

1. Granville's Bastion
(40 East Bay St.)

Located on the harbor at the prominent southeast corner of the walled city, this brick bastion was also called the "Great Fort". Visually imposing with its compliment of nine guns, Granville's helped to scuttle at least one planned naval invasion of Charles Town in 1706. In 1925 the remains of the bastion were uncovered during the enlargement of the Missroon House (c. 1811). Portions of the bastion walls remain beneath the additions.

2. Colleton's Bastion
(Near 51 Meeting St.)

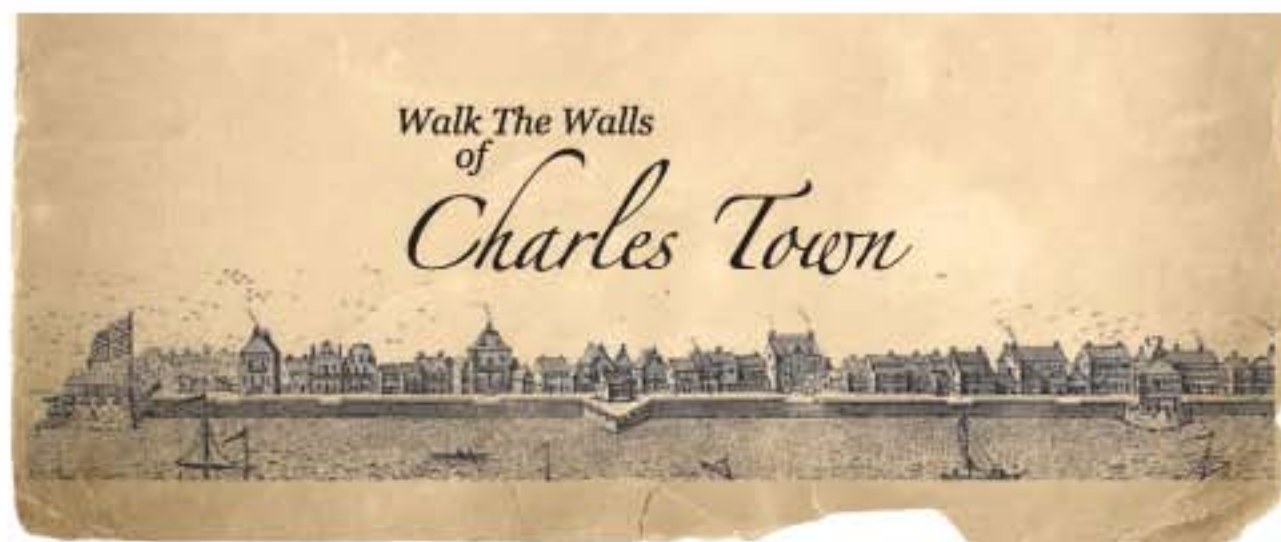
This bastion, now landlocked and located near the site of the Nathaniel Russell House, would have overlooked significant marshland to the south and west. This earthen corner bastion, surrounded by moat, was likely the first of the fortifications to be dismantled for the westward expansion of the town beginning in the 1720s.

