

SCHPS  
P.O. BOX 5017  
BETTENDORF, IA 52722

# Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



"Let your heritage not be lost, but bequeath it as a memory,  
treasure, and blessing, and preserve it for your children."

— Christian Metz, 1846

## St. Katherine's School Walking Tour

SCHP's November walking tour promises to be a double treat! We have been invited to tour and learn the history of the newly renovated landmark buildings in the former St. Katherine's School complex (including the old chapel and towering Renwick Italianate stone villa). We will also be among the first to view the renovation of one of Davenport's best kept old house secrets' Cambria Place at Plynilimmon Heights. Please park along E. 10th Street (From Tremont to lower parking lot entry).

Cambria Place is the elegant, red brick, second empire mansion so hidden from view that few have ever seen more than it's stately mansard tower jutting above the trees facing the river. This mini-Ficke Mansion was once the home of the Honorable John L Davies, a prominent businessman, manufacturer and former Mayor of Davenport. Davies named 'Cambria Place at Plynilimmon Heights' after a region in his native Wales where many historic battles for freedom were fought on Plynilimmon Mountain. Fortunately for all of us, the most recent battle to be waged at 'Plynilimmon Heights' has been a 'win-win' for everyone. Signature Company purchased the vacant endangered historic buildings of the

old St. Katherine's School site (founded 1884) and transformed the park-like setting into Davenport's most spectacular setting for affordable senior housing.

Join us on our pre-Thanksgiving walking tour, led by long time St. Katherine's booster Gay Foster-Pray, to help us celebrate one of Davenport's greatest preservation success stories!



'Cambria Place' - Photograph from Library

## November 2002 Newsletter

Next SCHPS meeting  
Nov. 14, 2002 • 6:30pm  
E. 10th ST., Lower Lot

### *President*

Ella Hartmann, 441-0698

### *Vice President*

Janet Corcoran, 386-3428

### *Secretary*

Rex Grove, 355-8727

### *Treasurer*

Ferenc Beiwel, 386-1969

### *Executive Director*

Karen Anderson, 324-0257

### *Newsletter Editor*

Sarah Graham, 326-3411

### *Board Members*

Fred Vogt, 326-4180  
Laura Kauth, 322-7333  
Suzi Rynn, 359-3704



## 2002 Ten Most Endangered Historic Sites

From the City of Davenport's Historic Preservation Commission.

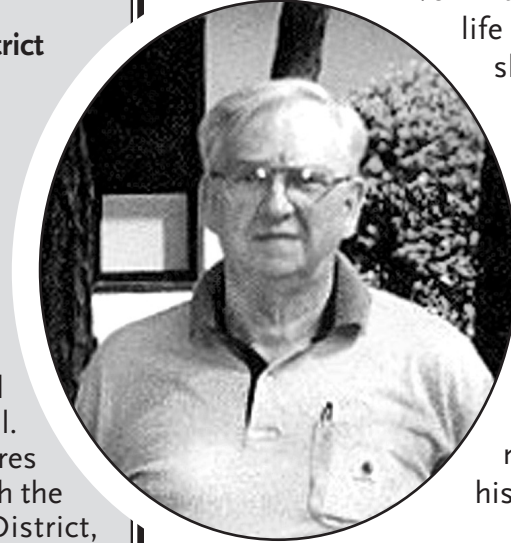
- 1. Anken Flats, 508 W. 3rd St.**  
No maintenance performed. City has taken out an emergency demolition request for life safety reasons.
- 2. Washington Square Historic District (the original downtown) at 3rd from Gaines to Scott Streets**  
Again, lack of maintenance and decay.
- 3. Scott County owned properties in the Hamburg Historic District on north side of 5<sup>th</sup> St between Ripley and Scott Streets.**  
This area was the proposed location of the Scott County Jail. Further decay of these structures could stall restoration efforts with the greater Hamburg Historic District, lower surrounding property values and diminish heritage tourism.
- 4. Stearns Building (Judy's Antiques) 401 E. 2nd St.**  
Lack of development interest.
- 5. Davenport City Cemetery Rockingham Rd. & Division St.**  
Neglect.
- 6. The Smith-Murphy Octagon House 516 E. 6th St., Davenport.**  
Original owners left behind unfinished restoration efforts and unpaid taxes. Interfaith Housing is working to restore property but restoration is slow and further funds are needed to help further stabilize and restore the building.
- 7. The Little Stone House 2208 E. 11th St., Davenport.**  
Building is now empty with no re-development interest.
- 8. Village of East Davenport Commercial Areas, Davenport**  
Inappropriate alterations continue to be made to historic buildings which lowers historic and heritage tourism values and degrades the economic viability of the entire Historic District
- 9. Cork Hill District, Davenport**  
General urban decay. Palmer College has begun to approach development in the area with sensitivity to its historic surroundings.
- 10. The Levee, Davenport.**  
Encroachment of parking lots and 'theme' structures upon the original 'City Beautiful Movement' designs.

Thanks to Ken Oestreich, City Planner, for supplying us with this list.

## Entering the 21st Century!

Check out SCHP's Website! Even our membership form can be filled out and submitted online! Thank You to Mitch, the Scott County Iowa Webmaster.  
<http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/schps.html>

## Hello Vern Wriedt!



Vern has been interested in history all his life and believes that our children should be able to enjoy learning about our local history. He would like to make a record of all historic monuments in the city of Davenport and to get new and better ones. A new marker at Credit Island to commemorate the War of 1812 battle will soon be in place. You'll have a chance to meet and visit with Vern at our meeting. In the meantime, access his great websites!

<http://davenportmon.homestead.com>  
<http://stkatherines.homestead.com>  
<http://cramfield.homestead.com>  
<http://www.marioncrandell.homestead.com>

## Save the Date!

### SCHPS Christmas Party

December 12<sup>th</sup> at the LeClaire House, potluck.

### Walking Tour in The Village of East Davenport

Traditional scenes in store windows.  
December 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 6-9pm

### Holiday Walk in LeClaire Iowa

Featuring historic homes.  
December 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 4-8pm

### German-American Heritage Center Musical Holiday Performance

Featuring the Holy Lutheran Cross Bell Choir & zithers.  
December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2pm

## An Outstanding Meeting!

Thanks to Rex Grove for arranging our October meeting! First we had the pleasure of touring DeEtta Montgomery's well known garden at 2 Temple Lane and then further pleasure of seeing the house, which is one of three across from the Outing Club. Then we crossed Brady Street to St. Paul Lutheran Church, where we learned about the Edward C. Mueller-St. Paul Lutheran Church history. Architect Scott Bengfort showed slides illustrating sympathetic additions. St. Paul's Lutheran Church is an outstanding example.