

Davenport's First Neighborhood
2022 Gold Coast-Hamburg Historic
District
Davenport, Iowa

HOME TOUR

A GOLD COAST WELCOME



September 17, 2022; 12 pm – 4 pm
September 18, 2022; 12 pm – 4 pm



THE GOLD COAST-HAMBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

Mission Statement:

We, as the Gold Coast-Hamburg Historic District Association, are dedicated to preserving the built heritage of Davenport's First Neighborhood.

Additionally, we collect its histories providing context and understanding of the great importance of this district.

Because all great neighborhoods are made up of people, families, and friends, we organize and sponsor events to bring people together, support the association, and become a more powerful voice within the community.

A sampling of the association's activities and completed projects include many beautification projects such as tree and flower planting; maintaining a park and gazebo, historic lighting, and railings; downzoning to a more residential area; designating the area as locally historic; fundraisers such as home tours; social events; meetings; etc.

For more information on the early German settlement and the historic district, contact:

♦ GC-HHDA

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Or, visit our website at www.davenportgoldcoast.org

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A big thank-you to the German American Heritage Center for joining our tour. Your ticket will admit you to their fine museum, with interesting traveling and permanent exhibits.

Very special thanks to:

- ◆ Our advertisers, who purchased space in this brochure. Their financial support helps offset the expenses of presenting this tour.
Show your appreciation ~ become their customer.
- ◆ Our Tour Homeowners, for so graciously opening their homes today.
- ◆ The Tour Committee, Volunteers, and Docents, for their countless hours of hard work and invaluable assistance.

And, last but not least, THANK YOU our guests, for attending this tour. We hope you enjoy this glimpse into the past, and look forward to seeing you at the next tour.

Duane E. Timm

President, the Gold Coast-Hamburg Historic District Association.

Scott County Historic
Preservation Society, Inc. (SCHPS)



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WELCOME BACK!

THE GOLD COAST-HAMBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR

A little after 4:00 pm on September 23, 2018, we said goodbye to our last Gold Coast tour visitor. By 5:00 pm, neighbors were gathering for a community meal that always follows the end of this signature public event. As always, there were conversations about guests who had shared personal stories about the neighborhood and reflections on what worked and what might have been done better. There were even a few thoughts on who we might convince to be on the next tour in 2020.

No one could anticipate on that bright, early fall evening that all of us would go into lock-down in early 2020. For more than a year, neighborhood quarterly meetings and socials were put on hold. We put a pin in future home tour planning until we felt the public and our home tour hosts were comfortable gathering.

So, here we are four years later with five homes, all with stories to tell. Three were severely deteriorated and facing potential demolition. Neighbors rallied to ask the city of Davenport to intervene to save one property and to relocate another. The third was fortunate to find an owner willing to take on the tough task of bringing it back to life.

From the 2018 tour, the 1857 Lambrite-Iles-Petersen home is back with magnificently restored interior wall frescos and a front porch returned to its original appearance.

Never on tour before are the 1911 Braunlich home and the 1907 Sweeney-Holcomb home, both on West 8th Street.

Also new to the tour, and back from the brink, is the 1893 Mueller home, undergoing restoration.

Finally, the 1889 Karlowa-Rohwedder home has been lovingly restored by owners who first took possession in 1992.

The 1868/1878 Jipp Home & Grocery and the 1861 German American Heritage Center/Miller Hotel return as stops on the tour.

Stories of the people who lived in these buildings are part of the narrative. Several homeowners helmed enterprises that contributed to Davenport's late 19th century manufacturing and retail prowess. One homeowner invented a machine that had a profound and lasting impact on the production and distribution of a basic diet staple.

Original families suffered personal loss as well. In two homes, appendicitis, a disease easily curable today, killed two mothers. In one case, the loss dramatically impacted the life trajectories of the children left behind.

We've missed sharing our neighborhood with our visitors, and we hope you enjoy the 2022 Tour. Once again, our doors are open!

Welcome back to the Gold Coast!



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Ghost Tales Sept. 24

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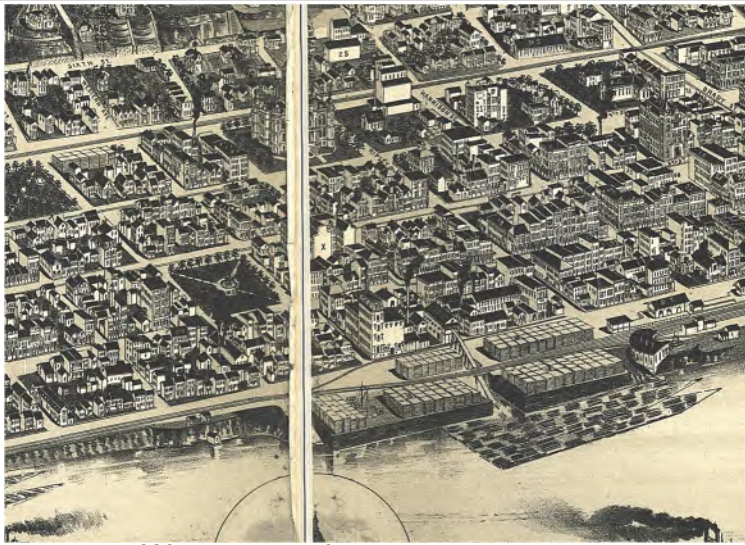
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In the 1888 Birdseye map of Davenport, Mueller Lumber stockpiles dominated a section of the downtown riverfront.

