

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN OMAHA
TRAIL RATED 2A - 6K AND 10K ROUTES
© Nebraska Wander Freunde Trailblazers 1/1/21
SPECIAL PROGRAMS: Mayflower – 400th
Anniversary, Rockin’ Round the Clock,
Walking with America’s Veterans



This annotated walk starts at the Joslyn Art Museum (free admission, see <https://www.joslyn.org/> for days and hours). Both the 6k and the 10k routes feature architecturally interesting buildings in the downtown area, including the Omaha/Douglas County Civic Center and Courthouse with its Medal of Honor granite monument. Strolling through Omaha’s Old Market area and the Hot Shops Art District shows how Omaha’s history is entwined with its present, while the CHI Health Convention Center and the T.D. Ameritrade Park (home to the College World Series) give opportunities for people watching. A public art installation spanning several city blocks depicts the pioneers’ westward movement as the walker also heads westward toward the end of the walk. The 10k route includes a pleasant pedestrian byway through the heart of the Creighton University Campus*. The trail goes along city sidewalks, along the streets rising from the Missouri River floodplain, giving both routes a 2A rating for hills.

***Creighton University is requiring wearing masks, including outdoors, while on campus**

This walk is also available through a physical walk box – please do not register at that location or use any materials from that walk box.

Walk Registration:

Registration takes place online using the AVA Online Start Box, on my.ava.org. Follow the instructions provided to create a user account and sign the AVA waiver (one time). Instructions for payment are also included. Download the directions and print as needed. The POC does not provide event directions or accept alternate payment methods.

Walk Completion and Walk Credit:

Once you have physically completed the walk, please login to your Online Start Box account click on the “My Start Box” tab, then the “Finish Table” tab, then click on “Go to Finish Table” button for the event you have completed. Use the displayed entry form to submit the date and distance of your walk as well as select applicable AVA Special Programs to generate stamped “virtual” insert cards that you may choose to print out.

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Starting Point Location:

41.260976, -95.945409 (parking lot)

Joslyn Art Museum
2200 Dodge Street
Omaha, NE 68102

From the west: Use I-80 East to access I-480 East. Use Exit 2A to Douglas Street. Right on Douglas (one-way east) and get into the far-left lane to S. 24th Street. Left on S. 24th St and get into the far-right lane one block to Dodge Street (lights). On the other side of the lights is Joslyn Museum on your right. Continue past the Museum to your first right into the parking lot. Get into the far-left lane to S. 24th Street. Left on S. 24th St and get into the far-right lane one block to Dodge Street (lights). On the other side of the lights is Joslyn Museum on your right. Continue past the Museum to your first right into the parking lot.

OR: Use U.S. Highway 6 (Dodge Street) past Midtown Crossing at 31st Avenue; the road splits into one-way traffic and U.S. Hwy 6 East becomes Douglas Street. Get into the far-right lane one block to Dodge Street (lights). On the other side of the lights is Joslyn Museum on your right. Continue past the Museum to your first right into the parking lot.

From the east: Use the I-480 exit from I-29 if coming from the north or south to head west toward Nebraska. Use Exit 4 to access U.S. Highway 6 (Dodge Street). Continue west on Dodge St. to 24th Street. (Joslyn Museum on your right). Turn right to go north; the first right accesses the parking lot.

Restrooms:

If the Museum is open, restrooms are located behind the ticket kiosk and cloakroom.

Otherwise: coming from the west, there's a gas station at 40th & Dodge Streets; coming from the east there's a gas station at 35th & W. Broadway in Council Bluffs.

Emergency Numbers:



In case of Emergency: Dial 911
Event related assistance:
Jim & Diana Webb: 402.999.6727

Notes on the Directions

- Walking directions are followed by compass directions in parentheses.
- Omaha's numbered streets run north/south and alternate with numbered avenues. For example, 50th Street is followed by 50th Avenue and then by 51st Street.

