

# The Great American Landmarks Adventure



Drawings by

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U.S. Department of the Interior • National Park Service  
The American Architectural Foundation



Front cover: *Playland Amusement Park, Rye, Westchester County, New York. 1928.*  
*Architects: A. Stewart Walker and Leon Gillette*

Above: *National Historic Landmark Plaque for Playland Amusement Park*

# The Great American Landmarks Adventure

Created by Kay Weeks  
Drawings by Roxie Munro

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# The Great American Landmarks Adventure

Has your class ever taken a trip to the home of a famous politician or inventor? Perhaps your family stopped the car at the site of a historic battle? Or maybe you've heard your parents or teachers talking about getting together to save an old building from being torn down?

These places that schools and families visit, and communities seem to care so much about are historic landmarks — special places with exciting stories about the past. Buildings and sites are chosen as landmarks to recognize their importance in history. Small towns and big cities have landmarks. So do States. There are also landmarks that commemorate our entire nation's history.

Suppose you were asked to choose a few landmarks close to your home or school. Which would you choose? The oldest house in town? The city hall? A park with a statue in it? Or maybe a bridge, or lighthouse, or an old fire station? Instead of a single building, maybe you'd choose a whole street that shows how people used to live and work.

Now, what would happen if your classmates were asked to make their own list of nearby historic landmarks. Do you think they'd come up with the same choices? What about your teacher, or parents, or grandparents — what places would they choose? If you compared the different lists, you might be surprised to discover that you had picked many of the same places. That's because families and even entire communities share feelings and ideas about their past, including what is important to take care of for future generations to learn about and enjoy.

## What are National Historic Landmarks?

Let's suppose you were asked to choose the Nation's most important historic buildings and sites. These very special places would have to include every different chapter of America's rich past. They would have to show who "we the people" are, where we came from, what we built, what we think, what we've done, how we've been spending our leisure time and our money, and even what we've changed or tried to improve.

Choosing places important to the entire Nation would be very difficult and would have to be done with great care. Well, that's exactly what the U. S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service does through the National Historic Landmarks Program. Out of the millions of historic and pre-historic properties in the country, so far only about 2000 have been given the honor of being called National Historic Landmarks. Just about every type of property you can think of is included in the list and almost all are 50 years old or much older. There are homes of famous people, schools, factories, stores, skyscrapers, archeological sites, dams, ships, forts, bridges railroads, courthouses, rockets, and even entire neighborhoods!

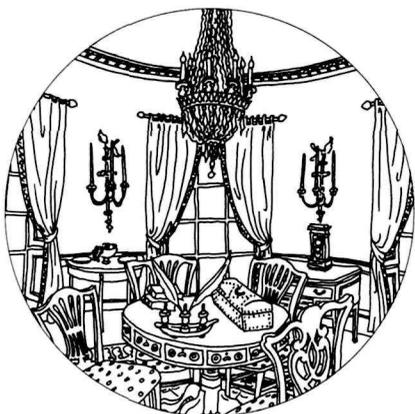
## How are National Historic Landmarks Chosen?

The National Park Service asks experts in history, architecture, engineering, archeology, and anthropology to make a list of properties that are related to some aspect of America's history such as Science and Technology. The experts group these properties together according to historic themes — for instance, the history of the space flight program. Then, they study all the properties in the group very carefully.

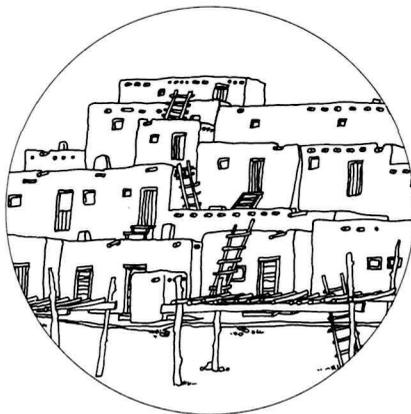
From the many examples, a shorter list is made. Next, the semi-finalist candidates for National Historic Landmark status are looked at again, this time by a board of scholars and concerned citizens. It's this group that recommends to the National Park Service which very special places should become National Historic Landmarks.

Who makes the final decision? The Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior. By designating a property a National Historic Landmark, the Secretary recognizes its importance to all Americans. Afterwards, a ceremony is often held. The owner is given a certificate and offered a free plaque with the Landmark's name on it.

A property may be chosen as a Landmark if is determined to be of historical importance to ALL Americans as:



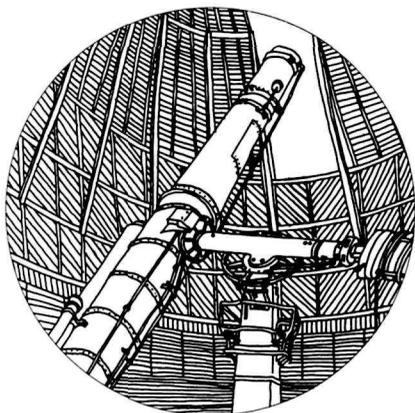
*an event*



*a way of life or culture*



*an individual or group achievement*



*a scientific finding*



*architecture that illustrates a period, style, or method of construction*



*an idea or ideal*

What about choosing future National Historic Landmarks? History is always being made or revised when new information is found. Tomorrow, you could be a historian involved in this exciting challenge. In fact, you could even participate in an activity that becomes a Landmark event. Something you invent, design, build, do, or say may be widely remembered.

## **Who Owns and Takes Care of National Historic Landmarks?**

Some of America's National Historic Landmarks are owned and taken care of by the federal government. You'll find these government-owned Landmarks in National Parks across the country. Even if you haven't visited them, you may already know about Landmarks in the Parks from your classwork — famous places like Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Thomas Edison's home and laboratory in West Orange, New Jersey; and Martin Luther King's neighborhood in Atlanta, Georgia.

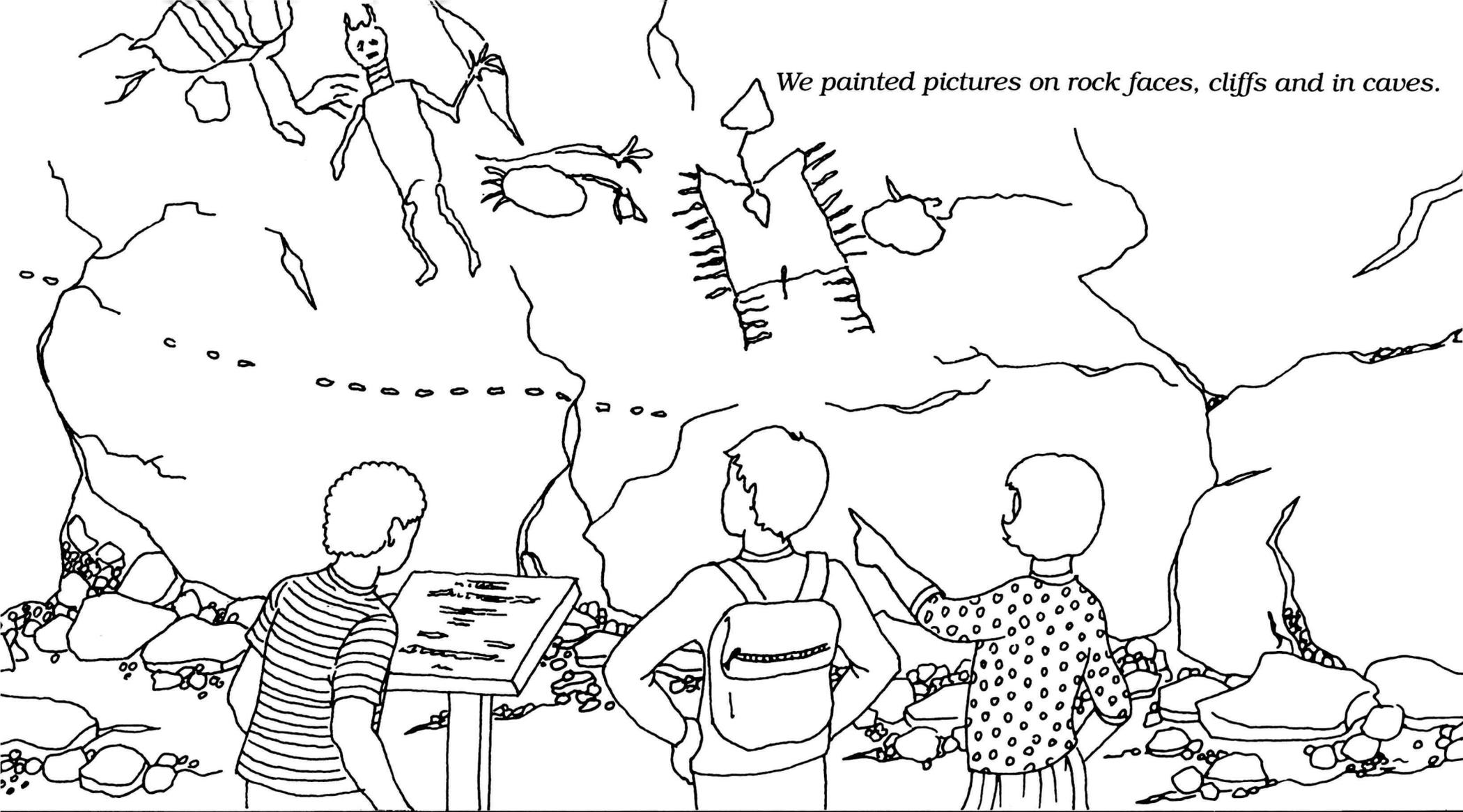
But not all National Historic Landmarks belong to the federal government. In fact, most are owned and taken care of by individual citizens or groups of citizens. For example, Carnegie Hall, a huge public theater, is owned by the City of New York. Playwright Eugene O'Neill's house in New London, Connecticut, is owned by a small community organization and is open daily as a museum. And the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indiana, owned by a private corporation, hosts automobile races that delight millions of spectators each year.

National Historic Landmarks require special care, particularly if the Landmark is open for the public to see and enjoy. Why do people spend time and money to protect and share these historic properties? You'll have a chance to see for yourself after you complete your Landmarks Adventure.

## **Your Landmarks Adventure**

In the pages that follow, you will find drawings of 43 National Historic Landmarks, representing more than 3,000 years of our country's history and prehistory. Each drawing has a caption that explains why the Landmark is nationally significant. Beginning with a pre-historic cave painting, you move forward in time right up to our country's expedition to the moon in 1969. Most of the Landmarks are shown as they appear today — what you would be likely to see if you visited a building or site. A few drawings have been based on old photographs so that an important event in history can be brought to life. So now, future historians and makers-of-history, here is a chance to get out your colors (paints, colored pencils, markers), and take a trip into your own past. At the end of the book, you'll even get to draw what you think should be a landmark.

After you've travelled through the pages of this book, explore for yourself the exciting world of America's history that lies just beyond your classroom and your home. A guide is included at the end of the book that tells whether a Landmark is open to the public so that you can learn more about its history. You will see that most of the Landmarks featured in this book welcome visitors. If your family is planning a trip, be sure you take the Landmarks Adventure book along. You can keep a record of how many of these famous places you've visited.



*We painted pictures on rock faces, cliffs and in caves.*

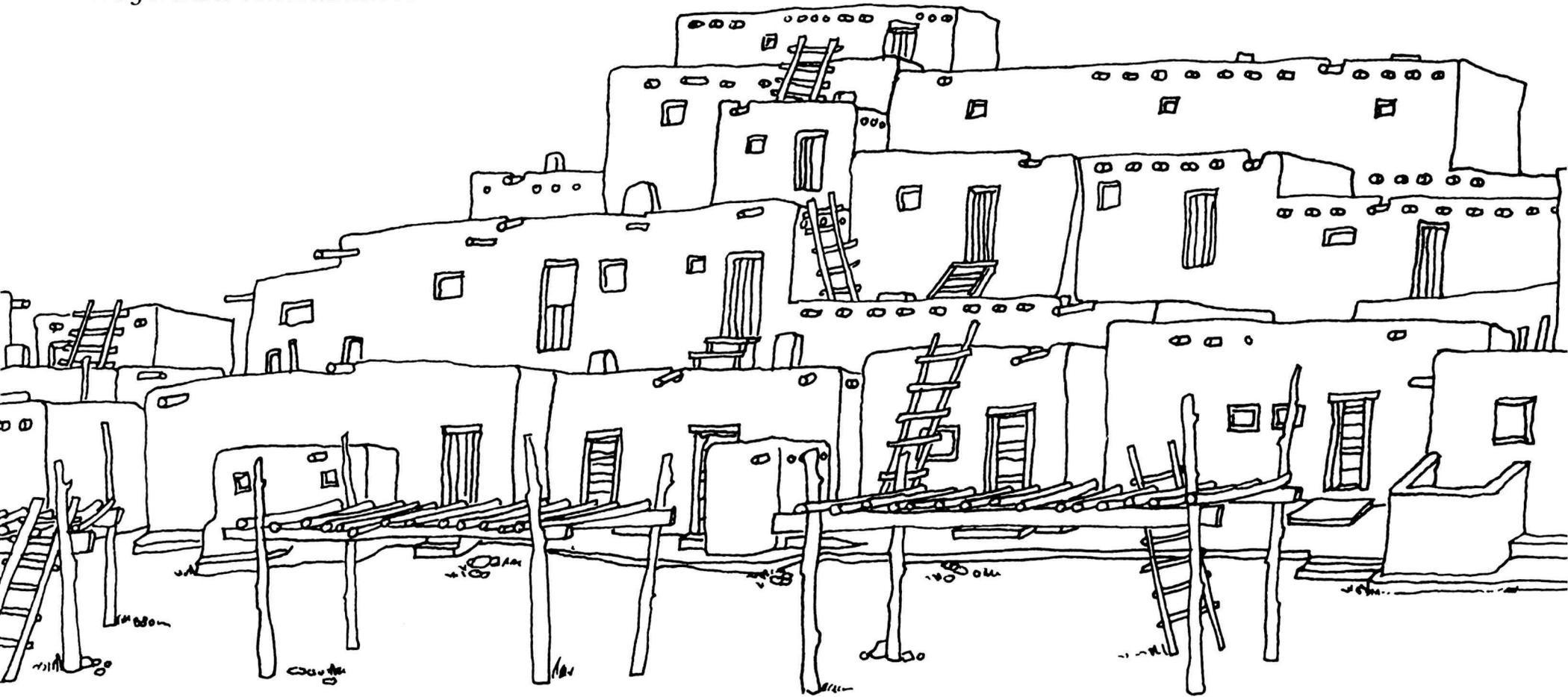
## **Pictograph Cave**

*Billings, Montana*

Thousands of years ago, American Indians painted pictures on rock walls using colors from the earth. These paintings are called "pictographs." Archeologists think some pictographs tell stories about the daily life of the Indians, while others tell more about the spiritual values the Indians held. Still other pictographs seem closer to the way you might sign your name on one of your own drawings or at the end of a

letter you write. In the 1930s, archeologists discovered over 100 black, red and, white figures on the walls of Pictograph Cave that could be 1,500 years old. Due to vandalism, however, many of them have not survived. Wherever prehistoric rock art is found it should be carefully protected so that children of the future can learn from it, too.

*We formed communities.*

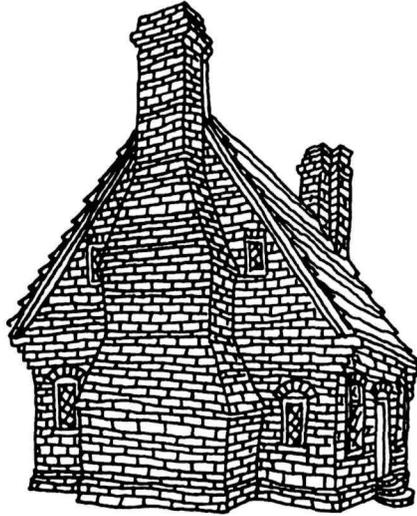


## **Taos Pueblo**

*Taos, New Mexico*

“Pueblo” is a Spanish word meaning village or people. The Taos Indians built this pueblo over 600 years ago, using sun-dried mud and straw called “adobe”. Many families lived and worked here together in a close-knit community, successfully raising crops in this arid region of

the United States. Taos Pueblo has been home to descendants of the original builders ever since. Except for the stair-ladders, the pueblo’s design may remind you of a modern apartment building with its many connecting units and levels.



*England*

### **Adam Thoroughgood House**

*Virginia Beach, Virginia*

*Built 1680*

This brick house may look big, but it only has two rooms downstairs. Each one has a large fireplace. Clay and oyster shells were used to make the mortar to lay the bricks. Because glass was scarce, the window panes are very small. The steep roof, windows, and the pattern of the brick laying are all in the English tradition. The walls were very thick to provide natural insulation against the harsh winters and warm summers.

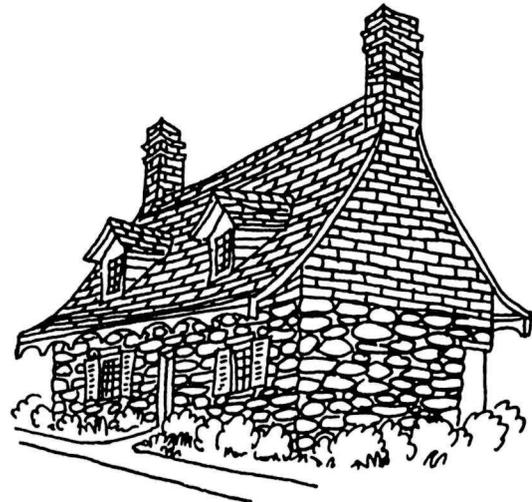
*Holland*

### **De Wint House**

*Tappan, New York*

*Built 1700*

With its flaring roof line, this small stone and brick house looks much like other houses of Dutch builders who settled the Hudson River Valley. It has four rooms — a kitchen and living room downstairs (each with a fireplace) and two bedrooms upstairs. The living room has the original blue Delft tile in it, which the builder imported from his old home in Holland. You can still see the year 1700 set in the side of the house in large brick numbers!



*France*

### **Parlange Plantation House**

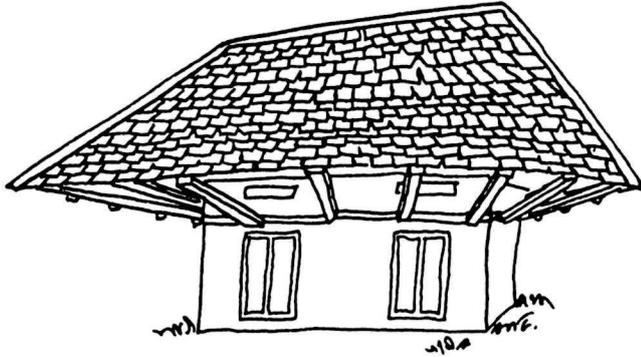
*Mix vicinity, Louisiana*

*Built about 1750*

This “Creole” house was based on French building methods — steep roof, stucco over brick walls, and long windows called French doors. At the same time it is not just like a house built in France. It was adapted to the hot, humid climate of the bayous using the traditions of people who lived in the West Indies and Africa, then came to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The main living area is on the second floor, raised above the muddy ground. The first floor was used as a kitchen and for storage. The long doors could be opened to cool the inside rooms, and the porches provided shade.



that reminded us of places we left behind.



*Africa*

### **African House' at Melrose (Yucca) Plantation**

*Melrose, Louisiana*

*Built about 1820*

The African House is just one of the buildings on this large farm, and was most likely used as a shed for tools. The first thing you notice is its broad, umbrella-shaped roof, designed to protect people from the hot sun and the rain. In Africa, this type of building would probably have had a thatch (straw) roof.