The Mueller family moved to Ripley and West 6th Street about 1865. As his surviving children (Frank, William, Edward, Alfred, and Hilda) reached adulthood, they built houses next to their father along West 6th Street. These houses still stand today.

Given the fates and fortunes of large houses in Davenport's heritage neighborhoods during the 20th century, and particularly because of the severe deterioration of the building on tour today, it is something of a miracle that all of the Mueller homes remain intact.

After family patriarch Christian died in 1901, most of his heirs were engaged in the operation of the Mueller Lumber Company. During the 20th century, the company diversified into selling other building products, home plans, and fuel.



Circa 1920s ad republished in the Davenport Times-Democrat, 1971. In the 20th century, the Mueller Company offered a variety of services and building products, including coal and cement.

Eventually, several built houses elsewhere and moved away from West 6th Street.

Eldest son Frank married childhood friend Malvina Lischer in 1893. After marriage, they lived in a “handsome” house on West 6th Street just steps away from both their parents. They welcomed daughter Frances in 1896. Sadly, one month later, Malvina died of complications of appendicitis. In 1897, Frank remarried, this time to a cousin of his brother-in-law. The family continued to live on West 6th Street until 1911 when they moved to the growing suburb of McClellan Heights.

The two middle sons moved to the Vander Veer Park neighborhood, Edward in 1913 and William (divorced and remarried) in 1915.

Daughter Hilda Mueller Matthey, a widow, continued living in her home until 1930.

Youngest child Alfred lived in the remodeled Mueller homestead, remaining on the block until 1947.

As the families moved away, the homes were converted to multi-family properties. Frank Heede, who had purchased the William Mueller house at 413 West 6th Street in 1922, also became the owner of the Frank Mueller House.

Heede continue to live on West 6th Street until the early 1960s. In 1940, the west dormer was converted to make two attic apartments. This is likely when the expanded dormer, now removed, was installed.

During its years as a rental it ranged from 7 to as many as 11 units.

Recent History

By the late 1970s, the Frank Mueller House had a new owner. By 1988, the building's condition forced the city of Davenport to order it vacated. The house continued under new owners, with new warnings from the city regarding condition. Owners did not respond to calls from concerned neighbors. A failing roof allowed water into the structure, compromising rafters and flooring.

In 2015, the city began moving forward with plans to demolish the building. The current owner, who had rehabbed two other vacant properties in the Gold Coast, took possession just ahead of the bulldozers. She set about stabilizing and closing up the home. Removal of the added west dormer along with the installation of new rafters and roof helped correct some of the structural issues and minimize damage from water and weather.

Work continues on restoring the exterior and returning the severely deteriorated interior to a single family home. Fresh paint now covers well-worn shingles and wood siding, a welcome sight holding the promise of great things to come.



A large, ornate, light-colored wooden house with a prominent central tower and multiple gables, situated on a grassy hill under a blue sky. The house features intricate woodwork, arched windows, and a stone foundation. A central entrance with a small porch and stairs is visible. The house is surrounded by green grass and some trees in the background.

The Lambrite-Iles-Petersen home is historically significant for three reasons: Its early owners play pivotal roles in Davenport's development, its young architect contributed important private and public buildings throughout the Midwest, and its design is a rare early surviving example of the Italian Villa style in Iowa.

Joseph Lambrite arrived in Davenport in 1851, and with the limited means at his disposal somehow managed to purchase an interest in the largest sawmill in the city. Burnell, Gillet & Company operated the Pioneer Mills, employing 90 men and consisting of a sawmill capable of producing 42,000 feet per day, as well as a sash, doors, blinds, and millwork factory. A year later, his investment paying off handsomely, Lambrite looked to the construction of a fine mansion reflective of his success. He eventually acquired three lots at the northwest corner of Scott and 6th Streets, with a fine view of the river valley and his sawmill, located at the river on Scott Street.

Early in 1856, architect John C. Cochrane arrived in Davenport and opened for business. Trained in his home state of New Hampshire, he came west, to Chicago where he worked as a draftsman for Edward J. Burling, and then on to Davenport. At 21 years of age, he possessed exceptional skill and talent. Cochrane's first independent commission was the design of Lambrite's new home. Grading and excavation on the three-lot site

were well underway, setting the stage for what would become one of the finest pieces of architecture in the city. Julietta and Joseph Lambrite would soon take up residence in one of the first Italian Villa style homes to be built in the state, unusual because it was constructed of wood, where most were built of brick or stone. Sawmill owner Lambrite furnished lumber at cost and manufactured all of intricate millwork, doors, and windows. Upon its completion in early 1857, the Lambrites owned a work of fabulous artistry, with many rare modern conveniences; underground cisterns for rainwater, a hot air furnace for heat, and an indoor bathroom and water closet. Elegant and ornate interior detailing and breathtaking views perfected the superb design. The Lambrite residence attested to Cochrane's ability, winning him additional work like the Burtis House Hotel, St. Luke's Church, Metropolitan Hall, and others. Of Cochrane's 1850s work in Davenport, only the Lambrite house remains.

