



# RESTORE OMAHA

## CONFERENCE, EXHIBITION, AND TOUR

November 5 and 6, 2005  
Mutual of Omaha Dome  
Omaha, Nebraska

Register before October 24 for  
a chance to win a free consultation  
with preservation expert John Leeke!



## If you care about older properties this is the conference for you!

For the past year a group of architects, architectural historians, conservators, and preservation/restoration enthusiasts and home owners in the Omaha community have been working to create an event that will educate residents in all aspects of preservation and restoration. Restore Omaha is now a reality.

### Exhibitors

- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| 2020 Omaha  | Harman Appliance Sales Inc.                            | Midtown Neighborhood Alliance                          | University of Nebraska                 |
| AIA Omaha   | HUD  | Nebraska State Historical Society                      | Medical Center and                     |
| Carpenters' District Council<br>of Kansas City & Vicinity | IBEW Local 22/NECA                                     | Omaha Main Streets                                     | The Nebraska Medical Center            |
| CBS Home/Tim Reeder                                       | Joslyn Castle Institute for<br>Sustainable Communities | Omaha Neighborhood Scan – UNO<br>and the City of Omaha | Well Fargo Bank and                    |
| City of Omaha Planning Dept.                              | Joslyn Castle Neighborhood Assoc.                      | Park East Neighborhood Assoc.                          | Wells Fargo Home Mortgage              |
| Destination Midtown                                       | Koleys Inc.  | Renaissance Roofing Inc.                               | Other contributors include: Facility – |
| Field Club Homeowners League                              | Landmarks Inc.   | Rybin Plumbing & Heating Co.                           | Mutual of Omaha; Web site –            |
| Ford Birthsite Neighborhood Assoc.                        | Lead Safe Omaha Coalition                              | Sunderland Brothers Co.                                | Destination Midtown and donations      |
| Dundee Hardware   | Leo A Daly   | The Bookworm Bookstore                                 | from Mr. and Mrs. Harold W.            |
| Gifford Park Neighborhood Assoc.                          | Metro Omaha Builders Assoc.                            |  | Andersen, McGill Restoration Inc.,     |
|   |  |  | Neighborhood Center for Greater        |
|   |  |  | Omaha and J. Robert Perrin             |
|   |  |  | Architect.                             |

## Saturday, November 5, 2005

8:00 a.m.

### Registration, Refreshments, Exhibits, Bookstore

Refreshments sponsored by IBEW Local #22, Carpenters' District Council of Kansas City & Vicinity and Leo A Daly



LEO A DALY

Local #22

9:00 a.m.

### Bob Yapp—General Assembly Lecture

*Preservation Doesn't Cost—It Pays!*



Nationally known preservation consultant and PBS television host of *About Your House with Bob Yapp*.

Bob will give practical, humorous, and cutting edge advice on the economics of historic preservation. He'll demonstrate why preserving original materials costs less and is more energy efficient than replacing them. Preservation is one of the most vital economic development tools we have. From economic comparisons between rehabs & new construction to strategies you can take to the bank for revitalizing neighborhoods, you'll want to hear Yapp's talk.

Sponsored by Wells Fargo and AIA Omaha



10:30 a.m.

### John Leeke Keynote Address

*The Old-House Mechanic's Manifesto*



A frequent contributor to *Old House Journal* John Leeke grew up in Lincoln, Nebraska and watched his father learn the woodworking trade from Keats Lorenz, an early 20th Century woodcarver and architectural stylist who worked on Nebraska's State Capitol. Leeke now lives in Portland, Maine and gives preservation workshops through his company Historic Home Works.

John Leeke is a mechanic in the old sense of the word: "A skilled craftsman who fixes what breaks and works to keep the house operating properly." He has distilled four decades of working on old houses to give you the low down on what works and what doesn't; when to do it and when to let it go; and who to listen to and who to ignore.

Leeke's presentation is sponsored by Midtown Neighborhood Alliance through grants from Mutual of Omaha and the Omaha Community Foundation's Neighborhood Grant Program provided by the William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation.



**11:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Exhibits & Bookstore/  
Book Signings/ Ask an Expert/Lunch Available for Purchase**

**12:30 p.m.–1:30 p.m. Breakout Session 1**



- A. Paint It Right.** Bob Yapp walks through the myths and realities of exterior wood repair and how to achieve affordable, long-term paint jobs.
- B. Maintenance and Repair of Brick.** Learn the best methods to repair and maintain brick structures and why sand blasting, high pressure water washing and machine mortar removal are destructive.
- C. Was All Old Brass Hardware Shiny and Yellow?** Join metals conservator Deborah Long in an exploration of historic metal finishes and learn how to preserve them and reproduce them on replacement hardware and lighting devices.
- D. Historic Plaster.** Learn how to identify, preserve and restore plaster walls. Attendees will be shown how to salvage loose and cracked plaster and how to prepare walls for painting.
- E. The National and Local Historic Register.** What does it mean to have your property listed on a local or National Register? How do you get your property listed? Does Omaha have its own landmark list? Would being listed affect one's rights as a property owner?

