

Cross Main Street to the Revolutionary War Cemetery.

Revolutionary War Cemetery

Main St.

The tombstone of Parson Joseph Roby and many other early Saugonians are contained in this historic burial ground. Located at the intersection of Main and Central Streets, the Revolutionary War Cemetery was associated with the Third Parish Church, which became the First Parish Church when Saugus became an independent town in 1815. The church originally stood where the Civil War Monument now stands, and the cemetery extended from there to the central walkway. In the late 1800s, the development of the rotary island around the monument resulted in the relocation of many graves from the roadway area to the space to the west of the central walkway. [SAU.800]

Continue along Main Street to the Civil War Monument.

Civil War Monument

Main & Central Sts.

The Civil War, or Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, was erected in 1875 as a result of a gift to the town of \$10,000 by Henry E. Hone of North Saugus. It was designed by M.H. Mosman, and is one of the most elaborate Civil War monuments in the area. It stands on the site originally occupied by the First (Third) Parish Church, which was moved across Main St., where it remained until demolished in 1950 for the construction of the Gulf service station. [SAU.902]

Cross Main Street and proceed to Frank's Gulf Station at the corner of Main and Central Streets.

Frank's Gulf Service

Central St.

Frank's Gulf Service was constructed on the site of the First Parish Church in 1950. Although the gasoline island has been modernized with an overall canopy, the station itself, consisting of a small office and two service bays, is a nearly unaltered example of the post-

World War II corporate architecture adopted by the Gulf Oil Co. for service stations it erected to meet the needs of the rapidly expanding automobile-based suburbia.

Cross Central Street to the Town Hall and then cross Hamilton Street to the First Congregational Church.

First Congregational Church

300 Central St.

The United Church of Christ, First Congregational, constructed the original wooden church in 1852 to replace the stone church, today's Park Press Building. It was set back from the line of Central St. The original central tower was removed when the new brick-and-glass sanctuary was constructed between the 1852 building and Central St. in 1959 and 1960. [SAU.058]

Recross Hamilton Street and proceed to the Central Fire Station.

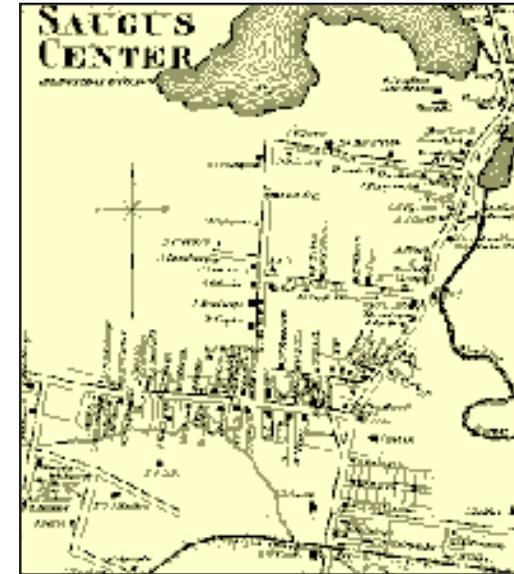
Central Fire Station

Hamilton St.

The Central Fire Station is the surviving half of a structure which also contained the Saugus Police Station. It was constructed in 1935 on the site of an 1891 wooden fire station, being funded by a local bond issue and financial assistance from the New Deal Works Progress Administration (WPA). The brick structure, which contains four apparatus bays on the ground floor and quarters for firemen on the upper floor, is one of only two WPA structures in Saugus. A new Public Safety Building on the opposite side of Hamilton Street replaced the building as a fire and police station in 2000. Although the adjoining Police Station, which fronted on Taylor St., was demolished in 2003, the Central Fire Station has been retained and is used by Saugus' Emergency Management Agency.

Before continuing, look across Hamilton Street where Round Hill, pictured on the town seal, can be seen behind the new Public Safety Building. Return on Hamilton Street to the Town Hall, pausing to look at the numerous memorials located on the Town Hall lawn.

As befits its role as the center of civic life, the Town Hall is the location of several memorials. The first, on the Hamilton St. side, is the **September 11 Memorial**, honoring Saugonians who died in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York. Located in the center of the lawn near the flagpole is the town's **Korean War Memorial**. Flanking the steps to the Town Hall are, on the north side the **Richard J. Devine (Vietnam War) Memorial** and on the south side the recently-restored **World War I Memorial**.



D.G. Beers, *Atlas of Essex County*, 1872

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Saugus Center A Historic Walk



Saugus Center is the heart of the Town of Saugus. It contains the seat of the Town's government, as well as some of its oldest religious and commercial buildings, its oldest cemetery, and monuments to its veterans of many wars.

This walking tour is intended to provide a brief description of the historic buildings and places in the immediate vicinity of Saugus Center. Most of these resources have been identified as potential contributing resources to a National Register historic district.

While the tour route shown begins at the Town Hall, the circular route allows one to start at any point and return to their point of origin.

The descriptions in this brochure are based on the Massachusetts Historical Commission inventory forms prepared for the Saugus Historical Commission in 1986. The bracketed number following the description is the official inventory number.

