

PRINCETON HISTORIC HOME WALKING TOUR

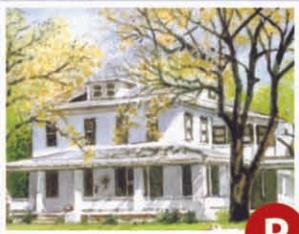
Historic
PRINCETON!



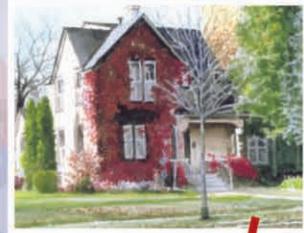
C



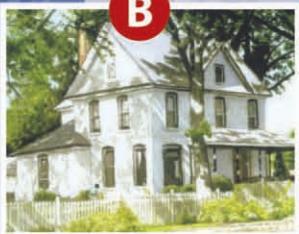
D



P



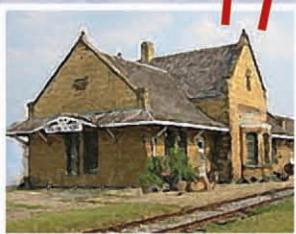
I



B

A

Q



O

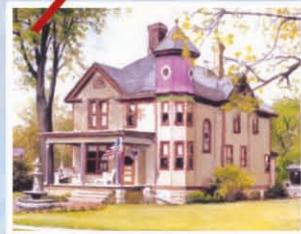


N



S 4th St

M



N 3rd St

12th Ave N

10th Ave N

1st St

6th Ave S

S 2nd St

9th Ave S

8th Ave S

S 2nd St

7th Ave S

S 3rd St

2.3 miles

MINNESOTA'S
VISION
A Better State of Health

Statewide Health Improvement Program | SHIP

PRINCETON HISTORIC HOME WALKING TOUR

This walk will take you 2.3 miles and past 15 prominent homes rich with history in Princeton. You will start and finish at the Princeton Depot.

A & Q) Great Northern Depot - 101 10th Ave. S., was constructed in 1902 at a cost of \$20,000 even though regular train service had been established since late 1886. Separate men's and women's waiting rooms, ample storage space, and Jacobean styling led it to be referred to as the grandest depot between Duluth and the Twin Cities at that time.

B) Briggs/Milbrath house - 1208 1st St., was built by Lemuel S. Briggs, born in 1862. He was a school teacher, Judge of Probate, Clerk of Court and Postmaster the time of his death in 1913. His daughter, Ruth, born in Oct. 1896 and married Henry Milbrath in 1920.

C) Hunt house - 912 W. Branch St., was owned by Hosa J. Hunt, born in 1873. He married Florence Perrault in 1908 and had two daughters. Mr. Hunt had a farm near Green Lake but due to ill health he quit farming. One daughter, Percis married William Randolph Botton in 1935 and the other daughter, Flossie lived from 1912 – 1936.

D) Jump House - 802 N. 3rd St., was owned by Clinton Leigh Jump, born in 1877. He lived in Nebraska and Kansas before moving to Minnesota in 1913. In 1932, he returned to Princeton and was Assistant Cashier for the Security State Bank for 8 years. He organized a group of young men called the "Corn Club" a forerunner of the Future Farmers of America. He married Winnie Evelyn Atkins in 1901 and they had 8 children.

E) McRae house - 301 6th Ave S., was built in 1912 by Dr. Duncan Angus McRae, born in 1877 in Moose Creek, Ontario, Canada. He left Canada in 1879 with his family and filed a claim in Kansas. Due to the drought, the family was discouraged and left for Minnesota. Duncan graduated in June 1904 from the University of Minnesota, College of Dentistry. He opened a dental office in the Odd Fellows Building. He married Lena A. Frank in 1909.

F) Berggren house - 306 6th Ave. S., was owned by Sydney E. Berggren, born in 1877 in Canon Falls. He came to Princeton in 1919 and owned a clothing store. He married Lettie Foltz in 1920.

G) Duffy house - 307 6th Ave S., was believed to have been built by Judge Charles & Eva Keith's son, Fred Keith. Fred married Georgia Elmira Campbell. They had two children, Campbell and Charles Keith. Mark and Irene (Carlos) Duffy were married in 1924 and moved to Princeton in 1941. They bought Caley Hardware, which eventually became Duffy's Hardware. They had three kids, Jim, Jerry and Ann Briere.