SPECIAL PROGRAM QUALIFIERS

Mayflower – 400th Anniversary:

- Joslyn Art Museum Sculpture Garden
 - "Sioux Warrior" (near parking lot)
 - "Addih-Hiddisch, Hidatsa Chief" (Dodge St.)
- Pioneer Courage Park, 14th & Capitol Avenue
 - "Trading for Directions" has a scout interacting with three Native Americans, one mounted and two crouching.

Rockin' Round the Clock

- Public clock mounted on the north wall of the Poke Boba House at 510 S. 13th Street. This is just south of Howard Street, on the west side of S. 13th.

Walking with America's Veterans

- The grounds of the Omaha/Douglas County Civic Center often have displays and monuments on its grounds. One fixed monument is the Medal of Honor monument, a bronze plaque mounted on a small granite pedestal, placed on the wall along Farnam Street, between the Civic Center and the Courthouse.

6k Directions

These walk directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.

<p>1. From the parking lot, TURN so that the building (Joslyn Art Museum) is on your right. FOLLOW the building to the RIGHT (s) (water feature will be on your left in the Sculpture Garden) to the street (Dodge Street).</p>	<p>The original Art Deco building opened in 1931, as a tribute from Sarah Joslyn to her deceased husband George, a prominent businessman. The extension to the north was added in 1994 and the Sculpture Garden in 2008.</p>
<p>2. LEFT (e) to N. 20th Street.</p>	<p>On your left, Omaha High School (now Central) has been in this spot since 1870. The present building was completed in 1912. The same architect also created the Scottish Rite Cathedral and the Douglas County Courthouse.</p>
<p>3. RIGHT (s), crossing Dodge, passing the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, to Farnam and CROSS.</p>	<p>The Scottish Rite Cathedral, a Neoclassical Revival building, was completed in 1914. The Rose Theater at S. 20th & Farnam Streets, built in a combination of Moorish and Classical styles, was built in 1926 for stage shows and movies. It remained a movie theater until 1980 and was renovated in 1986 and houses a children's theater.</p>
<p>4. LEFT (e) on Farnam to S. 17th St. You will pass the Omaha-Douglas Civic Center on the right, as well as the Douglas County Courthouse, just before S. 17th. <u><i>Several Walking with America's Veterans Monuments</i></u></p>	<p>Several sculptures and monuments dot the campus between the Civic Center and the Courthouse. There is a small café in the basement of the Civic Center, open for lunch on weekdays.</p>
<p>5. RIGHT (s) on S. 17th for one block to Harney. The Courthouse will be on your right.</p>	<p>The Courthouse was built in 1912 in the French Renaissance Revival.</p>
<p>6. LEFT (e) on Harney to S. 16th and CROSS.</p>	
<p>7. RIGHT (s) on S. 16th one block to Howard St.</p>	<p>The Orpheum Theater started as the Creighton Theater in 1895, joining the Orpheum Circuit in 1900. When the present building was built in 1927, it became the Orpheum Theater. Vaudeville gave way to movies until the theater became a performing arts theater once again.</p>
<p>8. LEFT (e) to S. 13th St.</p>	<p>You've now entered the Old Market Historic District.</p>
<p>9. CROSS both Howard and S. 13th St.</p>	
<p>10. RIGHT (s) on S. 13th one block to Jackson Street. <u><i>Rockin' Round the Clock across the street at 510 S. 13th on Poke Boba House</i></u></p>	<p>Watch your step – brick streets and uneven sidewalks hark back to this area's industrial beginnings 150 years ago.</p>
<p>11. LEFT (e) one block on Jackson to S. 12th Street.</p>	<p>On the SW corner is Hollywood Candy, with every childhood flavor and brand of candy imaginable. On this corner, Ted & Wally's Ice Cream is locally made and is known for their imaginative ice cream</p>

