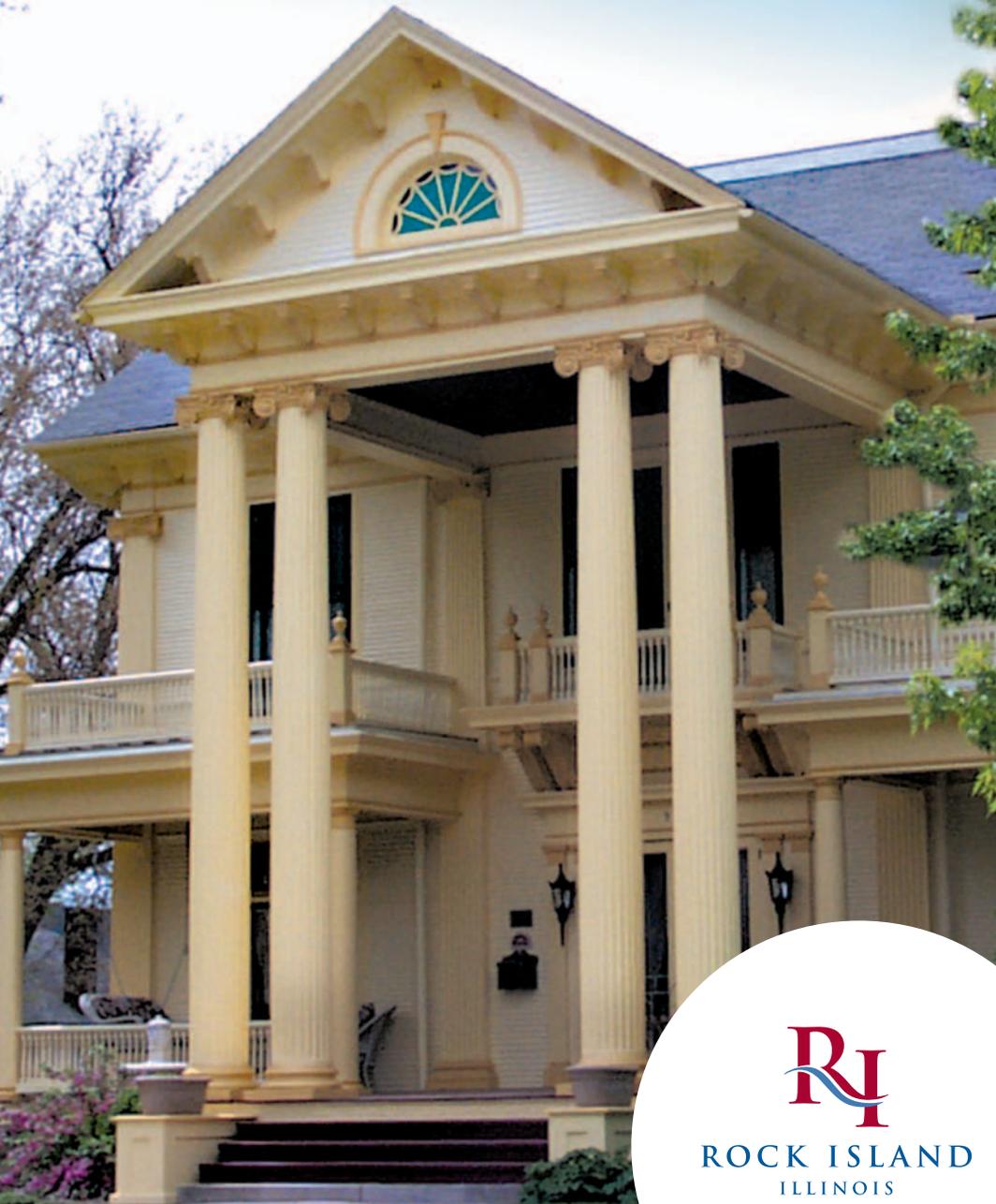


HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE
BROADWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT



ROCK ISLAND
ILLINOIS

Join us for a sampling of great architecture in this neighborhood with a terrific “sense of place.” And while each home is an architectural gem, some associations with early residents are equally compelling.

Magnificent “Sense of Place”

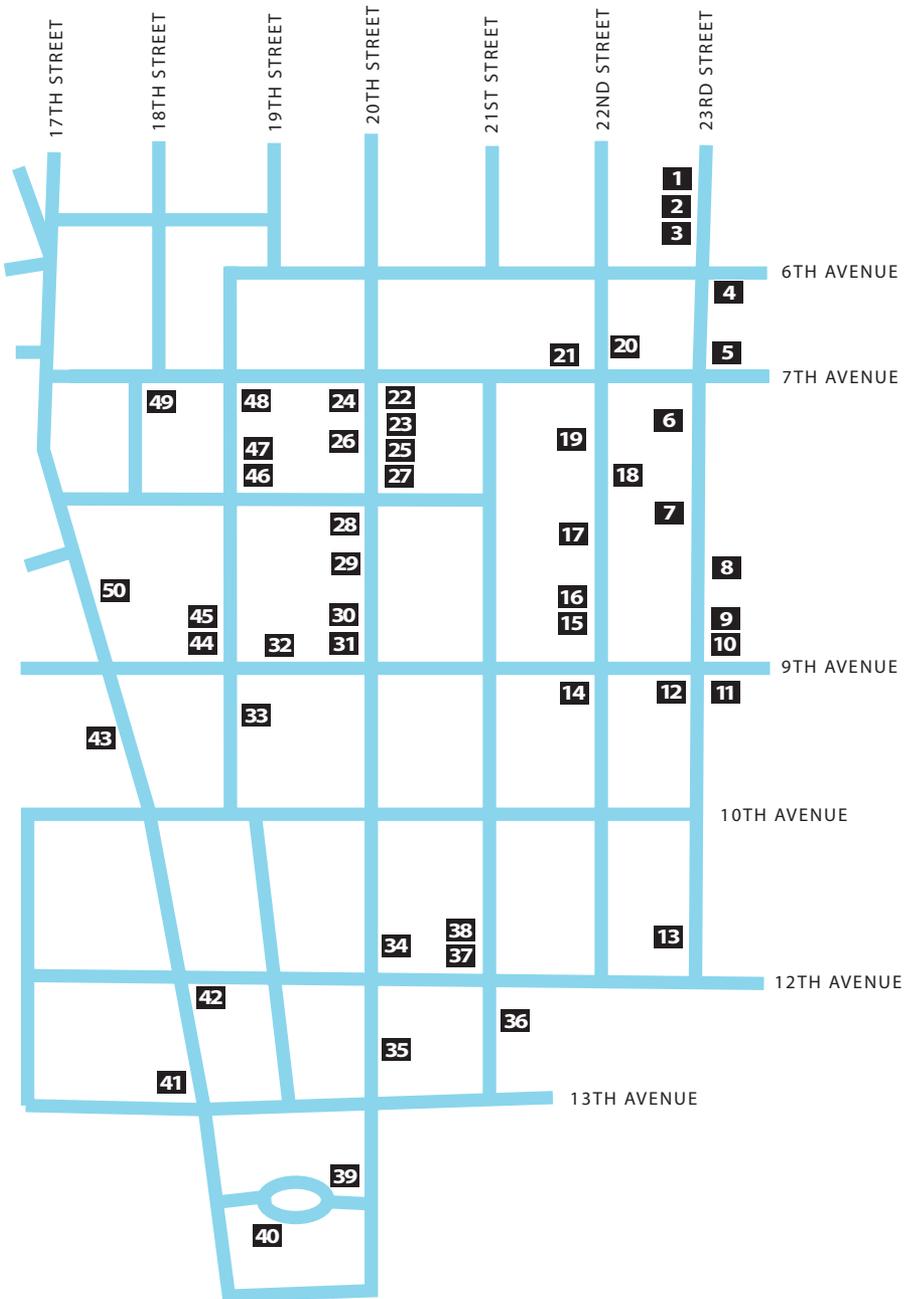
This grand Victorian neighborhood is the premier historic area in Rock Island, where old houses are regarded as treasures. Great architecture, constant restorations, and a first rate neighborhood association have made this area the place to be in the Quad Cities for old house lovers. More than 550 homes make up the Broadway collection, which has numerous examples of Queen Anne, Italianate and Colonial Revival architecture. The earliest home is from 1854, but most of the area was built between 1890 and 1915. The Broadway neighborhood is listed on the National Register, and hosts outstanding Tours of Homes each May. It features more Rock Island landmarks than any other neighborhood, and is nationally famous for founding the “Great Unveiling” program, where artificial siding is removed from historic homes. To learn more about the ambitious and innovative Broadway Historic District Association, go to their website at www.broadwaydistrict.org.

Growth & Development

Aggressive growth came to the Broadway neighborhood, located just a few blocks south of Rock Island’s downtown, in the 1860s. Additions were platted by Webber, Mixter, Buford, Schnell, Spencer, Dart and others. As convenience was the impetus for the neighborhood’s development, the sections of Broadway closest to downtown developed first. The area north of 9th Avenue was mostly developed prior to 1890, while the area south of 9th Avenue was developed from 1890 to 1915, with housing construction moving progressively south with time.

Many of Broadway’s homes were custom built for people who had professional or managerial occupations in downtown Rock Island. People like druggist Frank Bahnsen, architect Leonard Drack, dentist William Magill, newspaper publisher Minnie Potter, attorney Edward Sweeney, brewer Robert Wagner, oil company magnate Frank Welch, and department store owners Frank Young and William McCombs are just a few. Working class folk were also represented in the neighborhood. Locksmith Charles Fiebig, stone mason Robert McFarlane, railroad conductor Thomas Cook and grocer Charles Hansgen lived here, too.

