

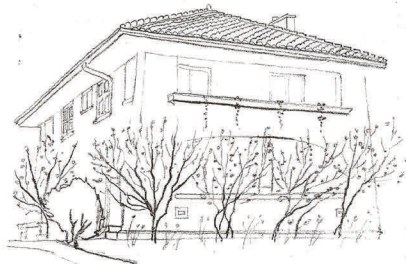


Upper Bluff Local Historic District Walking Tour

City of Joliet Planning Division

Acknowledgements

City of Joliet
&
Joliet Historical Museum



Ink Drawings by Marian Corley

The Upper Bluff Local Historic District

Welcome to the Upper Bluff Local Historic District. This self-guided walking tour will help you learn about architectural styles, dates of construction, materials, and key features of houses located in Joliet's first local historic district that was established in 1997.

When Joliet was founded in 1837 and later incorporated in 1852, the region was a new frontier settlement, established concurrent with the construction of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. In the late 1800s, Joliet emerged as a major manufacturing center. Joliet's strategic location at the crossroads of mid-America helped to assure Joliet as an important place in the history of the region and the country as a whole.

Housing construction in the Upper Bluff Local Historic District started in the late 1880s as the manufacturing industry reached a fever pitch. Residents relocated to the Upper Bluff area from the traditional east side Joliet neighborhoods to avoid the effects caused by industry. The Upper Bluff neighborhood became distinctively upper class, with residents serving in the following capacities: furniture store president, attorney, physician, cemetery president, real estate agent, engineer and storekeeper.

The Upper Bluff Local Historic District includes a wide range of architectural styles built between 1897 and 1925, including: Queen Anne, Neoclassical Revival, Dutch Colonial Revival, Colonial Revival, and Prairie as well as the wide-spread building type known as the American Foursquare.

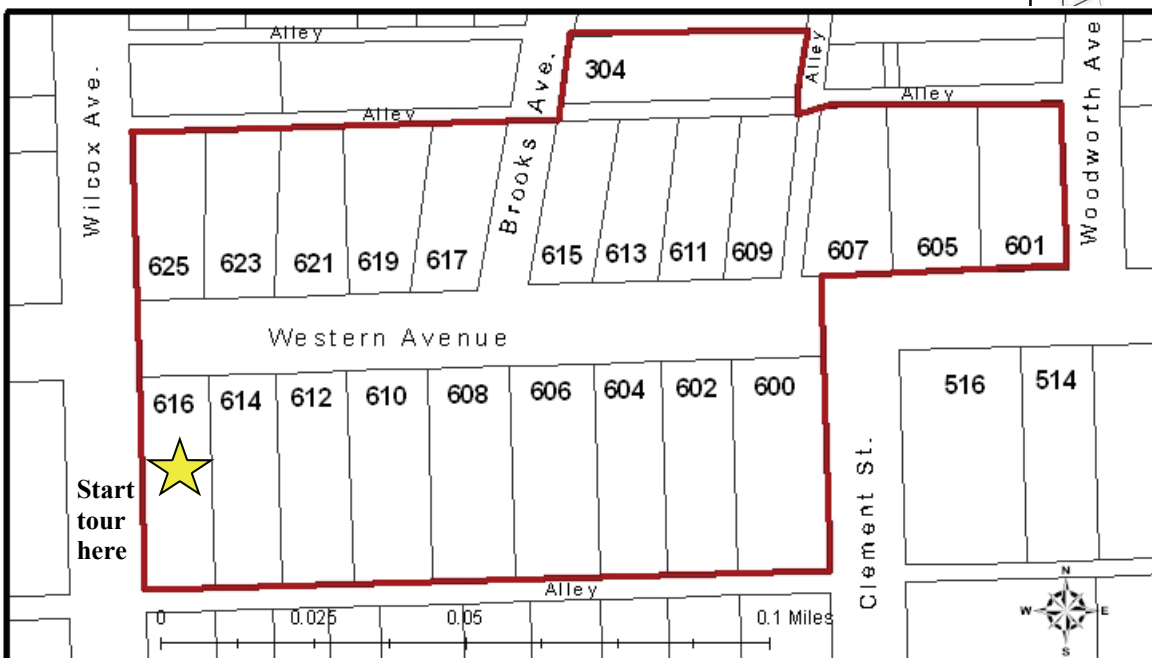
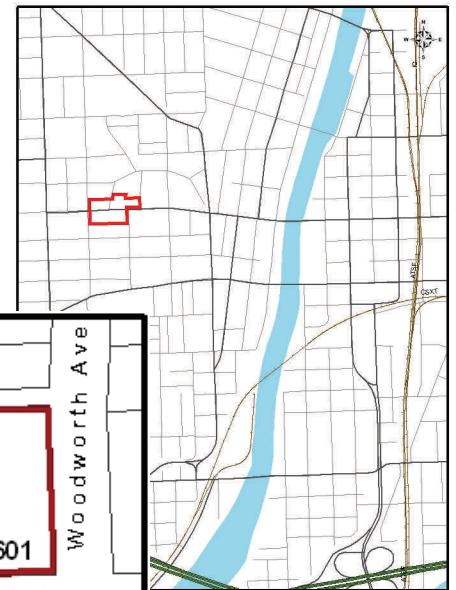
In addition to containing a rich variety of architectural styles, the designs of two important Joliet architects can also be found within the local historic district: Herbert Cowell, who designed 609 Western Avenue in 1905; and C.W. Webster, who designed the structure at 612 Western Avenue in 1910.



