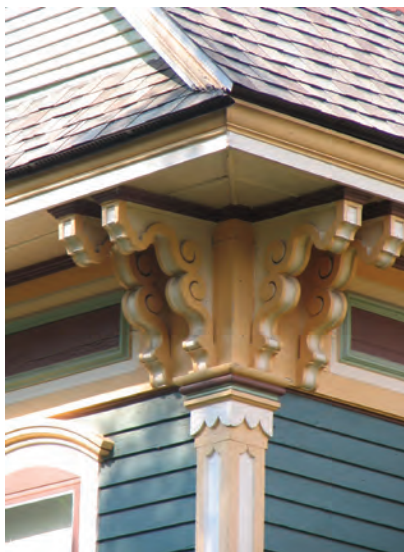


OLD TOWN *Historic District* AMES, IOWA



LOCATED NORTH OF MAIN STREET
BETWEEN 7TH AND 9TH STREETS,
DUFF AND CLARK AVENUES.

ABOUT THIS NEIGHBORHOOD. . .

The Old Town Historic District, located north of downtown Ames, includes a unique collection of homes which illustrate the history of domestic architecture in Ames from the 1870's to the mid-1920's. Within the boundaries are found nearly all of the remaining residential structures from the first two plats of Ames, the Original Town and Blair's Addition. This includes the largest and best preserved concentration of late 19th and early 20th century residential architecture in Ames.

The 12-block area was designated a local historic district in 1989 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2004. The architecture here is an important part of the community's history. As a local historic district, alterations to the exterior of structures are reviewed and approved by the City's Historic Preservation Commission. This process ensures that the architecture will remain for future generations to learn from and enjoy.

The area has seen numerous changes since its beginnings. A number of the early homes were built for prominent families involved in the development of Ames including business leaders and university faculty. Initially, Douglas Avenue was "the place to live" with Duff Avenue soon to follow. Around 1930, the 9th Street corridor became prominent. The size, style, and detail of these homes vary greatly from elaborate Queen Anne and Italianate to simpler bungalows and vernacular styles. Beginning in the 1950's, the neighborhood answered the need for rental housing, resulting in the division of some of the larger structures into several rental units.

Recently people have discovered the value and convenience of the area's geographical location within a growing city. Restoration/preservation activity combined with long term maintenance activity is making a significant impact on the area as once again the neighborhood has become a source of pride and interest for the community. Today the neighborhood provides a variety of housing choices as owners work to preserve this significant part of Ames' history.

Walking is the best way to view the outstanding architectural details found here. Whether it be the brackets of the Italianate, the ornate details of the Queen Anne, the horizontal lines of the Prairie Style or the simplicity of the Vernacular structures, we invite you to enjoy the special character of the neighborhood. Only a small percentage of the district homes are featured in this booklet. The decision of which to include was difficult to make. Those chosen showcase the architectural variety of the area and/or housed residents significant in the history of Ames.

GETTING STARTED

{ See map on page 15. A glossary can be found on pages 13 and 16 (see italicized words). Begin the tour on the west side of the district at 8th and Clark. Proceed east along 8th Street.

1. 721 CLARK AVENUE



*

This Queen Anne style house features a *hipped roof* with *gabled* projections. Especially notable are the patterned shingles in the *gable* peaks with ornamental *fascia* boards. Take a look at the sunburst motif in the *gable* over the front porch.

2. 722 CLARK AVENUE



*

On this *gabled-ell* cottage, Tuscan columns on rectangular piers grace the wrap-around porch. A *gabled pediment* calls attention to the entrance. Notice the bulkhead constructed of vertical wood strips running upward for about 3 feet from the porch floor. This calls attention to the trend of contrasting surface textures. A two-story addition on the north side is typical of 1910 - 1920 when open air sleeping was encouraged during the Spanish influenza pandemic. At the rear of the lot is a rare, pristine example of an early 20th century garage with Craftsman styling.

{ Continue east on 8th Street to Burnett Ave. }

3. 721 BURNETT AVENUE



*

This *gabled* cottage illustrates the transition from the highly-detailed Queen Anne to simpler architectural designs. The front *gabled* roof with *pent roof* at the third-floor level has hipped *dormers*. The Queen Anne interest in surface textures is evident in the differing widths of the siding, the corner boards and in the sunburst motifs. Two sunburst motifs are seen; one in the upper *gable* and a second in the *pediment* over the front steps. Tuscan columns support the *shed roof* of the porch. The balanced front *facade* and classical columns illustrate the shift to a more symmetrical and simpler architectural style (in contrast to the house across the street to the north).

