



AVA Online Startbox

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THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB
DIRECTIONS FOR 5K YEAR-ROUND WALK Y1366
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA
UPDATED APRIL 2020
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AVA: America's Walking Club

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AVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS: Rockin' Around the Clock and Walking the USA A-Z (S).

Start Point: Savannah History Museum, 303 Martin Luther King Blvd., Savannah, GA 31401

Driving Directions: From I-95 use exit 99 onto I-16. Drive east to the end of I-16 (becomes Montgomery) approx 8.8 miles. Go to Liberty (first traffic light). Turn left on Liberty and drive one block to Martin Luther King Jr. Turn right onto MLK Jr and make an immediate left into the Visitor Information Center parking lot.



DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES
386-214-3890 FOR ALL ELSE

WELCOME to beautiful Savannah. (QUALIFER: 'S' Walking the USA A-Z). Take time to see the many interesting parks, read the many historical plaques, delight in the beautiful architecture; enjoy your walk! You are starting at a National Historic Landmark. Originally the passenger station of the Central of Georgia Railway, it now serves as the Savannah History Museum. (See Note #1)

1. From the Savannah History Museum and Visitors Center TURN RIGHT and walk to FRONT of building (Visitors Center), TURN RIGHT on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and continue to traffic light at intersection of MLK Blvd. and Louisville Rd/West Liberty St.

2. At traffic light, TURN LEFT CROSSING MLK Blvd. at crosswalk and immediately TURN RIGHT and CROSS West Liberty St/Louisville Road.

3. TURN LEFT on West Liberty St. and walk 4 blocks to Barnard Street.

4. CROSS Barnard St., TURN RIGHT and walk 3 blocks THROUGH Pulaski Square which takes its name from Polish Count Casimir Pulaski, the Revolutionary War hero. The square was laid out in 1837 and is surrounded by the Pulaski House, Margaret Murphy House and the Francis Stebbins Bartow House. Continue to W. Jones St.

5. CROSS W. Jones St., TURN LEFT and walk 4 blocks to Abercorn St. As you walk along these 4 blocks, note some of the most beautiful homes in the

Historic District. At 107 W. Jones, the famous and delicious Mrs. Wilkes Dining Room is located, home of family style Southern dining. Continuing along Jones, you will reach Clary's Café at the corner of Jones and Abercorn (see Note #2).

6. TURN LEFT at Clary's and CROSS Jones St. CONTINUE on Abercorn St. for two blocks to E. Charlton St. at Lafayette Square. At this point, look to your left at 329 Abercorn St.; the Andrew Low House (See Note #13).

7. TURN RIGHT onto E. Charlton and walk half a block to Abercorn St. At 207 E. Charlton is the Flannery O'Conner Museum Home (See Note #12).

8. TURN LEFT onto Abercorn St. (at 330 Abercorn is the beautiful Hamilton-Turner House; See Note #11), continue to E. Harris St.

9. TURN LEFT onto E. Harris and walk the half block to Abercorn. At this corner is the imposing and magnificent Cathedral of St John the Baptist (See Note #10). Continue on Abercorn to E. Bay St. As you amble along, on your right from Perry Lane to Oglethorpe Ave is the Historic Colonial Park Cemetery opened for residents in 1750. If you have time, this is a wonderfully interesting Cemetery with loads of stories and is the final resting place of many of Savannah's earliest notables, including Button Gwinnett, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. When you reach Oglethorpe Ave, look to your left to see the old Savannah Fire Department's Firehouse No. 1.

10. Continue on Abercorn to Oglethorpe Square. Pass through the Square and on your right note at 124 Abercorn St. The Owens-Thomas House Museum (See Note #9).

11. Walk 4 blocks to Reynolds Square. Proceed to CENTER of Reynolds Square. To your right at 32 Abercorn St., you will see the Lucas Theater for the Arts built in 1921; later the site of the movie premiere of *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*. Continue through the Square and EXIT onto Abercorn. Continue two blocks to E. Bay St.

12. CAREFULLY CROSS E. Bay St and immediately TURN RIGHT onto the sidewalk along Bay St. At 44 E. Bay is the Freeman's Hall on historic Factor's Walk-home of Solomon's Lodge # 1 which was organized in 1734.

