KANAB HERITAGE WALKING TOUR

The City of Kanab is rich in Heritage. Many of the homes and buildings built in the early pioneer days of Kanab’s history are still standing. The Heritage Walking Tour shown on these pages will allow you to step back for a moment to the days of pioneer life. NOTE: The homes are NOT open to the public. Please respect the privacy of the residents.

1. THE HERITAGE HOUSE
   On the corner of Main and 100 South, this house was built for Henry Bowman in 1894 and has since been restored to its original design. The Heritage House is on the National Register and is a monument to the past. Within its walls is a collection of relics and souvenirs, not only of the people who lived there, but of friends and neighbors also. This home can be seen during the first few months. See the Kane County Visitors Center for more information.

2. RIDER/PUGH HOUSE
   In 1874 this 3 1/2 story brick Victorian eclectic-look house was built by John Rider, a local builder. Rider was a probate judge for Kane County from 1869-1892. The home has remained in the Rider family.

3. SIXTLE E. JOHNSON
   Built in 1891, the entryway house has a gable roof. The foundation is built from native red stone which was quarried nearby. The actual builder is not known. Sixtle Johnson’s father, Nathaniel, credited for the discovery of Zion Canyon in 1868. Sixtles came to Kanab in 1874 and was employed by large cattle companies most of his life.

4. JOHNSON/ARMS HOTEL AND RESTAURANT
   Built in 1884 as a residence, this magnificent home was later used as a hotel and restaurant by Mrs. Nellie McAllister. Then purchased by Art Brown. Currently the home is Purple Sage Bed and Breakfast.

5. HISTORIC KANAB CITY LIBRARY
   Boyd Young McAllister learned how to cut glass and lay stone while working in Zion National Park building bridges and buildings. Using stone that was quarried just north of Kanab, he was the building foreman on the library. It is now used as the Kanab Heritage museum and can be visited during the summer months. See the Kane County Visitors Center for more information.

6. KANAB HOTEL
   In 1929, Gay Chalmers built the Kanab Hotel. It was very successful for many years. Monte star of Clark Gable stayed in one of the eleven rooms. Today it is the home of Terry Alderman’s Camera Trading Company.

7. LDS CHURCH AND FAMILY HISTORY PLANTATION HOUSE
   This first Mormon sect in this area erected this church. The building has undergone extensive renovations. Look for the Mormon Battalion historical marker, as well as a marker commemorating the first olive oil mill in the United States (1912-1914). The Church was remodeled in 1931 and still serves as the Family History Visitor Center. Stop by and learn about your family history.

8. BOWMAN & CO. BUILDING
   Built in 1892 by H.E. Bowman, it originally housed a general store. Goods companies were sold on the main floor, shoes and fabric upstairs. The ice factory is the last building on the southeast corner. The basement served as the only supplier of ice in the area. Through the years the building was a lumber store, grocery store, hardware store, nursery business and a bank. The old fashion store is still in the same location.

9. MONUMENT TO MAJOR JOHN WESLEY POWERS
   At this site in 1870 Major Powell, the first man to run the Colorado River, set up tent headquarters and with the aid of a local guide established the meridian from which surveys of the entire area were made.

10. LEVI STEWART & EMWORTH E. WOOLLEY HOUSE
   This home at 106 West 100 North was built in 1889 by Levi Stewart for his wife, Antoinette. Stewart was sent to Colorado to work and strengthen the settlement of Kanab. After the death of Levi, Antoinette sold the house to Edward Woolley, Jr. in 1899. Woolley is known for bringing tourism to Southern Utah and the Grand Canyon. In 1902 he brought the first automobile to Kanab. His daughter Mary Woolley Cameron married the first mayor mayor with an all woman council in 1911, she lived in the home as a young, single woman and for a time after her marriage to Thomas Chalmers, with her two young sons.

11. MARGIER-STEWART HOUSE
   Brigham Young was given all of Block twenty in the first survey in 1853. It was known as Brigham’s Block. In 1877 it was sold to Lawrence Morgan. In 1901, the house was sold to the wife of John Riley Stewart. Interesting feature are the brick pillars held in place by a stone cap. Windows were made to look like oak and the hidden stair and hidden doors that were used during the polyglot period. A tunnel was built between secret hiding places in the house to the cool bit by the barn in back.

12. JAMES H. SMART HOME
   Built in 1909, this pioneer home exemplifies the Mansard style. Typical of many period homes of the period. Well preserved, it gives a glimpse into the past. Smarts served as sheriff from 1899-1910.

13. CHARLES P. NIGH HOUSE
   This home was built in 1906 by Robert Pugh. The stone for the foundation came from the home of the father, Edward Pugh. Edward built the first rock house, it stood just west of this home.

14. LEWIS SPENSON HOME
   The second level of this home had one of only two lighthouses in town. It was used as a baptismal for the townpeople. In 1924, the house was sold to the railroad. The building was a meeting place for the tourists where they could enjoy shopping in the gift shop located at the front of the building. People who have stayed here have encountered a ghost they call O.A. It is said that old lady can still be seen and heard walking the halls of the home and restaurant. The Jackson’s now own the home and the adjacent John Chalmers Restaurant.

15. JAMES N. RICKS LODGE
   The Forty brothers visited with the first movie made in Southern Utah, starting Tom Mix in “Deadwood Coach” in 1924. They enjoyed the movie business and profited from their experience. In 1921 they opened Forty Lodge so they could feed and house the car and movie stars. See page 3 and enjoy look.

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