H) Ward house - 309 7th Ave S., was owned by Daniel J. Ward, born 1889 in Anoka. He married Stella O'Fallon in 1916 and they came to Princeton in 1921.

I) Odegard house - 211 7th Ave. S., was owned by Odin J & Mabel Odegard in 1945. Odin was born in 1895 and Mabel was born in 1896. At 16, O.J. was working taking passengers from the Depot to the Hotel. A passenger asked O.J. if he knew anyone who wanted to sell Ford cars. O.J. said he would and his older brother took care of the paperwork until O.J. was of age. Out of the Odegard children, the five sons all, at one point, owned dealerships in the area; and of the four daughters, all owned clothing stores. Since 1929, O.J. Odegard was the only big

producer of potatoes in this area. On the peat bog, 10 miles NE of this village, he made a phenomenal success of growing potatoes.

J) Bigelow house - 206 8th Ave. S., was owned by Frank C. Bigelow, born in 1898 in Andover, SD. He married Gladys Holmberg who was born in 1900 in Rock Creek and they had two children. Frank was a businessman in Princeton where he owned a Chevrolet Dealership on Main St. He was the Mayor of Princeton from 1939 – 1942 and a veteran of World War I. He died in 1978.

K) Douglas house - 211 8th Ave S., was owned by Ruth Sunshine Douglas born in 1881 and had 4 sisters. Ruth graduated from St. Cloud Teacher's College. She also attended Bemidji State and the University of Southern California. Since 1916 she taught in Isanti, Sherburne, Mille Lacs, and Morrison Counties. She was the County superintendent of schools for many years. Ruth died in 1978.

L) Skahen house - 212 8th Ave. S., was owned by Mr. & Mrs J. J. Skahen who started construction on the house in June of 1906 and it was completed by Christmas. The design of this house, at the time, was considered an exceptionally modern house with an unusual floor plan. The trees were planted before the house was built. After the Skahens sold, the house became a home for the nuns and later a photo studio. It was restored and served as the Oakhurst Bed & Breakfast for a time.

M) Dunn house - 708 S. 4th St., was owned by Robert C. Dunn, born in 1855 in Plumbridge, County Tyrone, Ireland. At 15, he came to America and went to work in Rocky Run, WI. After a year he went to St. Louis, MO and worked in the printing trade until physicians advised him recovery would be best farther north. He became the clerk of Princeton and later the county attorney, despite his not having gone to law school. He

bought out the local paper and changed its name to Princeton Union. He served in the Minnesota House of Representatives for two terms (1911-1914). He married Lydia McKenzie in 1887 and had 2 children, George and Grace. Grace lived in this house until her death in 1965.

N) Gamradt house - 301 9th Ave S., was owned by Max Gamradt, born in 1893 in Michigan. He married Flora Koenig in 1914 and moved to Princeton in 1919. They had 6 children. Max owned and operated the Deep Rock Gas Station with a bulk-oil business in Princeton. Northern Attitudes is now located on the site of his gas station. He died in 1970.

O) Craig/Korman house - 903 S. 2nd St., was built by Joseph Craig about 1893 and later, he had the house next door built for his mother. The houses were of the same floor design, and both still stand. Joseph Craig married Ida M. Zellea in 1881 and they came to Princeton in 1888 where he supervised the building of the mill and operated it for more than 30 years. Julius Korman bought this house from Craig for \$1,000 and he lived in it while he ran the mill for the next 40 years. Julius married Mildred Kimling and they had three children, Grace, Joyce and Buzz.

P) Keith/Johnson house - 900 1st St., was owned by Judge Charles Keith, born in 1851 and came to Princeton in 1873. He became a lawyer and judge of probate for the county. The house was built in 1906 and remains in its original state with wood-paneled entry. The next owner was Anna B. Evens, who married Edward K. Evens and they owned and operated Evens Hardware Store in Princeton. Alfred H. (Capt) Johnson also owned this house, born in 1879 in Minneapolis. He married Ruth A. Nordstrom in 1920 and they had two children. She died in 1925. He remarried Lillian Wetter in 1927 and had two sons.