

The Hartley Historical Society operates under the umbrella of the Hartley Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Siouxland Community Foundation, which is a 501(c)3 charitable foundation.

Donors may make checks payable to **The Hartley Community Foundation** and write **Chapel** in the memo line, designating this donation is specifically for Chapel restoration. A tax deductible receipt will be sent to each donor from the Siouxland Community Foundation.

Donations may be mailed to
Cathy Treimer
(Ass't Cashier-Savings Bank)
PO Box 72
Hartley, Iowa 51346
712-928-6815



Rhonda Pippy and LeRoy Raabe assume a Grant Wood pose on the Chapel's East side.

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES OF PATCH-EETEN HOUSE, CEMETERY CHAPEL

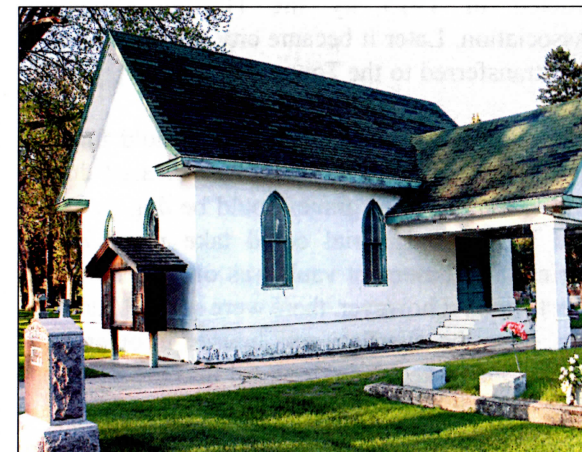
Do you have memorabilia for the museum? Local historian, Howard Borchard is working on pictures and stories honoring Hartley World War II veterans, area schools, local merchants, and other Hartley history. They will be displayed in the Patch-Eeten house along with Hand Hospital items. Contact Howard at 712-928-2095 or borchard@tcaexpress.net.

Local writer and collector, Betty Taylor is interested in putting a book together as a fund-raiser for the Hartley Historical Society. Howard Borchard, has been collecting local history for years. We can use his work, along with your stories, for the publication. You may have first-hand recollections of the chapel and of those interred at Pleasant View. Perhaps we can resurrect stories told at previous cemetery walks. Other bits of area history could add interest to the book.

Those who knew Betty Eeten have endless memories of her as a nurse, veteran, and beloved resident who wrote countless letters. Some of you may have Betty's own letters. With that in mind, one section of the book could be called, "Remembering Betty." If you are interested in contributing stories or pictures to the book, send them to Betty Taylor, 170 S. 8th Ave. E., Hartley, IA 51346. Electronic mailings are preferred, but not essential. E-mail them to btaylor@tcaexpress.net.

As the stories come in, they will be printed in The Sentinel/News and then filed for future use in Hartley Historical Society's own book.

Hartley's Own American Gothic



Pleasant View Cemetery and Chapel Preserving Iowa's Rural Heritage

Hartley Historical Society
Box 72 - Hartley, Iowa 51346

City Hall: (712) 928-2240

website: www.hartleyiowa.com

History of the Hartley Cemetery Chapel/Vault

The Cemetery Chapel/Receiving Vault was constructed in 1915 by the Hartley Cemetery Association. Later it became city property when it was transferred to the Town of Hartley.

The purpose of the building was to hold funerals and provide a place to store the deceased during winter months until graves could be dug by spade and shovel and burial could take place in the spring. The basement vault was of ample size for most winters; however, there were several bad winters when the overflow was housed in other locations. The caskets were lowered into the basement by a hand-operated elevator.

A Hartley newspaper story stated: "We do not believe that any cemetery in Northwest Iowa can match us in point of utility and beauty of design of a cemetery chapel. We are not informed as to the cost, but it must be a good substantial figure as the building is a good one. It is built of cement blocks with a rough-coat finish on the outside and steel ceiling and stucco walls on the inside."

The interior of the American-Gothic building included an altar, pump organ, wood heater, and pews for funeral services.

After many years, the chapel was unoccupied as services were held at the various churches or at the funeral home. It later served as a storage building including use by the American Legion. After 97 years, the basic building remains in relatively good condition.

As it nears its 100th year, The Hartley Historical Society has added it to its list of historical buildings that need to be renovated and preserved.-- Howard Borchard.

Restoration Objectives

The city owns the structure and has it insured. They have allotted funds for asphalt shingles for the roof. The Hartley Historical Society is raising funds for a complete restoration. The project will be on-going as monies become available.

Phase One: Exterior:

- Roof and gutters •Hand rails •Repair the stucco
- Replace broken windows with appropriate frosted glass.
- Add window protection to avoid further breakage.
- There is interest in using high quality shingles, which would be an added cost above what has been allotted by the city.
- We will also look into reopening the outside entrance into the basement-vault and restoring the outhouse attached to the building.

Phase Two: Interior:

- Clean the interior
- Replace tin sections in the ceiling
- Repair wall and floor cracks
- Paint and apply stencils
- Construct new bulkhead door for the entrance to the vault.

Phase Three: Furnishings:

Donations and Loans

- Lloyd Lon Newkirk - wood heater
- Cross at the front
- Showcase
- Pulpit and communion table

To be Purchased

- Pews from the local Baptist Church, no longer in operation
- Table and chairs for meetings
- Other items to be determined
- Estimated cost of restoration: \$25,000 not counting hours of volunteers

Cemetery Chapel Committee

Betty and Orville Taylor: 170 S. 8th Ave. E., Hartley, Iowa 51346; 712-928-2015. btaylor@tcaexpress.net

Deb Sorensen, Kathy Luedke, Annette Gebert, Lavonne Anderson, Loren Newkirk, LeRoy Raabe, Brad Meendering, Bryan Nelson, Mark Younie.

Shared Memory: Accused of Dancing in the Cemetery Chapel

By Joyce Peters Jenkins

On Halloween Night in 1940, the older kids in town planned to shivaree* a newly wedded couple. Someone suggested it was an ideal spooky night to go out to the cemetery. Everything was covered with ice, so we skated our way out. Someone had a flashlight, so we checked the chapel, found it unlocked, and went inside.

Darlene Sprague pumped the pedals of the old pump organ while Donna Tuttle played it. The music stopped when we heard voices and saw a light flashing in the distance. We thought it was Harry Lage, our town cop.

Mike Burley had a Model A coupe with a rumble seat. The first ones out of the chapel piled in and on the running boards for a ride back to town. Orlin Ott, Hartley's own Golden Gloves Champion, was the first one in the car. The rest of us skated back to town on the ice. We went ahead with the shivaree, and the couple treated us all to malted milks at Red's Cafe.

At the time I was working at the local hamburger shop. The first customer that came in the next morning was the local barber, Merle Smith. He greeted me with, "Good Morning, Joyce, how was dancing out to the cemetery last night?"

I was speechless and wondered where he got his information so soon. It wasn't long before it was the town gossip and the story grew as it spread. Pete Leese was the Mayor at the time. He got the names of some of the boys, called them in, and threatened to take them to Primghar and press charges.

He demanded the names of all that were there. There were about twenty of us. Some of the others present that night were Rich Anderson, Doris Olhausen, Arlo Snider and Delores Adolf (Snider). When Pete Leese discovered the list of names included his granddaughter, Pauline Sartorius, the matter was dropped and nothing more was said.

Just for the records--there really was no dancing at the chapel that night.

**A shivaree is a noisy celebration with kettles, pans, horns, and other noisemakers given for a newly married couple.*

Joyce Peters Jenkins was born in the Hand Hospital in 1922. She also recalls a time when she attended funeral services in the chapel.