4. 803 BURNETT AVENUE



This home illustrates several noteworthy characteristics of the neighborhood. Built on a site larger than one city lot in size, it calls attention to the practice of conspicuous consumption among the Victorians. Corner lots became popular locations for showplace residences/trophy houses. Once the home of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity (as early as 1907) and later the Kappa Delta Sorority, the building is one of several in the neighborhood with ties to Greek letter organizations.

As one of the best-preserved examples of the Queen Anne style, it exhibits many classic characteristics of the style. The complex roof system, irregular footprint, wrap-around porch and variety

in exterior cladding are all common for this style. Additionally it features classic round porch columns, square-spindled porch railing, a two-story cutaway bay on the south, front *gable* with paired windows and patterned shingles, an inset porch on the second floor and an oval window on the east *facade* at the second floor level. The large wrap-around porch has a gazebo-like entrance at the southeast corner.

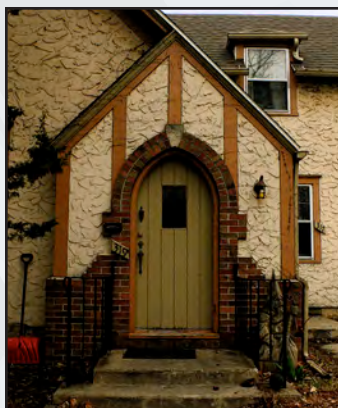
This structure is one of a number in the neighborhood that were once converted into multiple rental units, at one time containing as many as eight units. A major restoration effort began in 1987. Working with a historic photo from the ISU yearbook, the owners have paid careful attention to detail in the photo to return the structure to its early appearance.

5. 320 8TH STREET



Built in 1926, this house is an excellent example of Craftsman/Bungalow architecture. Typical details include wide eaves, wide *fascia* boards, and exposed rafters. The porch has brick piers and battered columns with a *gabled* roof over the entry. Paired windows are found on the front *facade* and the north *dormer*. This house was originally a practice house for home economic students at Iowa State University. Students would live here for a time period learning/practicing the skills needed to run a household.

6. 317-319 8TH STREET



The only Tudor style structure in the district, this style is characterized by a steeply-pitched front *gable* with intersecting side *gable*; half-timbering in the front *gable* and on the entry porch; pointed arched front entryway; 8/1 *glazing pattern* on the windows and rough-

*

textured stucco cladding. The front entry way and door are surrounded by brick with a cast concrete key stone and brick bulkheads.

{ Continue east to Kellogg Ave. }

7. 804 KELLOGG AVENUE



*

Built in 1885 in the Italianate style, this structure exhibits the most elaborate Italianate details found in the district. Some common details are a low-pitched *hipped roof*, deep *cornice*, eave brackets and tall narrow windows. Few houses of this time period in Ames were built using brick, making this house even more unusual. This structure is rich with architectural details including double jigsaw brackets with *pendants* around the eave and windows with brick segmental arched *lintels* with molded stone brackets and molded stone keystones. The house also calls attention to the preference of Victorians to build showplace residences on the corners of city blocks. The front porch, built in 1992, is of a design sympathetic to the styling of the house.

The house was built for Professor J. L. Budd, nationally-known scientist in plant production techniques. ISU became nationally recognized for horticulture during his tenure. His work made available numerous plants suitable to the Iowa climate including May Apple and Russian olive trees, lilacs, Colorado blue spruce and Douglas fir. The Budd's daughter, Etta, was instrumental in bringing George Washington Carver to study agriculture at Iowa State. Carver was the first African-American on the college staff and later did important research into uses of the peanut and its oil.



*

{ Continue east to Douglas Ave. and turn left
(north), then north until you reach 812 Douglas. }

8. 812 DOUGLAS AVENUE



Built by H. E. Stuckslager, this house has the typical Queen Anne irregular roof and overall plan. The tower/turret with pyramidal roof at the northwest corner is also a popular detail of this style. The porch spanning the front *facade* has Doric columns with a square spindle railing. The wood bands around the house between floors add to the surface texture of the building.

Stuckslager shaped the Ames environment by building this home (the family home) as well as a number of buildings on the ISU campus. He was a carpenter and cabinet maker with a shop on Main Street, just a few blocks to the south.

{ Proceed south on Douglas Ave. now. }

9. 808 DOUGLAS AVENUE



*

the east and west *facade*.

This was the home of George Judisch, a prominent Main Street druggist in Ames' early days and was built by his cousins, carpenters Albert and Henry Judisch.

