

Celebrating Our 30th Anniversary Year

Adding value by infusing period architecture with the modern lifestyle

SUBURBAN WORK:

QUESTION – My house is a cape cod in Westwood, KS which looks like many others in the same area. What should I do to individualize my house?

RESPONSE – Many homes are of a particular style but don't represent their style well. In this case we have shutters that are too small and are mounted poorly. The crimson red front door clones the look of many houses.



BEFORE

Your newsletter with help for renovation, color & ...



RESPONSE Cont'd. –

Sketch wise we show a change in the front door from red to russet, a more natural color. The railing becomes a large scale version of the rook holding the porch lamp. Steps now encompass



AFTER

both sides of the front stoop which transitions onto a partial brick driveway .

Stone flag-stone draws our passage into the landscape.



BEFORE

THE GARAGE

To subdue the garage door and to add more scale to the front entry we removed the first 2 sections of driveway by the house. This in turn becomes a red-tone paving brick which draws attention to itself as it sweeps toward the front doorway.

Too many large shrubs hide the front door and are removed and replace with a large scale open and planted classical urn.



AFTER

RURAL WORK:

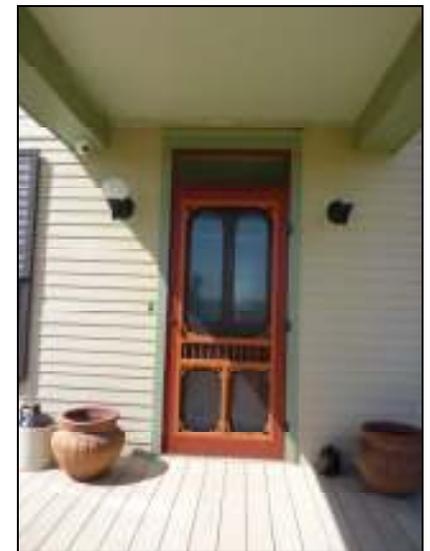
Perhaps a **Once in A Lifetime Opportunity** to see
Historic Bethany, MO Farmstead.

Tour offered TO YOU by Historic Kansas City Foundation

Per our Newsletters, Paula Walter, a member of the Foundation's Tour Committee, saw our renovations for the 1857, *National Register* of Historic Places, Slatten/Dale home in Bethany, MO. This was the inception of an idea to charter a luxury bus to tour this impressive restoration property. Owners of the home Doug & Rolanda Dale were happy to cooperate in the opening of their home to this preservation group. It most probably will be a once in a lifetime event to see details of an early farmstead home from the time of Abraham Lincoln, the Civil War and the American Indian.

Here one can see:

- Heavy timbers exposed in the basement level
- Giant walnut logs used as bracing to hold up the Belvedere Roof Tower
- Historic period furnishings including a marbleized fireplace perhaps very similar to what may have originally been in the house
- Original walnut staircases grace the two central hallways of this large commodious residence.





TOUR – Tour – Tour !!!

- 1.) **Historic Kansas City Foundation (HKCF)** is proud to sponsor and with the kind permission of Doug & Rolanda Dale, owners, a **tour of a meticulously restored 1857 farmhouse in Bethany, MO**
- 2.) **Secondary on this tour will be our over-night stay at the, Swiss Founded, Immaculate Conception Abbey in Northwest MO.** Here, in the rolling hills of Nodaway county we will visit a Benedictine monastery where we will be able to attend monastic office in the magnificent Basilica with it fully restored Beauronese paintings.
- 3.) **See the Wind Farm @ the Convent of Clyde and the Bison Grasslands Preserve** by the Grand River.



- 2012 BUS TOUR -

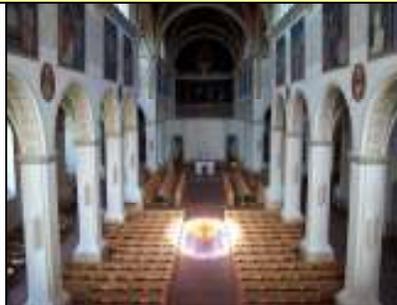
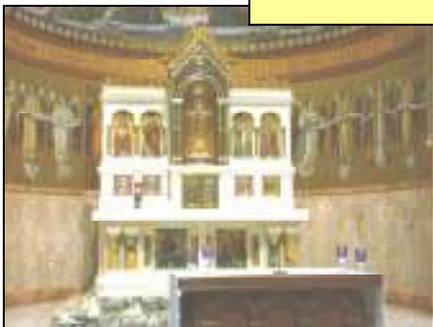
Via 25 passenger coach

Sat. & Sun., September 15-16, 2012

Leave KC - 9: AM, Sept. 15 - Arrive back KC - 5: PM, Sept. 16

Cost: \$150. includes bus cost, overnight stay at Conception Abbey, supper, breakfast, dinner

Contact Dianne @ **(816) 753-0909** or diane.capps@sbcglobal.net

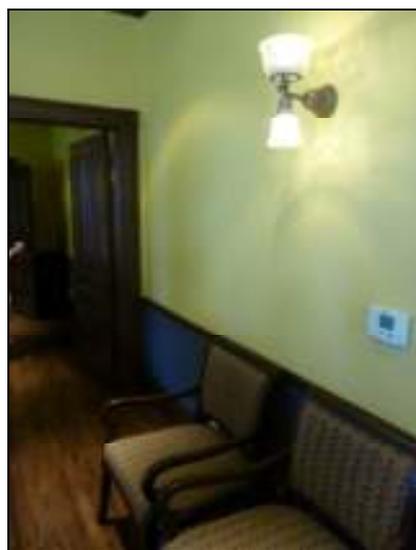


INDEPENDENCE WORK:

Our next newsletter will feature the renovation planning for the Swinney Home at Drum Farm Institute. Here are a few images of this property and its now marvelous exterior, interior and grounds



Ready for its dedication a house is silent but ready for action. Ribbon cutting means many proud advocates, staff, and civic minded individuals.



People gather, rooms, offices are dedicated, a worthy cause continues for people, children, those in need. This is a worthy place.

June Master Gardeners of Leavenworth meeting features talk about Green Landscaping



3 projects already are underway in Leavenworth.

Here are our installations of pathways, shrubbery groupings and massive boulders.



“Pictures are worth a thousand words!”

Touch of Distinction has been asked to give talks on:

- Period Color Schemes,
- Faux Finishes,
- Curb Appeal and
- Landscape Design.

These presentations have been under the auspices of several Neighborhood associations, Historic Kansas City Foundation, Realtor Groups and philanthropic organizations such as the Lions Club, Rotary Club, and others.

Our presentations are full of interesting before and after images that help create provoking thoughts of what can be done not only to improve ones own house but also of that which constitutes help for an entire neighborhood. What about neighborhood markers? What about landscaping on city owned property of entry gateways. All can constitute improvement to any neighborhood. Interesting stories often accompany these talks along with the reaction of people living in their uniquely improved homes.



OUR TALKS COVER:

Topic – GREEN TALK:

- Where do plants go regarding: color, type plant, placement?
- Green environmental concerns
- What are Period type gardens and ways of planting?

Topic – COLOR & DESIGN:

- What colors are appropriate for my house & its style
- Is there any hope for my suburban house and CURB APPEAL?