

ROCK ISLAND PRESERVATION COMMISSION

NOMINATION FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION

Common Street Address of Property:

705 20th St. Rock Island

Name and Address of Property Owner(s):

& NARVEEN VIRDI 29 Wildwood DR
PREM VIRDI ~~200~~ Rock Island Ill. 6126

Is Owner Aware of Proposed Designation: Yes No

Please attach a short report setting forth the reasons for requesting designation. Please refer to the criteria listed on the reverse side. (These are excerpted from the Rock Island Preservation Ordinance.) A list of other details you should attempt to provide in the nomination report is attached.

Please also attach the following:

1. Legal description of property (available from abstract or County Recorder of Deeds office).
2. One photograph of each elevation (side) of the property being nominated. Copies of old photographs or drawings may also be included.
3. Sources used to write the report.

Name(s) and Address(es) of Applicant(s):

<u>NARVEEN VIRDI</u> Name	<u>29 Wildwood DR</u> Address
<u>Narveen VirDI</u> Signature	<u>309 797 6164</u> Phone Number

Return Nomination Form To:

City of Rock Island
Planning and Redevelopment Division
1528 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

OFFICE USE ONLY Case # 91-10 Date July 25, 1991 Time 2:30 p.m.

ROCK ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION

7TH AVENUE

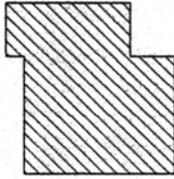
NORTH STREET

GRIPP

PARKER

CITY OF R.I.

SPENCER HOUSE



BILLARRAL

ANDICH

NORTON

LEGEND

- SUBJECT PROPERTY (SPENCER HOUSE 705-20TH ST.)

LANDMARK DESIGNATION



CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
 COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
 DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
 PLANNING AND REDEVELOPMENT DIVISION



SCALE: 0 25 50 100 FEET

DRAWN BY: L.R.O.
 APPROV. BY: AMC

7/26/81

Filed and Recorded August 18, 1976, at 2:30 o'clock P. M. Fee \$ 5.00

791197

W. M. Craig Recorder of Deeds

This Indenture Witnesseth That the Grantors Stephen Spencer & Norma J. Spencer, his wife, Marianne Spencer Dinsmore, Daniel Dinsmore, her husband

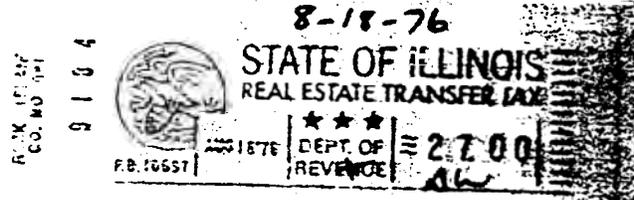
of the Illinois in the County of Rock Island and State of

consideration for and in consideration of the sum of \$10.00 and other valuable

David John Morage in hand paid, CONVEY and WARRANT to

of the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois

the following described real estate to-wit:
THE NORTH SEVENTY-EIGHT (78) FEET OF LOT ONE (1) IN BLOCK TWO (2) IN THAT PART OF THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND KNOWN AS AND CALLED JOHN W. SPENCER'S THIRD ADDITION TO SAID CITY SITUATED IN ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS, Except that part thereof conveyed to the City of Rock Island for street purposes



do hereby releasing and waiving all rights

under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of Illinois.

Address of Grantee: 624 - 34th Street, Rock Island, Illinois

The above named grantor, Stephen Spencer, is also known as Stephen Roswell Spencer, and the above named grantor, Marianne Spencer Dinsmore, is also known as Marianne Jameson Spencer Dinsmore, by which names they appeared in the Estate of Stephen Roswell Spencer, Sr. This instrument was prepared by Edward Keefe, Attorney at Law, 212-Safety Building, Rock Island, Illinois 61201

Dated this 30th day of July A. D. 1976

Stephen Spencer (Seal)
Norma J. Spencer (Seal)
Marianne Spencer Dinsmore (Seal)
Daniel Dinsmore Jr. (Seal)

STATE OF ILLINOIS } ss.
Rock Island County }

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for said County and State, aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that Stephen Spencer and Norma J. Spencer, his wife

personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered said instrument as their free and voluntary

The Rock Island Preservation Society, on behalf of the property owner, Narveen Viridi, proudly nominates the Spencer House, 705 20th Street, for local landmark designation. We feel that it meets criteria 2, 3, and 5 of the Rock Island Preservation Ordinance.

