

Every community has places that are of special value to its residents. Places may be valued as landmarks, such as historic trees or buildings. Other places may be valued as the site of childhood adventures or universal events. Some places just seem to evolve into local hangouts—a tavern, a diner or even a parking lot. Places may be valued because they are tangible reminders of past residents; they represent a shared history.

“Special places” refers to these places, which often contribute to residents’ perception of home and desire for community investment. By identifying a community’s special places and learning why those places are important, designers gain a better understanding of residents’ values and are able to incorporate those into a meaningful design. The design team conducted mapping interviews with Fonda residents about their special places, and noted comments and locations on an aerial photo. These were then studied to discover themes and consensus among residents about their town. The results are communicated in the thematic maps to follow.

“The pond is wonderful. It has trails around it and is very scenic.”

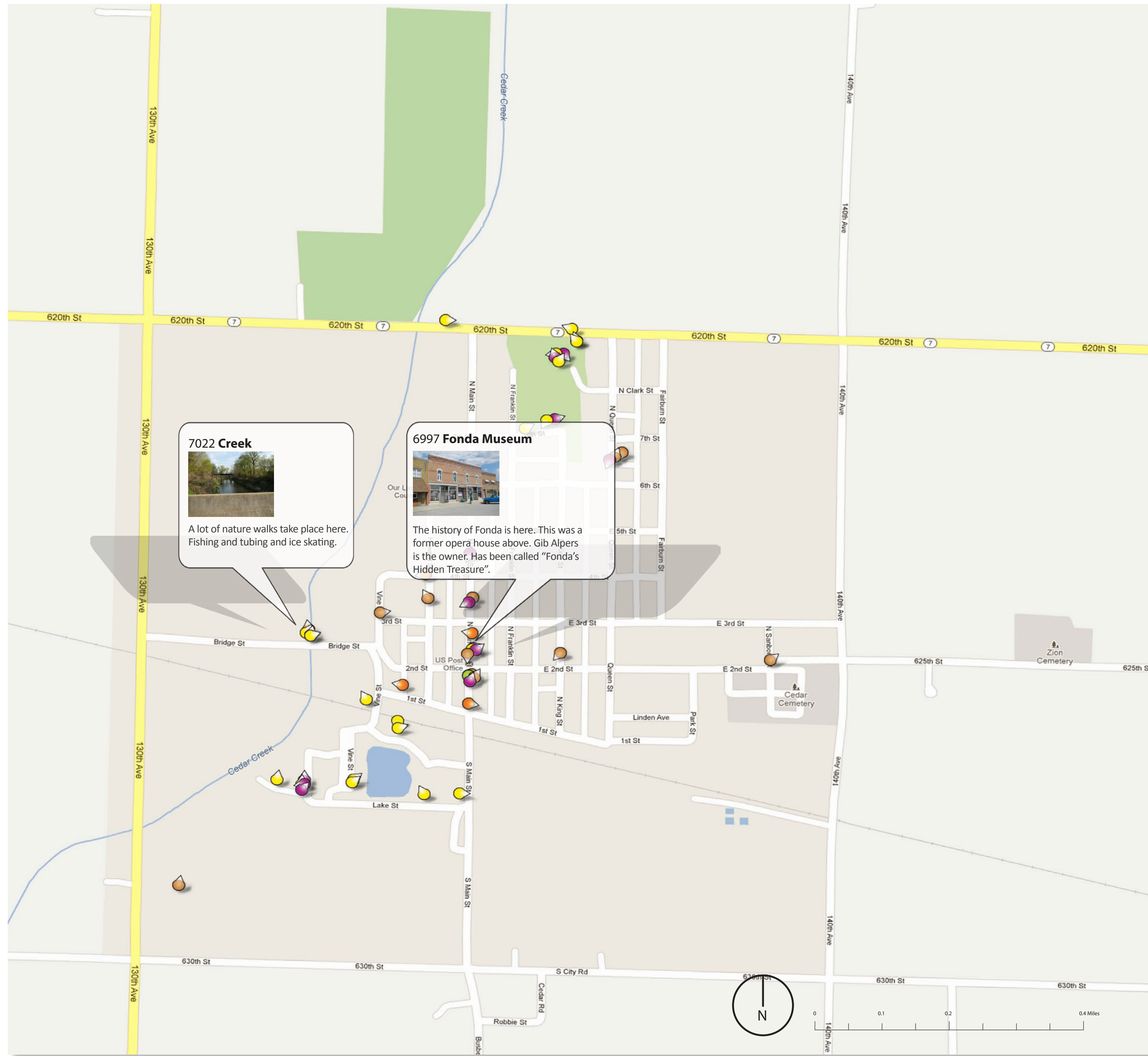
“The houses are so beautiful - I remember knocking on the door and asking for a tour!”



Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church.

“I love the Dredge (Cedar Creek). We used to camp at night and build forts and [the boys] would scare the girls and we’d leave to call our parents.”

“I appreciate the Fonda Museum. It’s well worth the visit. You won’t find one like it anywhere near here. It’s amazing.”



Map Source: Google Maps, accessed April 2013.

# Fonda

## Special Places Mapping | 1. Overview

Landscape Architect: Brett Douglas, ASLA, & Dylan Jones, Associate ASLA, Genus Landscape Architects

LA Interns: Rachel Johnson, Chris Riggert, ISU Landscape Architecture Extension

Iowa Department of Transportation   Trees Forever   ISU Landscape Architecture Extension   ISU Extension Community and Economic Development