

# Walking Tour of Campus

## General U of M Information

- Established in 1817 - in a modest structure near the intersection of Congress and Bates Streets in what is now downtown Detroit.
- Michigan's 14 undergraduate colleges and institutions provide more than 280-degree programmes, many of which are in the business, social sciences, and STEM fields.
- Original name was Catholepistemiad or the University of Michigania
- Until he joined the Dark Side, James Earl Jones, the man behind the voice of Darth Vader, initially enrolled at Michigan as a pre-med student before moving to the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance and earning his degree in 1955.

Jones isn't the only former student of Michigan to achieve fame: among others, former President Gerald Ford, who played football for the Wolverines, Madonna, Google co-founder Larry Page, Lucy Liu, and Tom Brady also bleed Maize and Blue.

- The Big House. It is known as The Big House. When complete, Michigan's football stadium would have the same population as the seventh-largest city in the state.

A record attendance of 115,109 was achieved at a 2013 football game against rival Notre Dame. The biggest stadium in the country is Michigan Stadium.

- The University of Michigan is not a typical "college town." Oftentimes, a university will be built on a plot of land and the city will be constructed around the university's needs and attractions. The city of Ann Arbor, however, was already a thriving city prior to the University setting down roots which is why you will see numerous historic houses and buildings used for offices, classrooms, and learning spaces. The University works to preserve the architecture of the city to repurpose historic buildings into usable university spaces.



### Michigan Union - University of Michigan (must see)

The Michigan Union at the University of Michigan was completed in 1919. It was originally built to house an all-male student group of roughly 1,100 members. The first Michigan Union was in the former Thomas Cooley house. However, the growing population necessitated the home to

be demolished so that the current building could be constructed. It was designed by architects Irving Kane Pond and Allen Bartlit Pond.

The continuous growth of the University of Michigan led to numerous renovations and additions over the years. The building was first expanded in 1936. Further expansions and renovations took place in 1938, 1955, 1994 and 2018. By 1968, all areas of the Michigan Union were considered co-ed.

The Michigan Union now offers a wide variety of services to students at the university. Along with meeting spaces, the union offers restaurants, shopping and student support services. There are also a number of administrative offices in the Michigan Union.

Those wishing to visit the University of Michigan campus will find some points of interest on the front steps of the building. President John F. Kennedy, then a candidate, spoke of his proposal for the Peace Corps on these steps, which is marked with a plaque. There are also two statues that represent the athlete and the scholar.

## **The Cube**

the [15-foot high painted CorTen steel cube](#) on the University of Michigan campus serves as an identifying landmark for both the university and city. Commissioned by the U-M Class of 1965 and officially titled “Endover,” the revolving cube is one of three designed by U-M alumnus and sculptor [Bernard “Tony” Rosenthal](#). It was installed on U-M’s Regents’ Plaza in 1968. The others are at home in [New York City](#) and Miami.

Seemingly massive (it weighs 2,400 pounds), the Cube will rotate on its axis with just a gentle push. Campus legend says that the president of the University gives it a ceremonial push each morning on the way to his office in order to get the University under way. The 8-foot square cube serves as a meeting place, identifying marker for those seeking University buildings, and a piece of playground equipment for children of all ages. The dimensions of the work were determined by the size of the truck available to transport the sculpture to Ann Arbor.



## The Law Quadrangle

Must-See: Yes

Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark

The Law Quadrangle was built for the University of Michigan by William W. Cook. Though he died before the project was completed, his plan for an area specifically built for law students lived on. With its official name being the Cook Law Quadrangle, the quad includes Hutchins Hall, a research building and two dormitories.

The buildings were completed in 1933. They were inspired by Oxford and Cambridge, which is reflected in their Tudor Gothic architectural style. The buildings were constructed using Weymouth granite and Indiana limestone.

