

slowly became outmoded. The canal was abandoned in 1934, but was reconstructed recently except for a small area behind Rutgers University's College Ave. Campus.*

6. During the 1800's, the Raritan River, the D&R canal, and railroad lines reinforced the city's growth as a center of industry and commerce. The start of its path to becoming the "Health Care City" can be traced to 1885 when the Johnson brothers located their tape and gauze manufacturing plant in an old mill in New Brunswick. The myriad manufacturers needed workers and they attracted both newcomers to this country and those seeking opportunity. This same pattern continues today making New Brunswick a wonderfully diverse community.
7. As you ride along George Street, note the varied building styles. George Street in the 19th Century was the premier residential street; however, commercial development has erased all of those buildings. Successive waves of prosperity and challenge have given this commercial hub a look inconsistent with a planned community but impressive in its vibrancy.†
8. The British garrisoned Hessian mercenaries in New Brunswick that year in a number of barracks, including one at George and Patterson Streets that later was used as a city hall until it burnt down.
9. At the Southwest corner of Albany and Neilson St. is the site of Cochrane's Tavern where Colonel John Simcoe of the Queen's Rangers was detained after his capture following the burning of the Somerset County Court House. On the existing building is a plaque that reads:

Under the rooftree of the inn which occupied this site, George Washington tarried when in New Brunswick. On the adjoining square, upon the arrival of the express rider, the Declaration of Independence

* National Historic District, 1973.

† Mueller and New Jewelers, 357 George St, National Historic Register, 1982. , People's National Bank, 381-5 George St, State Historic Preservation Opinion, 1980.

was acclaimed by all loyal citizens on July 9, 1776. New Brunswick was the 3rd town in which the document was read.

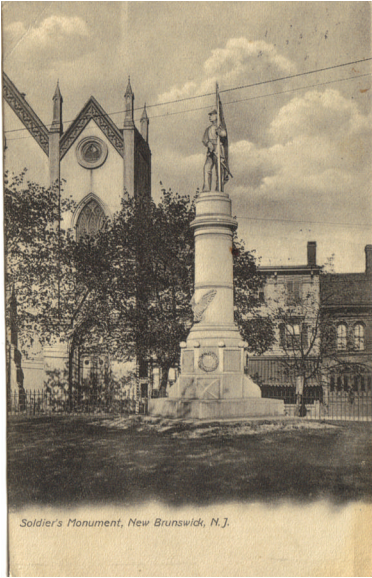
10. Opposite Monument Square at the end of Livingston Ave. is the New Brunswick Cultural Center including the State Theatre that was once a vaudeville and silent movie palace. Now it is a premiere center for the performing arts. George Street Playhouse since 1973 has been dedicated to the American playwright and the presentation of new American plays, musicals, and contemporary classics. The building is an interesting reuse of a YMCA.
11. Next to the Playhouse is the Crossroads Theatre which promotes and develops African American theatre for its artistic and social value. It was the winner of the 1999 Tony Award for outstanding regional theater.



12. The Heldrich Conference Center is on the site of the former Roger Smith Hotel, originally the Woodrow Wilson Hotel. When it opened in 1928, it was one of most luxurious hotels in the state.

13. United Methodist Church. The congregation was founded in 1811 and the church was built in 1876. It was a classic example of Gothic architecture, but a 1980's reconstruction, removed a dome was from the tower.





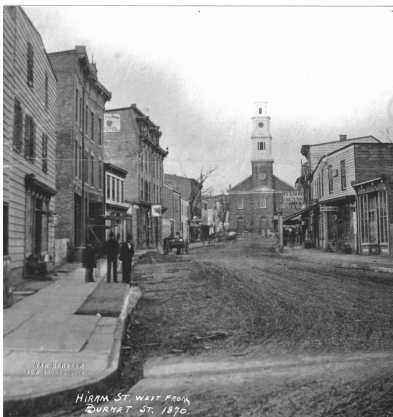
14. Monument Square – Actually a triangle, this monument was erected to honor the soldiers and sailors who participated in the U.S. Civil War. It was dedicated November 15, 1893 and contained a time capsule from 1888.

15. The Poile Zedek (Men of Righteousness) synagogue* was built in 1922 and reflects the



active Jewish community in the city.