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	flavors.
12. LEFT (n) one block to Howard St.	You're entering the heart of the Old Market, with its brick buildings housing shops, restaurants and bars on the first floor and below and urban residences above.
13. RIGHT (e) two blocks to S. 10 th St.	
14. LEFT (n) to Capitol Avenue. Note these sights as you walk:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the right is Heartland of America Park and the former ConAgra campus. Redevelopment should conclude by 2023 • On your left is the Gene Leahy Mall, named for a former Omaha mayor. The sandstone arch is all that remains of a building that once stood on that spot. Revitalization should conclude by 2022. • At Dodge Street, this becomes the Capitol District. Dodge is the dividing line between North and South in Omaha.
15. CROSS both N. 10 th and Capitol to be on the NE corner.	
16. LEFT (n) on N. 10 th , so CHI Health Center is on your right and the hotels are across the street to your left. Enjoy the sculptures as you walk to Mike Fahey Street/MECA Drive.	The CHI Health Center is Omaha's Convention Center and Arena. This is NOT a hospital or medical clinic! It's home to Creighton Bluejays Basketball and the annual Berkshire Hathaway meeting, as well as large concerts and shows.
17. CONTINUE (n) to Cuming Street/Abbott Drive.	Omaha is home to Union Pacific and this area used to be railyards. Note the panels on the corner of 10 th & Cuming after you cross.
18. LEFT (w), crossing N. 10 th St. to N. 13 th Street.	On your left is TD Ameritrade Park. Omaha is home to the College World Series. The statue "The Road to Omaha" welcomes athletes and fans.
19. LEFT (s) on N. 13 th St. to Cass Street. (Old Mattress Factory Bar and Grill on your left.)	The mural "Fertile Ground" by Meg Saligman is 465' by 70'. It is painted on the NRG Energy Building and managed by the Bemis Center that you saw in the Old Market.
20. LEFT (e) one block to N. 12 th St.	
21. RIGHT (s), passing under the I-480 bridge, to Capitol.	
22. RIGHT (w) on Capitol to N. 14 th St. and CROSS .	You'll pass the printing presses and offices of the <i>Omaha World-Herald</i> . The <i>World</i> was established in 1885 by Gilbert Hitchcock, who purchased the <i>Herald</i> in 1889. His son-in-law Henry Doorly took over after Hitchcock's death in 1934, until 1955. The Omaha zoo is named after Doorly.
23. CONTINUE (w) to an opening on your right. RIGHT and follow the path to an upper plateau, CIRCLE and RETURN to the opening.	This is Pioneer Courage Park, sponsored by First National Bank of Omaha. See if you can read the story told by these bronze sculptures, from the scout on the top of the plateau, to the straining oxen and pioneers below.
24. RIGHT (w) a few steps to the crosswalk.	