*Spain*

### **Rafael Gonzales House**

*Santa Barbara, California*

*Built about 1825*

This Spanish-style house was built of adobe brick and covered with stucco, then painted white. The walls are about two feet thick, which helps keep the inside cool. Also, because it is warm in California all year and people are often outdoors, there is a veranda (porch) and a patio (courtyard). The house has a red clay-tile roof.



*China*

### **The Wo Hing Society Temple**

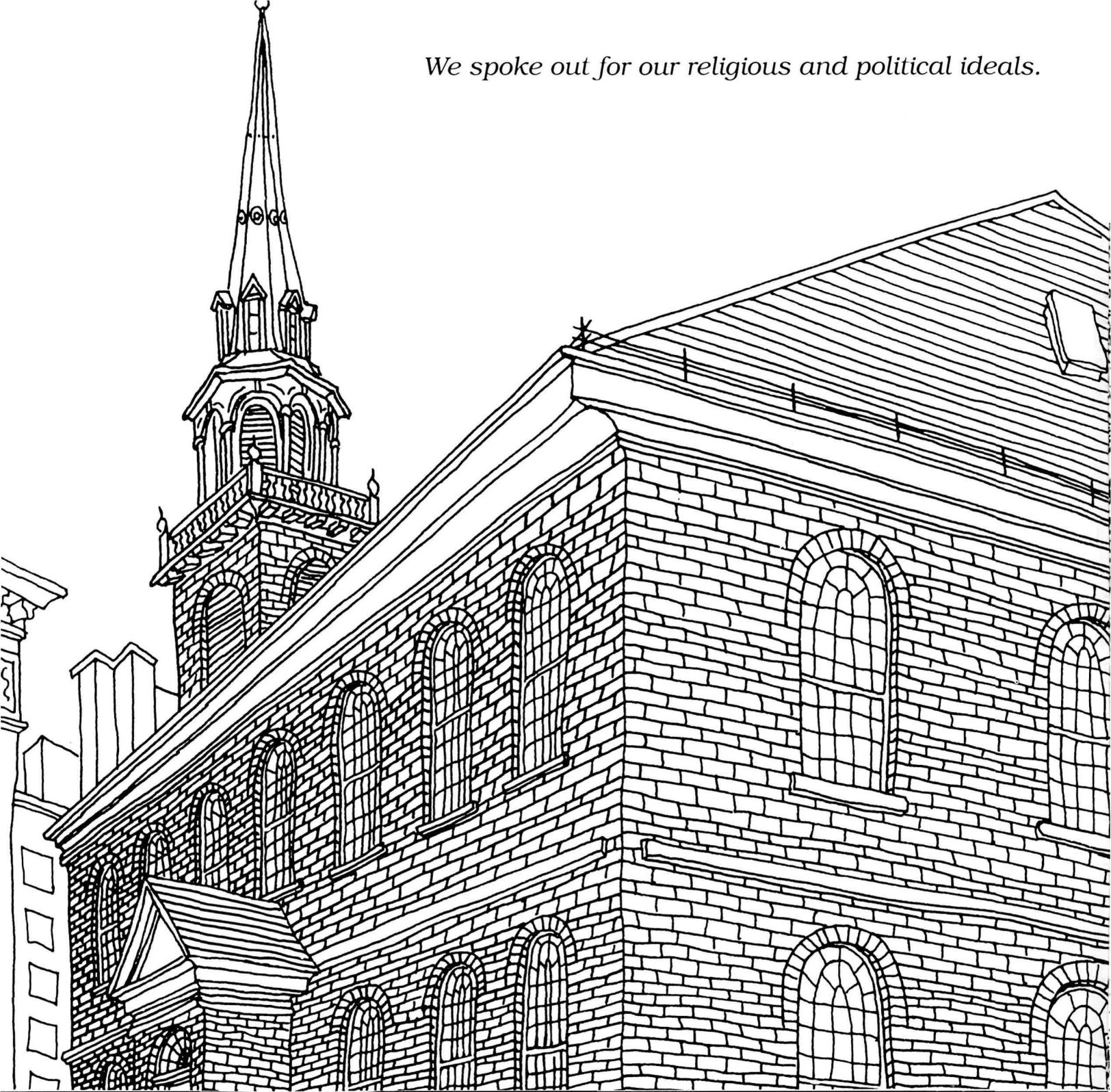
*Lahaina, Island of Maui, Hawaii*

*Built about 1912*

This temple was built by the Chinese who settled in Lahaina. It was mainly a social meeting hall, although there was an altar room on the second floor. You can see that the building has been designed to fit the warm Hawaiian climate, with large doors and windows that allow the ocean breezes to cool the inside. Greeting all who enter is the "Dancing Lion of Taipei," a ceremonial lion sculpture that serves as the traditional Chinese symbol of good luck.



*We spoke out for our religious and political ideals.*



**Old South  
Meeting House**

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*Boston, Massachusetts*

Built in 1729, this church was used for town meetings and assemblies in the era before the Revolutionary War. One of the colonists' complaints against the British government was that they were being unfairly taxed. Led by Samuel Adams, the "Sons of Liberty" held a meeting here on December 16, 1773, to organize the Boston Tea Party. You know what happened next!

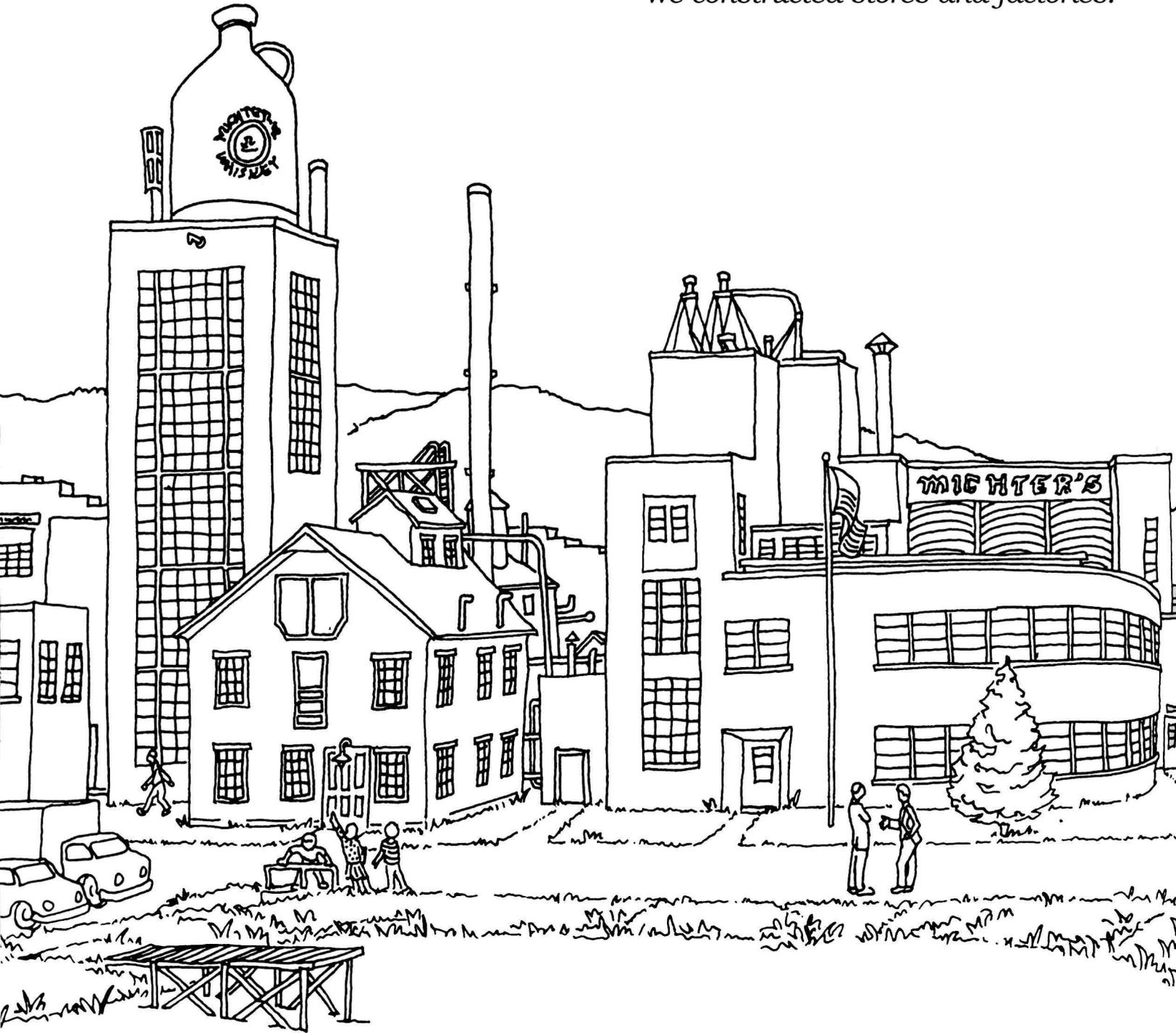


## **African Meeting House**

*Boston, Massachusetts*

By the beginning of the 19th century, Boston had one of the largest communities of free blacks in North America. This meeting house was built in 1806 for the congregation of the African Baptist Church. It is the oldest African-American church in the United States. In the years before the Civil War, the meeting house was a place where people came together to voice their anger about slavery and to call for its end. The famous abolitionist, Frederick Douglass, spoke here.

*We constructed stores and factories.*



**Michter's  
(Bomberger's)  
Distillery**

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*Shaefferstown,  
Pennsylvania*

The manufacture of whiskey is one of the oldest industries in America. Early farmers found that making grain into whiskey gave them a product that could be transported easily and sold for profit. This distillery opened in 1753; it is still operating today. Although several of the buildings shown here were built around 1840, many others are much newer and contain modern equipment.

*We established neighborhoods.*

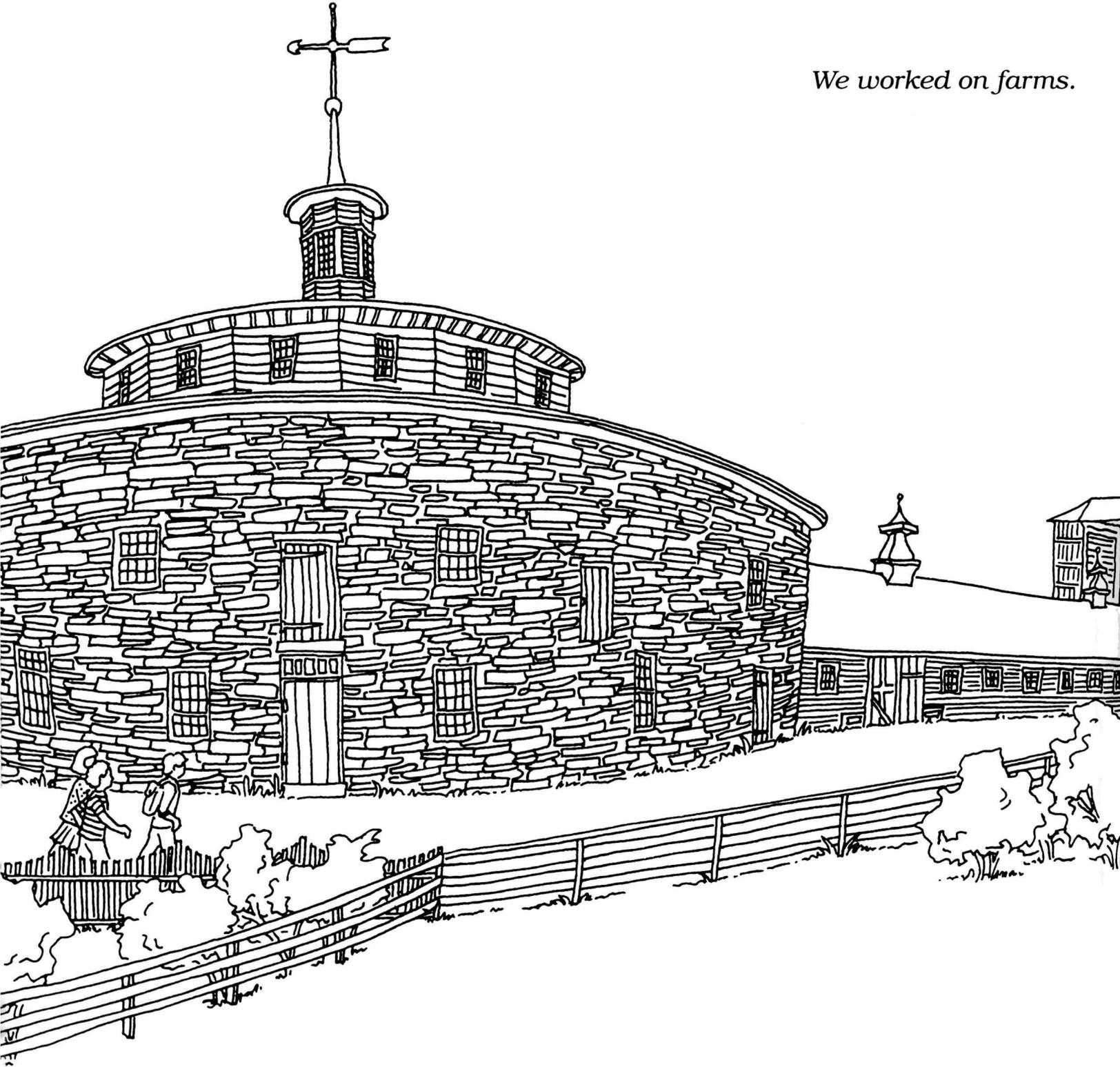


### **Elfreth's Alley**

*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

This narrow street in downtown Philadelphia looks almost the way it did over 250 years ago. The people who lived here were local merchants and tradesman of modest incomes. Their small houses were connected side by side in rows with a narrow alleyway between for foot traffic and horse-drawn carts. Many new town houses you see today are arranged like the houses in Elfreth's Alley.

*We worked on farms.*

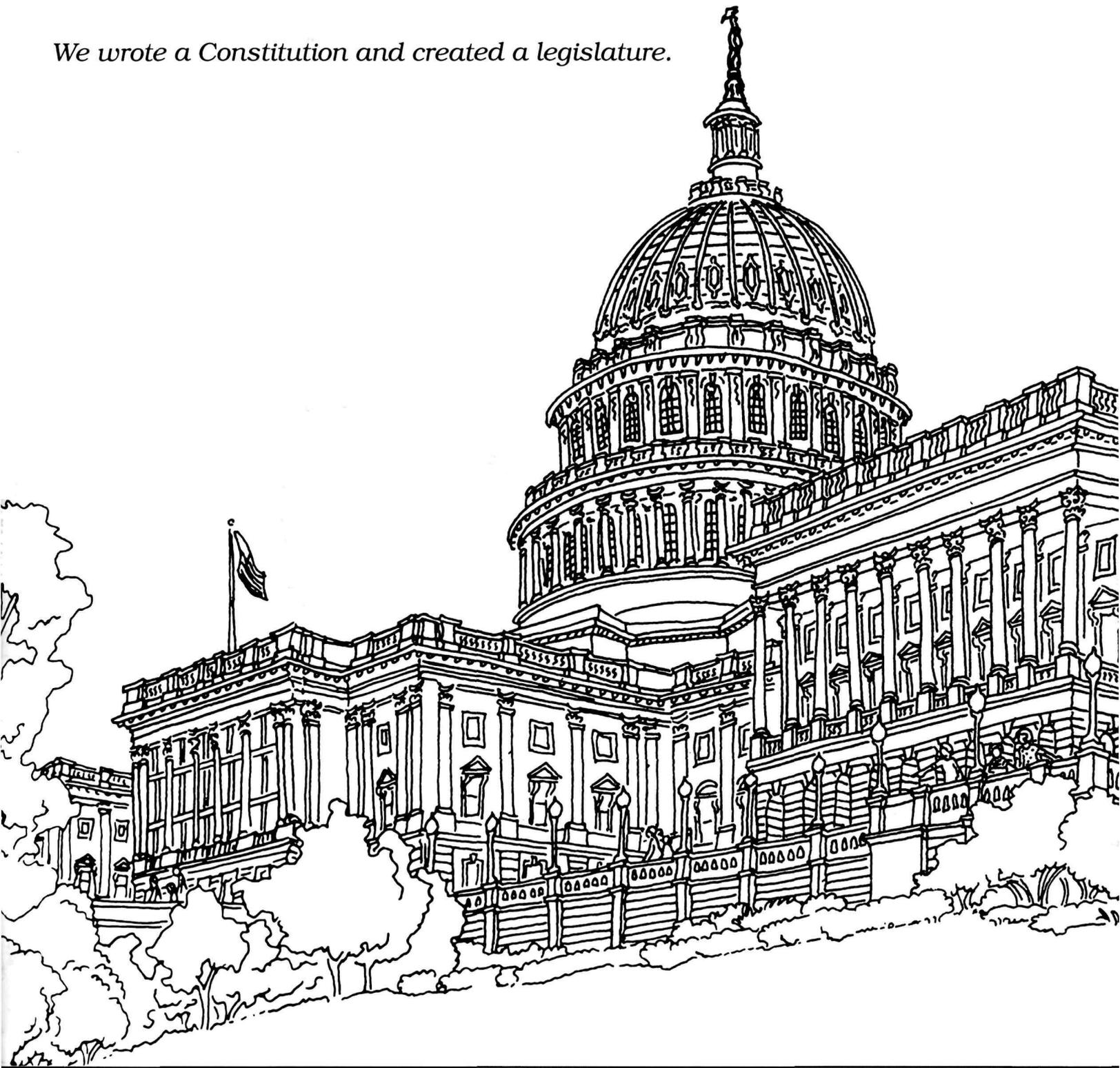


## **Hancock Shaker Village**

*Pittsfield, Massachusetts*

People called “Shakers” formed communities where they could live and work together according to their religious beliefs. Shakers built Hancock Village in 1790. They continued to live in the village until the 1960s, raising grains, vegetables, and livestock to support themselves. This enormous round stone barn, originally constructed in 1826, was one of the most important structures in the village. The barn’s shape and three levels must have made life easier for the farmers. They drove their wagon up a ramp to the top level, then pitched hay into a central bin on the middle level where 52 community cows were kept. The ground level served as a manure pit.