16. Hiram Market was the commercial hub of



New Brunswick

as well as the religious, social, and cultural hub. On the South side Bayard Street between George and Neilson is the site of Colonial barracks in which British troops were garrisoned during their 1776-7 occupation of New Brunswick. Tavern's such as Keenon's (near what is now the corner of Neilson

St. and Hiram Sq.), Slack's School near Neilson St. and Richmond St., the Neilson House, stage coach hotel on the New York to Philadelphia route, the National Bank of New Jersey, Nelson's Wharf, and many other establishments were the thriving heart of a 19th city.†

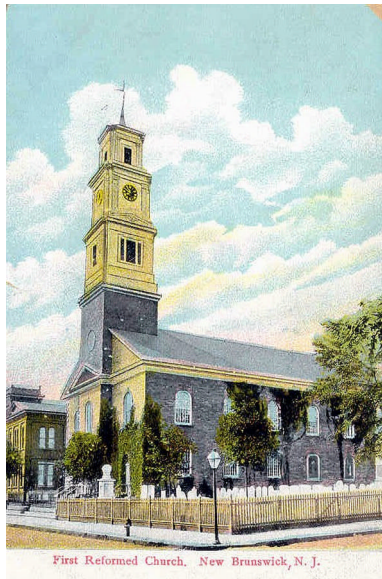
17. On the East side of Neilson St. are townhouses and apartments reflecting the residential renewal of New Brunswick. This area was the center of early New Brunswick; however, over the years the flooding of

* National Historic Register, 1995.

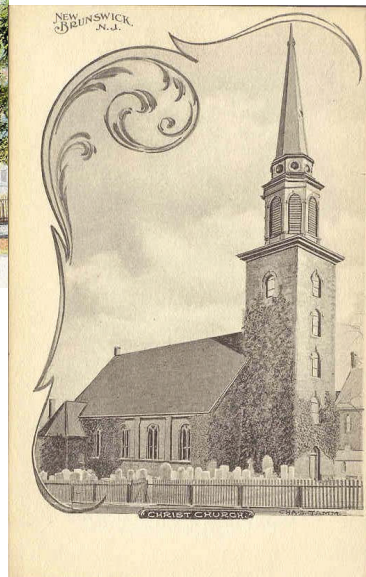
† National Historic District removed from Register, 1995.

the Raritan River moved business further west, towards the higher ground of George St.

18. On Neilson St. at Bayard St. is the Reformed Church.* Also known as the “Town Clock Church,” the Reformed Church is located in the historic commercial center of 19th century New Brunswick, Hiram Market. The Greek Revival church was built in 1812 and steeple was added in 1834.



Surrounding the Church is a pre-Revolutionary cemetery and cast iron fencing. The first pastor of this church was Rev. Theodorus Frelinghuysen, a major figure in the mid 18th Century Great Awakening evangelical movement.



19. On Neilson St. (originally Queen St., now named after Colonel Neilson who read the Declaration of Independence to the populace in 1776) is Christ Church.† The 1773 tower (rebuilt in 1803) is the oldest structure. In 1852, Wills and Dudley designed the

Romanesque Revival-style church using the original brownstones. Other buildings include the 1874 Romanesque Revival-style parish house and Gothic Revival-style parish house, built in 1897. The octagonal wood steeple topped by a copper spire is original. A pre-Revolutionary cemetery and cast iron fencing surround the church. In this cemetery is the grave of General Anthony White (1750-1803), an aide to General Washington.

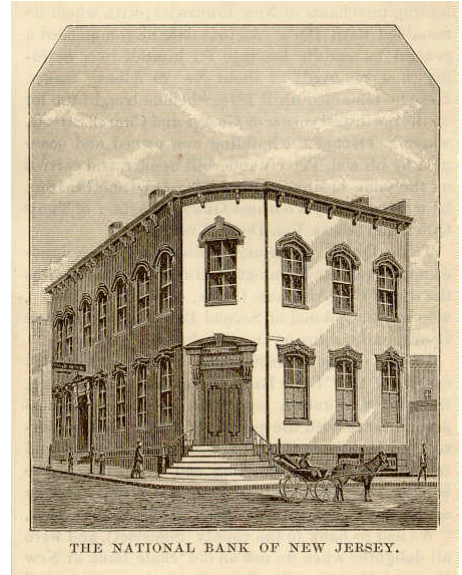
* National Historic Register, 1988.

† National Historic Register, 1989.

20. At the corner of Church Street and Neilson Street is one of the oldest commercial buildings in New Brunswick. Now the Old Bay Restaurant, it was built in 1857 and housed the National Bank of New Jersey. The bank, like much of the commerce in New Brunswick moved up to George Street.



in 1924.



21. People's National Bank – The bank originally opened in 1887. It moved into the former New Brunswick Savings Institution building at the corner at George and Church Streets



22. Diagonally across from People's National Bank is the former National Bank of New Jersey building.

23. The Raritan River waterfront saw over a million bushels of grain shipped each year during the 1830's making it the third busiest port in America. It was lined with wharves for steamboats until the completion of the Delaware and Raritan Canal.