Saugus Town Hall

298 Central St.

Recently restored to its original Victorian appearance and rehabilitated to continue to serve as the center of town government, the Saugus Town Hall was constructed in 1875. Designed by the noted Boston architectural firm of Lord & Fuller, the Saugus Town Hall displays the massing, decorative elements, and polychromy characteristic of High Victorian architecture. [SAU.044]

Inside, the first floor lobby space contains two display cabinets containing rotating exhibits of objects related to the history of the building and the town. The heart of the building is the auditorium on the second floor. Here, the town’s governing bodies, the Town Meeting and the Board of Selectmen, hold their meetings.

The auditorium is also the location of the mural, ***The Founding of Saugus***. The mural, painted in 1935 by Tracy Montminy (also known as Elizabeth Tracy) under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration, originally was in the courtroom of the now-demolished Police Station on Taylor St. It depicts the earliest days of the settlement of Saugus, including its native inhabitants and newly arrived English settlers. *The Saugus Town Hall was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on June 20, 1985.*

From Town Hall, cross Central Street to the New Saugus Public Library.

New Saugus Public Library

295 Central St.

The new Saugus Public Library, completed in 1997, replaced a smaller library building constructed in 1918. That structure had been a gift to the Town by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie and was designed by architect Charles Vernon Burgess. A modern wing designed by the firm of Wagner, Salisbury & Harding of Lynn was added to the south end of the building in 1960. [SAU.045]

The present library building, designed by Tony Tappe, recalls the style of the older structure, and incorporates some elements of that building, including the 1918 cornerstone and the entablature over the main entrance.

From the Library, cross Taylor Street and turn left, continuing down to number 31, the first of nearly-identical Second Empire style cottages.

31, 33, 35 Taylor St.

31, 33, 35 Taylor St.

Throughout its history, Saugus has seen small and large-scale housing developments. These three Second Empire style cottages, along with others on the street which have been more extensively modernized, are typical of those built in the period from the mid-1870s through the mid-1880s. Like the Town Hall, they feature mansard roofs. The front elevations consist of three bays, one of which is occupied by the doorway and the other two by a bay window. [SAU.042, SAU.259, SAU.260]

Cross Taylor Street and proceed to the Old Town Hall.

Old Town Hall

44 Taylor St.

Now housing Post 210 of the American Legion, this Greek-revival style structure was originally located on Main Street where the Roby School now stands. This structure was built in 1838 using funds received by the town from the distribution of the federal treasury surplus under the administration of President Andrew Jackson. Thus, the structure is significant not only as the first formal home of the town’s government, but as one of the few sites throughout the nation connected with this unusual event in American history.

After the town government moved into the present Town Hall, the structure continued to be used as a school and library. It has housed the American Legion since the 1920s. Still owned by the town, it also serves as a polling place for local, state, and national elections. [SAU.043]

Continue down Taylor Street to Summer Street and cross to the house at the corner of Summer and Main Streets.

E.E. Wilson House

35 Main St.

Constructed in 1879 for E.E. Wilson, this two-and-a-half story house is one of Saugus’ finest examples of High Victorian residential architecture, combining influences of the Italianate and revival styles. Its verticality of design, heavy bracketing, and playful chimney caps are characteristic of Victorian design. The building today is used in part for medical offices. [SAU.050]

Cross Summer Street to the First Parish Church.

First Parish Church

31 Main St.

The First Parish Church, Universalist-Unitarian, was constructed in 1860 for the congregation which had originally occupied the town’s first church building, which had been located first on the south and then the north side of Main Street at Central St. The building was partially destroyed by fire in May 1941 and was rebuilt and rededicated in October 1942. [SAU.049]

Cross Main Street and proceed to the Saugus Historical Society at 30 Main St.

Saugus Historical Society

30 Main St.

Constructed around 1850, this house is one of the many fine examples of Greek Revival-style houses on Main St., which was a most desirable place to live in the second half of the 19th century. A modern addition dating to ca. 1960 extends to the east of the original house. The house is today the headquarters and museum of the Saugus Historical Society. [SAU.059]

The back yard of the house contains a restored “**Ten-Footer**” relocated here from the Berthold Farm on upper Main St. This structure is an example of the many small shoemaking shops once common in the town.

Recross Main Street to the Center School.

Center School

25 Main St.

The Center School, completed in 1821, is the oldest public building in the town. It served the needs of pupils until replaced by the adjoining Roby School in 1896, although classes continued to be held there as student populations outpaced available classrooms into the early 1960s. It then housed the School Department offices until they moved into the Roby School. Today, the structure serves as the Town Hall Annex, housing the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and Historical Commission. [SAU.048]

Continue along Main Street to the Roby School.

Roby School

23 Main St.

Erected on the site of the Old Town Hall, the Roby School was the first brick school built in Saugus. Completed in 1896, it was named in honor of Rev. Joseph Roby, a memorable Revolutionary War patriot and dedicated minister of the Third (First) Parish Church from 1749 to 1803. Following its closure as a school in 1984, the building became home to the School Department administrative offices. [SAU.047]

Continue along Main Street to the Park Press Building.

Park Press Building

15 Main St.

The Park Press Building, named for the business which has occupied the structure since 1946, was built in 1836 to house the Trinitarian, or Congregational, faction of the First Parish Church, which split off from its Unitarian bretheren in 1833. Built of stone, it served as a church until 1852, when a new church building was built on Central Street. For most of the remainder of the 19th century and into the first decades of the 20th century, it held John Stocker’s general store and the Saugus Center Post Office. Although severely damaged by a fire in 1979, the structure’s exterior remains largely unaltered today. [SAU.046]