

HISTORIC HOMES OF YANKTON

A Look At The Beadle House

Yankton's Territorial Homes, Revisited — A Sesquicentennial Series

"The sesquicentennial series titled "Historic Homes of Yankton" prepared by members of Yankton Questers Dakota Territory Chapter No. 794 continues this week with its sixth selection."The Beadle House
210 East Sixth Street

Dakota Territory Chapter No. 794

GAR veteran and newly-appointed Surveyor General of Dakota Territory, Wm. Henry Harrison Beadle, was 31 in 1869 when he arrived in Yankton on horseback. His career in pioneer politics and private business would take many turns, but what he would be most remembered for in Yankton and state-wide was his influence in shaping education in the Territory.

The white brick house Beadle built on Yankton's Sixth Street was fitting for a successful man. High ceilings and large windows marked the main floor which was divided by a central hall. A large bay window lit the back parlor which Beadle used for office and extensive library. Stairs led to a lower level where full-length windows provided light for kitchen, dining room, servant's quarters and cellars. Several steps led from a large picket fence-enclosed yard to an open front porch which provided Beadle a perfect location for rocking-chair viewing of Pine Street.

General Beadle was born January 1, 1838, in a log cabin in Parke County, Indiana. His parents named him after War of 1812 hero and later president General Wm. Henry Harrison. Beadle distinguished himself in the Civil War, was discharged in 1866 at age 28 as Brigadier General, and later graduated with a law degree from the University of Michigan. He and Ellen S. Chapman had married in 1863 when he was on leave, and he built his Yankton home for her and their

three daughters Ella, Clara, and Mae. Historian Howard Lamar wrote of him that he was pompous, verbose and inclined to take a self-righteous stand upon all public issues; however his great ability furthered his becoming an influential figure both in Yankton and in the Territory.

A prominent member of the Yankton Methodist Church (and later Congregational Church), on February 2, 1872, Beadle accepted on behalf of the Methodist congregation a gift organ from the Dakota Southern Railroad. Later that month, he served on a committee to purchase building lots for the church on the north side of Fourth Street between Walnut and Douglas. In 1874, he himself donated \$50 to help lift the debt. In late December 1876, Beadle served as court-appointed defense lawyer at Jack McCall's trial. In the late 1880s, he was owner and promoter of a short-lived industrial pork plant in Yankton whose aroma and offal discharge may have contributed to its demise.

In 1879 Beadle was appointed Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Territory, a position which brought him lasting recognition. Through his efforts, Sections 16 and 36 of every township were reserved as school lands. Eventually he became president of the Normal School at Madison, SD, later called General Beadle College, a position he held until 1905. After Mrs. Beadle's death in 1897, the aging educator, choosing to remain in his adopted state, entered the South Dakota Soldiers Home at Hot Springs. His memory is perpetuated by statues at the state capitol in Pierre, on the campus of Dakota State University in Madison, SD, and in the Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C. In Yankton, his home for many years, Beadle Elementary School bears his name, local tes-

tament to one of the town's respected pioneers. Beadle died on November 13, 1915, at age 77 in San Francisco while visiting a daughter. He is buried next to his wife in Albion, Michigan.

The late Dr. Deborah Omanson Stevens purchased the Beadle House in the 1980s. Previous owners had made some alterations, but Deborah and her husband Michael Stevens restored the well built, thick-walled home to original condition, even to recycling a claw-foot bathtub the couple had found in Marne Creek for one of the two bathrooms. They replaced the boiler with electric heat, sanded floors, repapered walls, and enclosed the entire sloping yard with new white picket fencing. Deborah's mother Genevieve Omanson located and herself installed hardware to replace broken rollers on sliding pocket doors separating General Beadle's office and the living room. Most recently, a family of raccoons chose the chimney for their winter home, compelling Michael to cap the chimney.

Deborah Stevens founded the "Creative Pre-School" in the Beadle House, the location seeming perfect since the General had been so associated with education. Her school focused on the fine arts: music, drama, art, and creative movement. When she retired in order for the couple to begin a family, the house became a rental. Subsequently, when the Emmanuel Evangelical Church began its ministry in Yankton, the house and back yard proved more than suitable for vacation Bible school. As numbers grew, each class was able to enjoy its own colorful backyard tent. Beadle House continues to serve as pastoral office for Emmanuel Evangelical Church.

