



Archaeology & Historic Preservation Month

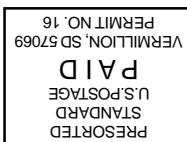
South Dakota Archaeology & Historic Preservation Month was created to foster public appreciation and understanding in order to preserve South Dakota's past for future generations. Our state's cultural heritage is rich and diverse as represented by the thousands of archaeological and historical sites, historic buildings, and landscapes throughout our state. The protection and preservation of these sites, buildings, and landscapes are intended to provide educational, scientific, and economic benefits for all citizens.

Location: **various**
Date/Time: all of **May**
Admission: varies
Sponsor: South Dakota State Historical Society (SDSHS),
SDSHS State Historic Preservation Office
Contact: Cindy Snow, 605-773-2907

In Vermillion
"Taste of Historic Preservation"
402 S. University Avenue
May 17, 2008 - Noon to 4:00 p.m.
Free and Open to the Public
Sponsored by: Clay County Historic
Preservation Commission

Preparation, printing, and distribution of the Clay County Historic Preservation Commission's newsletter have been partially financed with federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, through the South Dakota State Historical Preservation Office. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap in its federally assisted programs. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance should write: Director, Equal Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, P.O. Box 367127, Washington, D.C. 20003-7127.

CCHPC Newsletter 2007/08



Clay County Historic
Preservation Commission
Courthouse Suite 102
211 West Main Street
Vermillion, SD 57069



Clay County Historic Preservation Commission Newsletter

2007/08

Clay County Historic Preservation Commission
Courthouse Suite 102, 211 W. Main, Vermillion SD 57069

May is Clay County Historic Preservation and Archeology Month

*Join the CCHPC to commemorate the 70th "birthday"
of The Colton House with its new designation on
the National Register of Historic Places.*

Saturday, May 17, 2008 from

Noon to 4:00 p.m.

402 S University Avenue, Vermillion.

The Clay County Historic Preservation Commission celebrates Historic Preservation and Archeology Month with a special event. Please join us to commemorate the 70th "birthday" of The Colton House with its new designation on the National Register of Historic Places.

Saturday, May 17, 2008
Noon to 4:00 PM,
402 S. University Avenue
Vermillion

Homeowner Sue Christensen has lovingly restored this distinctive property to its original character. In recognition of her efforts and marking the occasion of its 70th year, she and the Clay County Historic Preservation Commission will unveil a plaque identifying the house as a historic place on the National Register.

The celebration will include informative talks and demonstrations by experts on topics related to buying, owning and caring for older homes. Please join us to learn more about this event as details emerge

"Taste of Historic Preservation" Days Topic

- LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)**
Tom Reasoner
- Recycling of Architectural Salvage**
John Erikson
- Window Restoration**
Jim Wilson
- Old House Brick & Mortar**
Doug Griffin
- National Register and State Programs**
Mike Vogel
- Moisture in Old Buildings**
Jim Wilson
- Domestic Archeology**
Larry Bradley
- Buying an Old House**
Steve Howe

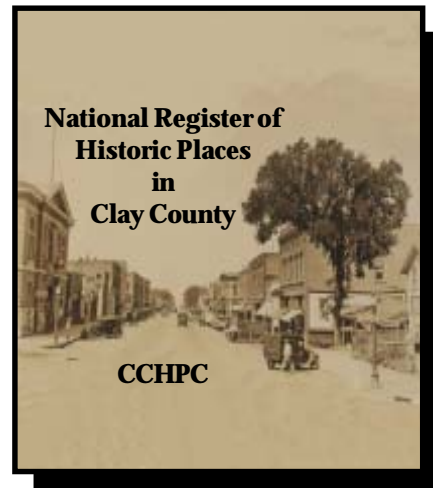
The event is free and open to the public. Anyone with an interest in matters related to the preservation and restoration of older buildings will want to be at this very special event.

**Now Available Reprint of the
Guide to National Register
of Historic Places in Clay County**

The CCHPC proudly presented the new *Guide to National Register of Historic Places in Clay County to the public in May 2007*. Within one month of publication there were about forty copies remaining. The CCHPC has reprinted the booklet and is now available.