It is believed that this unique Gothic Revival style home was built for Dr. Samuel Plummer upon his return from the Civil War, ca. 1865. In the 1890s Dr. Plummer moved into the house next door to the south, and it is that home which has traditionally been known as the Plummer House. The John E. Spencer family purchased this Gothic Revival in the 1890s and the Spencers lived here until around 1950, thus the designation Spencer House.

Dr. Samuel Craig Plummer was born in 1821 in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. By 1845 he had completed his education at Cleveland Medical College and had settled in Rock Island. He was considered to be one of the pioneers in the medical profession in the county and practiced medicine here for more than 50 years. This practice was interrupted twice, once by a one year overland trip to the west coast in search of gold, and once by the Civil War. Dr. Plummer enlisted as a member of the 13th Illinois Volunteer Regiment in 1861, lost the hearing in his right ear as a result of a shell explosion at the seige of Vicksburg, and eventually served as Medical Director for the 15th Army Corps. On October 17, 1844 Dr. Plummer married Julia Hayes and the couple had 5 children. After Julia's death in 1872, Dr. Plummer married Sarah Moore Dawson. He died on April 29, 1900.

John E. Spencer came to Rock Island after his service in the Civil War and made a living in the express business. He was born in Pleasant Valley, Iowa in 1845 and died of "rheumatism of the heart" in 1903. In 1868 he married Mary Mckibben who was born in Ireland and came to Rock Island with her parents in 1851 when she was less than a year old. The Spencers had one daughter and

three sons. John E. Spencer was the son of Roswell Spencer, one of our earliest settlers. Much of the land in what is now Rock Island was deeded to Roswell and his brother John W. by the U. S. Government around 1835.

Built ca. 1865, the Spencer House would be one of the oldest homes in this area southeast of downtown. The name of the architect or builder is not known but the word "Butcher" is etched, possibly by a diamond, in a front window pane and the same name was also carved on a board in an old coal shed that has been torn down. While the significance of the name Butcher remains a mystery, the architectural significance of the house does not. Homes built in the Gothic Revival style were not common and this is one of only two known to exist in Rock Island.

Most Gothic Revival houses in America were constructed between 1840 and 1870. The style was never as popular as were homes in the competing Greek Revival or Italianate styles. Surviving Gothic Revival houses are most abundant in the northeastern states, where fashionable architects originally popularized the style. The style began in England in 1749 when Sir Horace Walpole began remodeling his house in the Medieval style. In the years following picturesque homes with multiple pointed-arch windows and turrets complete with battlements became common in England. Alexander Jackson Davis was the first American architect to champion Gothic domestic buildings and he featured many of them in his 1837 book, *Rural Residences*. But it was Andrew Jackson Downing who popularized the style with his pattern books, *Cottage Residences* and *The Architecture of Country Homes* and his tireless public speaking.

Identifying features of a Gothic Revival structure would include a steeply pitched roof, usually with steep cross gables; decorative bargeboards on the gables; wall surfaces extending into the gables without eave or trim breaks; windows, frequently with a pointed-arch shape, extending up into the gables; and a one-story porch (either entry or full-width), commonly supported by flattened Gothic arches.

The front facade of the Spencer House exhibits many of these

identifying features. Based on roof form, it would fall into the subtype of centered gable Gothic Revival due to its prominent central cross gable which is flanked by two symmetrical gable dormers. Decorative bargeboards in a pendant trefoil design adorn the gable and dormer peaks and wall surfaces extend into the gables without a break. Second story windows on the front facade extend up into the gables and the center double window is of the 4/4 design while other windows in the house are the more common 2/2 variety. All the front facade windows (as are virtually all the windows in the house) are topped with bracketed gabled moldings. A small one-story porch frames leaded glass double front doors that are topped by a leaded glass transom. The porch itself displays fanciful wooden ornamentation made possible by the then newly perfected scroll saw. The front pillars are actually two sawn lattice supports set at right angles. Matching supports are attached perpendicular to the house and all are connected with decorative scroll work to complete the outline of the porch. Additional sawn lattice is used to give the effect of a small balcony on the porch roof.

