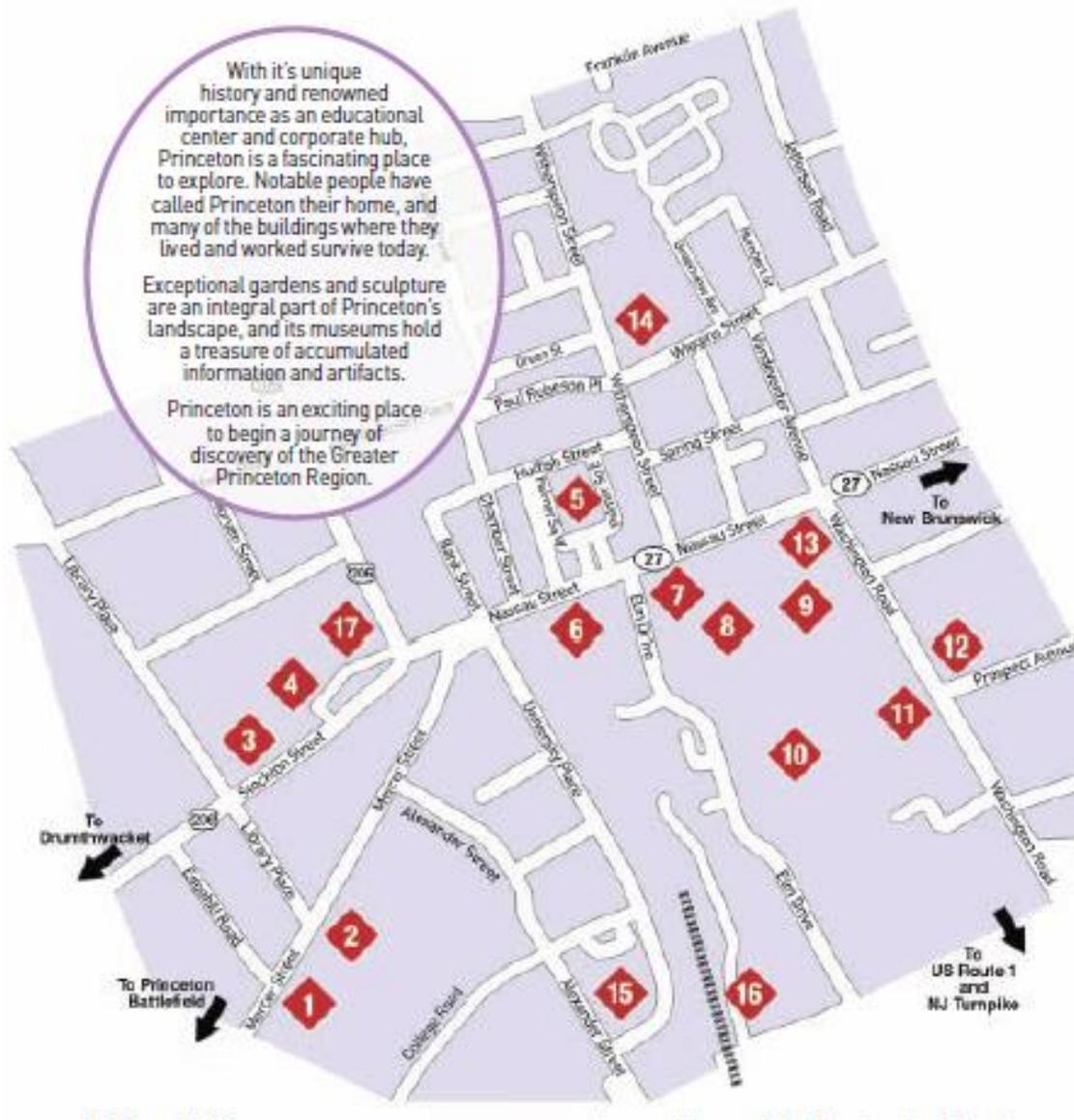


## Walking Tour of Princeton

There is much to see in Princeton, aside from the famous Princeton University. With European travelers crossing New Jersey between the Delaware and Raritan rivers along paths created by the Lenni Lenape Indians, the development of the town of Princeton began in the late 1740's. The first home, opened as a tavern, had reportedly been built in 1683 and by 1745 there was regular stage traffic. In 1756 the College of New Jersey, as Princeton University was known then, relocated from Newark to Princeton and the village grew around the college. The village figured in the Revolutionary War in January 1777 as the site of the Battle of Princeton which was recognized as a turning point in the Revolutionary War and made Princeton famous. Due to increased traffic through the area, a "straight turnpike" (Route 1) was constructed in 1804 between Trenton and New Brunswick, which drew stage traffic away from Princeton. The Presbyterian Church established Princeton Theological Seminary in 1811 and it is still in existence today. The construction of the Delaware and Raritan Canal and the Camden and Amboy Railroad in the 1830's stimulated considerable development in many areas along the route, including Princeton. With the construction of a shipping terminus and a linking it to the town, the coal and building industries began to flourish in this area. The construction boom continued and Charles Smith Olden built the central porticoed block, Drumthwacket. Today this home is the official residence of the Governor of New Jersey. The town continued to grow and by the mid nineteenth century, fashionable society with its fine architecture and large estates had become concentrated on the westerly side of the town. Following the Civil War, the College launched an aggressive building campaign that has continued to the present. The College officially became Princeton University in 1896. As the College continued to expand so did residential development. After the First World War developers began to create subdivisions with a relatively limited choice of house designs. Today the town offers numerous shops and eating establishments as well as many historic sites.