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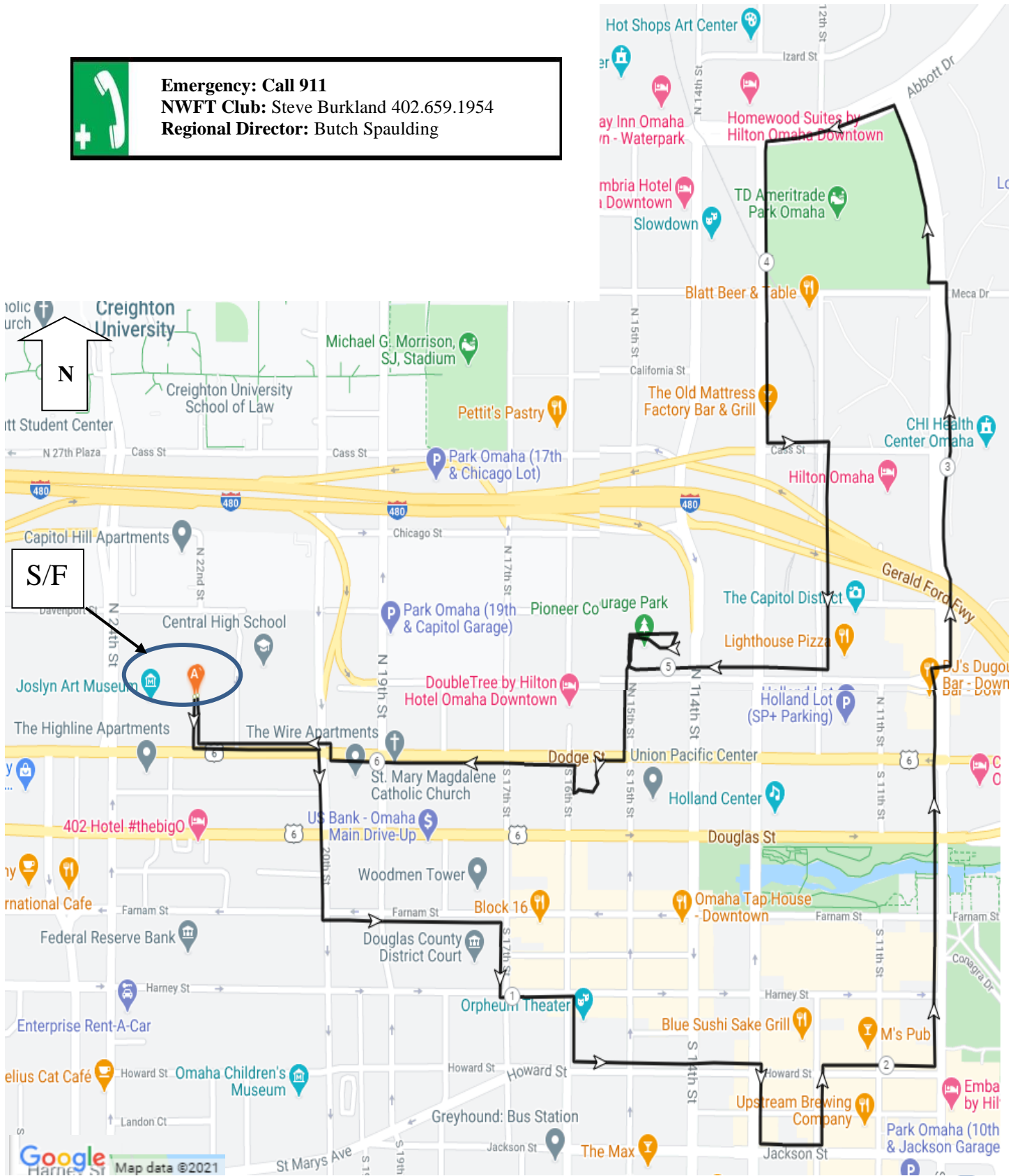
25. LEFT (s) and CROSS Capitol Avenue.	There should be a bison immediately on your right.
26. CONTINUE (s) for one block to Dodge Street and CROSS .	You'll pass another bison and a bison calf. Did you spot the bison emerging from the wall at 15 th & Dodge? (NW corner)
27. RIGHT (w) about ½ block to a sidewalk leading left into a park.	The park's name and logo should be at your feet.
28. LEFT and AROUND the park to S. 16 th Street.	This is The Spirit of Wilderness Park, a continuation of the earlier Pioneer Courage Park. The pioneers in the earlier park have startled the bison, who charged off along N. 15 th Street and then startled the geese along Dodge Street!
29. RIGHT 1/3 block to Dodge Street.	
30. LEFT (w) to S. 20 th Street and Dodge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the glass lobby of the First National Bank Tower just past S. 16th and Dodge is the façade of the building that once stood here: The Medical Arts Building. Note the sculptures ABOVE the façade! ➤ At S. 19th and Dodge is St. Mary Magdalene Church. It is Omaha's oldest Catholic parish, founded in 1868. This building was built in 1908. Twenty years later, the city lowered Dodge Street, so that the church's basement became its first floor!
31. CROSS BOTH S. 20 th and Dodge, to the NW corner (same corner as Central High School).	Omaha was the Territorial Capital of Nebraska, from 1854 to just after statehood in March 1867. The Capitol Building stood on this hill.
32. LEFT (w) on Dodge, with Central High School on your right, to the "Joslyn Art Museum" sign. CONTINUE (w) to the first sidewalk on your right.	
33. RIGHT (n) to return to the parking lot. OR STAY and enjoy the Joslyn Art Museum (free admission).	The large "Sioux Warrior" statue by the parking lot ← <u>Mayflower – 400th Anniversary</u>

Downtown Omaha 2021 6k Map

Starting Point: Joslyn Art Museum, 2200 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE 68102

41.260976, -95.945409 (parking lot)

Emergency: Call 911
NWFT Club: Steve Burkland 402.659.1954
Regional Director: Butch Spaulding



These walk directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association Athletic Waiver. All other uses are prohibited.