13. Walk 5 blocks PASSING Emmet Park on your left. While strolling along for the next several blocks, you will be passing several monuments and memorials located in Emmett Park. The Old City Exchange Bell is on display. An Irish Memorial, the "Irish Limestone Celtic Cross" was handcarved in County Roscommon, Ireland and erected in 1983. Emmett Park is also known as "Irish Green". The park was named for Robert Emmet, an Irish Patriot and hero of the Savannah Irish Community. The Chatham Artillery Monument, inspired by the 101st Airborne Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery, was erected in 1986 to honor those who served in this "home-grown" artillery regiment.

14. As you continue you will arrive at the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial erected in 1991. It consists of a large reflecting pool surrounded by steps and a marble block inscribed with the names of the Chatham County soldiers killed in the war. In the center of the pool is a marble replica of the country of Vietnam.

15. At the END of Emmet Park follow path to the LEFT PAST Old Harbor Light, erected in 1858 to serve as an aid to navigation marking the entrance to Savannah's Harbor and to help incoming ship traffic avoid sunken Revolutionary War vessels. Continue past the Light to the cobblestone street ramp to River St.

16. TURN LEFT onto River Street. Look to your right and you will see the statue of "The Waving Girl". Walk across River St. to the statue. (See Note #19)

CHECKPOINT: What is the waving girl's name?

17. RETURN to River Street, CROSS the street and TURN RIGHT following the sidewalk PAST shops, restaurants and museums to the NEXT street ramp.

18. TURN RIGHT and CROSS River St. to Riverwalk, TURNING LEFT along the Savannah River.

19. Follow Riverwalk until just BEFORE it ends TURNING LEFT and returning to River St. CROSS River St. to the Visitor's Center. Restrooms and water are available as well as a whole lot of great information on Savannah. After your visit to the Center, continue on the cobblestone ramp UP to Bay St. (OPTION: street ramp or stairs UP to Bay St.)

20. TURN RIGHT onto Bay St. and proceed to traffic light at Montgomery St. Along the way you will cross Barnard St., continue to Montgomery St.

21. TURN LEFT onto Montgomery St. and walk 1 block to Franklin Square named for Benjamin Franklin. When you enter Franklin Square look to your right and take note of the First African Baptist Church at 23 Montgomery St. (See Note #20).

22. Proceed to CENTER of Franklin Square, TURN LEFT and walk through City Market. As you enter City Market, look to your right. On the corner is Belford's Restaurant (See Note #21), one of Georgia's finest, it has received the Top Award from the Annual Taste of Savannah competition many times. Continue through City Market to Ellis Square.

23. Ellis Square, one of Oglethorpe's four original Squares, is named after Henry Ellis, the second royal governor of Georgia. The Square was lost in 1954 when municipal parking garage was built on the site. When the lease ran out in 2004, the Historical Society purchased the property and a huge restoration project began. The garage was torn down; a huge hole was dug in the ground and a 4-story underground garage was constructed. The new Ellis Square was built on top of the garage.

24. At Ellis Square, TURN RIGHT onto Barnard St.; walk half a block to Congress St., TURN LEFT on Congress St. to Barnard St.

25. TURN RIGHT on Barnard St. and walk 2 blocks to W. Broughton St.

26. TURN RIGHT onto W. Broughton St. and walk 3 blocks to MLK Blvd.

27. CAREFULLY CROSS MLK Blvd and immediately TURN LEFT onto MLK Blvd. Walk 6 blocks along MLK Blvd to the steps on your right just before reaching the Savannah History Museum and Visitors Center.

28. TURN RIGHT and take the steps returning to the Start/Finish at the Savannah History Museum and Visitors Center.

CONGRATULATIONS! You have completed the 5K Historic Downtown Savannah Georgia Year-Round Event. Please place your completed Start Card in one of the Self-addressed envelopes along with the appropriate payment (check preferred), put a stamp on it and drop it into the nearest mail facility. DO NOT FORGET TO STAMP YOUR BOOKS IF YOU ARE WALKING FOR CREDIT.

We invite you to walk our other YR and Seasonal Events in Florida:

Blue Spring State Park (1/01-3/31), Cocoa Beach, Daytona Beach, DeLand, Flagler Beach, Hontoon Island State Park, Mount Dora, New Smyrna Beach, Ormond Beach, Palm Coast, Ponce Inlet, Port Orange, Sanford and St. Augustine.

Bike and Swim YRE in Port Orange and Bike YRE in Palm Coast.

