

PRESS RELEASE

April 29, 2010

For more information on these activities contact: Robyn (712) 580-7200 at Spencer City Hall or Sheriffa (712) 262-2083, Spencer Historic Preservation Commission Chair.

PRESERVATION MONTH “OLD IS THE NEW GREEN”

MAY 2010

SPENCER ACTIVITIES:

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5th @ 6:30 PM

WALKING TOUR OF NORTH GRAND AVENUE HOUSES

Conducted by: Grand Avenue Improvement Corporation

DETAILS: Beginning at 1105 N. Grand Avenue; meet at the 11th Street patio for a guided exterior and interior tour of this Late Victorian house. Then the tour will go to 1215 N. Grand Avenue (Higgins Mansion), which was once a Victorian house, but was redesigned at the turn of the 20th Century. The landscape will be the highlight of this property. Next the tour will go to 1420 N. Grand Avenue (House of Tomorrow), for a landscape discussion. The final stop is 1620 N. Grand Avenue, which is an excellent example of an English Cottage Bungalow. This will also be an exterior tour.

THURSDAY, MAY 13TH @ 6 PM

WALKING TOUR OF SPENCER DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

Conducted by: Spencer Historic Preservation Commission

Tour will begin at Arts on Grand

THURSDAY, MAY 20TH @ 6 PM

WALKING TOUR OF SPENCER DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

Conducted by: Spencer Historic Preservation Commission

Tour will begin at Arts on Grand

SATURDAY, MAY 22ND “Hidden Treasures”

WALKING TOUR OF 2ND FLOOR SPACES OF SPENCER

Conducted by: Spencer Main Street & Chamber

For complete information contact: (712) 262-7246

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26TH @ 7PM

LECTURE “WHAT WE BUILD FOR OURSELVES: UNDERSTANDING THE VALUE OF VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE”

Conducted by: Anna Harmon, Architect Cannon Moss Brygger & Assoc.

Spencer City Hall, Council Chambers

Lecture Abstract:

The values and traditions of a society are best expressed in the built forms we leave behind. Through built form we are creating the artifacts that define who we are and what we value. Drawing from popular examples to local (recognizable) artifacts I will seek to open discussion for understanding form constructed in terms of specific time, place and people: What is practical (time period, environment)? What is available (technology)? What is desirable (aesthetics, culture)? And how do each of us contribute to this local collection of vernacular architecture in NW Iowa?

Anna Harmon, Registered Architect (State of Iowa), AIA, LEED
Cannon Moss Brygger and Associates, Spencer, IA
Tulane University School of Architecture, Master of Architecture 2002
Oxford Brookes University, Diploma in Development Practices 2001