

The Stone City Foundation

The Village News

Spring 2009

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In this issue we will show case the largest business in Stone City-The Weber Stone Company, Inc. it is without a doubt known, the entire country over, as a producer of fine limestone for all types of buildings. Pictured at right is just one of the many projects.

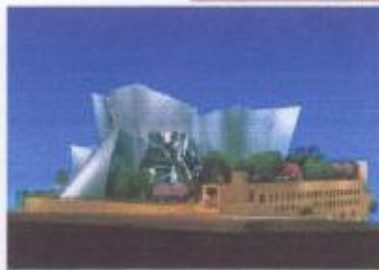
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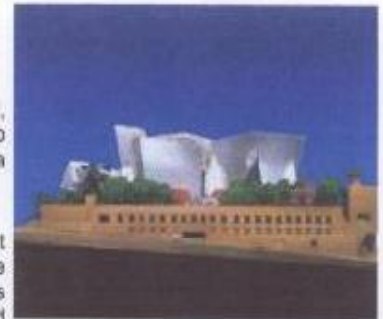


Weber Stone Co.-Stone City Quarries

Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles, California



Models of the Walt Disney Concert Hall
January 1990



The initial design by Frank O. Gehry for the Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles, California, began over ten years ago and is scheduled to open in the fall of 2003. Frank O. Gehry personally selected Anamosa Limestone to cover a major portion of this magnificent new building.

The focus of the design is the 2,400-seat hall that will be the permanent home of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, which is known as one of the world's most famous orchestras. The structure will also house the Los Angeles Master Chorale and will include a gift shop, a restaurant and café, a pre-concert performance space and a six-level parking garage located under the Concert Hall.

The \$300 million structure is approximately 200,000 square feet in size. The building and grounds take up an entire city block of 3.6 acres at the intersection of First Street and Grand Avenue.

Thirty-seven semi-loads (nearly 800 ton) of Anamosa Limestone have been hauled to California and our stone will ultimately cover approximately 135,000 square feet of the building!

Weber Stone Company –Stone City Quarries

Weber Stone Company has been quarrying and fabricating Anamosa Limestone since 1952. In fact, the quarrying and fabricating facilities of our firm provide one of the largest capacities of production in the Midwest! We produce a full range of limestone products to meet each of your design needs, including dimensional stone, landscaping stone, and aggregates. The demand for Anamosa Limestone has seen substantial growth and we continue to add staff and equipment to meet those demands. We are proud that our experienced fabricators and state-of-the-art equipment maintain our position as a leader in the limestone industry. Our growing Design Department has over 25 years of combined experience providing estimates, shop drawings, design options, value engineering, and much more. We look forward to sharing the natural beauty of Anamosa Limestone with you!

Pictures taken in the Quarry



The Stone City Community Center

One of the many buildings in Stone City made from the famous limestone is the 110 year old school now used as the Stone City Community Center, it was a country school from about 1900 to 1947 then the school consolidated with Anamosa, at that time a group of local citizens bought the school for \$100.00, and every since it has been a community center for all in the area to use. Many weddings, family reunions, and other gatherings have been held here, but probably what its best know for is the annual "Coon-Turkey" dinner that is held the second Saturday of November each year, many people come to enjoy



the fine food and fellowship that evening. The school at one time had a bell tower and a large bell, shortly after it was purchased a new roof had to be put on and the tower

was taken off and never replaced, the bell was sold to Paul Engle for \$100.00 and was later stolen from him, no one knows what happened to it. I believe that May Zeuch was one of the last teachers at the school, another fascinating thing about the stone it is different on the west & north sides from the east & south, I think two different masons probably worked on those sides with two different styles.



The cornerstone of St. Josephs Catholic Church was laid in 1913 and the first mass was celebrated in 1914. The church is the only building in Stone City designed by Architect Guido Beck of Dubuque. The stained glass windows were imported from Germany and cost \$65.00 each and

are considered priceless today as they are actually stained glass. The stone was donated by all three quarries and labor was donated by the quarries, keeping the total cost of the church very reasonable at \$13,112.06. The church is only used today for weddings & funerals of former parishioners & special masses.