The south side of the facade is dominated by a decorative oriel window that features three individual sashes topped with wooden hoods and keystones. Bargeboard decorates the roofline which is gambrel (barn) style rather than the more common side-gable. A one-and-one-half story cross gable extends out the back of the house and an enclosed one-story porch with a sawn lattice balcony sits at the southeast corner of the home and serves as its rear entrance

A third porch, this time an enclosed sun porch, is tucked into the northeast corner of the structure. Once again sawn lattice is used to form a balcony on the porch roof. But detailing differences confirm that this is not original to the house. Square cut columns form the corners of the porch which is finished with decorative french - style windows. Gable molding similar to that used above the windows, but without brackets, sits above the porch door. Gothic Revival features on this north facade of the house include bargeboard at the roofline and an

additional gable dormer complete with bargeboard trim.

Despite the passage of more than a century, the Spencer House remains remarkably intact. The board and batten siding over hidden brick walls is original. 1892 Sanborn maps show a narrow side porch where the sun porch now sits and the leaded glass front doors may date from the turn of the century. A small lean-to has been added between the main house and the back porch and serves as a basement entrance. But all the identifying features of the Gothic Revival style with its gables, bargeboards, and fragile decorative trim have been wonderfully preserved.

By virtue of its location at the intersection of 7th Avenue and 20th Street, the Spencer House has always played an important role in the life cycle of its neighborhood. The area was originally laid out in the post - Civil War years and many of the homes were modest in design. Then as Rock Island experienced steady growth and businessmen prospered, large stylized homes were built along 7th Avenue and some of the more modest homes along 20th Street were replaced. This resulted in a neighborhood that contains a mixture of styles, scale, and materials. Over the years 7th Avenue and 20 Street developed into major arterials linking the downtown area with Augustana College to the east and newer housing development on the bluff to the south. The once fashionable residential neighborhood experienced a phase of decline only to once again blossom in the 1980s and 90s as so called urban pioneers began the process of home and neighborhood restoration. Throughout this entire cycle, the Spencer House, by virtue of its location, architectural qualities, and state of preservation, remained an established and familiar visual feature in our community.

It is on the basis of its association with Rock Islanders Dr. Samuel Plummer and John E. Spencer, its unique Gothic Revival style and high degree of architectural integrity, and its endurance as an identifiable visual feature that we nominate the Spencer House for local landmark status.

SOURCES

The Argus / April 30, 1900, December 23, 1903. Available on microfilm at the Rock Island Public Library

Sanborn Map / Sanborn Map & Publishing Co 1892. Available on microfilm at Augustana College Library.

A Field Guide To American Houses by Virginia & Lee McAlester
(Alfred A Knopf, Inc., 1984)

20th Street Walking Tour / prepared by Bruce L. Ohrlund from research compiled by the Rock Island Preservation Society City of Rock Island, 1988

