts., NE corner

Organized in 1831, Lebanon National Bank was the first bank in Lebanon. The bank incorporated over a dozen branches throughout the County and in 1865 changed its name to Lebanon Valley National Bank.

16 Market House 9th & Cumberland Sts. intersection

The intersection of 9th and Cumberland is known as Market Square. From 1832 to 1884, an open-air building called "Market House" stood in the middle of what is now 9th Street. The farmers would pull their wagons up to the building and sell their wares out of the back. The Square was also the site of many town fairs. (Note: Locations of other market squares in town during the same time were at Liberty Square at 9th and Mifflin Streets, Park Place at 5th and Chestnut Streets, and Lodge No. 42 at Willow Street.) A permanent Market House was built in 1892 on South 8th Street. (see location 53)

17 Greenawalt Home 9th & Cumberland Sts., SW corner

A Victorian Queen Anne style building, this was the home of the celebrated Philip Greenawalt. At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War he was commissioned Colonel. Greenawalt accompanied George Washington to Trenton and Princeton. He assisted with the collection of provisions under Col. Philip Marsteller for the Continental Army at Valley Forge. Marsteller, for his services during the Revolutionary War, received the personal thanks of George Washington and served as one of seven

honorary pallbearers at Washington's funeral in 1799. He also represented Pennsylvania at the Constitutional Convention.

18 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, 9 S. 9th St.

In the early 1900s, fraternal organizations and other membership clubs were very popular and an important vehicle for socializing and entertainment. This building was erected in 1925 for the Elks, allowing them to move from their previous home on the 800 block of Cumberland Street. It was a very popular place for lunch, particularly for the prominent Jewish community in downtown Lebanon at that time.

19 Tabor United Church of Christ 10th & Walnut Sts., NE corner

This two-story limestone church is the oldest church in Lebanon. First UCC is considered to be the mother church of several local reformed churches. It is probable that George Steitz, founder of Lebanon, deeded the land to the early congregation.

20 Chestnut Street Log House 1110 Chestnut St.

This is a small, one and a half story log house. This pioneer cabin may be the oldest existing house in the city. It has been restored by the Historic Preservation Trust of Lebanon County.

21 Cyrus Patschke Auto Shop 1101 Cumberland St.

This shop was originally owned and operated by Lebanon native Cyrus Patschke. Cyrus was a mechanic by trade and gained national fame as a race car driver. He was a very close friend of Barney Oldfield and Eddie Rickenbacker, the airplane ace from WWI. In the years before WWI, Rickenbacker and Patschke alternated driving some of the cars at the Indianapolis Speedway. In later years, Patschke was also known as a motorcycle racer. The shop also served as a dealership for the Overland and Willys Knight automobiles.

22 Swan Hotel, 1002 Cumberland St.

The original gable-roofed Pennsylvania German limestone building was built by Jacob Voght in 1760. The building was expanded as the hotel gained notoriety. The name was changed to the Farmers' Hotel, most likely due to the farmers' market held on the tenth street side. The name was again changed to the "George Washington Tavern" to commemorate Washington's second of three trips to Lebanon County in 1792. Washington actually did sleep here. In the late 1890s to about 1920, prior to the erection of the Eagle Hotel (later renamed the Weimer Hotel at 9th and Cumberland, and demolished in the 1970s), the Tavern was Lebanon's only "convention center." As special events such as parades and other celebrations were held, folks from all over the region would travel to Lebanon, and stay at the Tavern, sometimes up to 6 in a bed!

23 Redman Home, 939 Cumberland St.

This Victorian Queen Anne style mansion was built in 1890. It was the home of the Redmans, a well-known family that owned the city's laundry service.

24 Lebanon's 1st Post Office 930 Cumberland St.

Lebanon's first post office was established on March 20, 1793, when it was still a part of Dauphin

County. The first postmaster was Joseph Karch, and the office was located here, in his home. Lebanon County was formed in 1813, and Karch kept his job as postmaster. He and his family maintained the office for 52 years. A new postmaster, Joseph Gleim was appointed in 1845. The office was relocated across the street to 927 Cumberland Street. Gleim was succeeded by a woman, Ann Louisa Ruthrauff, and the post office was moved to her home on 9th Street.

25 William Henry Stoy Mansion 924 Cumberland St.

Now the Lebanon County Historical Society, this limestone PA German mansion was built in 1773 by Rev. William Henry Stoy, M.D., who was both a minister and a physician. It served as his home and office. Stoy's fame as a physician rested on his cure for hydrophobia (rabies) and his "hysterical drops." People came to him from long distances for these remedies. George Washington was one of his customers. Washington's account book for October 18, 1797, tells that he gave his servant, Christopher, \$25 to go to a person in Lebanon, PA for a cure for rabies, as "one of his servants had been bitten by a wild animal." The upstairs rooms were used as Lebanon County's first courthouse from 1813 to 1818. Among the attorneys to practice there were John Andrew Schulze, the only Pennsylvania governor (1822-1830) to be elected from Lebanon County, and James Buchanan, who became the only president of the United States elected from Pennsylvania (1856-1860). The Moose Lodge purchased the property in 1910, and sold it to the Historical Society in 1975.