The Law Quadrangle offers a lovely walk for any visitor to the University. The buildings remind tourists of old-world colleges, while the large trees provide ample shade. Visitors may wish to peek inside the buildings, but most are happy to walk throughout the quad in admiration.

William Cook received his law degree from the University of Michigan in 1882. He was an attorney and a prolific writer. At the time of his death, Cook was estimated to be worth about \$20 million.

The Law Quadrangle and all of its buildings are located between Tappan Avenue and Monroe Street. It is within a quick walk of the South Quadrangle, the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology and the University of Michigan Museum of Art. A stroll up Tappan Avenue to University gives visitors a perfect view of the president's home as well. From there, tourists are only steps away from Michigan Union.

[The Law Quad was scouted as a location for the Harry Potter Movies but was eventually decided on a different location.](#)

Why You Should Visit:

- To enjoy the Tudor Gothic architecture
- To see a meaningful part of University of Michigan history

Tips:

Plan your walking tour with the Law Quadrangle as one of your first or last stops. It is a good place to take it easy at the beginning of a walk or rest after a fun day of exploration.



## Ross School of Business

Must-See: No

Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark

The Stephen M. Ross School of Business (Ross; formerly known as University of Michigan Business School) is a business school operated by the University of Michigan. It offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, as well as an executive education program. Its Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Master of Business Administration (MBA), and Executive Education programs have been ranked among the top in the U.S. and the world. Ross also offers dual degrees with other University of Michigan colleges and schools. The Distinguished Leader Certificate is offered by the Executive Education program.

[The first business courses were offered at the University of Michigan in 1900.](#)

Economics Department Chairman Henry Carter Adams oversaw the expanding practical courses to prepare students for business careers. The idea for the school came from the economics department. In 1918, the university's College of Literature, Science, and the Arts began issuing a Certificate of Business Administration. In 1923, University President Marion LeRoy Burton hired Edmund Ezra Day to serve as the founding dean of a new business school.

[The University of Michigan School of Business Administration was founded in 1924; it offered a two-year Master of Business Administration after three years of general studies. There were 14 faculty members, including one of the first women to be part of a business school.](#) In 1925, the Bureau of Business Research was founded to facilitate and coordinate faculty research, and publish research monographs and case studies.

Upon its establishment in 1924, the business school was located in Tappan Hall, the oldest extant classroom building on campus. The original 1894 wing was designed by

the Detroit firm Spier & Rohns, and the south wing was designed by Luckenbach / Ziegelman & Partners. The school moved to its current site in 1948.



### President's House

Must-See: No

Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark

The President's House is the official home of the President of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The house is a three-story Italianate structure and is the oldest building on the University campus, and is one of the original four houses constructed for faculty when the University moved from Detroit to Ann Arbor. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970.

In 1840, the University of Michigan moved from its original location in Detroit to Ann Arbor. To house faculty members, four houses were constructed by builder Harpin Lum, costing a total of \$26,900 (equivalent to \$685,000 in 2019). The houses may have been designed by campus architect Alexander J. Davis. Until 1852, the university was governed by a faculty committee, and there was no president.

In 1852 Henry Philip Tappan became the first President of the University and moved into this house, which was at the time vacant. Tappan was succeeded in 1863 by Erastus Otis Haven, who added a single-story kitchen to the house, as well as a third story. Haven was succeeded in 1871 by James Burrill Angell, who had made his acceptance of the post conditional on refurbishment of the President's House. During Angell's tenure, the President's House was substantially altered by adding a west wing containing a semi-circular library and more bedrooms.

Angell's successor, Harry Burns Hutchins, chose not to live in the house, and it remained vacant during Hutchins's tenure. When Marion LeRoy Burton was appointed in 1920, the President's House was thoroughly renovated at his request, adding a sun parlor with a sleeping porch and enclosing a rear porch to make a dining area.