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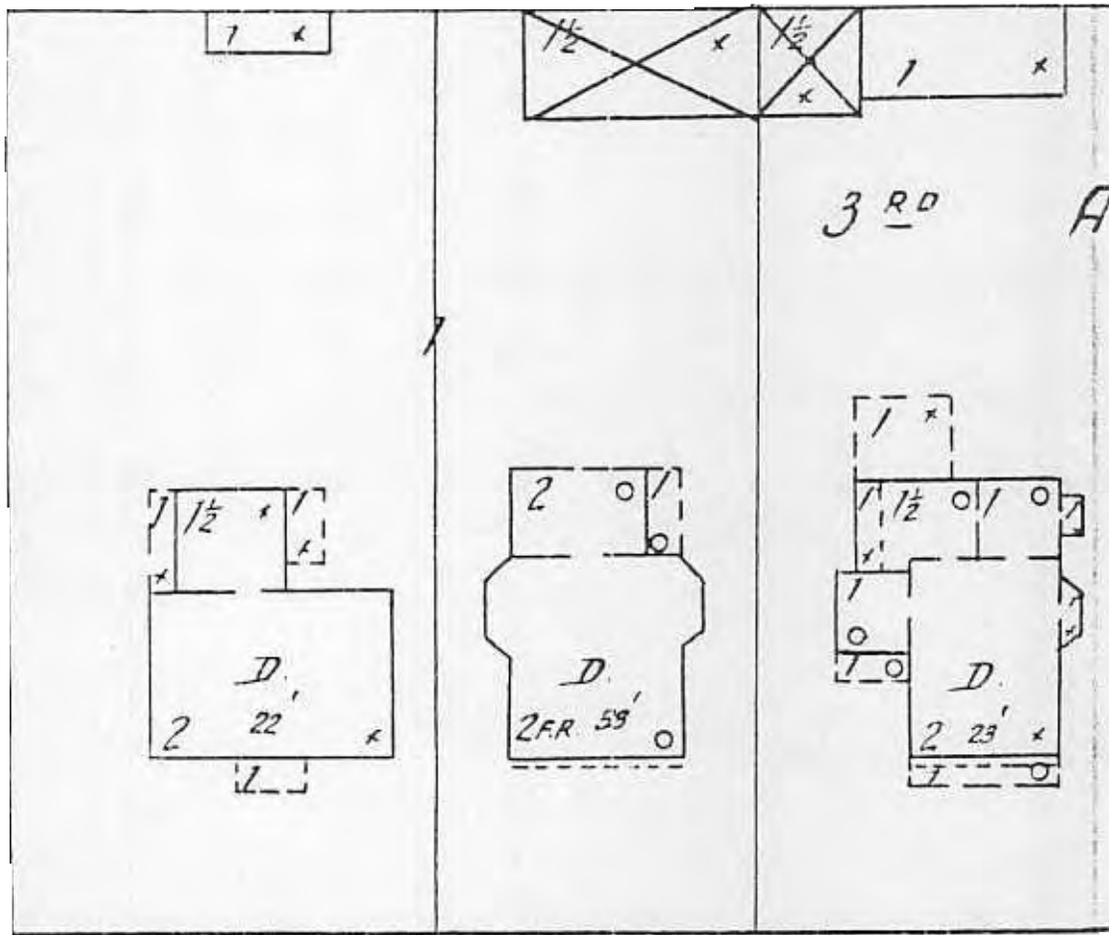
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===== A N P P E

DR. PLUMMER DEAD.

Breathes His Last at Twentieth Street Home at Midnight.

HAD BEEN ILL EIGHT WEEKS.

Pioneer of the Medical Profession--Close of Interesting Life.

Dr. S. C. Plummer, the pioneer of the medical profession of Rock Island county, passed away at his home, 709 Twentieth street, at midnight last night, after an illness of eight weeks with general debility. He had been confined to his bed for 10 days. He failed gradually till the end, which came peacefully.

The death of Dr. Plummer removes from the community one of its grand-



DR. S. C. PLUMMER.

est and noblest of characters. He was devoted to his profession, in which he continued actively till his last illness. His acquaintance extended throughout the state, and by all he was loved and esteemed, and his death will carry sadness to many hearts, especially to those families to which he had administered in the

24, 1861, with the rank of major. By long, patient and thorough study, and subsequent practice. Dr. Plummer brought to his new position of army surgeon the full equipment and rich furnishment which were necessary to that position and its collateral possibilities. Being the ranking surgeon in the volunteer army, together with his social qualities, and his great executive abilities and devoted patriotism, he was conspicuously well fitted to fill the important and honorable positions to which, early in the service, he was called; and whether a regimental surgeon, medical director of the army of the eastern district of Arkansas, surgeon-in-chief of the first division of the 15th army corps, or medical director of the 15th army corps, he honored the service as much as the various grades honored him. And while these higher grades of the service were enjoyable to him, as it brought him into close and intimate association with many of our most prominent generals and commanding officials in all departments of the service, his fealty to his old regiment never faltered; and while his old boys were always scolding about him, that is those natures that are always chronic grumblers, at the same time they would much rather take a dose of blue mass from him than whisky and sugar from any of the assistant surgeons; while on his part he might be expected to mount his horse and ride three miles to the camp of the 13th to look at the tongue of some eighth corporal or high private, and then prescribe blue mass and see that it was taken, than to accept an invitation to dinner with some major general.

