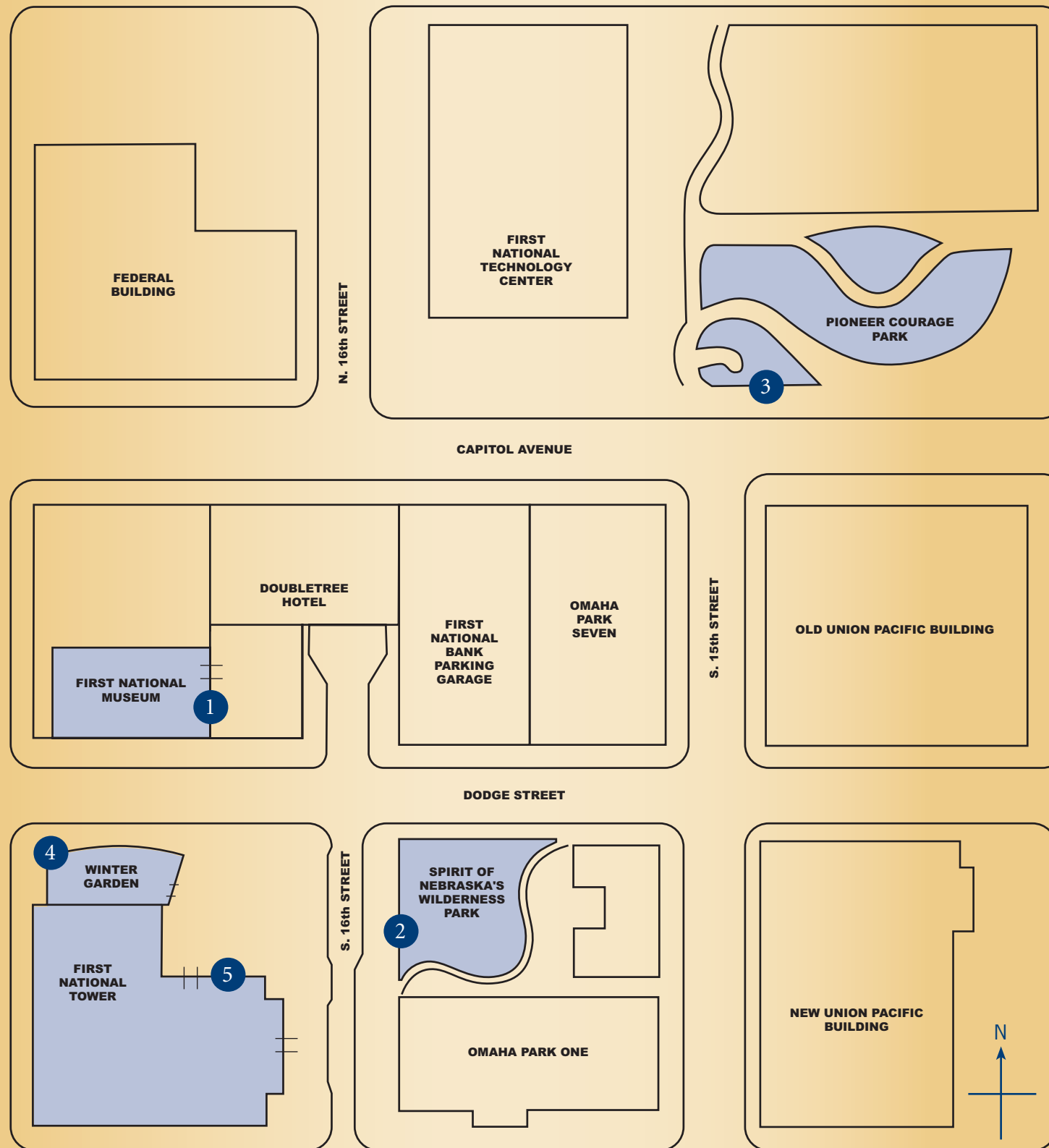


# First National Bank Walking Tour



**1** First National Bank  
1620 Dodge Street • Omaha, NE 68197

## 1 First National Museum

The history of First National Bank, from their frontier beginnings to the present day, is permanently displayed in a corporate museum in the second floor lobby at 1620 Dodge Street.



