

BETTENDORF, IA 52722
P.O. BOX 5017
SCHPS

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

An Evening of History in the Town of Buffalo!

The October 11, 2007 meeting of SCHPS will be a tour of the Buffalo Historic Museum starting at 6:30 P.M. The museum is located at 409 3rd Street in Buffalo, Iowa. Directions: take Rockingham Rd. or River Drive in Davenport to Highway 22. Follow Highway 22 into town. Turn right on Washington Street (at the Post Office). Go 2 blocks north and turn left on 3rd St. The Museum is immediately on your left (Old Town Hall). Parking is available either in the lot or on the street, but members are encouraged to carpool. Dorothy Adams will greet us and be able to answer any questions we have about this historic site.

SCHPS members may want to go to Buffalo early and enjoy dinner at Clark's Landing (continue on Highway 22 several blocks past the turn onto Washington St. to go to the Museum). Thursday is taco night, but there is a full menu available, plus Clark's Landing is known for home-made PIES! Go early, check out the local color at Clark's Landing, and enjoy an evening of historic interest! Also, pop is available at the Buffalo Museum for \$.50 a can.



ABOVE: Postcard image of the Buffalo Post Office, thanks to Karen Anderson.

NEWSLETTER DESIGNED COURTESY OF GRAHAM GRAPHICS, GRAPHIC DESIGN, CALL 970-389-8550



October 2007 Newsletter

Next SCHPS meeting
Oct. 11, 2007 • 6:30pm
409 3rd St, Buffalo, IA

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September Meeting

Twenty-four SCHPS members and guests enjoyed viewing the City Cemetery and Clarissa C. Cook home on September 13th, 2007. Amy Driskill, City Archivist from the Davenport Public Library, conducted the tour of the highlights of the 11.3-acre cemetery. Members learned that burial plots originally sold for \$3.00 and that there was a section called the Free Ground or Public Ground where plots were \$.25 each. In the 1880's the Public Grounds were closed. In the 1890's, excavation for a Crematorium was begun on the grounds, but was discontinued when they began digging up interred remains. Members were shown one mound in the cemetery that could possibly be an old Indian burial ground located toward the western edge of the cemetery on/near plot 128 owned by the Oldendorf Family. The last burial in the City Cemetery was in 1985.

From the City Cemetery, SCHPS members drove a few blocks to the Clarissa C. Cook Retirement Living Home at 100 W. Pine Street for a tour of the grounds and beautiful stone and brick mansion which houses 20 residents. The home was originally built in 1882 to help care for the legions of indigent women who had no income once their husbands or supporting family members passed away. Today residents enjoy 3 meals a day and private rooms. Staff and residents of the home generously provided SCHPS members with a tour of all three floors of the home, and offered home made grape juice, coffee, and sweet treats. Thank you Amy for the informative tour of the cemetery and to the Clarissa Cook home for the tour and the treats!

She'll Be Missed.

Dakota Cline, one of our members and an early pioneer in the Village of East Davenport's revival, died on Wednesday, September 19, 2007. SCHPS extends deepest sympathy to Jack, her husband; her mother-in-law, Mavis; to her sister-in-law, Joyce who has helped with SCHPS events in the past; and to the rest of the family. Dakota's funeral was held on Saturday, September 23, 2007.

HISTORICAL RESIDENCE IN EAST DAVENPORT FOR RENT!

Riverview, 2 bdrm, hardwood flrs, C/A/C, laundry hookup, garage. \$575. Call Chris or Veronica, (563) 940-1970, 940-1971

**SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO
sarah@graham-graphics.com if you would
like to get your SCHPS newsletter early!**

Do You Live in a Sears Home?

Mail Order Homes in the USA 1906-1945

Rock Island Preservation Society is pleased to sponsor a program on mail order homes by Rebecca Hunter, researcher on historical architecture from Elgin, Illinois. The program will be presented on Tuesday, October 16th at 7PM in the Carriage House at Deere Wyman House, 817 11th Avenue, Moline, Illinois. It is free and open to the public.

Aladdin House Company was the first company to sell modest pre-cut wooden houses by mail order. But it would not be the only company to market kit homes. Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward and Davenport's own Gordon-Van Tine would soon enter the market.

Unlike Sears, which owned three large lumber yards, Montgomery Ward never actually milled and produced its own houses. Ward's kit homes were supplied by Gordon-Van Tine. Gordon-Van Tine sold close to 54,000 homes under its own name and Montgomery Ward may have sold as many as 20,000 homes. While Sears sold 75,000 homes, about 10 times that many people think they are living in a Sears kit house.

Rebecca Hunter may well be the very person to help us uncover the truth. She will show us how to locate and interpret evidence to authenticate a mail order home. She will describe the delivery and construction process. She will describe the architectural styles represented in mail order homes. And she is known nation wide as an authority on Gordon – Van Tine.

We hope you can join us for this special event. This program is made possible in part by an award from the Illinois Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Illinois General Assembly.

2007-2008 SCHPS Dues are Due!

If you received an envelope enclosed with this newsletter, it means your yearly SCHPS dues are currently due. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience, or you may pay your dues to Ferenc Beiwell, SCHPS Treasurer at the October meeting in Buffalo. Thanks you for your continued support of SCHPS!

Thank You!

Special thanks are also in order for member Phyllis James, who helped Karen Anderson guide guests through the LeClaire House during the September 22nd Pioneer Settlers reunion!

A Fitting Memorial

SCHPS has received several generous donations in memory of Vonnie Flynn, long-time member who died August 6, 2007. Additional donations will gladly be accepted. The Board is proposing to use the money to make a purchase for the Antoine LeClaire Home in memory of Vonnie.