

Winter 2025

Burlington Historian

A publication of the Burlington Historical Society, 232 N. Perkins Blvd., Burlington, WI 53105
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Calendar

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025, 1:00pm,
Burlington Cemetery Walk, Tales
of The Lake of the Shining Arrow,
Burlington Cemetery, Burlington,
WI. Cost \$15.00.

Board of Directors

President Julie O'Neill
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Sarah Sullivan
Dennis Tully
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Museum Repairs Update

Before



Photo from May, 2018

After

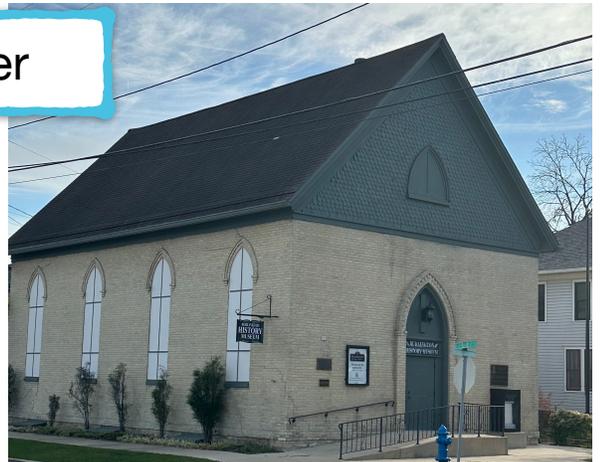


Photo November, 2024

Welcome New Members

???

Renewing Members

John Richtman, Burlington, WI
Debbie Bluett, Delavan, WI
Annette Roesing, Burlington, WI
Mary Foldaway, Burlington, WI
Lewis Zwiebel, Louisville, KY
Gary & Becky Martin, Lincoln, NE
Pete Sisak, Racine, WI
Richard Mangold, Tucson, AZ
Roger Bieneman, Burlington, WI
Robert Koehnke, Burlington, WI
Delores Spitzer, Burlington, WI
Henry May, Orlando, FL
Gerry Agnew, Pewaukee, WI
Dawn Lewandowski, Rochester, WI
Eric & Bonnie Erickson, Burlington, WI
Rebecca Ruedebusch-Uhen, Burlington, WI
Mary Ketterhagen Bohn, Footville, WI

Donations

Debbie Bluett, Delavan, WI
Annette Roesing, Burlington, WI
Garry & Becky Martin, Lincoln, NE
Roger Bieneman, Burlington, WI
Robert Koehnke, Burlington, WI
Delores Spitzer, Burlington, WI
Gerry Agnew, Pewaukee, WI
Dawn Lewandowski, Rochester, WI
Eric & Bonnie Erickson, Burlington, WI
Rebecca Ruedebusch-Uhen, Burlington, WI
Dr. Herb Lederer, So. Barrington, IL
Dan Gill, Franklin, WI
Gregg Gauger, Whitewater, WI
Carol Morris, Burlington, WI
Robert, Jackie and Ann Lederer, So. Barrington, IL

New Paint
Chimney Removal

Plans for new roof at Pioneer
Cabin in Spring

Thank You!

Meinhardt Mansion



The Meinhardt Mansion on the corner of Dyer St. (now S. Kane St.) and Chandler Blvd. shortly after it was built.
Notice that Chandler Blvd., at right, was not open to the west at that time.



201 S. Kane Street, the morning of November 22, 2024.

Timeline of Meinhardt Family and House

- 1830 - Birth of Anthony Meinhardt, New York
- 1840 - Birth of Elisa Riel, Prussia
- 1858 - Marriage of Anthony Meinhardt to Elisa Riel, Burlington, WI
- 1859 - Birth of son, Francis, unmarried, died 1912
- 1860 - Birth of daughter, Natalie, unmarried, died 1861
- 1862 - Birth of daughter, Alma. Married Human Pettibone, died 1943
- 1864 - Birth of daughter, Laura, unmarried, died 1870
- 1866 - Birth of daughter, Eda, unmarried, died 1943
- 1869 - Birth of son, Albert, unmarried, died 1946
- 1872 - Birth of daughter, Cornelia, married Philip Rogers, died 1928
- 1874 - Birth of daughter, Antoinette, married William Fulton, died 1967
- 1879 - Birth of daughter, Lenore, married Ralph VanCleve, died 1970
- 1882 -1883 - Construction of Meinhardt Mansion. Edward Townsend Mix was the architect.
- 1891 - Opening of Meinhardt Bank
- 1891 - Death of Anthony Meinhardt
- 1913 - Dedication of Lincoln Statue donated by Dr. Francis W. Meinhardt
- 1914 - Front porch of house was moved to the side and new porch and porte coacher was constructed
- 1923 - Death of Elisa Riel Meinhardt
- 1960 - Pioneer Log Cabin was donated by Meinhardt family to City of Burlington and moved to Echo Park
- 1963 - House sold to Donald and Dorthy Johnston
- 1971 - Dr. Cecil and Jeannie Everett purchase home
- 2024 - House sold to Robert Stanton
- 2024 - Fire destroys the Meinhardt Mansion