10K Directions

***Creighton University is requiring wearing masks, including outdoors, while on campus. This includes instructions #4 - #8, below**

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1. From the parking lot, TURN so that the building is on your left. WALK (w) to the street (N. 24th St.)	
2. RIGHT (n) on N. 24th St. to and CROSS Chicago St.	
3. LEFT (w) and CROSS N. 24 th St.	
4. RIGHT (n) under the I-480 bridge to Cass St (east side)/N. 27 th Plaza (west side)	You have entered the campus of Creighton University, which is a “Jesuit, Catholic university bridging health, law, business and the arts and sciences for a more just world.”
5. LEFT (w) on N. 27 th Plaza, past the Kiewit Fitness Center to a driveway with a covered walkway. (Building that says “2615 California” is too far!)	Creighton College was founded in 1878 through a financial gift by the widow of Edward Creighton. John Creighton, his brother, oversaw the development of the College.
6. RIGHT (n) to the broad pedestrian walkway. Skutt Student Center is on your right. It’s a multilevel cement building.	The Center is named after alumnus V. J. Skutt and his wife Angela. V.J. worked at Mutual of Omaha for 62 years, the last 33 as CEO.
7. RIGHT (e) on the walkway. STAY LEFT at circles to N. 24 th St (not marked) and CROSS at the crosswalk.	On your left is St. John’s Catholic Church, the heart of the campus. It was built in 1888 and has been renovated.
8. CONTINUE (e) to N. 20 th St. (not marked, but it’s just after the Heider College of Business Building and statue of “The Globe”)	The Harper Center on your left is named after the late Mike Harper, a Creighton Board Member and CEO of ConAgra Foods, which was originally headquartered in Omaha.
9. RIGHT (s) on N. 20 th , walking under the I-480 bridge, passing Central High School, where the street becomes S. 20 th St. You’ll then pass the Scottish Rite Masonic Center on your way to Farnam Street.	The Scottish Rite Cathedral, a Neoclassical Revival building, was completed in 1914. The Rose Theater at S. 20 th & Farnam Streets, built in a combination of Moorish and Classical styles, was built in 1926 for stage shows and movies. It remained a movie theater until 1980 and was renovated in 1986 and houses a children’s theater.
10. LEFT (e) on Farnam to S. 17 th St. You will pass the Omaha-Douglas Civic Center on the right, as well as the Douglas County Courthouse, just before S. 17th.	Several sculptures and monuments dot the campus between the Civic Center and the Courthouse. There is a small café in the basement of the Civic Center, open for lunch on weekdays.
<u>Several Walking with America’s Veterans Monuments</u>	
11. RIGHT (s) on S. 17 th for one block to Harney. The Courthouse will be on your right.	The Courthouse was built in 1912 in the French Renaissance Revival.
12. LEFT (e) on Harney to S. 16 th and CROSS .	

