



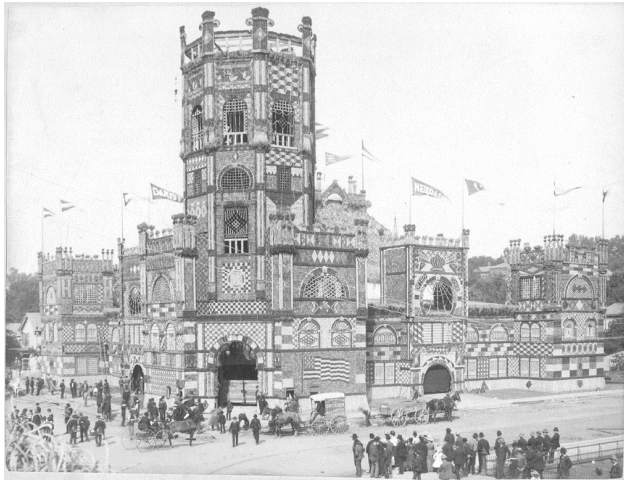
3. 1887 Corn Palace



4. Kemp Building



5. Commerce Building



9. 1888 Corn Palace



9. 1889 Corn Palace



9. 1890 Corn Palace



9. 1891 Corn Palace



11. Government Corner, 1940s

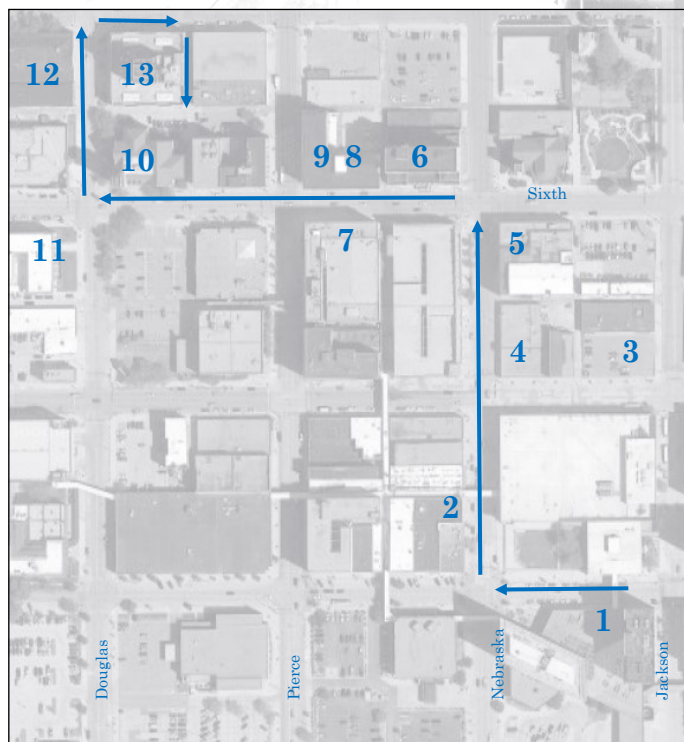


12. Municipal Auditorium

Sioux City Downtown Walking Tour

Start at #1

4th and Jackson (622 4th Street)



Architectural Scavenger Hunt corresponds to walking tour route.

See photo page for more detail on some of these buildings, including images of structures that are no longer standing.

Prepared by the Sioux City Public Museum, © 2020

- Badgerow Building** 1933 Art Deco style National Register of Historic Places
Features stylized Native American busts along cornice and elaborate geometric patterns on 2nd floor windows. Sioux City's largest and finest office building for several decades. Named one of Iowa's top 100 buildings in 2004.
- Martin Department Store Annex** 1902 Beaux Arts style National Register
One of two remaining Beaux Arts buildings in downtown. Features terra cotta and glazed brick. Constructed as an annex to the T.S. Martin Department Store, the building later housed the Cameo Theater (movie theater) from 1969 to 1989.
- 1887 Corn Palace** October 3-8 1887
20,000 bushels of grain were used to decorate this structure which was visited by 140,000 people, including President Grover Cleveland. The Goldie Roller skating rink was operated on the same site from 1884-87.
- Kemp Building** Built in the late 1910s Retail/Commercial Style
First known as the Kemp Building, later home to a variety of businesses including the Ryal Miller Chevrolet Company (later evolved to become Knoepfler Chevrolet), tire sales, bakery, café, grocery store and the Yellow Cab Company.
- Motor Mart/Commerce Building** 1912 Chicago School style National Register
Originally constructed as Ralph Bennet's Motor Mart Building, it included a freight elevator to lift automobiles. In 1919 it housed the Chamber of Commerce. The peaked penthouse was built in 1921 as Tom Archer's Roof Garden (dance club).
- Warrior Hotel** 1930 Art Deco style National Register of Historic Places
Features terra cotta pieces including birds, fruit and more. Has been owned by several different hotel chains and was closed from 1972—2000. Famous guests include Presidents John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon.
- Orpheum Theatre** 1927 Art Deco style National Register of Historic Places
Led by local businessman, Arthur Sanford, the theatre was part of the Orpheum Circuit and one of the largest theatres in Iowa at the time. In the 1970s and 80s it was turned into a movie theater, then restored and reopened in 2001.
- Davidson Building** 1913 Sullivanesque/Commercial Style National Register
Local department store owners Ben and Dave Davidson built the city's first office building which was designed by local architect William L. Steele. Features terra cotta panels, lion heads and the letter "D" with an elaborate cornice.
- 1888—1891 Corn Palace** September—October 1888-1891 Various styles
The Sioux City Corn Palaces began as a way to promote the city and the region's bountiful harvests and a new palace was built each year from 1887-1891. The structures from 1888-1891 were all located at 6th and Pierce Streets. The Corn Palace festivals included concerts, parades, sporting activities, speeches, business booths and specially decorated trains. After each two-week festival the Corn Palaces were torn down. Due to financial downturn the festival was canceled in 1892.
- City Hall** 1895; Rebuilt in 1997 Richardsonian Romanesque
Operated as the Federal Building and Post Office from 1895 until 1933. Became City hall in 1948. The structure was completely rebuilt in the 1990s using the original limestone blocks. Features heavy rough cut-stone, arches and two gargoyles.
- Federal Building** 1933 Art Deco/Stripped Classical style National Register
Originally built to house a post office and federal offices, it currently provides space for Senate offices, U.S. District Court and other federal agencies. Features granite base and limestone, with stylized Egyptian motifs such as papyrus columns.
- Municipal Auditorium** 1909 Renaissance Revival style
Used as an auditorium until 1947 when it became the Tomba Ballroom. From 1956 to 2017 it housed KCAU-TV, Western Iowa's first television station. Features formal arches, flat roof and symmetrical façade.
- Woodbury County Courthouse** 1918 Prairie Style National Historic Landmark
The courthouse is seen as one of the finest examples of Prairie School buildings in the United States. Designed by George Elmslie in conjunction with William Steele, it features a rotunda, locally produced roman-style brick with granite, metal grillwork, and terra cotta elements. The terra cotta sculptures throughout the structure were designed by Alfonso Iannelli.