In Thickest of Fighting.

Dr. Plummer was in the thickest of the fighting in the south. He was in several of the more important and bloody engagements. He served his country nobly. Measured by the actual value of important services rendered, the unsurpassed, if approached, sanitary condition of his regiment during its full term of service, and his eminent capability in many higher positions, as a surgeon, fully entitled Dr. Plummer to have carried home with him the stars of a major-general.

By the explosion of a shell on the 22d of May, 1863, during the siege of Vicksburg, Dr. Plummer lost the hearing of his right ear.

BULLET IN H

Miss Minnie M. Herself in cage

BEFORE PALMER

Had Wrecked Man A. N. Oh Moline

Miss Minnie M. W. young woman who in this vicinity, stood in the Palmer house, on Saturday night a revolver into had grown weary of a result of a love affair years of age and of many beauty. Before she took precaution identity, but left fragments of a letter, she is supposed to be Ohler, cashier for the press company at Moline together these fragments gained a clew to the hint of reasons for another reads as follows:

"All my regret is sad. I have tried to fight on, but it is wrecked too many lives must cease. I cannot so many mistakes in can ever forget them. too many sad people have no ambition. member I love you a attempt today, perhaps but hope to be successful. It may be some you regarding me, as address on my trunk it to the American Express thereby avoiding you, if possible. Wonder for it and the key

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DR. S. C. PLUMMER.

est and noblest of characters. He was devoted to his profession, in which he continued actively till his last illness. His acquaintance extended throughout the state, and by all he was loved and esteemed, and his death will carry sadness to many hearts, especially to those families to which he had administered in the hours of sickness and pain for upward of a half century. Dr. Plummer was a man whom it was a pleasure to know. He had a kind heart and a good word for everyone and was ever cordial and pleasant. He will be sadly missed from the community of which he had become so important a part.

Long Professional Career.

Dr. Plummer had practiced medicine continuously in Rock Island, with the exception of the years he spent at the front and in a trip to the far west, since settling here in 1845. He was local surgeon at the time of his death for the Rock Island and the Rock Island & Peoria roads, having served the former corporation since it first entered this city. He stood high in the medical fraternity, by whom his writings in a number of magazines were widely read. He was a member of the American Medical association, the Illinois State Medical society and the Iowa and Illinois Central District Medical association; also the Illinois Commandery of the Loyal Legion, the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, and John Buford post, G. A. R., and was a Royal Arch Mason. He served as a member of a committee which in 1894 located the battlefields in Chickamagua park. He was health commissioner under Mayor Blanding, was alderman from the Second ward in 1858-59, and served as president of the medical staff of St. Anthony's hospital, to which latter position he declined reelection on account of his advanced age. Five years ago Dr. Plummer took in as partner Dr. Joseph De Silva.

Dr. Plummer is survived by his wife and five children, all the children being born of the first union. They are: Mrs. Anna P. Darrow, Mrs. G. M. Loosey and Miss Clara E. Plummer, of this city; F. H. Plummer, of Beatrice, Neb., and Dr. S. C. Plummer, Jr., of Chicago.

Native of Pennsylvania.

Samuel Craig Plummer was born April 10, 1821, at Salem Cross Roads, Westmoreland county, Pa.

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By the explosion of a shell on the 22d of May, 1863, during the siege of Vicksburg, Dr. Plummer lost the hearing of his right ear.

On being mustered out of the mili- tary service, Dr. Plummer returned to his family in Rock Island, and re- sumed the practice of his profession, in which he had since been constantly engaged. Oct. 17, 1844, Dr. Plum- mer married Julia Hayes, of Burg Hill, Ohio. She died Oct. 6, 1872. They had five children. Dr. Plum- mer married June 9, 1874, Sarah Moore Dawson, at New Wilming- ton, Pa.