The name “Broadway” comes from the original name of 23rd Street. Broadway Presbyterian Church at 710 23rd Street still bears that historic name. In 1876, a new name system for streets was implemented, creating the current numbered streets and avenues throughout the city. Broadway is the only street name from the previous system that remains in use in any form. In 1988, the neighborhood’s Broadway Historic Area Association adopted the historic name to perpetuate this neighborhood’s identity and to promote the preservation of its historic resources.



BROADWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT AUDIO TOURS

The 50 buildings in the Broadway Historic District tour are available through audio download on the City of Rock Island's website at <http://www.rigov.org/citydepartments/ced/audiotours.html>. For your convenience, the Rock Island Preservation Commission has also created theme-based tours of these same buildings. Just go to the website and download the audio tour to your computer, transfer to your favorite audio-listening device, then stroll or drive through the neighborhood. Maps are included on the web page. The themed tours include:

- M** Movers & Shakers
- L** Rock Island Landmarks
- U** Unique & Outstanding Architecture
- I** Italianate Architecture
- Q** Queen Anne-influenced Architecture
- C** Colonial Revival & Classical Revival Architecture

1. 516 23rd Street – Cameron House **I**
2. 524 23rd Street – Speidel House **M I**
3. 536 23rd Street – Beardsley House **L U I**
4. 603 23rd Street – White House **L I C**
5. 625 23rd Street – Marshall House **U**
6. 710 23rd Street – Broadway Presbyterian Church
7. 742 23rd Street – Wakefield House **Q**
8. 817 23rd Street – Welch House **M L U Q**
9. 837 23rd Street – McFarlane House **L C**
10. 839 23rd Street – Reeves House **Q**
11. 903 23rd Street – McCandless House **U C**
12. 904 23rd Street – Wagner House **M L U C**
13. 1034 23rd Street – Duvon House
14. 902 22nd Street – Brinkerhoff House **Q**
15. 836 22nd Street – Drack House **L Q C**
16. 830 22nd Street – Young House **M L U Q C**
17. 810 22nd Street – Hartz House **Q**
18. 729 22nd Street – Quincey House **U**
19. 700 22nd Street – First Church of Christ, Scientist **L U**
20. 2207/2209 7th Avenue – Murphy House **L U**
21. 2125 7th Avenue – Old Lincoln School **L U**
22. 705 20th Street – Spencer House **M L U**
23. 709 20th Street – Plummer House **M U**
24. 702 20th Street – Conner-Parker House **L U I Q**
25. 715 20th Street – Magill House **L I**
26. 720 20th Street – Case-Mitchell House **M U I**
27. 735 20th Street – Weishar Apartments
28. 804 20th Street – Barnhart House **U**
29. 816 20th Street – Sweeney House **M L I**
30. 842 20th Street – Huesing House **M L I**
31. 848 20th Street – Hansgen House **L U I**
32. 1915 9th Avenue – Stearns Cottage **L**
33. 917 19th Street – Anderson House **M U C**
34. 1043 20th Street – Ammermann-Harris House **M C**
35. 1223 20th Street – Gustafson House **Q**
36. 1209 21st Street – Sexton House **Q**
37. 1038 21st Street – Greenough-Scott House **U Q**
38. 1036 21st Street – West House **Q**
39. 1330 20th Street - Schoessel House **L C Q**
40. 1710 Lincoln Court – Channon House
41. 1236 17th Street – Yerbury House **C**
42. 1203-1205 17th Street – Willis House **Q C**
43. 916 17th Street – Tremann House **M Q C**
44. 852 19th Street – Sturgeon-Bahnsen House **M L I**
45. 842 19th Street – Simon-McCombs House **M Q**
46. 727 19th Street – Cook-Pearce House **L Q**
47. 725 19th Street – Steele House **U I**
48. 1906 7th Avenue – Potter House **M L U C**
49. 1804 7th Avenue – Buford Mansion **M U**
50. 833 17th Street – Fiebig House **M L**



1. Cameron House

516 23rd Street

Our first home on the tour is also among the oldest, and its architectural integrity may be related to 60 years of ownership by one family. Joseph C. Cameron, whose mother and father settled in Rock Island in 1843 and 1844, moved just one block east when this home, then addressed 70 Broadway, was built in 1875. Joseph was a ship's carpenter who eventually rose to the level of ferry captain during the time he lived here. Cameron was the captain of the *J.W. Spencer* steamboat, which was operated by the Rock Island Ferry Co. He and wife Clara had several children, and she continued to live here into the 1930s, two decades after Joseph's passing.

This home has amazing architectural integrity and is relatively unchanged since its 1875 construction. Though relatively rare in other communities, front gable Italianate style homes are plentiful in Rock Island. This brick example shows elaborate wood brackets, stone window hoods and a wonderfully preserved front stoop above paired doors. Notice the south side of the home has many windows, while the north side has relatively few. The windows are placed on the south side of the house to let the sunlight naturally warm the house year-round. This practice is still used by modern architects.

2. Speidel House

524 23rd Street

Built about 1870, five years before the home just visited, one can see that the front gable Italianate style dominated for several years in Rock Island. However, this version is constructed of wood and not brick. Note the extremely tall, narrow, elaborately hooded windows, which are characteristic of Italianate homes. In the Speidel House, the first floor windows nearly touch ground level. The details above the doors and windows, as well as beneath the overhangs are prominent in the Italianate style. The double front door, paired roof brackets and three-window bay complete the nod to the Italianate period.



Again, long-term ownership by a single family may have contributed to such a high level of architectural integrity. Conrad and Margareta Speidel and their descendants lived in this house from 1870 to 1940. After Conrad's death in 1914, daughter Thekla is listed as the owner; Margareta had died in 1899 and brother Ernest in 1892. Thekla died in 1950, but the home had been turned into apartments about ten years earlier. Many Broadway homes were converted to apartments beginning in the 1940s.

Speidel was an early pioneer of Rock Island, known to be in the apothecary business by 1845. City directories promoted his personal entrepreneurship: "Conrad Speidel, established in 1858, practical druggist and apothecary and dealer in drugs, medicines, perfumery, toilet and fancy goods and medicinal wines and liquors." His earliest Rock Island operation was likely with Erich Clacius on Otter Street, between Illinois and Orleans, which today we would know as the Old Chicago Addition on 12th Street, between 2nd and 3rd Avenues. Speidel was also secretary-treasurer of the German-language *Volks-Zeitung* newspaper.

3. Beardsley House

536 23rd Street
Rock Island Landmark

The Major James M. Beardsley House is named for a Rock Islander who earned his title in the Civil War. Beardsley, a deputy County Clerk, helped organize Company D of the 13th Volunteers in 1861, initially signing up for three years of service.

He returned to Rock Island after seeing action at battles of Lookout Mountain, Chickasaw Bayou, Vicksburg and Ringgold Gap. In 1869, he and his wife, Lurany, purchased a large lot fronting on both 22nd and 23rd streets from pioneer settler Samuel Bowles. The lot probably held a house, because a year later it was reported that Beardsley had exchanged his Broadway (as 23rd Street was then called) home with Joseph Conet, his father-in-law, for 800 acres of Iowa land. He also sold smaller portions of the Broadway land to others.

In 1871, he built a "new" residence here, which is likely the front, most visible, part of this home. Only three years later he sold to Alvin Hull, whose family



remained here for the next 20 years. Beardsley, who became an attorney, would move frequently over his remaining years.

The main house is a high styled Italianate, while the rear wing is a simple 1 1/2 story cottage. The original back part is believed to have been built about 1860. In the 1980s, it was severely damaged by a fire and ultimately removed. During a major renovation and restoration in 1998, Rock Island architect Jeff Dismar designed a new addition that evokes the design and

massing of the original wing. That addition is now the newest rather than the oldest part of the house.

The historic Italianate front has a steeply pitched hipped roof topped by a flat area with iron cresting. Other details include a traditional box shape, decorative window hoods, beautiful paired brackets complete with hanging pendants, and a magnificent double door topped by a semicircular transom. The wide front porch dates from the early 1900s. Large porches were a popular addition to Italianate homes, which usually had much smaller porches or stoops.



4. White House

603 23rd Street
Rock Island Landmark

Dwight and Sarah Safford originally built the George Oscar White house as a rental home in 1872. It was not until 1903 that George Oscar White purchased the home and began making improvements to it. He renovated the originally simple Italianate structure into a Colonial Revival, which was the "latest style" of the day. He made changes to the windows, doors and porches. He also made a large addition, which greatly added to the scale of the home.

Mr. White was well established in the buggy and automobile business. He was a locally known carriage, buggy and automobile builder, and was hired away from his own factory in Pennsylvania to manage the J.H. Wilson Buggy Company in Moline. White was eventually manager and board member of the Rock Island Buggy Company. During his years with the buggy and automobile trade, White manufactured automobiles around 1909, and eventually produced curtain lights and batteries for automobiles.



5. Marshall House

625 23rd Street

The Robert Marshall house is one of the oldest documented homes in Rock Island. The home was built for Robert Marshall of Mason County, Kentucky in the mid-to late 1850s. Marshall moved to Rock Island in 1855 to practice law. He was a cousin of Lucy Duke Buford, wife of Charles Buford and one of Rock Island's

pioneering Kentucky contingent. Both were related to the famous Supreme Court Justice, John J. Marshall. In the early 1860s, Marshall and his wife Elizabeth moved back to Kentucky for unknown reasons. In 1868, Jephthah Monroe purchased the Marshall house. The home has since changed owners many times.

The home reflects the Greek Revival period of architecture. It is a simple but elegant rowhouse with parapet walls. The frieze along the roofline that originally contained brackets, the transom and sidelights around the front entrance, and the small flat pilasters are all characteristic of the Greek Revival style.

