

*A Guide to the History
on Display at the*
**NEW YORK STATE
CAPITOL**



Building a New New York... With You

JANUARY 2012
Governor Andrew M. Cuomo

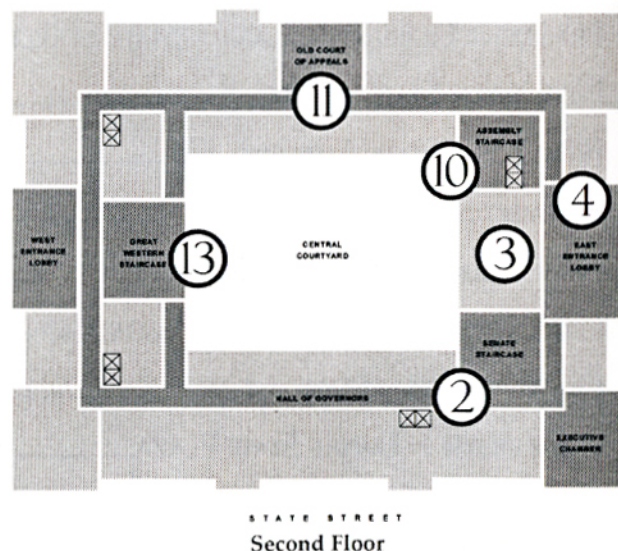
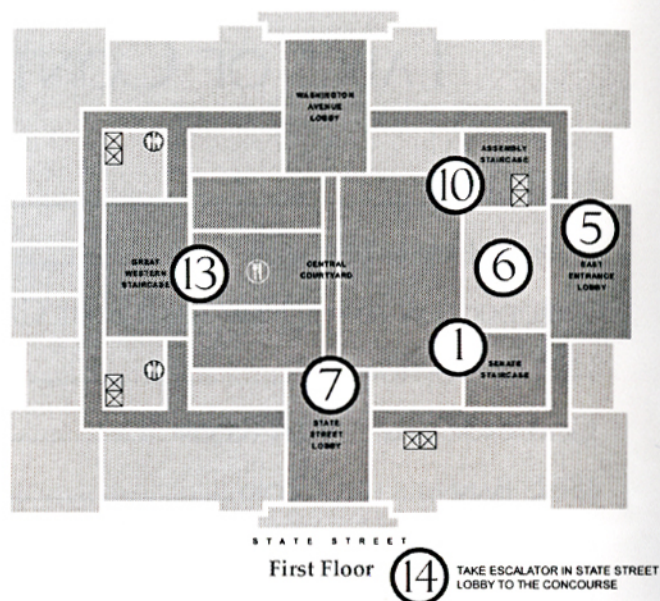
WELCOME TO THE NEW

For more than 100 years, our state's history has been shaped in this building, and many great leaders have walked these hallways as they worked for the people of New York.

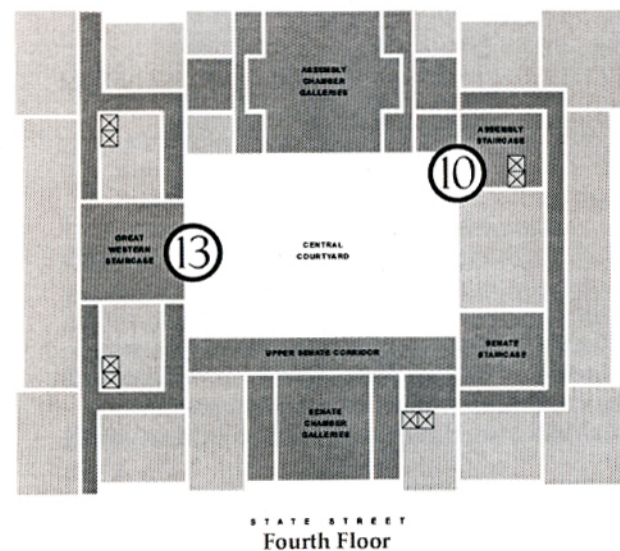
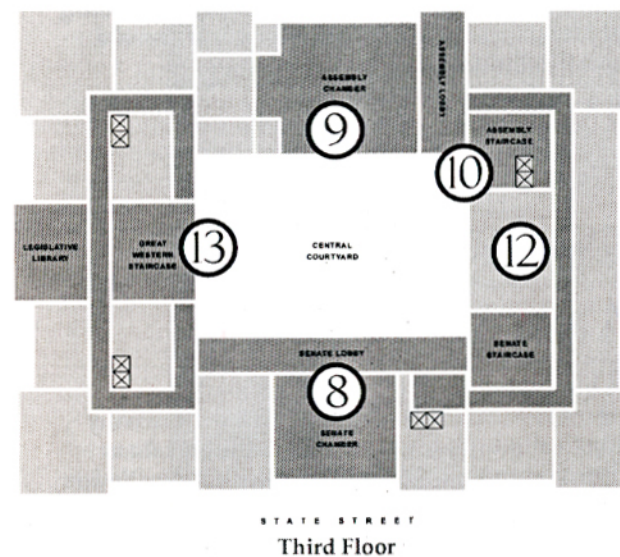
History continues to be made, and the exhibits displayed here are designed to make the Capitol a living museum to educate visitors about New York's extraordinary legacy.

