

# Neighborhood News

The Newsletter of The Old Third Ward Association, Inc. Spring - 2001

Editor: Linda Muldoon

## Scholarships Available

The OTW Board is extremely proud to announce that the Old Third Ward is now offering two scholarships a year.

One scholarship is academic and will be given to an Appleton resident or current student or graduate of an Appleton school pursuing studies (workshops included) in history, government, political science, land use and/or city planning. The second scholarship is trade or technical. This scholarship is also open to an Appleton resident or current student or graduate of an Appleton school who is pursuing education in the restoration trades. Both scholarships are open to high school seniors or older.

For scholarship application forms and plication forms and plication, write to plication, write to plication, PO Box 2574, plication and plication of the plication of the plication of the plication of the plication pl

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call 739-5762.

### Home Tour Sept. 15-16

This year's Home Tour should be an exciting one. The times have changed from previous years: Saturday, Sept. 15, 10-5; Sunday, Sept. 16, 1-4.

Neighbors who have graciously agreed to open their homes are: the Sosallas at 340 W. Prospect; the Ensleys at 335 W. Prospect; and the Kehns at 321 W. Prospect. All three homes are part of the new West Prospect Avenue Historic District. In addition we will be touring St. Mary's Church and the Atlas Mill. As usual we will have lots of history and also as usual we will be looking for volunteers.

#### **Vulcan Watch**

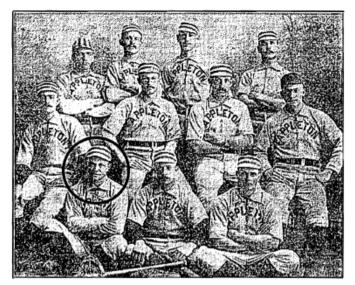
The City has completed a "neighborhood beautification" project at Jackman and Water Streets in preparation for the new Vulcan Heritage Park. The graffiti wall has been cleaned and small trees have been planted in front of it. The police have asked the OTW to ask neighbors to be alert to new graffiti or criminal activity in the area. Call Officer Steve Elliott at 832-5574 with any information.



Barbara Alberty gives a testimonial, Appleton Weekly Post, March, 1901.

"Everywhere the people, especially the women, are praising Peruna as a remedy for all forms of catarrhal difficulties."

The Alberty family lived at 401-403 S. Walnut Street (c.1890). Hotel proprietor Michael Alberty and his wife Anna raised five daughters in this home (One of these daughters was Barbara.).



George Hogriever in an 1891 photograph, just as he was making a name for himself in baseball.

## Stormy, an Early Appleton Star

In honor of the season, the OTW cites one George "Stormy" Hogriever, an early baseball hero.

Organized baseball began in Appleton in 1867. By 1875, Appleton boasted the Grand Chute team and the Alerts. The Grand Chute team included many from the immediate neighborhood (O'Keefe, Kavanaugh, and Enos). One of the earliest local heroes, however, was George Hogriever who lived at 345 W. Prospect.

" And on June 18, 1891 it is duly recorded that one George Hogriever had joined the Appleton team. Appleton was defeated by Marinette that day but "Stormy" made the only run. This is what the scribes of 1891 had to say: Appleton has made a hit in securing Hogriever. He seems to be a fine all around man, and a great fellow with his head. At the bat he is not easily deceived and in base running he captures them all. His regular work on the field does not suffer from his accomplishments elsewhere." Appleton Crescent, April 30, 1932

Hogriever later managed the Appleton Papermakers and led them to a pennant in 1910.

## One-Hundred Years Ago and More

Appleton Crescent, 1853

"We have repeatedly spoken of the peculiar adaptation of our soil to the culture of fruit and of the rapid growth of the trees already set out. A few evenings since, we went over Mr. John Stephens' orchard in the south portion of the town, and were gratified to perceive that his trees were all in a thrifty condition. Late in the spring, Mr. Stephens arrived from the East, bringing with him a quantity of fruit trees. In a very short space of time, he had a number of lots - bounded by Elm, Prospect, and River Streets - cleared, grubbed, fenced, the trees properly transplanted, and the ground placed in a state of thorough cultivation. It is astonishing how rapidly they grow."

Appleton Post, Oct. 18, 1866

"In the fresh diggings at the brewery in the Third Ward, they are now throwing out the choicest of brick-clay. It is from a laver at least fifteen feet in thickness, and can be got at anywhere along the sides of the ravine, by going in on a level, instead of digging down from the surface. The color is red, it is free from pebbles, the texture is uniform, and it is quite plastic. There is no better enterprise in Appleton than brick-making. The clay is everywhere, is easy of access, and of the best quality." The brewery was once located on the site of the Police Station.

