



Ithaca is HISTORY

LGBTQ History Walking Tour Ithaca, NY

ithacalgbtqhistorytour.com

Did you know that Ithaca:

- is the site of one of the 1st public declarations of the American bisexual movement
- played a crucial role in marriage equality
- was one of the 1st cities in the US to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation
- is where one of the 1st student-organized sit-ins for LGBTQ rights took place.



...and more!

Ithaca and Tompkins County hold unique and meaningful roles in local LGBTQ history and culture, as well as in the national LGBTQ rights movement and for communities across the globe.

Check out the map inside, follow along on PocketSights, and visit the locations of some truly historic events and establishments.

Bars and public spaces have been sites of LGBTQ resistance and resilience for decades. But many of the people and places that make up our shared past have been forgotten, erased, overlooked, or ignored. This LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning) local history tour is designed to preserve some of the rich stories and heritage of our Ithaca community. It's for anyone wanting to learn about our local LGBTQ history and culture.

The tour is self-guided and available 24/7. You can visit all 32 stops over 7 miles — or just check out the sites closest to your location, or within a specific area! And if you're not able to make it here, you can explore the whole trip in virtual mode, no matter the weather and from the comfort of your home anywhere in the world.

This tour was developed by students, alumni, and staff of the Ithaca College Center for LGBT Education, Outreach & Services. We are grateful for the many campus and community partnerships that supported this initiative. Special appreciation to the LGBTQ Ithacans and former Ithacans who shared their recollections, stories and artifacts with us, and made this tour possible.

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ITHACA
COLLEGE

Center for LGBT Education,
Outreach, and Services



Out for
Health

a Project of Planned Parenthood



Ithaca
Heritage



PocketSights

- Common Ground, 2nd location**
1230 Danby Road
- Summer picnics in Upper Buttermilk State Park**
Off Route 96B — watch for signs
- Butterfield Stadium, Commencement Regalia, & Honorary Degree Recipients May 2017/2018**
Ithaca College
- Ithaca College Main Flagpole, near E Parking Lot**
- Rod Serling Archives**, Ithaca College Library
- The Ithaca Statement on Bisexuality, 1972, General Conference for Friends**, Ithaca College
- HIV/AIDS Memorial Daffodil Gardens**
Ithaca College
- Ithaca College Center for LGBT Education, Outreach & Services, established 2001**
- Rod Serling Emmy Awards**, Ithaca College
- Home of Cleve Thomas**
112 Hudson St, Apt B
- AIDS Work, 1st Office**
Basement of Henry St. John Building, Clinton & Geneva St
- Julius Eastman Boyhood Home**
302 S Plain St
- Home of Harry Partch, 1943**
329 W Seneca St.
- Southern Tier AIDS Program**
314 W State St
- Smedley's Book Shop**
307 W State St
- Home of First Peer-Led Transgender Support Group**
Former STAP office, 110 N Geneva St
- Original Common Ground Dance Club, 1978 - 1988**
132-134 W. State St
- Ithaca City Hall and Mayor's Office**
108 E Green St
- Firebrand Books**
Home Dairy Building 2nd Floor, 141 The Commons
- Ithaca Is Love Photo**
Trolley Circle, Center of The Commons near 171 E State St
- Gay People's Center, 1970s**
Upstairs around 306 E State St
- Protests and Boycott at Nite Court Restaurant**
215 N Aurora St
- Monthly LGBTQ Coffeehouses at the Unitarian Church, 1990s - 2000s**
306. N Aurora St
- Tompkins County Courthouse, Second Parent Adoptions and Marriage Equality**
320 N Tioga St
- Tompkins County Legislature**
121 E Court St, Local Law C & Pride Proclamation
- Kurt Cobain's ashes, Former Site of Namgyal Monastery**
412 N. Aurora St
- Sit in and Boycott at Morrie's Bar, October 1970**
409 Eddy St,
- The Human Sexuality Collection in Kroch Library**
216 East Ave, Cornell University
- Wendy Carlos and Robert Moog Collaboration**
Cornell University Library
- Martha Van Rensselaer and Flora Rose, mid 1900s - 1932**
Cornell University
- Fall Creek House Restaurant**, 302 Lake St
- Kulp Auditorium, Site of Local Law C Passage, and Sanctuary for Youth**, Ithaca High School





LGBTQ History Walking Tour

Our local history is too fabulous to include it all in one brochure!

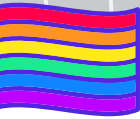
You can read about each location and the way that it shaped our community by downloading the PocketSights Tour Guide App.

We've picked a few samples to highlight — learn much, much more as you follow along the route.



29. Wendy Carlos & Robert Moog collaboration

Robert Moog invented the first commercial synthesizer. Wendy Carlos, a recording engineer, musician and composer — and a transgender woman — is credited with making numerous improvements to Moog's work. Carlos produced the highly-successful "Switched-On Bach" record, the score for Kubrick's "A Clockwork Orange," and more using Moog synthesizers.



18. Ithaca City Hall and Mayor's Office

In 1984, Ithaca was one of the first municipalities to pass a law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and in 1990 gave same-sex couples the right to register with the city as domestic partners. In the mid-2000s, the "Ithaca 50" were the largest group of plaintiffs in any marriage equality case, and city officials supported efforts to win marriage equality.

19. Firebrand Books

Firebrand Books was founded in 1984 by Nancy Bereano as an independent book publisher of feminist and lesbian fiction and nonfiction. As editor and publisher, Bereano centered writing by authors whose work had been marginalized.

22. Protests and Boycott of Nite Court Restaurant

In 1976, the owner attempted to enact a policy forbidding same sex couples from dancing together or even touching each other in the establishment. Protests and boycotts went on for over 6 months, ending the following February when the NY Department of Human Rights ruled that Nite Court had engaged in unlawful discrimination.

6. Ithaca Statement on Bisexuality

Activists attending the 1972 General Conference for Friends wrote, and participants adopted, the first statement made about bisexuality by any United States religious or political group in history. It was published in *Friends Journal: Quaker Thought and Life Today* and in LGBT magazine *The Advocate*.



12. Julius Eastman boyhood home

Pianist, composer and performer Julius Eastman was one of the first to utilize minimalism in popular music. He coordinated the Brooklyn Philharmonic's Community Concert Series and regularly toured the US and internationally.

To download the PocketSights app and follow the tour, go to the Apple Store or Google Play and search "PocketSights Tour App." Once the app is installed, open it and find our route based on your location. Look for the "Ithaca Heritage" logo and the title:



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