

Downtown Buffalo Highlights Tour

New York State Curriculum Alignment

Tour Focus: This guided walking tour uses a timeline of landmark downtown buildings to explore Buffalo's growth from the mid-19th century through the late 20th century, highlighting how architecture reflects economic change, technological innovation, and civic identity.

New York State Social Studies Framework Connections

- Chronological reasoning by sequencing buildings and analyzing change over time.
- Local history as a case study for understanding New York State's industrial, commercial, and urban development.
- Civic ideals and institutions reflected in religious, commercial, and corporate architecture.

Next Generation ELA Learning Standards Connections

- Integrating information from visual observation, guided narration, and spatial context.
- Participating in collaborative discussions and asking questions grounded in evidence.
- Acquiring domain-specific vocabulary related to architecture, engineering, and history.

Science, Technology & Engineering Connections

- Engineering solutions that enabled taller buildings, including steel frames and elevators.
- Technological innovation and its impact on urban growth and land use.
- Human-built environments and their influence on daily life in cities.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Place Buffalo buildings in chronological order and identify defining features of each era.
- Explain how architecture reflects economic priorities and technological change.
- Connect local landmarks to broader themes in New York State history.