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<p>13. RIGHT (s) on S. 16th one block to Howard St.</p>	<p>The Orpheum Theater started as the Creighton Theater in 1895, joining the Orpheum Circuit in 1900. When the present building was built in 1927, it became the Orpheum Theater. Vaudeville gave way to movies until the theater became a performing arts theater once again.</p>
<p>14. LEFT (e) to S. 13th St and CROSS.</p>	<p>You've now entered the Old Market Historic District.</p>
<p>15. RIGHT (s) to Leavenworth St. <i>Rockin' Round the Clock at 510 S. 13th – Poke Boba House north wall</i></p>	<p>Watch your step – brick streets and uneven sidewalks hark back to this area's industrial beginnings 150 years ago.</p>
<p>16. LEFT (e) to S. 12th and CROSS*. *S. 12th Street is torn up in places due to reconstruction of the brick road on Jones. Pick the safest side to walk on!</p>	<p>The Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts at the corner of 12th & Leavenworth houses artists-in-residence and temporary exhibitions. It was originally located in the Bemis Bag Building 2 blocks away.</p>
<p>17. LEFT (n) along the street one block to Jones Street.</p>	<p>KANEKO offers space for interdisciplinary cultural programming.</p>
<p>18. RIGHT (e) on Jones one block to S. 11th Street</p>	<p>Internationally known ceramics artist Jun Kaneko and wife Ree extensively repurposed three century-old buildings on this site to create this space.</p>
<p>19. LEFT (n) one block to Jackson St. and CROSS.</p>	<p>You'll pass the Bemis Bag Building on your left.</p>
<p>20. LEFT (w) one block on Jackson to S. 12th Street.</p>	<p>On the SW corner is Hollywood Candy, with every childhood flavor and brand of candy imaginable. On this corner, Ted & Wally's Ice Cream is locally made and is known for their imaginative ice cream flavors.</p>
<p>21. RIGHT (n) one block to Howard St.</p>	<p>You're entering the heart of the Old Market, with its brick buildings housing shops, restaurants and bars on the first floor and below and urban residences above.</p>
<p>22. RIGHT (e) two blocks to S. 10th St.</p>	
<p>23. LEFT (n) two blocks to Farnam St.</p>	<p>On the right is Heartland of America Park and the former ConAgra campus. Redevelopment should conclude by 2023</p>
<p>24. LEFT (w) three blocks to S. 13th St.</p>	<p>On your right is the Gene Leahy Mall, named for a former Omaha mayor. The sandstone arch is all that remains of a building that once stood on that spot. Revitalization should conclude by 2022. Bathrooms in the lobby SE corner of 13th & Farnam.</p>
<p>25. RIGHT (n) to Douglas St and CROSS.</p>	
<p>26. RIGHT (e) three blocks to S. 10th Street.</p>	<p>On your left is the Holland Performing Arts Center. A green space separates the Holland from the Specht Building, with its original cast iron front – the only one remaining in Omaha.</p>
<p>27. LEFT (n) two blocks to Capitol Ave.</p>	<p>At Dodge Street, this becomes the Capitol District. Dodge is the dividing line between North and South in Omaha.</p>
<p>28. CROSS both N. 10th and Capitol to be on the NE corner.</p>	