6. Broadway Presbyterian Church

710 23rd Street

The cornerstone of Broadway Presbyterian Church was laid on May 2, 1876. The first services were held in February 1877, but the formal dedication didn't take place until November 3, 1878. A burgeoning congregation prompted two expansions in 1895 and 1920. When a tragic fire engulfed the magnificent stone church on March 17, 1947, headlines in the *Argus* newspaper read: "Only the massive stone walls survived the conflagration." Local architect William Stuhr designed the new sanctuary and reversed the interior orientation from south to north.



The Gothic appearance of this structure is maintained with arched window tops, and small stone-capped buttresses. Notice the decorative chimneys and chimney pot on either side of the east gable. The gabled roof of the bell tower is unusual for buildings of this style.

John Volk was the wood contractor and McConochie and McFarlane, whose own home is just up the street, were the stone contractors.



7. Wakefield House

742 23rd Street

This home is documented back to 1892, but may have been completed as early as 1890. The family of Theodore Wakefield owned it from 1892 until the mid-1940s. Theodore was a traveling salesman for the Rock Island Lumber Company. He died in 1897, but his widow Etta and daughters Etta and Sarah continued to live here for many decades. Mother Etta was a schoolteacher at Lincoln School, while daughter Etta was a teacher at the old Eugene Field School. Sarah was a deputy clerk for the circuit court.

It is Queen Anne in style with a complex roofline and asymmetrical shape. The windows are outstanding, featuring Eastlake-inspired frames with tiny brackets, incised trim and heavy cornices. Multiple glass treatments continue the ornate theme, with square beveled and leaded panes as well as stained glass stairway windows on the north. Topping it all off is the elaborate shingle work in the gable and the intricate brick pattern in the chimney. The large front porch is an early 1900s addition.

8. Welch House

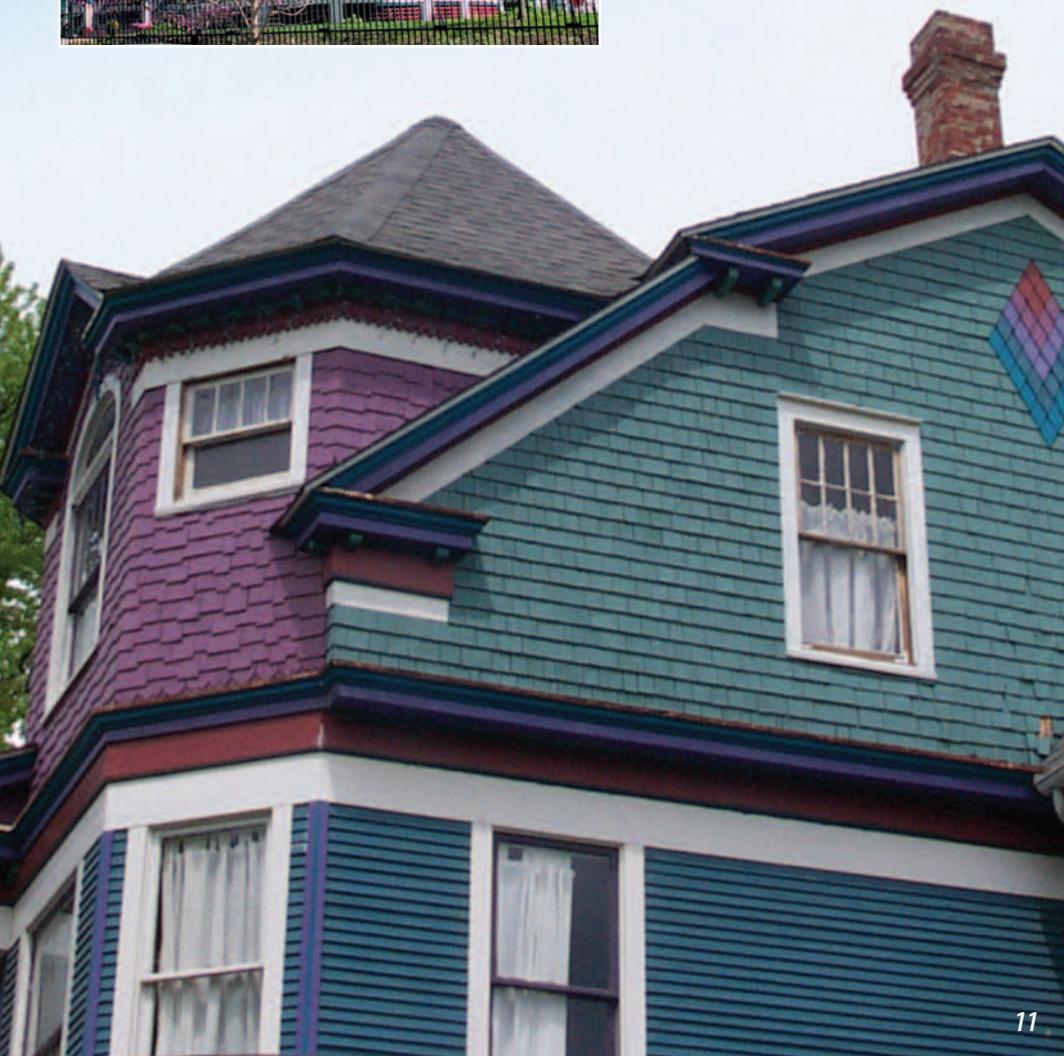
817 23rd Street
Rock Island Landmark

This Queen Anne and Shingle style house was built about 1897 and is named for long-term resident Frank P. Welch, who moved here in 1915 and enlarged it in the 1920s. Welch was a founder of the Illinois Oil Company. Welch's widow, Grace, lived in the house until her death in 1990. She occupied one of the eight apartments into which the house was divided after 1940. Careful restoration has returned the home to its single-family status.

The Shingle style evolved in the late 19th century from the Queen Anne movement. Among its features, all present in this example, are multi-light sash or casement windows, eaves close to the wall, pedimented gables, and shingle siding – three shapes here – covering all or a large part of the structure.

The gambrel or barn style roof, common to the Shingle Style, is used on the small “ells” to the north and south, as well as on the main body of the house. Towers are common to the Shingle style. The Welch House tower has a low-pitched roof and is broken by a gable so that it is integrated more fully with the overall roof design. Nearly all of the attic windows have multi-paned upper sashes and the dormer has a multi-paned casement window. Note the restored iron fence, which also dates from the 1920s.







9. McFarlane House

837 23rd Street
Rock Island Landmark

Colonial Revival architecture is not uncommon in Rock Island, but this is an exquisite example of that style. The fenestration exhibits this style's typical symmetry. Classic to the Colonial Revival style is the Palladian window, prominently shown here in the front dormer. This house also features leaded, beveled glass sidelights. Instead of a fanlight above the door, the McFarlane house features more leaded and beveled glass. Rock-faced red sandstone is incorporated under the porch, alternately with the typical gray sandstone. The porch has Tuscan columns atop pedestals and a balcony with turned spindles.

Robert McFarlane built this home for \$4,500 in 1896. He lived here with his wife, Rachel, and children Margaret, Duncan, and William until his death in 1902. Robert, a native of Scotland, was a master mason at the Rock Island Arsenal for 25 years, and family records indicate he worked there as early as 1866. It can be concluded that some of Rodman Avenue's famous stone buildings on Arsenal Island

were projects McFarlane worked on. He also worked on the addition to the Broadway Presbyterian Church and Old Lincoln School. Descendants of the McFarlane family owned the home until about 1995.

10. Reeves House

839 23rd Street

Robert Emmet Reeves purchased this lot on the Indian Boundary Line in 1897 for \$1,100 and soon afterward built this Free Classic Queen Anne style home. Free Classic Queen Anne homes combine elements of the Queen Anne style and the emerging Colonial Revival style. The northwest turret is characteristically Queen Anne, whereas the Tuscan porch columns, the small panes of glass in the upper windows, and the steep-sided gable roof are more evocative of the Colonial Revival style.

During a "Great Unveiling" in 1999, the original clapboard was revealed, along with "shadows" of modillions and carved scrolls on the frieze, which have been restored. A multicolor paint scheme was the final touch that gave the exterior its current beauty. The new garage at the rear of the house was constructed





to resemble a period coach house, complete with hinges on the modern folding garage doors.

Reeves, whose occupation was listed as a clerk, lived here with his parents and a brother until his marriage a few years later.

11. McCandless House

903 23rd Street

Another excellent example of Colonial Revival architecture in the Broadway neighborhood is the

Dr. Albert McCandless House. Symmetry is seen in the pilasters at each corner, even fenestration and matched dormers. Other Colonial Revival features include the dentils under the roof edge and under the porch roof and the pediment and sidelights surrounding the center second story window.

McCandless, a dental surgeon, built this home in 1901 at a cost of \$5,000. He was diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1915 and moved to Denver, Colorado where he died a few years later. Mrs. McCandless remained in Rock Island, and held weekly meetings of The History Club in this home.



12. Wagner House

904 23rd Street

Rock Island Landmark

National Register of Historic Places

Classical Revival architecture became popular after the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, which called for a return to the Classical order and a move away from "Victorian excesses." The hallmark of this style is two-story columns topped with a pediment, and the Robert Wagner House perfectly embodies that characteristic. Because of its majestic appearance, this home is one of the most well known in Rock Island.

The Wagner House has a three-bay front facade with a central entrance, a balcony and a two-story portico. Pairs of fluted Ionic columns support the pedimented porch. Evenly spaced brackets extend along the cornice lines beneath deep overhangs while larger brackets support the entrance balcony. Galleries with turned spindles and urn-shaped finials flank the entrance, with the north one extended to form a porte cochere. Leaded windows enhance the home. On the north is a beveled and leaded stairway window, while the two-story bay on the south con-

tains an unusual “bottle glass” window. The semicircular fanlights in each of the pediments as well as in the adjacent garage are additional Classical motifs.