600 Western Avenue	Queen Anne / Neoclassical Revival	1897
601 Western Avenue	Queen Anne / Arts & Crafts	1887
602 Western Avenue	Queen Anne	1896
604 Western Avenue	Queen Anne	1898
606 Western Avenue	Colonial Revival / Queen Anne	1901
607 Western Avenue	Queen Anne / Prairie	1906
608 Western Avenue	Colonial Revival	1910
609 Western Avenue	Dutch Colonial Revival/ Queen Anne	1894
610 Western Avenue	Colonial Revival	1910
611 Western Avenue	Neoclassical Revival	1904
612 Western Avenue	Prairie	1910
613 Western Avenue	Colonial Revival	1918
614 Western Avenue	Neoclassical Revival	1910
615 Western Avenue	Prairie	1910
616 Western Avenue	English Eclectic Revival	1923
619 Western Avenue	Prairie	1910
621 Western Avenue	Colonial Revival	1906
623 Western Avenue	Prairie / Georgian Revival	1922
625 Western Avenue	Queen Anne	1896
304 Brooks Avenue	Dutch Colonial	1925

625 Western Avenue

The J.A. Kinsella House is a 2 ½ story wood clapboard structure of the Queen Anne style built in 1896 on a Joliet limestone foundation. The structure is distinguished by an open, wrap front porch and a projecting trapezoidal bay on the 2nd story level above the front entry door. It also has two interior ridge chimneys.





616 Western Avenue

The Richard J. Burrill House is a two story brick, Y-shaped English Eclectic Revival style structure built in 1923. The structure is dominated by a central protruding entryway with side windows and transoms. The entry is surrounded by elaborate carved stone pilasters topped with decorative wrought iron railing. All windows and doors are framed in carved Bedford stone. Windows are eight to twelve-light steel casements, topped by two-light transoms. The building is topped with an elaborate green Ludowici closed shingle-style clay tile roof. A matching 2 ½ car brick garage with hip roof is located south of the main structure.



623 Western Avenue

The Joseph G. Heintz House is a 2 story, medium colored brick, Prairie / Georgian Revival style structure built in 1922 on a brick foundation. It features a recently restored green glazed tile hipped roof. The symmetrical structure is framed by a small, Prairie brick porch, likewise topped with a green glazed tile hip roof. The original, single entry door contains two fixed transoms and sidelights. Main floor windows have triple, double-hung sashes and transoms. The upper sashes on all windows have Arts and Crafts detailing. A porte-cochere extends to the west.

621 Western Avenue

The H.I. King House is a 2 ½ story brick Colonial Revival style structure with Queen Anne massing, built in 1906 on a Joliet limestone foundation. The main façade features a protruding 2 story trapezoidal bay with central, fixed windows with leaded transoms. The bay is topped with a frontward facing gable that contains a multi-paned attic window. The structure has a single, left-of-center entry door and small, open Classical front porch. The main structure is contained by a hip roof.



614 Western Avenue

The LaVerne L. White House is a 2 ½ story, wood clapboard, Neoclassical Revival style structure exhibiting Prairie style features. The home, which conforms to the American Foursquare building type, was constructed in 1910 and sits on a Joliet limestone foundation. The structure is distinguished by a 1 story, full-width front porch, which is supported by Ionic columns set in groups of 2 or 3. An original front door with a single ¾ oval is located on the west side of the front façade. An elaborate, square, beveled glass window can be found west of the front door. The structure is topped with a hip roof of Prairie profile, accentuated by a central gable dormer with Palladium window. An original garage is located at the rear of the structure.



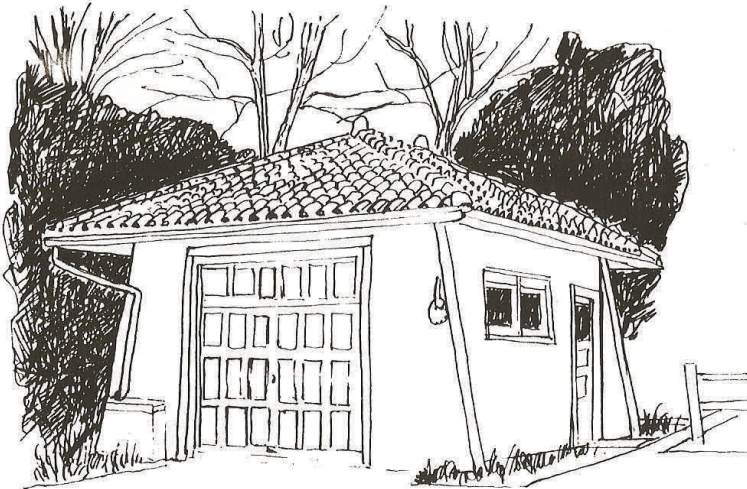


619 Western Avenue

The Phillip LeSage House is a 2 ½ story, brick and stucco Prairie style structure of the American Foursquare building type. It was constructed in 1910 and rests on a brick foundation. The structure is dominated by a full-width, brick front porch. The second story of the house is stucco. The house is topped by a hip roof with a central front gable dormer with a Palladian window in the dormer.

617 Western Avenue

The J.W. Campbell House is a cement stucco, 2 ½ story, Colonial Revival style structure built in 1910. The symmetrical structure is distinguished by a single central door flanked by eighteen light sidelights and topped with a large multi-paned fan-light transom. Evenly placed eight-over-one double hung sash windows are located on each side of the central door as well as on the second story. A small protruding trapezoidal bay with 3, twelve-light casement windows is centered on the second story. The structure has a side gable roof. A one story, Arts and Crafts porch with multi-paned windows extends off the east side of the structure.



612 Western Avenue

The Edward C. Barrett House is a 2 story, stucco, Prairie style structure designed by noted Joliet architect C.W. Webster in 1910. The house is distinguished by a massive 2 story porch with broad stucco archways resting on rectangular Arts and Crafts columns. A multi-colored, Spanish clay tile hip roof with broad overhangs typical of the Prairie style tops the structure. A matching single-car stucco garage can be found at the rear of the property.



610 Western Avenue

The Henry J. Sawyer House is a 2 ½ story, red brick, Colonial Revival style structure built in 1910. The structure is distinguished by its symmetrical front façade which is centered by a front entry door with multi-light transom and sidelights. The door is framed by an Arts and Crafts portico supported by Doric columns. A side gable slate roof with two evenly placed front gable dormers tops the structure. The dormers feature twelve - over - one double hung sash windows.



304 Brooks Avenue

The G.W. Young House is a 1 ½ story brick and stucco Dutch Colonial style structure built in 1925 on a concrete foundation. The structure has a gambrel roof with a large shed roof dormer on the house that extends about ¾ of the length of the front façade. The first floor of the front façade contains 4 and 6 light fixed windows set in a ribbon pattern and a recessed front entry.

615 Western Avenue

The J.F. Nachbour House is a 2 ½ story brick Prairie style structure with an American Foursquare plan built in 1910 on a brick foundation. The structure has a full-length, brick, Arts and Crafts screened porch. A single entry door is located on the west end of the façade, flanked by multi-paned sidelights. The main façade includes two evenly placed fixed windows with Arts and Crafts pattern transoms. A Bedford stone string course is located between floors.

The second level has two evenly placed pairs of double hung sash windows with elaborate Arts and Crafts detailing in the upper sash. The structure has an asphalt hip roof with a central hip dormer. The west side has randomly placed double hung sash windows which, in the center, break the string course. This feature accommodates the interior staircase.



608 Western Avenue

The Walter Pitcher House is a 2 ½ story, red brick, Colonial Revival style structure built in 1914 on a Joliet limestone foundation. The structure is distinguished by a side gable, multi-colored faux slate roof with central chimneys rising up at each end. The side gable roof features three evenly placed front gable dormers with multi-paned, curve-top windows. Distinctive half-fan light windows flank the chimneys in the end gables.

The symmetrical front façade, with six-over-six double hung sash windows, exhibits a central single entry door with sidelights and a wooden fan motif over the door. The entry is surrounded by a Classical portico supported by Ionic columns. The second level has a central entry door with sidelights located on the balcony above the front door.