The Capitol's architectural grandeur and historic significance serve as a fitting monument to the vast diversity and richness of the Empire State.

Enjoy your visit.



YORK STATE CAPITOL



- ① INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW YORK STATE CAPITOL
- ② HALL OF GOVERNORS
- ③ GOVERNOR'S RECEPTION ROOM
- ④ 1861: BANNERS FOR GLORY
- ⑤ CAPITOL FIRE EXHIBIT
- ⑥ FLAG ROOM
- ⑦ PRESIDENT ULYSSES S. GRANT – STATE STREET LOBBY
- ⑧ NEW YORK STATE SENATE
- ⑨ NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
- ⑩ ASSEMBLY STAIRCASE RESTORATION
- ⑪ NEW YORK STATE JUDICIARY – BLUE ROOM
- ⑫ LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENTS' ASSOCIATION
- ⑬ GREAT WESTERN STAIRCASE
- ⑭ CONCOURSE – EMPIRE STATE PLAZA

Public Restrooms Cafeteria Elevators

INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW YORK STATE CAPITOL

Begin your journey through the New York State Capitol by visiting an introductory exhibit on the first floor of the Senate Staircase. Visitors will enjoy learning about the history of the building including its construction and recent restoration projects. Additional information is provided about the tour program and the reopened Hall of Governors.

HALL OF GOVERNORS

DOCUMENTS FROM NEW YORK'S EARLY STATEHOOD

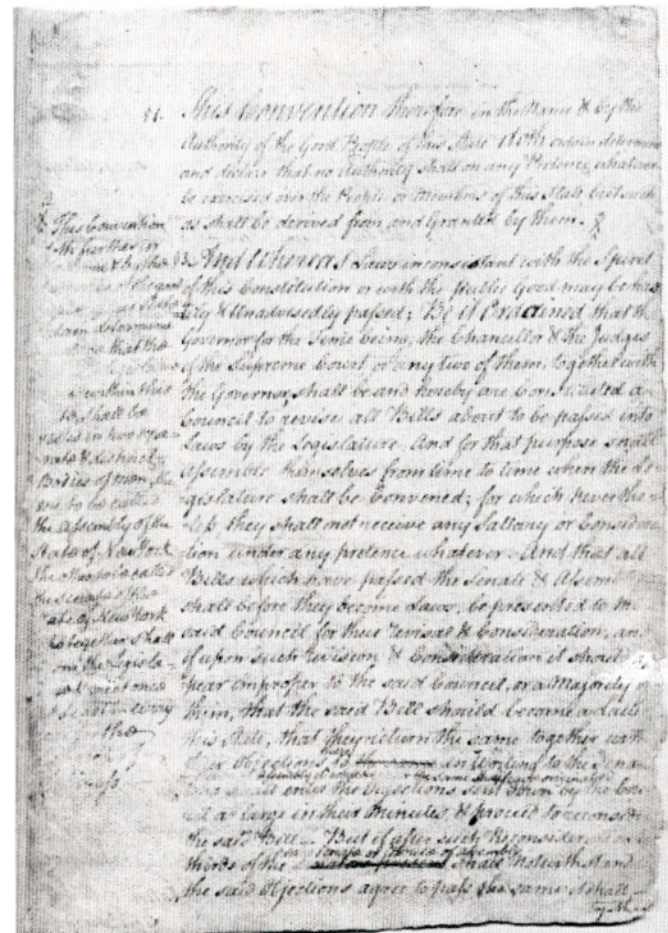
The early statehood case contains New York's original "foundation" documents – the record of the creation of our state. From revolutionary protest against the growing tyranny of a distant sovereign to deliberations over the appropriate powers of a new federal government, New Yorkers were at the heart of the debate. New York leaders such as George Clinton, John Jay, Alexander Hamilton and Robert Livingston took a leading role in both the intellectual and political discussion and many played significant roles in the establishment of our nation.

THE GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF 1775, A STATEMENT OF REVOLUTION REGARDING THE INTENT TO FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT, PRODUCED ONE YEAR BEFORE THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Almost a year and a half before the Continental Congress would dissolve the political bonds between the colonies and Great Britain and assert that people possessed certain inalienable rights, the New York State General Association declared its own independence from King George III. When news of how the Massachusetts militia successfully fought the British at Lexington and Concord, the delegates of the General Association drafted a statement declaring that New York was no longer a colony. This important sign of New York's solidarity with Massachusetts helped strengthen the political bond between the colonies, which paved the way for the 1776 Declaration of Independence. New York's leadership proved to be pivotal in securing a unified colonial statement of independence. On loan from the Onondaga Historical Association, Museum and Research Center, Syracuse, NY

LETTER FROM GEORGE WASHINGTON EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE IN GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON, 1777

New York State Archives Collection



FIRST CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, 1777

John Jay and other revolutionary patriots drafted the Constitution, which was ratified at Kingston, April 20, 1777. The Constitution established the three branches of government and protected basic liberties. This is the final approved draft. New York State Archives Collection

POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL, 1788

New York State Archives Collection