ONEIDA COUNTY
History Center

The **Oneida County History Center** invites you to take part in our *Historical Selfie Scavenger Hunt* this August! We have maps available for both Oneida County and the Utica area.

By participating in the Historical Selfie Scavenger Hunt, you accept all responsibility for your own safety. By participating in this event, you hereby release the Oneida County History Center from all liability relating to injuries that may occur during this voluntary activity. By signing below, you agree to hold the Oneida County History Center entirely free from any liability, including financial responsibility for any injuries incurred, regardless of whether injuries are caused by negligence.

You also acknowledge the risks involved in the Historical Selfie Scavenger Hunt. These include but are not limited to crossing streets (which we advise be done at crosswalks) and walking around unfamiliar neighborhoods (which we advise to be done with a parent or guardian). You must make every effort to obey safety precautions.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Age: _____

Child's Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Do you grant the Oneida County History Center permission to use any photos you post online or submit to us for our newsletter, website, or social media? Please check one of the following:
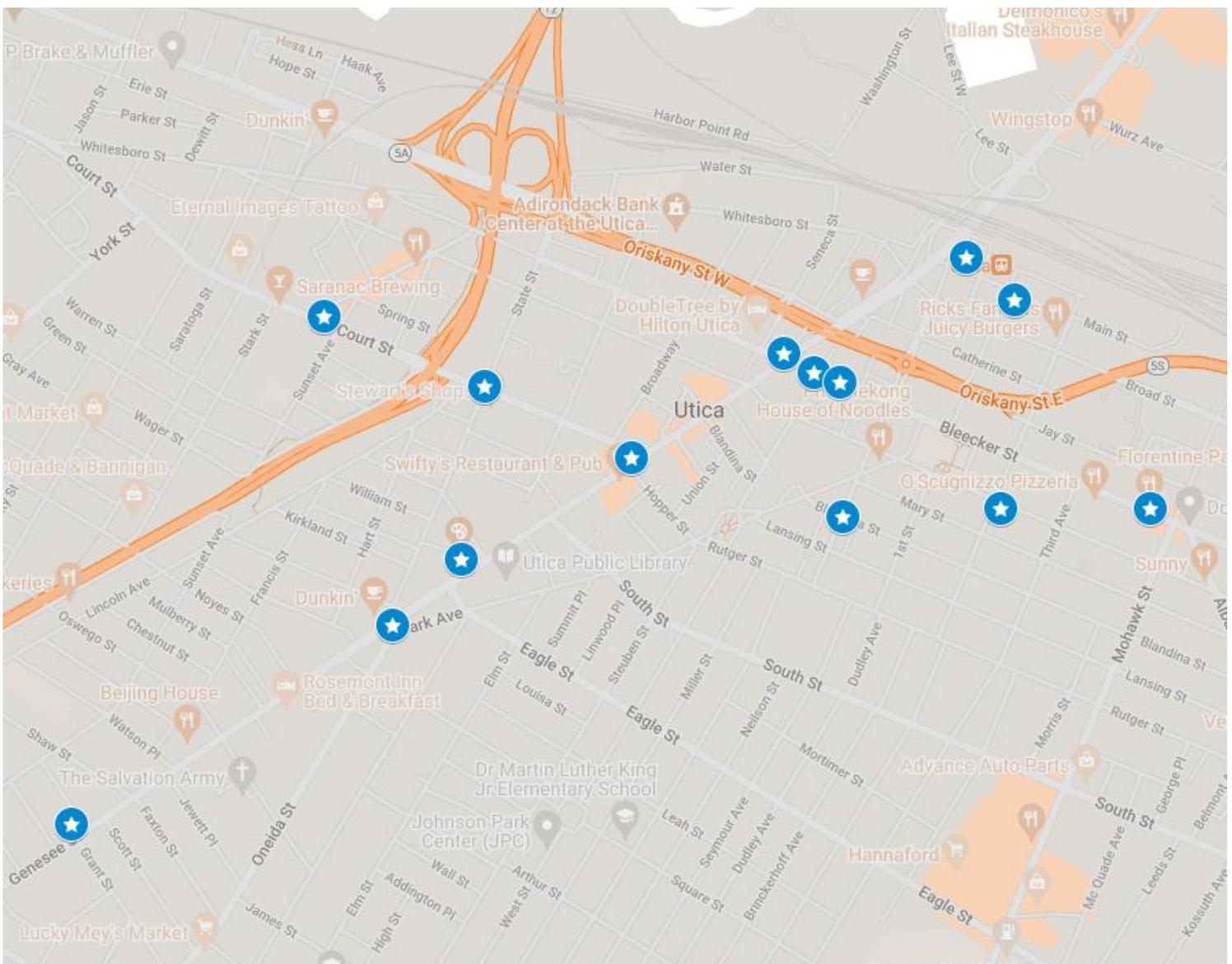
☐ *Yes, you may use my photos*

☐ *No, you may not use my photos*

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2022 Historical Selfie Scavenger Hunt
Utica Edition

Instructions: Follow the clues and take a selfie at the following historical sites, monuments, or markers on either a camera or smartphone after learning about Utica's history! You must **visit all 16 locations.** Bring evidence of your journey to the History Center by **4:00 pm on August 31, 2022**. The first five people to finish the scavenger hunt will receive a membership to the History Center and a fun gift. All participants who complete the hunt will be entered to win the grand prize gift basket, which will be awarded on September 6th. Children 18 and under will receive a participation prize. Be sure to share your adventure and post your photos on social media. Don't forget to tag the History Center!

