

## 1 | MUSEUM OF DANISH AMERICA

The Museum of Danish America, a non-profit institution, was founded in 1983 to preserve the history of Danish immigration to America. The building, inspired by Danish architecture, houses significant artifacts important to the interpretation of the Danish immigration story.

## 2 | GREEN ROOF

A new Cecilia Christensen Curatorial Center to store the museum's expanding collection was completed in 2014. It features a green roof of native prairie plants which contribute to the ecology of the museum grounds. Interpretive signs near the greenroof describe some of the plant life as well as the roof's construction. The green roof is energy efficient, and increases the thermal barrier between the outdoor environment and artifact storage areas.

## 3 | JENS DIXEN CABIN AND PRAIRIE

This small homesteader's cabin was originally located just north of Kenmare, North Dakota, where the Danish immigrant Jens Dixen first moved when he arrived in the area around 1901.

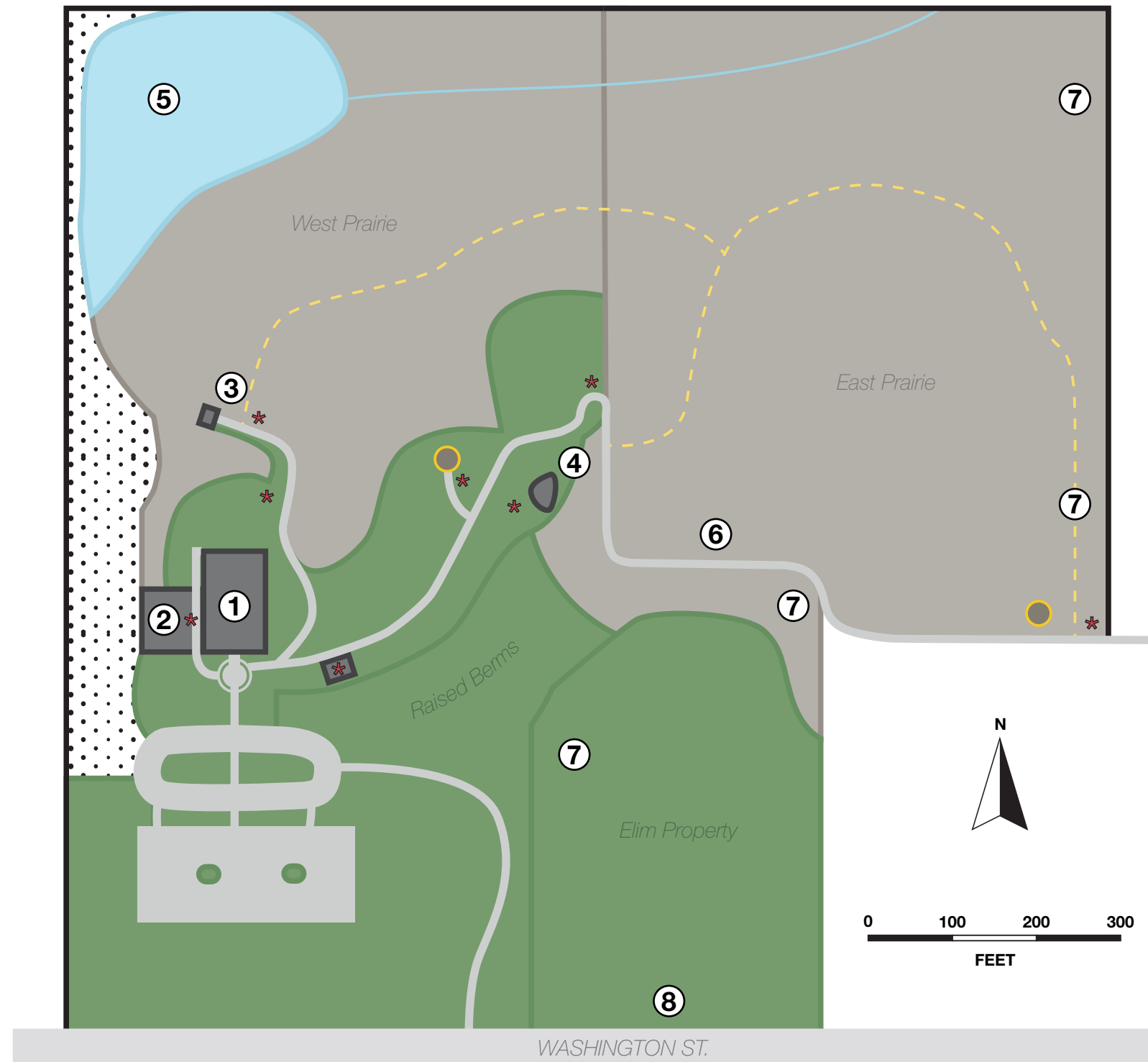
Here, the cabin combines with the prairie in a potential emulation of what a homesteader's experience may have been before the surrounding land was converted to farmland. The cabin is open to visitors; speak to the museum's front desk to receive a key to view its interior.

The prairie contains bluestem grasses, partridge pea, butterfly and common milkweeds, yellow and purple coneflowers, and other native plants.

## 4 | OUTDOOR EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

The fitness equipment installed here was designed and made in Denmark. In keeping with Jensen's vision for public parks, this "outdoor room" of fitness equipment offers an opportunity to enjoy an activity in nature that would otherwise take place in an indoor fitness center.

# Jens Jensen Prairie Landscape Park



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|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Museum Structures  | Prairie          | Lawns & Gardens |
| Council Rings      | Permanent Paths  | Mowed Paths     |
| Interpretive Signs | No Public Access | Wetland         |

## 5 | WETLAND RESTORATION

The wetland was restored by removing the drain tiles that had previously been used by farmers to drain excess water from the soil. A berm with a water control structure allows museum staff to manage the water levels. The wetland provides habitat for frogs, semiaquatic mammals such as muskrats, and waterfowl and shorebirds such as killdeer.

## 6 | FRIENDS WALK AND PRAIRIE

The Friends Walk is a paved pedestrian path that runs 0.6 miles through Elk Horn to Bedstemor's House. Bedstemor's House is a historic house built by Danish immigrant and businessman Jens Otto Christiansen. All rooms are open for viewing from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

You may notice that the prairie here looks a bit different from the prairie near Jens Dixen's cabin. These prairies were seeded at different times and with different seed mixes. Here you will see rattlesnake master, common mountain mint, wild columbine, and others.

## 7 | OAK TREE PLANTING

In spring of 2018, the museum planted over 250 native oaks throughout several different locations on the grounds. The saplings were donated by Peter Orum, Danish immigrant and founder of Midwest Groundcovers. Look for the white stakes; each one should have a sapling!

## 8 | ELIM PROPERTY

This property was the site of the Elim Children's Home from 1890 to 1961. During this time the Elim Children's Home supported almost 300 residents, with as many as 30 people living under its roof at once during some periods. In 1980, almost 20 years after its closing, the house caught fire. By the time the blaze was extinguished, all that remained was the chimney and the house's steel fire escapes.