As the home approached completion, one of the worst economic depressions in U. S. history, the panic of 1857, had begun to affect business west of Chicago. It hit Davenport hard, breaking banks and bankrupting successful concerns of all sorts, including lumber milling and construction. The Pioneer Mills' finances vanished, and like many others, Lambrite lost his fortune and his prized home too. After 1860 the Lambrites moved to Chicago, and then settled in Philadelphia, where Lambrite worked in real estate.

Davenport's financial collapse suspended building construction. Cochrane moved to St. Louis, working there successfully until the Civil War, when he went home to New Hampshire. After the war, he returned to Chicago and set up shop. At the age of 31, he won the commission to build the Illinois State Capitol and a few years later, the Iowa Capitol. His project list includes the 1886 Scott County Court House, the Renwick Mansion and St. Katharine's Hall in Davenport, as well as courthouses, significant residences and other public buildings across Iowa, Illinois, and other Midwestern states.

The Lambrite house quickly passed through several hands until it was purchased in 1861 by Dr. Thomas J. Iles from Kentucky. A slaveholder-turned-abolitionist, he freed his slaves, sold his property, and brought his family north to Davenport. He practiced as a physician until he was appointed Chief Surgeon at the prison camp for Confederate soldiers on Government Island. Iles lost his wife, Maria, in 1866, but remained in the house, taking in roomers upon his retirement.

In 1885, Iles sold the house to John H. C. Petersen and wife, Elizabeth. John was nearing retirement age and wished for a fine residence in which to enjoy his golden years. Petersen, with sons William, Max, and Henry, built a mercantile and dry goods business that became the largest in Davenport, making the Petersens one of the wealthiest families in the city. Eventually, the Petersen store was sold to Harned-Von Maur and continues to this day as Von Maur Department Stores.

Petersen and wife enlarged the kitchen, updated plumbing, added steam heat, and built a second-floor bathroom above the one-story section at the northeast corner of the house. The house was much-beloved by the Petersen children, and they kept it in the estate for many years after both their parents were gone, finally selling to Joseph and Alvina Schick in 1920.

The Schicks added craftsman style porches across the front and a bungalow for their son in the west lawn. Over time the house was divided into three apartments.

In 1980, the house again became a single-family home.

Recent History

By 2015, the house was in a severe state of decay. It was purchased by Dick and Linda Stone. They have a true understanding and appreciation of the incredible historic and architectural significance of this house and have worked painstakingly to bring it back to its former glory. No detail is too small. They removed porch additions that concealed the architect's original design and made repairs too numerous to mention. This home was on the 2018 Home Tour as a work in progress.

The work has continued over the last four years, producing astonishing results. They have restored woodwork finishes, created a vintage-looking modern kitchen, and finished three bathrooms, all beautifully executed. The crowning achievement is the restored fresco artwork in the front hall, stairway, upstairs hall, and tower. The frescos, which date to original construction in 1857, had deteriorated over time. The plaster was severely damaged, much of the original paint missing and discolored. Once the plaster was repaired, the Stones searched for the expertise necessary for the fresco work. They found Miller Fenwood Art Restoration of Holland, MI, who spent over four months mixing and matching colors, applying paint inch by inch, restoring and repairing the original frescos. Over 60 shades of paint were used. Thousands of hours of meticulous, incredibly detailed work by exceptional artists have produced stunning results.

When an architectural marvel like the Lambrite house, deteriorated to the point of near-collapse, is adopted by preservationists like Dick and Linda Stone, with their dogged determination, clear vision of what is possible, and refusal to accept compromise, preservation miracles DO happen.