For those who have not received a copy, the small book portrays the 38 places honored with the national historic site designation as of 2006. The Clay County Commissioners and the State Historic Preservation Office provided funds for this project.

CCHPC members volunteered hundreds of hours in researching, writing, documenting and photographing the Places in order to provide this new *Guide*. As the title implies, this comprehensive booklet contains descriptions, selected photos, and general maps for all properties and districts in Clay County which were on the National Register of Historic Places in 2006.



The booklet is available free at the Clay County Court House, Vermillion Library, Clay County Historic Society, Nook 'n Cranny, Pressing Matters Printing, LumoStudios and Vermillion City Hall.

We hope that you enjoy these stories and photographs as much as we have enjoyed the research. If you have suggestions for distribution sites, please let any of us know, or call 605-624-9222 and leave a message.

Clay County Cemetery Documentation Project

The CCHPC 2007/08 project has been to document the historic cemeteries of Clay County. There are twenty-seven historic cemeteries identified throughout Clay County. Bluff View in Vermillion makes twenty-eight. The CCHPC has been working to discover and recover as much of the previous research as possible, to identify the current location and condition of the sites, and to make the information available to the public in an accessible format.

The project has two aspects, first the collection and re-printing of the documentation and second is the presentation. The second aspect includes panoramic photos of the cemeteries with pertinent site and current mapping information. A preliminary survey was done at each of the identified cemeteries around Memorial Day 2007 and panoramic photographs of each cemetery were taken in order to determine the state of maintenance and to begin data compilation.

It is wonderful to note that a number of the rural cemeteries in Clay County are well maintained, have active cemetery associations and continue to offer burial space. That

is not true for all the cemeteries, however. Documentation is revealing which cemeteries are in need of some kind of further care. It is believed that the information will assist the future preservation decisions on a county-wide basis once the extent of any "abandonment" is revealed.

The Project includes notebooks containing extensive information about the cemeteries researched by Mr. Harnoise and overviews of the remaining ones. In the 1980's, Rick Harnois did extensive documentation on nine cemeteries deemed at that time to be at risk of abandonment. For each cemetery, he made an archaeological site map, took photos and drew a picture of each of the monument stones, including all inscriptions. Files on six of these cemeteries have been located so far, and a search has been conducted for the remaining files.

The Clay County Cemetery Notebooks are to be distributed to the Vermillion Library, Vermillion Historic Society and Wakonda Library. The originals shall be file at the Clay County Court House.

**CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SESQUICENTENNIAL BOOK**

The Clay County Historical Society is proud to announce the coming publication of a new, comprehensive history of Vermillion. From the River Valleys to the Rising Bluff:

A Pictorial History of Vermillion, South Dakota 1859-2009 is due for publication in Summer 2008. Written by local historian Tom Thaden with the assistance from fellow members Cleo Erickson and Joe Reedy, this book provides pictures and details of a Vermillion that many have never experienced or known before.

The book will consist of 302 pages and have 624 pictures covering the many different facets of life in Vermillion. Many of the pictures have never been published before and provide a new view of life in Vermillion over the past 150 years. According to the editor, it is an extraordinary book that is very well written and organized with photos that are of excellent quality. Please place your order for the book today and save an extra \$5.00 per book. Preorder price prior to publication is \$30.00 and after publication is \$35.00.



Dakota House Hotel, c. 1880



BOOK ORDER FORM

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone Number: _____ Cell Phone: _____
 E-mail Address: _____
 Quantity _____ (Preorder) Amount Enclosed _____ (30.00 each)
 _____ (At Publication) Amount Enclosed _____ (35.00 each)

Return to: **Tom Thaden**, 1336 Westgate Drive, Vermillion, SD 57069 / 605-624-3286

Pioneer Wedding Stack Cake (South Dakota)

Ingredients

1 cup butter
3 eggs
4 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1 cup sugar
1 cup mild-flavor molasses
2 teaspoons vanilla
1 cup buttermilk or sour milk
1 24-ounce jar chunk-style applesauce
1 1/2 cups apple butter
2 teaspoons apple pie spice (optional)
1 cup whipped cream
1 1/2 cup coarsely chopped nuts, toasted

Allow butter and eggs to stand at room temperature 30 minutes.. Lightly grease bottoms of (3) 8 inch x 1 1/2 inch deep round cake pans. Line bottoms of pans with waxed paper. Grease and lightly flour waxed paper and sides of pans; set aside. In large bowl, mix flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and ginger.

