

NOMINATION FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION

CHRISTIAN AUGUST SCHOESSEL HOUSE

1330 Twentieth Street
Rock Island, Illinois

Legal Description: Lots 6 and 7 of Block 1 of Henry E. Krell's
Addition in the City of Rock Island, County of Rock Island, Illinois.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- (3) Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural and/or landscape type inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, craftsmanship, method of construction or use of indigenous materials and which retains a high degree of integrity.

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HISTORY OF PROPERTY

** The United States of America granted a patent to Colonel George Davenport and Russell Farnham dated 18 June 1842, signed by John Tyler, President. There was no consideration listed for the property described as Fractional Section 36 (South of Indian Boundary Line) in Township 17, North of Range 2 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, consisting of 88 and 64/100 acres. It was also written "Whereby it appears that full payment has been made." In 1836, one tract of land purchased from the government cost \$1.25 per acre.

Colonel George Davenport

Colonel Davenport was the first white man to make a permanent settlement in what is now Rock Island County, arriving in 1816. He was a native of England, born in Lincolnshire, in 1783. For ten years he served his adopted country as a soldier, principally against the Indians. It was during the Black Hawk War that Mr. Davenport was appointed Quartermaster General with the rank of colonel. The town of Davenport was laid out by and named for him on a claim, purchased with others, from Antoine Le Claire in 1835. Chiefs of the Sac and Fox nations selected Colonel Davenport to assist them in making a treaty in 1842 with Governor Chambers of Iowa. After this, he withdrew from the Indian trade and spent the remainder of his life to the improvement of his property in Davenport and Rock Island. He died 4 July 1845, murdered by a band of robbers at his home on Arsenal Island.

Russell Farnham

Mr. Farnham was as instrumental in settling Rock Island as Colonel Davenport. Upon his arrival here in 1824, employed by John Jacob Astor's American Fur Company, he formed a partnership, fur trading, with George Davenport in 1826. At that time the only buildings were located on what is now Arsenal Island. The two partners built the first house on the mainland at what is now Twenty-eighth Street and Fifth Avenue, just west of MidAmerican Energy.

A small town developed around the "John Barrell House" and was called Farnhamsburg. The colonel founded another town nearby called Davenport. Political maneuvers caused it to be renamed Stephenson which was located at the site of the Rock Island County Courthouse. In 1841, the town's name was changed to Rock Island and was incorporated. At that point, Farnhamsburg merged with Rock Island.

Russell Farnham met his wife, Susan Bosseron, in St. Louis and they married in 1827-1828. They had one son, Charles, who died in 1848 and his maternal grandmother, Theresa Bosseron, inherited the Farnham estate.

** Catherine Davenport sold a tract of land in the South half, Northwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 17, North of Range 2 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian to George Washington McCaskrin on 12 December 1902 for \$3,178.00

Davenport Family

A full length column in the Review Dispatch of 17 January 1890 concerned the wealth of Bailey Davenport who died a week before, which ranged from a quarter million to a half million dollars. "He was what might be said as land rich but money poor. He also left a large amount of debts and some of his property was heavily mortgaged." Whether or not there was a will was the question of the day. His papers were packed in boxes, sealed and placed in the vault of the People's Bank until after the funeral.

The only actual heirs are the five children of his brother, George L. Davenport - Joseph L. of Cincinnatti; Naomi L., Catherine and Henry C. of Davenport; and Ebenezer C. of Tama City, Iowa. Attorneys representing the heirs took possession of the homestead and all other real estate and put Henry C. Davenport in possession.

A week later, 24 January 1890, an official notice was published in the Review Dispatch. It reads: "To whom it may concern: Public notice is herewith given that we have entered upon and taken possession of all the lands and tenements of which Bailey Davenport Esq., late of Rock Island died seized. All such property now belongs to us, the undersigned, his sole heirs, and until further notice all tenants will pay rents to our agent, Col. Henry Curtis, at his office in Rock Island." It was signed by his nieces and nephews listed above.

