

Davenport's First Neighborhood Presents



**“Homes For The Holiday”
The Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic
District Association Home Tour**



Saturday, December 2, 2006

3:00pm - 8:00pm

Sunday, December 3, 2006

2:00pm - 6:30pm

TICKET

ADMIT ONE ADULT

\$10.00

Children 12 & Under FREE

When Accompanied By An Adult



- 712 West 8th Street**
- 723 Brown Street**
- 817 West 7th Street**
- 630 Warren Street**

About the neighborhood:

What is known today as The Gold Coast and Hamburg Historic District was home to some of the earliest settlers in Davenport. Part of the neighborhood was part of the Original town platted in 1836. Names of town founders like George Davenport and Antoine LeClaire are frequently listed within neighborhood abstracts.

This year's holiday tour homes again reflect the neighborhood's Germanic origins, whose builders were all first or second-generation mid-19th Century immigrants from Germany and Schleswig-Holstein. Arriving in Davenport, many of these immigrants might have spent their first nights at Germania House, originally a hotel and today the German American Heritage Center and also on tour today.

The names of many of the streets you'll be touring have also changed over the years. River Drive was first called First Street, and then changed to Front Street. Second through Fifth Streets were named in honor of Indian tribes. Second was named Sac, Third was named Fox, Fourth was named Ottawa, Fifth was called Chippewa, and Sixth was Pottawattamie. These names were changed sometime between 1841 and 1868.

Many of the north/south streets in and surrounding the neighborhood were named for prominent soldiers of the first decades of the 19th century. Brown, Warren, Gaines, Ripley, Scott, and Brady Street all owe their names to military figures who participated in the Black Hawk War, the War of 1812, and the Mexican-American War.

Architecture on Today's Tour:

On today's tour, several types of architectural styles are on display – Folk Victorian Style, Dutch Colonial/Craftsman Style, two types of Queen Anne style, Vernacular Greek Revival Style.

Folk Victorian

Some homes from the middle Victorian era were characterized by an amalgam of styles. Porches with spindlework detailing, L-shaped or gable-front plan, cornice brackets, details often with Italianate and/or Queen Anne inspiration, sometimes Gothic – all of these characterize the Folk Victorian style. These homes were basically, working class/middle class versions of Queen Anne, with simpler details and basic, asymmetrical floor plans. A sense of symmetry and ornamentation are the hallmarks of this style built in American between 1870 and 1910.

Our 2006 tour homes are in easy walking distance of each other between Warren and Gaines and 7th and 8th Streets. Addresses are on the back of the tour brochure. Look for the “Tour Home” sign outside each home, as well as the green lighted wire Christmas trees decorating the front yards.

The German American Heritage Center is a short drive south at Gaines and 2nd Streets.



For more information on the Gold Coast and Hamburg Historic District, visit our website at www.davenportgoldcoast.com.

The interior of the house also displays different stylistic tendencies. The large central staircase is more like one found in an Italianate mansion; however, it seems to encompass a room, more like a Colonial Revival. The rich use of many woods is a spectacular element of the interior of this gracious mansion.

Spindlework Queen Anne

Spacious but more modest, the second example of Queen Anne style on our tour today is of a different subtype: the early period Spindlework Queen Anne. Queen Anne houses are irregularly shaped. The name comes from the many kinds of fretwork-type detailing which the outside of these houses possessed. The detailing can include a number of different treatments in the entryway and shingling - starbursts, fish scales, cedar shakes, to name just a few. These are usually mixed, matched, and repeated to stunning effect.

Free Classic Queen Anne

Obviously built after Daniel Burnham's famed Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, the Free Classic Queen Anne on tour exemplifies the cleaner lines and classical details that Burnham espoused. Note in the entry way arch - almost a Roman arch - the classic filigree and half columns (called pilasters), both classical detailing. Also, the form of the house is not as ebullient as the earlier Queen Anne architecture, and lacks the "gingerbread" detailing that people generally associate with this style.

Upon entering the house, the large entry hall, called a reception hall, is more akin to Colonial Revivals, which were also a popular housing style during this period. A turret is also considered one of the hallmarks of this architectural style.

Vernacular Greek Revival

The Greek Revival style of architecture is sometimes called the National style, because of its popularity during the early years of our country.. A very simple style, this cottage has a front gabled front and is composed of bricks, probably made locally. The doorway and two windows on the first floor are relatively equally spaced, a common trait. The upper one-half story window is centered.

This is a very late example of Greek Revival, which nationally goes only until about 1840 but has a few late examples in Davenport's "downtown" neighborhoods. The style was supplanted by the more modern "Romantic" houses, those being Italianate and Gothic Revival, the former style being in abundant supply in the Quad Cities.



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**712 West 8th Street - The August Warnebold House, ca. 1876
Folk Victorian Style**

August Warnebold was born in the province of Hanover, Germany on September 11, 1828. He came to America in 1854 and joined his brother William in St. Louis. August moved to Davenport in 1855 and opened a confectionery store. In 1866 he was elected as 2nd Ward Alderman for the city of Davenport. About this time he married Fredericka Whittenberg and they had two sons, Edward and Herman.

August was Vice-President at C. E. Putnam's Davenport Plowing Company. Shortly afterward, he entered the grocery business. In 1873, he founded Warnebold and Wittenberg Farmers Mills along with his brother-in-law Herman. The company manufactured "New Process Flour," a choice brand of flour for the retail trade. The company was located at the corner of Harrison Street and 8th Street. Their roller mill had a capacity of 200 barrels a day.

August prospered enough to build this house in 1876. August died in 1890 and his sons opened Warnebold Bros. Grocers at 226 West 2nd Street.

The outside of this opulent middle Victorian era residence certainly displays elements of many different styles. Foremost, it is largely symmetrical with its centered entry way. The windows are hooded, similar to Italianate houses. The bay windows could also be found on Italianates. Looking skyward, you note the ornate stickwork in the gable, reminiscent of a Stick style house.

The interior of the house also displays different stylistic tendencies. The large central staircase is more like one found in an Italianate mansion; however, it seems to encompass a room, more like a Colonial Revival. The house is a stately mid-Victorian brick home with Eastlake influences in the woodwork and mantels. The main foyer boasts a grand staircase and stunning ceiling mural originally painted by J. C. Holland. In later years, the mural was repaired/restored by local artist Jose Bucksbaum. The butler's pantry is recently restored, and the current owners have added a spacious first floor bathroom at the rear of the house as well.

In the vestibule of the main entrance there is still evidence of a secret passageway to the basement. This led to a tunnel in the front yard that ran south, presumably to the river. The tunnel and passageway are long gone, but if you compare the placement of the west wall in the vestibule with the foyer west wall, there is a noticeable and sizable difference in where the walls are located, indicating a much thicker than normal wall in the vestibule.

The Christmas season is fully upon us in this home, from the 11-foot tree in the front parlor to the garland gracing every door jamb and lintel. The grand staircase is beautiful, bedecked in greenery and candles. Don't miss the Victorian village in the dining room and the nautical-theme decorations in the foyer.

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723 Brown Street - The Emelia Karlowa Home, ca.1890
Spindlework Queen Anne

The 1890 home was a wedding present from Robert Krause to his daughter Emelia and husband Mr. Karlowa. The house was later the scene of tragedy. But the history of the Krause family is intertwined with the Gold Coast neighborhood.

Emelia's father Robert was a prominent citizen of Davenport. In 1848, the fourteen-year-old Robert immigrated from Walken Reid Brunswick, Germany, with his family. He was active in many Davenport commercial ventures. In 1854, at age 20, Robert and his brother established The Robert Krause Company, a cloth and trimmings firm on West 2nd Street; later, he established The Davenport Glucose Company with son-in-law L.P. Best; development of the Davenport and St. Paul Railroad and reorganization of the Citizens National Bank.

By the time Robert died in 1900, the cloth and trimmings firm had expanded to a larger building at 4th Street and Warren Street and continued to flourish.



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Sadly, Emelia's husband suffered from poor health. He took his own life in the house on December 26, 1907. Emelia moved shortly thereafter with her three children to live with her sister Clara, Mrs. L. P. Best, at 627 Ripley Street.

The family dynasty continued. Each family member held the position of President of The Robert Krause Company; first the son-in-law, Paul, then his widow Emelia Karlowa, then her mother Louise Krause, followed by her sister Clara Krause Best, and then Clara's husband L.P. Best, and, finally, Emelia's son Robert. Members of the Krause family continued to build homes in the Gold Coast to enable them to remain nearby.

This spacious but more modest Queen Anne, although built but five years earlier than the one around the corner, is of a different subtype: the early period Spindlework Queen Anne. The fretwork-type detailing on the outside of this house, as seen on the side porch with the detailing on the upper portion and the chamfered columns, distinguishes this style.

Queen Anne houses are irregularly shaped, as is this one. Note the different exterior decorative treatments: the shell-like entry cover with a sunburst beneath it, the fish scale shingles between the stories, and the repetition of the sunburst design in the front gable. While admiring the outside, don't miss the stunning new garage the present owners added a few years ago, looking new but styled in keeping with the architecture of the house.

This Christmas, the trees shimmer with lights and vibrant colors. Ornaments of glass and crystal glitter and shine. Look for the collection of Santa figures, and enjoy the smell of fresh baked cookies.



817 West 7th Street - The Henry and Otilie Koehler Home, ca. 1895
Free Classic Queen Anne Style

Henry Koehler immigrated to St. Louis from Germany in 1849. He married Otilie Schlapp, also a German immigrant, in 1857 at her father's farm in Pleasant Grove, Iowa.

Henry and his brother-in-law Rudolph Lange opened the Arsenal Brewery at Mound and Summit Streets in the Village of East Davenport. In 1880, he opened a brewery in St. Louis.

Several of Henry and Otilie's sons continued to expand the family brewing business. In 1875, with the intention of becoming thoroughly familiar with the science of brewing, Oscar went to Germany and for three years studied chemistry at Worms and Leipsic. In 1890, Oscar, Max, Hugo, and Henry Junior formed the American Brewing Company, which grew to be one of the largest breweries in St. Louis.

Oscar returned to Davenport with wife Matilda Lange and raised six children. In addition to four sons, Henry Sr. and Otilie raised two daughters; Ida and Paula. Ida married Adolph Priester on the 1st of December, 1888. They had three children: Henry C., Walter and Oscar C. Mr. Priester was director of the

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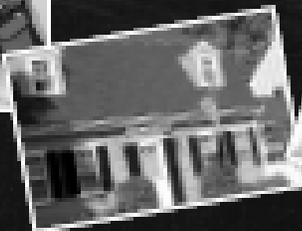
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Davenport Brewing Company and brother to Henry Priester, the youngest mayor in the U.S. Paula Koehler married Dr. Karl Vollmer in 1897.

The home on tour today dates from about 1895. In 1895, Henry commissioned Friedrich Clausen, an eclectic and well known designer, to serve as architect for this unusual late Queen Anne Victorian mansion overlooking the bluffs of the Mississippi River. Perhaps the most lavish of today's houses, this is a stunning example of Free Classic Queen Anne. Queen Anne houses by their very nature are extremely fanciful and have a lot of applied decoration and the use of different appliques, as seen on the entrance to this home. It also contains one of the hallmarks of the style: a turret.

Its many features include original wood and tile floors, Venetian glass chandeliers, bent glass windows, pressed tin and Pullman ceilings. There are five fireplaces, each with Italian tile or marble and wood surround. Many rooms have unusual shapes, such as octagon, circular and half-round. Even the original refrigerator and freezer, once powered by an ammonia pump, still stand in the Butler's pantry, waiting to be restored to operating condition.

The Grand Victorian staircase of the home is surrounded by quarter-sawn red oak wainscot, and a Victorian era wallpaper in red and gold. The sun porch, made with encaustic tile, and a wrap around veranda add to the charm of this majestic home.

The home is decorated inside and out for the holiday season. A dazzling display of lights, trees, and ornamentation fill both the 1st and 2nd floors of this warm and festive home.



630 Warren Street - The Henry Dohrmann House, ca. 1868
Vernacular Greek Revival Style

This home sits on land that was first purchased by Davenport founder Antoine LeClaire in 1840.

The land was sold to Henry Dohrmann in 1867. Henry was an immigrant from Schleswig-Holstein and a veteran of the Civil War. Arriving from St. Louis, Mr. Dohrmann built the home you tour today in 1868.

He established himself as a hide and leather merchant in Davenport. He and his first wife Franciska were the parents of twelve children. After Franciska's death, Henry married Bertha, with whom he had six or seven more children.