Preparation

In second large mixing bowl, beat butter with an electric (modernized) mixer for 30 seconds. Gradually add sugar; beat until well-combined. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition. Add molasses and vanilla; beat until well-combined (mixture will appear curdled). Alternately adding the flour mixture and buttermilk to butter mixture, beating on low speed after each addition just until combined. Pour 1 cup plus 2 T of batter into each prepared pan. Refrigerate the remaining batter.

Bake in a 375° oven about 15 minutes., or until a wooden toothpick inserted near center comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes in pans on wire racks. Remove from pans and completely cool on wire racks. Wash pans; line bottoms with waxed paper, grease and lightly flour. Repeat with remaining batter.

In a medium bowl, combine applesauce, apple butter and if you like, apple pie spice. To assemble, select cake layer that's most attractive; set aside for top layer. On a serving plate, place one of the remaining layers; spread about 3/4 Cup of applesauce mixture to within 1/2 inch of edge. Repeat with remaining 4 cake layers and applesauce mixture. Place reserved cake layer on top. Cover and chill for at least 6 or up to 24 hours before serving. (Chilling the assembled cake makes it easier to ice).

To serve, remove cake from fridge. Let stand for 1 hour. Just before serving, spread the whipped cream on top; sprinkle with nuts. If you like, garnish the platter with rose petals or edible flowers. Makes 24 servings.

Courtesy of: Diana McMillen, "Midwest Living" Magazine

Clay County Historic Preservation Commission Members

Phyllis Packard, Chair
Jim Wilson, Vice Chair
Evelyn Schlenker, Secretary
Tom Thaden, Treasurer

Nancy Carlsen Warren Kuhler
Bill Ranney Holly Straub

New Members 2008/09

John Grayson Steven Ward
Sue Christensen Karin Woltjer

*The meetings open to the public.
Second Tuesday of the month
6:30 p.m.*

*LumoStudios & Gallery
2 East Main Street Vermillion
Call 605 677 7076 for info*

Two Classes Offered on Historic Preservation

The Community Education Program in Vermillion will be presenting two classes about historic preservation in the fall of 2008. They will be taught by Jim Wilson, retired historic preservation expert.

Historic Preservation 101

Presentations and discussion of historic preservation basics. Why preserve the buildings from the past? Discussion to include listing property on the National Register of Historic Places, Income tax credits for historic preservation, Property tax benefits for historic preservation, grants and how to use state preservation legislation to control development.

4 class sessions of 1 1/2 hours each. Sept. 18, 25 and Oct. 2, 9. 7:00 p.m. Fee \$45

Historic Preservation 102

How to restore, rehabilitate, repair your historic buildings. How to look for the problems and analyze their causes. What materials and techniques to use. Where to find the information, materials and supplies. How to find the craftsmen, managers, engineers, property owners, developers, preservation architects, design professionals, and others who work with historic buildings in any capacity.

4 class sessions of 1 1/2 hours each. Oct. 23, 30 and Nov. 6, 13. 7:00 p.m. Fee \$45 Locations are to be determined.

For additional information contact Jim Wilson at 605-624-4579 or email to whitewilson@msn.com

Clay County Historical Preservation Commission Continues Plaque Program

The Clay County Historic Preservation Commission is continuing an initiative to provide historic plaques to owners of property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The heavy bronze exterior building signs measure 8" x 11" and include an inscription, as seen in the photograph.