### 100 Years Ago in the OTW

Appleton Crescent, May 25, 1901

The visit of Capt. John M. Baer to Wittenberg on fishing trip was warrant for a Milwaukee Sentinel story of his being a candidate for governor, simply because he was the guest of Mayor Meisner, a prominent democrat. As a matter of fact, the fishing party was composed of four republicans and two democrats. Capt. Baer explains the situation by saying: "The republicans are so scared, that whenever two democrats get together, they (the republicans) see an incipient gubernatorial boom."

Capt. John Baer and his wife lived at 517 S. State St.

Appleton Crescent, May 18, 1901

Three more Indian bones were unearthed by workmen employed on the improvements to Col. N.E. Morgan's residence on Prospect Street, on the point of the bluff which was formerly an Indian burying ground. Two were thigh-bones, and one a flat hip-bone. One of the thigh bones was small, evidently that of a woman or child, while the other and the hip bone were apparently those of a full-grown brave. A dark patch at one side of the trench where the bones were found seemed to indicate the presence of other portions of the remains, but no investigation was made, as Col. Morgan declares he is merely repairing his house, not investigating Indian burying grounds.

Col. Morgan lived at 527 W. Prospect.

Appleton Weekly Post, May 2, 1901

If they have good luck, the firemen of the No.2 engine house will have their pockets filled with money for the Fourth of July. They have launched out in the poultry business, having purchased an incubator which is now being tested. Only about a dozen chickens were hatched from the first hundred eggs owing to the fact that the machine was not properly managed. Now that firemen understand operating it they expect to have better luck in the future. They have secured a large cage in which the young chickens will be kept until they are nearly large enough for the market.

The No. 2 Engine House was once on the northwest corner of State and Eighth.

Also from the Post, May 2, 1901 Wolves are very numerous in the woods of the upper peninsula and are killing off the deer in great numbers. It has been suggested that the bounty be made \$25 per head, as men would then make it a business to kill them for the money there would be in it, and before long the species would be practically extinct, as far as Michigan was concerned.

Déjà vu, Appleton Crescent, May 11, 1901

Appleton is likely to have new opera house. A project to build one at a cost of \$40,000 is on foot, backed by a company including many of the leading citizens of the city, and if sufficient

interest is displayed by citizens in general, the new theatre will be ready to open next fall. The project of building a theatre partly by subscription has been a success in various neighboring cities when the company back of the enterprise was composed of foreign speculative capital. It had a fine start in this city not many months ago on the same basis. On that basis it seems a certainty that the present project, backed by local capital provided by such men as named above, will be most cordially supported and speedily culminate successfully." (Members of the company included John Van Nortwick, John Sherman, and John Baer, all of the neighborhood.)

Appleton Crescent, April 29, 1901

#### Slick Scheme of Paper Mill Hands Discovered

A very clever scheme of netting fish, presumably instigated by paper mill hands, was discovered Saturday, and a tip given the game warden which will put a stop to it. Usually, in a time of high water like the present, a lot of fish have been raked out from the racks of the flumes of mills along the water power canal which feeds the Fox River Co. paper mills at the extreme north end of the Pearl Street bridge. This year, no fish have been caught at the racks, and an emplovee of the Fox River Mills, becoming suspicious, Saturday, spliced a long handle on a rake and investigated the canal. He found a net stretched clear across the canal, just below the bridge, shutting off and capturing all fish that came down the canal

#### West Prospect Avenue Historic District

Many of you have seen the articles in the newspapers about the new Historic District in our neighborhood. The district is composed of eight homes: 315, 321, 324, 325, 329, 330, 340, and 335 West Prospect. This designation by the State Historical Society is the culmination of months of work and research. The eight homes were constructed between 1870 and 1927. According to the application documents, " The West Prospect Avenue Historic District showcases the major national architectural styles of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and includes fine examples of the Italian Villa, Colonial Revival, Prairie School, Tudor Revival, and Italian Renaissance Revival Styles. The bluff side of Prospect Avenue, with its spectacular views of the Fox River, was the residential area of choice for well-to-do Appletonians during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. After 1910, lots overlooking the bluff were no longer available. . . . "

Three of these homes will be open for viewing during the fall Home Tour.

## Open House

The Housing Partnership will be holding an Open House on June 28 from 5 to 7 pm at their newly completed home at 528 W. Fifth. Many volunteers helped with the repairs, most especially members of Memorial Presbyterian and Trinity Lutheran Churches. The public is invited.

#### Historic Architectural Styles: A Primer.

By Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock.

Wisconsin is home to many of the architectural styles that were popular throughout the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The styles tended to appear slowly in the state. If, for example, an architectural style was fashionable in Ohio in the 1860s, then examples of the style would likely surface in Wisconsin a decade or so later. The reason for this delay is simple: new architectural styles were typically tried out in the design of new buildings, and the demand for new buildings was created by settlers. Wisconsin's greatest period of settlement was in the decades around 1900an era also noteworthy for the rich diversity in its architecture and design.