This home was designed by Davenport architect Frederick Clausen, who was known for many works in Davenport, including the original Petersen’s store and the Outing Club. He turned over completed plans to Robert and Thekla Wagner on March 16, 1904.

Robert Wagner was the son of George Wagner, who owned Atlantic Brewery in Rock Island. Robert was educated at the University of Iowa and the United States Brewers’ Academy in New York, NY. Upon completion of his studies he became foreman of the brewery, eventually managing the business with his father. In 1892, three local breweries consolidated, and Robert Wagner became the president and guiding force for the Rock Island Brewing Company for the next three decades.







13. Duvon House

1034 23rd Street

Arthur and Etta Duvon built this house circa 1911. He was the manager of Rock Island Lumber and Manufacturing after its Weyerhaeuser-Denkman heyday, but also served as vice-president of Black Hawk Savings and Loan. Members of the Duvon family lived in this home until the mid-1940s.

The Duvon House has been very well preserved over the years. Tudor Revival and Prairie styles blend in this stucco home with beautiful leaded and stained glass window casements. The form is mostly Tudor Revival with the vertical structure and echo of stucco and timbering in the front gable, along with parapet porch walls and shallow pointed window arches. However, other details tend toward Prairie style with the horizontal casement windows and minimal window hoods.

14. Brinkerhoff House

902 22nd Street

Homes often have historic additions, but in the case of this house, we know why the addition was built. Sherman Brinkerhoff came to Rock Island in his 20s and worked as a traveling salesman for the Harkert Cigar Company of Davenport. His first residence was the rooming house of Mrs. Olivia Grover, which is probably where he met his future wife, Nina, who was

Mrs. Grover's daughter. Sherman and Nina bought this fine home in 1894, where they raised Vern and Nina Belle. In the 1920s, the Brinkerhoffs expanded the house with a large, two-story rear addition to accommodate Mrs. Grover. The Brinkerhoffs lived here for 50 years. They then sold their completely furnished home to Egnazio and Virginia Miller in 1944.

The trim on this house identifies it as a Stick-influenced subtype of the Queen Anne architectural style. This home is uncommon because while most homes in the Broadway Historic District have the main stairway on the north side of the house, this home has its stairway along the south. This home is another example of one that has been "unveiled." In the early 1990s, this house was a Victorian Decorators Show Home after it was restored by the Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation.

15. Drack House

836 22nd Street

Rock Island Landmark

Well-known architect Leonard Drack had this home constructed for his family in 1904. Drack was a partner in the architectural firm Drack & Kerns. Their firm was known for designing such buildings as the Rock Island Public Library, the original Modern Woodmen Building (1504 3rd Ave.), the L.S. McCabe Department Store on 3rd Avenue and Immanuel Lutheran Church. Drack practiced in Rock Island from 1891 until 1909 when he moved to the West Coast to continue his career. This home, much like the Young House located next door, is a great example of the



transition between the asymmetrical Queen Anne building style and the simpler, linear design of Colonial Revival. The architect also incorporated the emerging Foursquare and Arts and Crafts styling in the design of his home. Of special note are the unusual red, rock-faced large bricks that form an arch on the porch. The tripled porch columns have a stylized mask motif at the top. Under the oversized eaves of the bellcast roof, the frieze features regularly spaced balls instead of dentils. These ball ornaments are repeated at the base of the balustrade over the north bay and on the south porch. The north side of the house features an original leaded, tulip pattern glass window and three stepped, half-arch windows in the stairwell.

16. Young House

830 22nd Street
Rock Island Landmark

Built in 1907, the Young House was originally home to Frank G. Young, owner of Young & McCombs Department Store. Architect Leonard Drack, who lived directly south with his wife Ida, designed this home. Like his personal residence, Drack displayed the transition from Queen Anne to Colonial Revival architectural styles in Young's house. This home pairs the ornate details and steeply pitched roof typical to

Queen Anne structures with the classical, more staid design of Colonial Revival buildings. Massive, fluted columns dominate the front facade. The steep, hipped roof features four hipped dormers. Wide eaves extend over a wide frieze atop narrow clapboard siding. A two-story bay on the south, a one-story bay on the front, a square one-story bay on the north and a five-sided bay on the northeast corner interrupt the basically rectangular lines of the house. Note the variety of art glass windows, including the ornate beveled transoms, beveled shield design in the front door, opalescent art glass tulip design on the northeast corner, and the grape design on the north bay.

Frank G. Young was involved in retailing most of his adult life. In 1893 at 31 years of age, Young partnered with William Sharp McCombs to form Young & McCombs. This new venture proved profitable, so the department store moved a number of times in the next decade to progressively larger accommodations. In 1909 the Young & McCombs Co-Operative Company moved to lavish headquarters at the new, six-story Best Building on the northeast corner of 17th Street and 2nd Avenue. Mr. Young retired from business two years before his death in 1923.





17. Hartz House
810 22nd Street

The William and Elizabeth Hartz House is a fine example of the Queen Anne style. While no corner tower is present, the many gables, asymmetrical roofline, shingled gables, massive chimneys, bay windows and leaded glass, contribute to the exuberant, visual variety typical of the Queen Anne style.

William T. Hartz, the owner of a small drugstore in downtown Rock Island, had this house built in 1900 by his father-in-law, John Volk. In 1940, the home was transformed into a duplex, although the Hartz family continued to own the house until 1970. Other structures built by Volk include Broadway Presbyterian Church, the Old Rock Island High School, the old Watch Tower Inn, the Masonic Temple, as well as many homes throughout the city. He was also contracted to restore the Davenport home on Arsenal Island in the early 1900s.

18. Quincey House

729 22nd Street

This Second Empire treasure is one of the oldest and most distinctive homes in the Broadway Historic District. The definitive feature of the house is the Mansard roof, with steeply sloping sides pierced by windows and interrupted with a small tower. This type of roof allows for additional usable floor space because of added headroom. Although the original front porch was removed 60 years ago, its wide stairs and grouped square columns have been replicated, based on vintage photographs. One-story bays on the west and on the south add variety to the floor plan. Beveled panels and small brackets trim the bay windows. Large paired brackets under the eaves provide the finishing touch.

Richard Quincey, a carriage and buggy builder, and his wife Carrie were the first owners of this house around 1875. Gottlieb Weiss purchased the home in 1888. The James Dugan family later purchased the home and occupied it from 1920 until 1970.



19. First Church of Christ, Scientist

700 22nd Street
Rock Island Landmark

Rock Island is home to the first congregation of the Christian Science Church in the State of Illinois. In 1896, prominent Rock Islanders met to form a Christian Science church in Rock Island; members found it inconvenient to travel to Davenport for services. In less than seven months, the first Christian Science Church in Illinois was completed at 829 23rd Street [now demolished]. The congregation began



discussions in 1914 to erect a new building for the large congregation. Frederick C. Denkmann was given the duty of securing an architect. He called and interviewed many architects who designed Christian Science churches and was most impressed with the qualifications of William C. Jones of Chicago, who ultimately designed the Rock Island church.

The church was built in the Palladian style in the shape of a cross at a total cost of \$11,400. It is constructed of smooth-faced Bedford limestone over brick. A temple-like porch with six massive stone columns decorated with egg and dart capitals and topped by a pediment frame the main entrance. On the north and south, the illusion of columns is created with pilasters attached to the walls. Three sets of heavy, bronze, nail-studded doors feature full-length beveled glass. The dome of the church is actually two domes, the outer protecting the inner. Eighty-four electrical lights encircle the outer dome. The inner dome features 8,000 fish scale panes within 16 sections divided by wood braces.

20. Murphy House

2207/2209 7th Avenue
Rock Island Landmark

Anastasia (Ciolina) Murphy, though married, held title to this house in her own name. She married Michael Joseph Murphy in 1874, when she was 27 years old. He dealt in pianos and she taught music. They moved into this house in 1899 or 1900. According to her 1921 obituary, she was "one of the best known women in this community" and "gifted with considerable talent as artist, pianist and vocalist." Besides her music, she was well known for her painting. The Murphys'

daughter, Naomi, lived in this house with her husband until 1984.

The Murphy House was originally constructed as a double house for Mrs. Anastasia Murphy. It is believed architect Isaac N. Holmes designed the building because Mrs. Murphy used him in other contemporary projects. Although vacant and deeply



neglected from the 1980s until 2005, this unique edifice has been reborn as loft housing.

Second Empire style homes in Rock Island are very rare, and this house is second only to the Weyerhaeuser House at 3052 10th Avenue for architectural lavishness. The patterned cedar shingle roof has been restored, along with the cornice and the unusual triangle windows in the mansard roof. The porch has also been restored, replacing a Colonial Revival style, full facade porch that appeared on the house around 1906. The porch restoration has once again highlighted the wonderful, raised, English-style basement. A new, eight-stall carriage house-styled garage has been erected at the north end of the property.





21. Old Lincoln School

2125 7th Avenue
 Rock Island Landmark
 National Register of Historic Places
 Named One of 2005's Ten Most Endangered
 Historic Places in Illinois

Old Lincoln School, completed in July 1894 at a cost of \$46,900, was originally called Public School #4. It was designed by Davenport architect E.S. Hammatt and built by John Volk and Company. Hammatt designed four other schools in Rock Island; only Lincoln remains. This is the oldest remaining school in Rock Island. It is also the only Romanesque building remaining in the city.

