

ALBANY CAPITAL HISTORIC WALK

6K

Rating 3A

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For Immediate Emergency Assistance = 911

Point of Contact = David Janiga 518-459-2587

AVA Regional Director = Betty Green 845-774-5335

Key: TL = Turn Left; TR = Turn Right; N=North;
E= East; S= South; W=West; RR = Restrooms

- 1. Leave Visitors' Center, TR (W) to Broadway & TL. Go to corner TR to cross walk.** (At Visitor Center ask to see 15 min. Albany slideshow. Quackenbush House on L, 1736, oldest Dutch building in Albany; may have made bricks onsite.)
- 2. Cross Broadway & TL (S). Cross Clinton & go 2 1/2 blocks, crossing Van Tromp, & Columbia to small park on R.** (Across Broadway is NYS Environmental Conservation Dept., 2001 & old Union Station, 1900, was Albany's railroad station, restored 1986, to be bank.)
- 3. At park, TR, enter Tricentennial Park.** (Monument Seal of City of Albany: beaver pelts; Hudson's "Half Moon".)
- 4. CHECK POINT #1: What is large word on monument of Albany's seal meaning "constant personal attention"? Mark Your Start Card.**
- 5. Leave Tricentennial Park by the back, left corner (SW), Steuben St. Go up pedestrian mall (W) 1 block to North Pearl St. (1K)**
- 6. At N. Pearl St., TR (N). Go 4 blocks to Orange St., (next street past Van Tromp St.)** (On R Capital Repertory Theater. At Orange St., look left front at Palace Theatre, 1931, now home of Albany Symphony. Look L at present location of 3rd structure for "First Church" in Albany, "Dutch" Reformed, 1798, organized 1642. Oldest pulpit in Am; bought from Amsterdam, 1656, for 25 beaver skins.)
- 7. At Orange St., TL. Cross N. Pearl St. (W) to the "First Church" (Dutch Reformed), & TL (S). Follow N. Pearl back about 3 blocks to pedestrian mall at Steuben St. (1K)** (On R is former Kenmore Hotel, 1878, has "Rain-Bo Room", 1921, favorite haunt of the notorious gangster "Legs" Diamond. Building renovated, 1986, to office space. Step inside to view lobby area.)
- 8. At Steuben St. TR (W). Take Steuben's pedestrian mall up 2 blocks to Lodge St. TL (S). Go 3 blocks to State St.** (On Lodge St is the 3rd structure, 1867, for oldest Roman Catholic Church in Albany, St. Mary's, founded 1797. Look inside at restoration. (1K) At State St. is 3rd structure for St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 1859, which was organized 1712. Inside, body of British Gen. Lord Howe, French-Indian War; Tiffany stained glass windows.)
- 9. At State St. TR. Go up State St. hill 1 block to Eagle St. TR. Go 2 blocks to Pine St. (1mi)** (At Eagle, Capitol straight ahead near west gate of Ft. Frederick, 1698. On Eagle St. City Hall, 1882, constructed of brownstone & granite; 60 bell Carillon tower & clocks. Enter lobby to see building's atrium. Front of City Hall, Albany born Maj. Gen. Philip Schuyler Monument who planned defenses for Battle of

Saratoga, 1777, near "old" Saratoga, now Schuylerville.