The Happy Wanderers Walking Club, Inc.
P O Box 290153
Port Orange, FL 32129

www.happywanderersfl.org

AVA: America's Walking Club

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THE HAPPY WANDERERS WALKING CLUB

DIRECTIONS FOR 10K YEAR-ROUND WALK Y1366

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

UPDATED MAY 2022


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AVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS: Mayflower – 400th Anniversary Walk, Rockin' Around the Clock, Town Halls / City Halls, Walking with America's Veterans and Walking the USA A-Z (S).

Start Point: Savannah Visitor's Center, 301 Martin Luther King Blvd., Savannah, GA 31401 (912) 944-0455

Driving Directions: From I-95 use exit 99 onto I-16. Drive east to the end of I-16 (becomes Montgomery) approx 8.8 miles. Go to Liberty (first traffic light). Turn left on Liberty and drive one block to Martin Luther King Jr. Turn right onto MLK Jr and make an immediate left into the Visitor Information Center parking lot.

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WELCOME to beautiful Savannah! Take time to see the many interesting parks, read the many historical plaques, and delight in the beautiful architecture. *Enjoy your walk!*

You are starting at a National Historic Landmark - originally the passenger station of the Central of Georgia Railway, it now serves as the Savannah History Museum.

1. From the side exit (under awning) **TURN RIGHT** and walk up the stairs to the front of the building.
2. **TURN RIGHT** on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and continue to the corner at intersection of MLK Blvd. and Louisville Rd./West Liberty St.
3. **TURN LEFT** and **CROSS** MLK Blvd. at crosswalk and immediately **TURN RIGHT** and **CROSS** West Liberty St./Louisville Road.
4. **TURN LEFT** on West Liberty St. and walk 4 blocks to Barnard Street.
5. **CROSS** Barnard St. and **TURN RIGHT**. Walk 3 blocks passing through Pulaski Square. Continue to W. Jones St.

The square takes its name from Polish Count Casimir Pulaski, the Revolutionary War hero. It was laid out in 1837 and is surrounded by the Pulaski

House, Margaret Murphy House and the Francis Stebbins Bartow House.

5. CROSS W. Jones St. and **TURN LEFT**. Walk 5 blocks to Lincoln St. As you walk along these 5 blocks, note some of the most beautiful homes in the Historic District.

At 107 W. Jones, the famous and delicious Mrs. Wilkes Dining Room is located, home of family style Southern dining. Continuing along Jones you will reach Clary's Café at the corner of Jones and Abercorn.

6. TURN RIGHT on Lincoln St. and walk 1 block to E. Taylor St.

7. TURN RIGHT on E. Taylor St. and walk 5 blocks passing Calhoun Square.

Named for John C. Calhoun, Vice President under Presidents John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson.

8. CONTINUE to the corner of Taylor and Bull where you will find Monterey Square.

9. TURN LEFT onto Bull (before square - no sign) and walk along to Temple Mickve Israel at 20 E. Gordon St.

10. TURN RIGHT onto E. Gordon keeping the square on your right. Walk to Bull St and **TURN RIGHT**.

On your left at 429 Bull St is the Mercer House, featured in the book & film Midnight in the Garden of Good & Evil. Continue on Bull St. to W. Taylor St.

11. TURN LEFT on W. Taylor and walk 2 blocks to Barnard St., with Chatham Square on your left.

12. TURN LEFT at the CENTER of Chatham Square (named for William Pitt, Earl of Chatham) and walk through the square to continue on Barnard St. Walk 1 more block to Gaston St.

13. TURN LEFT and walk 2 blocks to Bull St. Along the way you will pass Hodgson Hall, the home of the Georgia Historical Society at the corner of Gaston and Whitaker St. Continue to Bull St.

14. Immediately TURN RIGHT and **CROSS** Gaston St. at the crosswalk to enter Forsyth Park.

15. Walk to and past the Forsythe Fountain.

Erected in 1858, this cast iron fountain is designed after the grand fountain in the Place de la Concorde in Paris. When it was installed, it was thought to be the largest fountain in the USA.

Continue to the Confederate Memorial – the tall obelisk in the center of the Park.

The Monument was erected in 1874 to honor the living and the dead who served the Confederacy. In the Cornerstone is a remnant of the flag which flew over Ft. Sumter; a furlough signed by Gen Robert E. Lee; and the flag of the 8th Georgia Regiment. The monument was made in Canada with Canadian materials and brought to Savannah by ship; to never touch Yankee soil.