Fresco and plaster BEFORE

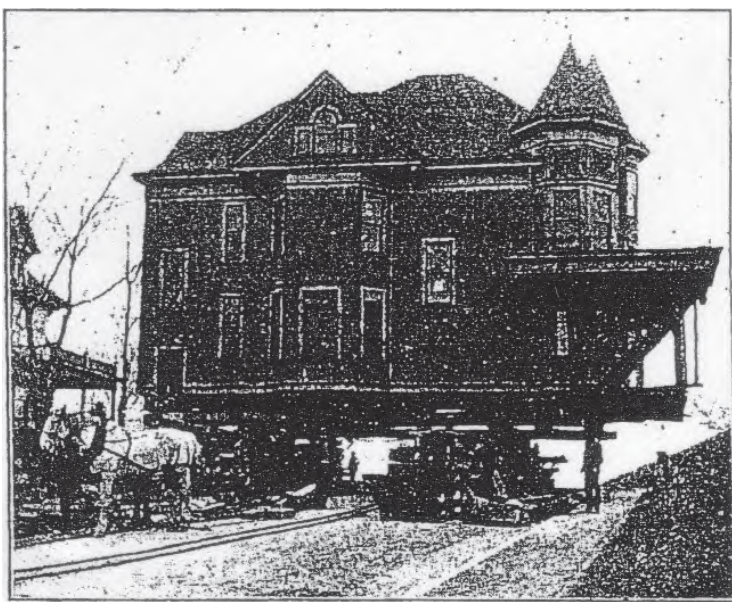


Fresco and plaster AFTER

When a Problem Meets an Opportunity

In 2010, when neighbors received word that the city was planning rehab of the house at the 718 Ripley Street location, there was cause for concern. Neighbors were vocal in their opposition. They believed the tiny parcel and its inherent grading inadequacies and flooding problems would limit the interest in keeping the home owner-occupied. And so, Gold Coast neighbors advocated for moving the home.

This solution has a long and storied history in the Gold Coast. Construction of the large homes today known as “Grandview” and “The Castle,” located east of Ripley at the top of the hill at the 6th Street alley, required removal of several small structures and relocation of two substantial homes, including the very large Queen Anne house now located at 703 Ripley Street. Is this home one of the original modest homes built on that bluff, a home removed but perhaps not destroyed? It is a fascinating thought, and has the makings of an amazing story. However, the history as we know it neither proves nor disproves this hypothetical origin story.



In 1909, the very large Struck House was moved from the cliff at Ripley to its current lot at 703 Ripley to allow construction of “Grandview.”

A new site for the home was available and nearby. Owners of vacated lots around the corner on West 8th Street offered to donate them as the new site for the home. Two major hurdles remained: how to pay for the project, and who could do it.

The expense of such an operation would ordinarily have been cost-prohibitive. As luck would have it, the clock was ticking on city stimulus dollars received from a federal program designed to aid recovery from the on-going national mortgage crisis. Remaining unallocated dollars had to be committed in a matter of weeks. The project was tailor-made for the funding and approval was granted by the city council in August 2010. Another roadblock was removed when neighborhood group Gateway Redevelopment Group (GRG) offered to take possession of the vacated lot on Ripley.

Eventually, GRG deeded the lot to owners of the house on West 8th Street, restoring the original footprint of the parcel.

As to who could accomplish this engineering marvel, Goodwin House Moving of Washington, Iowa, bid on and won the relocation project, and planning was well underway in late 2010. In early 2011, a new foundation was prepared on the donated lots on West 8th Street.

On March 9, 2011, neighbors gathered to cheer on the crew as it carefully lifted the house off its old foundation, drove it half a block down Ripley Street, turned the corner to 8th Street and drove past two houses, and deposited it on its new foundation at 411 West 8th Street. The house was not centered between the lots; rather it was offset to provide a generous side yard to the east while maintaining ample space from the residence to the west.

Under the city's Urban Homestead Program, the building was completely rehabbed, with three bedrooms on the second floor and a new basement with an egress window that would permit adding lower level housing. The house was sold in 2012.

The current owners purchased the home in 2018.



From here... (View looking south on Ripley Street from the corner of West 8th Street)



Around the corner... (View looking west on 8th Street from the corner of Ripley Street)



To here! (View from across West 8th Street looking south)

The Louisa (Krohn) & Hugo G. Braunlich Jr. Home

731 W. 8th Street ♦ c 1911 ♦ American Foursquare/Craftsman style

About the House



The Hugo G. (Jr.) and Louisa Krohn Braunlich house, located at 731 West 8th Street, was built in 1911 on land subdivided from the large lot of the Paul and Emilie (Krause) Karlowa home, located to the south at 723 Brown Street. The house is an enlarged example of the American Foursquare design. Designed by Davenport architectural firm Clausen and Clausen and built by C. W. Bruhn, it embodies various stylistic elements of the Arts and Crafts (Craftsman) movement. The design was quite modern and stylish, characterized by clean lines and horizontal emphasis. American Foursquare is a subtype within the American Prairie School movement, and was influenced by the rejection of the highly ornamented houses of the preceding Victorian era.

Hugo G. Braunlich was the son of Hugo G. Braunlich, Sr. a professor of music. He graduated from the New York College of Pharmacy in 1890. After working in New York for a short time he returned to Davenport and operated a pharmacy on Harrison Street. In 1894 he married Louisa Krohn and they resided at 228 West 5th Street.

In 1903, Braunlich became the manager of H. F. Brammer Mfg. Co., maker of washing machines. Hugo Braunlich's brother, Dr. H. U. Braunlich, was heavily invested in the company and was eventually the president of the concern.



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Pat. Dec. 16, 1896.

Washing machine advertisement from
a May 1890 edition of the Morning Democrat

On October 28, 1911, The Davenport Daily Times featured a large article on the industry. It stated that the industry began in Davenport and at that time it was the washing machine capital of the world, producing up to 150,000 machines per year, which amounted to half of the total production in the nation. The H. F. Brammer Manufacturing Company was the pioneer in the business and was followed by the White Lily Company, the Voss Brothers Company, the Davenport Washing Machine Company, and the Excelsior Manufacturing Company.