*We wrote a Constitution and created a legislature.*



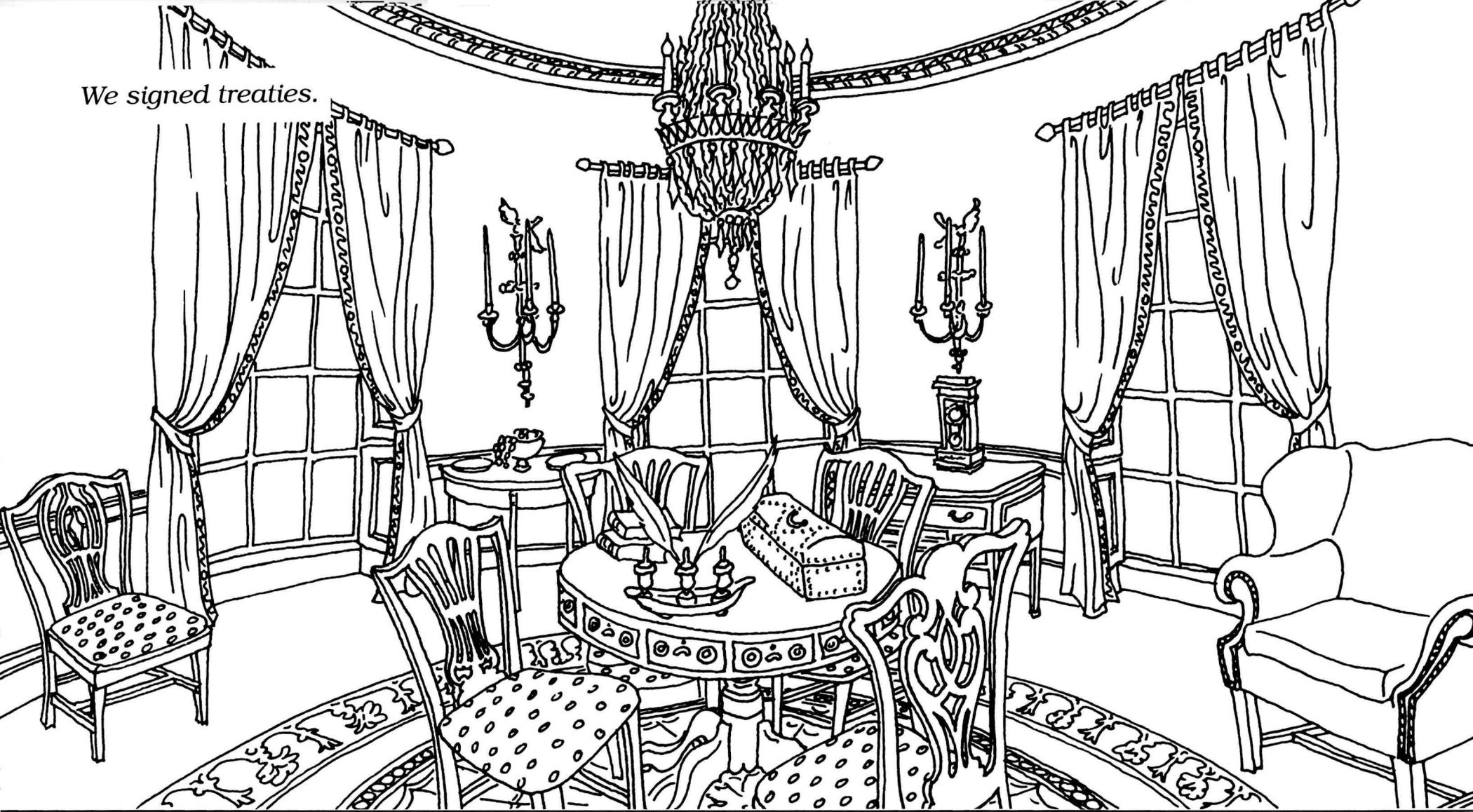
## **U. S. Capitol**

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*Washington, D.C.*

In 1793, George Washington laid the cornerstone for the most important government building in the United States. Over a period of more than 60 years, five different architects took part in the design you see today. The Capitol has housed our national legislature since 1800. The inauguration of each new President takes place here every four years.

*We signed treaties.*

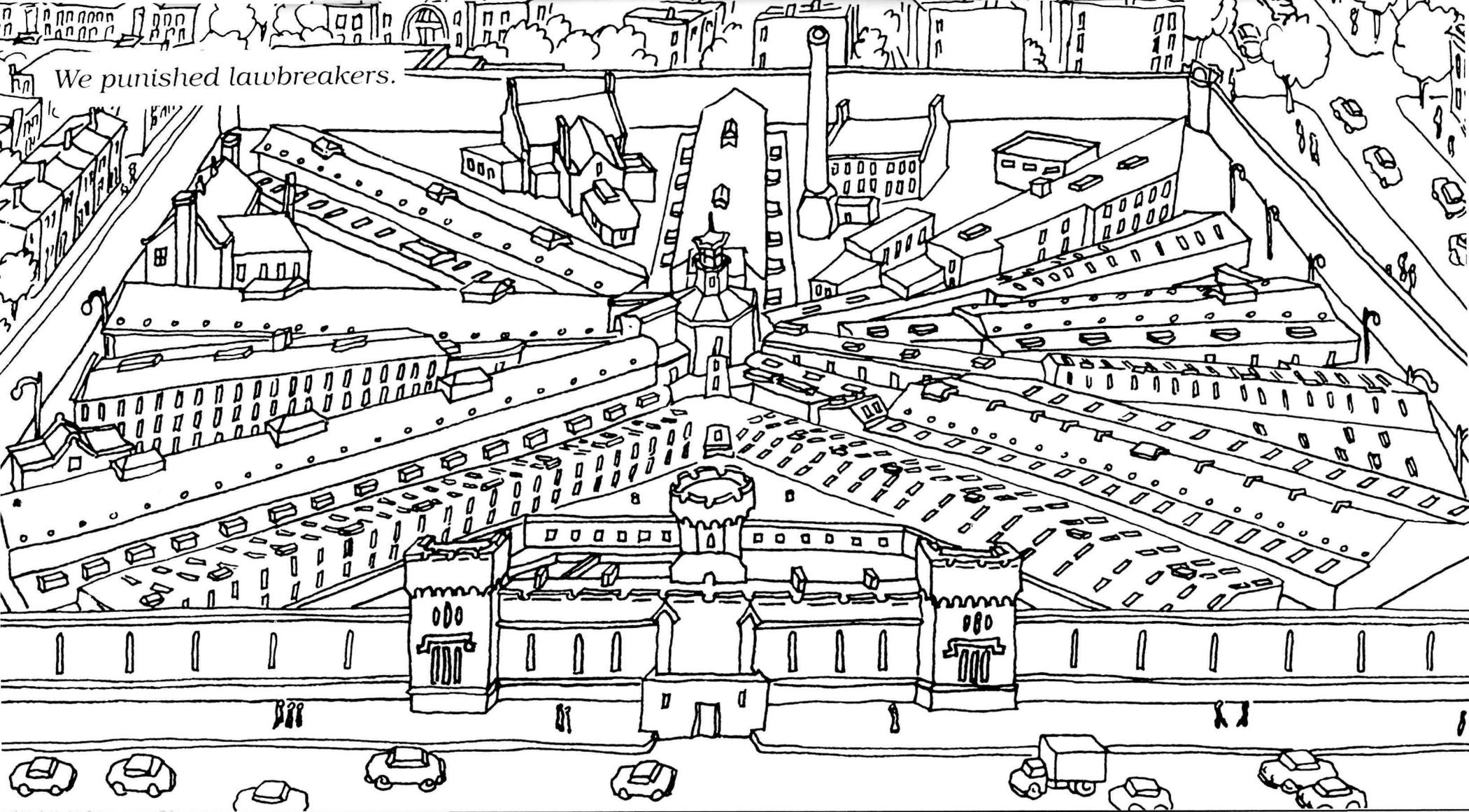


**Octagon House  
(The Octagon)**

*Washington, D.C.*

The Octagon House, built by Colonel John Tayloe for his family between 1801-1802, was given its distinctive name by the Tayloe children. It is within blocks of the White House. When the British burned the White House during the War of 1812, President James Madison and his wife Dolley

temporarily lived at the Octagon. Six months later, President Madison signed the Treaty of Ghent in the upstairs parlor. This important treaty declared that England and the United States were at peace once again.



We punished lawbreakers.

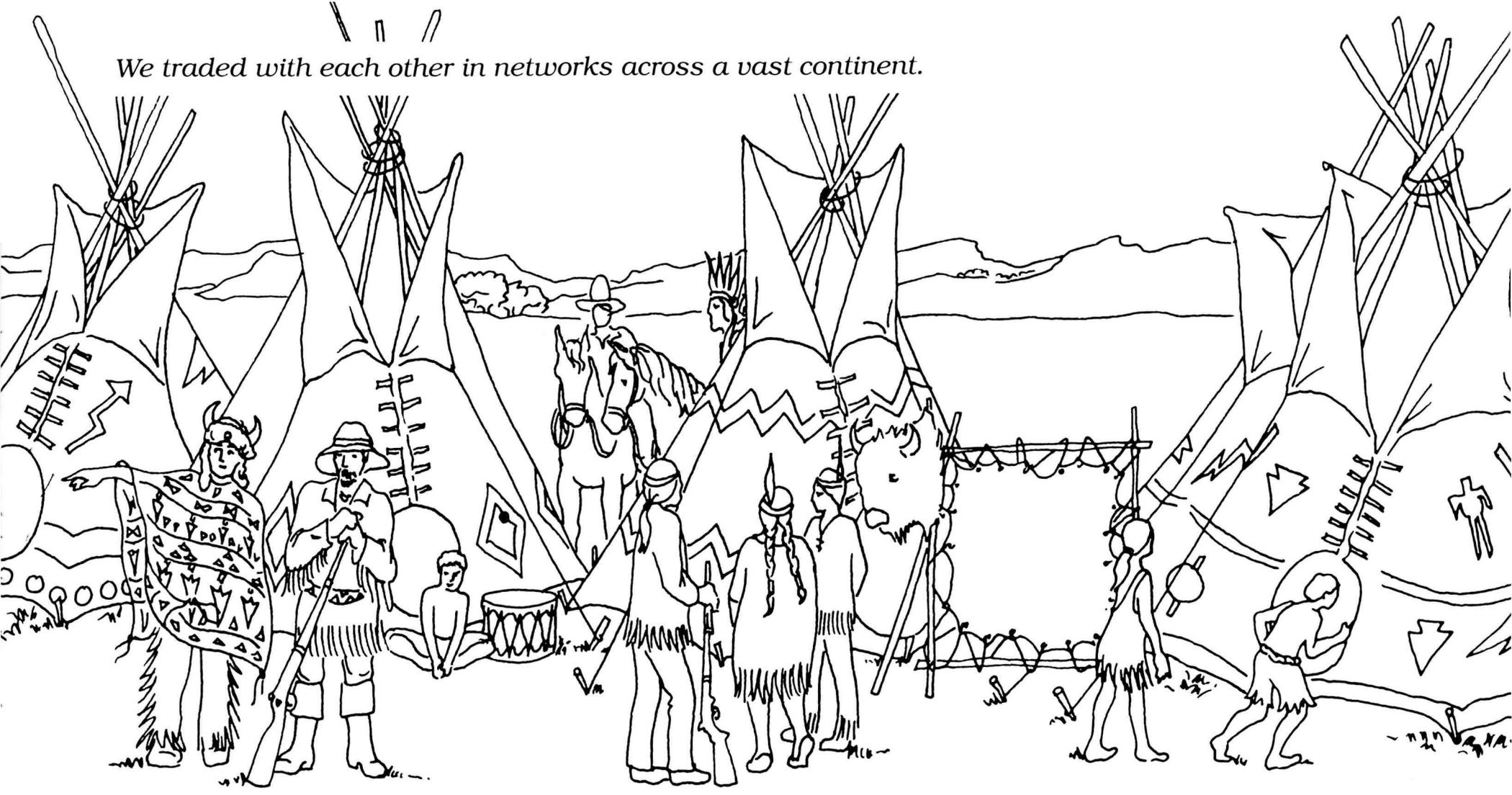
## **Eastern State Penitentiary**

*Philadelphia,  
Pennsylvania*

When Eastern State Penitentiary opened in 1829, it was considered a model prison. It was the largest prison in the United States and the first to have indoor plumbing. Each of the 250 prisoners lived in a separate cell that had a small enclosed exercise yard. It was believed that if lawbreakers

were not influenced by other prisoners, they were more likely to become responsible citizens. However, this way of punishment ended in the 1880s because it was considered too cruel. Over the years the original prison was expanded to hold 900 prisoners. Eastern State was closed in 1970.

*We traded with each other in networks across a vast continent.*



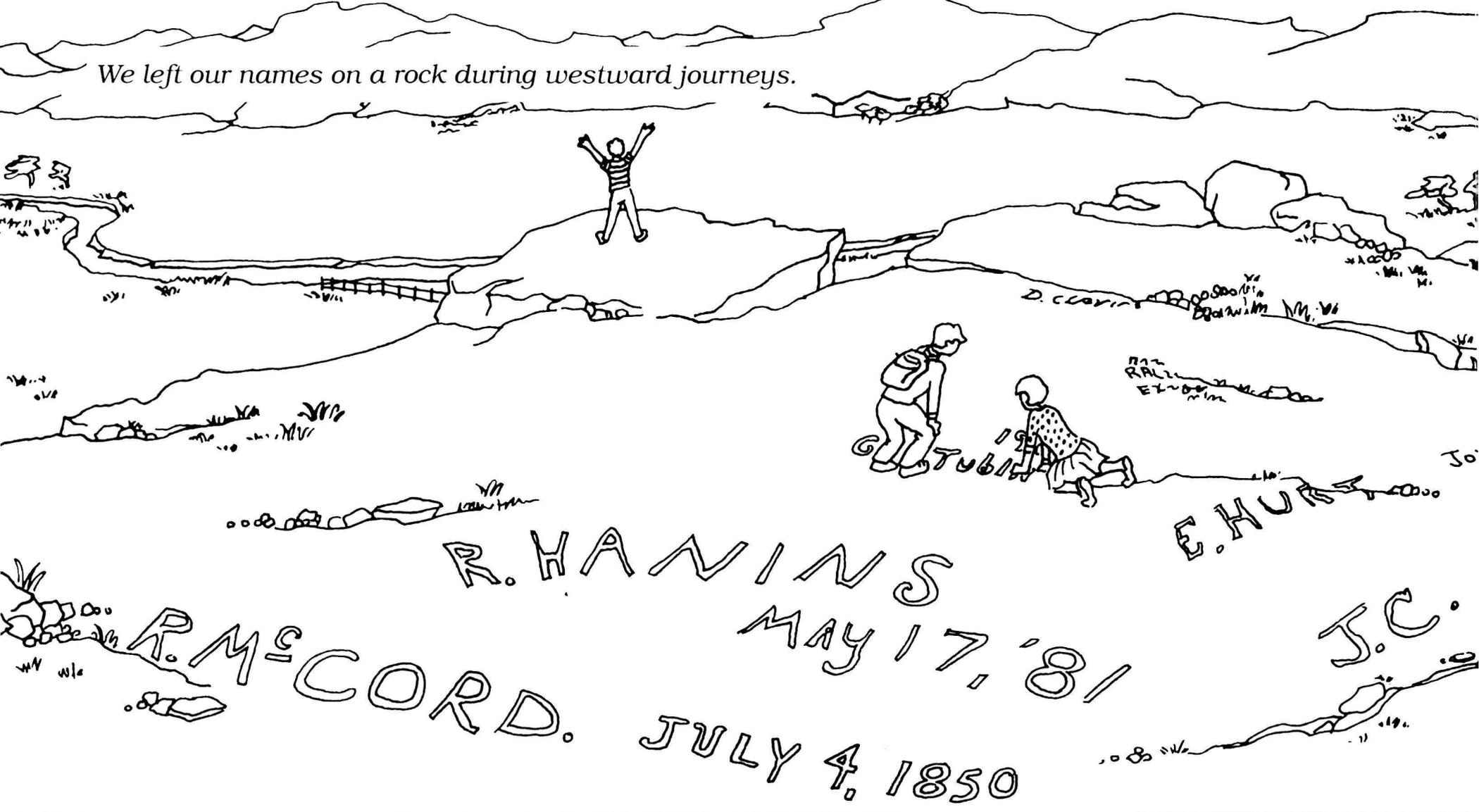
## **Upper Green River Rendezvous Site**

*Daniel, Wyoming*

After the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804, other Americans ventured into the mountains west of the Missouri River. Kit Carson, Jim Bridger, and Jedediah Smith are three of these “Mountain Men” you might already know. Together with Indian tribes in the area, they began to develop fur trapping and trading businesses. In turn, the fur trading networks linked the region and its peoples to an expanding world economy. A rendezvous was

a bustling and colorful camp set up at a special place — this one was at the junction of Horse Creek and Green Rivers. Traders, including Indians and Mountain Men, met once a year between 1824 and 1840 to exchange their furs for goods such as factory-made cloth and metal pots, pans, and utensils that came from St. Louis in great caravans. Each rendezvous lasted from a few days to several weeks.

We left our names on a rock during westward journeys.



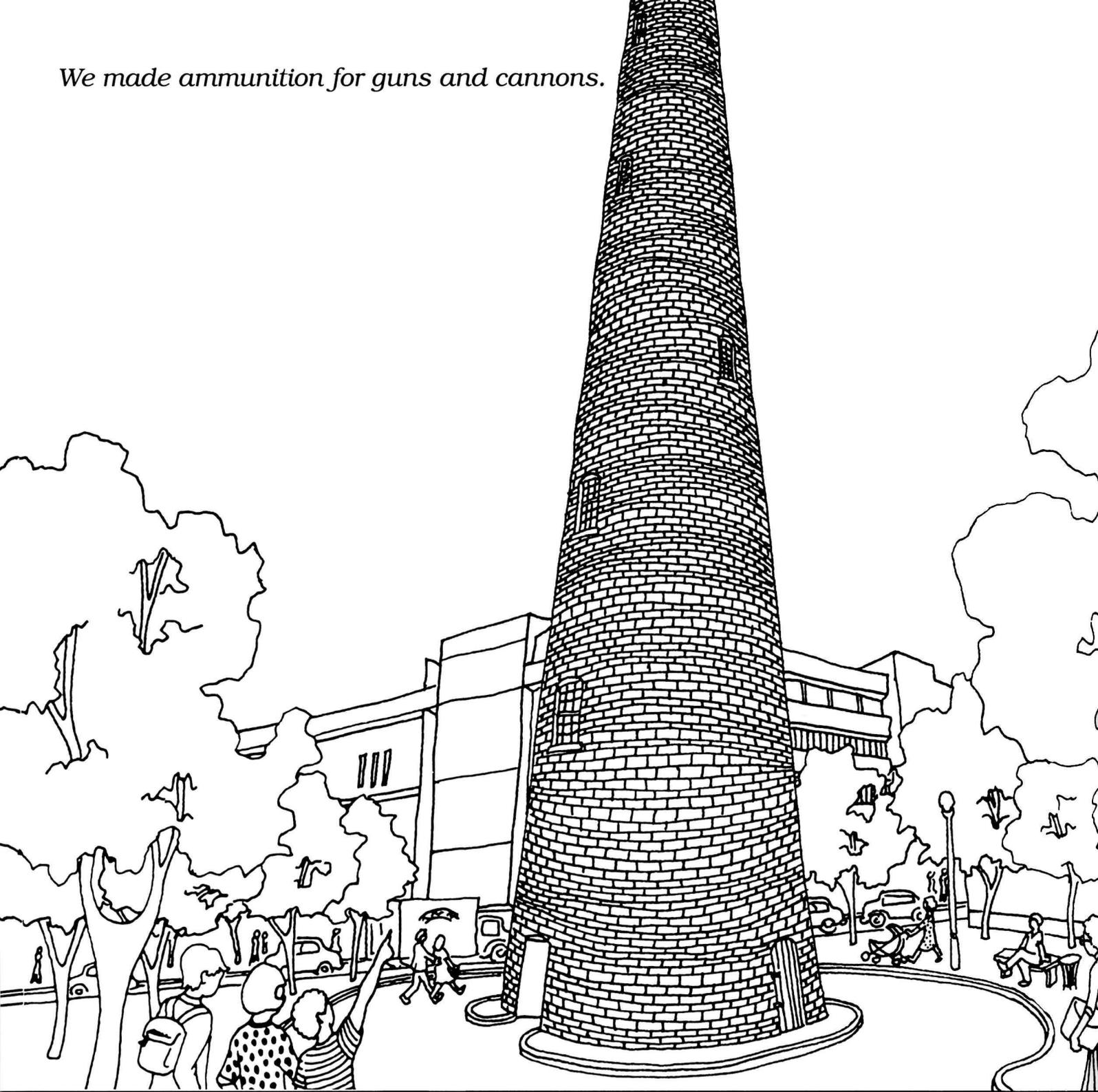
### Independence Rock

Casper, Wyoming

This was a famous landmark and favorite resting place for travelers on the Oregon Trail, the route originally used by emigrants and stage and freight traffic. By the 1840s, many families who passed by

this enormous rock had scratched or painted their names on its surface. The names can still be seen today, evidence of an important chapter in the westward expansion of the United States.