16. CIRCLE the monument and **RETRACE** your steps in the direction of the fountain. **PRIOR** to the fountain, **TURN RIGHT** on walkway to the just past the playground area. Follow walkway to Drayton St. **(Restrooms available at the Collins Quarter Cafe)**

17. TURN LEFT on Drayton St. and walk to the end of the park at Gaston St.

18. CROSS Gaston St. and **TURN RIGHT**, crossing Drayton St. Walk 3 blocks to Habersham St.

19. TURN LEFT on Habersham St. and walk several blocks through Whitefield, Troup, Columbia and Warren squares. (QUALIFIER: Mayflower – 400th Anniversary Walk)

At Troup Square, look to your left for “Jingle Bells Church”.

20. Just after Hull St. you will pass the Police Station at 201 Habersham. *Note the police cars.*

In Columbia Square, the fountain originally came from Wormsloe Plantation. Look around for the following features: The Kehoe House, Savannah’s only four-star, four-diamond bed & breakfast inn and the Isiah Davenport House Museum. At Warren Square, look for the old frame house at 22 Habersham St. This was one of the very few houses which survived the Great Fire of 1796.

21. TURN LEFT onto East Bryan St. as you exit Warren Square, and walk 2 blocks to Abercorn St. and Reynolds Square on your left.

22. CROSS & TURN LEFT at the center of the square, to walk through and then continue **STRAIGHT** on Abercon, on the left side sidewalk.

To your left at 32 Abercorn St. is the Lucas Theater for the Arts built in 1921 and later was the site of the premier showing of Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil.

23. Walk 7 blocks, passing THROUGH Oglethorpe Square.

Note 124 Abercorn St. - the Owens-Thomas House Museum.

24. CONTINUE to Oglethorpe Ave. and **carefully CROSS** this dual roadway.

On the SW corner, you will see the old Savannah Fire Department’s Firehouse No. 1. On your left is the Historic Colonial Park Cemetery opened for residents in 1750. If you have time, this is a wonderfully interesting Cemetery with loads of stories and is the final resting place of many of Savannah’s earliest notables, including Button Gwinnett, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

25. Continue STRAIGHT to Lafayette Square.

Just before reaching Lafayette Square, you will pass the imposing structure of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist at the corner of Abercorn and Harris Sts.

26. TURN LEFT on Harris and walk ½ block on Abercorn St. (walk the perimeter of the square)

At 330 Abercorn is the beautiful Hamilton-Turner House.

27. TURN RIGHT and Walk on to Charlton St.

At 207 E. Charlton St. is the Flannery O'Connor Museum Home.

28. TURN RIGHT on Abercorn and walk ½ block to E. Macon St.

On your left at 329 Abercorn, is the Andrew Low House.

29. TURN LEFT onto E. Macon St. and walk to Madison Square and then to the center of the square.

At 14 W. Macon St. is the Green-Meldrim House.

30. TURN RIGHT and exit Madison Square onto Bull St. walking on the right-side sidewalk.

31. Continue walking on Bull St. 10 blocks to reach Bay St., passing through Chippewa Square with a bronze sculpture of General James Oglethorpe gracing the center of the Square.

The Savannah Theater at 222 Bull St., first opened in 1818 and even though it has burned down three times, enough of the original building was saved each time that it was rebuilt and has continually operated on the same site since 1818 making it the country's oldest theater to achieve that distinction.

32. Continue STRAIGHT on Bull St. after Chippewa Square, to Wright Square.

Just before reaching Wright Square you will pass by the Birthplace of Girls Scouts of America founder, Juliette Gordon Low, at 142 Bull St. In the southeast section of Wright Square is a granite boulder honoring Chief Tomochichi, and

with a monument to him in the square's center. As you EXIT the Square to your right front is the Lutheran Church of the Ascension.

33. Continue STRAIGHT on Bull St. to Johnson Square. This Square was the first square to be laid out by Oglethorpe.

In the center of the Square is an obelisk, a monument to General Nathaniel Greene, hero of the Revolutionary War and General George Washington's Chief of Staff. Also, at 28 Bull St. is the historic Christ Episcopal Church.