- 10. At Pine St., cross & immediately TL, carefully cross Eagle St. & TL. Go to 1st walkway on Right. Enter Albany Park.** (On Eagle St. building north of City Hall, NYS Court of Appeals, 1841, State's highest court. Ask to view interior, which some claim most beautiful court in Nation. Next comes Albany County Courthouse, 1916.)
- 11. Follow walkway into Park, bearing Left at building, continuing to large (city's) Vietnam Memorial, bearing Left towards left rear corner (SW), N. Hawk St. & Washington Ave.** (Building, now Albany Bd. of Ed. was private boys' Albany Academy, 1813, attended by Herman Melville, & Joseph Henry who later taught physics here. At this place Henry discovered electricity could be generated by passing magnet through coil of wire - electric dynamo. Henry's Monument in front of building.)
- 12. (10K walker will depart at this spot.) At corner of N. Hawk & Washington Ave. TL (south). Cross Washington Ave. to the side of State Capitol & TR. Walk to 1st walkway on L & enter small park keeping Capitol on L continuing around curve to State St.** (On your R across Washington Ave is NYS Ed Building, first major government building constructed for sole purpose of education; \$4M. Opening 1912, it was considered one of 12 most beautiful buildings in World. Frontage is 660', has 36 Corinthian columns & longest colonnade in US & maybe world. Restored in 1980's-90's. At end of small park on R is Alfred E. Smith State Office Building (note NYS's county names etched in walls, & life-size statue of Washington.)
- 13. At State St. TL & follow sidewalk down to first crosswalk, TR & carefully cross State St.** (At Capitol, check inside for tour times.)
- 14. Enter Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza. Go ahead up ramp or steps, & continue to near end of long, segmented water pools & view buildings.** (In winter, near pool is skating rink. At L-rear Judicial Building; on L "The Egg" a unique structure containing 2 performing arts theaters; Corning Tower, 42 stories, 587', highest structure between NYC/Montreal; straight ahead Culture Education Building, housing State Library & Museum composed of many permanent & short term exhibits; home of Archaeological, Biological, & Geological Surveys, third oldest in world; along R, 4 Agency towers of cantilever construction; low 1/4 mi long building just for motor registration; R-rear is Legislative Office, & Capitol. Cost of Empire Plaza's construction estimated in excess \$1 B. Facility has world's largest collection of modern art not housed in a museum: 92 sculptures, paintings, & tapestries. More art will be seen later within the complex.)
- 15. Facing pools, TL & walk E, bearing L around low stone wall & go to NYS Fallen Firefighters Memorial.** (Tap on a firefighters' hat.)
- 16. Continue E towards another wall & TR for overlook of City. Continue along wall to Tower, then turn R towards pools.** (Observation floor may be open.)

17. On walkway along pools, TL continue to far end of Plaza, taking steps down to Madison Ave; TL. Continue down Madison 1 block to Eagle St; TR & cross Madison. Continue straight past Cathedral to first gate on R of Governor's Mansion. (Look in Cathedral, 1852, undergoing \$11M restoration. Lead roofs mediaeval style needing replacement in 300 yrs. Governor's residence since 1875.)

18. Retrace to Madison Ave, TL (W). (6K) Go up ½ block to WWII Memorial on L & enter. (WWII Memorial has many symbolisms: Eagle in attack position protecting World; pool on R is Atlantic Ocean; L is Pacific, both in turmoil represented by moving water, if fountain is on. Each ocean's major battles/dates inscribed around fountain rims.)

19. CHECK POINT #2: At World War II Memorial, which two persons are quoted on back of the monument? Mark Your Start Card.

20. Return to Madison Ave, TL (W) & go under bridge. (On L in State Museum are Rest Rooms.) Continue up Madison (W) just past Museum to walkway at ½ left in small park. Follow walk into park to Women Veterans Memorial. Continue along walk to Korean War Memorial. (4mi)

21. Return to Madison Ave., TL (W) & go up rest of block to S. Swan. TR (N) & cross Madison Ave; TR & go back down Madison toward Museum bridge.

22. At this point, there are two alternate routes: 22-1= Inside Concourse (Recommended); 22-2= Go across Plaza again. Your Choice. Follow just one route.

22-1. At bridge, enter glass doors on L. Go down steps & walk ahead on Right side ¾ length of Concourse (Note modern art collections open to public. RR available.) **At sign for "THE EGG", TURN RIGHT** (before Security Station). **Pass through 2 sets of glass doors toward The Egg, but then bear ½ Left; pass through another set of glass doors-"Times Union Center Walkway"; TR, pass through more glass doors, & immediately TL. Exit through glass doors to outdoors. Pass State's Vietnam War Memorial & go out to State St. Go to Step 23.**

22-2. Just before bridge, TL (N) & go up stairs to Plaza level. Walk N along L side of Plaza; at far end exit Plaza down onto State St. Go to Step 23.

23. At State St., TR, go downhill crossing Eagle St. & continue down all the way to bottom - Broadway.

24. At Broadway, TR. Go 1 block to Hudson Ave. TL to use crosswalk to cross Broadway & Turn Left (N). (8K/5Mi). (The large, ornate building is now home of State University of NY, Central Administration, for all 64 campuses of largest university system in US. It was headquarters for Delaware & Hudson Railroad, designed to help hide bustling center for ships & factories along Hudson River. Large weathervane (8' tall & 800#) at top of building is scale model of Henry Hudson's ship, Half Moon, which first sailed these waters in 1609. At NW corner of lawn, note outside circle of stone, plaques of some Albany historical events: Albany Congress meeting, 1754; Ben Franklin's unsuccessful mission to Montreal to encourage Canada to become 14th colony, arrived by sloop from New York near this point, April 1776, staying several days at Gen. Schuyler's mansion; & Gen. Burgoyne & troops marched past this site after their surrender at Battle of Saratoga, Oct. 1777; Fulton's steam ship.)