Subsequent presidents did some renovation work on the interior, but exterior changes were confined to the addition of a small study and glassed-in plant room during Alexander Grant Ruthven's tenure, and a glassed-in porch and stone terrace during

Harlan Hatcher's tenure. In 1970, what is now the Hatcher Graduate Library was constructed behind the house. The house was extensively renovated in the late 1980s.



## The Diag

**Must-See: No**

**Sight Type: Park/Outdoor**

The Diag is an open green space in the center of the University of Michigan campus. The name comes from the diagonal sidewalks that run through the green. These sidewalks are used by students to get to buildings on campus like the Shapiro Undergraduate Library, the Hatcher Graduate Library, West Hall, Tisch Hall and Randall Lab.

The Diag is one of the busiest places on the campus. Along with the numerous students who use the Diag to get from building to building, it is also often used for special events. On any given day, one can find a concert, demonstration or fundraiser taking place on the green. It is also a popular place for picnicking.

One of the most distinctive features of the green is a brass M, called the Michigan M, that is in the very center. Students take great pains to avoid stepping on the M as it is said that any student who steps on it will fail their first bluebook exam.

Before the yearly football game, the Theta Xi fraternity posts up on The Diag (Michigan's quad) to guard the area against vandalism by Michigan State's foe.

They specifically protect the implanted "M" from obnoxious MSU students. "Defend the diagnosis," as they say.





## Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library

**Must-See: No**

**Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark**

The Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library is the largest and most historical of the libraries on the University of Michigan campus. It is the primary research library for students of humanities and social sciences. The library contains over 3.5 million volumes, more than 10,000 periodicals and culturally important maps, manuscripts and government documents.

The building itself was completed in 1920. It was built on the grounds of the old library, which was incorporated into what was then called the General Library. The building was designed by Albert Kahn who used the Harvard campus as his inspiration.

The first floor entrance, which is now called the North Lobby, was decorated in Pompeian medallions designed by Ulysses Ricci. The symbols incorporated into the motifs include the staff of Aesclepius, a pegasus and a Greek mask. These figures are said to symbolize healing, poetry, music and drama.

Visitors to the University of Michigan campus must make an appointment to enter the stacks of the Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library. Appointments may be made Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM.



## University of Michigan Museum of Art

**Must-See: Yes**

**Sight Type: Museum/Gallery**

The University of Michigan Museum of Art is one of the largest university art museums in the country. It holds over 20,000 works of art. The permanent collection in the

museum includes pieces by Pablo Picasso, Claude Monet, Franz Kline and James McNeill Whistler, to name a few. It also features glasswork from Tiffany & Co.

The museum was built in 1909 as a war memorial for alumni who fought and died in the United States Civil War. It was designed by architectural firm Donaldson and Meier in the Neoclassical style. The museum features a large bronze door flanked by two columns, which is indicative of Neoclassical architecture.

Along with the works inside, the museum has a number of outdoor art pieces. Sculptures by Mark di Suvero, Charles Ginnever, Beverly Pepper, Lucas Samaras, Erwin Binder and Michele Oka Doner can all be seen without entering the building.

The museum is open Thursdays from 9 AM to 8 PM and Friday through Sunday from 9 AM to 5 PM. Admission to the University of Museum of Art is free.



## Angell Hall

**Must-See: No**

**Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark**

Angell Hall is an academic building at the University of Michigan. It was previously connected to the University Hall building, which was replaced by Mason Hall and Haven Hall. [Angell Hall is named in honor of James Burrill Angell, who was the University's president from 1871 to 1909.](#)

[Construction began in 1920, and finished in 1924 at a cost of about \\$1 million.](#) An addition opened in 1952 adding auditoriums, a classroom wing, and an office wing. The addition replaced old Haven Hall, which was destroyed by fire in 1950, the 1841 Mason Hall, and two other buildings.

[The building's exterior, particularly the Doric columns, was intended to match that of campus other buildings at the time, including Hill Auditorium, Alumni Memorial Hall, and the Clements Library.](#)



On the front facade, the carving reads, "Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." The text is taken from the Ordinance of 1787.



