

A Newsletter from the Historic Pella Trust

PRESERVE PELLA

Fall 2013

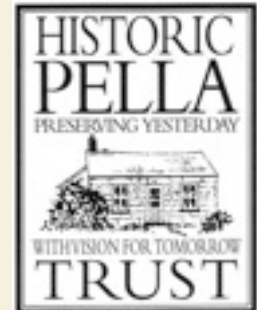
Volume Eighteen

www.historicpellatrust.org

PRESERVE PELLA:
HISTORIC PELLA TRUST
615 Main St. PO Box 1
Pella, IA 50219

TELEPHONE
641-628-8003

EMAIL
HISTORICPELLA
TRUST@YAHOO.
COM



Restoration Underway at 1110 Washington Street in Pella

EARLY PELLA GENERAL STORE TO BE RESTORED

THE TEN-HAGEN GENERAL STORE- CIRCA 1853

One of Pella's oldest buildings, constructed circa 1853 as a single family, side gabled cottage, is now in the process of being restored by the Historic Pella Trust. When Washington Street was still a dirt road, A.J.C. and Charlotte ten Hagen operated a general store from the front two rooms of this building and slept upstairs.

INTEGRITY OF BUILDING REMAINS

In 2008 this property was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural significance. It is an outstanding example of a building erected by the original colonists to Pella, and is notable for its heavy frame construction. It also incorporated construction methods brought by the settlers from the Netherlands, including a distinctive flooring technique and fenestration design. Will Page, Public Historian and Preservation Planner states, "It is remarkable that this building has survived so intact given its great age."

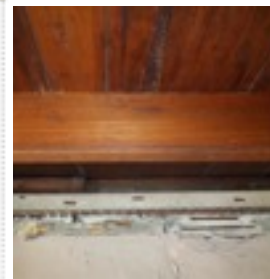
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Restoration has begun anew at 1110 Washington Street.



Removal of panelling revealed wide window trim.



Exposed Floor Joists Revealed

Current restoration efforts will be focused on the large front room and kitchen areas.

"Like" us on Facebook to see ongoing restoration photos.

A Letter from Our President

HISTORIC PELLA TRUST PRESIDENT ROBERT ZYLSTRA

Historic Pella Trust is continuing its preservation effort to help maintain Pella's distinctive charm. Some of our distinctive older buildings provide such a special link to our Dutch heritage and give our village a comfortable, gracious feel.

This summer has been an active time for our organization. We watched with sadness as Ellie Gosselink, our Executive Director, packed up her things and moved out to Oregon to join her family. We are thrilled with finding our new Executive Director, Melynda Van Zee. Melynda brings a wide variety of experiences to her new job. These include being an artist, an architecture aficionado, a not-for-profit organization leader and an educator. Melynda is off to a fast start and I am eager to see the results of her work during the coming year. She has already done some nice work by using her graphic design skills to give a new look to our newsletters. She will be working to give you more ways to follow our work as we begin to make more use of our Facebook account and our website. You may want to stop by and visit Melynda at our office. She plans to be in the office most weekday mornings from 9:00am to noon. You may want to call in advance to check if she is there. Our phone number is 641-628-8003.

Wayne Steinstra is now making some serious progress with his work at the old Ten Hagen store at 1110 Washington. Along with updates that you will find in our newsletters, you can follow his work with pictures on our website at www.historicpellatrust.org or "Like Us" on Facebook. Wayne is excited with what he is finding underneath many years of remodeling. Much of the original interior detail is hidden, just waiting to be returned to its proper condition.

This is one of the oldest buildings in Pella and we hope that we will be able to restore its historic look and feel of a mid 1800s country store. This should be an important part of the first impressions people form as they drive into Pella from the west. This will be an expensive project for us, so we would certainly appreciate your financial support.

Our board feels these buildings are an important part of our heritage and hope that you and your friends will find ways to actively support these projects and our general goals of maintaining our special Pella charm.

Het aller beste, Bob Zylstra

The Historic Pella Trust says Good-bye to Executive Director Ellie Gosselink

I WISH EACH OF YOU,
"FLOWERS ON TUESDAY"

When this issue of the newsletter reaches you, I will be exploring my new home in Eugene, OR. I want to thank all of you who came forward and wished me well and expressed regrets at my leaving. I love Pella and all of you who have made my journey here in Pella one that I will cherish all my life.

"Flowers on Tuesday" has been an important life philosophy for me for it describes the importance on receiving unexpected thoughtful comments or surprises from friends or family. During the past few weeks I've experienced many "Flowers on Tuesday" moments from all my Pella friends. Thank you for all these lovely memories.

Ellie Gosselink

If you would like to contact me in Oregon, my new address is 3006 Ashley Loop, Eugene, OR 97405 or email me egosselink@yahoo.com. I would love to hear from each and every one of you.