606 Western Avenue

The Walter B. Stewart House is an imposing, 2 ½ story, red brick, Colonial Revival / Queen Anne style structure built in 1901 on a Joliet limestone foundation. The structure exhibits Neoclassical Revival elements with its Ionic front porch columns, balustrade, bulls-eye windows and elaborate Palladian windows with carved stonework. The fourteen room house was built for Dr. Stewart, a prominent physician and surgeon for St. Joseph Hospital and the E.J. Railroad. A matching garage of later vintage sits in the rear.



613 Western Avenue

The Alfred W. Madsen House is a 2 ½ story Colonial Revival structure built in 1918 on a brick foundation. The symmetrical structure is dominated by a small portico with simple classic roof supported by Ionic columns. The structure has a steep side-gabled roof.





611 Western Avenue

The Fredrick C. Arentz House is a south facing, 2 ½ story stucco Neoclassical style structure designed by noted Joliet architect Herbert Cowell in 1904. The structure, built on a Joliet limestone foundation, is dominated by a two story pediment portico supported by four massive Ionic columns. The first floor has a central single entry door with a fan light in pediment and side lights. The entry is flanked on either side by one, one-over-one double hung sash windows. The second level has a central twelve-over-twelve double hung sash window with flanking twelve-over-one double hung sash windows. The structure is topped by a hip roof.



604 Western Avenue

The Enisha Meers House is a 2 ½ story, wood clapboard structure built in 1898 on a Joliet limestone foundation. The structure is distinguished by a full-width, Arts and Crafts front porch with two large brick piers that supports a slate, hipped roof. An elaborate, beveled glass window is located right of the front door. A multi-colored stained glass window is located on the west façade, providing illumination for the front stairwell.

602 Western Avenue

The Alphonso Wetheril House is a 2 ½ story, wood clapboard, Queen Anne style structure built in 1896 on a Joliet limestone foundation. The structure is distinguished by an open wrap porch supported by paired Doric columns. A 2 story tower anchors the northeast corner of the porch. The tower has a conical cap accented with three front gable dormers. The dormers have sixteen light fixed windows. A front gable roof rises above the main roof. The gable is accentuated by paired multi-paned windows set in a starburst pattern. The gable is in-filled with cut shingle siding.



609 Western Avenue

The J. C. Smith House is a south facing, 2 ½ story brick and stucco, Dutch Colonial / Queen Anne style structure designed by noted Joliet architect Herbert Cowell in 1894. The structure, built on a Joliet limestone foundation, is dominated by a large wrap front porch supported on brick piers. A two story entry tower with three, one-over-one double hung sash windows dominates the southeast corner of the structure. A single entry door is located within this tower.

The second level has a pair of double hung sash windows with a multi-pane motif in the upper sash. The structure is topped by a Gambrel roof with a front gable. The tower has a flat roof. The brick and stucco exterior surfaces are additions that were made to the structure in the 1920's. A small two story stucco Colonial style carriage house is located at the rear of the site.





607 Western Avenue

The Hasbrouch Saler House is a south facing, 2 ½ story frame and stucco Queen Anne/Prairie style structure built in 1906 on a Joliet limestone foundation. The main façade is dominated by a large wrap porch supported by paired columns that rest on stone piers. The porch is topped on each end with conical motifs and terminates at the west end in a portecochere. The structure has a single leaded glass door with leaded glass sidelights. The second level has two sets of Palladian motifs. The upper sashes and fan transoms of these windows contain elaborate leaded glass detailing. A hip roof with central hip dormers top the structure.



600 Western Avenue

The J.P. Stevens House is a 2 ½ story, wood clapboard structure built in 1897 on a Joliet limestone foundation. The structure is distinguished by a two story semi-circular bay on the east end with 3, twelve-over-one double hung sash windows on each level. The bay is topped with a steeply pitched front gable dormer with an inset Palladian window. The first level has a centrally located single entry door. The second level has a pair of twelve-over-one double hung sash windows and the structure is topped with a massive side gable roof adorned with a pair of pedimented dormers. Each dormer has a fixed, nine light window.



601 Western Avenue

The C. W. Talcott house is 2 ½ story, stucco Queen Anne/Arts and Crafts style structure built in 1887. The structure is dominated by a massive, in-filled, wrap Arts and Crafts porch and a front gable roof with triple sixteen - over - one double hung sash windows. A simple Arts and Crafts corbel line decorates the second level.

605 Western Avenue

The W.C. Lee House is a two-story, wood clapboard vernacular Queen Anne style structure built in 1894. It has a front gable roof and a side gable protrusion over the west side.