## State Street

**Must-See: No**

**Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark**

Found near the University of Michigan campus, State Street and its surrounding area is deservedly regarded as the "entertainment capital " of Ann Arbor – a true mecca for arts and culture lovers, as well as shoppers of all stripes and passionate foodies.

In particular, those keen on history, science, and other intellectual entertainment, will find it in abundance in this artistic and theatrical giant of the community. Places like the University of Michigan Museum of Natural History, Planetarium & Dome Theater, and the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology are fit to blow anyone away with their exhibits.

And if you're a fan of classical music, then the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra is your place. Even those digging on pop more, will find it equally entertaining, as the place regularly runs pieces rooted in pop culture, such as their Harry Potter-inspired event and annual Disney show. University Musical Society is a world-renowned institution that brings world music and barrier-busting performances to Ann Arbor's historic venues.

The Michigan and State Theaters, in addition to being historic gems, play host to two annual film festivals. The Ann Arbor Film Festival in January is the oldest experimental film festival in North America, while the Ann Arbor Summer Festival is an annual display of performing arts, outdoor entertainment, offering film screenings as well as live performances by stand-up comedians and other artists.

In terms of food and drink, the street stands tall with many outstanding restaurants and bars, serving both American culinary classics and international cuisine. The shopping scene is just as fantastic, fitting the trendy needs of all ages and genders.



## Kelsey Museum of Archaeology

**Must-See: No**

**Sight Type: Museum/Gallery**

The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology is located on the University of Michigan campus. The museum holds more than 100,000 ancient and medieval artifacts as part of its permanent collection. It also has special exhibits throughout the year and sponsors fieldwork and research.

The original Kelsey Museum of Archaeology building was constructed in 1888 and finished in 1891. It was designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque architectural style by architects Spier and Rohns. It was named after Francis Kelsey, a professor of Latin at the university. Kelsey collected artifacts throughout his life and even secured funding for excavations. He gifted these collections to the museum and continued doing so until his death in the early 20th century.

An addition was built in 2003, which added a much-needed wing to the museum. The William E. Upjohn Exhibit Wing added over 20,000 feet of space. This wing allowed the museum to display artifacts that had previously been hidden due to lack of room.

The museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 9 AM to 4 PM and weekends from 1 PM to 4 PM. It is closed on Mondays. Admission to the museum is free.



## Nickels Arcade

**Must-See: No**

**Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark**

Nickels Arcade is a historical commercial building on South State Street in Ann Arbor. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987. The building is notable as perhaps the only remaining example in Michigan of a free-standing commercial arcade building of a type that was popularized by the Cleveland Arcade.

John Nickels owned and operated a meat market at this location on State Street. His grandson Tom Nickels inherited a portion of the property, and bought other portions of the property from his brothers and sister. Nickels hired local architect Hermann Pipp to design this building. Construction began in 1915. The first tenant, the Farmers and Mechanics bank, moved in that year. The entire building, however, was not completed until 1918, due in part to delays caused by the onset of World War I. Nickels owned the Arcade until his death in 1932, when he passed it on to his children, James and Nora.

Nickels Arcade is a 261-foot-long gallery linking State Street on one side to Maynard Street on the other. The principal facade faces onto State Street, and consists of a three-story, three-bay open portico flanked with store and office blocks. The facade is clad with a buff-colored decorative architectural terra cotta. The Maynard Street facade is similar to the State Street facade in design, but is clad primarily with yellow brick, with additional ornamental detailing of terra cotta. The gallery running between the facades is covered with a gable skylight of metal-framed wire-glass panels.

