Herman Melville, famed author of Moby Dick, grew up in the Albany area during the 1830s. He was born in New York City in 1819, but his family moved to Upstate New York during his youth. Unfortunately, Melville’s father died when he was 12, so it is assumed that his time in Albany was not a happy one. He briefly attended the Albany Academies, but had to quit after his family fell into financial despair after his father’s death. Keep reading to discover local sites in Albany with ties to this great American novelist!

First Church in Albany
110 North Pearl St. Albany, NY 12207 | 518-463-4449
Herman’s mother, Maria Gansevoort Melville, was the daughter of General Peter Gansevoort of Albany. The Gansevoort family were pillars of the original First Dutch Reformed Church (located closer to State Street). The historic church is still open today, now located on the corner of North Pearl and Orange Streets. Visitors can view the oldest pulpit in the United States and the Tiffany stained-glass windows.

McGeary’s Irish Pub
4 Clinton Square, Albany NY 12207 | 518-463-1455
Melville’s childhood home in Albany still stands today! It is a pink building in Clinton Square, located to the left of McGeary’s Irish Pub. Take a peek at the historical marker noting 3 Clinton Square, the Melville family home from 1834-1838. Then, swing into McGeary’s to raise a pint and cheers to Melville!

Hudson River
City of Albany
Who knows? Maybe the Hudson River provided a touch of inspiration for some of Melville’s future writings. Let the Hudson River inspire you! Hop in an Upstate Kayak Rental and explore the shores of the river. Take a relaxing stroll down the scenic paths at the Corning Preserve. Or, pedal along the river on a CDPHP! Cycle, Albany’s bike-sharing program.

**“White Whale Wednesdays” Book Club**

19 Quackenbush Square, Albany NY 12207 | 518-465-0876

To celebrate Melville's 200th birthday, Historic Albany Foundation, Discover Albany and the NYS Writers Institute are hosting a Moby Dick Book Club at the Albany Pump Station. All are welcome for a fun discussion of the American classic on White Whale Wednesdays!

April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14 & September 11 | Price: $5 HAF Members & $10 General Public (Per Night).

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**Contact our team!**

**Jay Cloutier**

Director of Sales

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**Group Friendly Restaurant Options**

- Buca di Beppo
- CH Evans Brewing Co. at the Albany Pump Station
- The Century House
- The City Beer Hall
- Dave and Buster's
- dp's Brasserie
- Druthers Brewing Company
- The Hollow Bar & Kitchen
- Jack's Oyster House
- Lucky Strike Social
- New World Bistro Bar
- Olde English Pub & Pantry
- Recovery Sports Grill
- Warehouse Grill & BBQ

Jay Cloutier will assist in planning an itinerary for your groups, including the perfect hotel and cuisine choices.