10. 804 DOUGLAS AVENUE



*

This *gabled-ell* cottage has many Queen Anne details. Take a look at both the south and west *facades*. Surface textures include patterned shingles in the *gable*, narrow diagonal vertical and horizontal wood siding. The full-width front porch has been constructed using a historic photo as a guide.

11. 722 DOUGLAS AVENUE



*

Notice the stained glass window on the front of this house and the bay window on the south with fan brackets and *pendant*. These details are often found on grand Queen Anne houses. You can also see patterned shingles and *bargeboard* panels in the front *gable*. Behind the turned columns on the porch notice the vertical wood strips below the first-story windows resulting in a corrugated effect along the front of the house.

This was built for George W. Rogers who was in charge of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Ames branch. He was well-known and highly respected throughout the East and in railroad circles. The house was later occupied by A. Y. Fuller, an engineering professor at Iowa State. Divided into several apartments for a number of years, it was converted back to a single family residence in the early 1980's.

12. 719 DOUGLAS AVENUE



Constructed around 1890, this *gabled-ell* cottage shows us that rich architectural detailing is not only for large elaborate houses. The prominent first story bay window features a paneled bulkhead surmounted with a *cornice* and paired brackets. The windows feature 2/2 glazing. An unusual round window is seen on the front *facade* at the second story. Shaped *lintels* are found over the window openings.

The porch features a *hipped roof* supported by wood posts with bracket detailing. The original porch was missing for many years, but recently a replacement porch was constructed.

13. 709 DOUGLAS AVENUE



*

This is a virtually intact example of the American Four Square style. Also called a hipped cottage, it has hipped main roof, hipped *dormers* and also a *hipped roof* on the porch all with flared eaves. The porch has classic columns and a square-spindled railing.

Craftsman influence is seen in the brackets/exposed rafter tails at the eave line. Bay windows are seen on the south and front (at the second-story level) *facade*. The bay windows show the Colonial Revival influence for tightly constrained exterior projections.

This house is very similar to the one at 903 Burnett Ave which is a documented Montgomery Ward pre-cut house. More research could reveal that this too is a pre-cut/catalog house.

14. 714 DOUGLAS AVENUE



*

Another excellent Queen Anne example with asymmetrical *facade*, steep roof pitch, and ornamental detailing is seen here. The wrap-around porch to the south and west has round columns and jigsawed spindles. Patterned shingles and wood relief detailing are found in the *gables*.

After being vacant for many years, major restoration began in the 1980's. Today it has a prominent place in the historic district. An early Ames mayor, Sovarro Cramer owned this house in the late 1890's and is believed to have added the third story and the north addition giving the house its current appearance. The north addition was built to comply with city ordinances requiring indoor plumbing.

{ Continue south to 7th Street and around the }
{ corner to the left (east) over to Duff Avenue. }

15. 704 DUFF AVENUE



*

Take a look across the street at the front *gable* of this house to see a *pent roof* and *Palladian window* with complex glazing panels. The arched center window is surrounded by a sunburst motif. The *gable* details are some of the most complex in the district. Another sunburst is found in the porch *gable*. The wrap-around porch is also common to the Queen Anne style.

16. 712 DUFF AVENUE



Professor Charles Curtiss and family lived in this elegant Queen Anne house. Curtiss was a professor of animal husbandry and later Dean of the Agricultural Experiment Station at ISU. The Curtiss family also occupied the Farm House on the ISU campus for a number of years. Under his direction, the agriculture department gained nationwide and worldwide recognition among agriculture schools.

Removal of wide, cover up siding started the dramatic return of this house to its original appearance. Rich details were uncovered including sunburst motifs, patterned shingles, canted wall with decorative bracket and spindleworked porches. The rich details are highlighted with period paint colors.

17. 709 DUFF AVENUE



Craftsman influence is seen in this *gabled-ell* cottage evidenced by the wide overhanging eaves, ribbon window, and deep porch. The brick porch has Tuscan columns and a flat roof with closed *soffit*. The front stairs have brick bulkheads with concrete caps. A low-pitched *gabled* roof with a *gabled* side *dormer* define the roof area.

18. 723 DUFF AVENUE



The architectural firm of Kimball, Bailie and Cowgill designed this Craftsman style home. Kimball was head of ISU's architecture department in the early 1900's. Built in 1921, it is one of the best examples of Craftsman architecture in the district. Harris W. Stafford, president of Ames National Bank and city treasurer in 1921, resided here. He built this "new" house on the Duff Avenue site after moving the original Queen Anne home to the rear of the lot (now 114 8th Street).

