Established in 1818, Sandusky was planned and laid out like a typical New England waterfront town, with a center square surrounded by houses, civic buildings, churches, and shops.

Originally surveyed by a Master Mason, the Masonic symbol of the compass and square were superimposed upon a simple city grid. This makes Sandusky the only city in the world originally laid out on Masonic symbols.

Our central waterfront district boasts one of the most beautiful collections of historic architecture in the Midwest, as well as having the largest collection of limestone buildings in Ohio. They are erected in every different Victorian style popular during the 19th century with many buildings being found on the National Register of Historic Places.
1. G. A. Boeckling Bldg.
103-105 W. Shoreline Dr. (1928)
This flamboyant building served as winter offices for the Cedar Point Resort Company. Note the aquatic symbols above the windows. NR

2. Hinde & Dauch Factory
401 W. Shoreline Dr. (1918)
This was the main manufacturing plant for the company which revolutionized the shipping box industry with the introduction of corrugated boxes. NR

3. Hotel Rieger
232 Jackson St. (1911)
This terra cotta and brick building was Sandusky’s first “fireproof” hotel. When built, owners boasted that the entire building was constructed and supplied by local industry. NR

4. Third National Bank
220 W. Market St. (1914)
The Neo-Classic structure was designed by Henry Millott, a Sandusky architect. It served as the bank building for one of Sandusky’s leading financial institutions. NR

5. Star Journal Building
314 W. Market St. (1921)
Now housing the Sandusky Register, this early 20th century building was constructed with stained glass windows depicting the history of printing. These windows, designed by R. Tolland Wright, can be seen in the lobby. The presses can be viewed through windows in the rear building.

6. Old First Church
625 Jackson St. (1853-1855)
This Romanesque Revival style limestone building is a Presbyterian church. The rose window with tracery by R. Tolland Wright was added in 1926-1927. NR

231-237 W. Washington Row (1889)
It formerly housed shops and a fraternal organization which traced its roots to 18th century England. NR

8. Lucas Beecher House
215 W. Washington Row (1847-1848)
This Greek Revival house was a station on the Underground Railroad, preceding the Civil War. NR

9. United States Post Office
W. Washington at Jackson St. (1925-1927)
The Neo-Classic style building is built on the highest point in Sandusky, 603 feet above sea level. Now it’s the Merry-Go-Round Museum. NR

10. Erie County Court House
Washington Park (1874)
Formerly a Second Empire style building, the court house was “modernized” as a WPA project in the 1930’s.

11. Erie County Jail
204 W. Adams St. (1883)
This Eastlake building was constructed by the Feick brothers, Philip, Adam and George. Through the first part of the 20th century, it also served as the sheriff’s residence. NR

12. Carnegie Library
W. Adams St. at Columbus Ave. (1901)
Albert D’Oench and Joseph W. Yost designed this Second Romanesque Revival building with its rich detailing. The interior, recently remodeled, illustrates the splendid adoptability of the building for modern usage. Now 11 and 12 have been skillfully combined. NR
13. Emmanuel Church
334 Columbus Ave. (1866)
It houses Sandusky’s oldest German Protestant congregation. The rounded windows show a Romanesque Revival influence. NR

14. Eleutheros Cooke Duplex
106-108 E. Adams St. (1849)
Always a duplex, this house was built as investment property by Cooke. The dwelling combines Federal parapet ends, a Greek Revival door, and an Italianate porch for a pleasing effect. NR

The older section, on the north, served as a high school until the erection of the southern building before World War I. Then it was incorporated into the newer structure. The top floor and the towers were removed from the older section in the late 1970’s. The present high school is at 2130 Hayes Ave. NR

16. First Church of Christ Scientist
128 E. Adams St. (1922-1924)
This Neo-Classic building is original throughout. It now is the home of Emmanuel Temple, a Pentecostal congregation. NR

17. Lester Hubbard House
134 E. Adams St. (1852)
This Italianate style dwelling originally housed an early Sandusky banker and merchant. It is recognized in an 1854 lithograph of the community now in the Follett House. NR

18. Oran Follett House
404 Wayne St. (1834-1837)
This is considered one of the outstanding Greek Revival mansions in Ohio. Follett was active in the publishing and political history of the state. The house is now a museum open at the times posted. NR

19. J. O. Moss House
414 Wayne St. (1872)
This impressive Italianate mansion is the second of the three mansions on the block which create a National Register Historic District. The building now houses lawyer’s offices. NR

20. Augustus H. Moss House
428 Wayne St. (1842)
This Gothic Revival house along with its two neighbors to the north are examples of three of the Victorian era’s most important architectural styles. This is the only one which remains a private home. NR

21. Ebenezer Lane House
318 Huron Ave. (1853)
This Italianate has an above ground basement, typical of the area. Bedrock limestone is only about 12-18 inches below the soil and provides the foundation for the house. NR

