



Edward Hopper's Nyack

The Nyack of Edward Hopper's boyhood was a thriving village boasting three shipyards and several factories producing a variety of goods. The young Hopper spent many hours on the village docks and shipyards, and his love of boats and the water is reflected in his work throughout his career.

Nyack remains a picturesque river village today, not greatly altered from the days when the artist lived here and drew inspiration from the local architecture, water views, and quality of light. The walk suggested here takes you to many of the sites Hopper painted or that inspired him. There can be no doubt that these places he often observed growing up had a significant impact on his choice of image and subject matter. This walk through Hopper's hometown also reveals the unique character of this village that helped shape this great master's artistic vision.

1. Edward Hopper House, 82 North Broadway. We begin the tour at the birthplace of Edward Hopper. The original south wing of the house was built in 1858 in the Colonial style. The north wing with bow window, elaborate fireplace and narrow boards is a Victorian addition from 1882, the year Edward was born.



2. Walk north on Broadway to the First Baptist Church (corner of 5th Avenue), which was founded by Hopper's great-grandfather. Hopper's father was a deacon at the church and it was an important part of Hopper's youth. He remained connected to the church even after he left Nyack.



3. A little farther north, at 235 North Broadway, is the former home of Helen Hayes and Charles MacArthur. Built in 1804, it was nicknamed "Petty Penny" by the MacArthurs. Hopper's painting of it is his only known commissioned work.



4. Continue three blocks north on Broadway to School Street to what is now an unoccupied store on the corner—formerly a post office and butcher —which must have inspired Hopper's Seven AM .



5. Heading back south on Broadway, on the east side of the street just past Pretty Penny, turn left on LaVeta Place. The last home on the right by the river has a turret and veranda right out of Hopper's *The Lee Shore*.



6. Walk back up the hill and turn left on Broadway, then left onto Ackerman Place. At the foot of the hill is the former site of Smith Boatyard, where young Hopper spent much of his free time. Looking north from this spot you will see *Hook Mountain*, where Edward and his family often picnicked.



7. Continue south on Gedney to the foot of 2nd Avenue; look up Second Avenue and you will see the Hopper House.

8. Head south on Gedney and turn up First Avenue back toward Broadway. Nos. 8, 12 and 16 have been restored and look much as they did when Hopper walked this block returning home from visiting friends, who lived at Nos. 16 and 24.

9. Make a left on Broadway and head south just past Main Street. There you will see *Grace's Thrift Shop*, which now occupies the former dry goods store owned by Hopper's father, Garret. Hopper often worked at the store as a teenager.



Other Nearby Hopper Sites...

Edward Hopper, his wife Josephine Nivison, his parents, and his sister, Marion, are all buried at *Oak Hill Cemetery* in Nyack, on Route 9W across from Nyack Hospital (a map of the cemetery is available at Hopper House).



Farther north on Route 9W in Haverstraw, you will find the house that Hopper used as a model for his painting, *House by the Railroad* of 1930. Alfred Hitchcock was said to have been inspired by Hopper's painting for the "Psycho" house (directions available at Hopper House or on our website).



Image credits:

Edward Hopper, *Pretty Penny*, 1939, Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, Massachusetts
 Edward Hopper, *Seven A.M.*, 1948, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
 Edward Hopper, *The Lee Shore*, 1941, Private Collection
 Edward Hopper, (*Hook Mountain, Nyack*), c. 1899, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
 Edward Hopper, *House by the Railroad*, 1925, The Museum of Modern Art, New York
 Edward Hopper, *Early Sunday Morning*, 1934, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

In New York City...

The Edward Hopper Studio was the home of Edward Hopper from 1913 until his death in 1967. The New York Studio is located 3 Washington Square North in one of three townhouse buildings that houses New York University's Silver School of Social Work. The studio in which he created many of his great masterworks has been preserved and visits can be arranged by appointment. Contact Sara Phillips for appointments at 212-998-6924 or sara.phillips@nyu.edu



Edward Hopper

Edward Hopper (1882-1967) is one of the foremost American artists of the 20th century. He was born in Nyack, New York, in what is now the Edward Hopper House Art Center, and maintained ties to the home entire life.

The Edward Hopper House

Hopper's birthplace and childhood home was built in 1858 by his grandfather and was occupied by the Hopper family for 107 years. After Hopper's death, the house fell into disrepair, but was saved from demolition by a group of local citizens who raised funds to buy and restore the house. The Edward Hopper Landmark Preservation Foundation (known as the Edward Hopper House Art Center), a non-profit organization, was formed in 1971 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Edward Hopper House today is a dynamic multi-arts center featuring exhibitions of emerging and established artists. Temporary exhibitions of Edward Hopper's work are planned for the future, beginning with *Edward Hopper, Prelude: The Nyack Years* in May 2011. Programs and events throughout the year include a summer jazz concert series, poetry and songwriting groups, art workshops, weekly figure drawing sessions, and more. One room in the house is dedicated to photographs and memorabilia from Edward Hopper's life, and books, posters, and cards of Hopper's work are available for purchase

Support the Art Center

Become a member today and help support this historic house, its arts education outreach, and Edward Hopper's legacy. Donations of any amount are also appreciated. Visit our website at www.edwardhopperhouse.org for more information on programs and support.

Upon her death in 1968, Edward's wife, Josephine, bequeathed his artistic estate to the Whitney Museum of American Art. Today the Whitney Museum holds the largest collection of work by the artist.



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www.orangetownmuseum.com

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May 14 - December 9, 2011,
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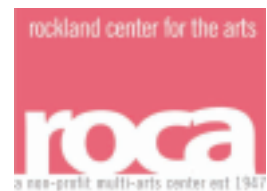


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Regular gallery hours: Thursday-Sunday, 1-5 PM
or by appointment. Some programs have extended hours.



This tour map was made possible by the generous support of the Rotary Club of Nyack and... Kathleen Puder of Ellis Sotheby's International Realty

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