Welcome to Pella-West Washington Street-Fall of 1920



"Flowers on Tuesday"



Walnut floor joists from 1110 Washington Street



Rare window-only known one in Pella

RENOVATION OF 1110 WASHINGTON-CONT. PG. 1

WINDOWS

In 1876 G.F. Stegeman purchased this store from the ten Hagens and enlarged it while he and his family lived there. The Stegeman improvements included the replacement of the original windows across the front facade of the building. The appearance of these original windows is unknown. The replacement windows featured wood 2/2 double hung sash. The inside bottom sash includes a spring-activated, broad-headed, metal pin on each side to hold the open sash in place, which was a popular style during the late Victorian period. The Stegman's also added double-pocket doors between the dining room and the parlor.

One of the most important features of this home is a very unique window-believed to be the only one of this style in the town of Pella. The window on the second level (west side of building) is known as a "2 over 4" or Empire style window typical of many European styled windows. Notice the section of glass running down the center of the window-usually this type of window would only have wood in the center.

FLOOR JOISTS

A trip to the cellar of the building reveals the original walnut exposed floor joists. The Historic Pella Trust will be conducting a core test from one of these beams in the cellar. A testing core will be taken from a foundation log and from this core sample the date of the tree used as the floor joist can be determined.

RESTORATION REVEALS INTERESTING DISCOVERIES

In depth restoration has begun this fall in the front room of this 1853 House/Store. A tile ceiling and a plaster and lathe ceiling have been removed, revealing the original open floor joists to the attic. There is a chamfered edge on the joists as was typical of the houses built in Holland at the time. It was discovered that two-thirds of the joists were painted and one-third unpainted. We believe the side left unpainted was the store and the living quarters were painted.

We look forward to even more interesting discoveries as we work toward our goal of restoring this building and preparing it to be the new office of the Historic Pella Trust.

The Historic Pella Trust welcomes Melynda Van Zee as the new Executive Director.

From Melynda:

Thank you so much for your warm welcome to the Historic Pella Trust. Pella has been my home for most of my adult life. I grew up dressing in my Dutch costume and scrubbing the streets of Pella with my family every Tulip Time. I feel so privileged to be able to serve the community of Pella as the Executive Director of the Historic Pella Trust.

Please feel free to contact me at the office phone 641-628-8003 or email at historicpellatrust@yahoo.com.

EVENT OF NOTE:

HPT Board Member Dr. Ron Rietveld will be presenting "Abraham Lincoln's Civil War Leadership" Oct. 8 & 10 from 10:30am-noon at Central College. Registration info. for this Central RED Society event available at www.central.edu/red/.

Focus: Local Church History

FEATURING EARLY PELLA CHURCH HISTORY

This month the focus is on a bit of the history of local Pella churches. Following are some facts regarding the first worshipping communities in Pella and the starting of two current church congregations. This information was taken from Vol. II-History of Pella, Iowa 1847-1987.

Prior to Pella's settlement, circuit riders of Baptist and Methodist denominations preached in the Pella area. As early as 1841, Rev. Warren rode the circuit. The Aurora Missionary Baptist church was the first church organization in the area—formed in 1844 by six people. Rev.

Moses J. Post ministered to them at a location four miles south of the colony. G. H. Overkamp's log cabin was also a location of services in the colony. His cabin was on the spot where the Open Bible Church now stands at 827 Washington Street. Article by Ellie Gosselink.



First Reformed Church, 1869-1953



Second Reformed Church

Timeline of Pella Church History

- 1848 The first church, a plank building, was completed on the northeast corner of Lot 5, Block 27. Franklin St. behind Pella National Bank. Some held services in De Hoog's Tailor Shop.
- 1851 The "Little Brick Church" was built after separation from the original church located at 807 W. 1st.
- 1854 There was a reconciliation between the two groups and the little brick church as deeded to the original Christian Church by its owner, E.F. Grafe. But, there was new dissension, this time over church property and Dominie Scholte was suspended from preaching. His followers were offered a meeting place in Jacob De Haan's barn, but more suitable was the paint shop of J.J. Michmershuizen on Washington St.
- 1854 A Baptist congregation met in the new Central College brick building (located in the Strawtown complex).
- 1855 Scholte's Church, built with his own funds, was ready for service at 705-707 W. 1st St. It grew to more than 120 members. Scholte served this church until his death.
- 1855 The Methodists established a congregation in Pella.
- 1856 Van Raalte came to Pella (from Holland, MI) with a goal to unite the Christian Church and Protestant Church. A number did not wish to unite, but the decision was made to join. The new First Reformed Church was established and affiliated with the Reformed Church in America.
- 1863 Second Reformed Church was established as an English speaking church for the Dutch. They worshipped in a chapel belong to the First Reformed Church.