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Washing machine advertisement from
a May 1890 edition of the Morning Democrat

Recent History

This is the first time this fantastic home has been open for tour. The previous owner acquired the property in 2011, and performed needed updates to the heating and air conditioning, plumbing, and electrical. Newly remodeled kitchens and bathrooms, new porch railing, and an exterior color scheme of white with black accents give the home a classic modern look and feel.

The current owners took up residence in late 2020, and have brought their own vibrant style to this striking home. The front yard now sports a black wrought iron fence in a simple pattern that works perfectly with the black and white house. The garage roof has been raised, giving it a higher peak and steeper pitch. The front of the garage has been dressed up with a sleek black door and a small window high in the peak under the eaves. The window's white and black trim echoes the windows on the front porch. In keeping with the American Foursquare/Craftsman tradition, the owner combines a love of historic detail with a hip, young design vibe. Bold colors, unusual paint treatments, a secret door and staircase (!), and myriad interesting style elements make for a memorable and exciting tour experience.

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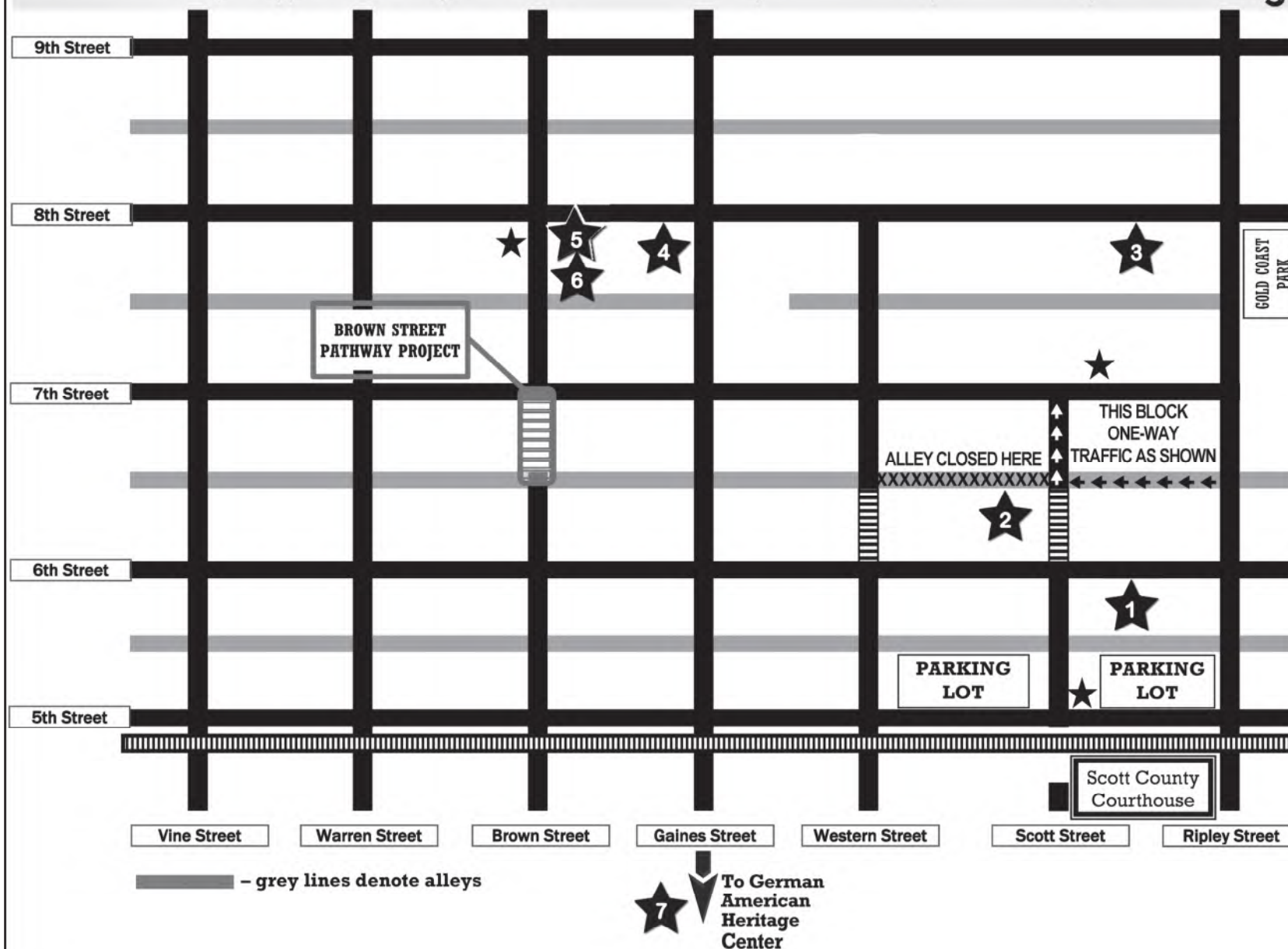
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1. 421 West 6th Street, The Mueller Home
2. 510 West 6th Street; The Lambrite-Iles-Petersen Home
(Access from rear at 6th Street alley;
Bus stops on 7th Street)
3. 411 West 8th Street, The Sweeney-Holcomb Home
4. 732 Gaines Street; The Jipp Home & Grocery - Restrooms Available
5. 731 West 8th Street, The Braunlich Home
6. 723 Brown Street, The Karlowa-Rohwedder Home
7. 712 West 2nd Street; German American Heritage Center
Restrooms Available