Lincoln School's interior is as interesting as its exterior, or so said an 1895 *Rock Island Argus*: "Its capacious halls are its peculiar feature, and educators from all parts of the country have remarked on this characteristic, not to be found in any school in the United States, so far as is known..." One is overwhelmed by grandeur of space when walking up the great central stairs into these magnificent hall spaces on different floors. The school's library was housed in the halls.

The exterior of the school is simple and bold in massing. The hipped roof rises 41 feet at the ridgeline and

includes cross gables on each of three sides. It is built of brick and both Anamosa and Bedford limestone. A flared and rusticated limestone base reinforces the visual weightiness of the building. The building is fronted with a brick bell tower with stone quoining. The tower was removed in the 1940s. Wrought-iron scrollwork spans the arch. The archway then leads to a recessed entry with two sets of double doors.

22. Spencer House

705 20th Street
 Rock Island Landmark

Gothic Revival architecture is not common in Rock Island, and this is one of only three examples known to exist.

Decorative bargeboards in a pendant trefoil design adorn the gable and dormer peaks. Second story windows on the front facade extend up into the gables. The porch itself displays fanciful wooden ornamentation made possible by the scroll saw, which was a newer tool in the 1860s. The vertical board and batten siding gives this home a "Carpenter Gothic" feel. These boards cover hidden, soft brick walls, which were used for insulation.

This rare Gothic Revival style home was built for Dr. Samuel Plummer upon his return from the Civil War in 1865. In the 1890s, Dr. Plummer moved into the Second Empire home next door, and it is that house that has become traditionally known as the Plummer House. Dr. Plummer served as medical director of the 15th Army Corps and lost his hearing in his right ear as a result of a shell explosion at the siege of Vicksburg.

John E. Spencer, son of Roswell Spencer, a pioneer settler who came to this area in 1830, purchased this home from Dr. Plummer. His widow Mary continued to live in the home after his death, and other Spencer descendants owned it for a century.



Plummer House



23. Plummer House

709 20th Street

Dr. Samuel Plummer was born in 1821 and came to Rock Island in 1848, where he practiced medicine for 50 years. Upon his return from the Civil War, Dr. Samuel Plummer had the house next door (705) built. He resided there with his wife, Julia, and their five children for a number of years.

Julia died in 1872 and two years later, Dr. Plummer remarried and decided to build a new home on the same lot for his second wife, Sarah. This home (709) was completed around 1880. Dr. Plummer died in 1900 and by 1940 the house had been split into separate apartments.

This French Second Empire home has unique stylistic elements at the top and the bottom. The mansard roof effectively adds a full third story to the house. The

shingles on the roof replicate the original hexagonal and rectangular pattern, but the materials are actually a synthetic slate made of recycled tires. The stone foundation was tooled with an uncommon vermiculated, or wormlike, texture and deserves close examination. The front doorway is recessed and has an elliptical top, which likely once held a transom window and double doors. In the early 1900s, a wrap around porch was added to the house, but it originally featured a stoop with a heavily bracketed canopy.

24. Conner-Parker House

702 20th Street

Rock Island Landmark

National Register of Historic Places

This house combines Italianate style with elements of Queen Anne. It is believed to have been built around 1870 for pork-packing industrialist Homer Lowery, and predates most local examples of the Queen Anne style by five to ten years. In addition, it is constructed of brick, which was rarely used for Queen Anne style residential architecture in this community. The home was remodeled extensively in 1906 for the wedding of liquor wholesaler Peter Fries' daughter. It was later owned by the Conner family, but has been owned by the Parker family since 1944.



A three-story conical tower, stylized shingles, symmetrical fenestration, bays, four varied porches and stone sills and lintels characterize this mansion. The full facade front porch, part of the 1906 modernization, has plain columns with Ionic capitals atop brick piers in pairs and triplets. The upper porch balustrade was restored in the 1990s. On the 7th Avenue side of the property is one of the best examples of residential stained glass in the city. The window features semi-circular stained glass atop a large square beveled glass sash. It contains 99 faceted jewels in its asymmetrical floral design.

The large rear wing was added in 1906. This is when the uncommon brick carriage house at the rear of the property was also constructed.



25. Magill House

715 20th Street
Rock Island Landmark

Built circa 1867, this early home is a fine example of the Italianate cube. The style is defined by a simple hipped roof and square shape. The highly ornamental wood lattice porch is seen in very early photographs of this house. Brick window lintels with decorative limestone keystones cap the front and side windows. The front door is original, as are two shutters in the center second story window opening.

Dr. William T. Magill was the original owner of the house and lived here for 42 years. Magill was a local dentist with a practice in downtown Rock Island that he established in 1857.

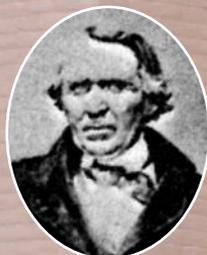
26. Case-Mitchell House

720 20th Street

Charles Harrison Case built this home in 1868. Case was one of the earliest settlers of Rock Island, having arrived here around 1829. After only three years of living in the house, Case died. His wife, Margaret, and their children inherited the house. Margaret remained here for several years, finally selling in 1885 to Ben

Harper, owner of The Harper House Hotel. Harper sold the house to Ella, Mr. Phil Mitchell's wife, in 1886 for \$9,000. Phil Mitchell was a prominent businessman and president of two banks and the Rock Island Plow Company. The Mitchell family owned the home until the early 1930s, during which time they made many changes to the house including the two-story rear addition, an enlarged front porch, the two-story semicircular bay to the south, and the conservatory addition. After the Mitchells left the house its condition began to deteriorate. By 1940, the house had been divided into 14 apartments in which World War II arsenal workers lived. By the late 1980s, the house was in very desperate condition and on the city's demolition list. The current owners have made major progress in restoring this mansion, including restoration of the front porch, and have been able to incorporate new types of insulation and a state-of-the-art geothermal climate-control system.

The Case-Mitchell House is Italianate in style with an exceptional belvedere and kneehole windows. It has very large one over one windows with straight stone headers. The two story bay has a course of unusual rough stone finish and copper friezes with ornate swag detailing. The low-pitched hip roof is a classic Italianate design. This belvedere is the only one that currently exists in Rock Island.



Charles Case



Margaret Case



27. Weishar Apartments

735 20th Street

John A. Weishar, an electrical contractor with the downtown firm Leithner and Weishar, built this Mediterranean-influenced apartment building in 1914. Its construction nearly 40 years after the rest of the homes on this block attests to the enduring popularity of 20th Street.

The entry and trim on the brick apartment are sawn stone. A segmented arch leads to a beautiful foyer in black and white marble with a hexagonal tile floor. Each apartment originally had French doors, which

opened onto a small iron balcony, but these and other original windows have been replaced. A photograph taken shortly after construction shows canvas awnings on the south and west-facing windows. Awnings were an early and effective way of keeping the hot summer sun from heating living spaces.

28. Barnhart House

804 20th Street

Oscar Barnhart, who lived here with his family for less than ten years, was a newspaperman and part owner of the Rock Island Union newspaper. He later established the Union Printing Company downtown.

Built in 1875, this house shows an uncommon Mediterranean influence. Note the oriel window with a radiating arch, the three-pointed attic window, and the unusual gable shape. Originally there was curved, leaded glass in the front arch that extended over the oriel. The points are further emphasized in the window hoods, including the glass shape. The north side bay window is elaborate and includes a broken pediment above the middle window. The heavy, incised brackets and iron cresting are also noteworthy on the front entrance. The basement of this home is unusually high for houses in Rock Island.





29. Sweeney House

816 20th Street
Rock Island Landmark

Edward Dennell Sweeney was born in Delaware in 1833. He moved to Rock Island in 1857 to become the principal of the 2nd Ward School. While involved in education, he studied law under the Hon. George W. Pleasants. Sweeney was admitted to the bar in 1860 and shortly thereafter formed a partnership with fellow Rock Island attorney William Jackson. Sweeney practiced law in Rock Island for 50 years and at the time of his death on September 14, 1910, was the oldest and longest sitting member of the Rock Island County Bar Association.

Besides a long and distinguished law career, Sweeney made other contributions to the community, including serving more than 30 years as Director of the Rock Island National Bank, President of the Davenport & Rock Island Ferry Company, President and Founder of the Black Hawk Building & Loan and Savings Association, President and Director of the Banner Coal & Coal Oil Company, and President of the Rock Island Library Board. Sweeney was held in such high esteem that he was invited to deliver the dedicatory address when the cornerstone was laid for the "new" Rock Island County Courthouse on October 1, 1895.

Architecturally, this home is almost identical to the Hansgen House, located just a few doors to the south. It was designed by Rock Island architect Isaac N. Holmes and built in August and September of 1874. A number of changes have been made over the years. Most obvious is the circa 1898-1906 addition of the wrap-around porch. This wonderful front-gable Italianate maintains its tall, narrow, two over two windows, limestone keystones, oval gable windows and limestone foundation.

30. Huesing House

842 20th Street
Rock Island Landmark

This local landmark was home to the founder of the A.D. Huesing Bottling Company. His company was founded in 1899 and is still in operation today.

Albert D. and Charlotte Huesing built this home in 1885, which was shortly after their marriage and during the time he was an alderman for the Fourth Ward. In 1899, Mr. Huesing established a new bottling works at 1822 1st Avenue. The line of drinks for the A.D. Huesing Company included lemon, cream, strawberry, birch, and root beers, sparkling water, ginger ale and sarsaparilla. In 1902, the company also



became the sole distributor in the Tri-Cities for Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association. In 1914, Mr. Huesing built a 2,000-ton ice plant, which was the first in the Tri-Cities. His sons Albert Jr. and Arthur were the managers. The A.D. Huesing Company added the Pepsi-Cola franchise in 1935.