George Washington McCaskr

He was born 17 December 1874, the son of James E. and Margaret Cloye McCaskrin in Rantoul, Illinois. At the age of 22, he began practicing law in Rock Island after receiving his degree of LLD (doctor of laws) at the state university. His political party was an Independent and he served as alderman of the Fourth Ward and served as mayor for three terms. He led the political rally after the Market Square Riot in 1912 and was running for state's attorney at the time. McCaskrin was also an enemy of Mayor Schriver and argued that Looney's charges were in fact true. However, in 1907, Mayor McCaskrin joined libel suits filed against Looney and the Rock Island News.

** On 2 February 1903, a Warranty Deed was granted to Henry E. and Louisa J. Krell in consideration of \$5,200.00 for the Northeast quarter by George W. McCaskrin.

Henry E. Krell's Addition

Commencing at a point in the West Line of 20th Street in the City of Rock Island which is 30 feet South of the Southeast corner of Lot 7

in Block 2 in Barth & Babcock's 20th Street Addition to said City of Rock Island, thence running South along said west line of said 20th Street 730 feet; thence running west 140 feet; thence running North and parallel with said West line of said 20th Street (74.8 feet); thence running North westerly at an angle of (61° 50') with the West line of said 20th Street to the intersection of a line running North and South parallel with said West line of said 20th Street and distant 150 feet at right angles therefrom, thence running Northerly and parallel with said West line of 20th Street to a point which is 30 feet South of the South line of said Block 2 in said Barth & Babcock's Addition; thence running Easterly and parallel with said South line of Said Block Two (2) 150 feet to the point of beginning.

24 February 1904, Wallace Treichler, Civil Engineer

7 March 1907, Notarized

8 April 1908, Accepted by the City of Rock Island

1 May 1908, Filed

Krell's Addition, Plat Book 10, Page 56

Henry E. and Louisa J. Krell

Mr. Krell was born 15 October 1860 in Rock Island. The 1885/88 city directory lists him as a salesman and living at 1802 Third Avenue with Mrs. E. Krell, his mother. When Mr. Krell died, they continued his confectionery business and restaurant which was located at 1710 Second Avenue. This address, in the 1891/92 issue was Krell & Math and Mr. Krell resided at 715 Seventeenth Street. The partnership of bakers and confectioners relocated to 1716-1718 Second Avenue by 1895. By 1901/02 Frank J. Math had the store alone. Henry Krell, after leaving the business, became a successful manager of Black Hawk's Watch Tower Sears, dabbled in real estate and conducted a confectionery in Davenport with his brother. Mr. Krell died 28 June 1911.

** C. August and Lena C. Mueller Schoessel purchased Lots 6 and 7 on 4 September 1909 for \$3,500.00 from Henry Krell in his addition.

The 31 December 1910 issue of The Rock Island Argus lists under structures built during the year, "C. A. Schoessel, 1230 Twentieth Street, two story frame, 10 rooms (modern), \$10,000

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

EXTERIOR

The Christian August Schoessel House, 1330 Twentieth Street, was built in 1910. Its builder is unknown, however, there are three other houses within walking distance which are so very similar that they must be related to the builder. The addresses are 916 Seventeenth Street, 727 Twentieth Street and 931 Nineteenth Street

Three time periods have been used for the Colonial Revival style of architecture: 1870 - 1950; 1880 - 1955 and 1890 - 1940. There are none of the identifying features of this style such as a symmetrical facade with an accentuated center door often extended forward to form an entry porch and balanced windows, double hung windows with multiple panes in either one or both sashes and usually paired windows on the subject property. This structure, however, does fall under the asymmetrical subtype which is about ten percent of Colonial Revival houses.

The most popular architectural style in America's history, the Colonial Revival took root in the late 1870s and has continued to flourish into the present. The remaining years of the 19th century were a time of opulence in architectural styles such as the Queen Anne, Eastlake, Shingle and Stick. The U. S. Centennial celebration of 1876 partially inspired more interest in the days before the Industrial Revolution when the world was less fluctuating.

Homeowners were ready for the Colonial Revival style, however, only on their terms. They were used to expansive interiors, floor plans which were flexible, large porches and interesting building shapes. By combining Queen Anne features with Georgian and Federal style ornamentation, the new style came about.

Only a few examples of the early Colonial Revival structures were "archaeologically" accurate. The houses were much larger and the shapes were simpler and more rectangular than Queen Anne with its multiple towers and bays. The facade returned to Georgian symmetry. Ornamentation tended to be overscaled and not accurate of colonial decoration. Exterior trim gradually became more restrained and classical with Adamesque swags in gable pediments and cornice lines had modillion and dentil trim. Verandahs began to be replaced by porches and both were supported by unadorned Ionic or Tuscan columns. Rooflines were simplified by using clear-cut gables gambrels and hipped roofs. The use of conspicuous chimneys was also less frequent.

Only one or two building materials, wood, brick or stone, were used which seemed more suitable than multiple siding materials. Doorways with elaborated columned and pilaster surrounds became the facade's focal point, The stained glass transoms of earlier time were replaced with fanlights containing delicate tracery. The Colonial Revival style kept its popularity well into the 20th century and with each decade became simpler.

The roof of the subject house is hipped with cross gables and the facade, as well as the other three elevations, have asymmetrical fenestration beginning at the attic level. The east facing facade contains a dormer crowned with a broken ogee pediment sided with four dimensional blocks topped with an acorn-shaped finial. The dormer has a pair of diamond muntin windows. Below the cornice is a key pattern frieze which is repeated on the structure under the other attic dormers, the second storey eaves, the front porch and the north side dining room bay. The second storey front elevation has a three window bay at the northeast corner. The center window is wide and has a single sash. Its companions are one over one sashes. The balance of this elevation contains a small one over one window and a large one over one double hung sash.

On each side of the front porch, there is a pair of Tuscan columns. The architrave is formed by a horizontal block detailed like the vertical ones for the front door's colonettes. To the outward and inward sides of the block are right angle, curved pieces with a snail-like shape at the bottom with fronds extending upwards.

At the first floor level, the fenestration consists of a three part bay at the southeast. The center single pane window is surmounted with a beveled and leaded glass panel. The two flanking windows are one over one sash. The front door has a Tuscan colonette on each side with their bases repeating the attic window's heavy side frames. To the north of the entrance is a single light stained glass window. Its design has a strong Arts & Crafts influence. Balusters of the porch railing are simple rectangles. The rectangular shape is repeated somewhat on the porch skirting which is quite distinctive. The lower two-thirds of the skirt consists of narrow, vertical strip with every other one extending up to the railing and midway there is an openwork square. All the lumber used is the same dimension.

On the north elevation, attic level, there is a four-sided pyramidal dormer containing two diamond paned windows. Just to the west is a cross gable dormer with a one over one double sash window. The upper sash contains, once again, the diamond pane muntins.

Coming down to the second storey on the east end is an elaborate stairwell window. It has a broken pediment over a center one over one window and two diamond paned sidelights which have a larger diamond pane in the center. A rectangular bay is approximately on the level with a pair of one over one sash windows. Below their sill, the bay extends further out in the center making room for a built-in sideboard on the interior. There is a cornice repeating the key pattern and the opening for the stained glass window has the sides rounded out to the edges and the sill sloping downwards for the depth of the extension. The bottom of the second storey bay has been cut back to allow for a window on each side. At the level of the first storey window lintels, there is a dripstone course on the bevel siding which has plain mitered joints and again over the foundation of rock-faced concrete block. Going to the west, an exterior addition has been added to house a staircase with the entry on the west elevation.

It is probable the west facing sleeping porch was original to the house. The second storey is enclosed on three sides while the first storey is open. Simple mouldings have been used on the two storey columns which are similar to those at each side of the front door. Under the eaves the key pattern frieze continues as on the other elevations of the house. There is no sign that the header and soffit boards have been extended. The second storey dripstone course and the moulding underneath are present. The ceilings of the front porch and the back porch are the same. On the ceiling of the back porch a shadow remains from an exterior ice box which sat north of the back door. The enclosed second floor has windows which slide and they are two over two panes that are approximately one-third over two-thirds in proportion. The fenestration is a door to the north, a one over one window and the back door to the kitchen. The porch has a simple balustrade and the columns are square.

Continuing to the south elevation, attic level, there is a flat dormer with a pair of one over one windows. What comes next is a cross gable dormer with a single one over one window and the upper sash is again diamonded with a vertical muntin in the center. Beyond, an identical four-sided dormer as on the north elevation. The house's second storey has windows two over two on the sleeping porch, then a one over one window and next a rectangular bay with two one over one windows followed after the bay by a single window, again one over one.

The first level, after the stairs to the back entry, a pair of one over one windows. Then a projection, same depth as the following rectangular bay, is a side entrance door with brackets on each side under the roof. This door leads to a small vestibule off the rear parlor. Adjacent to a large one over one window, there is a triple window which has a higher sill line just beyond with stained glass transoms. The rectangular bay at this end has been cut off at the bottom of the second storey for a one over one window sited diagonally back to the main structure. Next, there is a single window which serves the front parlor.

There is a single storey concrete block garage with its entrance from Lincoln Court. The west side has been excavated to accommodate the structure.

The most noticeable exterior alteration to the house is an enclosed staircase on the northwest corner with the entry on the west elevation. The front porch had missing skirting which has been replaced with diagonal lattice. Construction evidence on the sleeping porch leads one to believe it is original to the building and not an addition.

Differences between the subject house and the three other properties are noticeably few. On the Seventeenth Street structure, the front porch balustrade has double urn balusters and the porch skirting is bevel siding as are the bases of the paired columns. The dining room window surround on the north elevation is not nearly as elaborate. It also has a similar sleeping porch and in the same location.

The Twentieth Street house has been made into a triplex with artificial siding and some fenestration has been changed. Between 1898 and 1906

the footprint of the structure changed quite a bit.

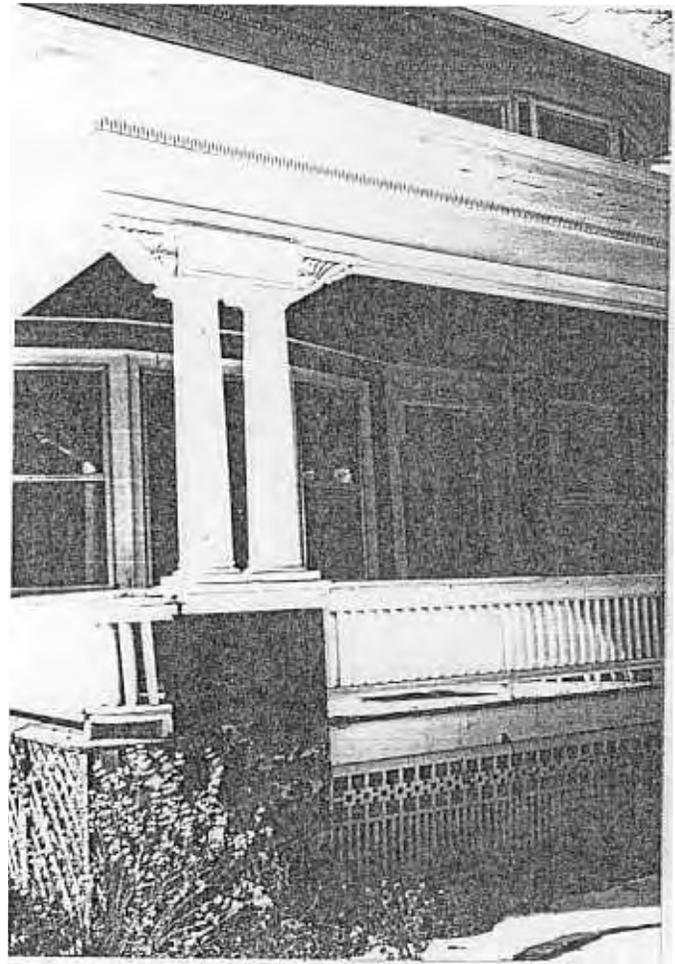
Smaller in size, the Nineteenth Street structure has different fenestration such as having the bay on the second storey centered over the front door. The attic window is bayed and the attic pyramidal windows on the north and south elevations are not present. The front porch columns have the same architrave. Even though it has been sided, evidence of the same builder remains.