The museum features exhibits, which are housed in architectural displays, of various bank headquarters dating back to 1857. The exhibits bring historical events to life through the use of interactivemultimedia technology, providing both information and entertainment.

The museum is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## 2 Spirit of Nebraska's Wilderness Park

Sculpted by artist Kent Ullberg, Spirit of Nebraska's Wilderness Park sits atop a granite fountain, where jets of water give the illusion of geese taking flight. Working in tandem with First National's Pioneer Courage Park, the two sculptures begin



with a wagon train startling a herd of buffalo, which in turn flushes the geese. Beginning at the southeast corner of 16th and Dodge Streets, the sculpture continues through the four corners of that intersection, and culminates in the Winter Garden. The first geese are composed in bronze, while more and more stainless steel is incorporated, until the last geese are entirely made of steel. This process is very complex, considering the two metals melt at drastically different temperatures. The traditional bronze alludes to Nebraska's history, while a more progressive stainless steel points to the future.

- The fountain contains roughly 43,000 gallons of water and circulates over 159,000 gallons an hour.
- The fountain's base is made from Absolute granite, and the paving stones are Hayton stone, quarried near Valders, Wisconsin.
- Consisting of over 50 geese, each larger-than-life goose weighs approximately 200 pounds and was made from at least 12 different pieces.

## 3 Pioneer Courage Park

Working in conjunction with Spirit of Nebraska's Wilderness Park, this sculpture begins at 14th and Capitol streets. It is the result of the collaboration of two artists, Blair Buswell and Ed Fraughton. Consisting of several pioneer families, Pioneer Courage brings to life an integral part of America's



history and the part Omaha played in the migration and building of the West.

- The individual pieces that will make up the monument are cast predominantly in bronze and are 1.25 times life size.
- The landscape consists of 2,500 tons of limestone, or roughly 125 truckloads. It's primarily Hayton stone quarried near Valders, Wisconsin.
- Begun in 2003, future phases are scheduled to be completed over the next several years.

## 4 First National Tower Winter Garden

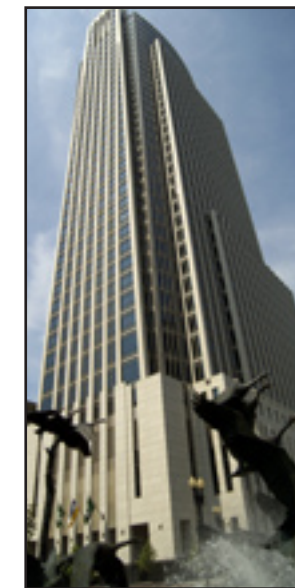
Attached to First National Tower on its north side, the glass-enclosed Garden is 60 feet tall. Standing four stories high, it is tall enough to be a building in its own right. Prior to the Winter Garden, the Medical Arts Building previously stood on this site. At the time of its construction in 1927, it was the tallest building in Omaha. To preserve its architectural heritage, an original terra cotta façade from the five uppermost stories of the Medical Arts Building has been incorporated. This process was extremely labor-intensive, requiring the removal, storage, and reassembly of thousands of pieces of terra cotta. Another unique feature of



the Winter Garden is its calming effect and emphasis on nature. Whether it's the sound of falling water bubbling from a fountain, the natural curves of a wooden sculpture, or the serenity of bamboo, the Winter Garden is a sanctuary from the wear and tear of modern life.

## 5 First National Tower

Standing at 635 feet or 40 stories in height, First National Tower is the tallest building from Chicago to Denver. As the focus of First National Center, it sits at the corner of 16th and Dodge Streets, in the heart of downtown Omaha.



The exterior granite was quarried in Spain and fabricated in Italy, while the interior lobby consists of three types of marble — Cedars of Lebanon, French black marble, and rosa marble from Italy. The wall panes are travertine, also from Italy. The lobby contains a substantial amount of wood known as African Makore, also called Cherry Mahogany.

- The Tower contains almost 1,000,000 square feet of space.
- Over 1,400 First National Bank employees work there.