

Welcome to the 44th annual Spaces & Traces tour. We are happy to welcome you back to Milwaukee's Upper East Side – a neighborhood we love to return to for the rich diversity of architectural styles, prominent architects and builders and interesting original owners.

On this tour, you'll enjoy nine unique houses with styles ranging from Queen Anne and Craftsman to Mediterranean and Tudor Revival. You'll see numerous original details and thoughtful modern updates to spaces like kitchens and bathrooms.

Spaces & Traces would not be possible without our volunteer researchers and tour guides. We appreciate their time and talents. Lastly, this event could not take place without the generous homeowners and church leaders who shared their properties for today's tour. We are truly grateful.

Enjoy!
Julia Griffith
Historic Milwaukee Program Director

EVENT HQ & RESTROOMS

PLYMOUTH CHURCH UCC
2717 E. HAMPSHIRE ST., MILWAUKEE, WI 53211
For ticket sales, event questions or restrooms, please visit Event Headquarters between 9:45 am and 4 pm.

LECTURE BY BRIAN FETTE, HISTORIAN
2 PM AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH UCC

If You Build It - Will They Come?
The Slow Rise of the Prospect Hill Neighborhood
Though surprising to us today, the Prospect Hill neighborhood was very slow to develop. First platted in 1893, the area is bounded by N. Downer Ave. and N. Lake Dr. and runs from Kenwood Blvd. to E. Park Pl. In the first five years, the company sold only five lots and then did not sell another until 1914, when the pace of development finally accelerated. Meet a cast of characters, including one of America's wealthiest billionaires, who had a stake in its ownership. Discover many amusing obstacles, including a plague of thistles, to growing a subdivision and meet those people whose names have become well-known streets.


THANKS YOU RESEARCHERS!
Thanks to these volunteers for helping research this year's Spaces & Traces properties: Mary Block, Monica Ceille, David Cipriano, Brian Fette, Cyndi Kramer, Jessica McCall, Laura Meine and Ken Smith.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT
We acknowledge in Milwaukee that we are on traditional Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk and Menominee homeland along the southwest shores of Michigami, North America's largest system of freshwater lakes, where the Milwaukee, Menominee and Kinnickinnic rivers meet and the people of Wisconsin's sovereign Anishinaabe, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Oneida and Mohican nations remain present.

PHOTOGRAPHY
Interior photography is not allowed in any of the residential properties.

TRANSIT & PARKING
Please follow street parking signs and meters. Consider carpooling or taking MCTS transit.

EVENT QUESTIONS? Call 414-277-7795



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SCAN ME

HMI 2026 Tour Schedule

Monday
11 AM WATER TO WESTOWN
12 PM RIVERWALK
Two tours alternate weeks, check schedule for exact dates

Tuesday
11 AM HOP
1 PM DOWNTOWN

Wednesday
12 PM RIVERWALK
1 PM DOWNTOWN

Thursday
11 AM THIRD WARD
4:30 PM NORTH POINT MANSIONS

Friday
10:30 AM DOWNTOWN
11 AM WATER TO WESTOWN
Alternate weeks, check schedule for exact dates

Saturday
10:30 AM DOWNTOWN
11 AM THIRD WARD
1 PM BAY VIEW

Sunday
11 AM THIRD WARD
1 PM NORTH POINT MANSIONS

Tours begin May 19

historicmilwaukee.org



HISTORIC MILWAUKEE, INC.

Spaces & Traces

May 2, 2026
10 am to 4 pm
Celebrating Milwaukee's Upper East Side



historicmilwaukee.org



HISTORIC CONCORDIA NEIGHBORS PRESENT

37TH ANNUAL HOME TOUR!

A MARVELOUS EXHIBITION OF MILWAUKEE'S FINEST HISTORIC HOMES

JUNE 13TH 11AM-4PM

JUNE 13TH 11AM-4PM

ONE DAY ONLY!

ILLUMINATING!
THE WONDERS OF MILWAUKEE'S CIRCUS AGE!
WITH DISTINGUISHED HISTORIAN JOHN EASTBERG

FOR PARTICULARS & ADMISSION VISIT HCNI.ORG



WRIGHT AND LIKE 2026 – DELAVAN LAKE, WI



SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, 9/12/26

www.wrightinwisconsin.org PHOTO: Mark Hertzberg



MAP LEGEND

A Tour Location

1 Event HQ & Lecture Location

Join us for a lecture with historian Brian Fette at 2 pm on tour day.
Restrooms available throughout the tour.



SCAN FOR GOOGLE MAP OF SITES



A **Edward & Gertrude Orth House**
3432 N. Summit Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211
This Georgian Revival style house was built in 1919 for Edward and Gertrude Orth. Edward served as an officer of the Vitalux Cinema Co., which sold the Vitalux, a camera to show amateur films invented by German engineer Herman Schlicker. Other notable owners include furrier Elmer O. Boughton, Carl M. Flora, VP of First Wisconsin National Bank and William H. Brodersen, VP of Pfister & Vogel Tannery. The house has a prominent central entrance, typical of the style, with a central staircase, original woodwork and hardwood floors. The kitchen has been updated by a previous owner and the backyard has been updated by the current owners as a great outdoor gathering space and tranquil garden.



B **James T. and Agnes S. Bannen House**
2906 E. Newport Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211
This Mediterranean Revival style house was designed by Herman Buemming and built in 1919. The white stucco walls, red tile roof and arched entry to the house are all typical of this style, though some of the more elaborate plasterwork above the windows was removed many years ago. James T. Bannen was born in Milwaukee to Irish immigrant parents and he became a newspaper reporter. As a reporter, he was connected with individuals in the paving business, and together they organized Badger Construction Co. He and his wife, Agnes Smith Bannen, raised five children in the house until 1959.