On each side of the gallery are ground-level shops which face onto the roofed passage. These shops are essentially two stories in height, some with a mezzanine level. Upper-story office windows above the commercial spaces also face onto the gallery. The arcade is floored with blocks of square red tile in black borders. The arcade is divided into three sections: the section nearest State Street continues the terra cotta cladding and detailing of the State Street facade. This section is separated from the next by a segmental archway; a similar archway near the other end separates the center section from an entrance vestibule.



## Michigan Theater

**Must-See: Yes**

**Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark**

The Michigan Theater is a movie palace in Ann Arbor. It shows independent films and stage productions, and hosts musical concerts.

Designed by Detroit-based architect Maurice Finkel and built in 1927, the historic auditorium seats 1610 and features the theater's original 1927 Barton Theatre Pipe Organ, orchestra pit, stage, and elaborate architectural details.

The Michigan Theater opened on January 5, 1928, and was at the time the finest theater in Ann Arbor. The theater not only showed movies, but also hosted vaudeville acts, live concerts, and touring stage plays. Over the years, Jack Benny, Bing Crosby, Paul Robeson, and Ethel Barrymore all appeared at the theater.

During a renovation in 1956, many of the original ornate designs were destroyed. After a period of low attendance, the theater was threatened with demolition when its 50-year lease to Butterfield Theatres ran out in 1978, but members of the community and local organists helped raise funds to save and renovate the theater, returning it to its original design. A second screen, the Screening Room, with a state-of-the-art sound system, seating for 200, and the ability to project films digitally, was added in 1999.

The Michigan Theater is the current home of the annual Ann Arbor Film Festival, the Ann Arbor Symphony, and the Ann Arbor Concert Band. The theater has been named Outstanding Historic Theatre by the League of Historic American Theaters in 2006.



## State Theater

**Must-See:** No

**Sight Type:** Attraction/Landmark

The State Theatre is an operational former movie palace. The theater's central location and distinctive green, yellow and red marquee have made it an icon of Ann Arbor's downtown.

The theater was designed by architect C. Howard Crane, who had also designed the Fox Theatre, and was built in 1942. The theater was owned and operated by the Butterfield Theater Company until the 1980s, when ownership was transferred to the George Kerasotes Corporation. In 1979, under GKC's ownership, the original theater

design was "quaded," with the balcony made into its own separate floor and the screen divided in half to produce four individual screening spaces. Relics of the theater's history can also be seen in its carpeting. The theater has promoted an 'indie' aesthetic by showcasing ultra-low-budget films in very limited release, such as *Who Killed the Electric Car?* and *Behind the Mask: The Rise of Leslie Vernon*.



### **Burton Memorial Tower**

**Must-See: No**

**Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark**

The Burton Memorial Tower is a clock tower located on Central Campus of the University of Michigan. Housing a grand carillon, the tower was built in 1936 as a memorial for University President Marion Leroy Burton. The grand carillon, one of only 23 in the world, is the world's fourth heaviest, containing 55 bells and weighing a total of 43 tons.

The monument was constructed in 1935 and finished in 1936. It stands at 10 floors. It was used for housing education offices. The High-rise tower was designed in an interesting mixture of Art Deco and Art Moderne architectural styles, constructed with a reinforced concrete shell faced with limestone over a plan 42 feet square. The Burton Memorial Tower was designed by Albert Kahn, who also designed Clements Library, Angell Hall, and Hill Auditorium for the University of Michigan.

The carillon is played for half hour on weekdays at noon, traditionally by a member of the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance who also hold a few classes in the tower. The public may visit the tenth floor observation deck during and after the recitals to view the carillon. Visiting the tower is a fun activity for both adults and children. You can walk among the bells when they are playing. Be prepared to cover your ears. The observation desk also offers a panoramic view of the university campus and the city Ann Arbor.



## The Michigan League

As the need for a women's space became even more evident when the Michigan Union opened in 1919, where women could not enter unless escorted in by a man and had to use the side door.<sup>2</sup> The Michigan League Building was designed by the same architects, the Pond Brothers, and opened to the public ten years later in 1929.