*We made ammunition for guns and cannons.*



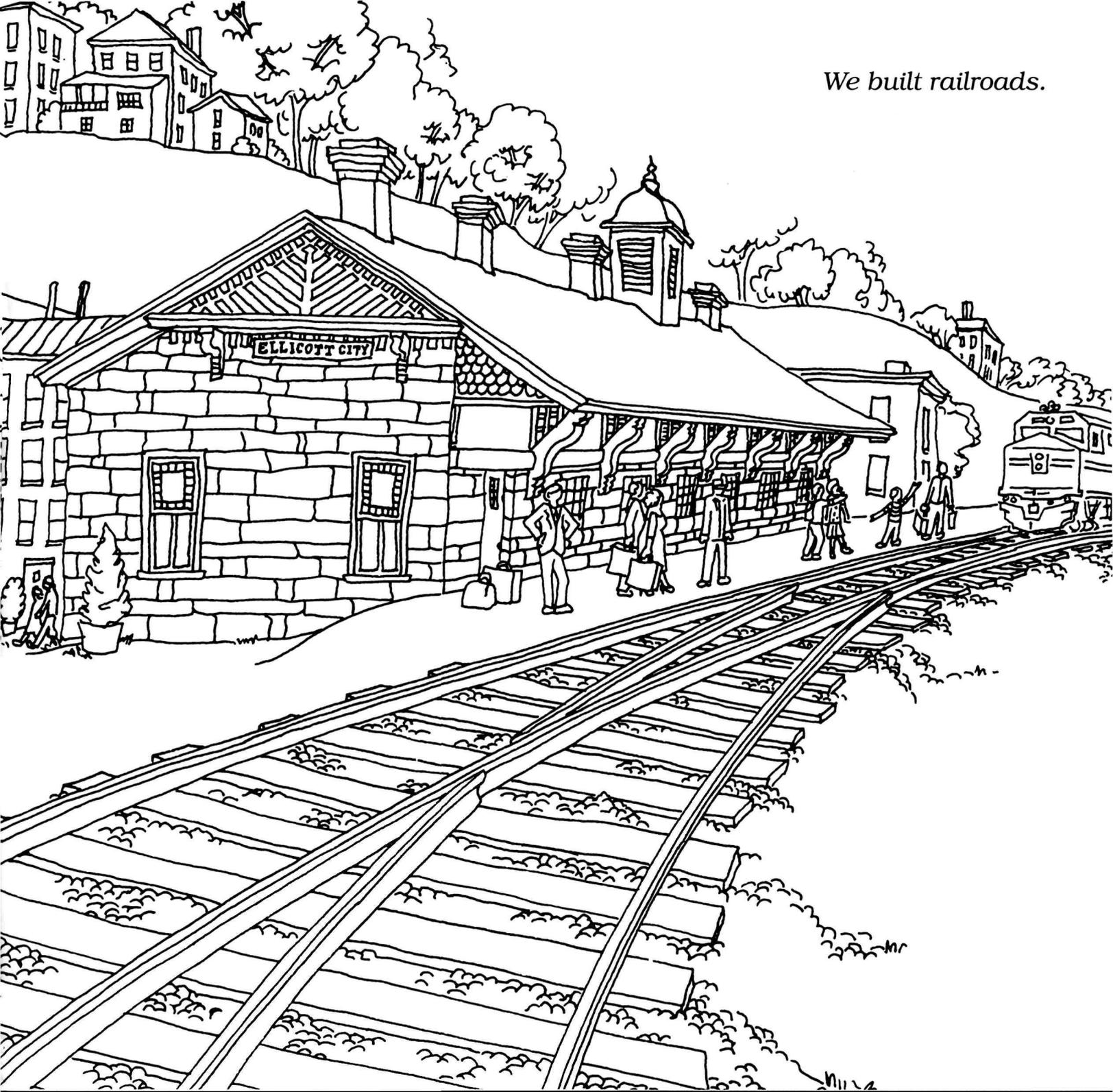
**Baltimore (Phoenix)  
Shot Tower**

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*Baltimore, Maryland*

The use of fire-arms has a long history, but this particular business, originally called Merchant's Shot Company, opened in Baltimore City in 1828. Both "drop shot" for pistols and rifles and "moulded shot" for larger weapons such as cannons were made here. This building is 14 stories high. The company's workers made drop shot by dropping melted lead through a sieve-like device at the top of the tower into a vat of cold water at the bottom. About one million bags of shot were produced yearly in this way. The company closed in 1898.

We built railroads.

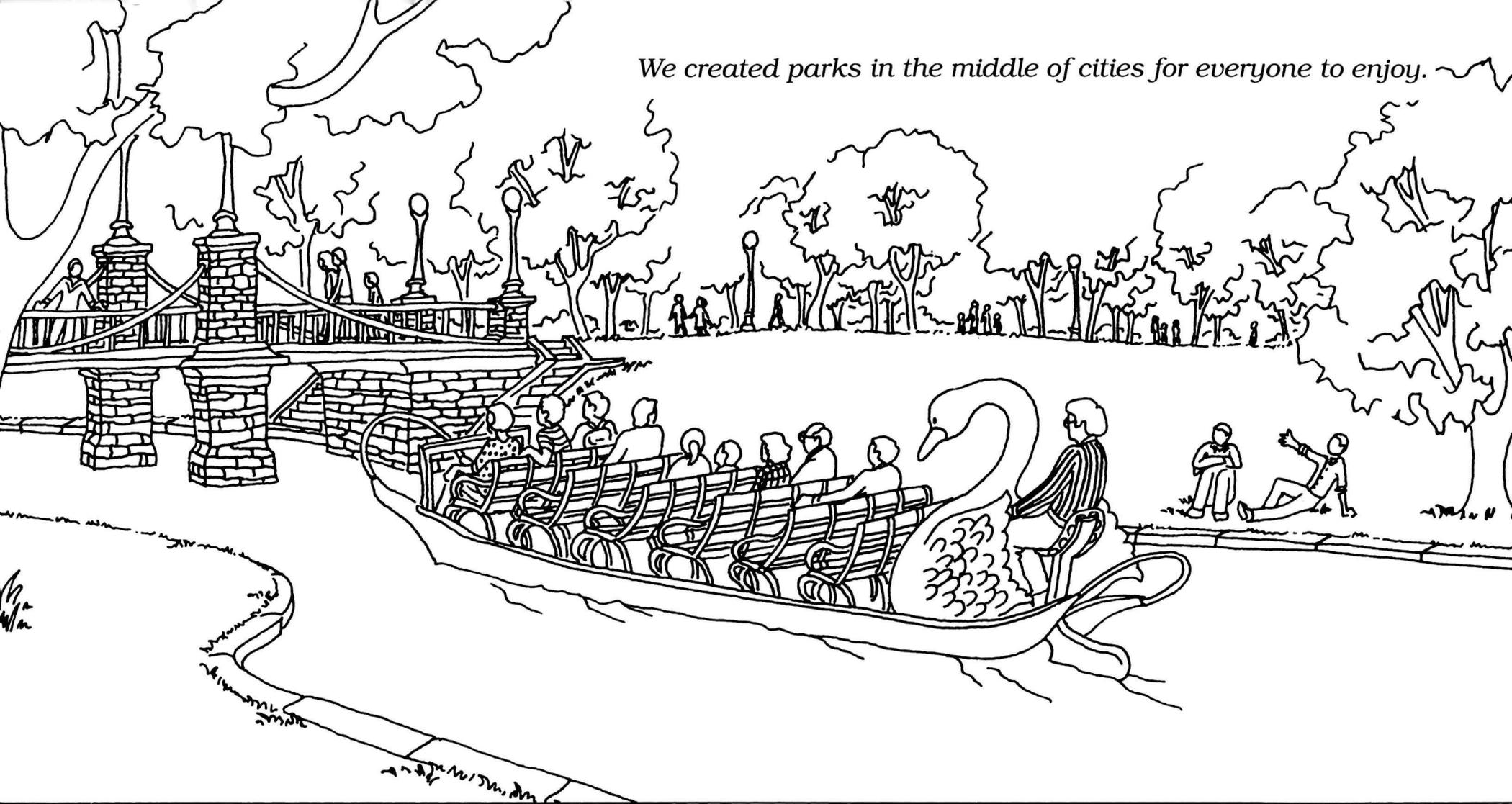


## **Ellicott City Station**

*Ellicott City, Maryland*

The Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) railroad company was the first one in the United States to be chartered as a common carrier of freight and passengers. The Ellicott City Station was built in 1830-31 as the “end of the line” for the original 13-mile stretch of track laid by the B & O. Because this first section of track was a financial success, the railroad expanded to the west. The prosperity of the B & O encouraged other railroad companies to build more railroad track. The small station in Ellicott City no longer services passenger trains, but freight trains frequently pass by.

*We created parks in the middle of cities for everyone to enjoy.*



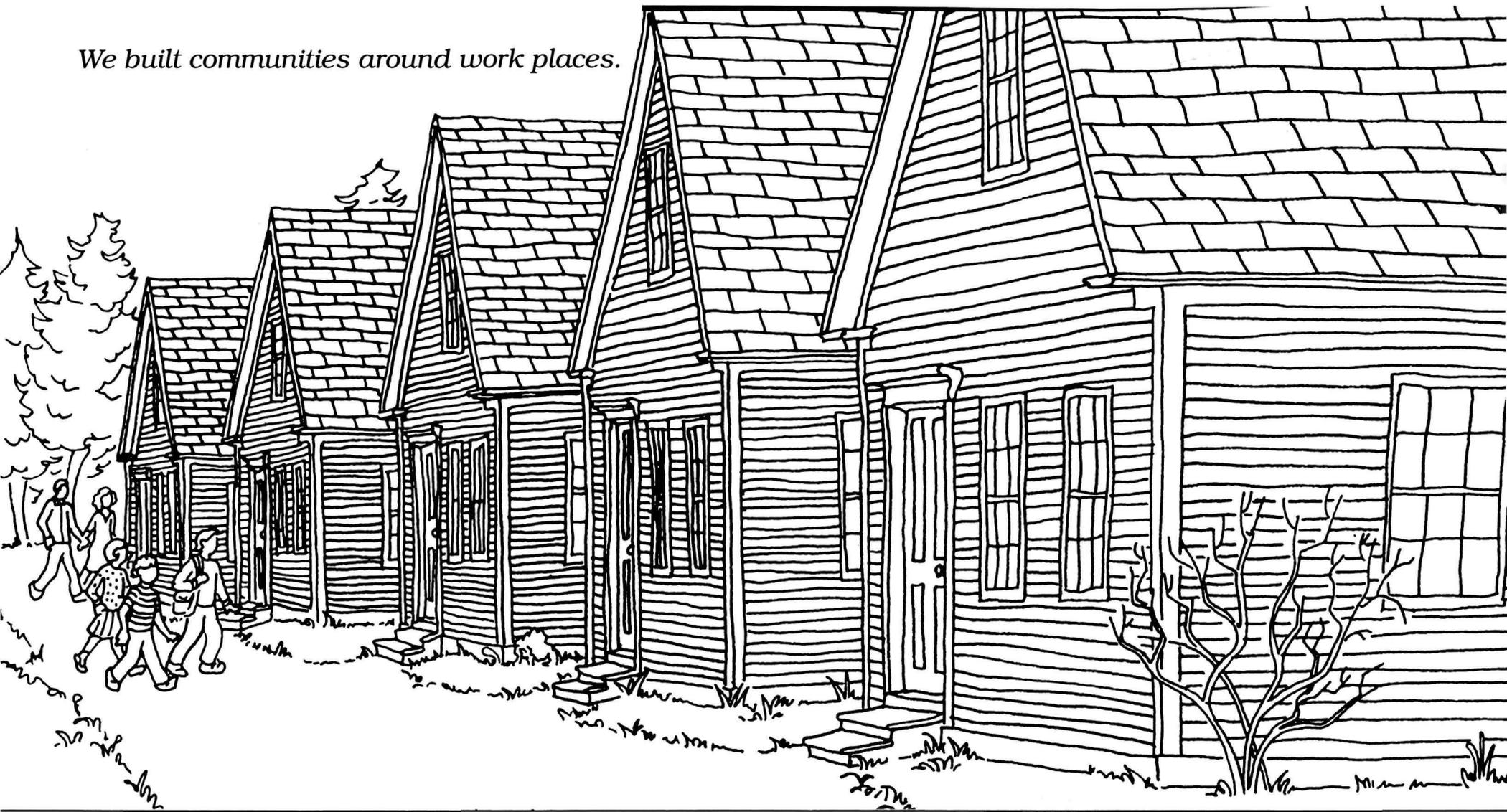
**Boston Public  
Garden**

*Boston, Massachusetts*

Designed about 1860 by George Meacham, this was the first public botanic garden in the United States. (You may know New York's Central Park as another famous example of a city park.) The Boston Public Garden is also known for its

important works of outdoor sculpture. However, many people come especially to ride in the Swan Boats. These fanciful boats have sailed on the pond since 1877. If you go to Boston, maybe you could ride in one too!

*We built communities around work places.*



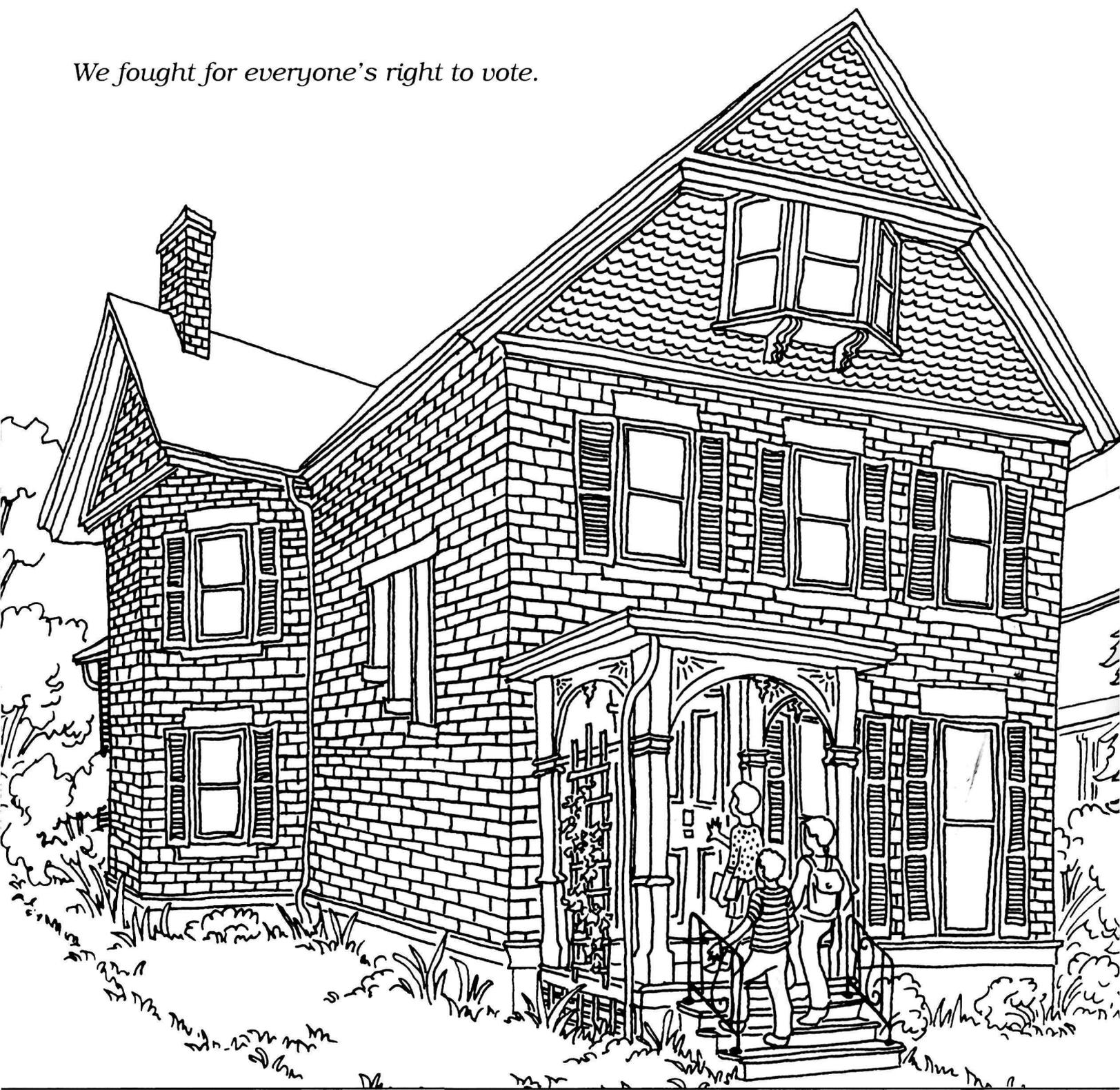
**Harrisville  
Historic District**

*Harrisville,  
New Hampshire*

Harrisville still looks much as it did in the first half of the 1800s when it was a growing industrial community with mills that produced woolen cloth. The owners of Cheshire Mills built boarding houses and single-family houses and rented them to the people who worked in the factories. With machine-cut lumber and nails readily available by

1866, houses like these on Peanut Row could be quickly assembled. They were rented for \$3 and \$5 a week. Today, most houses across the United States are constructed with mass-produced materials, but people usually have to drive, or take the train or bus now instead of simply walking up the street to work.