C **Kate Delaney House**
2933 N. Hackett Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211
Kate Delaney purchased the land in 1905 from the Prospect Hill Land Company to establish a family residence. Kate's brother Henry, an oil merchant, commissioned popular architect Fred Graf to build this 3-story, 5-bedroom house at a cost of \$6,000. Kate died in 1906 shortly after the house was built, but Henry, and later his wife Margaret, continued living at the residence until 1912. This Eclectic style has elements of Craftsman, Queen Anne and Colonial Revival. The interior features two first-floor fireplaces, dining room pocket doors, butler's pantry and extensive leaded glass windows. The renovated third floor was originally designed as a maid's quarters.



Upper Unit Only

D **Samuel J. Brockman Flats**
2851-2853 N. Shepard Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211
After overseeing the construction of Milwaukee's Central Library and City Hall, Samuel J. Brockman, a bricklayer and master mason from England, built his own brick-veneered house in 1909. Plans for this Colonial Revival two-flat were drawn by prominent architect Henry C. Koch. Brockman served as the City's Commissioner of Public Works from 1894-1900. His wife, Joanna, a Director of the Marquette Women's League, was a founder of the Milwaukee Catholic Home for the Aged. They lived in this house until their deaths in 1938 and their only child, a daughter Annie, occupied the house until her death in 1957.



E **Herman A. Wagner House**
2628 E. Newberry Blvd., Milwaukee, WI 53211
This dark red brick, German Renaissance Revival-style mansion was designed in 1911 by V. U. Coddington for Herman Wagner, a prominent Milwaukee steel industrialist. He was known in his day for generous policies toward his workers and for fighting against the spread of tuberculosis. The structure's most pronounced features are its German Renaissance gables and elaborate central entry. The Flemish gable is repeated in the dormer above the entry. The interior features elaborate woodwork throughout, an original call-phone system, and the original cabinet in the wine cellar. In the basement, the current owner has constructed a model railroad layout inspired by Milwaukee.



Ground Floor Only

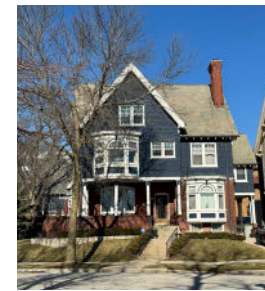
F **Dr. William C. F. Witte House**
2721 N Lake Dr, Milwaukee, WI 53211
Built in 1923, this Mediterranean Revival style house was designed and constructed by George Schley and Sons for surgeon, William C. F. Witte and his wife, Ethel. The couple had a daughter, Frances. Schley had a significant impact on Milwaukee's residential architecture, offering well-planned houses with modern amenities and historic touches for the upper middle class. The interior has been thoughtfully renovated by the current owners balancing modern technology with the historic intention of Schley. A previous owner removed most, if not all of the original finishes, however numerous photographs taken just after construction, have aided in restoring many finishes.



G **Thomas E. Brennan House**
2608 N. Summit Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53211
This Tudor Revival style house was built in 1913 for Thomas E. Brennan, President of T. E. Brennan Company which helped clients settle insurance claims after a loss. He and his wife originally lived next door, but when their son married, they built this house and gave the previous home to their son and his new bride. The high-profile firm of Leenhouts and Guthrie, prominent architects of many early 20th century structures in Milwaukee, designed the residence. The exterior is a rich mix of materials including brick, stucco and half-timber. The interior features one-inch, quarter sawn oak floors and mahogany trim in the living room.



H **Walter F. Gregg House**
2559 N. Wahl Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211
Built between 1905-1906, this Tudor Revival style house was designed by the architectural firm of Leenhouts and Guthrie for \$12,000. Walter F. Gregg was the co-owner of Gregg Brothers, a grocery business, with his brother, James. The overall design is oriented to take advantage of the lake views and the interior retains ceiling beams, fireplaces and hardwood floors. A previous owner updated the kitchen and outdoor space in the backyard. Additional notable owners include Phillip Bauer, VP of Allis Chalmers, racecar driver David Hobbs and Virginia Brooks Jefferson, who led efforts to create the Milwaukee Blood Center, now Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin.



I **Emma Uhrig Demmer House**
2361 N. Wahl Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211
The Emma Uhrig Demmer house was designed by the prominent architectural firm of Buemming and Dick in 1904. The Queen Anne style house also has architectural elements from the Shingle Style and Arts and Crafts which are mirrored in the rear house/barn. However, the most impressive feature of the house is the interior designed by George Mann Niedecken (1878-1945). This was one of Niedecken's first major independent commissions. Other works include the interiors of Frank Lloyd Wright's Dana-Thomas, Coonley and Robie houses.



Event HQ & Lecture Location

1 **Plymouth Church UCC**
2717 E. Hampshire St., Milwaukee, WI 53211
Plymouth Church was founded in 1841 and moved to this Alexander Eschweiler designed building in 1913. The Gothic Revival style church is finished in brick with carved stone trim. It has nine Tiffany windows. The gymnasium was added in 1914 and the school in 1929. In 2013, the congregation underwent a restoration and renovation to the Eschweiler portion of the property. The renovation included adding the courtyard and gardens. The octagonal shape, seen throughout the building, is an important symbol in both Christianity and Judaism. Congregation Shir Hadash uses the Reception Hall for services several times a month. Inside are several historic and contemporary works of art given as gifts or created in collaboration with the congregation.