★ Bus stops at each tour location and as marked
(5 and 6 share a stop on Brown Street)





About the House



The Karlowa House is built in the Queen Anne Style. It was designed by Davenport architect F. G. Clausen and was a gift to Emilie Krause from her father at her marriage to Paul Karlowa. The house sits between West 7th and West 8th Streets. At the time it was built, there was an unobstructed view to the south across the 7th Street bluff. This is perhaps one reason that the alley-facing south elevation was designed with windows and porches taking advantage of that location.

Friendship and marriage united the Robert Krause, Louis P. Best, and F. G. Clausen families. The three families are closely associated in the neighborhood and with the German immigrants who lived there. Emilie's father, Robert Krause, was engaged in clothing manufacturing and distribution as well as glucose manufacturing. L. P. Best was recruited by Krause to come to Davenport to manage the glucose factory. He and Clausen crossed the Atlantic on the same ship in 1868. Best's second wife would be Clara Krause, Emilie's younger sister. American-born Emilie's husband, immigrant Paul Karlowa, was a manager in Krause's large clothing emporium.

Three children were born to Emilie and Paul. But in 1907, those siblings lives were turned upside-down. First their father Paul, despondent over issues with poor health,

took his own life. Four months later, their mother Emilie died after an unsuccessful operation for appendicitis. Aunt Clara and Uncle Louis Best, with their own family of two young children, took in the Karlowa orphans and raised them as their own.



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Emilie and her sister Clara were officers in their father's business enterprises.

Best commissioned F. G. Clausen and his son Rudy to build Grandview, the Spanish Mission Revival style Louis P. Best House at 627 Ripley Street, to accommodate a family suddenly almost doubled in size due to tragedy. The cousins grew up together in the home.

After the death of the Karlowa parents, the house was occupied by various short-term tenants for about 10 years. They included the owner of a real estate company, a salesman and finally, Otto F. Rohwedder and his wife Carrie who lived in the home from 1918 to 1951.

Rohwedder is remembered for a remarkable achievement that he worked on for 15 years: the bread slicing machine. It was introduced to the world while he lived in Davenport at 723 Brown Street.

Rohwedder, the son of a German immigrant father, grew up in and around the Gold Coast. He left school after grade 8, but later graduated with a degree in Optics from the

Illinois School of Optometry. He began a career in the jewelry business in Missouri, where he first developed plans for his bread machine. In 1917, a fire destroyed all of his plans.

Moving back to Davenport, he worked in an investment firm while still developing his invention. It had its first test in Missouri in 1927. He went on to perfect a 1928 model. That Christmas, Davenport's Korn Bakery claimed to be the fourth bakery in the world to use the machine. Co-owner William Korn lived around the corner on the north side of West 8th Street. Other Rohwedder patents followed.

By 1933, an estimated 80 percent of the bread sold in the United States was sliced by his machines.



**Otto Rohwedder's 1928 bread slicing machine label;
the machine is in the collection of the Smithsonian Institution.**

https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah_1317263

After the Rohwedders, a succession of renters and owners occupied the house, and many cheap, unattractive, and historically inappropriate modifications were incorporated to the graceful residence.

Recent History

When it was purchased in 1992 by its current owners, the house had been wrapped in aluminum siding and the southside porches enclosed. They have carefully restored the home to its original appearance, removing the metal, reopening the porches, restoring the decorative wood elements, and installing a cedar shingle roof. In 2002, they built a two-story carriage house at the rear of the property. Cooking is a favorite hobby, and a trip to a French cooking school inspired the construction of a back yard oven that regularly fills the neighborhood with the wonderful smell of homemade bagels and other treats. An elevated deck overlooking the rear of the property is under construction.

The home's interior contains many original elements that have been meticulously restored and most of its original layout. Early wallpaper is carefully preserved in the dining room. The cook's kitchen was designed by the owners.

One of the most amazing recent projects the homeowners have undertaken is the rescue and reuse of a beautiful mosaic tile floor. Salvaged in October 2019 from 719 Main Street in a one-of-a-kind operation, it is an entryway vestibule that measures 3 feet by 6-1/2 feet, that took at least 100 hours to salvage, clean, and re-install.