26 Lebanon Daily Times 908-910 Cumberland St.

This building was originally the home of the Lebanon Daily Times, one of Lebanon's early newspapers in the mid-1800s. The Daily Times was published each morning, except Sunday, at 10¢/week and \$5/year. C.M. Bowman was the proprietor.

27 Dry Goods, Carpet & Cigars 845-847 Cumberland St.

This eclectic structure showcases both Italianate and Sullivan-esque influences. By 1875 three thriving Lebanon businesses called the building home. On the ground floor was a dry goods store owned by C. Shenk, selling foreign and domestic items, notions, Queensware, and fancy goods. The second floor housed a carpet weaving company; the third floor was a cigar factory. In 1914, Bennetch Shoe Store moved into the building and in 1925, J.C. Hauer ran a tobacco store from this location.

28 D.C. Smith Wholesale & Retail Bookstore, 824 Cumberland St.

This site was a bookstore in 1875, which kept on hand a full and varied assortment of school books, newspapers, magazines, periodicals and stationery. It later became McCrory's 5&10 Cent Store. The building's eclectic architecture includes early modern and classic detailing.

29 Kinney's 822 Cumberland St.

This Federal style building had a variety of users and uses. It was the home of Kinney shoes in the 50s, and until 2001, it was the Ann Shop. The upper floors were occupied by a boxing ring and a factory.

30 Shenk's Dry Goods Store 816–820 Cumberland St.

This Victorian-Second Empire style structure, designed by local architect Abner Ritcher in 1888, was home of the largest dry goods store in Lebanon. From 1934 until the early 2000s it was Logan's Dress Shop. This building had one of the earliest elevators in Lebanon. It was completely restored in 2005.

31 Mann Building, 815 Cumberland St.

In 1890, the Schaffner Inn stood at this site. George Washington and Alexander Hamilton stopped here in 1794 on their way to quell the "Whiskey Rebellion." It was demolished in 1900, and a new Italian Renaissance style building was erected in 1903, housing the Isaac Mann clothing store and the prominent Easter's School of Telegraphy. In 1920, the Farmers Trust Company of Lebanon moved into the building.

32 Ross Drug Store, 810 Cumberland St.

At the end of the Civil War, Dr. George Ross operated the Lebanon's largest drug store here. By the early 1900s, it became J.S. Bashore Men's Clothing. Committed to the ideals of the Boy Scouts of America, Bashore also sold boy scout equipment and later established Camp Bashore, near Indiantown Gap, as a boy scout campground and retreat.

33 Samler Building, 802 Cumberland St.

This Victorian Queen Anne was not the original building on this site. Previous to its construction by Nutting in 1890, J.H. Yingst Hardware stood here, circa 1875. He was a wholesale and retail dealer in hardware and iron. Yingst carried a full line of carriage goods, paints, glass, floor oil cloth, and rock powder. Andrew's Cut Rate Drug Store occupied the building in the 1930s. The upper floors were originally built as offices but were converted to apartments in the last half of the 1900s.

34 Lebanon Trust and Safety Deposit Bank 8th & Cumberland Sts., NE corner

Now St. Mary's Church property, Robert H. Coleman built this Gothic style structure in 1885 with red sandstone from the South Mountain, as the Lebanon Trust & Safety Deposit Bank. The bank flourished until the panic of 1893. It later became People's National Bank and survived the Great Depression along with every other bank in Lebanon.

35 Central Hotel, 772 Cumberland St., SE Corner 8th & Cumberland Sts.

Built in 1847, this building was originally a popular hotel. By 1947, its occupants included Whelan's Drug Store on the first floor, the law firm of Meyer, Brubaker & Lewis on the second floor, United Steelworkers of America on the 3rd floor, and WLBR Radio on the 4th floor.

36 First National Bank, 760 Cumberland St.

This Greek Revival structure was built as the First National Bank by Robert Coleman's cousin, G. Dawson Coleman, who lived at Coleman's Park. Organized May 22, 1856, First National Bank moved to this location around 1858.

37 Gobin's Offices, 758 Cumberland St.

In the 1890s, John P. S. Gobin served as the only Lieutenant Governor ever to hail from Lebanon County. Gobin also served as General of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), an organization established for Civil War veterans. Gobin's responsibilities with the GAR covered oversight of all GAR chapters across the country.

38 701 Cumberland St. to Liberty St. 701–755 Cumberland St.

