

## REFERENCE NOTES FOR TOUR:



As you visit the sites on this year's tour, note that we have included a variety of project types including preservation, rehabilitation, restoration projects and construction. In the world of preservation, each has a slightly different meaning. The National Park Service Technical Preservation Services provides the following definitions:

- **Preservation** focuses on the maintenance and repair of existing historic materials and retention of a property's form as it has evolved over time.
- **Rehabilitation** acknowledges the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining the property's historic character.
- **Restoration** depicts a property at a particular period of time in its history while removing evidence of other periods.
- **Reconstruction** re-creates vanished or non-surviving portions of a property for interpretive purposes.

For more information on these definitions, visit the National Park Service web site at [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/standards\\_guidelines.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/standards_guidelines.htm).

## FLORENCE



### 1 THE FLORENCE MILL - 9120 N. 30 ST.

PROJECT TYPE: Interior Restoration

HISTORY: The mill was originally constructed during the winter of 1846–47 as Mormon pioneers made their trek to new settlements in the west. After more than 150 years, little remains of the original structure beyond a few hand-hewn, pegged timbers; however, its legacy and spirit lives on in Florence. The mill has played an important role in the history of Omaha and the growth of the Florence area in particular. From the time of its construction until the 1980s, the mill remained operational. Still visible inside the mill are original supporting beams that were put in place by Mormon pioneers in 1846. The grain elevator was added in 1915. The mill was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1998 and has been designated as a Nebraska State Historic Site and was a Save America's Treasures Project.

PROJECT: Abandoned for 10 years, when purchased, the mill was filled with 14,000 lbs of dirt, grain, pigeon excrement and spider webs. The owners attended several conferences on historic mills to learn about proper cleaning methods for the wood floors, walls and ceilings, which is an ongoing project. The owners have not altered the interior of the building. Their clean-up efforts, however, have exposed historic signage, wood floors and the 1915 machinery.

## MINNE LUSA NEIGHBORHOOD



### 2 RESIDENCE - 2886 VANE ST.

PROJECT TYPE: Exterior/Interior Preservation

HISTORY: Built in 1918, we believe this beautiful Period Revival home was first occupied by Randall Pollock and Lucy (Harding) Pollock. Mrs. Pollock was president of the Woodman Café. Little is known of Randall Pollock. The house passed through a number of hands over the years, including a church group who used the house for services. The only major alteration to the home over the years was a kitchen upgrade in the 1950s.

PROJECT: The current owners have preserved the interior of this beautiful Period Revival home, which features flanking sun porches on the ends of the first floor and beautiful built-ins. They have even maintained the 1950s kitchen. Restored period furniture completes the look. The exterior is enhanced with a period appropriate Arts and Crafts style garden.

### 3 HENRY B. NEEF RESIDENCE - 2884 IOWA ST.

PROJECT TYPE: Exterior/Interior Preservation

HISTORY: This is the first house in Omaha to be built using steel structure. Constructed in 1929, this eclectic style home was designed by architect Birger Kvenild for Henry B. Neef. Neef was the manager of Gate City Iron Works in Omaha and president of the Stewart-Holland Company of Pittsburgh, Penn. Neef promoted his unique steel framing system for residential homes, arguing that if it were smart and economical to build fireproof commercial buildings, it only made sense to build our homes in the same manner.

PROJECT: The owner bought this house at auction and was also able to buy back several of the light fixtures that had been removed from the house. Many of the other custom features are still intact, including the steel stair, iron gate between the porch and living room and fence surrounding the property. The owner is planning to restore the home as time for projects permit.

### 4 MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH - 7301 N. 28 AVE.

PROJECT TYPE: Exterior Preservation; Interior Rehabilitation

Available at this site:

- Restrooms
- Reserved ticket pick-up
- Neighborhood association information
- Refreshments provided by the Mount Olive Lutheran Church

HISTORY: The original church is relatively young. It was designed by Charles Shaver out of Salina, Kan. Construction began in 1947 and was completed in 1950. The original building included a limited number of classrooms above the entry hall at the back of the church. There is a matching church by the same architect in Fairbury, Neb.

PROJECT: The exterior has been beautifully preserved, while the interior has undergone several rehabilitation projects. In the early 1970s, before the building was considered historic, the congregation gave the church a facelift, painting the austere block walls and updating the woodwork to the then-popular dark stained oak. In the late 1980s, the church needed to expand; this time maintaining the original austere feel of the sanctuary, the dark woodwork of the 1970s and matching the original light fixtures, while rehabilitating the rear of the church for better traffic flow and a larger library.

## NEAR NORTH



### 5 GENERAL CROOK HOUSE MUSEUM - 5730 N. 30 ST. (MCC, FORT OMAHA CAMPUS)

PROJECT TYPE: Exterior Preservation; Interior Restoration

HISTORY: The General George Crook residence was constructed in 1879 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is located on officer's row at Fort Omaha. Fort Omaha was one of six forts built as headquarters in the territories during the westward expansion and settlement of the United States. Headquarters' forts were similar to other western forts in terms of layout and function but had a larger number of barracks and stables and an office building for the general's staff. Each played a significant role in Native American affairs, provided organization and supplies for forts further out and acted as a stabilizing presence for settlers.

