

Nauvoo

The Way We Were

1290 Mulholland

1891 Plat: Doctor*
 1912 Sanborn Map: Hotel Oriental
 2010: Hotel Nauvoo

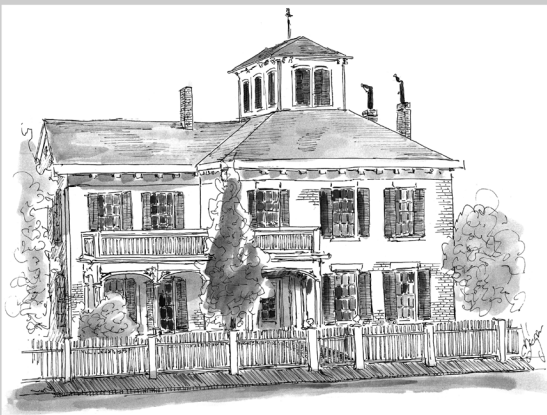
- 1841 J. J. Brendt Residence
 1844 Adam Swartz Residence
 1885–1940 **Oriental Hotel**
 (Second story added to rear of building to accommodate added guests in latter 1800s)

From the 1890s to 1980s, an original Nauvoo Temple moon stone was on display.

1948 Purchased by John A. Kraus

1948-Present **Hotel Nauvoo**
 In 1961, the building to the west was incorporated into **Hotel Nauvoo** and used as a dining room, "The Nauvoo Room."

In 1968, another dining room "The Heritage Room," was added. The room's south wall is embellished by the façade of a former Icarian home.



Drawing by David Alan Badger

1. 1891 Plat and 1912 Sanborn Maps were used as baselines for building locations. They are available for viewing at the Nauvoo Historical Society's Weld House Museum, 1380 Mulholland.

2. Addresses in quotation marks indicate no existing structure at this location in 2010.



Photo Courtesy of Nauvoo Historical Society

Taken in the 1800's when the present Hotel Nauvoo was a Reimbold residence. (There wasn't a building to the west (R.) until 1889.)

The northwest corner was built in 1841 by J.J. Brendt, a Mormon. The house was used as his residence until it was purchased for \$3,350 in 1844 by Adam Swartz, an attorney and German immigrant. Swartz added to the home during his occupancy. (Swartz had lived on the Temple Block in a house which was built in front of where the original Temple had stood.)

Swartz sold the property to Wm. C. Reimbold, Jr. in 1885. (His father, W.C. "Casper" Reimbold had purchased the northwest section of Temple Block in 1875, which included the lot where the Temple had once stood.) Reimbold and his wife Elizabeth, converted the property into the "Oriental Hotel," adding a second story rear (9 rooms) to accommodate additional guests c. later 1800's. Interestingly, Reimbold included the following message printed on each page of the Oriental Hotel's guest book: "Guests without baggage are required to pay in advance."



Photo Courtesy of Larry Nicholl

c. 1885 Oriental Hotel, Wm. C. Reimbold, proprietor

Point of Interest: From the 1890's to 1980's, a Nauvoo Temple moon stone sat on the Hotel's east lawn. It was sold sometime in the early 1990's.

(1290 Mulholland continued on page 2)

1290 Mulholland



Photo Courtesy of

Oriental Hotel c. early 1900's.
Note the replica of an 1890's gas lamp that once illuminated Mulholland in front of the hotel and the ivy-covered building next door to the west.

After Reimbold's death in 1938, the hotel was run for a few years by Elizabeth "Liza-Bill" and others until it closed in 1940. (It was reported that "Liza-Bill" sold "antiques"—especially beds that Joseph Smith had slept in—as well as "Temple keys.")

In 1961, the building to the west (1280 Mulholland) was incorporated into the business, creating an additional dining room, known today as the "Nauvoo Room" and featuring oil paintings of Nauvoo by Lane K. Newberry, a Chicago artist with Mormon ancestry, who spent some of the 1950's in Nauvoo depicting earlier and present scenes in and around the area. (Newberry lived in Nauvoo in 1957.) In 1870, bricks from Joseph Smith's Red Brick Store were used to replace this room's east wall. A German-era marble-topped sideboard is a piece salvaged from the original Oriental Hotel.

In 1968 Kraus built and opened the "Heritage Room" aka "Icarian Room," an additional dining room, which was built onto the back of the former Oriental Hotel.



Photo Courtesy of Mairily Haus

The Françoise Champeau house in 1957, a former Icarian dwelling located on Knight and Wilcox (where Carrie Manor is presently) was vacant and in disrepair. The façade of the building was rescued and now covers the south wall of the Heritage Room of the Hotel Nauvoo, helping to recreate an 1860's street scene .



Photo Courtesy of Nauvoo Restoration, Inc.

Picture of Mulholland, looking west, some time after 1889.

Hotel Nauvoo's interesting architectural features include a cupola, handmade woodwork, and arches of the original home. Inside are many treasures, some preserved from its days as the Oriental Hotel.

*The 1912 Plat mentions a doctor living here in c. 1912. It might have referred to a Dr. Bortz, who lived in the house behind the Hotel on Ripley Street.