

Hammond home on tour

The country farm home of Montie and Betty Hammond will be one of the five homes to be toured in Grinnell's first "Gallery of Homes" scheduled for Sunday, April 20th from one to five in the afternoon. The Hammond home is located two miles west of Route 146 on 11th Avenue. Montie owns and operates Grinnell Feed and Grain where Betty is bookkeeper.

The eleven-room home was purchased by the Hammonds' from Ralph Longley (now a Floridian) about ten years ago. Longley relates that the present house was built in 1908 by his parents, Lyman and

Alice Longley, at a cost of about \$10,000. It was considered very modern at that time although neither gas nor electricity were available. A large windmill on a hill ¼ mile away kept a 6000 gallon tank full. This water was piped into the house to a large tank in the attic, thus giving pressure for all plumbing fixtures.

The traditional white farm home with black shutters still boasts its original slate roof with copper gutters weighing about 10 tons. The leaded glass windows in the stairway and living room are still cherished by the Hammonds. Betty Hammond has chosen to

preserve the era of the house with antiques, family keepsakes, and items acquired in various travels which the Hammonds enjoy reflect their interests.

The spacious front entry of the home is dominated by a square grand piano which Betty acquired in Des Moines and which she plays occasionally. The living room or parlor adjoins the entry and the graceful open stairway leads to the bedrooms on the second floor. The dining room is complimented by a collection of antique crystal and cut glass in a built-in oak breakfast. The hospitable Ham-

mond kitchen displays many antiques including a five piece castor set, stone fruit jars and kitchen utensils. Sliding glass doors open to a carpeted and screened porch across the south side of the house.

Another set of sliding glass doors open onto the porch from the family room. Here Betty has hung family keepsakes in a memory box, a unique idea for displaying small items important to the family.

There are five bedrooms upstairs and all reflect the past as well as Betty's creativity. The bedrooms open off a wide hall and the master bedroom features solid walnut furniture. Other items of interest are an antique baby crib that Betty found in the attic, an antique high chair, a collection of trunks, oil lamps and a loveseat. A back stairway leads down to the kitchen from the hall near the room originally occupied by the maid or hired girl.

Longley relates in his letter regarding the history of this home that he is "sure that those of you who tour this home will realize that the new owners love it just as we all did for so many years." The Grinnell Band Boosters are pleased to have the Hammond home included in the "Gallery of Homes."



The Hammond home

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