*We fought for everyone's right to vote.*

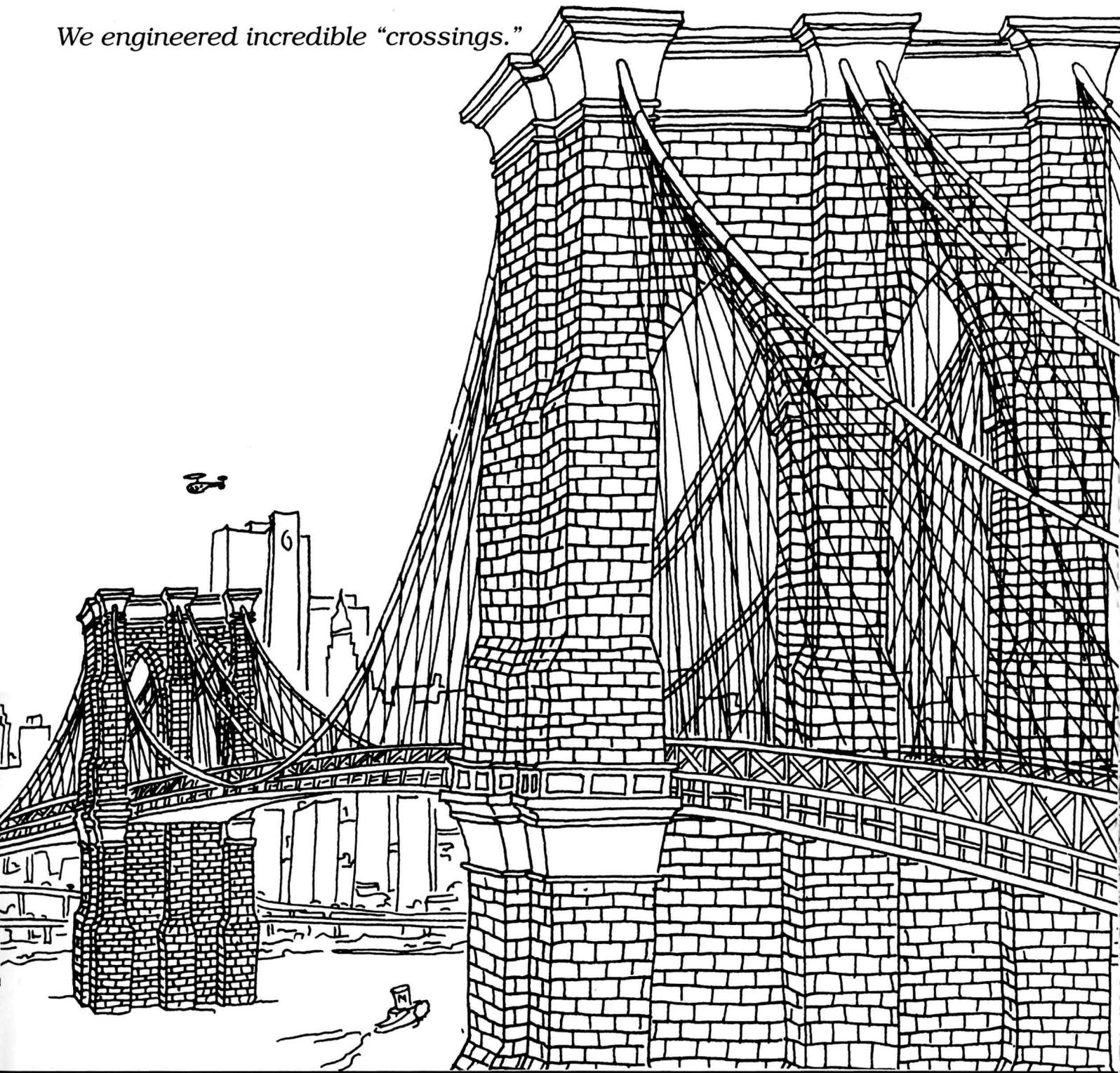


## **Susan B. Anthony House**

*Rochester, New York*

Susan B. Anthony fought hard to end slavery in the years before the Civil War. However, she is best known for her long battle to improve the political status of women. As early as 1854 she began to rally women on the issue of voting rights. At the time not all states protected women's right to vote, to control their own earnings, or to gain custody of children in the event of a divorce. Anthony did much of her writing and organizing work in this red brick house, from the day she moved here in 1866 until she died in 1906. Fourteen years after her death, women's suffrage was established as national policy through the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Anthony will always be remembered for the important role she played in its adoption.

*We engineered incredible "crossings."*

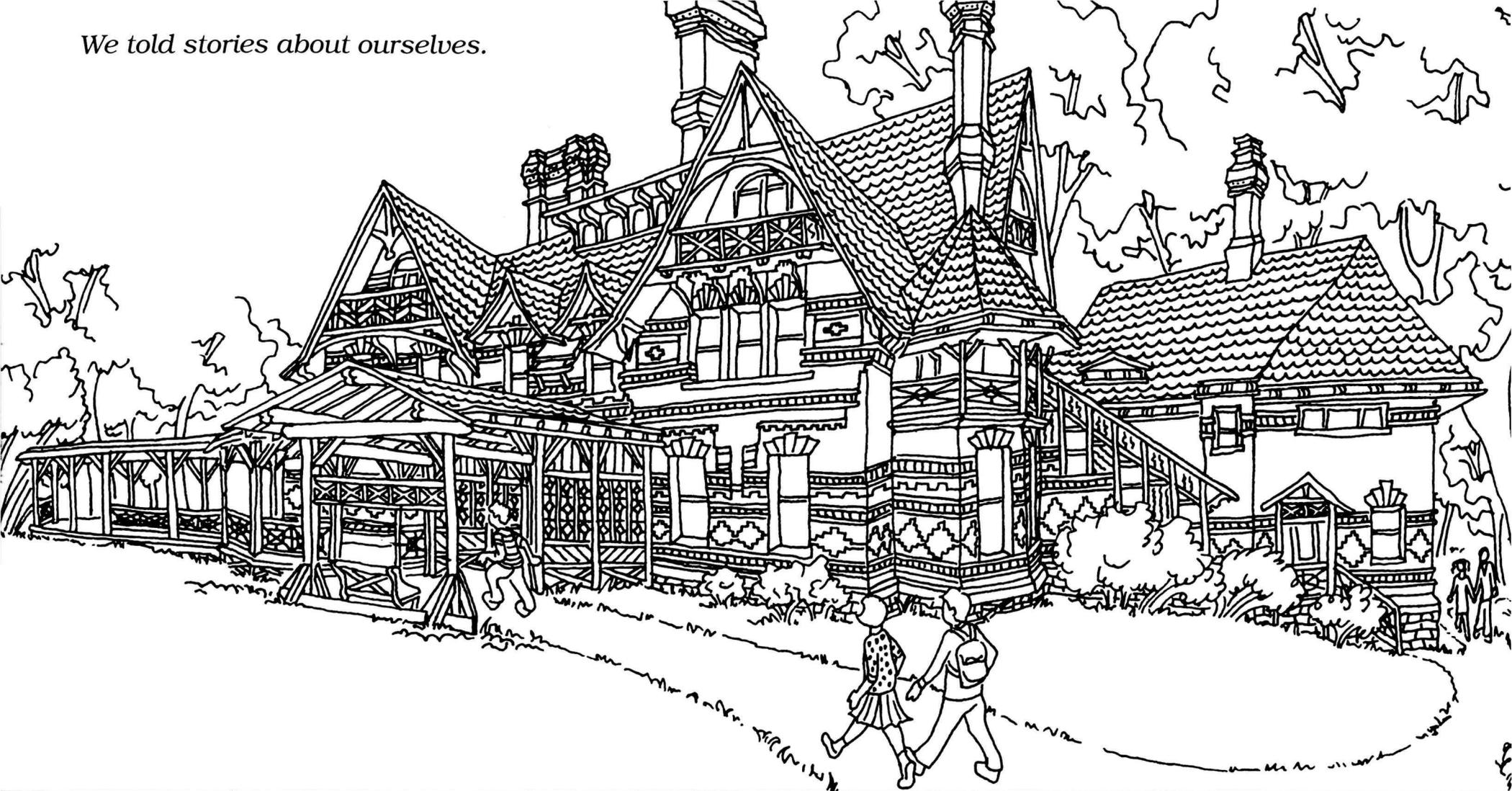


## **Brooklyn Bridge**

*Manhattan-Brooklyn, New York (across the East River)*

Begun in 1869 and completed in 1883, the Brooklyn Bridge was the largest suspension bridge in the world. It was a remarkable engineering achievement, using some new and unusual techniques. For example, stainless steel cables were used for the first time here and the massive stone pylons that carry the cables were 350 feet high! Since its construction, the bridge has been structurally strengthened and its floor replaced. But the fact that it still carries thousands of trucks and cars to and from Manhattan every day is proof of the skill of John A. Roebling, who designed the bridge, and his son, Washington A. Roebling, who devoted years of his life to seeing it built. Besides driving across the Brooklyn Bridge, you can cross it on a special walkway.

*We told stories about ourselves.*

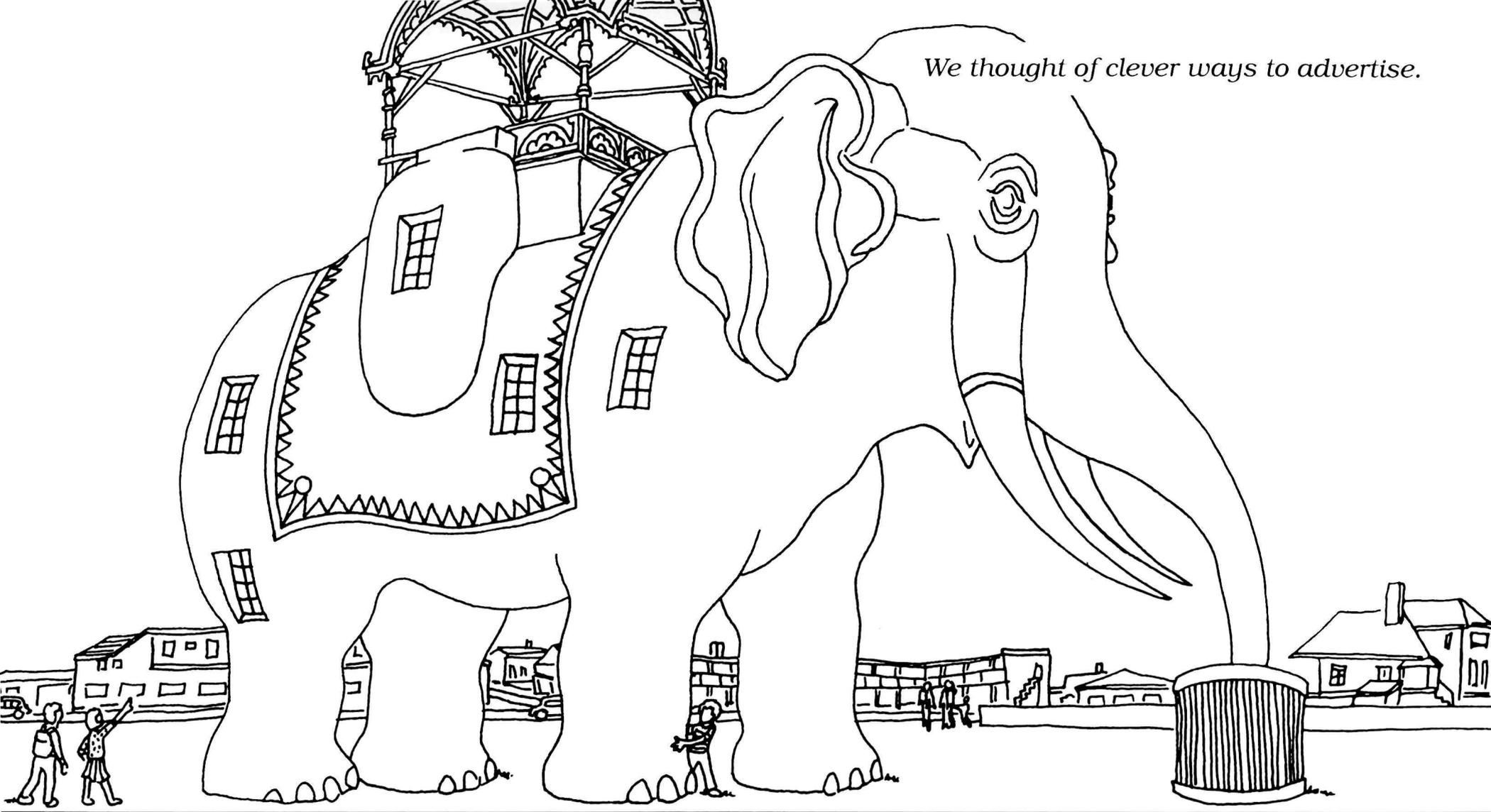


## **Mark Twain House**

*Hartford, Connecticut*

Mark Twain had this house built for himself and his family in 1874. While he lived here, he wrote *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, and other books that have become part of our literary heritage. In 1877 a poem was published in a Hartford trade magazine that described the materials and design of Twain's unusual house. The first stanza goes like this:

"This is the House that Mark Built.  
These are the bricks of various hue  
And shape and position, straight and askew  
With the nooks and angles and gables too  
Which make up the house presented to view  
*The curious house that Mark built...*"



**Lucy the  
Margate Elephant**

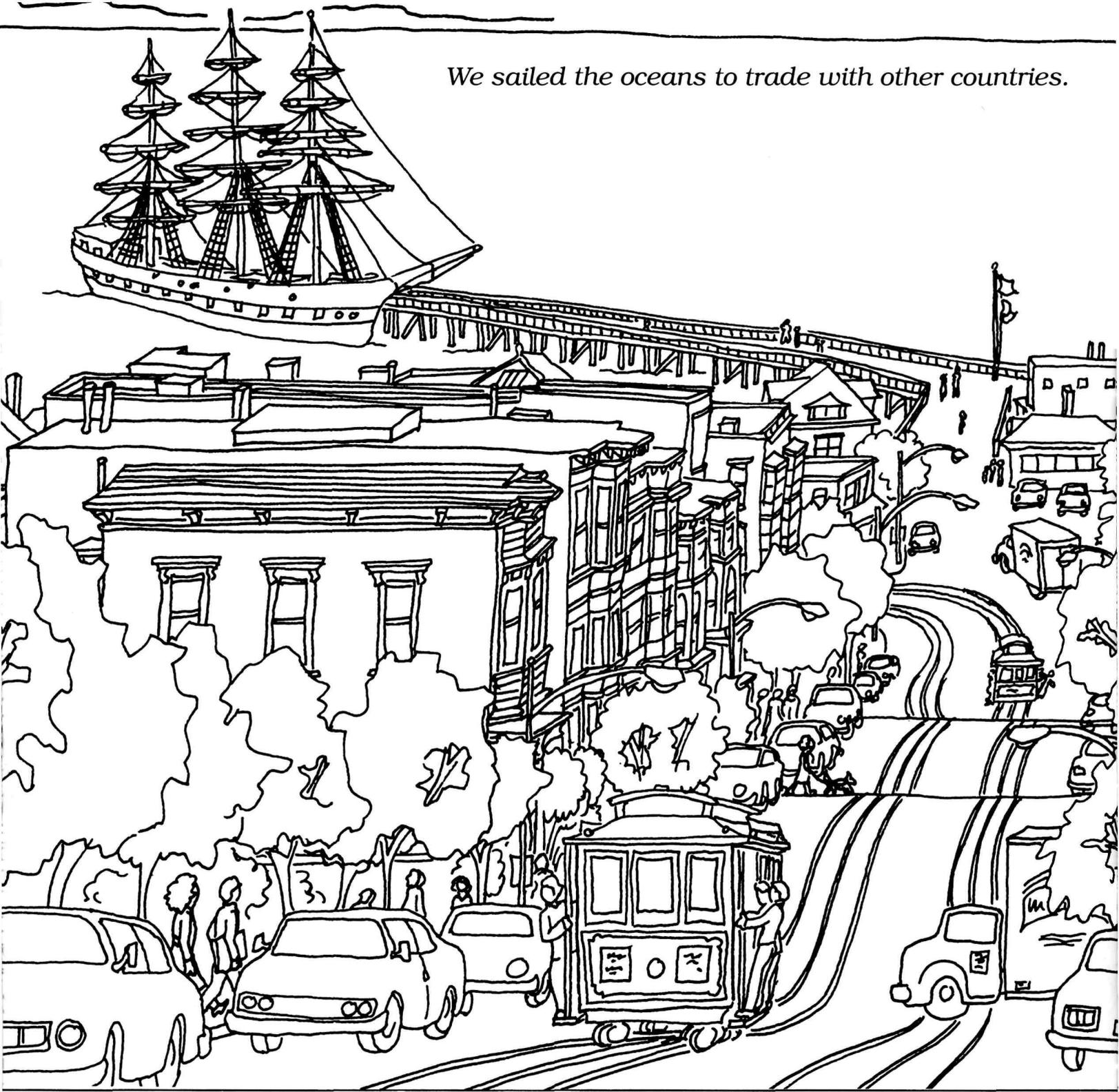
*Margate City, New Jersey*

Lucy is a building in the shape of an elephant with tin skin and glass eyes. She was constructed in the 1880s for James Rafferty, a real-estate promoter who built her to draw attention to his plans for development near Atlantic City. Lucy

*We thought of clever ways to advertise.*

cost \$25,000 to build, and used 1,000,000 pieces of lumber, 12,000 feet of tin, and 200 kegs of nails. You reach the rooms in the elephant's body by climbing spiral staircases in the rear legs.

We sailed the oceans to trade with other countries.

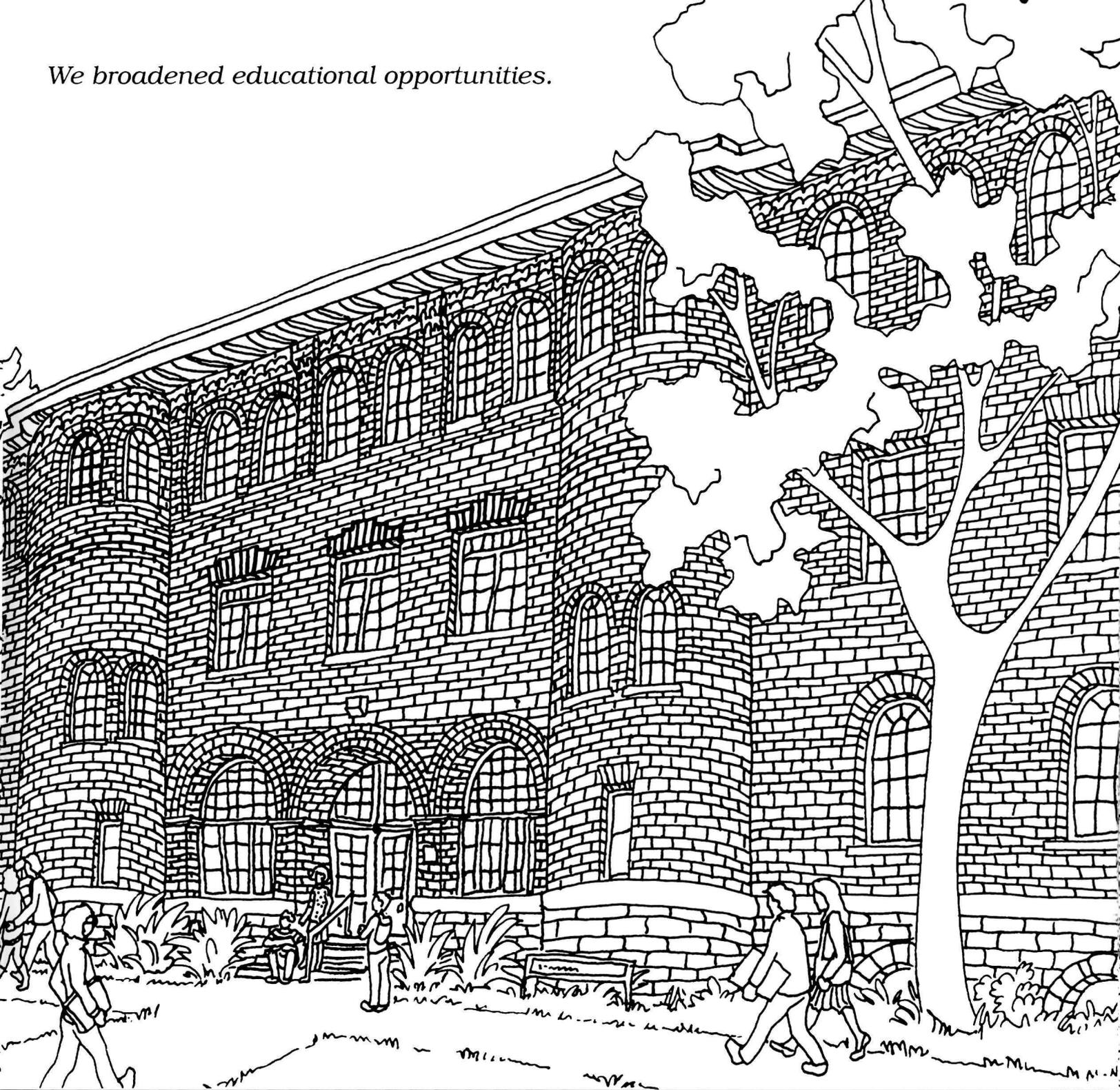


**Balclutha**  
**(Sailing Ship)**

*San Francisco, California*

Built in 1866, *Balclutha* is one of only two American-owned square-rigged sailing ships still afloat on the Pacific Ocean. After the Civil War, ships like *Balclutha* took part in rebuilding peaceful trading activities abroad, beginning with the grain trade between England and California. She was also used in the Pacific Coast lumber trade and the Alaskan salmon trade. Now permanently docked in San Francisco, you can go aboard if you visit this city.