Their campaign to raise \$1 million was championed by members of the Alumnae Council and League including Mary Barton Henderson, who would become the first Director of the League.<sup>1</sup> Alumnae and students raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the building and its endowment.

## Carl Milles Fountain and University of Michigan League

"Sunday Morning in Deep Waters"

It is a tradition during college and university graduation exercises for recently graduated students to wade through the fountain. Many have also taken their senior photo shoots in and around the fountain. For those that are not graduates, or just don't want to kick their shoes off and take the plunge, then bring your umbrella and become one of our

F.R.I.E.N.D.S







## University of Michigan Museum of Natural History

**Must-See:** No

**Sight Type:** Museum/Gallery

The University of Michigan Museum of Natural History is a natural history museum in Ann Arbor. It is a unit of the university's College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. [The museum has 22,000 square feet of exhibit space in a building that it shares with three research museums \(Anthropology, Zoology, Paleontology\).](#)

[The natural history collections began in 1837](#), and the current building, the Alexander Ruthven Museums Building, dates to 1928. The public exhibit museum was founded in 1956, and today has more than 100,000 visitors annually.

[The museum has four major permanent exhibits:](#)

- [The Hall of Evolution on the second floor displays exhibits on evolution and prehistoric life, including fossils, models, and dioramas of dinosaurs, ancient whales, mastodons, and other organisms. It is the largest collection on prehistoric life in Michigan.](#)
- [The Michigan Wildlife Gallery on the third floor displays exhibits on birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, plants, and fungi native to the Great Lakes. There are taxidermy specimens, exhibits on habitats, and displays about regional environmental problems. A mastodon trackway, the largest on display in the world, is part of this exhibit.](#)
- [The Anthropology Displays feature exhibits on anthropology, and include artifacts from human cultures around the world.](#)
- [The Geology Displays on the fourth floor feature a collection of the several rocks and minerals.](#)



## Observatory Lodge

**Must-See: No**

**Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark**

Observatory Lodge that is part of the School of Kinesiology is situated on the east edge of the University Central Campus on the corner of Observatory Street and Washington Heights. The building was constructed in 1930. This eye-catching Tudor Revival-style building features turrets, oriel windows, timber-framing, a slate roof, copper gutters and downspouts, and stained-glass windows. Since its construction, Observatory Lodge has been used as an apartment building; it was purchased by the University of Michigan in 1966. In 2007 a comprehensive reconstruction of the building that enhanced the building's historic character was completed.



## Nichols Arboretum

**Must-See: No**

**Sight Type: Attraction/Landmark**

Nichols Arboretum (123 acres, 49.7 hectares), locally known as the Arb, is an arboretum operated by the University of Michigan. Located on the eastern edge of its Central Campus, the Arboretum is a mosaic of University and City properties operated as one unit. The arboretum is open daily from sunrise to sunset with no charge for admission. The Huron River separates a northern section of the arboretum's floodplain woods; the railroad marks the northern border.

The arboretum was designed in 1906 by O. C. Simonds, and he used the steep glacial topography to include areas both for collections and natural areas. Many of the older plantings date from the 1920s and 1930s. It is particularly known for its Peony

Collection, Heathdale Collection (species primarily from Appalachia), the Centennial Shrub Collection and the Dow Prairie. The University of Michigan conducts controlled burns of the prairie each year in an attempt to maintain native species and habitat.

Students flock to the Arb for a variety of outdoor activities beyond assigned studies, such as jogging, picnicking, and sun-bathing. Maps are posted, which include the length and type of trail (gravel, stairs, etc.). The Arb is a common spot for Ann Arbor's students to gather. During winter, students have been known to go sledding in the Arb using cafeteria trays from university dining halls. In recent summers, the Arb has been the site of Shakespeare in the Arb, dramatic performances of Shakespearean plays, including *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Love's Labor's Lost*.