The CCHPC will provide the plaque at a total cost to the property owner of \$51. This is a subsidized cost, as the program is partially funded with a grant from the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office in Pierre.

At present, 39 properties and districts throughout Clay County are listed on the National Register. Each is individually featured in the new Guide to National Register of Historic Places in Clay County 2007. There are several homes and structures individually listed in Vermillion, plus three historic districts: The Vermillion Historic District; Forest Avenue Historic District; and Downtown Vermillion Historic District. All buildings within the designated districts that are deemed contributing to the historic designation are eligible for plaques. Information on many Vermillion National Register properties can be found at the Vermillion



Public Library and the Austin-Whittemore House. The new Guide to National Register of Historic Places in Clay County 2007 contains a bibliography of sources for your research.

For information please contact Tom Thaden, Plaque Program chair at 605-624-3286, email: tommy123@iw.net, or Phyllis Packard, CCHPC chair at 605-624-4762.

A listing of the National Register Places may be found on the web at www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com



Colton House On National Register of Historic Sites

The Colton House was built in 1938 by Andrew Meleen, for Dr. Winfred Colton, his wife, Ella and two daughters, Dorothy and Winifred. It is a two story tan stucco building in French Tudor style, the only one of its kind in Vermillion, and one of a very few in the entire state of South Dakota. Its most distinguishing characteristics are the main floor windows in the front, which are full-height operable French Doors, framed in red brick, and the second floor Palladian windows with wrought iron faux balconies. The original slate roof remains intact and the two red brick chimneys have recently been rebuilt.

The lath and plaster interior is accented on the main floor by 12" crown molding and above the fireplace an ornate frieze, which is original to the house, permanently attached and in remarkable pristine condition. The scene of the frieze depicts a joyful celebration of musicians, children, and cherubs, very fitting for this historically musical home. Dr. Colton was the first Dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of South Dakota, and it is credited with taking the former music and art department to its respected status as the College of Fine Arts. The Colton Recital Hall in the Warren M. Lee Center for the Fine Arts on Campus bears his name in recognition of his contributions.

The Colton family often performed as a quartet, with Dr. Colton and daughter Winifred playing violin, daughter Dorothy the cello, and Mrs. Colton playing the piano. Mrs. Colton taught piano lessons to numerous children, presented recitals on her grand piano in their living room, where the children's parents and guests were seated. The Children waited their turn in the sunroom, just off the living room, which was made private and quiet for the occasions by closing the two sets of French doors leading to both the living room and dining room. The house was also used for receptions to honor the faculty musicians following each faculty recital on Campus.



The original strip oak floors are still in use, as are the entry glass pocket doors, and original inlaid slate floor. Two bathrooms have retained their mosaic tile floors. Many original light fixtures remain, including a ceiling fixture in the sunroom, and two functioning sets of wall sconces in the dining room and two more sets in the upstairs bedrooms. All interior doors are mahogany and the hardware is brass. The bedroom doors retain their original glass knobs. The dining room has twin built-in corner china cabinets with glass doors, and the living-room fireplace is flanked by floor to ceiling bookshelves.

The present owner has added a completely new kitchen with wood cabinets, ceramic tile flooring and granite counter tops. Custom made windows in keeping with the design of the original period windows have been installed.

Today the house is the personal residence of Sue Kraemer Christensen, Vermillion businesswoman and author. Sue applied for placement on the National Register of Historic Places, which was granted in November 2007.



SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION OFFICE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This is a reprint of the online calendar of events emphasizes educational, archaeological, preservation, and history related programs throughout the year across South Dakota.