*We broadened educational opportunities.*



**Berea College  
(Lincoln Hall)**

*Berea, Kentucky*

Founded in 1855, Berea College was the first school in the South specifically set up to teach black and white students together. You can understand why the hall shown here, built in 1886, was named after President Abraham Lincoln and also why the college holds an important place in our history of education. Part of the school's philosophy has always been that "mental and manual labor" go hand in hand to make a responsible adult. Besides classes, students are involved in work projects on campus. In fact, the bricks for Lincoln Hall were made in the College brickyard and the stone was quarried by students! In 1904, State law forced Berea College to segregate. The law was changed in 1950 and, today, once again, students of all races study and work together here.

*We designed special places to work and shop.*



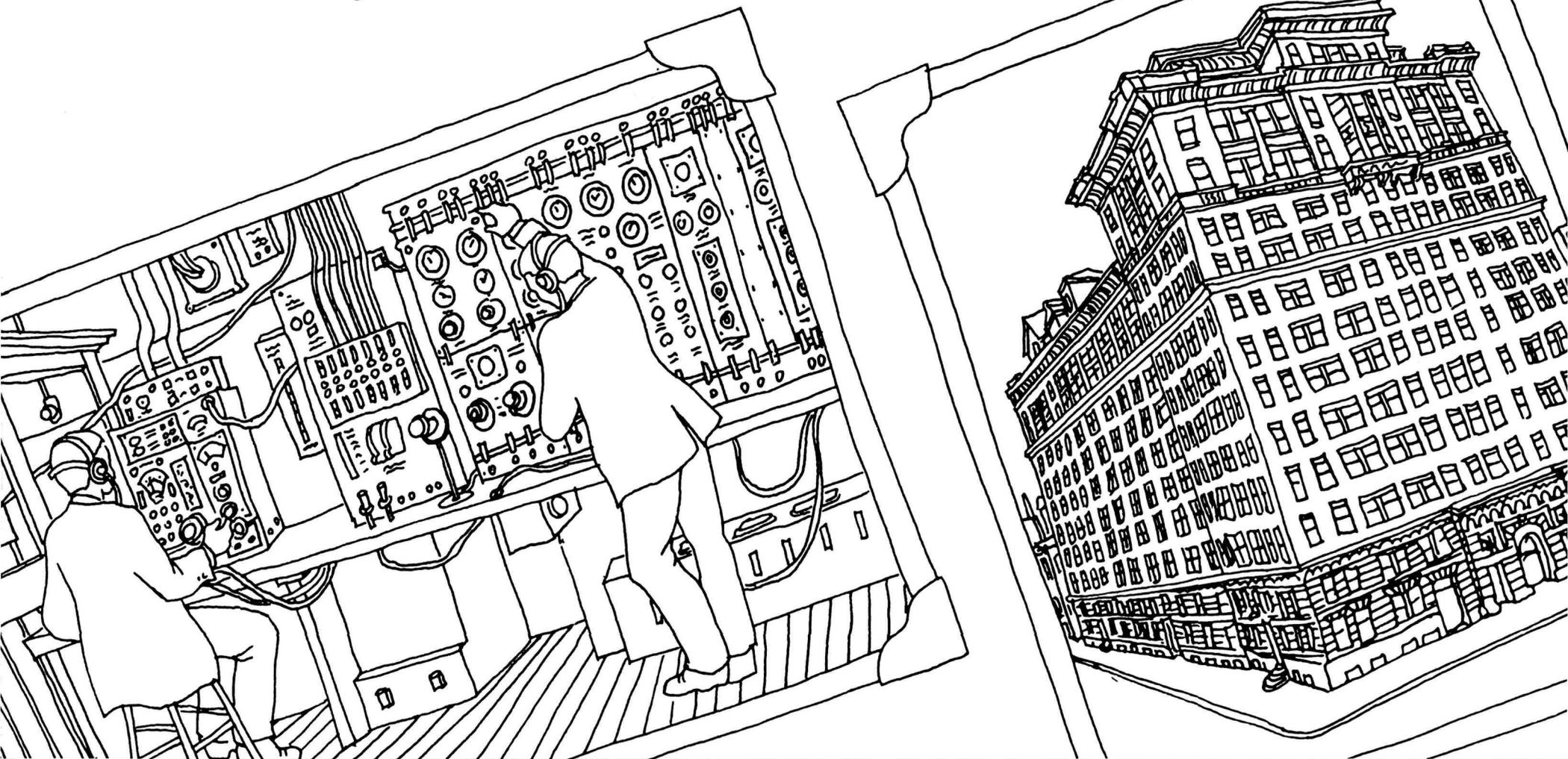
## **Cleveland Arcade**

*Cleveland, Ohio*

Built in 1888, the Cleveland Arcade is made up of two 9-story office buildings connected by an enormous iron and glass roof called a “skylight”. The shopping arcade is a 19th-century building type that may remind you of shopping malls you see today in suburban neighborhoods. But this is

different in several ways. It was built long before you were born. It is in the heart of a major city. It has five levels inside. And it is so big that it stretches between two downtown streets. Imagine how it must feel to look down at people from the top!

*We invented new ways to communicate.*



**Bell Telephone  
Laboratories**

*New York City, New York*

From 1898 to 1966, 436 West Street was home of Bell Telephone Laboratories (a company jointly owned from 1925 by American Telephone and Telegraph Company and Western Electric). These drawings are based on 1920s photographs of the Laboratories and its technicians. Major

contributions to the telecommunications industry were made here, including the telephone, radio, phonograph records, motion pictures, and television. Can you imagine your life today without any one of these inventions?

We took our languages and customs with us  
wherever we moved.



### Little Tokyo Historic District

*(Eligible for NHL  
designation)  
San Pedro, California*

Many Japanese immigrants settled in California's rural areas in the early 1900s. Not allowed to own land under State law, they moved to the cities, especially to the downtown Los Angeles area, because of opportunities for work and business. Soon, Little Tokyo became the center of the cut-flower and retail produce industries in the city. Today, the historic Little Tokyo section is just a small part of the larger Japanese community that thrived here before World War II (1941-45). At that time, many Japanese-Americans in San Pedro, like those of other communities along the West Coast, were put into government camps until the war was over. In 1988, the government publicly apologized for this war-time action.

*We built banks to protect and increase our savings.*

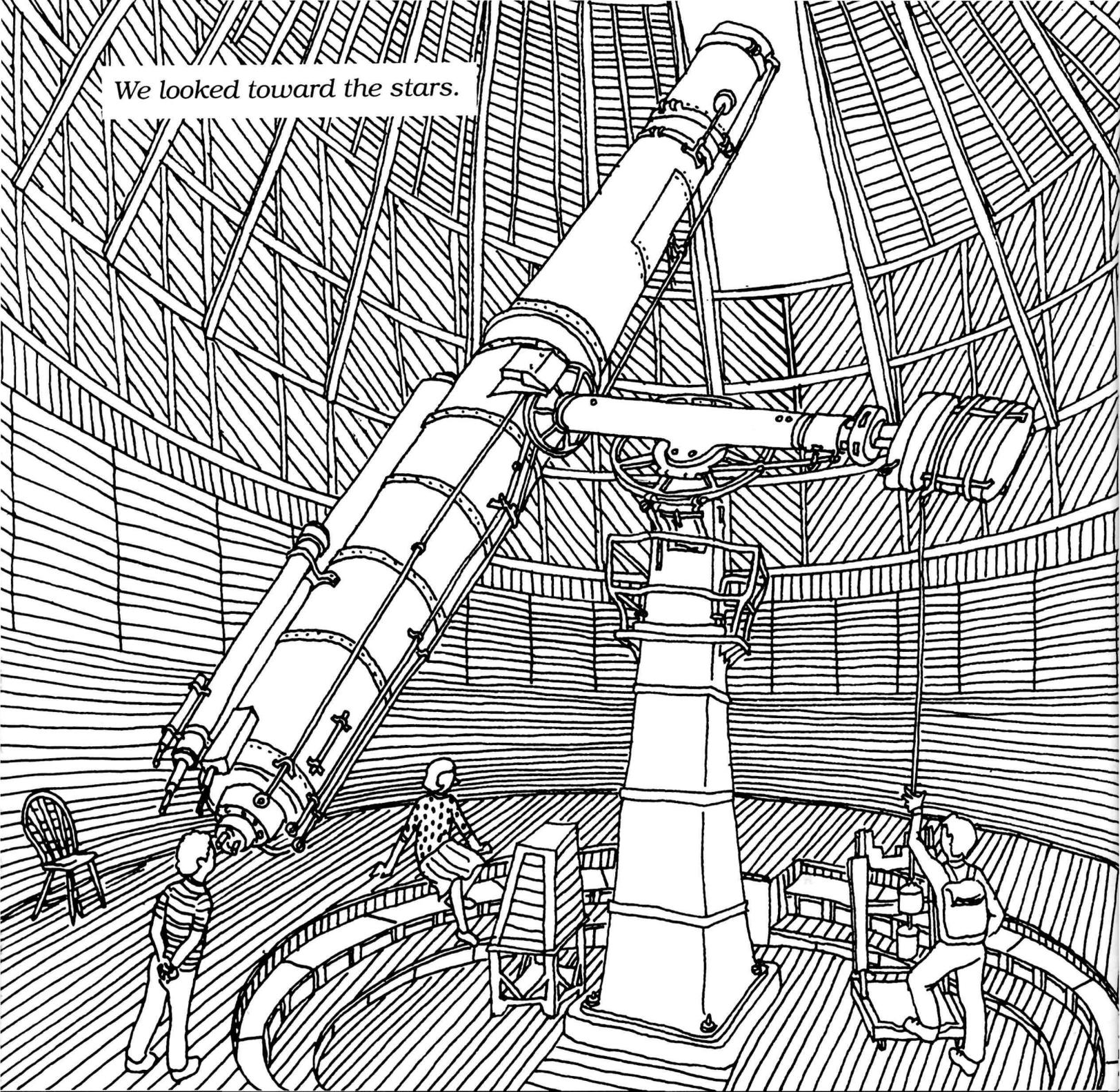


**Bank of Italy  
(Bank of San Francisco)**

*San Francisco, California*

You may not know the Bank of Italy, but you've probably heard of the Bank of America, which grew out of it. Amadeo Peter Giannini founded the Bank of Italy in San Francisco in 1904 and eventually made it one of the largest commercial banks in the world. Giannini's success was based on inviting people of moderate incomes to save and invest their money. Before this, banks had been more interested in providing services to wealthy individuals and large companies. The Bank of Italy is now the Bank of San Francisco.

*We looked toward the stars.*

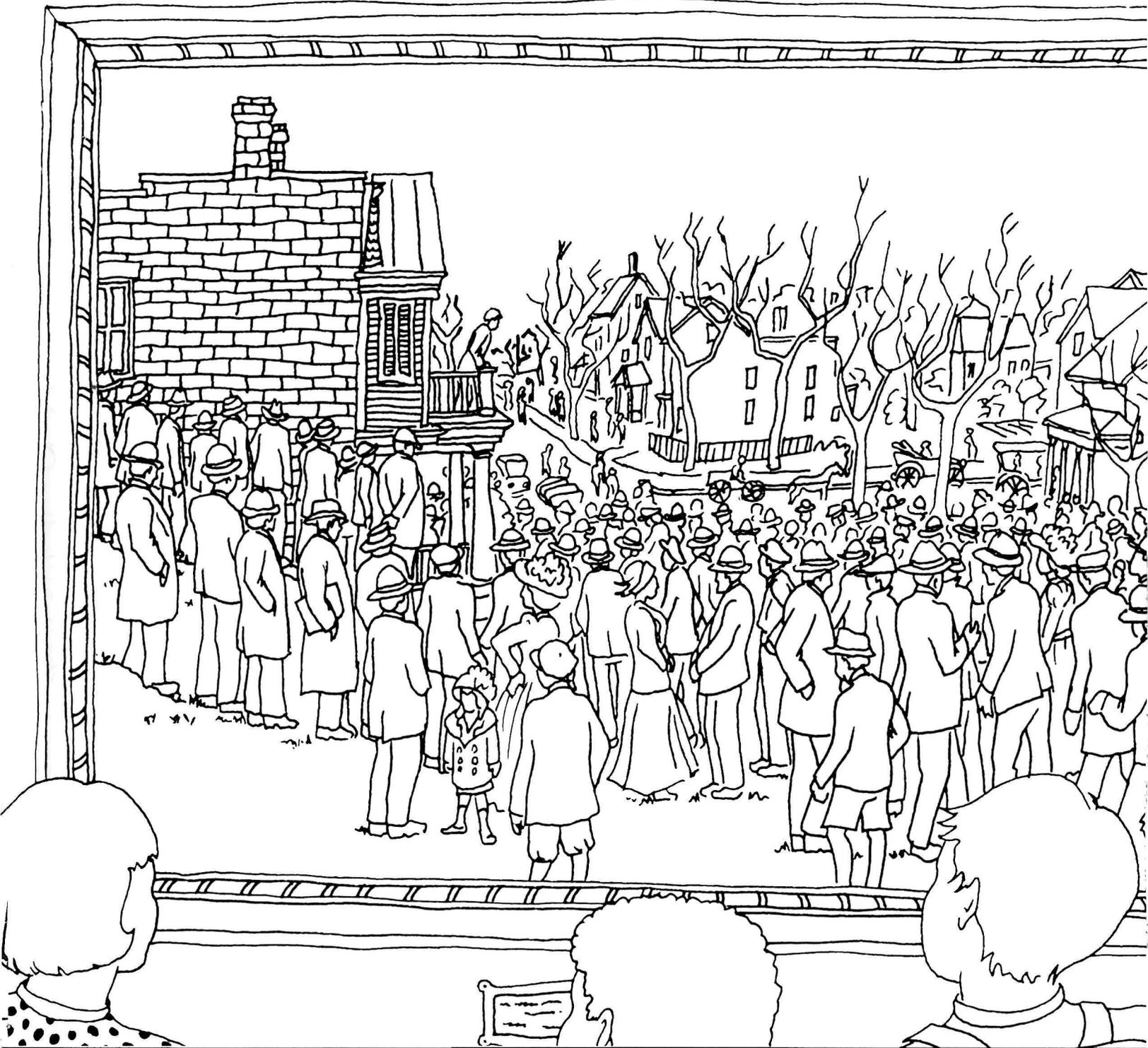


## **Lowell Observatory**

*Flagstaff, Arizona*

An astronomer named Percival Lowell founded this observatory in 1894. Here, astronomers studied Mars, searched for and discovered the planet Pluto in 1930, and pursued a variety of other types of research. Perhaps the most important discovery was made here in 1913 and 1914. Lowell Observatory astronomer, Vesto Slipher, trained the giant telescope on distant nebulae and found evidence that our universe is expanding. The work of many later scientists is based on this discovery.

*We struggled to improve our working conditions.*

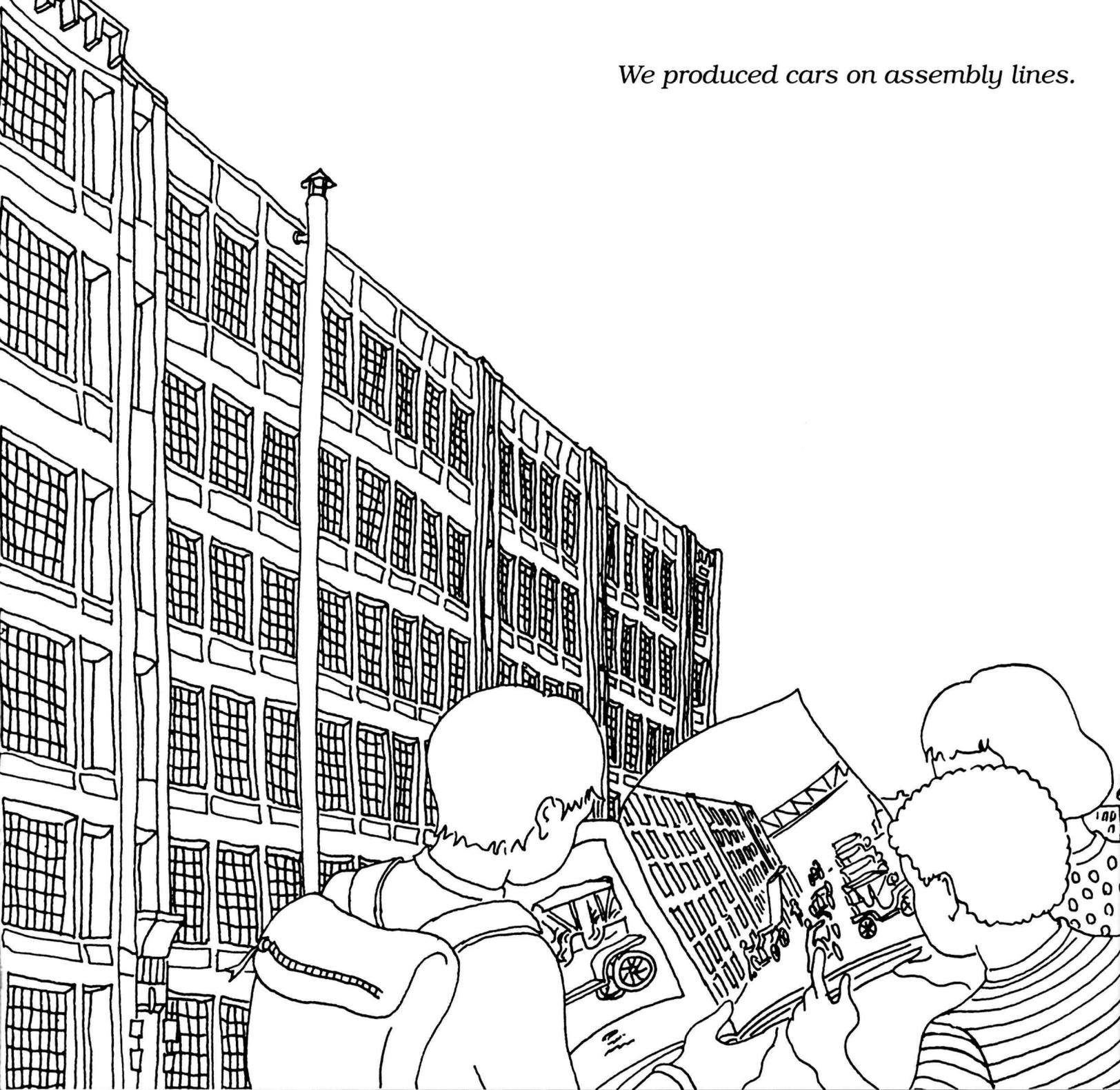


**Maria and Pietro  
Botto House**

*Haledon, New Jersey*

Protesting unfair working conditions, 800 loom weavers in a Paterson, New Jersey silk mill walked off the job in January of 1913. Soon, 24,000 angry men, women, and children joined in a general strike that closed all the Paterson mills and dye houses. Encouraged by leaders of the Industrial Workers of the World, the strikers demanded an 8-hour work day and \$12 a week minimum wage. The Bottos were weavers who offered their home in Haledon to hold weekly rallies. After seven months, though, the workers had to return to the same harsh conditions at the mills. But this strike was very important because it made the nation more aware of the problems faced by workers, especially recent immigrants in the work force.