This central block was very popular and offered a variety of shopping, entertainment, and dining venues. Starting from Liberty Street (the alley), in the early part of the 1900s, one would see: the Sons of America building, Harpel's, Haaks Department Store, the Academy Opera House, the Strand Movie Theater, and Palace of Sweets candy shop. Haaks was sold to Harrisburg Area Community College, remodeled, and operated as a college until a fire devastated the entire block and the school was forced to rebuild.

39 Miller's Music Store, 736 Cumberland St.

In 1920, this site was Miller's Music Store. The Miller Organ Factory stood at 8th & Maple Streets. They used the Union Canal to ship organs to Reading and Harrisburg, and from there they could ship them worldwide.

40 Frantz Furniture, 734 Cumberland St.

This building was built about 1860 by Daniel A. Frantz as Frantz Furniture Store and Casket Maker, which doubled as a funeral parlor (not uncommon in those days). It was an outstanding store in the city. Frantz was a manufacturer and dealer of all kinds of house and office furniture. His father began the business in Lebanon (at another location) in 1847, and displayed 18 whole rooms of furniture.

41 Reinhard Tin Shop, 728 Cumberland St.

This four-story building was built circa 1870. The 1893 City Directory lists Thomas Reinhard, tinsmith, as the occupant. In the late 1890s, J. Dewald, tinsmith, sold roofing, spouting, washers, pottery, stoves and ice cream freezers here.

42 Washington Hotel, 718 Cumberland St.

In the 1800s, the Washington Hotel included 716 and 718 Cumberland Street. The center copper trim around the window is where the 1st floor of the hotel was. A few steps led to the original front door. Later, the Hotel became a millinery shop (owned by Katheryn Fink, a milliner by trade), then a jewelry store.

43 McGowan's Drug Store 702 Cumberland St.

In the late 1890s and early 1920s, this Federal style building was McGowan's Drug Store. Sam McGowan was famous for his ground coffee. He prided himself as being an expert coffee blender, and sold all types of coffee grinders. Coffee was 5¢ a pound.

44 William Penn Building 633–635 Cumberland St.

The William Penn building was built before 1875 by John Shugar and was originally a grocery store. Shugar delivered his groceries and kept his horse and wagon at the Boliman Livery Stables across the street.

45 E.M. Hottenstein Building 616–620 Cumberland St.

The east side of this newly renovated building was built in 1906 by E.M. Hottenstein as a saddlery (notice the horse head design on façade), also to sell bikes, cars, etc. Harold's Furniture Store was located in this building from 1979 until 2004. Major renovations were completed in 2008.

46 Lichentaler Auditorium 511–515 Cumberland St.

In the early 1900s this site was the home of Arthur Lichentaler. In the 1930s he moved, tore

down his home and built Lichentaler's Auditorium. It was a large auditorium that held dances, boxing matches, etc. It was later sold and turned into the State Theater.

47 Woman's Club of Lebanon 5th & Cumberland Sts., SE corner

This Victorian-Second Empire home, built in 1860, has a mansard roof, bay windows, and gingerbread trim. It was built by Josiah M. Funck, a prominent lawyer in the mid-1800s. Purchased from his heirs in 1923, it is still in use today by the Woman's Club of Lebanon.

48 Gobin Home, 419 Cumberland St.

This was the home of John Peter Shindel Gobin, Commanding General of the 28th Division PA National Guard in 1906 and 1907.

49 Steitz Club

4th & Cumberland Sts., SW corner

The Steitz Club was formed in the early 1900s by a group of prominent men in the city as a private men's club and is still in use as originally intended to this day.

50 Means Home, 4 S. 4th St.

4th & Cumberland Sts., SE corner

Home to W. Horace Means, M.D., who was a prominent general surgeon and the company doctor for Bethlehem Steel.

51 St. Luke's Episcopal Church 6th & Chestnut Sts., NE corner

Built through the largess of the Coleman family which made its fortune in Cornwall and other mining enterprises, this is an outstanding example of Gothic Revival style. The church has a large, square parapeted tower with gargoyles, a steep pitched roof of variegated slate, and numerous gables.

52 Emanuel Evangelical Church Bollman & Chestnut Sts., SW corner

In 1830 this structure was built for the congregation of the Emanuel Evangelical Church. From 1928 to 1953 the building served as the Beth Israel Synagogue and later became the Lebanon Community Library.

53 Lebanon Farmers Market 35 S. 8th St.

Prior to 1892, this site was home to the Lebanon County Jail and will forever be connected with the story of the Blue Eyed Six. In the 1870s the small town of Lebanon made national news with the infamous murder case of the Blue Eyed Six, still studied in law books today! The trial lasted for nearly six months and ended with the courtyard hanging of five of the Blue Eyed Six on this very property. Fire destroyed the structure just a few years later. The 30,000 square foot Victorian-Second Empire style structure that currently occupies the site was built in 1892. The Market was restored to its original condition in 2006.