25. Head back (N) on Broadway 2 blocks to sign "Jennings Landing" & TR (E). Go up stairs to Hudson River Way. Cross bridge to end, a large granite block with map. (Historically, Albany had always been a Hudson River community. This was impeded when City was separated from her River when I-787 built in 1960's. This \$9 million walkway now makes the reconnection. Note in bridge's floor gray and pink "bricks" with tributes. Note in walls works of art depicting different eras in life of Albany.)

26. At end of bridge see large granite block with map; TR (S). Go down ramp towards River &, on R, visitor center. At River, TL (N). Follow walkway N along River to 1st walkway on L & go up ramp returning to granite map & bridge. (9K) (Although Hudson River is fresh water & 150 miles from Atlantic Ocean, this location has 5 ft. tides. Floating boat dock is able to move up & down with tides. Amphitheater is site for entertainment events & fireworks over the River.)

27. At granite map, TR. Near start of this bridge at River's end is Check Point #3.

28. CHECK POINT #3: As you start back across the bridge, stop at first large group of pink "bricks" in floor. Within this group of 135 bricks, find the one that is 8th in from right and 4th up from bottom. What two word phrase is made by brick's sponsors? Please Mark Your Start Card.

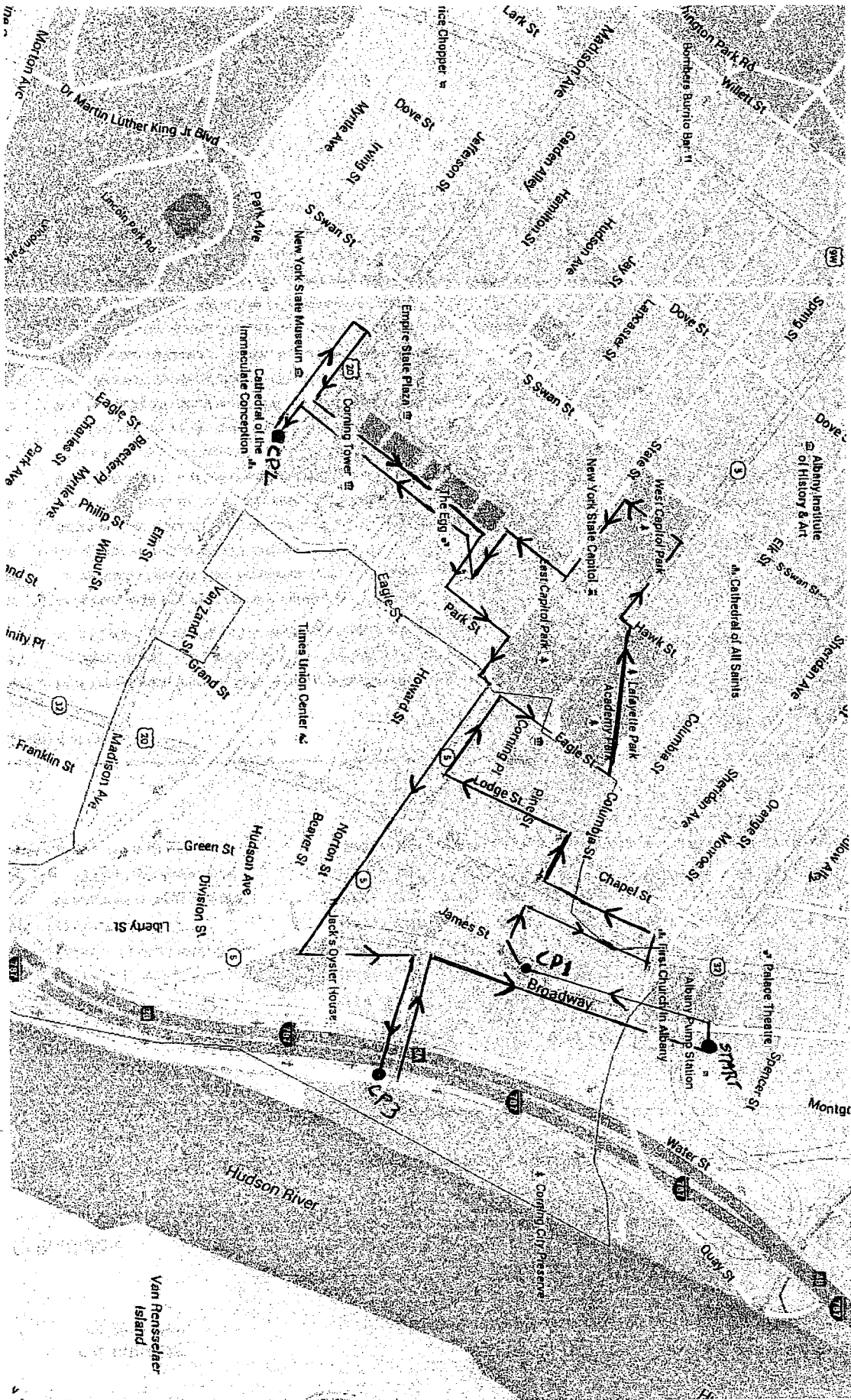
29. Cross bridge. Return to Broadway (3.3mi.) & TR (N). Follow Broadway back about 4 blocks to Visitors' Center. (6.0K/3.7mi.)