Fort Omaha was constructed in 1868 as a place where troops could be wintered and sent out by rail whenever needed. The young city of Omaha recognized the potential for economic growth and provided incentives for the post to be located here. The first buildings were all frame construction and faced inwards around a rectangular parade ground of 30 acres. When post commanders were required to live on the property, construction was switched to brick. The Fort was closed and re-opened several times over the years and each re-opening was accompanied by a building campaign to enable the Fort to better serve the Army's latest needs. Its large number of remaining buildings, including support building such as stables, magazine, storehouse and a hospital, is unusual and adds to the historic integrity of the district as a whole.

PROJECT: The museum is the authentically restored home of General George Crook. The furnishings are from the 1880 Victorian period. Collections at this living history museum include decorative arts, costumes, art and crafts and period furnishings.

Adjoining the museum is the Crook House Victorian Heirloom Garden, which overlooks the majestic parade ground and buildings of historic Fort Omaha. Many of the more than 110 varieties of heirloom flowers, trees and shrubs are native to Nebraska. Some plants were originally carried here on wagon trains or were available by mail order catalog in the 1880s.

### 6 I.E. BURDICK RESIDENCE - 1618 EMMET ST.

PROJECT TYPE: Exterior/Interior Preservation/Restoration

HISTORY: I.E. Burdick was the owner, builder and architect for both this house and the house next door at 1614 Emmett. Built in 1890, it is one of four houses known to be designed by him. Burdick practiced architecture in Omaha until 1905.

PROJECT: The owners have completely brought this 1890 house back to life in eight years. They bought it when it was boarded up for \$7,000 and have redone the exterior, main and upper levels. Work included exterior restoration of the main body of the house, restoration of the interior woodwork and plaster and woodwork repair. They also had their interior front stair stolen, found it and had it reinstalled. Their current project is to rebuild the wraparound porch on the exterior and finish some interior millwork.

### 7 CARETAKER'S HOUSE & CHAPEL PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY - 3203 PARKER ST.

PROJECT TYPE: Exterior Restoration; Interior Preservation/Rehabilitation

HISTORY: The Prospect Hill Caretaker's House is located on the grounds of Omaha's oldest documented cemetery. Designed by local architect Frederick A. Henninger in 1917, the two-story house is an example of eclectic revival. Serving the cemetery as a chapel, office and residence, the house was listed as a local historic landmark in 1977. On Memorial Day in 1984, a new flag pole was dedicated for the grounds. Congressman Hal Daub raised a flag that had flown over the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

PROJECT: As the house aged into the 1990s, the existing red clay tile roof was in desperate need of repair. Prospect Hill received a grant to fully restore the roof in 2000. In accordance with preservation standards, each tile was carefully removed and re-installed over a new roof underlayment. In 1989, the chapel window, long boarded up, was replaced with a new leaded glass sash. The brick exterior walls have been recently tuck pointed, and routine repair work is ongoing. Future plans for capital improvements are being established to replace the exterior storm windows with authentic wood storm sashes, and a major mechanical and electrical overhaul is needed. The cemetery also plans to remodel the two main level restrooms as a part of the project.

## WINDSHIELD SURVEY



- A Historic Florence; including the Masonic Temple, 8223 N. 30th St. Florence Building, 87021 N. 30th St. and Price Building, 8607 N. 30th St.
- B Idledale Lane; Classic Ranches of the 1950s, located between 28th St. and Weber Street
- C The Prettiest Mile; Florence Boulevard between Read Street and Himebaugh Avenue
- D The Miller Park Pavilion, Miller Park Drive and 27th Avenue
- E Site of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition; between Florence Boulevard and 14th Avenue and Ames Avenue and Locust St. For more information, see [www.omahapubliclibrary.org/transmiss](http://www.omahapubliclibrary.org/transmiss).
- F Sacred Heart Catholic Church; 2207 Wirth St.
- G Omaha Star Building; 2216 N. 24th St.; home of Nebraska's largest African American newspaper [www.omahastarinc.com](http://www.omahastarinc.com).
- H Sherman Apartment Building; 2501 N. 16th St.; constructed in 1897



2008

# HISTORIC Restoration TOUR

SUNDAY, OCT. 19  
1–5 P.M.



Miller Park Pavilion, Omaha, Neb.  
From the collections of the Omaha Public Library (Post 205-117)

TOUR MAP & TICKET  
\$10 OR 2 FOR \$15

Sponsored by

METROPOLITAN  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION

Hosted by  
Miller Park Minne Lusa  
Neighborhood Association



4 AIA CEUs for those that sign  
in at all 7 open sites

Tours organized by



Landmarks, Inc.  
ESTABLISHED 1968



## RULES AND GUIDELINES



- Admission is by ticket only, no exceptions.
- Infants and all children under seven are not permitted.
- Be aware that the homes are private homes and therefore generally not accessible. Needs of those with mobility impairments will be accommodated within the physical limits of the buildings and the availability of tour volunteers to provide assistance.
- Do not block driveways.
- Remove your shoes before entering the building.
- Respect the owner's property. If a door is shut, do not open it. If a drawer is closed, do not open it.
- No smoking, eating or drinking while on private property.
- No photography.
- No pets.
- Do not use restrooms in private homes. (Restrooms for patrons are available at designated locations.)

In consideration of the permission granted the tour participant to enter the buildings and premises on the tour, the tour participant hereby agrees to enter the tour buildings and premises at his or her own risk and hereby releases the respective property owner and Landmarks, Inc. from any and all claims or causes of action due to injury to person or property that may arise during the tour participant's presence on the tour buildings and premises. The tour participant further agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each property owner from any and all liability in the event of any injuries sustained or accidents occurring in the buildings or on premises.