This is another Rock Island example of the front gable Italianate architectural style, which is rare across the country, but more common locally. Additionally, this home offers some Eastlake influences. The Huesing home is wood frame and topped with a striking hexagonal window. The house has a unique Prairie-style, wrap-around front porch that was added sometime between 1906 and 1922. The brick columns and two levels of balustrades add to the Prairie-style influence. The distinctive house was carefully restored, including the removal of artificial siding, at the turn of this century. The Eclectic carriage house, designed by Rock Island architect George P. Stauduhar in 1912, has a rolled roof and is unique.

31. Hansgen House

848 20th Street
Rock Island Landmark

This 1874 front gable Italianate home has its original two over two windows, segmental arch stone hoods, single story porch, beveled column detailing and double front door. Local builder John Volk, who was known for his interior air circulation systems, constructed the home. Part of that circulation system still remains in the house.

Charles Hansgen was an early Rock Island settler, arriving in 1854. He worked as a railroad conductor, managed the Union Hotel and ran a grocery business for 31 years. He married Sophie Marg Baumgaertel and they had nine children.

The youngest son, William, eventually had ownership of this house and never lived anywhere else. He was born here on September 18, 1876 and died here on December 19, 1955. It is believed the home was



converted to apartments around the time he married Maude Ann Rice in 1900. They had four children. William spent most of his adult years working as a gas meter reader for Peoples Power Company and was active in civic life. He served as president to three organizations: Rock Island Rotary Club, Rock Island Manufacturers Club and Rock Island Community Fund. Maude was a charter member of the Rock Island Woman's Club and an early member of the Rock Island Y.W.C.A. The house was converted back to a single-family home in the early 1990s.



33. Anderson House

917 19th Street

This home, built circa 1901 by Henry W. Horst Company, is one of the most outstanding Colonial Revival specimens in Rock Island. While maintaining the traditional aspects of the style, such as prominent triangular pediments, the Palladian window, side-lights and symmetry, special features bring the architectural impact of this home to an even higher level. The siding pattern is unique and not duplicated on another Broadway property. The dormer windows feature keystones, arched glass and returns. The central pediment has an unusual and intact "spider web" window. Elaborately used pilasters, modillions and dentils frame windows and cornices. Finally, the half-round porch with its Ionic columns and intricately turned balusters is an accurate restoration that was nearly lost forever.

Beginning in 1891, several families called this address home, but the original house was replaced about 10 years later, maybe due to a fire. The original owners of the present house were K.T. and Netta Anderson. Knute Theodore Anderson, always known as "K.T.," was a banker at the State Bank of Rock Island. Barrier-breaking Netta had vital ties to Augustana College all of her life. She was the daughter of Dr. E.F. Bartholomew, a well-known English professor. She graduated from Augustana in 1894, one of three women in a class of 17. She overcame obstacles to become the first woman admitted to the Adelpic Society and entered the school's first oratorical con-



32. Stearns Cottage

1915 9th Avenue
Rock Island Landmark

Built in 1879, the appearance of this tiny structure is significantly enhanced by its many high style attributes. A detailed Italianate center entry porch has a tiny Mansard-style roof with shingle trim. The two over two windows feature segmental arch hoods with applied wood designs. The home features a rubble stone foundation and feather-grained woodwork on the interior. The original one-story, shed style kitchen in the back retains its original board and batten siding.

This home is an important example of a Rock Island worker house. Many short-term renters, who engaged in a wide variety of occupations, resided here. They included a wallpaper hanger, a painter, a chauffeur and a railroad switchman, among others. Polly Ann Stearns bought the property in 1878 and lived here until circa 1892.

test. She then married K.T., also an Augustana student. Netta helped to organize and then became the first president of the Augustana Alumni Association. She then joined the college's Board of Directors from 1930 to 1948. She also served many community organizations in a leadership capacity: Bethany Home, American Red Cross, Royal Neighbors of America, Rock Island Woman's Club and the Illinois State Historical Society.

34. Ammermann-Harris House

1043 20th Street

This Colonial Revival style house was built in 1905 for Helen and Wesley P. Ammermann, secretary and advertising manager for L.S. McCabe Company. During his business career, he was head of circulation for *The Moline Dispatch*, advertising manager at Petersen's department store and manager of the Chute Company in Davenport. Wesley, brother of the first mayor of East Moline, Walter Ammermann, lived here until 1920. By 1925, the Benjamin and Annette Harris family moved into the home. Harris started as a wholesale grocer and liquor distributor, but later greatly diversified business interests. He built a wholesale tobacco plant at 23rd Street and 3rd Avenue, purchased the Illinois Theater in 1924, and by 1946 announced plans to construct 162 homes in the vicinity of 30th Street and 42nd Avenue in Rock Island – which he did.

While mainly Colonial Revival, the house has interesting nods to Queen Anne and Arts & Crafts styles. The three window rounded bay inside the porch is a Queen Anne feature, but the porch trim is purely Arts

& Crafts. The house has bellcast dormers and roof, and full height porch columns with an unusually large diameter. Also note the beveled oval front door window, the leaded oriel window on the south side, and the triple stairway window on the north side of the residence.



35. Gustafson House

1223 20th Street

This Colonial Revival home was built circa 1910 for Martha and John A. Gustafson, who had opened Gustafson & Hayes, a men's clothing store in downtown Rock Island in 1902. After John's death in the 1920s, Martha continued to live here into the 1950s.

Queen Anne influences can be seen through many details in this house. Unusual convex porch columns on small stone pedestals have Ionic capitals. Large turned spindles form the heavy balustrade. The roof is hipped with bellcast or flared edges. There is a square bay on the north, a round bay on the front, and a tower-like, two-story bay on the south. The many beveled and stained glass windows are magnificent and distinctive, as is the curved glass of the windows in the porch bay.





36. Sexton House

1209 21st Street

If you look next door to the south, you will see the similarity in these two homes. They are twin houses, with comparable floor plans and defining architectural elements. However, trim, siding and window treatments make them appear different today. Historic twin homes are rare, but several examples are present throughout the Broadway District.

The first owner of this circa 1902 home was the Sexton family. Mr. Sexton was a partner in the Rock Island Steam Laundry and Towel Supply Company located downtown. He was also a former police chief and known affectionately as “Mr. Baseball.”

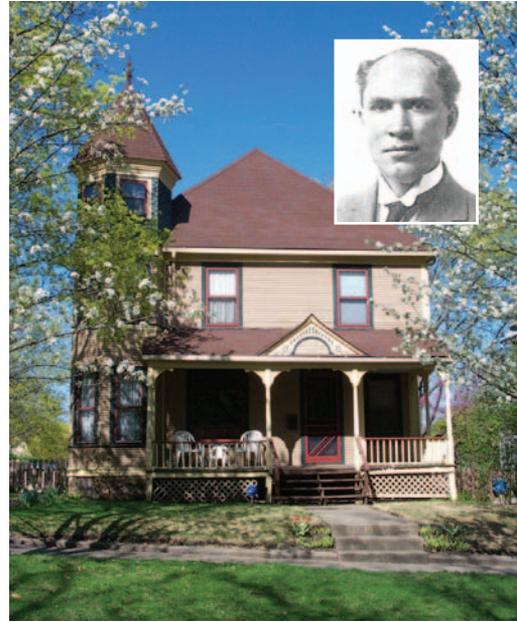
A prominent peak at the front of this house gives the huge bay a tower effect. Closer inspection, however, reveals that it's not a functional tower but simply a detail that relates much visual interest. This Free Classic Queen Anne exhibits both Queen Anne and Classic Revival characteristics. The intricate roofline and irregular ground floor outline show the massing of a Queen Anne, but the four keystones by the front door and the fanlight above the center bay on the second story, along with the Tuscan columns are pure Colonial Revival influence.

37. Greenough-Scott House

1038 21st Street

Hugh and Julie Greenough built this home in 1895 as newlyweds. Hugh was a director for the Rock Island and Peoria Railroad, which was eventually absorbed by the Rock Island Lines. In 1904, Hugh took a new job in Cedar Rapids, which required the family to move. The house was then sold to the Scott family. John Scott, and his wife Amy, shared the home with his mother, Margaret, and until his death, his father William. John (see photo inset) served as the city attorney for Rock Island from 1899 to 1904, when he was elected state's attorney for Rock Island County. In this position, he is remembered for declining to prosecute the notorious John Looney. He later returned as city attorney and maintained a private law practice as well. The Scott family lived here until 1948.

The Scotts' long tenure may explain the lack of changes to the exterior of the home. Nearly all of the original architectural features remain, making this an exemplary and pristine example of the towered Queen Anne-style home. The tower is hexagonal at the third story level, where it is covered with wood shingles and surmounted by a steeply pitched six-sided roof. At the lower levels, even extending to the foundation, the tower becomes a large five-sided corner bay. The wood siding is original, with narrow clapboard on the lower stories and both wood shingles and clapboard in the attic gables. This exceptionally narrow siding is typical of homes built between 1890 and 1915. The south attic gable, extending above a two-story bay window, contains a



huge semicircular “demilune” or half moon window separated with delicate muntins into smaller panes. The porch railing was restored based on historic photographs. Remarkably, even the small garage is original, or nearly so, dating from at least 1906 when it appears in Sanborn maps. It is a simple gabled structure covered with the same narrow clapboard as the house. The outstanding and vintage folding doors are an exceptional feature.



39. Schoessel House

1330 20th Street
Rock Island Landmark

Built in 1910, this home was influenced by the asymmetrical subtype of the Colonial Revival. The outstanding ornamentation includes a dormer crowned with a prominent broken ogee pediment topped with an acorn-shaped finial, paired Tuscan porch columns, Tuscan colonettes surrounding the front door, unusual porch skirting and liberal use of dentils. There is also a beautiful Arts and Crafts stained glass window in the front facade.