The tiles were set in concrete and had to be carefully chiseled from the floor, sometimes one tile at a time, in a painstaking and tedious process. The subfloor was in poor shape, and the broken cement and some of the tiles fell through to the lower level. The final step of the salvage was digging through piles of construction debris in dark and gloomy basement to gather up as many of the original tiles as possible. Skip to April 2021, cleaning the tiles for installation. Countless hours boiling the tiles in vinegar to remove the cement, grout and grime. Then even more grueling hours scraping off grout/cement that was not loosened by the boiling. The tiles were then laid out on a jig with tape to hold the pattern in place until it was re-laid. May 2021 the tile floor was completely installed into its new home in the front vestibule.

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The Christian H. H. and Fanny (Voigt) Jipp Home and Grocery

732 Gaines Street ♦ 1868/1878 ♦ Vernacular Italianate-Greek Revival

About the House



The Greek Revival-Italianate-Vernacular style of this complex and its combined commercial/residential nature would have been a familiar sight along the city's 19th century neighborhoods. Prior to 20th century zoning laws that favored separation of land uses, corner stores and shops serving nearby residents were commonplace in Davenport. Most often, the owner would also be a neighbor. Such is the case with the Christian Jipp's shop and attached family home.

The shop was built in 1868 and was both the business and the home for Christian Jipp, his wife and three children for ten years. It is possible that the family slept in the attic during this period, accessed by ladder and a ceiling hatch. By 1878, Jipp built the attached family home and rear loading dock. The house would continue as the residence for his daughters until the last one passed away in 1945. The store, sold to a different owner in the early 20th century, was a grocery for ninety years until 1955 when it briefly housed an antique shop and an upholstery shop. In 1958, it was converted to a Laundromat.

The Laundromat closed in the early 1980s and the entire building was boarded.

Recent History

By 2004, it was severely deteriorated and in danger of demolition. In that year, Gateway Redevelopment Group (GRG) was created as a not-for-profit whose goal was saving The Jipp and other neighborhood buildings; restoration of the building began.



The building was deteriorated and in danger of demolition in 2005.

The home and grocery complex now include the Architectural Rescue Shop (ARS), a caretaker apartment (not open for view today), and the GC-HHDA resource center. The center features Bassett and Vollum wallpaper based on an 1850s design and handmade by a Gold Coast resident.

The ARS sells architectural salvage to area home renovators. Sales from the shop help fund GRG's mission of saving more abandoned buildings in the neighborhood. The shop now operates primarily as self-service and is open seven days a week

during daylight hours.

The group intervenes by direct restoration of buildings or by property transfer to responsible owners who will complete the work. GRG has partially restored the Rebecca Nesbit Cottage at 517 Ripley, once abandoned and in danger of demolition prior to stabilization and rehabilitation. The cottage, believed to be from the late 1850s or early 1860s, will be fully restored as a compact single family residence. The group is currently looking for a partner to complete the rehabilitation.

The Jipp restroom is available for tour goers.



The Jipp family strolls in the garden c 1880s while Papa Christian stands at the front of his shop. Gaines Street is a dirt road and the sidewalk wooden planks. Courtesy Putnam Museum and Science Center.



The German American Heritage Center

712 W. 2nd Street ♦ 1861 ♦ High Victorian Commercial Architecture

About the Building



The German American Heritage Center began life in 1861 as the William Tell House, a “Gasthaus” or guest house, built to accommodate thousands of immigrants who arrived in the area during the great migration after the Civil War.

In the mid-to-late 1800s, millions of German citizens left their homeland and settled as immigrants in the United States. The 1900 U.S. Census documented that over half the citizens in Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota were German immigrants or their descendants. Scott County, where the first passenger railroad crossed the Mississippi River, was the entry point for many

immigrants to the upper Midwest region and points west. In 1900, Joseph Eiboeck, a veteran German newspaperman, described Davenport as, “the most German city, not only in the State, but in all the Middle West, the center of all German activities in the State”. The German immigrant experience is an integral part of the history and fabric of life in Iowa, in the region and in the nation.

In 1868/69, German immigrant and Davenport manufacturer John Frederick Miller, purchased the hotel and operated it first as the Germania House and in 1873 as the Miller Hotel with an accompanying restaurant, billiard parlor and saloon. In 1906, it was renamed the Arcade Hotel and in 1917, the Henry Blessing Boarding House.

In 1924, it was renamed the Standard Hotel, the name in use for the longest period of time. In 1983 the building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Standard closed in 1990.

Recent History

In 1994, the German American Heritage Center was incorporated as a private, not-for-profit museum. The Center seeks to “preserve and enrich for present and future generations knowledge of the German immigrant experience and its impact on the American Culture.” The Center’s focus is cultural programs and immigrant contributions.

The Center seeks to reach out to other cultural groups and demonstrate the contributions immigrants from many countries and from varied backgrounds have made to the ethnic palette which is the United States.



The GAHC when it was the Millers Hotel, c 1880s.

The group purchased the old hotel in 1995. From 1996-1999, the building underwent restoration, including a new roof, historically accurate windows, repaired exterior walls, and restoration of the first-floor interior.

Rehab continued in 2001 with the restoration of the storefronts. 2002 saw the opening of an exhibit focusing on the Turners, an early German American cultural organization.