Noteworthy details include brick on the first floor, stucco on the second floor, wide eaves, open *soffit* with exposed rafter tails, solid brackets, half-timber motif in the front *gable* and 8/1 *glazing pattern* in the windows with concrete sills. A one-story brick bay window with a *hipped roof* is on the south side of the home.



Glossary

BARGEBOARD:

the board placed to conceal the ends of roof timbers (rafters) on a gable; usually with ornamentation.

CORNICE:

a molded, projecting horizontal piece crowning the top of a wall.

DORMER:

the roofed structure projecting through the main roof and containing a vertical window.

FACADE:

the face of a building.

FASCIA:

the flat horizontal surface just below the roof edge.

GABLE:

the triangular top section of a side wall on a building with a pitched roof.

GAMBREL ROOF:

a roof with 2 slopes on 2 sides of a building.

GLAZING PATTERN:

glazing is fitting the glass into the window sash. Pattern refers to the division(s) in the glass; i.e. 2/2 would be 2 divisions in the upper sash and 2 in the lower sash, 6/1 would be 6 in the upper sash and 1 in the lower sash.

HIPPED ROOF:

roof formed by four sloping surfaces.

LINTEL:

the horizontal member spanning an opening, usually carrying the load above the opening.

ORIEL WINDOW:

a projecting bay window often supported by brackets.

Glossary continued on page 16.

