

A Newsletter from the Historic Pella Trust

PRESERVE PELLA

April 2014

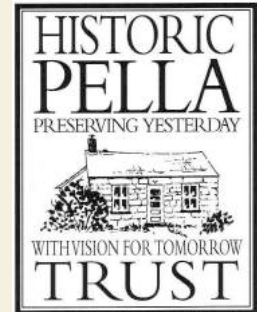
Volume Twenty

www.historicpellatrust.org

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Restoration Continues on Stegeman Store at 1110 Washington

ROOF WORK UNDERWAY

This fall extensive work was completed on the roof of the Stegeman Store at 1110 Washington. While it rained outside, interior work began in the attic of the property. A low slope roof was built returning the roof to its original roof line. New rafters, fascia and soffits were constructed. The restoration work revealed early mortise and tenon joints, which showed that what we thought were later additions, were part of the original construction.

HISTORIC TREASURE UNCOVERED

Nailed, as blocking between the floor joists of the attic, Wayne Stienstra, project coordinator, found two pieces of wood with hand-lettering stating "G. F. Stegeman Pella, IA." These two pieces of wood were probably a packing crate sent to the general store.

CEDAR SHAKE SHINGLES

After the back wall of the attic was opened up and the peek removed, the new low slope roof was revealed. The low slope roof will channel the water to a scupper which will help with proper water flow. The final step was adding new cedar wood shingles to restore the building to its historical look. The bitter cold of the winter put further construction projects on hold, but watch this spring and summer for ongoing changes.



Beautiful cedar wood shingles added to Stegeman Store.



Hand lettered packing crate addressed to G.F. Stegeman found in floor joists of attic.

HISTORIC PELLA TRUST
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF
HELPING TO PRESERVE PELLA

"LIKE" THE HISTORIC PELLA TRUST ON FACEBOOK TO SEE ONGOING UPDATES ABOUT THE STEGEMAN STORE RESTORATION.

A Letter from Our President

HISTORIC PELLA TRUST PRESIDENT: BOB ZYLSTRA

Historic Pella Trust is continuing its preservation effort to help maintain Pella's distinctive charm. Many of our older buildings provide a special link to our Dutch heritage and also give our village a comfortable, gracious feel. It is this "feel" that helps make Pella a wonderful place for all of us to live. It's this same village charm that helps make Pella an attractive destination for our many visitors and tourists.

The HPT board is working with the City of Pella and the residents of the area between downtown and Central College to have much of this area be officially declared the Collegiate Historic District. As an official historic district this will allow the city to help keep the historic feel to this elegant old neighborhood. Our

work with the city is in its early stages so please encourage members of the city council and city staff to support this effort.

Wayne Steenstra and his team have made quite a bit of progress on our work to restore the old G.F. Stegeman Store at 1110 Washington (I incorrectly called this the Ten Hagen Store in my last letter). The roof line has been restored and much of it has been re-shingled in age appropriate cedar wood shingles. Wayne is hoping to have much of the exterior work complete this spring and early summer. This will be an expensive project for us, so we would certainly appreciate your financial support. Please "Like Us" on Facebook and you can follow our team's step-by-step progress. We are

planning to use this building as the office of Historic Pella Trust. If all goes well, we will be moving later this year. This building can also become home for a new resource center to help home owners care for their older homes.

You are invited to visit our website (www.historicpellatrust.org) or stop by most mornings and visit with Melynda at our offices at 615 Main Street. The Historic Pella Trust phone number is 641-628-8003.

Het aller beste, Bob Zylstra



Back wall of 1110 Washington is opened up.



Peak of old roof is removed to return the roof line to its original style.



New cedar wood shingles.



Fair Haven Memorial Tulip Garden in Full Bloom



Fair Haven West & Gardens

STORIES FROM THE PAST: FAIR HAVEN MEMORIAL TULIP GARDENS

REMEMBERING THE MEMORIAL TULIP GARDENS AT FAIR HAVEN

Many Pella residents and visitors remember the beautiful tulip gardens located at Fair Haven on the corner of Third and Union Street in Pella. But, for many the story of how the garden began has faded. Interviews with local residents and assistance from Fair Haven West manager, Ivan Mulder, revealed photos and the story of how it all began.

WWII DONATIONS

During WWII, many Pella residents had relatives and friends living back in Holland which was under German invasion. Pella residents would send clothes and funds to the Netherlands to help out. During the war shoes, clothes, sugar, tires, and gas were rationed in the US. Larger items like new cars, tractors and farm equipment were allowed only to those who really needed them. Pella residents held auctions in Central Park by the brick bandstand to sell rationed items like silk stockings. The funds raised

from the auctions were sent to the Netherlands.

TULIP GARDEN CREATED AFTER THE WAR

As a thank you after the war, the Netherlands sent over a load of tulip bulbs in honor of the aid and support of the people of Pella. These tulips were planted in the Fair Haven gardens as a memorial. When Tulip Time was reintroduced after WWII in 1947, the tulip garden was blooming. Before Fair Haven East was built, the Fair Haven gardens were very large and included the tulip memorial gardens, and vegetable gardens tended by the residents for their meals.



Over 25,000 tulips were planted in the tulip gardens at one time. The Christian Benevolent Society and the Pella Historical Society partnered together to care for the Fair Haven Memorial Gardens for years to come. In 1980 the gardens were made smaller due to building at Fair Haven East. When the kitchen was added to Fair Haven West in 2003 the garden was removed.

