

## ***City Hall, The Essential Main Street Asset.***

### **A Prominent Main Street City Hall.**

City Hall is the downtown icon. Downtown doesn't seem like downtown without a visible city hall, especially in a small town. City hall represents stability to citizens as they attend hearings, pay utility bills and meet with elected or appointed officials to discuss civic matters. City halls draw people together, downtown.

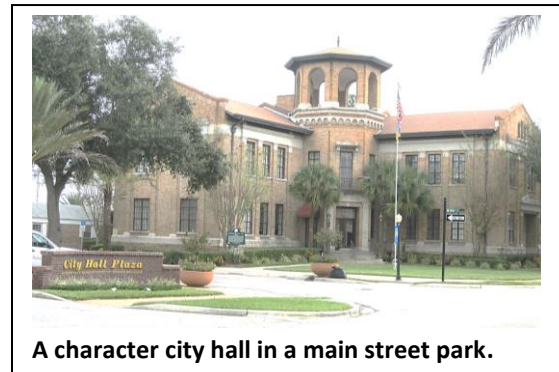
Thankfully we are correcting the many decisions that re-located city hall out of downtown. Many new city halls are being constructed or re-constructed on or near main street. In Central Florida this has happened in Winter Garden, DeLand, Clermont, Tavares, Maitland, Apopka, Kissimmee and St. Cloud.

### **City Halls can be “Smart” Leaders.**

A main street city hall is great for downtown real estate, civic engagement and the character of main street. City government, seated in city hall, can also be an early adopter of smart technologies designed to streamline city administration and the provision of public goods and services. City investment in high-speed broadband internet service on main street sends a powerful message to entrepreneurs and small businesses that downtown is a great business location.

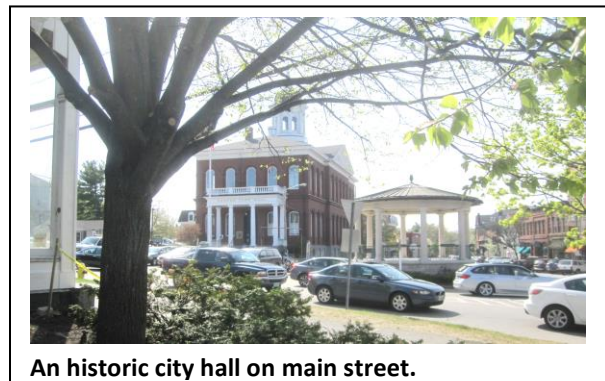
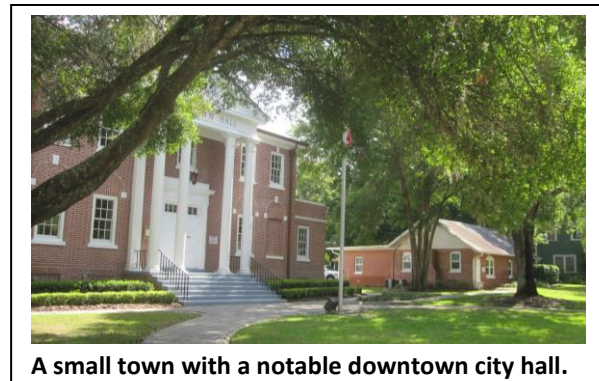
### **Co-Location.**

The City of Haines City FL developed a city hall + public library complex on main street next to their city park. Auburndale's city hall complex is in their central park. City halls create expanded investment energy when built in conjunction with a private office building or a Private-Public Partnership [P3] infill mixed-use development.



### **City Investment Begets Private Investment.**

Energy attracts energy, and investment in downtown attracts more investment in downtown. High technology infrastructure like high-speed broadband internet service is no longer a differentiator, it is a “must have.” It benefits the city and the many businesses on main street seeking a global connection.



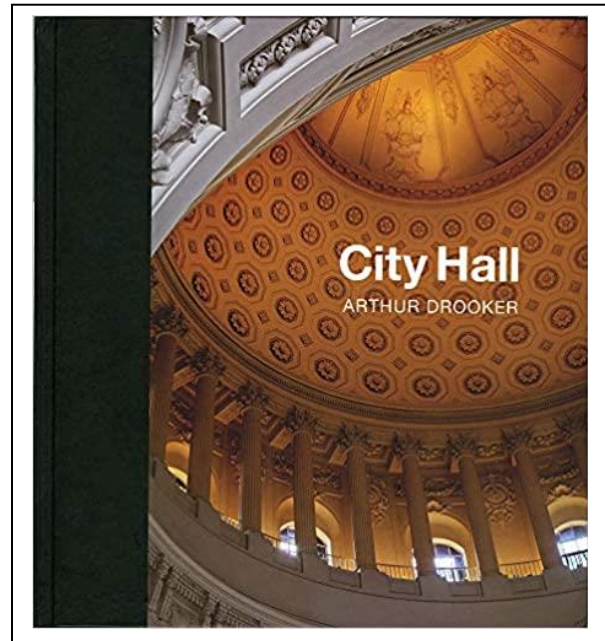
# City Hall:

## Masterpieces of American Civic Architecture.

[Arthur Drooker](#) (Author) Schiffer Publishing, Ltd., Atglen, Pennsylvania, 192 pages, 2021.

**FROM AMAZON...** *City Hall* is the first book to feature striking contemporary images of the most architecturally significant city halls in the United States. This diverse collection includes New York, the oldest; Philadelphia, once the tallest building in the world; and Boston, the first major brutalist building in the United States.

Organized chronologically, the book traces the evolution of American civic architecture from the early 19th century to the present day and represents diverse styles such as Federalist, art deco, and modern. Architects, current and former mayors, historians, and preservationists tell the story about how each city hall came to be, what it says about its city, and why it's important architecturally.



### About the Author

Arthur Drooker is the author and photographer of *American Ruins* (Merrell, 2007), *Lost Worlds: Ruins of the Americas* (ACC, 2011), *Pie Town Revisited* (UNM Press, 2015) and *Conventional Wisdom* (Glitterati, 2016). For more information, please visit [arthurdrooker.com](http://arthurdrooker.com).

Foreword by award-winning historian Douglas Brinkley, professor of history at Rice University, the CNN Presidential Historian, and a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair*.

With a foreword by noted historian Douglas Brinkley and an essay by architectural writer Thomas Mellins, *City Hall* spotlights these often underappreciated civic buildings and affirms architecture's unique power to express democratic ideals and inspire civic engagement.

Bloomberg CityLab [citylab@bloomberg.net](mailto:citylab@bloomberg.net) presented *City Hall* on-line, Mon 2/1/2021 1:46 PM.

**LINK:** <https://www.amazon.com/City-Hall-Masterpieces-American-Architecture/dp/0764360493>

If the City doesn't invest in downtown with their city hall, why should others?