The first owner of this home, Christian August Schoessel, was a local businessman involved with the ice and coal industries. His second wife, Myrtle Dade Schoessel, was a former supreme recorder for Royal Neighbors of America. She quit her position as supreme recorder to marry, but went back to Royal Neighbors 17 years later as editor of *The Royal Neighbor* and historian of the fraternal life insurance company. After she retired in 1949 at the age of 77, she took up oil painting, and enjoyed local recognition for her artistic accomplishment.

38. West House

1036 21st Street

This Queen Anne home was built around 1900 for Russell and Marie West. Russell was a clerk at the Rock Island Arsenal. The West family lived here for approximately 15 years. It was then home to Fred and Marie Pollard for about 35 years. Fred was a salesman for various companies.

Be sure to notice the double front gable, which is an important architectural feature. The decorative modillions, which appear under the smaller gable, are also a classic Queen Anne feature. The sun porch on the south was added during the 1940s, about the same time the Craftsman-inspired front entry was altered. Also notice the original brick garage, built around 1920. These early masonry garages are rare because most were removed or enlarged as automobiles became larger.





40. Channon House

1710 Lincoln Court

This small Craftsman style home has undergone some major changes since it was built in 1915. Until 1997, the front porch was enclosed and the original siding had been covered up with aluminum siding. During one Great Unveiling, the replacement siding was removed and the front porch was reopened. The home was painted in period-appropriate colors of yellow with gold, blue and cream accents. A period style coach house replaced another single car garage. Be sure to notice the spectacular view of both downtown Rock Island and Davenport.

Lucy Reynolds Channon built the house when she was 65 years old. The town of Reynolds was named after her father, who was in the railroad business.

41. Yerbury House

1236 17th Street

Built in 1916, the Yerbury House is the only brick Colonial Revival home in the Broadway Historic District. The symmetrical design, as well as the use of transoms above windows, is very common in Colonial Revival homes. The arched hood above the front door is a feature that is unique in Broadway. Brick headers and a large fireplace are additional assets.

Walter and Marie Yerbury were the first owners. Walter was the son of William and Jane Yerbury, who founded the Rock Island Steam Dye Works. As a boy, he lived above his parents' shop in downtown Rock Island. After William's death, Jane carried on the business. When Jane retired, Walter took over the family company, which had grown to one of the largest dyers and cleaners in the region. When Jane passed away in 1912, she was survived by only three of her thirteen children, Walter being one of them.





42. Willis House

1203-1205 17th Street

The double house is one of Broadway's most intriguing designs. Frequently, they were built for relatives, usually siblings or parents and an adult child to share. The original owners of this house were Charles and Charlotte E. Willis, who lived at 1205. For many years Mrs. Martha Willis, a widow, and her adult children lived at 1203.

Mr. Willis was once deputy sheriff of Rock Island County and in the early 1900s was the 4th Ward Alderman for the city. The Willis family maintained this home until the 1960s.

Although some double houses had one side that was larger and more elaborate, the two dwellings in this building are mirror images of each other. Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles are both represented in the Willis House. The irregular angles of the roof are classic Queen Anne elements while the simple, Tuscan-style porch columns represent the Colonial Revival style.

43. Tremann House

916 17th Street

Broadway homes were popular because of their proximity to downtown Rock Island. The first owner of this home, Henry W. Tremann, most certainly walked to the family's downtown meat market. Henry W. was the son of Henry Tremann, founder of a large, well-known meat market, which was located at 17th Street and 3rd Avenue. Henry W. served on the board of directors at the Central Trust and Savings Bank and eventually became the vice-president. The Tremanns lived here for nearly 50 years until the home was sold around 1952.



If you just visited the Schoessel House at 1330 20th Street, you'll notice this house is almost a twin. This 1903 home is transitional between Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. Notice the leaded glass in the windows of the second floor dormer. The copper broken pediment above the dormer, dentils under the large friezes and Tuscan columns are all Colonial Revival elements. Take a special look at the stairway window on the north side.

44. Sturgeon-Bahnsen House

852 19th Street
Rock Island Landmark

Sometimes life wasn't always about work and making money to build a grand Broadway home. Housing developer, speculator and attorney Mansfield Sturgeon was also a shortstop. In 1866, Sturgeon, Phil Mitchell (house number 26 on this tour) and William Dart formed the city's first baseball team, the Wapellos. Their home field was Bailey Davenport's pasture at 17th Street and 10th Avenue. In the very

first game, the Wapellos defeated Davenport by a score of 118 to 27; Sturgeon accumulated 15 runs. The team lasted just four years, but the popularity of baseball in Rock Island exploded at the time Sturgeon built this house in 1876.

In 1890, the home was sold to the Bahnsen family. German immigrant Frank Bahnsen was the vice president of Hartz & Bahnsen Drug Company, located in an imposing, four-story building at 20th Street and 3rd Avenue.

This small home is considered "Cottage Italianate" because of the size and scale of its Italianate massing and details. The low-pitched roof has widely overhanging eaves with decorative paired brackets underneath. The tall, narrow, two over two windows are decoratively framed. Side and back porches on the house feature simple supports with decorative brackets. The double front exterior doors are reproductions, while the originals remain in place inside the vestibule.



45. Simon-McCombs House

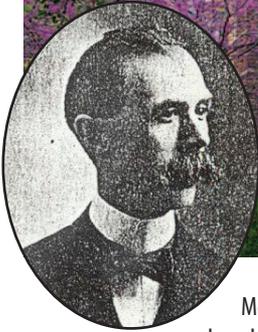
842 19th Street

German immigrant Leopold Simon was already a successful wholesaler when he and his wife Rebecca built this house in 1890. Over the years he was partners with brother-in-law Alphons Mosenfelder and Moritz Landauer, and eventually specialized in men's clothing.

Around 1910 the house was sold to the co-founder of Young & McCombs Department Store, William Sharp McCombs. Twenty years earlier William had married Ida Tremann; they had one son and one daughter.

years old. The home was converted into a duplex in 1931. Ida continued to live on the main level, while her son William and his wife lived upstairs. The McCombs family owned the home until 1969. Today the house is again a single-family home.

This home, like many of the others in the Broadway District, is a Queen Anne built in the free classic style. Notice the Tuscan columns, modillions and square balusters. The grand second-story Palladian window and the scalloped shingles surrounding it have been beautifully preserved. Take a peek even further up and you can see another gable with a pointed window with elaborate muntin divisions.



McCombs (portrait to left) bought this house about the same time he reorganized and expanded his business with new partner Louis P. Best. Together the three partners operated a 66,000 square foot, six-story retail operation with 75 departments. The new business was located in the Best Building at 17th Street and 2nd Avenue. In 1920, Young & McCombs merged with chief competitor McCabe & Co., causing the "largest transaction in the history of Rock Island mercantile business." Three years later, William McCombs suffered a stroke of apoplexy and died. He was 61

46. Cook-Pearce House

727 19th Street
Rock Island Landmark

This simple Queen Anne style home was built in 1894 for Thomas M. Cook, a conductor for the Central, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. It was constructed by Collins Brothers for a cost of \$3,200. Cook lived here only three years before selling the house to Reverend Robert G. Pearce, who was a Scottish immigrant.

Reverend Pearce united 1500 couples in marriage in his first 60 years of ministry. He became a pastor at



the First Methodist Church in Rock Island in 1883, then left, only to return to the city in 1898 after retiring from the ministry, which is when he and wife Esther purchased this house. Rev. Pearce also served as deputy collector of customs for the federal government in Rock Island.

The house has original wood clapboard and an uncommon square tower with an original iron finial and bellcast roof. The porch frieze also displays some of the delicate spindlework common on many Queen Anne style homes. The applied ornament on the porch gable is original.

47. Steele House

725 19th Street

The 1880 Steele House is a traditional, boxy Italianate style home built of brick. Especially noteworthy are the ornate brick window surrounds and an elaborate brick frieze that gives the impression of a cornice. The

kneehole windows in the frieze are criss-crossed by wood muntins that create interesting window shapes. Many of the windows are preserved in their original two over two double hung arrangement. It is increasingly rare to see these narrow, Italianate windows so well preserved. The double front doors are topped with a bracketed entry canopy with a concave arch common to Italianate homes. The bricks of this house, which are naturally a dark red, were originally unpainted.

Alexander Steele, the owner of Alexander Steele & Sons Hardware Dealers, was the first occupant of the house. He lived here for only two or three years with his wife Sarah and sons George, Charles, William and Frank. By 1900, blacksmith and horseshoer Valentine Dauber lived here. This home was split into several apartments by the 1930s.





48. Potter House

1906 7th Avenue
Rock Island Landmark
National Register of Historic Places

This house was home to one of Rock Island's most prominent women, Mrs. Minnie E. Potter, President of the J.W. Potter Company. Minnie Potter was widowed at age 32 (husband John was just 36 when he died in 1898), and she was left with three young children and a newspaper to run. Her husband had purchased the *Rock Island Argus* in 1882, when it had just 500 subscribers. Until the newspaper was sold in 1985, it was owned and operated by the Potter family. Under the tutelage of Minnie Potter, who never remarried, the newspaper prospered. In 1925, she directed architects Cervin & Horn in the construction of a new newspaper plant at 1724 4th Avenue; the newspaper is still housed there today. Mrs. Potter resided here until her death and the property remained in the Potter family until 1983.

In 1907, Rock Island architect George Stauduhar designed this Colonial Revival house, adding elements of the Prairie School of architecture. The front facade shows

Colonial Revival symmetry and door sidelights, with an elliptical fanlight above. Many of the windows are typical of the Prairie style, with a larger sash having a single pane of glass, topped with a smaller upper sash. The Colonial Revival influence is shown in the multiple panes of the upper sashes. The exterior surface is stucco, with rough texture on the lower half of the wall and a smoother texture on top.

Interior features of the home are outstanding, with leather embossed wall coverings in the formal entryway, a magnificent central staircase, mahogany paneling, stained glass and six fireplaces.



49. Buford Mansion

1804 7th Avenue

Wealthy plantation owner Charles Buford built this stunning home with an unobstructed view of the Mississippi River in 1854 after he moved to Rock Island from Kentucky. Many important people have owned this equally important architectural treasure.

Closely resembling an antebellum plantation house, a Greek Revival home such as this is rare in northwestern Illinois. The house exhibits all the major features of Greek Revival style. In this example, the front porch has massive brick columns the full height of the house surmounted by a pedimented gable with a fanlight and heavy cornice. The area under the cornice is ornamented with vertical lines in groups of three called “triglyphs” in Greek architecture. The front corners of the building form pilasters to augment the Greek temple effect. All of the original windows have six-over-six panes, with cut stone lintels and sills or heavy pedimented wooden lintels. The front vestibule has paired Ionic columns and dentil molding. The

walls of this massive home are solid brick and nearly 20 inches thick. This expensive home was said to be as elegant on the inside as the outside. It contained “all the modern conveniences of the day,” and was “worth every penny of its \$10,000 construction cost.”

Kentucky aristocrats Charles and Lucy Buford and their ten children moved north to Rock Island and into this house in 1854. Charles was a Yale University graduate who farmed and raised thoroughbred horses in Kentucky. Once here, Charles founded the Buford Plow Factory, which later became the Rock Island Plow Company. He was also a capitalist for the Coal Valley Mining Company. Lucy lived here for decades after her husband’s death, until she passed away in 1895.

In the next 20 years, two more significant people lived in the mansion: Levi S. McCabe and Elmore Hurst. McCabe was Rock Island’s mercantile magnate as the 20th century dawned. As the owner of McCabe & Co., shareholder of Tri-City Railway, owner and promoter of Moline’s Prospect Park, director of Central

Trust & Savings Bank, president of the Rock Island Safety Deposit Company, developer of the Safety Building and owner of a vast amount of downtown Rock Island, McCabe and his wife Marian could well afford to live in the Buford Mansion. Attorney and avid Democrat Elmore Hurst and wife Harriet also lived here later in their lives. Repeatedly, Hurst was asked to run for state and national office, including governor of Illinois and vice-president of the United States, but he declined all offers.

50. Fiebig House

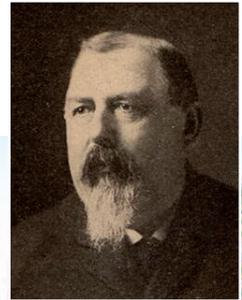
833 17th Street
Rock Island Landmark

The Charles Fiebig house is Vernacular architecture, which reflects the function, style and materials common to a region. This type of three gabled home, also called a Tri-gabled Ell house plan, became increasingly popular in the mid- to late-1800s during the expansion of the country's railroads, which made a wide variety of building materials more readily available. The front of the house is decorated with Eastlake window hoods, while the full width front porch is of

the Colonial Revival style. The south side of the house has a bay window and side porch with Italianate columns.

Charles Fiebig was a locksmith and an electrician. He owned a well-established locksmith shop at 1619 3rd Avenue, Rock Island. As an electrician, he specialized in bell hanging and burglar alarms. He was born in Germany and came to the United States as a young man. He fought in the Civil War and lived with a tribe of Pawnee Indians for a month.

In addition to being a respected merchant, Fiebig was a colorful local character and his personal happenings frequently dotted the newspapers. He acquired widespread recognition for his ability to open safes that had left other experts in a quandary. Fiebig was often called to cities all over the United States to open safes for various people and reasons.



Glossary of Architectural Terms

Antebellum – existing before a war; usually referring to before the Civil War

Arts and Craft style – begun by a group of architects and designers (led by William Morris) who attempted to revive the traditions of simple handicraft techniques in 19th century Britain. In architecture they looked at the simple vernacular tradition of barns, mills, and cottages as an inspiration and at the aesthetics of the medieval period.

Balustrade – a row of balusters topped by a rail; a low parapet or barrier

Batten – a thin, narrow piece of lumber used to seal or reinforce a joint

Belvedere – a structure designed to command a view (such as a cupola or summer house) topping a roof

Bracket – an overhanging member that projects from a structure (as a wall) and is usually designed to support a vertical load or strengthen an angle

Classical – refers to the architecture and design ideas of ancient Rome and Greece. Characterized by a set of compositional rules and architectural elements, in particular, columns and orders.

Colonial Revival – reuse of Colonial design in the U.S. from approx. 1870–1920 including, but not limited to symmetrical facades with a Classical cornice, large porches or porticos, gabled roof with dormers, clapboard or red brick walls and louvered shutters

Cornice – a molded and projecting horizontal member that crowns an architectural composition

Dentil – a series of small projecting rectangular blocks, especially under a cornice

Dormer – a window set vertically in a structure projecting through a sloping roof; the roofed structure itself

Eastlake style – a decorative style of ornamentation found on houses of various other Victorian styles, primarily the Queen Anne and Stick styles.

Eaves – the lower border of the roof that overhangs the wall

Egg and dart – a carved ornamental design in relief consisting of an egg-shaped figure alternating with a elongated triangular figure similar to an arrowhead

Fanlight – a semi-circular window with radiating sash bars like the ribs of a fan that is placed over a door or window

Fenestration – the arrangement, proportioning and design of windows and doors in a building

Finials – a crowning ornament or detail

Fluted – a rounded groove; often one of the vertical parallel grooves on a classical architectural column

Foursquare – an American architectural style, which is the earliest form of the Prairie style. Characteristics include symmetrical design, hipped roof and hipped dormers, overhanging eaves, usually with a front porch and four rooms on each of two floors.

Frieze – a sculpted or richly ornamented band on a building

Gable – the vertical triangular end of a building from cornice to eaves to ridge; end wall of a building

Gallery – a roofed promenade, corridor or outdoor balcony

Gambrel – curb roof of the same section in all parts with a lower steeper slope and an upper flatter one

Gothic – relating to a style of architecture developed in northern France and spreading through western Europe from the middle of the 12th century to the early 16th century. It is characterized by converging weights and strains at isolated points upon slender vertical piers and counterbalanced by buttresses and pointed arches and vaulting

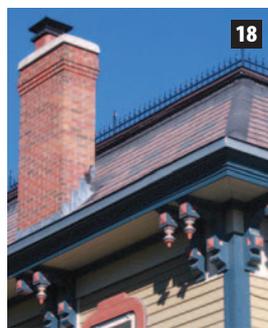
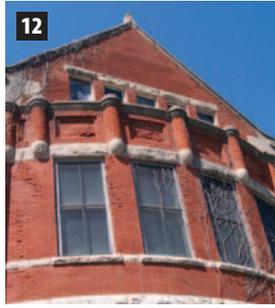
Hipped (roof) – the external angle formed by the meeting of two sloping sides of a roof with wall plates running in different directions

Ionic – architecture characterized by the spiral, scroll-like decoration of its capital and Greek columns

Italianate style – an American architectural style from the mid-nineteenth century which came about as part of a larger Romantic movement in the arts. Commonly recognized by tall, narrow windows and low-pitched roofs with overhanging eaves

Keystone – the wedge-shaped piece at the crown of an arch that locks the other pieces in place





1. Balustrade
2. Batten
3. Belvedere
4. Bracket
5. Dentil
6. Dormer
7. Fanlight
8. Frieze
9. Gambrel
10. Ionic Capital
11. Keystone
12. Lintel
13. Mansard
14. Modillion
15. Ogee
16. Palladian
17. Pediment
18. Pendant
19. Pilaster

Lintel – a horizontal architectural member spanning and usually carrying the load above an opening, such as a door or window

Mansard (roof) – a roof having two slopes on all sides with the lower slope steeper than the upper one

Modillion – an ornamental block or bracket under the cornice

Muntin – a strip separating panes of glass in a sash

Ogee – a molding with an S-shaped profile; a pointed arch having on each side a reversed curve near the apex

Oriel (window) – a large bay window projecting from a wall and supported by a corbel or bracket

Palladian (window) – a three part window featuring a large arched center and flanking rectangular sidelights

Parapet – extension of a side wall to form a low wall above the roofline, hiding the roof edge

Pediment – a triangular space forming the gable of a two-pitched roof in classic architecture

Pendant – a hanging ornament of brackets, roofs or ceilings much used in several Victorian styles

Pilaster – an upright, rectangular architectural member that is structurally a pier but architecturally treated as a column, usually projecting a third of its width or less from the wall

Porte cochere – a roofed structure extending from the entrance of a building over an adjacent driveway and sheltering those getting in and out of vehicles; a passage way through a building or screen wall designed to let vehicles pass from the street to an interior courtyard

Queen Anne – relating to characteristics of a style of English building of the early 18th century characterized by rich decoration and varied styles. Often includes elaborate woodwork with arches, shaped gables, bay windows and overhanging eaves. The quintessential American Victorian house with bric-a-brac and gingerbread features.

Quoin – a solid exterior corner usually distinguished from the adjoining surfaces by a material texture, color, size or projection

Sash – the framework in which panes of glass are set in a window or door

Transom – a horizontal crossbar in a window, over a door or between a door and window or fanlight above it

Trefoil – an ornament or symbol in the form of a stylized three leaf design

Turret – a small tower; an ornamental structure at a corner of a larger structure

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