In 1889 John Green built the famous three story stone barn. The structure measures 120 feet by 60 feet by 30 feet high and believed to be one of the largest stone barns in Iowa. It was used to stable Green's thoroughbred and quarry horses. Inside real "horse power" ran the

treadmill that was used for pumping water, the barn housed its own blacksmith shop, one can just imagine shoeing horses tethered to the rings on the outside of this magnificent building. Today the barn is a private residence owned by the Stan and Debbie Berberich family who open it to many community meetings and other functions.

Why Become a member ?

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - STONE CITY FOUNDATION, INC.

Please accept my membership to The Stone City Foundation, Inc.

The geographical area for resident-membership is as follows:

All residents residing on Buffalo Ridge Road (E-28) from the Anamosa City limits to the Jones-Linn County dividing line located on Buffalo Ridge Road (Including all off-shoot roads, one mile north on Fremont but not including any incorporated areas)

All residents residing on County Road X-28 from the intersection of Buffalo Ridge Road (E-28) through Stone City proper, to where it intersects County Road E-34 (The Viola to Fairview Road), including all offshoot roads.

All residents residing on E-34 (Viola to Fairview Road) from the boundary of Linn-Jones Road to the intersection of the Fairview City Limits, including all Offshoot roads

All residents residing along old Stone City Road (running from Stone City proper, Past the Stone City cabin district and Mt. Hope) to the point at which it intersects The Matsell Park Road.

- One vote per household/membership.

We are applying as (please check one):

A resident member (I live in the designated district) can vote and be a board mbr.

Auxiliary member (I live outside the designated district)

A membership in The Stone City Foundation is obtained by simply filling out the form below.

As a resident member this entitles you to vote for and be a board member of The Stone City Foundation.

We also need to know where to send newsletters and other information.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: State: Zip code _____

Phone: _____

Email: (to receive announcements and newsletters): _____

Signature _____ Date _____

We do appreciate tax-deductible donations Please make your checks payable to:

The Stone City Foundation and send them to:

The Stone City Foundation
c/o Tom Brenann
24748 127th st.
Anamosa, Iowa 52205

THE STONE CITY FOUNDATION

**24748 127th Street
Anamosa, Iowa 52205**



www.thestonecityfoundation.org

Calendar of Events & Notices



As many of you are aware the blacksmith shop has a new roof and soon all the new windows will be in. We have removed the old floor at the main level and will soon have it back to the original floor that was there when it was

used as a blacksmith shop, we have decided to put in solar lighting mainly because the cost of having Alliant restore our lights would have been several thousand dollars and solar will be less than seven hundred dollars. None of the solar equipment will be visible by anyone driving by the building all will be hidden on the East side behind the bank. We will then be ready to use the building for tours and having our board meetings on the second floor, our goal is to make the main floor as close to the original blacksmith shop as we possibly can. (we still could use some help painting some of the windows)

Stone City a Historic District !!

Stone City area was placed on the National Register as a Historic District, to see the district outline you need to see a map that Jones County Historic Preservation used, Erwin Lowe is on that board and can probably help with that request– what does this mean to us on an every day basis, probably not a lot, maybe a few more tourist coming through. And maybe some of the really old historic buildings might be able to apply for grants to help renovate them (although these are very hard to get).

Stone City Foundation Board mtgs

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters everyone is welcome to attend any of the board meetings, if you have a particular subject you would like to discuss call Landis Thompson about a week or so before so he can get it on the agenda.

We do meet every month on the third Tuesday at 7:00 pm- starting in April and for the rest of the spring and summer we will be meeting in the blacksmith shop, once again all are invited to attend any of these meetings, we are willing to discuss any ideas you might have to make our village a better place to live and for people to visit.