Parking in town can be difficult. Most of it is metered on street parking. There is a parking garage on Spring Street (location D on the map) which offers off street parking where you won't be subject to the time limits imposed by most parking meters. Additional parking information is available at [www.princetonparking.org](http://www.princetonparking.org).

Enjoy a leisurely walking tour of Princeton which should take 1-2 hours depending on the individual's pace. See the map of the town on the next page with the description of the historic points of interest.



### 1. Einstein House

Albert Einstein lived on Mercer Street from 1935 until he passed away in 1955. The house was built about 1840 and is now a private residence.

### 2. Princeton Theological Seminary

The seminary, founded in 1811, is the oldest, most influential, and most popular Presbyterian theological school in the country. The College desired to “educate young men, not only in the arts and sciences, but to fit for the ministry those who might seek it.” Many of the prominent ministers of the Presbyterian Church received their education and theological training under the early presidents of the College. However, when the number of students at the College began to increase, it became evident that a separate seminary would be more suitable for training ministers. A reciprocal arrangement between the University and the Seminary allows students of either institution the privileges of the other. Tours available by appointment.

Mercer Street. 609-497-7750.

### **3. Morven**

Morven was part of a 5,000-acre tract purchased by Richard Stockton from William Penn in 1701. In 1754, Richard's grandson, Richard, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and his wife, Annis Budinot, acquired a portion of this land, where they built their home. Annis, a published poet, renamed the house Morven after the mythical home of Fingal in "The Poems of Ossian." Morven was considered to be the grandest of Princeton's country estates. Over the years, it was inhabited by several famous owners, who enlarged and renovated the house, until New Jersey Governor, Walter Edge purchased the property in 1945. In 1954, he deeded the property to the State, with the provision that it be used as a governor's mansion or as a museum. Four Governors lived there with their families until the late 1980s.  
55 Stockton Street. 609-924-8144.

### **4. Princeton Battle Monument at the entrance to Princeton Borough Hall**

General George Washington on horseback inspires his men to final victory. At his left is mortally wounded General Mercer. The monument was designed by Thomas Hastings, sculpted by Frederick MacMonnies, and unveiled in 1922 by President Warren Harding. The inscription on the reverse side was written by Andrew Fleming West, Dean of the Graduate School of Princeton University.  
Monument Drive.

### **5. Palmer Square**

Within a ten acre square in the Heart of Princeton, Edgar Palmer presided over the ground-breaking of Palmer Square in 1936. Several years before, he conceived his plan to develop a Colonial-type village across Nassau Street from his beloved Princeton University; and, primarily with his own funds, acquired the land and financed the extensive project. Borough Council expressed its thanks by naming the development Palmer Square.  
609-921-2333.

### **6. Nassau Presbyterian Church**

Between 1755 and 1762, Presbyterians rented pews in the College Chapel in Nassau Hall and heard sermons from various College presidents, who were also pastors – Aaron Burr, Jonathan Edwards, Samuel Davies, and Samuel Finley. In 1762, the College loaned land and money to the congregation to build a church. During the Revolutionary War, the building was occupied by British and Colonial soldiers and used as a hospital, and in 1783 the College Commencement was held in church, attended by General Washington and members of the Continental Congress. Twice the building was destroyed by fire and rebuilt, the current structure dating from 1836. 61 Nassau Street. 609-924-0103.

Second Presbyterian Church - In 1847, twelve members of the congregation organized the Second Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Nassau and Chambers Streets. Woodrow Wilson, during his tenure as Professor and President of Princeton University, served as an elder.

### **7. MacLean House**

Built in 1756, this was the official residence of college presidents until Prospect was acquired in 1878. It was named in honor of John MacLean, founder of the Alumni Association, and member of the faculty for fifty years, rising from tutor to president. Nassau Street, Princeton University Campus.  
609-258-1900.