MAY 2008 Empires on the Plains: The Fur Trade SD State Historical Society History Conference

Ramkota Hotel Best Western,
2111 Lacrosse St., Rapid City
May 2-3, 2008

Registration: to be announced

Sponsor: South Dakota State Historical Society
(SDSHS), Archaeological Research Center

Renee Boen, 605-394-1936

South Dakota State Historical Society,
900 Governors Dr., Pierre SD 57501-2217
phone 605-773-3458 fax 605-773-6041

Speakers and topics include:

Brad Tennant

"The Opening of the Western Fur Trade"

James Hanson

"Weapons from the Traders",

"Plains Indian Metalworking", "The Black Hills Fur Trade

Shirley Christian

"Country Wives and Concubines: The Chouteaus and the Indian Marriages that Built a Fur Dynasty"

Mike Fosha

"Fort Pierre Chouteau Archaeological District"

Kade Ferris

"The Chippewa of North Dakota: An Examination of American Indian Cultural Evolution During the 18th and 19th Centuries"

Steve Witte

"Prince Maximilian Views the Fur Trade, 1833-34"

Barton Barbour

"Will the Real Jedediah Smith Please Stand Up?: The Eulogy Myths, and Realities"

David Wishart

"The Fur Trade on the Northern Great Plains as a Spatial System"

Richard Stenberg

"Fort Union and the Upper Missouri Outfit"

"Green Strategies for Historic Buildings" Thursday, May 29, 2008,

Museum of Visual Materials in Sioux Falls

The South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce it will be hosting the seminar "Green Strategies for Historic Buildings" on Thursday, May 29, 2008. The seminar will begin at 9:00 am and last until 5:00 pm, and will be taught by Tina Roach, AIA, LEED AP, associate at Quinn Evans Architects in Washington, D.C. The seminar will cost \$65 per participant. The purpose of the seminar is to discuss practical applications of using green ("environmentally friendly") building strategies for historic structures. This seminar is useful for facility and project **Registration is limited to 50 participants.** To register, please **print and complete the attached form and mail with \$65 registration fee** to Kate Nelson, SD State Historical Society, 900 Governors Dr., Pierre SD 57501. Early registration is encouraged. You can download the registration form from the Calendar of Events on our website: http://www.sdhistory.org/HP/hp_calender_events.htm.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Wakonda

The first St. Patrick's Catholic Church was dedicated in 1877 by Right Reverend Marty, Bishop of the Dakota Territory and built on land three miles south and two and one-half miles east of Wakonda. The land was donated by Phillip McCarthy. Today this land is the site of St. Patrick's Cemetery.

It was not until 1897 that the church (actually an amalgamation of the St. Patrick's and St. Columbkille's parishes) was moved into Wakonda while Father John O'Hara was pastor. The St. Patrick Catholic Church that now stands was started in 1904 under Father E. J. Egan. The building was 112 feet long, 47 feet wide and 22 feet high with a prominent steeple in the Gothic style. The architect, Anton Dohmen from Milwaukee, went on to design four other churches in South Dakota including the largest one, St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Hoven, St. Theresa Catholic Church in Beresford, St. Agnes Church in Vermillion and St. Thomas Catholic Church in Madison.



Constructed by Engelbreth a contractor from Beresford, St. Patrick's Church, consisted of Quincy brick with Sioux Falls granite trimming, the flooring was constructed of Georgia Pine and other interior structures of hard maple. Along the walls and over the entrance are sixteen Art Stained Glass windows depicting stories from the bible, or "story" windows and some portrait or "devotional" windows, which are excellent examples of the quality stained glass produced at that time. A prominent portrait window on the right side of the sanctuary depicts St. Patrick. Many windows have inscriptions that indicate the donors or in whose memory the window was donated.

The St. Patrick window contains the inscription "Rev. E. J. Egan Pastor". Most of the glass was opaque glass, although single colored glass with beautiful paintings are also apparent. It is likely that Karl Reimann, who worked closely with Dohmen on many projects, designed these windows.

In addition to the magnificent stained glass windows, the church contains carved altars and statues. The original construction cost was about \$20,000. In 1917, a new pipe organ manufactured by the Estey Organ Company of Brattleboro, Vermont was purchased and donated to the Church by the McMunigal family, a prominent pioneer family in Wakonda.