In 1850 Dr. Plummer with a party of Rock Islanders made an overland trip into the far west in search of gold, going as far as the Pacific coast. He remained but a year, returning by way of the Isthmus of Panama.

The funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at Broadway Presbyterian church, of which deceased had long served as elder.

Martha Drum.

In the death of Mrs. Martha Drum at Cleghorn, Iowa, Saturday, Rock Island loses one of its oldest and best known and beloved citizens. Mrs. Drum was aged 80 years, 4 months and 9 days. Mrs. Drum was born in Westmoreland county, Pa., December 19, 1819, moving to Rock Island with her husband, the late Thomas L. Drum, and three little girls in May, 1844. Mr. Drum was custodian of the government island for nine years, dying from an accidental gunshot wound in 1853, leaving with his widow six children, three of whom survive her: Mrs. Augusta M. Gay- ford, Chicago; Mrs. O. C. McConnell, Cleghorn, Iowa, and Mrs. Susie E. Tarr, Washington, D. C. The funeral was held this morning at 10 o'clock from the Central Presbyterian church, of which Mrs. Drum had been a mem- ber since its organization.

Services were conducted by Rev. Ira W. Allen, assisted by Rev. W. S. Marquis, of the Broadway Presbyter- ian church. The pallbearers were: Dr. J. W. Stewart, S. D. Cleland, John Cleland, Phil Mitchell, F. M. Sinnet and Louis Requa. Interment was at Chippannock.

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Davenport, Iowa.

magazines were widely read. He was a member of the American Medical association, the Illinois State Medical society and the Iowa and Illinois Central District Medical association; also the Illinois Commandery of the Loyal Legion, the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, and John Buford post, G. A. R., and was a Royal Arch Mason. He served as a member of a committee which in 1894 located the battlefields in Chickamagus park. He was health commissioner under Mayor Blanding, was alderman from the Second ward in 1858-59, and served as president of the medical staff of St. Anthony's hospital, to which latter position he declined reelection on account of his advanced age. Five years ago Dr. Plummer took in as partner Dr. Joseph De Silva.

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Native of Pennsylvania.

Samuel Craig Plummer was born April 10, 1821, at Salem Cross Roads, Westmoreland county, Pa. The Plummers are of English descent. One or more branches of the family can now be found at Middlesex, but the American patriarch of the family, Francis Plummer, with Ruth, his wife, and several children, came to New England in 1633. The descendants of Francis Plummer have been represented in the colonial legislature and furnished a governor of New Hampshire and five were members of congress. The parents of Dr. Plummer, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Plummer, were both born in Westmoreland county, Pa., and their ancestors settled in western Pennsylvania at an early day. Samuel received a common school education, after which he was in the preparatory department of Western Reserve college, in Ohio, for one year. Returning to Greenville, Pa., he was in the Greenville academy about two years. He then studied medicine three years under Dr. H. D. La Cossett. He also attended lectures at Cleveland Medical college, from which he graduated. He also received the ad eundem degree from the Western Reserve university of Cleveland, Ohio, and for 13 years previous to entering the army he practiced his profession in Rock Island.

Brilliant War Record.

Dr. Plummer enlisted as a member of the 13th Illinois volunteer April 16, 1861, and was mustered with his regiment at Dixon, Ill. May

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Mr. and Mrs. O. C. McConnell accompanied the remains from Cleghorn, and were met here by the other children, Mrs. Augusta Gayford, of Chicago, and Mrs. Susie E. Tarr, of Washington, D. C.

Other Obitsary.

The funeral of John E. Johnson was held from the home, 923 Seventh avenue, yesterday afternoon, Rev. C. E. Slatt, of the Swedish Lutheran church, officiating. The pallbearers were: Harry Eckdahl, Charles Hedberg, Nels Swanson, A. B. Carlson and A. Lindbloom, all sons-in-law, and J. O. Johnson, son of the departed. Interment was at Chippiannock.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tappendorf, of Twenty-third street, died Saturday. The funeral was held this afternoon.

Rummage Sale.

The rummage sale begins Wednesday at 2 o'clock, offering great attractions. Among them a light wood book case with glass doors, two extension tables, and a piano, the latter kindly given by D. B. Bowby.