34. EXIT Johnson Square onto Bull St. and continue the last 2 blocks to Bay St.

35. CROSS Bay St. to City Hall, the building with the gold dome on top.

(QUALIFIER: Town Halls/City Halls AND Rockin' Around the Clock)

36. TURN RIGHT and walk 6 blocks with Emmet Park *on your left*. While strolling along for the next several blocks, you will pass several monuments and memorials located in Emmett Park.

At 44 E. Bay is the Freeman's Hall on historic Factor's Walk-home of Solomon's Lodge #1, organized in 1734. The Old City Exchange Bell is on display. An Irish Memorial, the "Irish Limestone Celtic Cross" was handcarved in County Roscommon, Ireland and erected in 1983.

Emmett Park is also known as "Irish Green". The park was named for Robert Emmet, an Irish Patriot and hero of the Savannah Irish Community. The Chatham Artillery Monument, inspired by the 101st Airborne Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery, was erected in 1986 to honor those who served in this "home-grown" artillery regiment.

Further on is the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, erected in 1991. (QUALIFER: Walking with America's Veterans) It consists of a large reflecting pool surrounded by steps and a marble block inscribed with the names of the Chatham County soldiers killed in the war. In the center of the pool is a marble replica of the country of Vietnam.

37. At the end of Emmet Park, **CROSS** Rossiter Pl and **carefully** walk along the wall down the cobblestone ramp (E. Board St.) to River St.

Watch for cars coming up the ramp.

Before descending, note (on the opposite side or Rossiter) the Old Harbor Light, erected in 1858 to serve as an aid to navigation marking the entrance to Savannah's Harbor and to help incoming ship traffic avoid sunken Revolutionary War vessels.

38. TURN LEFT on the sidewalk along River Street, next to the park along the wall. Then, look to your right and you will see the statue of "The Waving Girl". **TURN RIGHT** and carefully **CROSS** River St. to walk around to face the statue. (Your back to the river.)

39. Return to River Street, **CROSS** the street and **TURN RIGHT** following the sidewalk past shops and restaurants.

40. At the Lincoln St. Ramp (Boar's Head Grill on left) **TURN RIGHT** and **CROSS** River St. to the Riverwalk, **turning LEFT** along the Savannah River.

41. Follow the Riverwalk with more shops and restaurants on your left (great lunch stops here, then return) and passing behind the large Hyatt Regency hotel.

On your left after the Hyatt is the WWII globe-shaped Memorial.

42. Continue STRAIGHT on the riverwalk and pass behind the J.W. Marriott until reaching the passageway between the Starbucks and the Graffito Pizza.

43. TURN LEFT and walk past the fountain, **CROSS** River St. across the plaza to climb up the wide brick stairs. **CROSS** Williamson St. and stay left to pick-up the sidewalk, and continue to W. Bay St.

44. Carefully CROSS Bay St. at the light and walk 2 blocks to Franklin Square.

The square's namesake is Benjamin Franklin, inventor and founding father. When you enter Franklin Square, on your right is the First African Baptist Church at 23 Montgomery St.

45. Walk to the center of Franklin Square, **TURN LEFT** and walk to W. St. Julian St. and through the (pedestrian-only) City Market. Continue to the open plaza of Ellis Square.

As you enter City Market, look to your right - on the corner is Belford's Restaurant (See Note #21). One of Georgia's finest, it has received the Top Award from the Annual Taste of Savannah competition many times. If you are hungry this is the place to dine!

Ellis Square is one of Oglethorpe's four original Squares - named after Henry Ellis, the second royal governor of Georgia. The Square was lost in 1954 to an ugly municipal parking garage. When the garage's lease ran out in 2004, the Historical Society purchased the property and restored this open space with a new 4-story underground garage.

46. At Ellis Square, **TURN RIGHT** onto Barnard St. and walk half a block to Congress St. Then **TURN LEFT** on Congress St. to Barnard St.

47. TURN RIGHT on Barnard St. and walk 7 blocks to W. Liberty St.

You will pass through Telfair Square, last of Oglethorpe's four original Squares. At 121 Barnard St is the magnificent and majestic Telfair Mansion and Art Museum. If you have time, this is a must visit place. While at Telfair Square, observe the Trinity United Methodist Church at 225 W. President St.

48. Continue STRAIGHT through Telfair Square and then through Orleans Square to Liberty St.

49. TURN RIGHT on W. Liberty St. for 2 blocks to Martin Luther King Blvd.

50. CROSS MLK Blvd. back to the Savannah History Museum and Visitors Center.

CONGRATULATIONS! You have completed the 10K Historic Downtown Savannah, Ga Year-Round Event.