Mr. Dohrmann was an active member of the German Zion Lutheran Church (destroyed) that stood at Gaines and 8th Streets. He died in 1900. His wife Bertha lived on in the house without plumbing or electricity until 1943.

This simple brick house has an amazingly interesting floor plan. The earliest home on today's tour, its original kitchen was located at the ground (or basement) level.

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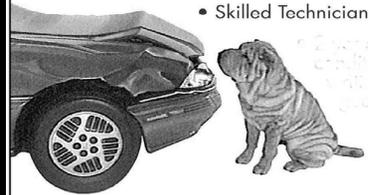
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Cooking and eating took place downstairs in the half-basement. The house's site is on a hillside, providing a walk-out, English-style basement.

Built in the Greek vernacular style, the house is of a pleasing simplicity of line inside and out. Of the original outbuildings, only a root cellar remains. There were probably sun porches on the south side of the house, typical for many Gold Coast homes from all periods. Upstairs there are three bedrooms, each with a walk-in closet, which was a luxury in those days since closets were taxed as rooms. Bertha Dohrmann lived mostly on this floor, which she referred to as her Mauseneest (German for "mouse nest"). She must have enjoyed the sounds coming from the rooms of her boarder on the upper floors, a flautist in the Tri-City Symphony.

Today the home has been completely restored both inside and out. As such, it is the perfect setting for an old-fashioned Christmas. Look for the antique dolls and teddy bears. The trees are decorated simply and colorfully with handmade ornaments and garland.



712 West 2nd Street - The German American Heritage Center, ca. 1862

The Center began its life as the "Germania Haus" hotel; the building enlarged in 1876 & 1877. 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. In addition to sheltering new immigrants, the hotel was a local social spot with a tavern, restaurant, and a fourth floor designed for parties and meetings.

Saved from demolition, it was purchased and rehabilitated by the German American Heritage Center in 1995 as a regional immigration museum, and opened to the public in May 2000. The Center includes many exhibits on early German immigrants to the area.

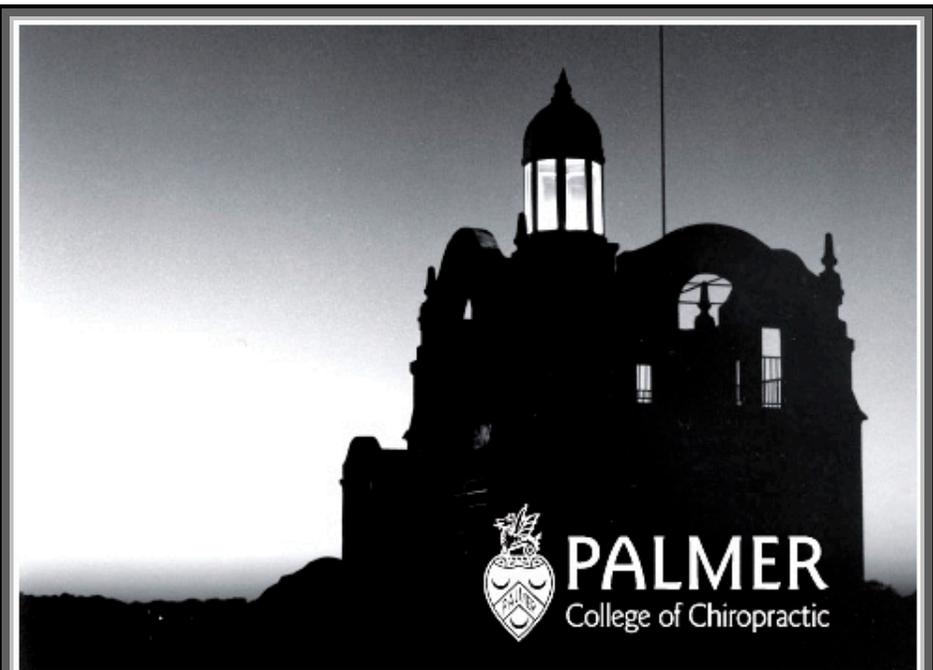
Every year at this time, the German-American Heritage Center puts on its Christkindlmarkt, literally "Christ Child Market." The Center will also be decorated for the holidays with traditional German holiday ornaments and crèches. The Center will be open during four hours, so please take time to stop in and look over their wonderful German and German-inspired gifts.

Regular Hours:

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Holiday Hours - November 24 through December 23:

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