Architectural Treasure Hunt

Thank you for joining us for Trails & Sails. Celebrate iconic buildings in Salem’s McIntire Historic District by going on an Architectural Treasure Hunt! Use the answer bank to identify features of the Salem Athenæum. Then check your work against the answer key on the back.

A. **Belt course:** a continuous row or layer of stones or brick set in line with window sills

B. **Block modillion:** an ornamental feature made up of large blocks supporting a weight (for example, a protruding roofline)

C. **Cornice bracket:** a decorative, L-shaped support under the eaves of a building

D. **Drip mold:** a projection from a cornice or sill designed to protect the area below from rainwater

E. **Fanlight:** a semicircular or semi-elliptical window with a pattern radiating out like an open fan.

F. **Finial:** an element marking the top or end of some object, often used as a decorative feature.

G. **Keystone lintel:** a lintel is a horizontal support across the top of a door or window. A keystone lintel has a rectangular block at its center.

H. **Paired gables:** two gables flanking a central entryway

I. **Palladian window:** a window with a central arched section flanked by two narrow rectangular sections

J. **Portico:** a porch with a roof structure, supported by columns or enclosed by walls

K. **Quoins:** masonry blocks at the corner of a wall.

L. **Sidelights:** vertical glass panes on either side of a door

M. **Six-over-six window:** Six-over-six windows have six panes of glass on the upper sash of the window, and six panes of glass on the lower sash.

N. **Swag ornamentation:** Federalist, Georgian, and Classical Revival architecture all often include carved or cast ornamentation. Typical designs include swags, garlands, and urns.
While the Salem Athenaeum traces its founding to 1760, its current brick building was constructed in 1906–1907. Built in the Classical Revival style, it was based on Homewood, a Baltimore estate constructed in 1800 by Charles Carroll, the longest-surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence, as a wedding gift to his son (see below).

The Athenaeum has a symmetrical front facade, hipped copper roof, and a Doric portico surrounding a beautifully embellished entryway with engaged columns and a decorative Palladian window.

*Homewood, the inspiration for the Salem Athenaeum building*

*Keep Learning!*

You'll find additional fact sheets at:
- Hamilton Hall, 9 Chestnut Street, fact sheet at the Cambridge Street door
- Historic New England’s Phillips House: 34 Chestnut Street, fact sheet at the rear entrance
- The Pickering House: 18 Broad Street, fact sheet at the front entrance