East Fac ng Facad



Front Entrance



Front Porc



Yorch



Southwest Elevation



West Elevation



South Elevation

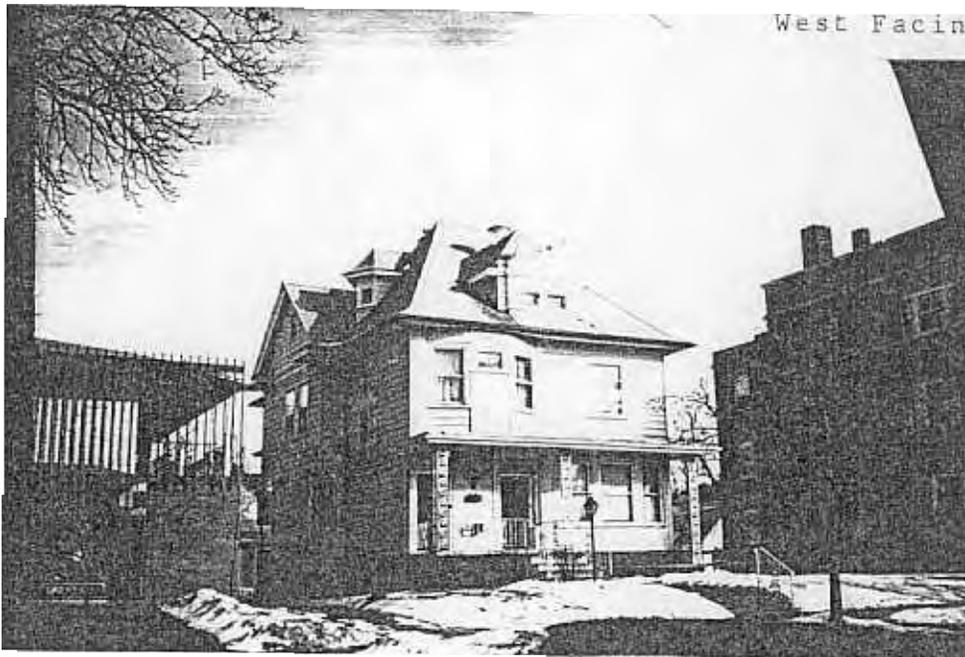


South Elevation





727 Twentieth Street



West Facing Facade



931 Nineteenth Street
West Facing Facade

STIAN AUGUST SCHOESSEL

Christian A. Schoessel and Lena C. Mueller, daughter of Henry and Minnie Mueller, were married 14 May 1883 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rock Island. He was born 1 August 1860 in Aurora, Indiana and she on 21 July 1861 in Rock Island. She died 1 November 1909 of "womb phlebitis", less than two months after the house lot was purchased, and is buried in Chippiannock Cemetery.

In the 1885/88 Rock Island City Directory his occupation was given as a saw filer and residing at 2316 Seventh Avenue. Three years later, he was vice president of Twin City Ice Company as well as maintaining a saw filing business. Also, he and his wife had moved next door to 2318 Seventh Avenue. The directory of 1895 gives his name as C. August with the Rock Island Lumber Company. There was an advertisement in the 7 February 1895 Dispatch for "New Coal Office, C. A. Schoessel". By 1899, he was secretary and manager of Consolidated Ice Company. Everything remained the same until the directory issue of 1910. The residence was now Twelfth Avenue and the northwest corner of Twentieth Street. Even his occupation changed to secretary, treasurer and general manager of Union Ice & Coal Company.

Mr. Schoessel married Myrtle E. Dade on 14 September 1911 and she became stepmother to Ada M., a high school teacher; Waldo E., a student at Augustana; and Dorothy L.; all residing at 1230 Twentieth Street. Spoon River Colliery, 208 Safety Building was given as his place of employment in 1913 as secretary-treasurer. Colliery is defined as a coal mine and connected buildings.

The property's address changed to 1330 in the 1920 city directory. His daughter, Dorothy, was society editor for The Daily Times at least during 1924. In 1926 and 1927, C. A. Schoessel was manager of Black Hawk Ice Company. From there, he became a special agent for State Mutual Life Assurance until 1930 when his occupation was insurance with an office at 212 Manufacturers Trust Building which remained the same for the next two years.