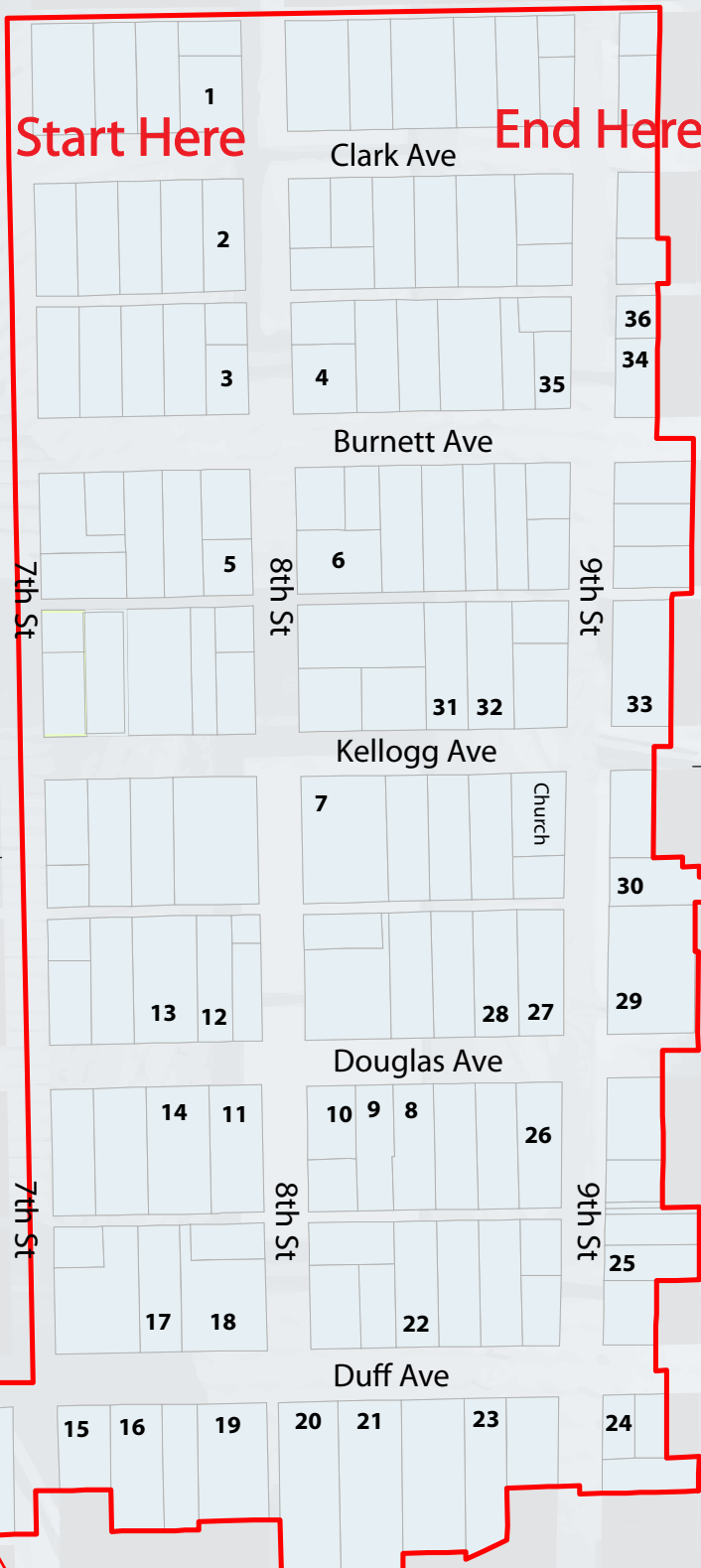
**Old Town
Historic District Map**

1.	721 Clark Ave.	Queen Anne	p 3
2.	722 Clark Ave.	Gabled-ell Cottage	p 3
3.	721 Burnett Ave.	Gabled Cottage	p 4
4.	803 Burnett Ave.	Queen Anne	p 4-5
5.	320 8th St.	Craftsman/Bungalow	p 5
6.	317-319 8th St.	Tudor	p 5-6
7.	804 Kellogg Ave.	Italianate	p 6
8.	812 Douglas Ave.	Queen Anne	p 7
9.	808 Douglas Ave.	Queen Anne	p 7
10.	804 Douglas Ave.	Gabled-ell Cottage	p 8
11.	722 Douglas Ave.	Queen Anne	p 8
12.	719 Douglas Ave.	Gabled-ell Cottage	p 9
13.	709 Douglas Ave.	American Foursquare	p 9
14.	714 Douglas Ave.	Queen Anne	p 10
15.	704 Duff Ave.	Queen Anne	p 10
16.	712 Duff Ave.	Queen Anne	p 11
17.	709 Duff Ave.	Gabled-ell Cottage	p 11
18.	723 Duff Ave.	Craftsman/Bungalow	p 12
19.	720 Duff Ave.	Italianate	p 17
20.	726 Duff Ave.	Queen Anne	p 17-18
21.	804 Duff Ave.	Queen Anne	p 18
22.	811 Duff Ave.	Hipped Cottage	p 18-19
23.	816 Duff Ave.	American Foursquare	p 19
24.	103 E. 9th St.	Colonial Revival	p 19
25.	109 9th St.	Craftsman/Bungalow	p 20
26.	826 Douglas Ave.	Old Town Park	p 20
27.	829 Douglas Ave.	Italianate	p 21
28.	823 Douglas Ave.	Queen Anne	p 22
29.	905 Douglas Ave.	Prairie School	p 23
30.	215 9th St.	Colonial Revival	p 24
31.	817 Kellogg Ave.	Queen Anne	p 24
32.	821 Kellogg Ave.	Craftsman/Bungalow	p 25
33.	903 Kellogg Ave.	Gabled Cottage	p 25
34.	903 Burnett Ave.	Hipped Cottage	p 26
35.	831 Burnett Ave.	Colonial Revival	p 26-27
36.	411 9th St.	Prairie School	p 27

Grand Avenue ↑

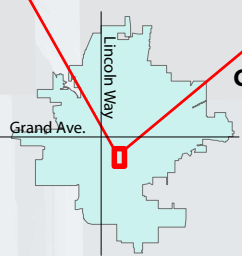
Start Here

End Here

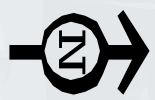


Main Street Cultural District ↓

13th Street ↓



City of Ames



Glossary begins on Page 13

PALLADIAN WINDOW:

a window grouping with a central arched sash and smaller windows on either side of the arched window.

PEDIMENT:

a triangular section framed by horizontal molding at its base and sloping moldings on each side.

PENDANT:

a suspended/hanging piece of ornamentation.

PENT ROOF:

a roof with one slope (half gabled); synonym: shed roof.

PILASTER:

a vertical, rectangular architectural member or column often decorative and structural.

SHED ROOF:

see pent roof.

SOFFIT:

the exposed underside of a part of a building (as in a roof overhang).

Glossary References:

McAlester, Virginia and Lee; *A Field Guide to American Houses*. 1986.

Mish, Frederick (editor): *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 1996

Phillips, Steven; *Old House Dictionary*. 1992.



*

19. 720 DUFF AVENUE



Looking across the street now, the size and architectural details of this Italianate house call attention to Duff Ave. as a desired residential corridor for showplace residences. Corner *pilasters*, jigsaw brackets around the eave line, small brackets under window sills, offset entrance and *hipped roof* are typical details. On the south side is a large two-story bay window with very narrow diagonal wood siding. The metal porch supports are an alteration and not a part of the Italianate style.