The church has experienced numerous renovations. In 1947, when Father O'Malley was priest, new heating and electrical systems were installed. Under architect C. M. Olson, the inside of the church was replastered, masonry work done on the outside of the building and the organ cleaned and toned. The church was rededicated by Brady on Oct. 26, 1947. The Church was again redecorated in

1965 under Father Marvin McMahan. From 1989 and 1990, Father Paul Tharaniyil was instrumental in directing further renovations including having the interior of the church painted, installing new carpet, removing the alter rail, trimming the exterior of the church and refinishing the pews. Additional work was done to restore the stained glass windows and currently to refurbish the organ. This beautiful church, now over one hundred years old, is a product of many hours of volunteer work, contributions, and care still serving the Wakonda parish as a place of worship.

Stain Glass Documentation of St. Agnes Church

(Washington Street Arts Center)

202 Washington Street, Vermillion, South Dakota
by Clay County Historic Preservation Commission 2006/07
Photography by Aaron C. Packard



The CCHPC has completed a photographic documentation of the stained glass windows in the Old St. Agnes Church / Washington Street Arts Center, owned and operated by the Vermillion Area Arts Council. The beautiful windows, designed by Karl Reiman, were gifts from various parish members when the structure was first built as Vermillion's Catholic Church.

If you or your family have any connection to the families who dedicated the St. Agnes/ Washington Street Arts Center windows, we would appreciate hearing from you. Stories concerning the window dedications and the lives of the people honored by the windows have been researched, but

we would love to know more. Please call Evelyn Schlenker at 624-5444 if you know of any stories or have any information about these treasures and willing to share the information.

Note from the Commission: The Clay County Historic Preservation Commission has been researching and pulling together stories of the St. Agnes windows as well as having accomplished the photographic documentation of the magnificent stain glass windows. The CCHPC will provide the full documentation on the Web page once the project is finalized. The following is a portion of the research.

The Old St. Agnes Catholic Church: Brief History

The former St. Agnes Catholic Church and currently known as the Washington Arts Center is an excellent example of late Gothic Revival architecture. The building was designed by Anton Dohmen and built in 1907.

Anton Dohmen was born in Speyer, Germany in 1861 and studied architecture. In 1892, at the age of 31 he came to the United States and settled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Dohmen owned his own business and became known for church construction in Wisconsin, North Dakota and South Dakota early in the 20th century. He designed 19 churches in the Midwest from 1900-1922. The churches he designed include six large Catholic Churches in South Dakota, North Dakota, Wisconsin and one in Kansas and numerous small churches. Dohmen died in 1950 at 90 years of age.



The building construction was commissioned to the August Goetz Construction Company from Yankton, South Dakota. Construction began in August of 1906 and the church was completed in September 1907.

The St. Agnes Church building is the only remaining example in South Dakota of Dohmen's style of small Gothic churches. Other church styles in South Dakota, designed by Dohmen include: St. Patrick Catholic Church in Wakonda built in 1904, an example of a small sized church with a prominent steeple; St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Hoven, built in 1921, is an example of a large cathedral church; and St. Theresa Catholic Church built in 1904, was in Beresford and no longer exists.

(continued)



The Windows & Artist

The St. Agnes Church is elevated a half story above street level, faces east with a gabled brick end wall that is capped by a pressed metal parapet. The floor plan of the building is cruciform and has a prominent three-story bell tower. The foundation and was built of brown-red pressed brick with a molded concrete belting at floor level and at each of the two floors.

The interior of the church consists of plastered rib vaulting and high molded baseboards running along the walls of the sanctuary and foyer. Throughout the Main Floor there are beautifully place stain glass windows designed by Karl Reimann.

On the second floor is the choir loft at the back of which is a magnificent three paneled stained glass window facing east. Several large, medium sized and small stained and painted glass windows throughout the church were gifts of parish members when the church was erected. The bottom of most windows contain dedications to individuals who either donated these windows or memorials for specific individuals.

Karl Reimann (or Carl Reimann), an exceptionally gifted glass artist, designed the magnificent sixteen stained glass windows in the building. Reimann worked together with Anton Dohmen on several projects.

