
COLLEGIATE NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORIC DISTRICT

Establishing a Historic District

The Historic Pella Trust (HPT) began the process of establishing Pella's first historically designated neighborhood in 2014. The District is an area roughly bound by Main Street and West 1st street running north and south and Independence, Union and Liberty streets running east and west. Main Street borders one parcel in the historic district but, is not included in the boundaries.

The Collegiate Neighborhood, part of Pella's original plat laid contains 46 structures and two brick streets dating from 1855 through 1959. The year 1855 dates the construction of the historic district's earliest resource at 514 Broadway. The year 1959 dates the construction of the house at 507 Broadway, the last Ranch Style dwelling built in the district.

The District possesses a locally significant collection of architectural designs with Queen Anne, Colonial Revival and Craftsman styles predominating.

Lacking an historic name, this residential neighborhood has flourished, at least in part, because of its location near and long association with Central College. The nomination selected "Collegiate Neighborhood Historic District" as the historic name for this property.

Public Historian and Preservation Planner, William C. Page, was engaged to research, write and present the application to the Iowa State Historic Preservation for the Collegiate Neighborhood Historic District. Information for this publication has been gleaned from the full application for

Block Party Events

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony -500 Block Broadway- Street
Time: 11:00 am

Speakers: Master of Ceremonies and Program Host: Bob Zylstra, President Historic Pella Trust; Jim Mansueto, Chairman Pella Historic Preservation Commission; Jim Mueller, Mayor, City of Pella

Presentations

Window Restoration – 510 Broadway- Outside
Historic restoration expert Terry Phillips will demonstrate and discuss on window restoration and weatherization.
Time: Ongoing throughout event

Benefits of Historic Districts –514 Broadway - Garage
Jim Mansueto, Pella Historic Commission Chairperson, will discuss the benefits of historic districts, preserving historic homes and how it influences property values!
Times: 11:30 am, 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm

Information and Display Tables-500 Block Broadway-
Historic Pella Trust (HPT) – Information about the organization and the Trust's ongoing efforts. Map for the District walking tour.

Iowa State Historians -Sara Andre and Will Page –
Available to answer questions about the Collegiate District and resources for historical preservation in Iowa.

Walking Tour

Self-guided - Pick up map at HPT display table. Tour map corresponds with signage displayed for each contributing resource.

Open House

Parsonage/Kermode House – 510 Broadway

Cook House – 900 Liberty (across from Van Dyke-Duven funeral home)

See restoration in process and ask questions of the home owner's including flooring, window repair plaster walls and paint removal

Food

Hy-Vee Grill- for purchase

Ice-cream and popcorn - free



Protect & Promote Pella's Heritage

The Historic Pella Trust, established in 1994, is a non-profit preservation group who helps to preserve Pella's architectural resources so that future generations will continue to be enriched by the historic legacy of Pella's Dutch heritage and culture.

We serve in counseling and advisory capacity regarding historically correct architecture and disseminate information regarding restoration and reconstruction of facilities.

Mission Statement: To Protect and Promote Buildings, Landscapes, and Sites Important to the Heritage of Pella,

Excited about preserving and restoration of Pella's history? Visit HPT on the web and Facebook- Links and information to funding, grants and tax credits. Local history, information and photos.

<https://historicpellatrust.org>

After Your Visit to the Collegiate Neighborhood Historic District

What is the architectural style of your home?

What is the age of your home?

What architectural styles can you identify in your neighborhood?

What is the oldest structure in your neighborhood? How can you protect historic resources in Pella?

Architectural Styles in the Collegiate Neighborhood

Architectural styles excerpts from the application for Collegiate Neighborhood Historic District authored by Will Page.

The descriptions use vocabulary, classifications and periodization as developed in Virginia Savage McAlester's *A Field Guide to American Houses*.

Earliest Designs

The earliest extant (still in existence) houses in the Collegiate Neighborhood Historic District date from the 1850s to circa 1880. All feature brick construction but show the influence of various architectural styles.

514 Broadway (NRHP) is the earliest of these designs and calls attention to ethnic Dutch building techniques and styling as practiced by some of Pella's early settlers.

515 West 1st Street. Erected circa 1877, this building features Late Victorian styling in mainline American fashion, while clinging to certain conservative building techniques typical of early Dutch construction in Pella. The house blends traditional building practices brought by Dutch settlers to Pella with contemporary mainline American styling and new building materials becoming popular nationally at the time.

Queen Anne

Popular in the United States in the late 1870s through the turn of the 20th century, Queen Anne styling sought, to convey a picturesque feeling through the use of complex volumes, planes, and surface textures. Queen Anne-styled residences also reflect the Gilded Age and its culture of conspicuous consumption endemic throughout the United States at the time

Colonial Revival

The traditional designs of the Colonial Revival residences call attention to a more reserved and conservative style that emerged following the turn of the 20th century. Popular from the late

1890s through the early 20th century, Colonial Revival styling showed a growing emphasis on regularity of shape and smoother lines.

American Four Square

American Four Square designs became popular in the historic district during the early 20th century. Characterized by cubic shapes, 2-story heights, hip roofs, and full-width porches extending across the front facade, these architectural elements adapted themselves easily to a variety of stylistic detailing. The American Four Square house lent an air of solid comfort and prosperity to its appearance.

Craftsman

Craftsman styling emerged during the early years of the 20th century in the historic district. Notable characteristics include moderately or low-pitched roofs with wide eaves supported by heavy braces, shingle cladding, and an emphasis on abundant natural light.

Neo-Colonial Revival

During the middle years of the 20th century, Neo-Colonial Revival styling appeared briefly in the historic district. With its symmetrical facade, the house at 805 Union Street hints at a renewed interest in Colonial Revival styling across the nation and in Pella during this period. Although modest in design, the clean lines of the building and its attached garage point to a latter-day adaptation of earlier varieties of Colonial Revival styling.

Ranch

Ranch styling appeared in the historic district in the 1950s. Characterized by horizontal lines and low-pitched roofs, Ranch-styled houses often featured expansive picture windows, further emphasizing their linear look. The house at 900 Independence stands as the most dramatic example of Ranch styling in the District. It features an 81-foot long front facade (including garage), low-pitched roof with wide eaves, and extensive use of ribbon windows. With its long front

facade, this 1956-built house could not have been constructed on its site except placed diagonally upon it. This constriction explains the house's unique orientation in the neighborhood.

Ethnic Building Traits

The Collegiate Neighborhood calls attention to the influence of the ordinary building practices transplanted by Dutch settlers from their homeland in the Netherlands to Pella in the 19th century. These practices include flooring and fenestration treatments, thrift, and modest scale. Some of these practices continue to resonate in Pella.

Flooring

A traditional Dutch method to construct floors where the floorboards are placed directly on top of floor joists and a laid on 90-degree angles to the joists without an intervening subfloor. The house at 515 West 1st Street illustrates this method to construct floors.

Fenestration (exterior windows and doors)

Windows have played an important role in Dutch architecture for centuries. The influence of this tradition is discernable in Pella during the 20th century as well as today. In the early 20th century, Dutch love of light merged with the emphasis on natural light popularized in America during the Craftsman era. Built circa 1915, the house at 513 Broadway in the features varied and elaborates fenestration

Thrift

Thrift plays an important role in construction practices in the District. 515 West 1st Street on the exterior, pressed metal hood molds are used above some of the windows but the front feature the more expensive cast stone hood molds. Even in a showplace residence economy was obtained.