**1:40 p.m.–2:40 p.m. Breakout Session 2**



- A. Roof Repair, Maintenance and Replacement.** Learn how to decide whether to keep, repair or replace your historic tile, slate, asbestos, asphalt or wood roof. Professional roofing contractors from Renaissance Roofing will discuss simple maintenance techniques and repairs to help roofs last for years.
- B. Maintenance and Repair of Stone.** Listen to certified British stone conservator Nigel Copsey discuss the maintenance, repair and restoration of masonry structures.
- C. What Style is My House?** Architectural historian Melissa Dirr will illustrate the development of architectural styles in historic homes and businesses in Omaha. She will show the range and diversity in Omaha house styles and will help associate them with a particular style.
- D. 11 Random Rules of Old House Renovation.** For over 13 years Dundee's "Old House Mechanic" Don Browers has shared his old house experiences in a column in Dundee's Neighborhood newsletter. Now we'll all get a chance to learn from Don firsthand.
- E. Historic Windows.** Every year thousands of good wood windows are ripped out of older homes and tossed in the dumpster. Listen to John Leeke to learn how to save yours from this tragic fate.

**2:40 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Afternoon Break/Exhibits & Bookstore**

Refreshments sponsored by IBEW Local #22, Carpenters' District Council of Kansas City & Vicinity and Leo A Daly



LEO A DALY

Local #22

**3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. Breakout Session 3**



- A. Getting Floored.** Bob Yapp used to grind the finish and patina from the wood floors in his historic rehabilitations. Yapp will take the audience step-by-step through a better and often less expensive way to refinish floors.
- B. Choosing Accurate Period Painting Schemes.** Painting experts will show how to analyze early paint layers and choose an historically accurate paint scheme for your home or business.
- C. The Building Envelope.** Architect Jerry Berggren will define the building envelope as a barrier to moisture penetration in an older structure. Learn how to avoid and control mold growth and wood rot by eliminating water infiltration.
- D. Stucco.** Join stucco experts as they give a hands-on demonstration of stucco repair techniques and discuss the materials and tools needed for restoring older stucco.
- E. Local, State and Federal Incentives for Historic Preservation.** Can I get money to help restore my older home or business? Can I get low interest loans for home improvement? What is LB 66 (Amendment 1)? Are there federal tax incentives? Join staff from local and state entities that can help make it easier for you to afford to restore an older property.

**4:10 p.m.–5:10 p.m. Breakout Session 4**



- A. Porch Preservation.** John Leeke, author of the soon-to-be-released National Park Service Preservation Brief *Porch Preservation*, will teach attendees how to repair and save existing porch details.
- B. Wallpaper Restoration.** Discover the beauty of historic wallpapers, see samples and slides, and learn tips on the care and conservation of historic wallpaper.
- C. Tax Credit on a Commercial Project.** Join architectural historian Melissa Dirr and architect Jerry Berggren as they walk you through a federal tax credit project involving a small, local commercial building.
- D. Electrical in an Older Home.** Join chief electrical inspector Terry Scholl for a discussion of older wiring practices and how they relate to city code.

Breakout Sessions sponsored by the University of Nebraska Medical Center and The Nebraska Medical Center



**7-10 p.m.**

**Neon Tour  
Cost: \$15**

2020 Omaha members will take attendees on a chartered bus tour of Omaha's historic neon and visit a neon sign studio. From La Casa's to Bohemian Café, to Louis Market to Mt. Fuji Inn, the tour will wind through Omaha's Little Italy, Benson, and Leavenworth commercial districts to view examples of neon signs.

**Meet at the chartered bus in Mutual of Omaha's Lot F at 34th & Dodge Streets by 6:45 p.m.**

## **Sunday, November 6, 2005**

**1-5 p.m.**

**Omaha's Midtown Neighborhood Tour organized by Landmarks, Inc.  
Tour Cost: \$5**

Properties Open for Tours Include:

1. *Blackstone Center 302 S. 36th St.*  
Office Renovation and Rooftop Ballroom
2. *First Unitarian Church 3114 Harney St.*  
Interior Restoration
3. *Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center 1326 S. 32nd St.*  
Conservation Center open for tours at 2:00 and 3:00 p.m.
4. *George N. Hicks House (Quinley Residence) 3017 Pacific St.*  
Exterior Renovation and Interior Renovation in progress.
5. *Reilly Residence 1114 S. 33rd St.*  
Porch Replacement and Renovation
6. *Tim Reeder and John Gill Residence 1113 S. 33rd St.*  
Exterior Renovation in progress.
7. *Micah & Jennifer Evans Residence 1109 S. 33rd St.*  
Untouched version of the Reeder/Gill Home
8. *Tim & Janna Holland Residence 3316 Woolworth Ave.*  
Garage Addition
9. *Mike & Annika Phillips Residence 1728 S. 32nd Ave.*  
Original Kitchen, Woodwork and Wallpaper Restoration
10. *St. Cecilia Cathedral 701 N. 40th St.*  
Interior Restoration
11. *Beth El Synagogue - Holland Basham Architects 119 S. 49th Ave.*  
Renovation

*Properties as of September 28, 2005.*

*Tour tickets will arrive shortly before the conference and include a full list of the properties and tour guidelines.*

Tour sponsored by Ford Birthsite and the Park East Neighborhood Associations through grants from the Omaha Community Foundation's Neighborhood Grant Program provided by the William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation.



**Register online at [www.destinationmidtown.org](http://www.destinationmidtown.org) or call Kristine Gerber at (402) 614-0056.**