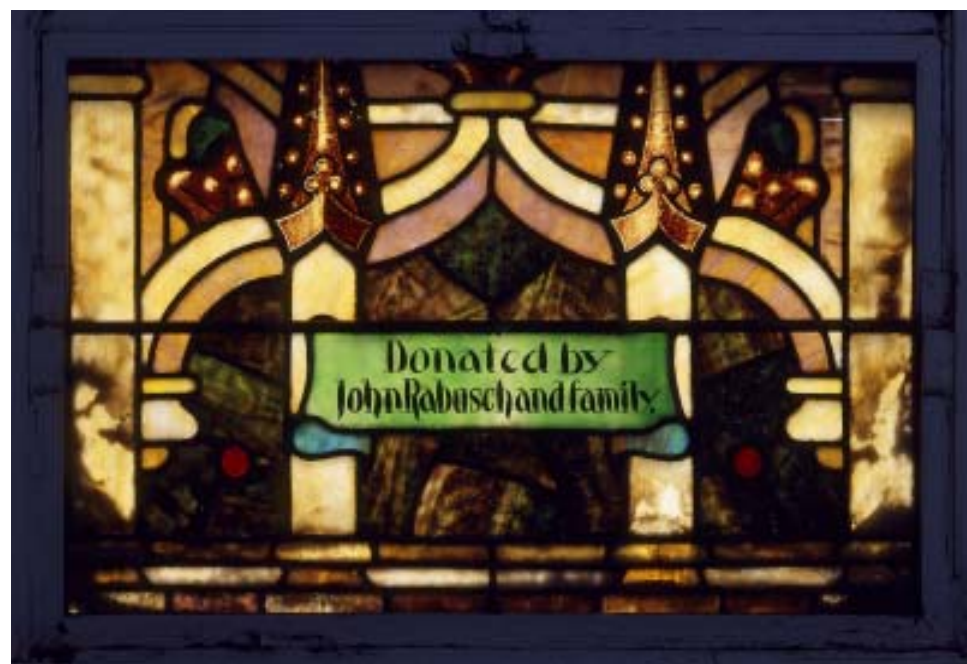


Reimann was born in Milwaukee on February 13, 1873 and died in that city on December 17, 1937. He was a pupil of Richard Lorenz and later at the Weimar Art School under Max Thedy. He was well respected as an artist, designer and stain glass craftsman.

There are several types of glass used in the windows Single Color glass, sometimes called cathedral glass or metal glass; Opalescent glass a semi-opaque and may be of one color or a mixture of two or more colors

including streaks and swirls. At the time the windows were constructed this was a relatively new type of glass; and Painted glass, which allowed great detail to be drawn onto the glass and is used extensively on windows in the St. Agnes Church.

The St. Agnes stained glass windows were constructed in Milwaukee. At that time the city boasted 50 or more firms that constructed stained glass windows including the Milwaukee Mirror and Art Glass Works. Stained glass from Milwaukee firms competed with firms like Tiffany in New



York. During the early 1900's around the nation the quality of stained glass in churches peaked.

The purpose of this project is to document and provide historic and photographic record of the magnificent stained

glass windows in St. Agnes Church, now the Washington Street Arts Center, as part of the history of Vermillion and South Dakota.



CCHPC Changing of the Guard

In January 2008, Dan Christopherson and Ron Johnson CCHPC Terms of Officer were completed after approximately six years of service on the commission. Both Dan and Ron shall be missed as Commission members know they are both dedicated to the preservation of history in our county and state and will not be far away.

The Commission wishes to take this time to thank Dan Christopherson and Ron Johnson for their dedication and untiring work toward historic preservation.

Recently the Clay County Commissioners appointed four new Clay County Historic Preservation Commission members:

John Grayson: John is new to Vermillion and he and his wife purchased a historic home on Forest Ave and are working dilligently to restore the home to its original beauty.

Steven Ward: A familiar name to Vermillion and the USD History Department

Sue Christensen: Sue returned to Vermillion after an absence of a number of years and has purchased and restored the Colton House. (see article)

Karin Woltjer: Resides in Northern Clay County and is a member of one of the first families to settle in Clay County.