*We produced cars on assembly lines.*



## **Highland Park Ford Plant**

*Detroit, Michigan*

In 1910, the Ford Motor Company moved to its new plant in Highland Park designed by architect Albert Kahn. Here, Henry Ford and his engineers began to experiment with faster production. By using a motor-driven conveyor belt and having each worker assemble specific parts, they could build a car in 1½ hours instead of 5 hours. Ordinarily, the cars were put together inside the building. When the first floor became too busy, however, final assembly took place outside the plant — car bodies were guided down a special ramp, then attached to the frames and tires. The first assembly-line “Model T” Ford came out of the Highland Park plant in 1914; by 1921, there were more than 5 million on the road!

*We created new kinds of music—ragtime, the blues, and jazz.*

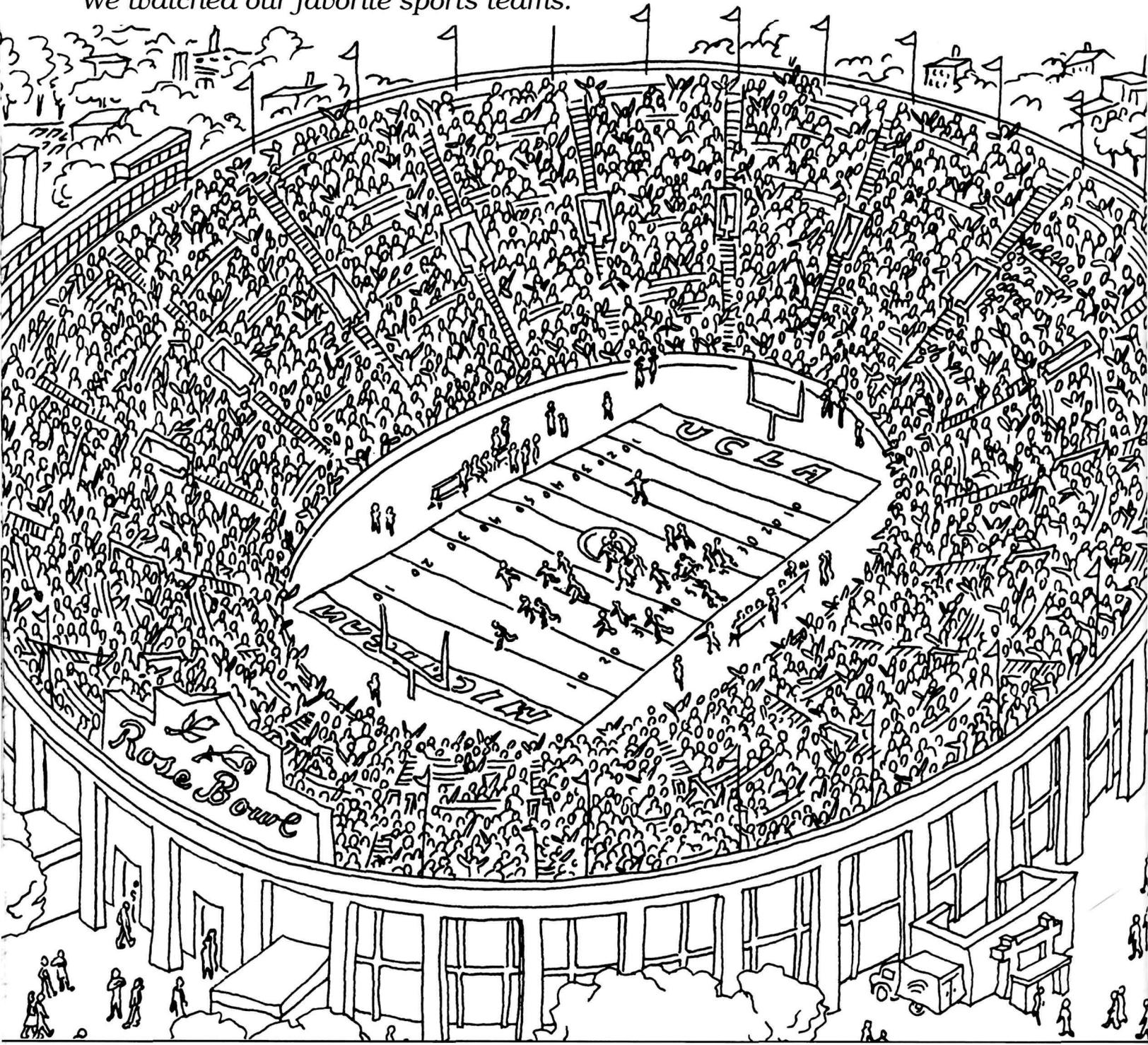


**Mutual  
Musician's  
Association  
Building**

*Kansas City, Missouri*

The Negro Musician's Foundation on Highland Avenue was formed in 1929 by a group of professional musicians who needed rehearsal space. The building also included Local #627 of the American Federation of Musicians Union. Together, the Foundation and the Union became a training ground and source of jobs for many Kansas City musicians from the 1920s to 1940s. Soon, Kansas City, became as important to the national music scene as New York, New Orleans, and Chicago. Several jazz greats of all time were members of this Foundation and Local #627. They include band leaders Count Basie and Jay McShann, singer Julia Lee, trumpeter Hot Lips Page, and saxophonists Hershal Evans, Lester Young, and Charlie "Bird" Parker.

*We watched our favorite sports teams.*

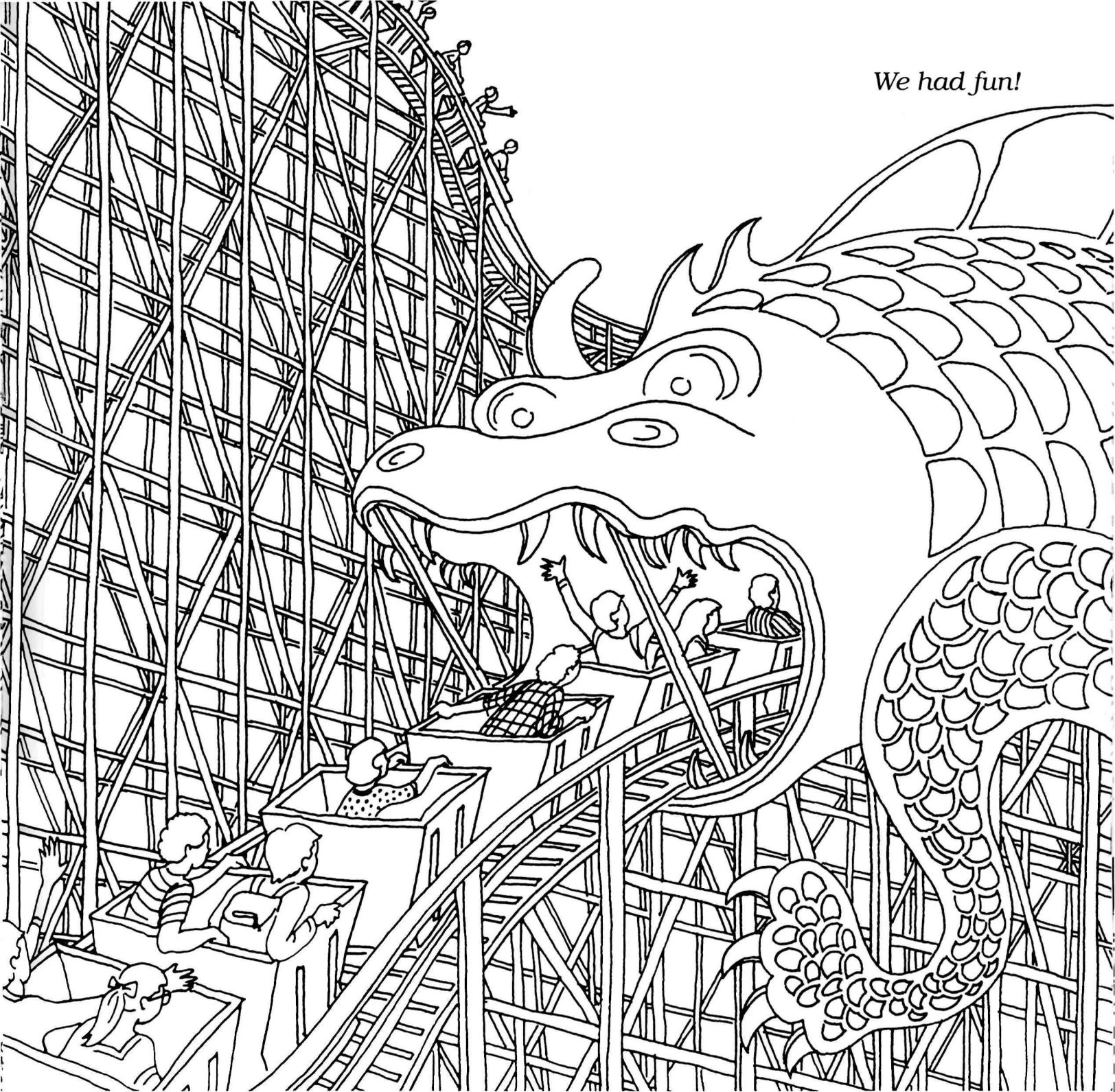


## **Rose Bowl**

*Pasadena, California*

The history of the Rose Bowl goes back to the 1880s when citizens of Pasadena began to celebrate New Year's Day with parades of flower-decked buggies. The parade quickly became a tourist attraction. Automobiles and floats were soon part of the pageant, followed by the football games that are now also one of the traditions of this celebration. The oldest and most famous of the post-season college football bowl games has been held almost every year since 1923. The Rose Bowl is part of the story of how some sports events in our century have grown into national spectacles that are brought into homes all across the country through radio and television.

*We had fun!*

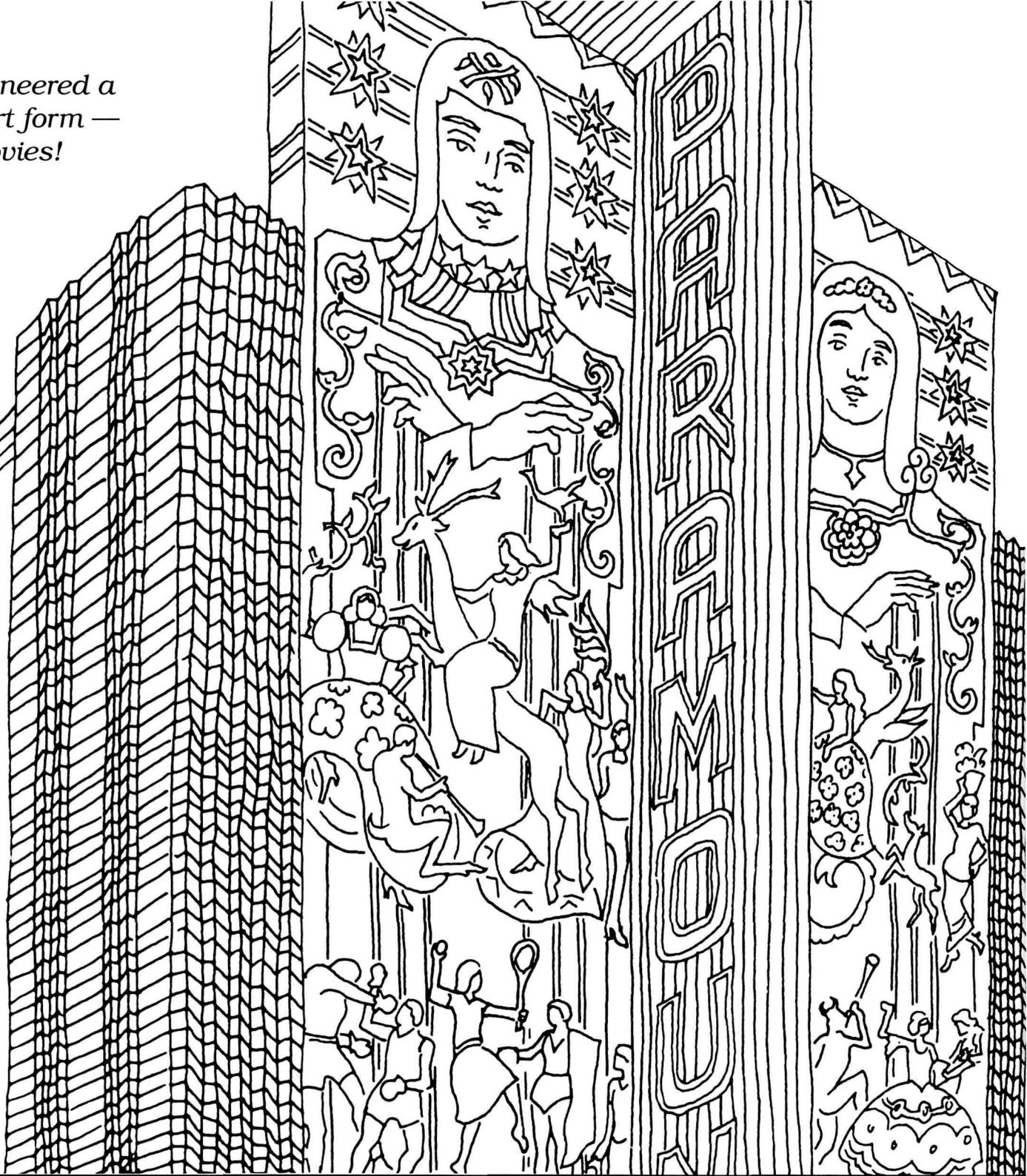


**Playland  
Amusement Park**

*Rye, New York*

When Playland was developed in the 1920s by the Westchester County Park Commission, it was the first totally planned amusement park in the United States. It shows how a local government successfully met recreational needs in response to the popularity of the automobile and suburban development. If you visit Playland today, you can still go on four of the original rides, including the Derby Racer and Dragon Roller Coaster. As part of the roller coaster ride, you are gulped by the angry dragon, then hurled through its body and out the spiny tail!

*We pioneered a  
new art form —  
the movies!*

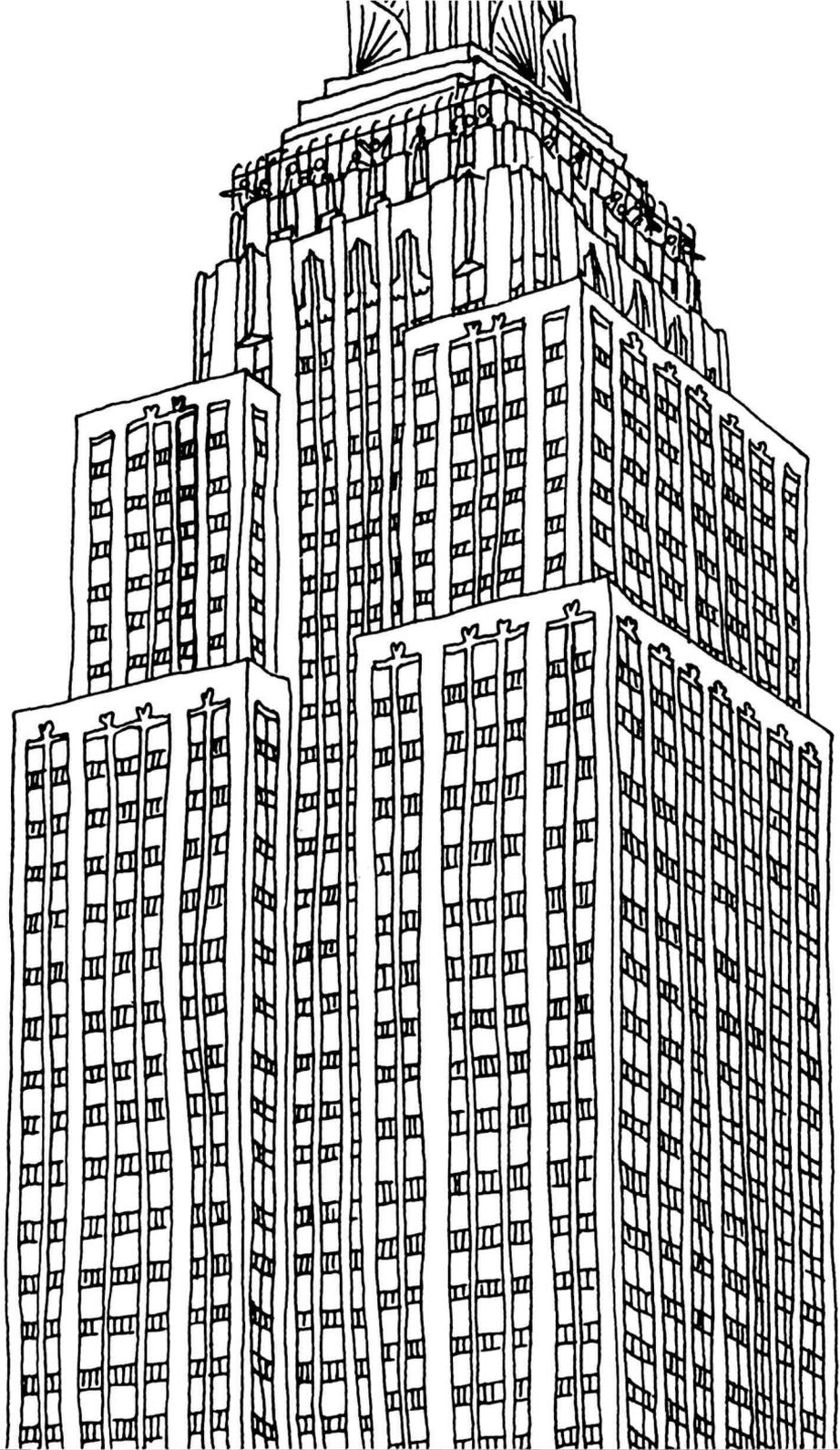


**Paramount  
Theater**

*Oakland, California*

It's hard to imagine that in 1900 there were no movie theaters at all! Then, in less than three decades, America moved from the nickelodeon and silent film to motion pictures with sound! As the movies became very popular, thousands of movie theaters were built across the country. The largest theatres were called "movie palaces," elaborate structures with ornate decorations inside and out. One, the Paramount, was built in 1931 as the country was moving toward the Great Depression. Although many theaters failed during the nation's hardest economic times, the Paramount remained open. Today, it is one of the major remaining movie palaces in the United States.