22. Grace Church
315 Wayne St. (1835-1843)
Rounded openings classify this as Romanesque Revival. The Episcopal congregation made several changes throughout the years including the addition of transepts and two towers. One tower was removed and a new top was added to the other. NR

23. Masonic Temple
302 Wayne St. (1889-1890)
This lodge was charted in 1819 and the first master, Hector Kilbourne, platted the city. A 1943 fire in the Second Romanesque Revival building resulted in changes to the roof line. NR

24. Lea Block
174-186 E. Market St. (1895)
This Second Romanesque Revival building has shops on the first floor. The second floor contained offices, and a ballroom occupied the third floor. NR

25. Fisher Hall
163-165 E. Water St. (1866)
When the railroad tracks ran along the waterfront, this served as an express office. A theater was on the second floor of the Second Empire style building. NR

26. William Robertson Wholesale Grocery
149 E. Water St. (1868)
For the longest period of its history, this High Victorian structure served as a granary, operated as an outlet for Gallagher’s Mill in Venice. NR

27. Reber Block
133-143 E. Water St. (1852)
All the buildings in the National Register Historic District have cast iron posts at the street floor level. This is located at the site of the first frame building in Sandusky. NR

28. Weeden-Reber Building
127-131 E. Water St. (c. 1853)
This Italianate style building had been a sheet metal shop for almost eighty years. A variety of other businesses have occupied the other portion. NR

29. Biemiller Building
121-125 E. Water St. (1868)
Italianate brackets along the roof line are a decorative touch. The building served as shops and was a long time hotel. NR
30. Phoenix Building
109-119 E. Water St. (c. 1840)
This vernacular building had shops on the first floor. A hall on one of the upper floors could seat as many as 600 people. NR

31. Post, Lewis & Radcliffe Building
E. Water St. at Columbus Ave. (1866)
A grocery was here, as well as a photography studio. The original façade was Romanesque Revival. NR

32. Graham Drug Store
102 Columbus Ave. (1868)
This Second Empire building was a drug store until 1926. This limestone building is faced with sandstone. NR

33. Frank Schnaitter Tailoring Co.
104-106 Columbus Ave. (1873-1874)
This Victorian functional building is also limestone faced with sandstone. NR

34. Women's Building
110 Columbus Ave. (1873-1874)
First offices and shops, this was the building which, between 1913 and 1921, served women and children as a resting place while male members of their families conducted business. NR

35. Moss Building
114-124 Columbus Ave. (1861)
The vernacular building has always served as shops. A barber shop has been located here for over seventy-five years. NR

36. Donahue Hardware
126 Columbus Ave. (1853, 1914)
The Moss Brother Bank, a limestone building, acquired a brick façade when it became a hardware store before World War I. NR

37. Star Theatre
136 Columbus Ave. (1914)
The site of Sandusky's first stone house, this was built to be a silent movie theater. NR

38. Union Bank
142 Columbus Ave. (1853)
The mansard roof, which gives the building a Second Empire look, was a modernization of about 1870. NR

39. Cooke Building
154-162 Columbus Ave. (1850, 1863)
The north section is the older part of the building. The large Italianate brackets are an eye-catching feature. NR

40. Stone's Block
202 Columbus Ave. (c. 1870)
This High Victorian style building served as station for the Lake Shore Electric Railway for a time. It was later shops. NR

41. Laurence Building
129-139 W. Market St. (c.1880)
This brick commercial building has always had shops on the ground level and office space above. It was restored in 1978. NR

42. State Theatre
101-109 Columbus Ave. (1928-1929)
A movie palace from the golden age of motion pictures, this was built to be a complete recreation center, with a bowling alley and billiard parlor below. The auditorium has been completely restored. NR

43. Hubbard's Block
101 W. Water St. (1854)
The Romanesque Revival building once housed an art gallery and an architect's design school. It was conceived by Sheldon Smith, prominent 19th century architect. NR

44. Stiles Hubbard Building
115 W. Water St. (1856)
Romanesque Revival in style, the arcaded first floor repeats the arches of the corner building. In the early days it was a grocery, dry goods store, and a hat shop. NR

45. Laurence Cable Building
121 W. Water St. (1868)
This vernacular brick building was a shoe store and grocery. NR

46. Cassedy-West Building
201 W. Water St. (1867, 1884)
This large limestone has Renaissance Revival touches. It served as a hardware store for many years. NR

47. Wildman-Mills Buildings
205-223 W. Water St. (c. 1835)
These are the oldest commercial buildings downtown. During the last part of the 19th century Italianate features were added. NR

48. Freeland T. Barney Building
W. Water St. and Jackson St. (c. 1870, 1892)
Barney was an early merchant. The Romanesque Revival façade was added at the latter date. NR

NR denotes buildings on the National Register of Historic Places.