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Windows Provide Beauty, Symbolism And History



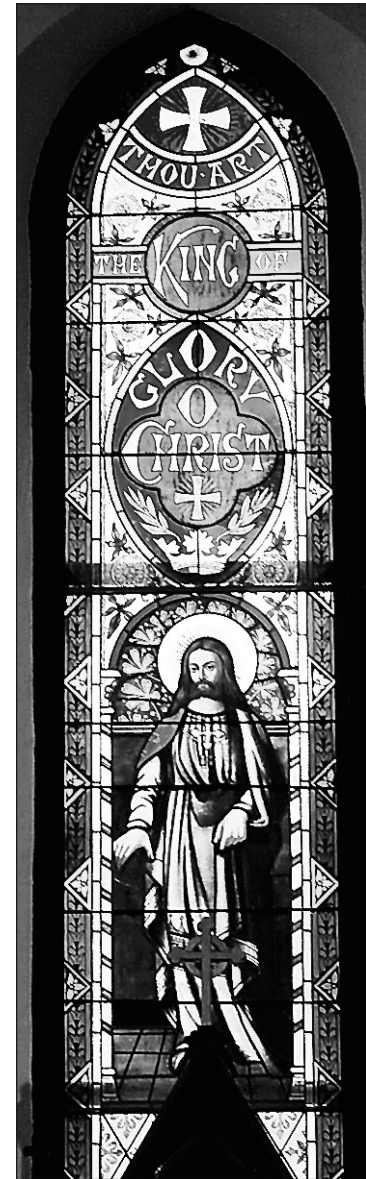
The importance of the windows at Christ Church in Yankton, SD, located at 517 Douglas Avenue is trifold: (1) the artistic beauty of these windows adds to the architectural beauty of the building; (2) the windows symbolize the hard work and dedication of the members of Christ Church to create and then maintain and protect this unique collection; and (3) the windows provide an opportunity for all to see the theme of God's love portrayed through the art of stained glass.

Many of the windows have stenciled grisaille designs with brilliant borders of purple, blue, red, green, or yellow. There are center medallions and Christian symbols, representing the Ten Commandments, the Holy Bible, trumpets, a golden cross, ornate crowns, or an open lily or rose.

Several of the windows are more elaborate than others, using a Gothic or Victorian style with more detail and depicting a specific story. Many of the windows are inscribed with memorials, such as the window dedicated to Mrs. Susan Gruber or Eugenie Boyles Andrews. Perhaps the most touching, are the companion windows, located on either side of the central figure of Jesus clothed in a red cloak, tan gown, and gold cross. The companion windows are dedicated to the honor of children, twin girls who died 8 months apart and two three-year-old children who died in the 1800s.

One of the windows in the church has a typographical error in the inscription. The window uses the word "the" instead of the clearly intended "thee!" Many have borders of Christmas roses in white, red, or gold. One of the tall windows with distinctive Celtic symbols might even appear to have a leprechaun's hat. The beautiful tall windows are colorful and many of the windows have exquisite "bull's eyes" which are distinctive small circular pieces of colored glass in gold or red or bright colors that add artistic appeal and value to the window.

One of the most detailed and beautiful windows is the Saint Cecilia window located on the north wall of the nave (the body of the church where the people sit.) This window portrays the patron saint of music in red and blue robes, holding an organ-like instrument known as a positiv (sometimes also simply called a "positive organ").



The window is dedicated to Francis Gregory and Francis Burns, a mother and daughter both noted for their contributions of time and talent to the music of Christ Church.

Recently, the stained glass windows of Christ Church have been cleaned, repaired, restored, and protected. Total cost of this restoration project was approximately \$120,000. The windows are now ready and waiting for the people of the community to view and enjoy them. As Christ Episcopal Church celebrates its 150 anniversary on June 25th and 26th 2011, guided tours of the church, including commentary about the windows, will be given.

Diggin In: Growing Your Own Cutting Flower Garden

BY KATHY VAN MULLEKOM

Daily Press (Newport News, Va.)

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — Simple, natural and sustainable.

It's how organic gardener Lisa Ziegler grows healthy, prolific crops at her cut-flower farm in south-eastern Virginia.

For more than a decade, Ziegler has cultivated fields of flowers, harvesting thousands of stems weekly for fresh bouquets she sells at boutiques and farmers' markets and through subscription programs.

She also lectures on how to grow backyard bouquets, and uses that popular program as a spinoff for a new book, "The East Cut-Flower Garden." Chapters in the 90-page, full-color booklet outline how to site and develop the bed, plant seeds, maintain plantings, harvest and condition flowers and make simple bouquets.

"The sense of accomplishment from cutting flowers from your own garden to put on your table or gift to a friend is like no other," she says.

"You find yourself lifting flowers to your face to catch a fragrance as you arrange.

"You study them as you place them in their spot in the vase.

"Often, you are overcome because you just can't believe that you grew this perfectly beautiful flower.

"After 13 years of growing, I am still caught off guard by the flowers I grow."

In the book, Ziegler outlines how you can get all the fresh flowers you can want or can give away in a manageable 3-by-10-foot space.

To keep it simple and productive into the fall season, she suggests sunflowers, zinnias, celosia, cockscomb and basil, her all-time favorites for long vase life and pleasing scents.

For zinnias, she prefers Benary's Giants, which are huge, mildew-resistant zinnias that stay fresh looking for days. Her guide suggests some color combinations including a mixed zinnia collection for rainbow colors, a pink collection for breast cancer awareness and a Victorian collection for a romantic vintage feeling.

Pro-cut sunflowers are her favorites because they are quick to bloom, produce no pollen and hold up good in a container.

"To have sunflowers all summer, plant 15-20 seeds every two weeks until two months before your first fall frost date," she says. "They can even be grown in the fall when the days begin to shorten."

Cockscomb likes it hot and dry, making it the perfect summer flower. Ziegler grows it in every imaginable color, including lime green, salmon, red, orange, yellow, hot pink, rose and burgundy.

"This flower also dries well, but they are especially vibrant and bright when used fresh," she says.

For finishing touches in bouquets, she suggests



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Cut flowers are harvested from the gardens of Lisa Ziegler ready to be put into bouquets.

plume celosias with thick feathery and thin plume spikes, and lemon or cinnamon basil that provide fragrant foliage when tucked among zinnias and sunflowers.

To get your cutting garden growing, you need compost, mulch, digging tools, wheelbarrow and dry organic fertilizer.

"We focus all our time, money and energy into caring for our soil by feeding it organic matter such as compost," says Ziegler.

"When your soil is healthy, alive and protected with mulch you water half as much, your plants grow bigger and produce more, and produce stronger plants that are more disease resistant."

An organic gardener through and through, Ziegler uses no toxic chemicals so beneficial insects feed on pests.

"Maintaining a permanent spot in your garden with perennial plants such as yarrow provides a year-round habitat for beneficial bugs," she says.

"Adding water to your gardens also encourages birds and beneficial wildlife. We often use an upside-down trash can lid, which also provides water for turtles and other ground dwellers.

"The best part of sustainable, all-natural gardening is that it's easy and cost-effective. This, coupled with

planting the right plant in the right spot makes gardening downright enjoyable and successful."

ABOUT CUT FLOWERS

Size it right. A 3-by-10-foot, cut-flower garden produces one to two bouquets a week, so avoid planting a cutting garden that's too large.

Site it right. Locate your cutting garden where you can't see it from your kitchen window or reading chair, or you are less likely to cut flowers for enjoyment indoors. Also, place it where it gets 6-8 hours of sunlight daily, and where you can easily water it as needed.

Plant it right. Grow cut-flower varieties that are known to have long stems and good vase life.

Cut it right. You have to cut flowers to keep fresh ones coming; the first week you skip cutting is the beginning of the end to your cutting garden.

Share it right. Take bouquets from your cutting garden to friends and neighbors, giving the gift of home-grown flowers.

ABOUT BOUQUETS

To make a simple mixed bouquet: Remove most foliage. Start with flowers that are stripped of all foliage — except leaves on the top few inches of stem; this makes them last longer and keeps the water cleaner.

Use your hands. Make the bouquet in your hand, starting with the focal flower which is usually the flower in the center of the bouquet, such as a sunflower.

Add and turn. Add three of the same types of flowers as you turn the bouquet in your hand, then three to five pieces of foliage. Add three to five of another flower, then maybe some spiky flowers, then finishing with three to five more flowers around the edges.

Finish and tweak. Hold the bouquet next to the vase and cut 1 inch shorter than the vase. Drop into a clean vase with water and floral preservative. Cut-flower food makes a difference especially in garden flowers; they will last longer. Tweak as needed.

ABOUT THE BOOK

"The Easy Cut-Flower Garden" by organic gardener Lisa Mason Ziegler is a 90-page guide to enjoying a season of fresh-cut flowers grown in a manageable 3-by-10-foot plot. The book is geared for beginning and seasoned gardeners, and includes a planting plan and plant profiles. \$14.95, free shipping; Ziegler will sign book, if requested. Order online from Shoptgw.com or call toll free 888-977-7159. E-mail: info@thegardener-workshop.com.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lisa Ziegler is an organic gardener with a 3-acre cut-flower farm in Newport News, Va. She operates The Gardener's Workshop, an online seed and gardening supply source, and lectures and writes about sustainable gardening at Shoptgw.com.

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