The 23 June 1933 issue of The Rock Island Argus announced funeral services for Christian August Schoessel, 72 years old and a pioneer Rock Island business man, who had died the day before of "cardiac failure". According to the obituary, services would be on Saturday at Broadway Presbyterian Church with burial at Chippiannock Cemetery. The body was brought from Iowa City by Wheelan Funeral Home and then taken to the Schoessel residence where it would remain until the time for services at the church. Visitation was to be held at the church. In the funeral write-up the next day, three active pall bearers and two honorary listed were members of his first wife's family. Nothing was written about any survivors - not his wife nor his three children.



Christian A. Schoessel of Rock Island and Lena C. Mueller of Moline were married May 14, 1883, in Immanuel Lutheran Church, Rock Island.

NEW COAL OFFICE.

C. A. SCHOESSEL.
Wholesale and Retail

HARD— LEHIGH and SCRANTON	COAL	SOFT— CABLE and GILCRIST
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Car orders a specialty.
Office with Twin City Ice Company.
Telephone 2147. Yard 1st st. and Moline ave

MYRTLE E. DADE SCHOESSEL

The former Myrtle E. Dade was born 23 March 1872 to Elizabeth R. and Rufus E. Dade in Fulton, Illinois. She came to Rock Island in 1897 when Modern Woodmen of America and Royal Neighbors of America moved their offices to the city. She held the position of beneficiary recorder until 1908.

Miss Dade began making her own way at the age of 18 as a clerk employed in the head office of Modern Woodmen in Fulton when the membership of the society numbered some 42,000. She studied stenography at Northern Illinois College and after a few years became a stenographer for Woodmen. For some months she was the only stenographer employed in the head clerk's office.

Her application for beneficiary membership was in September 1894, included with the first 500 applications required to be chartered by the state as a fraternal benefit society, joining Golden Rod Camp 81 at Fulton. This was the first camp to have beneficial members. Many of the leaders of Royal Neighbors and Modern Woodmen had their first membership at this camp. Myrtle Dade was elected as their first camp recorder.

When the Beneficiary Recorder's office moved to Rock Island, she transferred her membership to Fay Hawes Camp 281. As a charter member of the society, she held benefit certificate No. 156.

In 1895, the ladies' auxiliary, Royal Neighbors of America, was taking up the insurance feature for women, similar to that of M.W.A. and after assisting with the clerical work for a short time, she was appointed recorder of the beneficiary/insurance department.

Basically, the plans of the office were similar to those of M.W.A. but much originality was needed to be incorporated into the record keeping system of the young growing society which was taking on thousands of members. "A most difficult task, and perhaps the most beneficial of office equipment, was the installation of the card system by Mrs. Schoessel, when the society has a membership of some 50,000, being an evolution of her own adapted to the society's needs, and which other societies did her the compliment to imitate."

At the time of the Denver convention in 1911, their vast amount of business amounted to handling and recording over a million dollars annually and keeping individual records of over 200,000 members. There were some 75 clerks at the time.

Myrtle Schoessel was elected supreme recorder for the society at the Chicago convention in 1908. One of her more difficult tasks was to amalgamate the beneficiary and social departments which had been conducted separately prior to 1908. In May 1911, her sixteen years of active service for the largest society of its kind for women, was brought to a close. Her marriage followed in a few months.

A vacancy occurred in the office of editor of the Royal Neighbors official magazine, The Royal Neighbor, in 1928. Myrtle Dade Schoessel returned to fill the position after the executive council voted unanimously for her appointment as editor and she was also named historian.

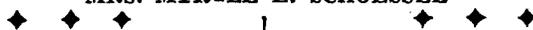
She retired in 1949 and began oil painting. An article about her on her eighty-second birthday, 23 March 1954, reported that she "might well be called Rock Island's own 'Grandma Moses'." In addition to her over fifty-seven year membership in Broadway Presbyterian Church, she was associated with the Woman's Club of Rock Island and the Y. W. C. A.

Mrs. Schoessel died of "acute ventricle failure" on 9 November 1957. Her funeral services were held on 11 November at Wheelan Funeral Home with burial at Chippiannock Cemetery in the same plot with Christian August Schoessel and Lena Mueller Schoessel.

Mrs. Myrtle E. Schoessel, 82 Today, Begins Oil Painting at Age of 77



MRS. MYRTLE E. SCHOESSEL



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