Sunday in Pella in 1900

From a story told by Martha Lautenbach
Written by: Ellie Gosselink

Cousins, as well as good buddies, seven year old John Gosselink and ten year old Bud Gosselink often spent weekends at each other's house. John lived on a farm two miles from Leighton and Bud lived in Town, two blocks from the square. Weekends spent with Bud, were the best. The town square was ablaze with activity as the band played and folks strolled beneath the large oak trees on the hot summer Saturday evenings. After the boys stuffed themselves with hot buttered popcorn from the "Popcorn Wagon", they would check out the older kids flirting with each in the park. The two boys would pop out from behind a bush and start to heckle the young couples, until the older boys chased them away.

Bud's family attended the Second Reformed Church. Sometimes their grandmother called for the boys to attend church with her at the First Reformed Church. The services were as different as day is to night.

The First Reformed Church service was conducted in Dutch and there was no choir or organ, though Psalms were sung by the congregation. The Second Reformed service was conducted in English. It had great music and a fun youth program.

Bud and Johnny were fascinated with the First Reformed preacher. He had a long flowing beard and they were sure he looked like Jeremiah. When he preached, his arms spun around in all directions. Many time he threw Latin and Greek words into his sermons. He was so eloquent and animated that they found it thrilling to watch even though they did not understand the Latin and Greek words. First Reformed service lasted over an hour and a half. To help them endure the long service, Grandmother would give them tiny mints she took from a miniature silver buck necklace that she always wore. Their grandparents had a choice pew and this was not always good for Bud and Johnny, as they were easily seen by the congregation. Johnny said that Bud once whispered to him that the pews were rented and this money went towards the minister's salary. The better the location of your pew, the higher your standing within the congregation.

The Second Reformed church service was completely different. After a hurried breakfast, the boys raced to church to help the youth minister set up the Sunday school room for their meeting. They both liked the youth minister immensely, he was young and had a fun sense of humor. They were amazed that



Interior of Second Reformed Church

he remembered any talk you had with him.

After Sunday School they would join Bud's family in their pew. Their pew was located so that the boys could see the church organ and the man who pumped the organ behind a screen. He would pump furiously when the organ was playing. The faster he pumped air into the organ, the redder his face became as sweat poured off his forehead. The boys had bets on when he would explode.

Even more fun was watching the four Deacons collect the tithes and offerings. When the minister called for the offering, Bud and Johnny would sit up straighter and watch the four Deacons walk down the aisle each carrying a long pole with a red tasseled velvet pouch on one end. One of the Deacons wore squeaky shoes and had a toupee that did not fit. The hot summer heat made his head sweat and his toupee would swivel around on his head. He was good at pushing his toupee in place while at the same time balancing the long ungainly pole. Such were Sunday's in 1900 Pella!

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE HISTORIC PELLA TRUST!

NAME: _____	SINGLE: \$35	SENIOR: \$20
ADDRESS: _____	FAMILY: \$50	SUSTAINING FAMILY: \$100
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____	BUSINESS: \$75	PATRON: \$250
PHONE: _____	BENEFACTOR \$500	PRESERVATIONIST: \$____
EMAIL: _____		

PLEASE COMPLETE CHECK AND MAIL TO HISTORIC PELLA TRUST PO BOX 1, PELLA, IA 50219

HISTORIC PELLA TRUST

FROM:

HISTORIC PELLA TRUST
615 Main Street PO Box 1
Pella, IA 50219

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MAIL TO:

Thank You *Thank you the following businesses and individuals for generously sharing their gifts of time and talents.*

Pella Corporation: Thank you for the foresight to save an old historic cement block that was printed P. VANDERWERF BUILDER. It will be placed in an appropriate location to preserve this unique piece of Pella history.

Menninga Pest Control: Thank you for volunteering to provide termite control to the Tuttle Cabin property. Thanks for contributing this gift necessary to protect and preserve the oldest historic structure in Pella.

Fred Kreykes: Thank you for providing legal counsel and advice to the Board of the Historic Pella Trust.

Russ Van Wyk: Thank you to this fellow restorer for the use of his trailer and for debris removal.

Cornie Vander Broek: Thank you for a discount on the sidewalk cement repair work at the 1110 Washington property.

Derek & Shelly Bradfield: Thank you for your help with construction clean up.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Historic Pella Trust, please call at 628-8003 or email us at historicpellatrust@yahoo.com. We are in need of volunteers in areas such as wallpaper removal and other construction needs.

Historic Pella Trust Property Updates

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

The Soul Sleeper Church:
Building in excellent condition.

Tuttle Cabin: Roof and log
repair need to be completed. Still
requires funding.

**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.