*We built towering  
skyscrapers.*

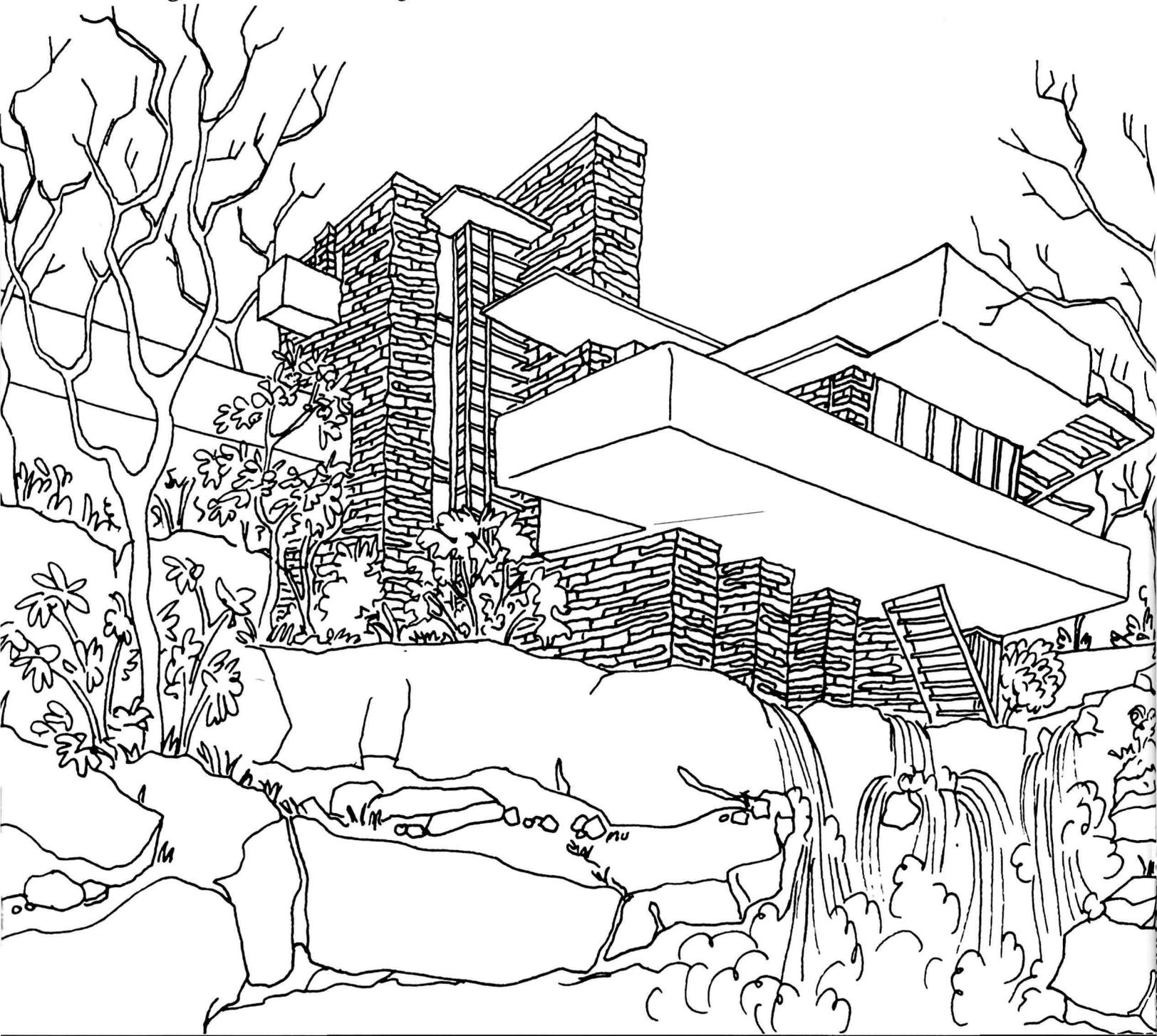


## **Empire State Building**

*New York City, New York*

You may recognize this building because it appears so often on film and television as a symbol of the high-rise buildings of Manhattan's skyline and the growth of New York City. This engineering masterpiece was built between 1930-1931 as an office building. When completed in 1931, it was the tallest building in the world — one-fifth of a mile high! It held this record until the 1970s when the Sears Tower in Chicago and New York's World Trade Center were built. Today, you can ride an elevator to the top of the Empire State Building and see much of New York City from the observation deck.

*We imagined new kinds of houses.*

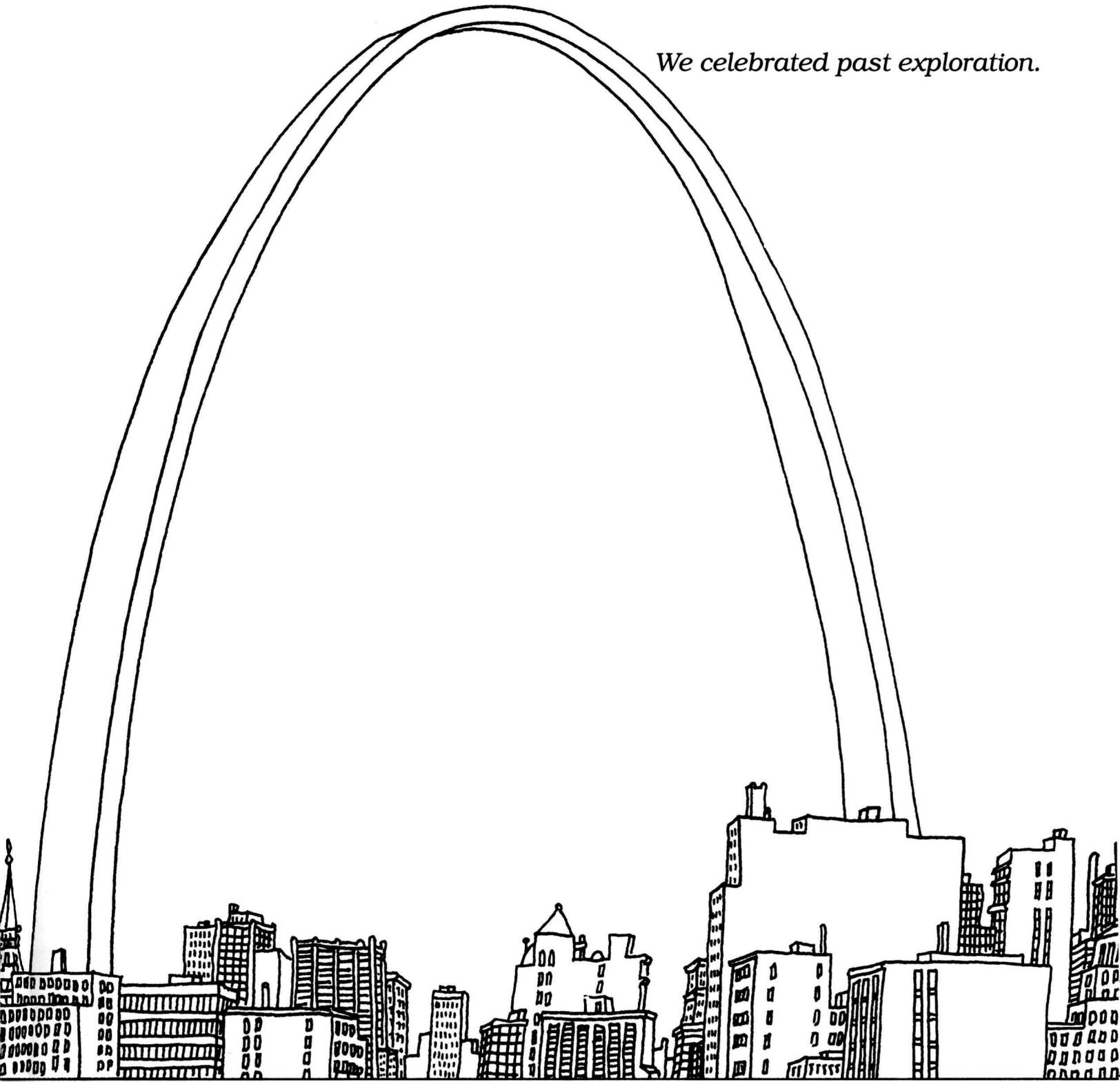


## **Fallingwater**

*Mill Run, Pennsylvania*

Frank Lloyd Wright — the architect who designed this house in 1936 — is a name known throughout the world. In planning Fallingwater, he tried to build a home that would seem like part of its natural surroundings. The house is built above a waterfall, with wing-like balconies that almost seem to float in space over the stream below. Fallingwater has been called the most famous modern house in the world.

*We celebrated past exploration.*



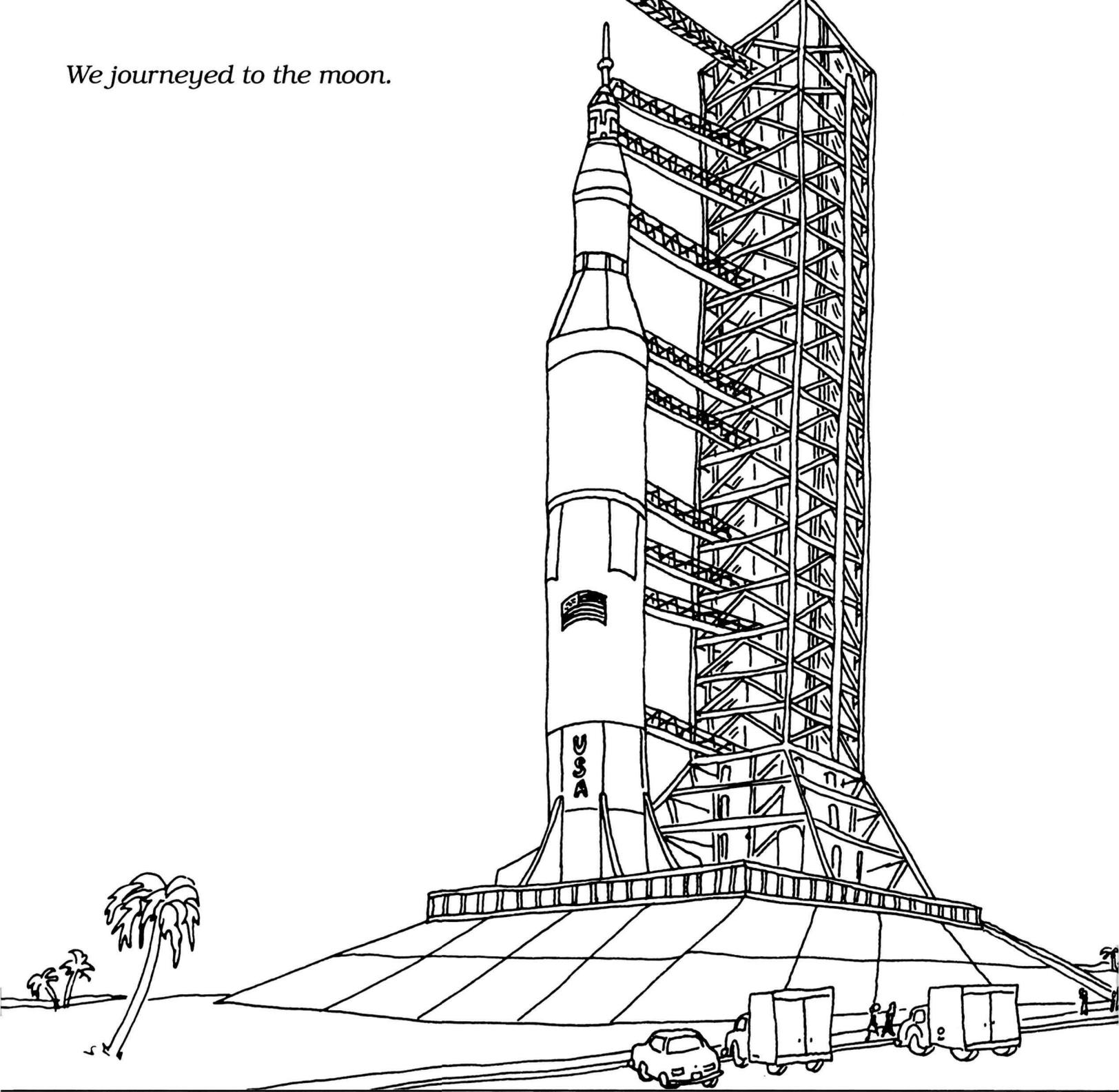
## **Gateway Arch**

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*St. Louis, Missouri*

This is the biggest monument in the United States — larger than the Statue of Liberty or the Washington Monument. The 630 foot high, stainless steel arch was built as a memorial to the expansion of the United States across the North American continent, and especially to the role of Thomas Jefferson in the Louisiana Purchase. The architect who designed it, Eero Saarinen, was born in Finland. Like Frank Lloyd Wright, Saarinen is famous in the history of modern architecture. His 1947 design for the arch still seems daring today. You can ride an elevator-car to the top!

*We journeyed to the moon.*



**Saturn V  
Launch Vehicle**

*Huntsville, Alabama*

On July 16, 1969, when Neil Armstrong, Edwin Aldrin, and Michael Collins took off on our first expedition to the surface of the moon, they were carried by a Saturn V Launch vehicle. Because parts of the launch vehicle were designed to fall away during flight, you can't visit a Saturn V that has actually flown to the moon. At the Alabama Space and Rocket Center, though, you can see a real Saturn V rocket that was used for testing.

We \_\_\_\_\_.

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**Now, it's your turn to select a landmark.**

Using what you have learned in the Landmarks Adventure book, let's see what you choose as a landmark. It should be at least 50 years old and very important to your community, your state, or the entire nation. The historic building, structure, or object you choose might be a place related to science or technology; it might be a place where one person or a group of people met to achieve or change something in our society; it might be a place that highlights some new form of popular entertainment; or it might even be a place that represents a need or shortcoming that should be remembered as a nation. Use this page to name what you think is important enough to be a landmark and identify the city and state. Now draw a picture of your choice and write a paragraph about its history below. Don't forget to complete the "We \_\_\_\_\_" line at the top of the page.

## A GUIDE FOR VISITING NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS IN THE BOOK

- O = Open to the public.** Call a Visitors' Center or Tourist Bureau in the city or town in which the Landmark is located. Ask about hours and any admission fee. Or call the Landmark itself for information.
- A = Appointments** must be made to see this Landmark. Special tours can be set up. Call well ahead to make arrangements. Ask if there is an admission fee.
- R = Restricted to the public.** People's homes are in National Historic Landmark districts. You can't go inside the houses, but you can drive or walk in a historic district, go into a district's museum, or go into shops within a district.
- N = Not open to the public.** Again, you can always drive or walk by and look!

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Adam Thoroughgood House - **O**  
*Virginia Beach, Virginia*

African Meeting House - **O**  
Boston African American National Historic Site (NPS)  
*Boston, Massachusetts*

Balclutha (Sailing Ship) - **O**  
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park (NPS)  
*San Francisco, California*

Bank of Italy (Bank of San Francisco) - **A**  
*San Francisco, California*

Baltimore (Phoenix) Shot Tower - **O**  
*Baltimore, Maryland*

Bell Telephone Laboratories - **N**  
*New York City, New York*  
Visit AT&T's INFOQUEST Center at 550  
*Madison Ave. at 56th Ave., 4th floor*

Berea College, Lincoln Hall - **O**  
*Berea, Kentucky*

Boston Public Garden - **O**  
*Boston, Massachusetts*

Brooklyn Bridge - **O**  
*Manhattan-Brooklyn, New York*

Cleveland Arcade - **O**  
*Cleveland, Ohio*

De Wint House - **O**  
*Tappan, New York*

Eastern State Penitentiary - **N**  
*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

Elfreth's Alley - **R**  
*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

Ellicott City Station - **O**  
*Ellicott City, Maryland*

Empire State Building - **O**  
*New York City, New York*

Fallingwater - **O**  
*Mill Run, Pennsylvania*

Gateway Arch - **O**  
Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (NPS)  
*St. Louis, Missouri*

Hancock Shaker Village - **O**  
*Pittsfield, Massachusetts*

Harrisville Historic District - **R**  
*Harrisville, New Hampshire*

Highland Park Ford Plant - **N**  
*Detroit, Michigan.*  
*Instead, visit the Edison Institute (Henry Ford Museum) in Dearborn, Michigan*

Independence Rock - **O**  
*Casper, Wyoming*

Little Tokyo Historic District - **R**  
*San Pedro, California*

Lowell Observatory - **O**  
*Flagstaff, Arizona*

Lucy the Margate Elephant - **O**  
*Margate City, New Jersey*

Maria and Pietro Botto House - **O**  
*Haledon, New Jersey*

Mark Twain House - **O**  
*Hartford, Connecticut*

Melrose Plantation (Yucca)  
'African House' - **O**  
*Melrose, Louisiana*

Michter's (Bomberger's) Distillery - **N**  
*Shaeffertown, Pennsylvania*

Mutual Musician's Association  
Building - **N**  
*Kansas City, Missouri*

Octagon House (The Octagon) - **O**  
*Washington, D.C.*

Old South Meeting House - **O**  
Boston National Historical Park (NPS)  
*Boston, Massachusetts*

Paramount Theater - **O**  
*Oakland, California*

Parlange Plantation House - **A**  
*Mix vicinity, Louisiana*

Pictograph Cave - **O**  
*Billings, Montana*

Playland Amusement Park - **O**  
*Rye, New York*

Rafael Gonzales House - **R**  
*Santa Barbara, California*

Rose Bowl - **A**  
*Pasadena, California*

Saturn V Launch Vehicle - **O**  
*Huntsville, Alabama*

Susan B. Anthony House - **O**  
*Rochester, New York*

Taos Pueblo - **R**  
*Taos, New Mexico*

The Wo Hing Society Temple - **O**  
*Lahaina, Island of Maui, Hawaii*

Upper Green River Rendezvous Site - **O**  
*(Visit Pinedale, Wyoming the second weekend in July to see a dramatic re-enactment of the Rendezvous)*

U.S. Capitol - **O**  
*Washington, D.C.*

## Helping to Save Landmarks

Over 80% of America's National Historic Landmarks are in good shape. But some others need help if they are to survive. Landmarks are threatened in many ways. For example, even though an owner may want to preserve the Landmark, sometimes the costs are too high. In addition, a Landmark may become damaged by fire, floods, or vandalism. Or someone may want to tear a Landmark down to construct a new building in its place. These are just a few of the reasons that Landmarks become threatened or endangered.

The National Park Service gives free guidance to National Historic Landmark owners through its publications and administers a program that provides Federal tax credits for the rehabilitation of income-producing historic buildings. The National Park Service experts may also visit Landmarks to answer questions about preservation care. This kind of cooperation between the federal government and private citizens is key to the success of caring for our Landmarks.

Are you interested in learning more about National Historic Landmarks or how to take care of them? Information can be obtained through our websites at [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps) and [www.nps.gov/history/nhl/](http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/)

To request a catalog of National Park Service publications on the care of historic buildings email us at <NPS\_HPS-info@nps.gov> or write Technical Preservation Services-2255, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

ISBN 978-0-16-081138-8



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The Adventure Book takes you through time and across the country to 43 National Historic Landmarks in all — special places that show who “we the people” are, where we came from, what we built, what we think, what we’ve done, how we’ve been spending our leisure time and our money, and even what we’ve tried to change or improve. Beginning with a prehistoric cave painting, you move forward chronologically right up to our country’s important expedition to the moon in 1969. A lot of important history is covered along the way, but most of all, you’re bound to have fun on this trip.

***Kay Weeks** is a National Park Service professional based in Washington, D.C. who has authored and edited numerous articles, bulletins, and books on preservation topics over the years. A published poet, she characterizes this first excursion into the area of children’s books as “great fun.” Kay Weeks lives in Columbia, Maryland.*

***Roxie Munro**’s drawings take children, parents, and teachers alike on a fascinating trip through time. Ms. Munro has published several other books for children, including **The Inside–Outside Book of New York City** (New York Times Ten Best Illustrated and Time Magazine’s Best Children’s Book List for 1985); **Blimps**, 1989 (Times Best Children’s Books of 1989); **The Inside–Outside Book of London**, 1989; and, **The Inside–Outside Book of Paris**, 1992.*