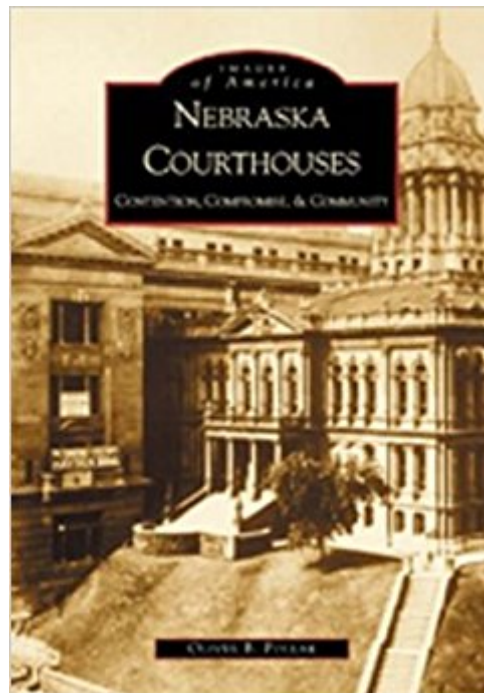




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Nebraska Courthouses: Contention, Compromise, & Community (NE) (Images Of America)



Synopsis

County courthouses stand at the center of Nebraska local government. Their authority in the state extends over hundreds of square miles with county populations ranging from less than a thousand to nearly half a million. The activities taking place within these buildings range from storing vital statistics, such as birth and death certificates, to hosting the trials of common criminals and not-so-common "crimes of the century." Using over 235 photographs, Nebraska Courthouses vividly describes the architectural and political evolution of the courthouse. Often in the early years of Nebraska statehood war nearly broke out in these courthouses as county formation saw spirited battles to become the county seat. Today, the courthouse remains the center of community pride, anchoring the downtown of each county seat. Courthouses contain the offices of elected officials and county staff. In this volume you will see the places where judges, lawyers, the County Attorney, social workers, librarians, janitors, and other individuals that make government work.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Oliver B. Pollak has taught at the University of Nebraska at Omaha since 1974. His previous book with Arcadia is Jewish Life in Omaha and Lincoln: A Photographic History. He is a practicing attorney who has published several books and over 100 scholarly articles.

This is not your typical county courthouse book. Oddly, it is part of the Images of America series, which provides relatively standardized smallish books with historic photographs on varying building

and cultural typologies. Thus, I approached this with some trepidation, fearing that it would primarily be a photography book with light textual support. My fears proved to be ungrounded. Yes, the photographs are all historic in nature, but the text provides all of the information that I deemed to be necessary for my understanding of the architectural history of these buildings within their county contexts. As the only available book about county courthouse architecture in Nebraska it is an essential component for the library of anyone having an interest in Nebraska county courthouses or in American county courthouses in general.

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