## **8. Nassau Hall**

When completed, Nassau Hall became the largest stone building in America and was named in memory of King William III of England, House of Nassau and Prince of Orange. Its wall, twenty six inches thick, withstood two years of occupation during the Revolution by British and American troops, and two devastating fires during the 1800's. After the Battle of Princeton, January 3, 1777, the British surrendered to General Washington here, and one of the shots from Alexander Hamilton's battery mutilated the portrait of George II, which hung on the wall. The royal frame was saved and subsequently used to hold Charles Wilson Peale's famous portrait of George Washington. The first Legislature of New Jersey met in Nassau Hall in 1776, where it approved the State Constitution and adopted a State Seal. Nassau Hall was the National Capitol from June to November in 1783 when the Continental Congress received General Washington to convey the thanks of the nation for his service. During this session, Congress received news of the signing of the Treaty of Paris, which officially ended the war.

## **9. University Chapel**

Its Collegiate Gothic architecture make the Chapel one of the most beautiful buildings on campus. It was built between 1925 and 1928 with donations from alumni and friends to replace the Marquand Chapel, which had been destroyed by fire. It seats nearly two thousand people, making it the third largest university chapel in the world. It contains a collection of stained glass by American artists and is used for services of all faiths.

609-258-3048

## **10. University Art Museum**

The Museum of Historic Art was erected in 1889, and later established by Allan Marquand as a teaching museum to complement the department's curriculum. Its collection ranges from ancient to contemporary and includes pre-Columbian artifacts, Italian seventeenth-century paintings and drawings, a window from Chartres Cathedral, sculptures from the Sung Dynasty, and twentieth-century paintings and photographs.

McCormick Hall. 609-258-3788.

## **11. Prospect House and Garden**

Prospect Plantation was originally part of the Stockton land purchased from William Penn. After the Revolutionary War, it was purchased by Colonel George Morgan, a famous Indian agent, explorer, and scientific farmer. George Washington and Benjamin Franklin were frequent visitors. In 1779 a delegation of ten Indian chieftains visited Prospect and set up their wigwams on the lawn. They brought with them three Indian boys to be educated at the College. In 1783 Continental Congress held its first sessions at Prospect before moving to Nassau Hall. In 1849 the current owner, Thomas Potter, tore down the old Morgan house and built the present Prospect Mansion. It was given to the College in 1878 for use as a residence for the presidents. In 1968 the Lowrie House became the official presidential home, and Prospect is now the faculty club. The Garden, originally laid out by Colonel Morgan, was later re-designed by Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, when her husband was president of Princeton University.

## **12. Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs**

The school was founded in 1930 by the departments of history, politics, and economics. It was officially named in 1948, when a graduate program was established to prepare students for careers in public service. The building was designed in 1966 and dedicated with addresses by University President Robert F. Goheen and U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Washington Road and Prospect Avenue.

## **13. Bainbridge House**

Now the headquarters of the Historical Society of Princeton with a museum and changing exhibits, Bainbridge House was the birthplace of Commodore William Bainbridge, U.S.N., who

was commander of the frigate "Constitution" (Old Ironsides) during the War of 1812. Built 1765 by Job Stockton, it was occupied by the British during the Revolution when Sir William Howe made his headquarters here. Furnishings are from Princeton University's Budinot collection. Elias Budinot was a College trustee for 49 years and President of the Continental Congress in 1782. He proposed the Congressional resolution which established Thanksgiving as a national holiday in 1789. His sister was married to Richard Stockton and lived at Morven. 158 Nassau Street. 609-921-6748.

#### **14. Princeton Cemetery**

In this small space of only a few acres, more illustrious Americans are buried than in any other similar cemetery in the country. In 1756, the ground was donated to the trustees of the College, and a few years later the trustees deeded a large portion of the property to the Presbyterian Church. Most of the College presidents are buried in President's Row, including Reverend Aaron Burr, the second president, and his son, Colonel Aaron Burr, who is buried at his father's feet next to his grandfather, Jonathan Edwards. Also resting here are U.S. President Grover Cleveland, Dr. John Witherspoon, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and Paul Tulane, along with many other notable dignitaries. 609-924-1369.

#### **15. McCarter Theatre**

The Theater was built in 1929 with funds donated by Thomas N. McCarter (class of 1888) and the Princeton Triangle Club. In addition to Triangle Club productions, leading New York plays and old favorites; such as, "The Christmas Carol," are popular. A few years ago, McCarter received the coveted "Tony Award." 91 University Place. Box Office 609-258-2787, Administration 609-258-6500.

#### **16. Princeton Railroad Station**

Although the main railroad lines originally ran through Princeton, when the route was straightened, the main stop became Princeton Junction. The shuttle, known as the "Dinky," came into being in 1867, to carry passengers along the two miles between the Junction and Princeton. University Place. 1-800-772-2222

#### **17. Einstein Statue**

In June of 2004 The Einstein Fund of Princeton, New Jersey announced the gift of a historic Einstein bust from world renowned sculptor, Robert Berks, through the Robert Berks Foundation and launches Matching Fund gift by Dr. Stanley Levy, Princeton University, class of 1947. On April 18, 2005 the Albert Einstein statue was dedicated in Princeton, New Jersey at Borough Hall Walk. 2005 marked the 50 anniversary of Einstein's death and 100th anniversary of Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity.