

# News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The following property was officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The **National Register of Historic Places** is the nation's inventory of properties deemed worthy of preservation. It is part of a national program to coordinate and support local and private efforts to identify, evaluate and protect the nation's historic and archeological resources. The National Register was developed to recognize historic places and their role in contributing to our country's heritage. For more information on the National Register program in Nebraska, contact the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office at (402) 471-4787 or visit [www.nebraskahistory.org](http://www.nebraskahistory.org).

## **DOUGLAS COUNTY OMAHA**

The **George A. Joslyn Mansion** (national significance amendment) was officially approved on March 5, 2009.

The following is an excerpt from the National Register of Historic Places nomination form:

### **THE NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF GEORGE A. JOSLYN AND JOSLYN CASTLE**

Joslyn Castle is nationally significant under Criterion B in the areas of communication and entertainment for its association with publisher George A. Joslyn, the president and general manager of the most successful and far-reaching media service company in America. In the era before radio and television, the company he built, the Western Newspaper Union (WNU), reached out to millions of Americans on a weekly basis to educate, inform and entertain people in America's rural communities through their local weekly papers, through its support of our nation's rural presses and through the publication of books and pamphlets for local authors, companies, and organizations. Its influence on rural America at a time when two-thirds of the country's population lived on isolated farmsteads has been studied by numerous scholars who focused on such areas as political ideals, serial literature publications and advertising.

Joslyn Castle is also significant under Criterion C at the state level as the work of a collection of Master Builders and at the national level as a rare and excellent example of Scottish Baronial Revival architecture in the United States. As with many of his contemporaries, Joslyn's residence was the center of his social life and his statement on how he wished to be viewed by the world. Developed simultaneously with his initial business interests in Omaha, business acquaintances and friends alike were invited to attend events on the grounds. The mansion, stable, conservatory foundation and grounds survive in good condition today on the original five-acre site, now surrounded by the city of Omaha.