3. The Drawbridge
(Corner of Broad and Meeting St.)

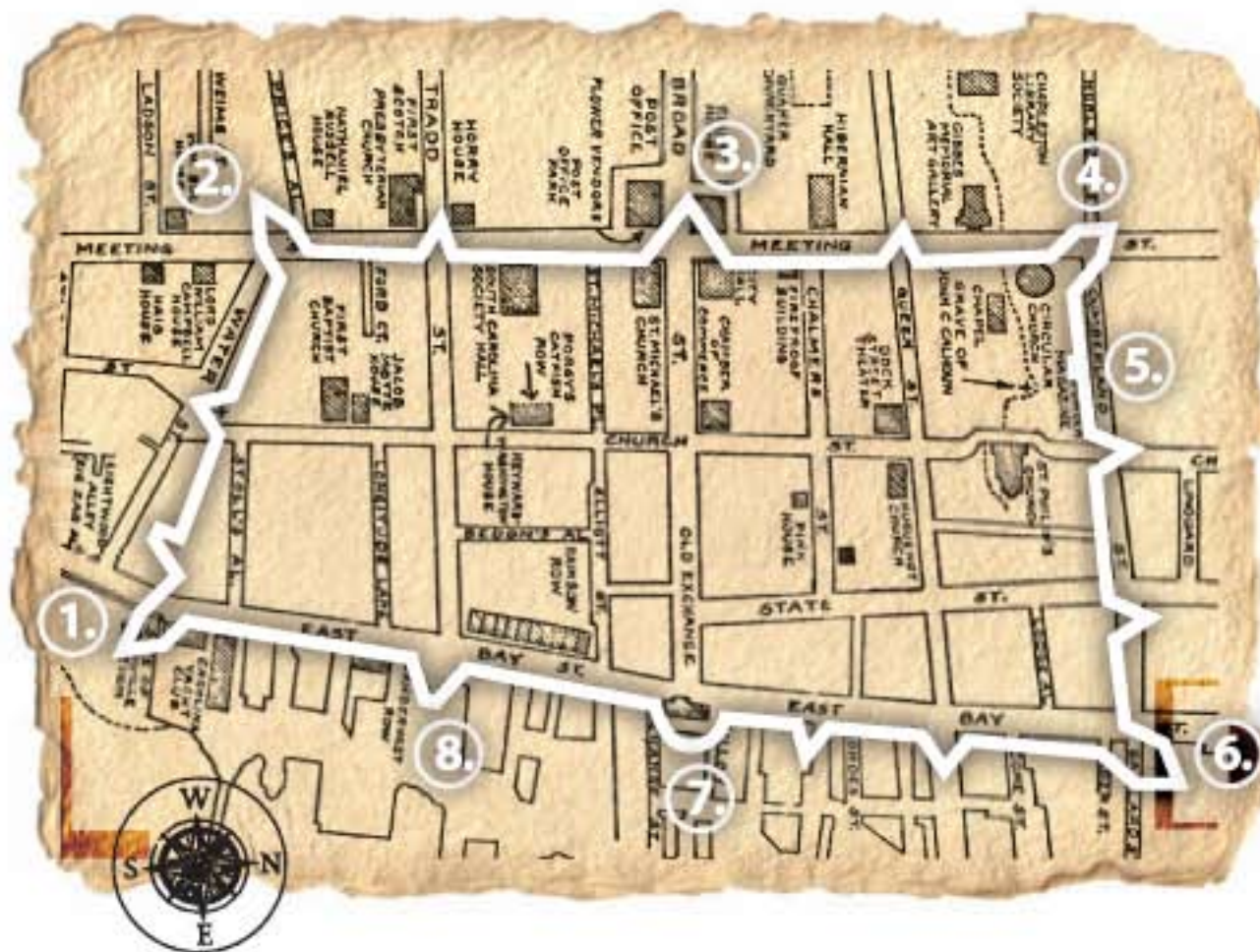
Excavations in 1999 in the basement of the Charleston Co. Courthouse revealed four hand hewn cedar posts set in a diagonal line that are believed to be the only remains of the drawbridge structure. The drawbridge functioned as the land side entrance to the town.

4. Carteret's Bastion
(Corner of Meeting and Cumberland St.)

This earthen bastion was located at the northwest corner of the walled city and was built primarily to withstand attacks by Native Americans, not naval assaults. Because the organic building materials left little evidence in the soil, archaeological excavations have so far been unsuccessful in locating this bastion.



▲ This engraving entitled, "An Exact Prospect of Charles-Town, the Metropolis of South Carolina" was based on a 1739 painting and shows the city's waterfront architecture and fortifications as they appeared just before a devastating fire consumed much of the town.



5. Old Powder Magazine
(21 Cumberland Street)

Constructed circa 1713 to house Charles Town's supply of gun powder, this building is one of the oldest surviving in the Carolinas. It was located just inside the north curtain wall and it played a critical role in the defense of the town. The Powder Magazine is open for tours.

6. Craven's Bastion
(Corner of Market and East Bay St.)

Located at the northeast corner of the walled city, this brick bastion overlooked the creek that eventually became the City Market and fronted the Cooper River. A small building inside the bastion was used to house captured Spanish soldiers. Craven's was the last of the brick defenses to be dismantled.

7. Half Moon Battery
(122 East Bay St.)

This semi-circular brick battery was centrally located along the main harbor side curtain wall and functioned as the formal entrance to the town. The Half-Moon was dismantled by the 1760s for construction of the Exchange Building. Excavations in 1965 revealed the battery in the basement. The Old Exchange Building is the only place that the public is able to view a portion of the walled city.

8. The Redan
(Corner of East Bay St. and S. Adger's Wharf)

This triangular brickwork is one of the three redans located along the main line of colonial fortifications that faced Charleston Harbor. The angled walls of this redan allowed its five mounted cannons to fire at a wider range of potential targets, and thus better protect the city from naval assault. The redan was removed by 1785 to provide access to the city's Lower Market and market wharf. Professional archaeological excavations in 2008 uncovered the north face of the redan.