Historic Downtown Omaha

<p>29. LEFT (n) on N. 10th, so CHI Health Center is on your right and the hotels are across the street to your left. Enjoy the sculptures as you walk to Mike Fahey Street/MECA Drive.</p>	<p>The CHI Health Center is Omaha’s Convention Center and Arena. This is NOT a hospital or medical clinic! It’s home to Creighton Bluejays Basketball and the annual Berkshire Hathaway meeting, as well as large concerts and shows.</p>
<p>30. CONTINUE (n) to Cuming Street/Abbott Drive and CROSS.</p>	<p>Omaha is home to Union Pacific and this area used to be railyards. Note the panels across N. 10th St. at Cuming.</p>
<p>31. LEFT (w) to N. 12th Street and CROSS.</p>	
<p>32. RIGHT (n) one block to Iazard and CROSS.</p>	
<p>33. LEFT (w) one block to N. 13th Street and CROSS.</p>	<p>On your right is the Hot Shops Art Center. Local artists have studios in this area, making and selling everything from sculptures to paintings to jewelry. Take time to explore!</p>
<p>34. LEFT (s) and cross Iazard. CONTINUE (s) on the LEFT sidewalk between the two hotels to Cuming Street.</p>	
<p>35. CROSS (s) Cuming Street. TD Ameritrade Park should be directly on your left after you cross.</p>	<p>Omaha is home to the College World Series. The statue “The Road to Omaha” welcomes athletes and fans.</p>
<p>36. CONTINUE (s) on N. 13th St. to Cass Street. (Old Mattress Factory Bar and Grill on your left.)</p>	<p>The mural “Fertile Ground” by Meg Saligman is 465’ by 70’. It is painted on the NRG Energy Building and managed by the Bemis Center that you saw in the Old Market.</p>
<p>37. LEFT (e) one block to N. 12th St.</p>	
<p>38. RIGHT (s), passing under the I-480 bridge, to Capitol.</p>	
<p>39. RIGHT (w) on Capitol to N. 14th St. and CROSS.</p>	<p>You’ll pass the printing presses and offices of the <i>Omaha World-Herald</i>. The <i>World</i> was established in 1885 by Gilbert Hitchcock, who purchased the <i>Herald</i> in 1889. His son-in-law Henry Doorly took over after Hitchcock’s death in 1934, until 1955. The Omaha zoo is named after Doorly.</p>
<p>40. CONTINUE (w) to an opening on your right. RIGHT and follow the path to an upper plateau, CIRCLE and RETURN to the opening.</p>	<p>This is Pioneer Courage Park, sponsored by First National Bank of Omaha. See if you can read the story told by these bronze sculptures, from the scout on the top of the plateau, to the straining oxen and pioneers below.</p>
<p>41. RIGHT (w) a few steps to the crosswalk.</p>	
<p>42. LEFT (s) and CROSS Capitol Avenue.</p>	<p>There should be a bison immediately on your right.</p>
<p>43. CONTINUE (s) for one block to Dodge Street and CROSS.</p>	<p>You’ll pass another bison and a bison calf. Did you spot the bison emerging from the wall at 15th & Dodge? (NW corner)</p>
<p>44. RIGHT (w) about ½ block to a sidewalk leading left into a park.</p>	<p>The park’s name and logo should be at your feet.</p>

Historic Downtown Omaha

<p>45. LEFT and AROUND the park to S. 16th Street.</p>	<p>This is The Spirit of Wilderness Park, a continuation of the earlier Pioneer Courage Park. The pioneers in the earlier park have startled the bison, who charged off along N. 15th Street and then startled the geese along Dodge Street!</p>
<p>46. RIGHT 1/3 block to Dodge Street.</p>	
<p>47. LEFT (w) to S. 20th Street and Dodge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the glass lobby of the First National Bank Tower just past S. 16th and Dodge is the façade of the building that once stood here: The Medical Arts Building. Note the sculptures ABOVE the façade! ➤ At S. 19th and Dodge is St. Mary Magdalene Church. It is Omaha’s oldest Catholic parish, founded in 1868. This building was built in 1908. Twenty years later, the city lowered Dodge Street, so that the church’s basement became its first floor!
<p>48. CROSS BOTH S. 20th and Dodge, to the NW corner (same corner as Central High School).</p>	<p>Omaha was the Territorial Capital of Nebraska, from 1854 to just after statehood in March 1867. The Capitol Building stood on this hill.</p>
<p>49. LEFT (w) on Dodge, with Central High School on your right, to the “Joslyn Art Museum” sign. CONTINUE (w) to the first sidewalk on your right.</p>	<p>Omaha High School has been in this spot since 1870. The present building was completed in 1912. The same architect also created the Scottish Rite Cathedral and the Douglas County Courthouse.</p>
<p>50. RIGHT (n) and RIGHT (e) and LEFT (n) and LEFT (w) to wander through the sculpture garden. You should pass a water feature that looks like the Missouri River and Platte Rivers and end up facing the large equestrian statue “Sioux Warrior”.</p>	<p>The original Art Deco building opened in 1931, as a tribute from Sarah Joslyn to her deceased husband George, a prominent businessman. The extension to the north was added in 1994 and the Sculpture Garden in 2008. <u>← Mayflower – 400th Anniversary</u></p>
<p>51. RIGHT (n) to return to the parking lot. OR STRAIGHT AHEAD to enjoy the Joslyn Art Museum (free admission).</p>	

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Historic Downtown Omaha

Downtown Omaha 2021 10k Map

Starting Point:

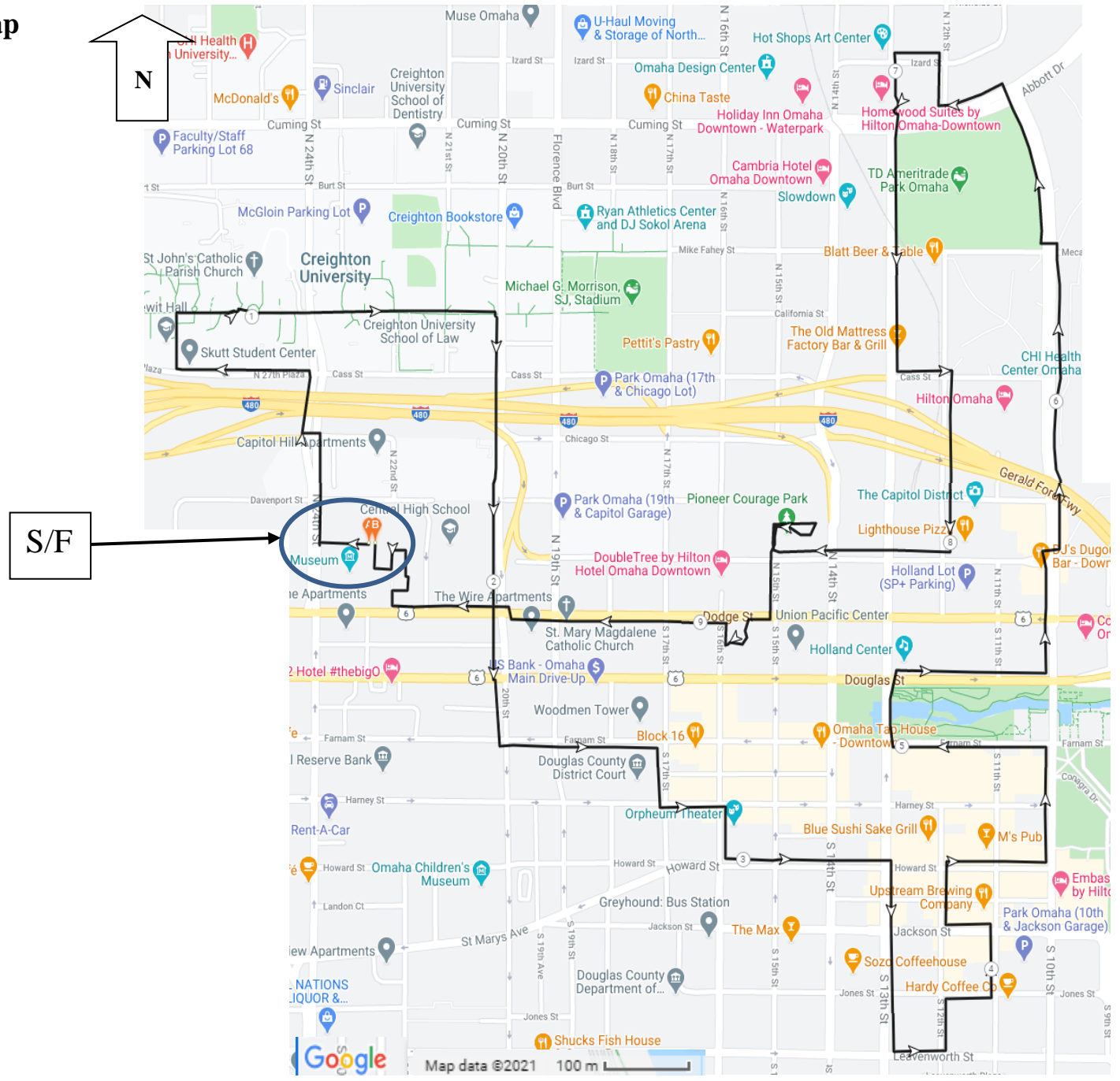

Joslyn Art Museum

2200 Dodge Street

Omaha, NE 68102

41.260976, -95.945409 (parking lot)

Emergency: Call 911
NWFT Club: Steve Burkland 402.659.1954
Regional Director: Butch Spaulding 712.322.2797



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