Built in 1885 for F. T. McLain, it was on the edge of Ames at the time. After retirement, McLain, a farmer, moved to Ames. He was a Civil War veteran and in 1897 a member of the City Council. Later he was elected mayor, but refused to serve.

20. 726 DUFF AVENUE



Following a 1920's remodeling, this house took on its current appearance, a Queen Anne style with stucco and half-timbering. Craftsman detailing is seen in the triangular brackets, wide eaves and rafters. The evolution of this building has its own significance regardless of the original appearance. At the rear of the lot is a carriage house, one of only two in the district. The first floor is a two-bay

garage and the second story contains living quarters.

Although located north of 8th Street, the house number is 726. The story behind this is that when Hiram Munn, Sr. asked the City for a house number while the house was under construction, he was told “726.” Later the City realized the error and wanted to change the number. By then the Munn family had already adopted the number including the imprinting of stationary. Munn reportedly said “you said it was 726 and 726 it shall remain” and to this day it remains 726. The Munn family came to Ames in 1891 and started a lumber yard which is still operated by the Munn family as Munn’s Building Center.

21. 804 DUFF AVENUE



A major restoration in the 1990’s brought this elaborate Queen Anne back to its earlier glory. Built in 1892 for Professor Pammel and his family, it is definitely a showplace/trophy residence. Prof. Pammel was head of the Botany Dept and very instrumental in establishing the state park system. Later it was a residence for Phi Sigma Kappa.

Typical of the Queen Anne style, there are many surface textures highlighted with period colors. Noteworthy details include alternating bands of patterned shingles and clapboard siding, flared siding between the first and second floors, curved walls around windows in front *gable* and turned spindles on the porches. The 3-bay garage was build in 1993.

22. 811 DUFF AVENUE



*

A hipped cottage with Queen Anne detail describes this charming home. Rich in texture, patterned shingles, narrow siding and the spindle-worked porch break up the exterior surface. The roof is hipped with intersecting *gables* and unusual broken *pent roof* beneath the *dormers*. A one story bay with *hipped roof* is seen at the southwest corner.

23. 816 DUFF AVENUE



*

This American Foursquare (hipped cottage) has a stained glass oval window at the second story level on the front *facade*. With flared eaves and hipped *dormers* with flared eaves, it is an excellent example of the American Foursquare style. Notice the *oriel window* on the north side.

24. 103 E. 9TH STREET



Notice the unusual detail of eye brow *dormers* protruding from the roof at this house.

We also see details typical of the Colonial Revival style including wide eaves, center door with side lights, multipane glazing in the upper sash, end wall chimney and a *pediment* over the front door.

{Go around the corner to 9th Street (turn left).}

25. 109 9TH STREET



*

This craftsman/bungalow calls attention to the emergence of 9th St. as a preferred residential corridor. Built in 1920, it is representative of the in-fill housing occurring at the time to increase density in the city core. Separating the back portion of an earlier platted corner lot was common and changed the appearance of many corner lots in the district.

This house has a front *gable* with smaller *gable* over the front porch, side *gabled dormers*, open *soffit*, bracket supports with knee braces, exposed rafter tails and double-hung windows with three vertical glazing bars. This house was the “honeymoon cottage” for Hiriam (Jr.) and Ann Munn of the Munn Lumber family. They resided here until 1939 and then moved to the larger Munn house at 726 Duff.

The house was then purchased by the Ted Kooser family. Ted, Sr., managed the Tilden store (dry goods store on Main St) for many years and later managed Younkers stores in Ames and Cedar Rapids. Son Ted, a 1957 Ames High grad, was the United States Poet Laureate from 2004-2008. He received a Pulitzer Prize in 2005. Actor Nick Nolte (see # 28) is rumored to have been among the neighborhood children who enjoyed skating on the ice-covered garage floor at this address.

26. 826 DOUGLAS; OLD TOWN PARK

The park, established in the 1980's, serves the neighborhood community as a gathering and meeting place. Neighborhood residents have been involved in the planning, improvement and care of the park since its inception.

Historically, this site was the home of John and Rowena Stevens. John was an entrepreneur, district attorney and politician. Rowena Edson Stevens was an early feminist active in the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association and worked to pass the 19th constitutional amendment granting women the right to vote.

27. 829 DOUGLAS AVENUE



*

As one of the largest and most fashionable residences, this house helped to establish Douglas Ave as a place of preferred residence during the late 19th century. Constructed of brick, probably by 1874, stucco was added in 1970 due to deterioration of the soft brick. This house was first occupied by H. W. Wright who operated the Wright and Child Wagon-making Shop and Hardware Store. Ames' first permanent blacksmith, he was well-known throughout the state for supporting prohibition. Later, Lon and Ella Hardin who founded the Ames Evening Times, lived here. In 1892, Ames was a two-paper city and the Times was known as one of the best papers in the state. Mr. Hardin was also the 8th postmaster of Ames. Later it housed the Beta Phi Fraternity.

Despite porch alterations, the building exhibits many common Italianate details and is of high architectural quality. Details include *hipped roof*, tall narrow windows, jigsaw bracketing with *pendants* around the eaves, *fascia* board with wood-detailed panels, stone sills, elaborate molded window friezes with rosette motif and a symmetrical, three-bay configuration front *facade*. The garage at the rear was built in 1985.

ENJOYING OLD TOWN PARK



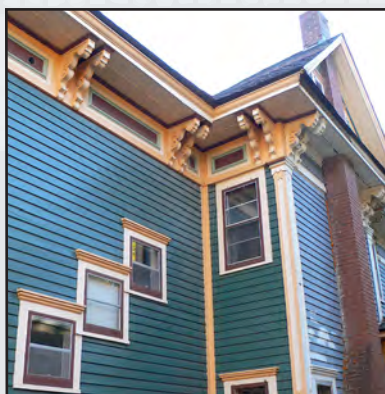
28. 823 DOUGLAS AVENUE



Historically known as the Lucas-Luke house, this name reflects two prominent residents having significant impact on the current appearance of the house. Built about 1874 by W. D. and Flora C. Lucas, the original style was a typical Queen Anne complete with wrap-around porch. Lucas was a prominent Ames businessman starting the first dry goods store and building the first bank. He served as mayor from 1874-75. Later, L. H. Luke, municipal judge in Ames, purchased the house. It is believed that the Lukes removed some of the Queen Anne details and added the Italianate-style brackets in the 1920's.

Queen Anne details include steeply pitched roof with intersecting *gables*, the variety of siding materials and the *Palladian window* in the front *gable*. The Italianate style is most noticeable in the paired brackets under the eave, the three-bay configuration on the second floor, arched window heads over second floor windows and the *pedimented* entry porch. Actor Nick Nolte lived here as a child. During a remodeling in the late 1990's a dart board (signed by Nick and sister, Nancy) was uncovered inside a wall. The board was removed and sent to the actor in California.

{ Turn around and proceed back (north) to 9th
and Douglas Ave. }



*

29. 905 DOUGLAS AVENUE



*

Built around 1890 for George Tilden, this house underwent a major remodeling around 1918 resulting in its present appearance. It is believed that the remodeling was planned by Alan Kimball, head of the ISU Architectural Dept. The current Prairie School design features a horizontal feeling through the use of ribbon windows, paired windows, belt course between the first and second stories and wide eaves. The original brick has been covered with stucco. The front entrance has a parapet roof line, large, square column supports and a segmented eave arch. The enclosed porch on the south side also has a parapet roof line.

For some time, it housed the Sigma Nu Fraternity, one of several located in the downtown area. About 1917, it was purchased by J. Galen Tilden, founder of Collegiate Pacific Manufacturing, owner of several Main Street properties, board member of an Ames bank and owner of a weekly county paper. During Galen Tilden's ownership the Prairie School remodeling occurred. Other prominent citizens residing here include the Gilchrist family (seed, feed and coal businessman); Prof. Linderoth of the ISU Mechanical Engineering Dept.; and Prof. Harry Svec, distinguished professor in Chemistry who worked on the Manhattan Project to purify uranium for the first atomic bomb.

{Continue west on 9th Street.}



30. 215 9TH STREET



Built in the mid-1920's, this is an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style. Although aluminum siding has been added, there is no apparent loss of ornamentation. Details common to this style are a ridgeboard parallel to the street with side gables, end-wall chimney, *pedimented* frontispiece at the entry with wide trim boards on each side. There is an *oriel window* at the east on the first story. Windows have 6/6 glazing. The one story addition to the west was built in the 1970's.

{ Continue west to Kellogg Ave and
turn left (south). }

31. 817 KELLOGG AVE



This is an excellent Queen Anne with a tower. The tower/turret is octagonal in shape with a same-shaped roof and intersects the full-width front porch. The front gable has a triple window with the center window taller than the side windows.

Clad in narrow clapboard siding with corner boards, it also has wide trim boards above the first floor windows.