Described below are a few of the residential building styles that were popular in Wisconsin around the turn-of-the-century. (The dates in parentheses after each style demarcate the approximate period in which the style was in fashion.) Examples of most of these can be seen around the Old Third Ward neighborhood.



Queen Anne (1880-1910), Perhaps the most playfully exuberant of all styles, the Queen Anne is best characterized by its great diversity of forms. These Victorian or "painted lady" buildings (socalled because of their often-lurid color scheme) are always irregular in plan and asymmetrical in massing. The façade of a Queen Anne house is typically composed of different picturesque architectural elements (turrets, wrap-around porches, balconies, bay windows), a variety of roof forms, and a hodgepodge of surface textures (brick, clapboard, shingles, stone). Detailing tends to be more restrained, drawing from a Classical palette. Frank Lloyd Wright's abhorrence of this "wedding cake" style spurred him on his quest to create a new, non-derivative American architecture.



American Foursquare (19001930). This simple style is characterized by its boxy massing and square plan, low-pitch hipped roof, wide eaves, deep front porch, and its lack of ornamental details. Walls are typically of clapboard, concrete block, stucco or some combination of these materials. American Foursquare houses are quite common: prefabricated house kits and plans were sold throughout the country, and this style was especially popular in

the Midwest. Some American Foursquare houses resemble pared-down versions of Prairie School buildings made famous by Wright and his followers.



Period Colonial Revival (1900-1940). During the first decades of the 20th century, American architects began to rediscover styles that had fallen out of favor during the previous century. The Period Colonial Revival is one such example. This style appropriated motifs from the buildings of the original thirteen colonies: symmetrical façade compositions, gabled porticoes, clapboards (usually painted white), window shutters, and brick chimneys at one or both gable end. In mining this period,

Friend

Resident/Property Owner

architects were trying to invoke the early American democracy—a gesture amplified by the inclusion of such Classical details as columns and denticulated cornices. Period Colonial Revival houses are uniformly side-gabled and two stories high.



Bungalow (1910-1940). Like the American Foursquare, this modest style was popularized through plan books and mail-order catalogues. Extremely common in the United States, its origin is neither American nor European, but rather Indian. The term "Bungalow" is of Hindustani derivation. It was used by the British to describe small, low buildings with verandas found

in India during the colonial period. In the United States, Bungalows can be identified by their wide, low-pitch gabled roofs, broad and deep front porches (sometimes enclosed), and massive chimneys. Common building materials include clapboard and stucco, but periodically a heavy fieldstone example can be found. Bungalows with "exotic" stylistic details (read: Asian or Old World European) were also designed.

An excellent book on residential architecture in the United States is Virginia and Lee McAlester's A Field Guide to American Houses.

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#### Become a Supporting Member of the Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association, Incorporated

Voting memberships are open to residents, both homeowner and tenant, and non-resident property owners. "Friends" are non-resident, non-voting members who wish to support the purpose of the association financially.

#### Membership Categories

Sponsor

Sustain

\$100 or more

\$250

\$10 or more

\$15

Family Patron	\$25 \$50		Benefactor	\$500	*
Name:					
Address:					
City:		State:		Zip:	
A/C & Phone:					
I would like to volunteer					(state your interest

Address checks and correspondence to: Old Third Ward, P. O. Box 2574, Appleton, Wisconsin 54913-2574

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thanks to a resolution introduced and fought for by Aldermen Richard Thompson and James Clemons, the land along the Fox River (now the site of the Water Treatment Plant) will be officially mapped as a City park. This mapping also shall include the right-of-way where the pipes connect the triangle reservoir site on Prospect with the water plant.

After failing to pass the Council the first time and sent back to committee which also rejected the resolution, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Clemons brought the resolution up to the Council again. They were quite surprised, as were many of our group, when it passed on a 10-7 vote.

Many members of the Board of Directors had spent countless hours attending various meetings and calling alderpersons seeking their support in keeping the site as greenspace. We give many thanks to those involved for their time and effort.

The decision spells a victory for The Old Third Ward for the time being and it could deter developers interested in pursuing high-density use. But, we must be cautious. The Council's decision could still be amended to allow for other uses of the land. For the moment, there is a feeling of satisfaction knowing that we, as a group, have preserved a part of Fox River history to be enjoyed by everyone.

Wm. Anderson President

#### Preservation

"Cities that have done a good job of protecting their historic buildings and districts are more livable places and more desirable locations for businesses. They are better able to compete with suburbs for jobs and residents." From The Economics of Historic Preservation by Donovan Rypkema

The Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society will be meeting on July 16 at 7 pm at Dave Bluma's house, 621 W. Fifth. Neighbors interested in orchids are welcome to attend.

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