Those having goods to donate will please bring them at once or send their name and address to Armory hall; every thing wanted; nothing too poor—nothing too good. Come early for best bargains.

Subscribe for THE ANGUS.

I met her there. She has been traveling Mexico and I do not did during that time.

Last week while took her to call on a conversation on a positive in saying know how a person could kill himself. when she left here a that she intended to While here she live herself. I will be in morning at 7 o'clock notify her relatives. ably want to care for a sister and several near Bedford, Ind."

Miss Wray, wife of Palmer, was attired of gray, wore a sign, and on her large diamonds. I found late yesterday clad simply in a chintz. The trunk she brought were shipped them to wrote a note to the ment, saying: "I Do not make a fuss money in a purse. Dispose of body to locate friends or want them to know

The young woman at the hotel as Mrs

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Whether on pleasure take on every trip. Figs, as it acts effectively on the bowels, preventing and other forms of in 50 cent bottles. Manufacturers. Manufacture in Flg Syrup com

Try Graia-O

Ask your grocer a package of Graia drink that takes. The children may jury as well as try it like it. Gra seal brown of Moc made from pure delicate stomach. distress. One-four 15 and 25 cents per all grocers.

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- WRITING DESK.
- PARLOR CABINET.
- MUSIC CABINET.

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HAS SUDDEN CALDARNOLD HAS ALLY EAC

John E. Spencer Seized With Fatal Attack of Heart Trouble at His Home.

Elmer Wheeler Also Arrested in Connection With Railroad Check Operations.

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DIES BEFORE DOCTOR ARRIVES

BOTH CONFESS TO THE FACTS

PARRI

For Years Engaged Here in the Express and Transfer Business.

Former Breaks Down When Officer Takes Him in Charge at His Work.

E. C.

John E. Spencer, senior member of the express and transfer firm of Spencer & Trefz, died suddenly at 6 o'clock last evening at his home, 705 Twentieth street.

He had just arrived from his office and was seated talking with his wife when he complained of a pain in the region of his heart. A physician was summoned immediately, but before he could reach the house Mr. Spencer had passed away.

Rheumatism of the heart was pronounced the cause of death. Mr. Spencer had been affected by rheumatism for several years.

Pleasant Valley, Iowa, was the birthplace of deceased. He was 58 years of age. He served his country through the rebellion as a member of the 24th Iowa volunteer infantry. After the close of the war he settled in Rock Island, where he remained since. Until entering into partnership with William Trefz three years ago Mr. Spencer had long been engaged in the express business on his own account. He enjoyed the confidence of the business public and was highly regarded, and the news of his sudden taking away has occasioned widespread sorrow.

Fraternally, Mr. Spencer was a member of Camp 309, M. W. A., and Shiloh command, U. V. U. The survivors are his wife and four children: Jesse E., William J. and Stephen R. Spencer and Miss Millicent Spencer, all of Rock Island, besides his sister, Mrs. Charles Newell, of Davenport.

Funeral of W. L. Sweeney.

The funeral of Washington L. Sweeney took place at 10 o'clock this morning from the residence of his son, M. E. Sweeney, 1002 First avenue. Rev. R. B. Williams, pastor of the First Methodist church, conducting the services, assisted by a quartet composed of

The preliminary hearing of Charles H. Arnold, of this city, arrested at Davenport on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses, has been deferred to give the Rock Island railroad detective opportunity to gather more evidence against the accused man. He was employed as storekeeper at the road's shops across the river.

When officer Shadley placed Arnold under arrest he broke into tears, saying: "I'm in for it." He was escorted to police headquarters, where he was confronted with the facts that had been learned by the detective who had been working on the case for weeks.

Arnold, so it is charged, has been making out time checks and calling in his friends to sign them, the latter surrendering these checks to the party signing them, to be cashed.

One Elmer Wheeler's signature was gotten through the subterfuge of causing him to sign a petition purporting to be one asking for the location of an electric light, and when compared, was found to be identical with that on a time check for \$28.50 recently cashed.

Wheeler Tells of Operations.