{ Turn around and continue north toward 9th and
Kellogg Ave. }

32. 821 KELLOGG AVENUE



*

This house may have been the introduction of Craftsman architecture into the historic district. The then “modern ideas” of extra wide eaves, dual materials for exterior walls and the side entrance to the porch were unusual for the time period of 1911-1915 when it was built. Exposed rafters, heavy braces (knee brackets), ribbon windows, multipane glazing in the windows, stucco columns and arched openings on the porch are all Craftsman/Bungalow details.

33. 903 KELLOGG AVENUE



*

Originally a farmhouse outside the town of Ames, this *gabled* cottage illustrates the popularity of corner lots and the tendency to remodel buildings to update their appearance and utility. The present appearance dates from about 1900. The wrap-around porch and *dormers* likely appeared then. A wing was also added to the west. Notice the two bay windows on the side *facade*, *pediment* over the corner porch entry, square columns and square-spindled railing.

Built for the John Duncan family, Duncan was owner of the Ames Intelligencer, an early newspaper. He reportedly was quite outspoken which caused him to be sued for libel (unusual for the time) because of what he said about another businessman. The house was later owned and occupied by Clyde Kinsley, long-time clerk at the Ames Post Office.

{ Proceed west along 9th Street. }

34. 903 BURNETT AVENUE



*

Imagine putting your house together like a jigsaw puzzle! That is exactly how this house was built. This American Four Square is a documented Montgomery Ward Catalog house. Specific styles and details were chosen according to taste and cost and a house was ordered. The pieces came cut, carefully labeled and numbered for the homeowner (or a contractor) to put together.

This house has wide eaves, multiple hipped-roof *dormers* with slightly flared eaves and paired windows. The front of the house has a full-width porch with classic columns and a second floor bay window. Calling attention to the American Four Square (sometimes called hipped cottage) as a popular style in the historic district, the architectural integrity of this house is high.

35. 831 BURNETT AVENUE



*

The only one of its kind in the historic district, the most predominate feature here is the *gambrel roof*. This relates to Dutch Colonial Revival styling. The front gambrel *dormer* has paired windows while the side gambrel has ribbon windows with three units. Though the inset front porch is now enclosed, the enclosure does not greatly affect the structure's integrity.

Note the *oriel window* with *shed roof* and brackets on the north side. A wide trim board with molding above the first floor windows separates the first and second stories. The exposed rafters and

shiplap siding speak to the influence of Craftsman styling on the design. Sitting at the corner of 9th and Burnett the house is noticed from both streets, contributing to the district pattern of building showcase/trophy residences on corner lots.

36. 411 9TH STREET



*

Built when it was common to divide the rear of corner lots for additional houses, this house calls attention to Prairie School architecture in the district. The house was built in 1923 for P. F. Hopkins who earlier lived at 903 Burnett. Hopkins was Ames' first city manager.

Ribbon windows, units of four on the first story and three on the second story, provide strong horizontal lines to the structure. These lines are further emphasized by the low-pitched *hipped roof*, wide overhanging eaves, and wooden belt course just below the second story windows. Narrow siding is found on the first story and stucco on the second. Craftsman influence is seen in the vertical glazing bars of the upper sash. The main entrance steps are flanked by brick bulkheads with concrete caps. A massive brick end-wall chimney is seen on the west side. The brick chimney features concrete caps on the stepped configuration.

Just a bit further west, you will find 9th Street and Clark Avenue, the western and northern boundary of the historic district. This ends the walking tour. Feel free to linger and enjoy the tree-lined streets and the many fine homes located here. We hope you have enjoyed the neighborhood while learning fun facts about its architecture and history.



*
*

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION:

The Historic Old Town Neighborhood Association is a volunteer organization working to build a sense of community within the area and to foster preservation and appreciation of the neighborhood. The organization directly affects the future of Old Town through its various actions and projects. Monthly board meetings are held providing the opportunity to discuss concerns, plan projects, and be involved. The Old Town Neighborhood encompasses the area between Grand and Duff Avenues, 7th and 13th Streets.

REFERENCES:

Page, William C., "Old Town Historic District." National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 2003.

Wirth, Sharon, "An Application for Designation of the Old Town Historic District." Local Historic District Application, 1988.

Presented by the Historic Old Town Neighborhood Association brochure committee: Kathy Coronas, Jim Evans, Roger Volker and Sharon Wirth. Photography by Sharon Wirth and Kathy Coronas*. Supported by the Ames Community Grant Program and the neighborhood association.

© Historic Old Town Neighborhood Association, 2011



www.VisitAmes.com
515.232.4032