*We hope you enjoyed your 6K walk in
Albany, Capital City of New York State.
Empire State Capital Volkssporters (ESCV)*



Google
Downtown

OK Albany Capital walk



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- 13. Continue W crossing S. Swan, Dove to Lark St.** (In this block on R, Albany Institute of History & Art, NYS oldest museum, founded 1791, & Albany Public Library.)
- 14. At Lark TL, cross Washington Ave, TR (W), cross Lark & go for 2 long blocks crossing H. Johnson Blvd. & continue to Sprague Place. (3K)** (At Sprague, R front, 1892 Firehouse/horse drawn pumper.)
- 15. At Sprague, TL, go to & cross State St. TL. Go 2 long blocks, crossing Johnson Blvd. (2mi.) & Willett St, TR.** (Historic markers with dates/names on buildings. On R, Civil War Soldier/Sailor Monument in Washington Pk., Albany's largest: annual Spring Tulip Festival, stage plays, & Holiday of Lights. See inscription on large Willett Rock.)
- 16. Go 1 block to Lancaster St. TL. Go 3 long blocks, crossing Lark, Dove to S. Swan St.; TL (4K). Go 2 blocks to State St. TR & cross S. Swan, TL; Cross State St. Go 1/2 block to life-size statue of Geo. Washington; TR. Go down steps; walk down park towards Capitol. At fountain, bear left to Washington Ave. TR & go down Ave. turning R just past Capitol to statue of Gen. Sheridan on horse.** (Gen. Philip Sheridan, not Sherman, one of most celebrated Civil War heroes, spent boyhood in Albany. His unit stopped Gen. Lee at Appomattox Court House starting to bring war to end. Capitol, 1865-95, cost \$25 M. One of few state capitols without dome; one of last great monumental structures built entirely of masonry. It took 10 yrs/\$53 M. just for roof restoration.)
- 17. Continue circling Capitol going slightly uphill. At Capitol's south entrance; TL & carefully cross State St. (5K/3mi)** (At Capitol, check inside for tour times.)
- 18. Enter Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza. Go up walkway to long water pools & view buildings.** (In winter, near pool is skating rink. At L-rear Judicial Building; on L "The Egg" a unique structure containing 2 performing arts theaters; Corning Tower, 42 stories,

587', highest structure between NYC/Montreal; straight ahead Culture Education Building, housing State Library & Museum composed of many permanent & short term exhibits; home of Archaeological, Biological, & Geological Surveys, third oldest in world; along R, 4 Agency towers of cantilever construction; low ¼ mi long building just for motor registration; R-rear is Legislative Office, & Capitol. Cost of Empire Plaza's construction estimated in excess \$1 B. Facility has world's largest collection of modern art not housed in a museum: 92 sculptures, paintings, & tapestries. More art will be seen later within the complex.)

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Center Walkway"; TR, pass through more glass doors, & immediately TL. Exit through glass doors to outdoors. Pass State's Vietnam War Memorial & go out to State St. Go to Step 27. (7K)

26-2. Just before bridge, TL (N) & go up stairs to Plaza level. Walk N along L side of Plaza; at far end exit Plaza down onto State St. (7K) Go to Step 27.