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Bike & Swim YREs in Port Orange and Bike YRE in Palm Coast.

The Happy Wanderers Walking Club, Inc.

P O Box 290153
Port Orange, FL 32129-0153

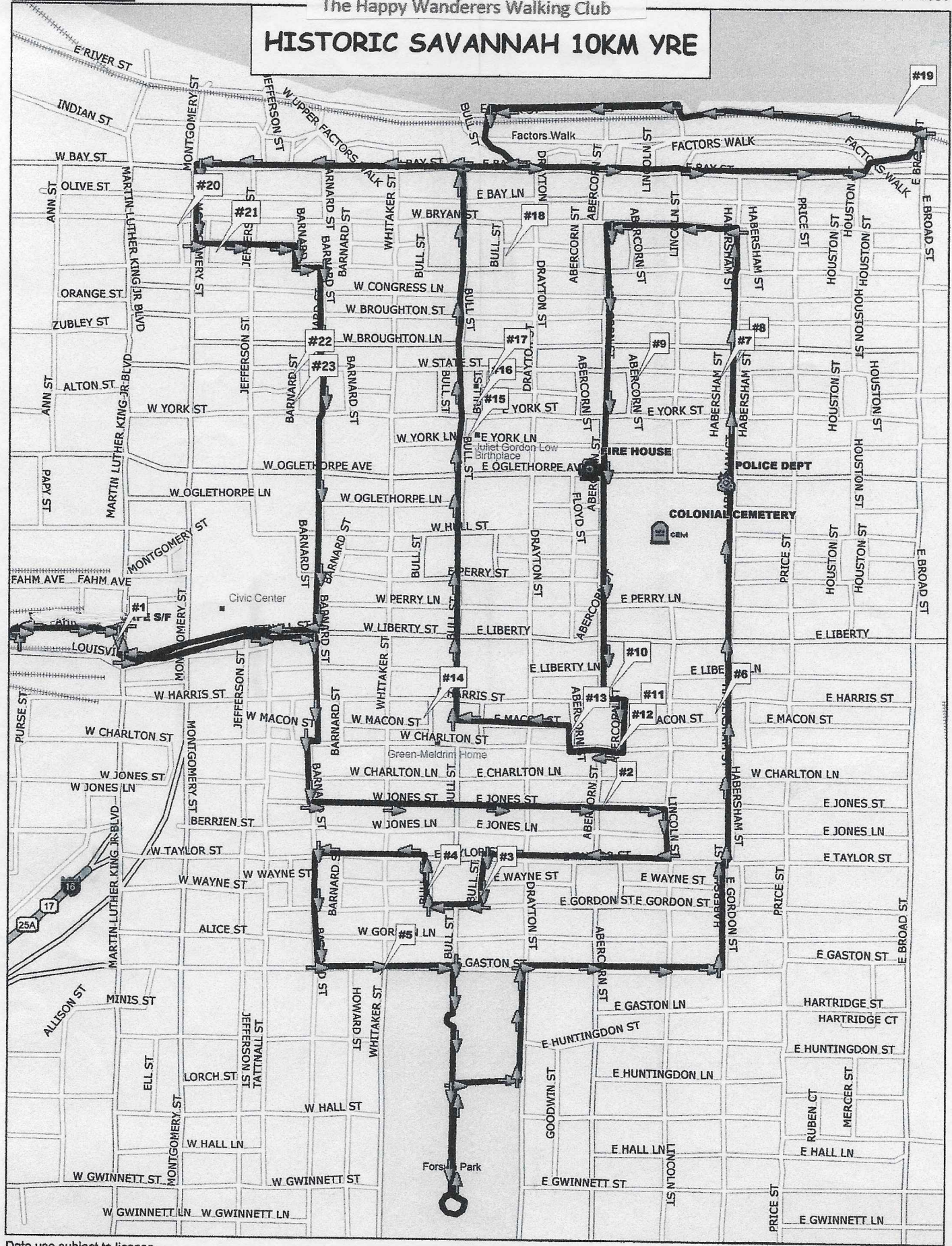
www.happywanderersfl.org

AVA: America's Walking Club!

Point of Contact: Gloria Pratt
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HISTORIC SAVANNAH 10KM YRE



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