In 2004, work began on a new stairwell and elevator, allowing the opening of second floor exhibition space in 2005.

In October 2009, GAHC debuted a newly-expanded space that includes two traveling exhibit spaces; large program facilities; and a new interactive permanent exhibit called the "German Immigrant Experience," which takes visitors on an exploration of

what it was like to be an immigrant to this area in the 1800s. The exhibit progresses through several interactive and intergenerational experiences from an immigrant's journey by sea, train and foot to their final destination in the Davenport area, and goes on to highlight their contributions to the region. It is a great attraction for members and visitors and there are also traveling exhibits to tour in the first-floor space. There are new exhibits often, with two rotating galleries that tell the story of German culture and German-American contributions on a variety of topics. Visit www.gahc.org to plan your visit today!

The newest exhibition at the Center is "Our Neighbors Our Friends", which explores the cross-cultural connections to our neighbors at 3rd and Brown Streets, Tapestry Farms. They help current immigrants and refugees that are new to the area utilize their farming skills and knowledge in community gardens throughout the city. Just as the German immigrants farmed to sustain their families and build their future, these new neighbors are doing the same. Hear the stories from new community members and help them in their efforts to restore the old German laundry as their new headquarters with your participation in this exhibition.



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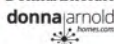
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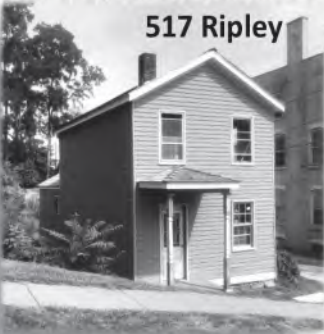
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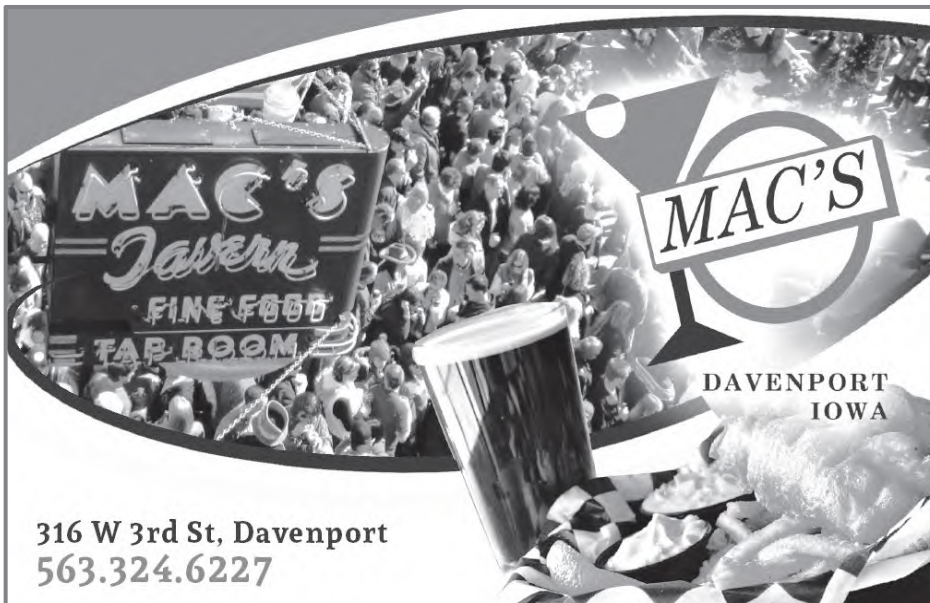
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A black and white photograph of the University of Illinois at Chicago. The main building is a large, multi-story structure with a prominent arched entrance on the right side. It features a mix of brick and lighter-colored stone or concrete. To the right of the main building is a smaller, two-story building with a similar architectural style. The foreground is a grassy lawn with some low-lying shrubs. The sky is clear and bright.

[illegible][illegible]

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TIPS ON TOURING

Driving north, the most direct access to the tour area is via Gaines or Ripley. Driving south, find the tour area via Gaines or Harrison.

PARKING

Parking is available in the parking lots just north of 5th Street between Ripley and Western, and along the streets of the neighborhood.

SHUTTLE BUS

A bus will be traveling the tour route within the neighborhood, free of charge. The bus will stop at each tour site, as well as between the parking lots on 5th Street.

Refer to the map in the middle pages of this brochure.

Bus stops are located in front of tour locations, with the following exceptions:



510 W. 6th Street (Bus stop at 7th and Scott)



731 W. 8th Street & 723 Brown Street
(Shared bus stop on Brown Street, south of 8th Street)

This is a small bus and seating is limited.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms facilities are available at the following tour locations:



The Jipp Home and Grocery
730-732 Gaines Street



The German American Heritage Center
712 W. 2nd Street

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- ☐ 731 W. 8th Street; The Braunlich Home
- ☐ 723 Brown Street; The Karlowa-Rohwedder Home
- ☐ 732 Gaines Street; The Jipp Home & Grocery
- ☐ 712 W. 2nd Street; The German American Heritage Center