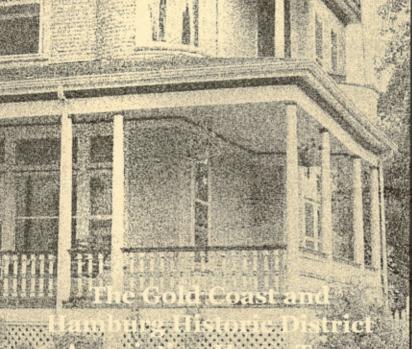
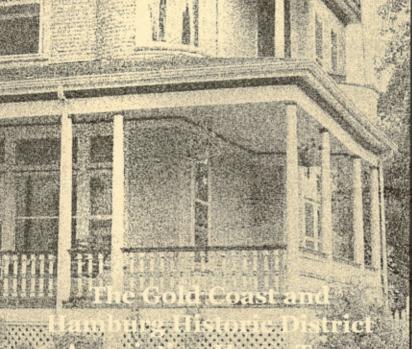
Beiderbeakt Family



Beiderbeakt Family



## Davenport's First Neighborhood presents "Beiderbecke Family Homes"

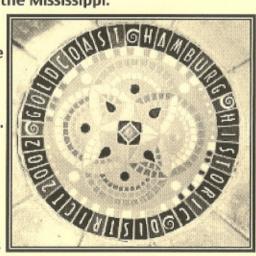
Welcome to Davenport's First Neighborhood. Please accept our invitation to explore our community and join the effort to preserve this and all historic communities.

This year's Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District
Association home tour continues the celebration of Bix
Beiderbecke's 100th year with a tour of homes were the
family lived, played and prospered. From the early residences of Bix's grandfather to his aunt's, uncle's and
cousin's homes, members of the Gold Coast & Hamburg
Historic District Association are proud to share their part
of the Bix heritage.

The construction of homes in this neighborhood was originally funded by the first entrepreneurs, industrialists, and bankers of the area, many of German heritage like the Beiderbecke's. They commissioned noted architects of the day to build extraordinary Queen Anne, Italianate and Gothic Revival homes on the bluffs overlooking Davenport and the Mississippi.

Federal, Gothic and Greek Revival styles are alsoprominent and were among the first built in this area between 1840 and 1870.

Though the homes in this neighborhood were once in varied states of disrepair, the current owners see themselves as stewards of these restored homes for future generations.



Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District Association

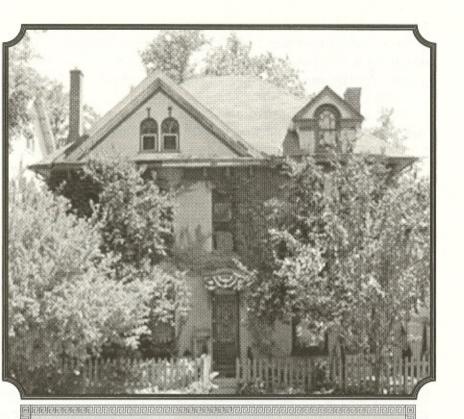
This year's historic home tour, "Beiderbecke Family Homes," will open five homes and the old Germania Haus Hotel, now the German American Heritage Center, to the public. All the homes in this tour have a significant tie to the Beiderbecke family.

This tour is planned and conducted through the efforts of the Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District Association.
Our goal is the promotion, preservation and beautification of historic homes and neighborhoods. Proceeds from the tour are used to increase awareness and promote a sense of community through neighborhood clean-up days and maintenance of community common areas.

#### WELCOME TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!



Gold Coast Park Gazebo



The Beiderbecke - Best Home (1864) 619 West Sixth Street

Built shortly after the Civil War, this brick home is a fine example of the Greek Revival Style typical of the first homes built on the Gold Coast. Through the 1870s, Beiderbecke resided here with his family until completing his new home just two blocks away in 1881. Louis P. Best, vice-president of Davenport Foundries, then bought this home adding servants quarters, a formal dining room, master bedroom and south-facing bay windows. The formal dining room is paneled in quarter-sawn white oak and remained intact until the mid-1980s when vandals removed the fire-place mantel.



The Charles Beiderbecke Home (1881) 532 West Seventh Street

he next Beiderbecke Sr. home was the vision of Davenport's most successful grocery wholesaler, director of the German Savings Bank and president of Iowa national Bank. As one of the most elaborate Gothic Revival style homes in Davenport, this home features a tri-colored slate roof, eight fireplaces in both wood and marble surrounds, detailed butternut and chestnut woodwork and a staircase with a built in orchestra pit. It is currently open to the public as The Beiderbecke Inn, a renowned bed and breakfast. We can only guess how many times the young Bix must have visited grandma and grandpa here.



The Carl Beiderbecke Home (1890) 510 West Seventh Street

Built by H. O. Seiffert as a wedding gift for his daughter Adelle, this home is a superb example of the Late Queen Anne style. Carl and Adelle Beiderbecke raised four children here. During the early part of the 20th century, cousin Bix was a frequent visitor to his aunt and uncle's home. Featuring a denticular exterior cornice, handsomely pedivented gables and a palladian window in the second floor front gable. The first floor boasts spacious front and back porches, with beautiful oak and cherry floors and staircases. Both stained and leaded glass are used extensively throughout the interior of the first floor.



The A.J. Hershel-H.O. Seiffert Home (1890) 532 West Sixth Street

I lowa as a buyer and seller of land after immigrating from Germany. As his fortune grew, he used it to open the H.O. Seiffert Lumber Company. When he decided to start a family, he chose Davenport to provide better educational opportunities for his children. Seiffert bought this home in 1892. His daughter Adelle later married Carl Beiderbecke, father of Bix. A significant example of the Queen Anne style, the north and east portions of the house and the large wrap-around porch were added during the Seiffert era. Seiffert lived here until his death in 1940.



## The Louis Hanssen Jr. Home (1894) 504 West Seventh Street

ouis Hanssen Jr. was born in 1864 at 211 West Second Street and lived in Daveport his entire life. From 1884 – 1890 he worked as a billing clerk for Serg and Williams of Davenport, a competitor to his fathers store. From 1890 – 1897 Louis was a teller for the Davenport Bank (presently Wells Fargo). He then became treasurer of Louis Hanssen Sons Hardware and by 1901 he was president. He married Paula Bruhn in 1888 and they moved in to this home in 1894. This home is a modified American Four–Square with a four season porch, circular staircase and one of the neighbor–hood's last examples of a widow's walk.



## The Germania Haus Hotel (1862) 712 West 2nd Street

he German American Heritage Center, began its life as the "Germania Haus" hotel in 1862. At that time it accommodated the thousands of immigrant-settlers that funneled across the river and through Davenport to settle the area and many points west. This early hotel served the river-front as a gateway to the city, just as it does today at the foot of the Centennial Bridge. It was purchased and rehabilitated by the German American Heritage Center in 1995, and opened to the public in May 2000. The Center includes many exhibits on early German immigrants to the area and will be open 11 – 4PM today.

A Very Special Thank You to the friends of GC & HHDA that make this event so special

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# MY TOUR NOTES

# Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District Home Tour Map 2003