History of the Meinhardt Mansion

*“Trolley Tour of Burlington’s Historic Homes,
August 3, 1977” by Don Vande Sand*

T h e

Meinhardt house, considered the showplace of Burlington, originally was surrounded by 15 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds, an orchard, a pasture, a dense pine grove, fountains, and a tennis court.

Completed in 1883 by Anthony Meinhardt, founder of the Meinhardt Bank and former grocer and postmaster and his wife, Elisa Riel, the house was designed by the firm of Edward Townsend Mix, Milwaukee’s most influential architect.

The eclectic Victorian design is executed in limestone trimmed with buff sandstone. According to one of the daughters, Mrs. Antoinette Meinhardt Fulton, the limestone came from the exaction of the huge basement, as well as from an old garden next to the Charles G. Foltz house, which stood where the Masonic Temple is now and many loads from the Van Rosenberg farm at Norton’s Lake (now Rockland Lake). Mrs. Fulton said that the solid masonry walls were 28 inches thick in the basement, 24 inches in the first floor,



and 22 inches at the top of the house. She also remembers watching with wonder, the placing of the huge 12-by-12-inch center beam, running the length of the house. The carpenter, Fred Itzel, was such a perfectionist

that one out of three loads of lumber was sent back because of knotholes or other imperfections.

On the exterior corners are unusual, smooth-dressed, vertical stones which are not true quoins, but which frame each wall surface as neat panels. In 1914, the original front porch was moved around to the side, and the large combination porch and portecocher, extending over the driveway and used to shelter those getting in and out of carriages and automobiles, was added.



Photos of blueprints donated to Burlington Historical Society by Everett Family, November 2024

The mantel on one of the fireplaces was designed and cared by one of the sons, Francis, who became a dentist. Francis painstakingly carved the mantel from the “hard-as-bone” black walnut counter planks once used in his grandfather’s grocery store at the southeast corner of Pine and Chestnut Streets - the corner later occupied by Jacob Wien’s clothing store, Kessler’s variety store, Rogan’s Shoes and more recently, J.Robert’s Men’s Apparel. According to Mrs. Fulton, the mantel was Francis’s eventings’ work for two years, with one panel, on which he carved a trumpet vine, taking three months. The whole was put together with pins and could be moved. Francis’s menthol is currently owned by and in the home of one of the heirs.

carries on the family name. Even the bank, which was sold to the Marine Corporation in 1969 and then to Bank one in 1988, no longer carries the Meinhardt name.



Tower, porch, and porte cochere of Meinhardt house, 201 S. Kane St. Photo c.1982

In 1963, the house was sold to Donald and Dorothy Johnston, and in November of that year, the Meinhardt Trust auctioned off the house’s furnishings. The Johnston family restored some of the house, but also made some changes.

Currently, the house is occupied by Mrs. Jeannie Everett, whose family has owned it since 1971. Just the third owners, the Everett’s restored much of the house furnishing it with antiques and preserving many original or older pieces to maintain a Victorian flavor.



Anthony Meinhardt

Anthony Meinhardt died in 1891 and his wife, Elisa, in 1923. Mrs. Fulton, the last of the Meinhardt’s to live in the house, died in 1967. She was one of the founders of the Burlington Historical Society and the donor of the Society’s Museum building. The Meinhardt sons, Francis and Albert, never married, so no one in Burlington



Elisa Meinhardt

Burlington Historical Society
232 N. Perkins Blvd
Burlington, WI 53105

Please check the "Membership paid thru date. If your membership has expired or is due for renewal, please consider renewing it at this time. To pay your dues, please clip the coupon below and mail with your check directly to the Museum or visit our website, www.burlingtonhistory.org, and use PayPal.

Thank You.

Become a member of the Burlington Historical Society or renew your current membership. It's easy....

___ **General Membership - \$20.00**

___ **I'd like to make an extra donation \$** _____

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Send with your check to:

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