

# Scott County Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



**December 2018**

## Board Members

**President**  
Judy Belfer  
324-7779

**Vice-President**  
Jan Day  
309-764-5056

**Secretary**  
Christine Iossi  
355-6298

**Treasurer**  
Duncombe Brooke  
917-488-6457

**Membership**  
Ferenc Beiweil  
386-1969

**Corresponding Secretary**  
Jean Froehlich  
324-7643

**Historical Researcher**  
Coky Powers  
355-8577

**Board Members**  
Connie Carlson  
359-8381

Frank Juarez  
210-1950

Merle Vastine  
445-0844

Jan Day  
309-764-5056

**SCHPS Address**  
**1820 Grant Street**  
**PM Box 5017**  
**Bettendorf, IA 52722**

## Christmas Party

December 13 at 6:30

Renwick Mansion - 901 Tremont Ave

\$5 plus a vegetable or salad to share

\*\*\*\* Reservations needed: call Jean Froehlich 563-324-7643\*\*\*\*

If you call Jean and her voice mail box is full, call Jan Day at  
309 764 5056 and leave your RSVP message with her.



### The Renwick Mansion

The Renwick mansion was designed by Chicago architect John C. Cochrane in 1877 for William Renwick, a Davenport lumber baron. The contractors were T. W. McClelland & Co., while the landscaping was designed by Prof. Braunlich. The cost was \$25,000. The architecture was Italian Revival Villa style, with 2 stories, basement and a tower 70 feet high. The exterior of the home is of Joliet stone and features a pillared carriage porch, balconies, and look-outs.

The interior of the home at the time of construction included black and white walnut wood finishes, floors tiled in white and black marble, 8 fire places, sleeping rooms with private baths & closets, gas, hot & cold water, bells and speaking tubes. The home was described as elegant and tasteful, with charming views of the river and the city.

In 1905 the home was renovated and converted to a Colonial Revival style of architecture. St. Katherine's School, the predecessor of Rivermont in Bettendorf, purchased the home in 1907. It became part of a nursing home complex in 1973, and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. In 2007, it was updated & opened for wedding receptions & a bed and breakfast, and after being closed in 2016, the Renwick mansion was re-opened in 2017 as a "premier location for weddings, receptions, reunions, parties and meetings."

(<https://renwickmansion.net/>)

Thank you to SCHPS members and owners Dane and Sarah Moulton.

### William Renwick

William Renwick was the son of James Renwick. Renwicks were natives of Scotland who came to Davenport in 1846. In 1854, James and William built what was known as Renwick & Son's Saw Mill at the foot of Tremont Avenue. As business increased, the mill was enlarged. By the 1870s, 85 workers were employed there. The company was sold to the Rock Island lumber barons, Weyerhauser and Denkmann in 1887. William Renwick died in January 1889. James Renwick, one time mayor of Davenport, died in 1894. They are buried in Oakdale Memorial Gardens.

#### Our thanks to:

Christina Kastell and Christine Chandler for the behind the scene tour of the Putnam Museum.

### Upcoming SCHPS Events

January	NO Meeting	
February 14	Buchanan School – Naval Station	
March 14	TBA	
April 11	Fairmont Crematorium & mausoleum	
May 9	Old St. Joe church	
June 13	Picnic at Schuetzen Park	
July 11	Blackhawk State Park - WPA	

### Upcoming Local Events

December 9, 2018, there will be a tea for the Colonel Davenport House at Quarters One (Rock Island Arsenal) – contact Judy Belfer for details [belferj@att.net].

December 15, 2018, Christkindlmarkt Craft Fair @ GAHC, 712 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Davenport, IA 52802, 10:00-4:00

For sale by member Polly Taylor: 3 piece Victorian parlor set (settee, his and her chairs) mahogany finish with salmon colored upholstery. \$500. Contact Polly 563-271-6794.