

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

Donors may make checks payable to the **Hartley Community Foundation** and designate on the memo line their support for the **Eeten-Patch house project**. A tax deductible receipt will be sent to each donor from the Siouxland Community Foundation.

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



Photo of "1910"

Hartley Historical Society
Box 72 - Hartley, Iowa 51346

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 Historical Society Museum

Preserving Iowa's
Rural Heritage

110 First St. SE
Hartley, Iowa 51346

City Hall: (712) 928-2240

website: www.hartleyiowa.com

History of the Patch-Eeten House

The home was built in 1896 on Lots 11 and 12 of Block 3 of the Original Town of Hartley, Iowa. The Land Patent was obtained from the US government in 1859 and was part of the Louisiana Purchase of 1803.

J.W. Walter was Hartley's first attorney. He purchased the lot for \$400. Walters first built the carriage house in 1892. It measured 20'x32' and has second floor storage for hay. In 1896 the house was completed. When it was built it had a 25' wide front porch, large foyer with a grand open stairway, parlor, sitting room, dining room, kitchen and bedroom on the first floor. The second floor has 3 bedrooms, a large dressing room, maid's quarters, bath and 2 stairways. There is a walk-up attic with a wooden reservoir in which water was stored. It was the earliest known running water system in Hartley. The wooden tank remains in very good condition and would hold 375 gallons of water. The total cost of the house was \$4,700.

Outstanding features in the home are parquet wood floors, a beautiful fireplace, open staircase in a large foyer, pocket doors, ladies dressing room, oak woodwork.

In 1898 Frank Patch bought the property for \$6,000 from J.W. Walter who gave up his Hartley law practice to become the O'Brien County Clerk of Court.

In years to follow, the ownership passed to Frank's daughter, Nellie Patch Sanders, who died in 1969. The new owners were her second cousin, Betty Randolph Eeten and her husband Harry.

Throughout the change in ownership of the house, the contents remained with each new owner. The Hartley Historical Society is fortunate to have purchased many of the original items on an auction on September 7, 2011.

If you have period furniture to donate or loan to the home, contact Connie Olhausen or Betty Taylor.

Life Of Betty Eeten

Betty Randolph was born on July 22, 1922 in Hartley, Iowa to Elmer H. and Marie Patch Randolph.

Betty graduated from Hartley High School in 1939. Following nurses training from St. Joseph Mercy School of Nursing in Sioux City, Ia., Betty joined the Navy Nurses Corp and proudly served her country as a Navy Nurse during WWII and the Korean War.

Following her service to her country, Betty worked as a surgical nurse in the Spencer Hospital for 2 years, and the balance of her long career at the Hand Hospital and the Community Memorial Hospital. While she did general nursing, her first love was taking care of babies and working with obstetrics. While on duty at the Navy hospital, Betty helped deliver the famous actress Shirley Temple Black's baby.

Betty enjoyed many hours of knitting, crocheting and quilting. She made many baby blankets for "her kids" that were born in the hospital. If you stopped at her house, she would have 3 projects going and would be working at each project a portion of her day. When you left, you would have a scratcher she had crocheted and possibly a LIFE magazine of the year you were born or graduated.

Betty married Harry Eeten in 1952. They were married 31 years. No children were born to this marriage.

The Eetens moved into the house in 1969, upon the death of her 2nd cousin Nellie Patch Sanders and remained in the house until 2011. Betty enjoyed the original contents that remained in the home of her family since before the turn of the 20th Century and kept most of the house in its original condition.

Patch-Eeten Home Is Owned By The City Of Hartley, Iowa

City has agreement with Hartley Historical Society to maintain insurance and utilities on home.

Hartley Historical Society agreed to do the preservation work on the home and raise funds to complete the home.

Projects already completed and paid for:

Cost of home	\$24,000.00
Main Floors refurbished	\$5,006.00
Contents purchased at auction	\$21,000.00
Geo Thermal cooling & heating	\$20,000.00

Projects needing completion & payment:

Priorities -

- Front Porch
- Back Porch
- Window Inserts
- Siding
- Roof
- Estimated Cost of restoration: \$200,000 not counting hours of volunteers.
- Upstairs Refurbishing
- Kitchen Restoration
- Bathrooms Restored
- Carriage House

Contacts:

Connie Olhausen - House Restoration & Contents
coco@tcaexpress.net - 712-928-2978

Betty Taylor - Area Writer and Collector of Stories, Pictures & Artifacts on Eeten House, Cemetery Chapel, Area Schools & Town Businesses, Merchants, Hand Hospital and Betty Eeten.
btaylor@tcaexpress.net - 712-928-2051

Howard Borchard - Hartley Historian - Articles, Pictures, Stories on Hartley History & Hartley World War II vets.
borchard@tcaexpress.net - 712-928-2095