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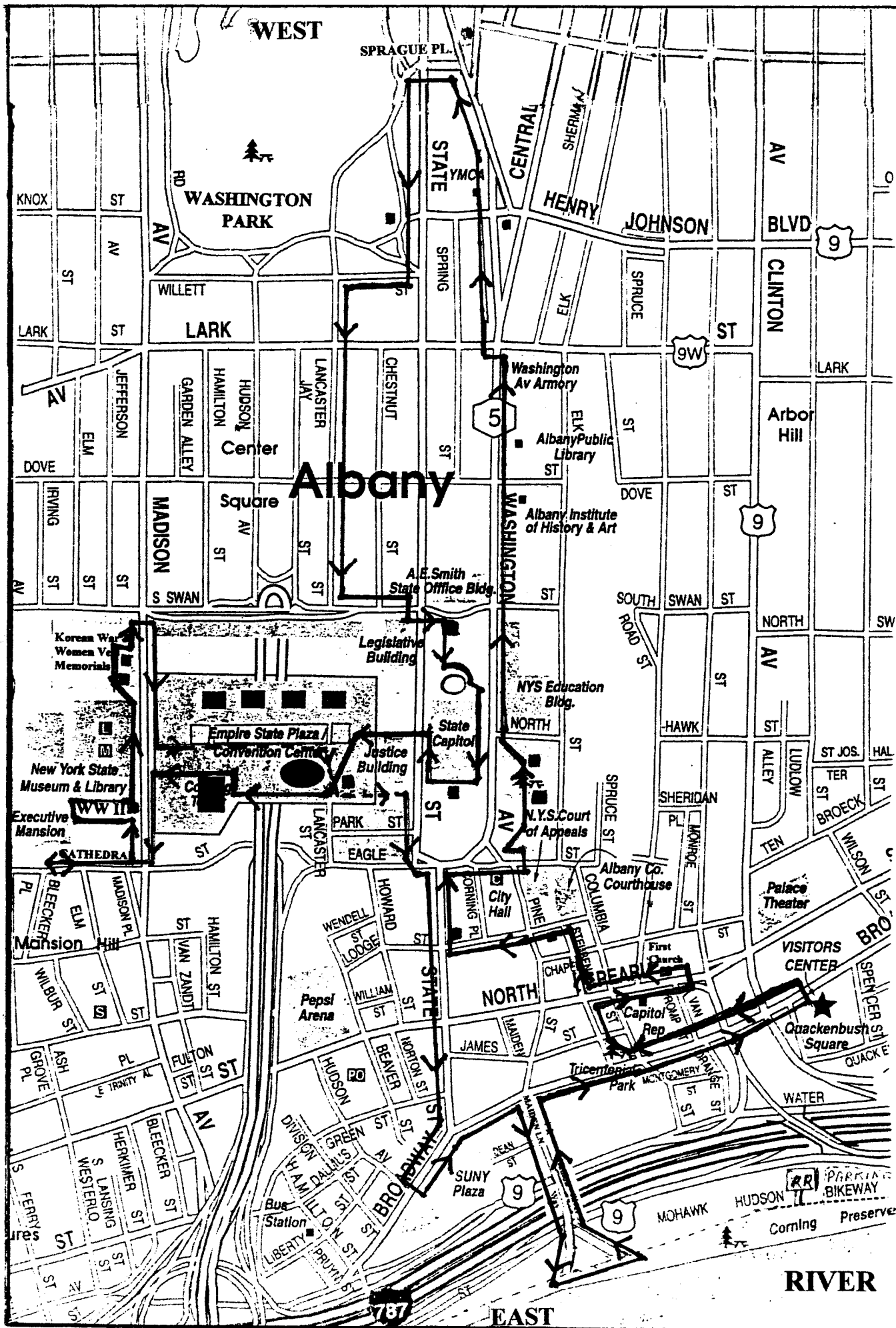
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31. At granite map, TR. Near start of this bridge at River's end is Check Point #3.

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33. Cross bridge. Return to Broadway (6mi.) & TR (N). Follow Broadway back about 4 blocks to Visitors' Center. (9.8K/6.1mi.)

*We hope you enjoyed your 10K walk
in Albany, Capital City of New York State.*



Map (modified) courtesy of NYS Commission for the Albany Heritage Area

SOUTH

WEST

EAST

Albany