Are you a Pella Preservationist?

WHAT IS A PRESERVATIONIST?

When I attend professional development meetings for individuals who work with historic preservation issues in the state of Iowa, one of the first questions I get asked is “Where are you from?” When I answer that I live and work in Pella, I hear a variety of responses. One of the more recent responses was “Oh, you’re from Pella. You guys are 40 to 50 years ahead of the rest of us in historic preservation. You were doing this when it wasn’t the cool thing to do.” What an interesting observation!

As I pondered that response, I wondered how many people in Pella would actually see themselves as a “preservationist”? How many Pella residents would really recognize the contributions they have made to preserving our community? I honestly doubt that there are many people who even think about this “title”, let alone would describe themselves as a preservationist. It might be easy to think of a preservationist as someone who is specifically skilled at restoring a historic building. Yes, that expert is a preservationist but, there are a wide range of individuals who do the important work of preservation.

If you...

- make a donation
- attend a fundraiser
- volunteer
- tell a story about Pella’s past
- sign a petition...

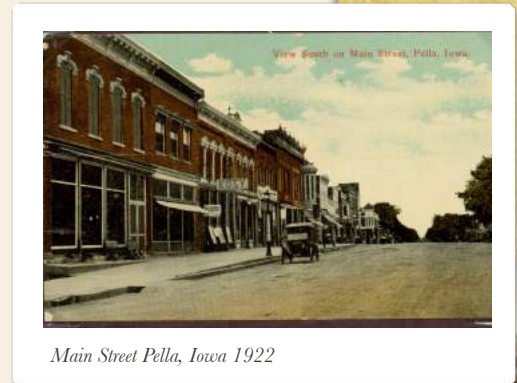
YOU ARE A PRESERVATIONIST.

Pella Preservationists could be disguised as a...

- teacher*
- graphic designer*
- real estate agent*
- lawyer*
- student*
- business owner*
- cement professional*
- community activist*
- historic home owner*
- financial expert*
- construction contractor*
- media professional*

In Pella we are privileged to have a community with so many individuals who have an interest in preserving and protecting our architectural heritage. Not only are Pella community members interested in historic preservation, they act on their convictions. Thank you for whatever role you have played in helping to preserve Pella. May we as a community continue to value historic preservation as a way not only to remember and respect our past, but as a way to journey into the future together.

By: Melynda Van Zee
Historic Pella Trust Executive Director



Main Street Pella, Iowa 1922

Photo Archive:

Help us grow our digital archive! If you have historic Pella photos that you would be willing to share with us, we would love to see them. We can scan the photos for the Historic Pella Trust archive and return the originals to you. We are looking for photos of street views, historic homes, lost homes, and historical events of interest. Thank you for your willingness to help preserve Pella’s past.

RHONDA RESTORES

BY: RHONDA KERMODE

As promised, here is the update on my foray into window restoration. I have no problem taking the windows or really I should say window out. I have a contractor, Doug, who gives me many great suggestions which made it even easier. I managed to take out the window without splitting any of the stop bead.

The parting stop, shown below with the brass screws, was removed. It is rather hard to remove in one piece which is okay since it does not have any real architectural significance.



I stripped the paint off of the windows with the Speed Heater infrared heating tool and scrapers. That was probably my biggest

expenditure as far as tools, but I felt it was worth it given that we have 32 windows. It is also important to use a heating tool such as this or soy gel when removing old paint that may have lead in it. Both of these techniques keep the dust particles from the lead paint from getting in the air.

The next part is where I got stuck. This is where I need to thank Doug ... a lot.

Needless to say, I don't have the set up that Mr. Yapp has nor do I have all the power tools (plus just the mention of me and power tools with blades in the same sentence makes my husband nervous). So Doug cut the slots that I needed in the windows for the weather stripping.



Rhonda Kermode's home.



Slot for aluminum weather strip.



The last part of the process required me to Just Do It! I tend to put off completing projects because I get nervous that the finished product won't turn out as well as I would like.

The top window has been put in place, but it hasn't been completely cleaned so please excuse the s m u d g e s . Unfortunately, I wasn't able to get the bottom window in place before printing. Mostly

because I really wanted to go to South Carolina and help my grandson celebrate his first birthday.

As I move on to the next window, I will try to include more details from the beginning. I will also include a picture of a completed, clean, window.



Parting stop and completed window.



Drilling Template



Heating Tool and Scrapers

He also made me a cool template which would help me drill the holes for the stop bead adjusters. The adjusters are the brass pieces in the stop bead.

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FROM:

HISTORIC PELLA TRUST

615 Main Street PO Box 1
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SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars now to celebrate with us at the 2014 Annual Meeting. We will be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Historic Pella Trust on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at the Pella Opera House. We would love to have you join us!

EMAIL UPDATES...

If you would like to be added to our email list so you receive current updates, please send your email address to us at historicpellatrust@yahoo.com. Thank you.

Historic Pella Trust Property Updates

The Rock House: (Univ. Ave.)
rented and building in good
condition.

The Soul Sleepers Church:
Building in excellent condition.

**Pella's Collegiate Historic
District:**
(Between W. 1st St. and Independence
St.)

Phase 1-Reconnaissance Survey
Completed

Phase 2-Started in 2013

Funding needed to complete.