Instagram: @ochc_localhistory **Facebook:** @OneidaCountyHistory **Twitter:** @OCHCTweet

1. This bakery has been making Italian cakes and specialties in Utica since 1928. The shop was opened by Joseph Borgovini and Vincenzo Gennaro and was initially located at 605 Bleecker Street. It moved to its current location in the heart of Utica's east-side Italian neighborhood in 1945. Take a selfie with the bakery sign.

2. This building is home to a club founded in 1883, whose early members included Nobel Peace Prize winner Elihu Root, United States Senator Francis Kernan, and NYS Governor Horatio Seymour. The building was constructed in stages starting in 1830 and was first a private home. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2004. Grab a selfie with the club sign.

3. The Utica Steam Cotton Mills (1848) was one of the first manufacturing plants in the Mohawk Valley to use steam engines instead of water power. Mohawk Valley Cotton Mills (1880) consolidated several mills and was one of the world's largest manufacturers of sheets and pillowcases, employing 1,800 workers. The peak of Oneida County's textile industry was 1910, but most textile mills were gone by the mid-1950s. This former mill building was home to many businesses including current tenant Brodock Press and the State Street Mill. Take a photo with the mill.

4. This five-story building on Main Street was built in 1911 and was a family-run company that distributed shoes. Their name is on the top of the building. Utica architect, Frederick H. Gouge, designed the building, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1993. Take a selfie in front of the building with the company name in the background.

5. Born enslaved in Richmond, Virginia, in 1822, this person came to Utica with his owners, who then set him free. He was one of the first African-American firefighters in Utica with the Number 4 Company. He was inducted into the Oneida County Historical Hall of Fame in 2015. Visit his grave at Forest Hill Cemetery and snap a respectful photo.

6. From the 1930s to the 1980s, Uticans could follow their noses to the delicious aromas from this bakery that sold day-old baked goods. This downtown bakery produced Wonder Bread and other store brands for Continental Baking, a national chain. The building is now home to an indoor flea market with dozens of vendors. Shoot a selfie at this historic spot.

7. Theodore Faxton, Utica mayor, mill owner, and philanthropist, built a school and social hall for the benefit of the public directly across from one of his woolen mills in the heart of Utica's west-side Polish and Irish community. This hall later served as a branch of the Utica Public Library and is currently vacant and for sale. Please take a photo in front of the red hall with its founder's name. Hint: it is not associated with the hospital.

8. Utica, "The Town That Loves Refugees," continues to welcome refugees worldwide. The refugee center has a small mural depicting the many ethnic groups that now call Utica their home. Take a selfie in front of the mural.

9. Perched atop the highest hill in Roscoe Conkling Park and ready to take flight, this memorial to Thomas Proctor was commissioned by his wife to commemorate the person and a piece of Utica folklore. Read the plaque that tells the story behind this bronze monument and snap a selfie.

10. Maria Williams Proctor was a Utica native who inherited great wealth from her parents Helen Munson and James Watson Williams. She was active in civic and charitable causes. She was one of the founders of a local art spot that opened in 1960 and was designed by notable architect Philip Johnson. Take a selfie in front of this renowned institution.

11. Did you know that Utica has a replica of the famous symbol of American independence that is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania? Mayor Edward Hanna dedicated this monument and its park in 1999. Take a selfie with this commemorative symbol.

12. In 1835, a group of 600 abolitionists who opposed slavery met at the Second Presbyterian Church in Utica to form a state anti-slavery society. A rowdy anti-abolitionist crowd gathered outside, so the decision was made to end the meeting before the scene turned violent. The meeting was moved to Peterboro, New York and was held the next day. There are two markers at this small memorial that remembers this attempted meeting. Take a selfie with one of the markers located in a vacant lot where the church once stood.

13. Tucked in a little park downtown commemorating Bagg's hotel, you'll find a building with an eagle on top and wild animals. They're not lions or tigers, but instead, there are sculptures of bears, deer, and raccoons. Snap a picture with your favorite animal.

14. Women were not allowed to vote in New York State until 1917. They fought for this right for many years. In 1914, 500 individuals with 40 cars and two bands marched in a parade with thousands of spectators to champion and gain support for women's suffrage (right to vote). The parade started at a prominent Civil War monument on Genesee Street. Take a selfie with the monument!

15. This street is named after Blandina Bleecker, daughter of Rutger Bleecker, an early settler of Utica. Take a picture of the street sign because we love her name!

16. The Kid's Corner of the Oneida County History Center is a hands-on area to explore. The weaving activity features a small (toy) merino sheep. These sheep were thought to give more wool because their coat is wrinkly. Take a selfie with "Wrinkles."

Need help finding answers to your clues? Visit the Oneida County History Center, Oneida County Tourism, or research online. *Kids: Please ask an adult for assistance when searching online.