Wheeler was arrested, and told the story of Arnold's operations. He said Arnold asked him to sign the check, which, after passing through the proper channels, came back to be cashed. Wheeler did not even work for the C. R. I. & P. road. The check for \$28.50 was cashed, and in the distribution Wheeler got \$5.50 and Arnold \$23.

Arnold has confessed to passing this check, but claims that there were no others. The railroad thinks differently and is now engaged in locking up proof to support its theory.

Arnold has for many years been with the road and was one of its more trusted employes. The news of his

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DEATH CLAIMS MRS. SPENCER, CITY PIONEER

Member of One of Pioneer Rock
Island Families Dies at
Age of 79 in Home.

Mrs. Mary Spencer, 79 years old, a member of one of the pioneer Rock Island families and widow of John Edward Spencer, died at 11 o'clock this morning at her home, 705 Twentieth street, Rock Island. Death terminated a brief illness.

Mrs. Spencer was of Scotch descent and was born in County Down, Ireland, Oct. 11, 1850. She was the daughter of Alexander and Ellen McKibben and came to Rock Island with her parents early in 1851, when she was less than a year old, residing here the remainder of her life. She was educated in the Rock Island schools and was married Nov. 19, 1868, to John Edward Spencer, who had been a Union soldier in the Civil war. Her husband preceded her in death, Dec. 22, 1903.

The Spencer family was among the earliest to settle in this vicinity, Mr. Spencer being a son of Roswell Hopkins Spencer, who came to Rock Island from Vermont in 1830. Roswell Hopkins Spencer was the youngest brother of the late Judge John W. Spencer.

Mrs. Spencer possessed a friendly disposition and was exceedingly kind and charitable during her long and useful life, which was marked by good deeds quietly done. She was a Methodist in faith.

Surviving are a daughter, Miss Millicent S. Spencer and three sons, Jesse E. Spencer, William J. Spencer and Stephen R. Spencer, all of Rock Island; two sisters, Mrs. Emma C. Mills, Los Angeles, Calif., and Mrs. Phoebe J. Harrold, Alhambra, Calif., and four grandchildren, Miss Margaret H. Spencer, John D. Spencer, Marrianna J. Spencer and Stephen R. Spencer, Jr.

Arrangements for the funeral services, which will be held from the late home, will be announced

Acting Magistrate



MISS RUBY S. MILLER.

Miss Ruby S. Miller, justice of the peace and attorney, will be the first woman police magistrate in the history of Moline, acting in that capacity during the absence of Magistrate Frank Gustafson.

The appointment of Miss Miller as acting magistrate was announced today by Mayor C. W. Sandstrom in compliance with the statute providing that in the absence of the duly elected magistrate the cases shall be taken to the nearest justice of the peace.

Miss Miller's office is nearer than that of Justice of the Peace J. W. Niebling to the city hall. Magistrate Gustafson will probably be absent from the city at the Eagles convention in California for about six weeks.

PAVING EXTENSION FAVORED BY GROUP

Plans For Short Stretch

VEILED HINTS SHADY DEAL REACH COURT

(Continued From First P

these his story after the chamber had quieted down extent.

Speaks for Mitten Fir J. M. Lewis of the Mitten company then began a defense methods used in handling t He stated that his compe already spent several thousand in legal work proper ordinances and that he had 11 trips to Moline.

"There have been a number of instructions cast here tonight stated. "The name of our is clear and you can find for yourselves by consulting bank in the city of Chicago.

Alderman William O'Neil Attorney Ingelson it was that a contract had been up with the Mitten company months ago. Ingelson that such a contract had drawn but said that at the the committee members were vinced that the Mitten company the only bond house in the interested in the Moline works issue. He stated quires had been sent to firms and that they knew they were not interested.

Alderman Wilson charged the sealed bid of the Mitten company as submitted to the committee was not par 1 34 1/2 cents on the dollar would make the Glaspel and Duncan bid top the Mitten by about \$6,000.

Says Bid Was Chanc Alderman Wilson asserted the Mitten bid was raised or \$350,000, after the time submitting bids had expired after all bids had been opened. "If the Mitten company change a bid after the time then it is only fair to all other bond houses to reveal bids," Wilson declared. "I to get the best deal for that we can."

Alderman George Johnson seconded Wilson's motion to

