Designated Historic Properties in Eau Claire, Wisconsin



#### Eau Claire Landmarks

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# introduction

More and more, Americans are realizing the importance of saving tangible links with their past: the statues, houses and workplaces of the courageous men and women who shaped our cities and towns. To this end, in 1974 the Eau Claire City Council created the Eau Claire Landmarks Commission. The seven appointed commission members are charged with protecting, enhancing and preserving properties and sites which reflect Eau Claire's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history. Such locally important properties are designated as Eau Claire Landmarks. Some are also recognized as historically or architecturally important at the national level and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

This booklet of designated historic properties is published by the Eau Claire Landmarks Commission to foster a greater awareness and appreciation of the city's past, a stronger civic pride and a firm commitment to historic preservation.



Organized to encourage walking and bicycling tours, the booklet has five geographically distinct sections: Downtown, West Side, Third Ward, East Side, and North Side. You can see their boundaries on the map on pages 6 and 7.

At the beginning of each section is a more detailed map, showing the locations of the historic sites within that area. Each property has a symbol, explained on page 4, and a number which corresponds to its photograph and description in the pages that follow. The properties are typically named after their original owners. Also indicated on the sectional map are the boundaries of seven historic districts which have been identified in the city.

Properties which have been locally landmarked or placed on the National Register are included together with eligible properties. Since preservation efforts are continuing, additional properties may be designated in the future.

Let this booklet take you back to the early days at this river junction. Imagine the buzzing of the nearby sawmills, the whistle of the steamboat as it arrives with goods and passengers, the clip-clop of the horses pulling their buggies along the packed dirt roads, and the clang of the streetcars taking busy people to work and play. Step into the past. Experience Eau Claire's rich heritage.

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# setting the stage



Over the past one hundred fifty years, the peaceful setting at the confluence of the Chippewa and Eau Claire Rivers has changed from a wilderness to a bustling community of more than sixty thousand people.

The first European-built houses in the area were constructed by French-Canadian fur traders who came to trade with the Sioux and Chippewa Indians. Their rough log cabins were fashioned from magnificent white pines which covered the Chippewa Valley northward for over a hundred miles.

But by 1850, new settlers arrived, lured from the East by the promise of great fortunes to be made from the seemingly endless forests. This river junction, with its transportation routes, natural log storage areas and water power for sawmills, provided an ideal place for these Yankee entrepreneurs to establish a new lumbering center.

Several sawmills were in full swing by 1855. Norwegian, Irish, French-Canadian and German immigrants poured in to man the mills and farm the lands. This tough little lumbering community was on its way.

By 1857, one tiny village had developed on the west bank of the Chippewa River, while two others grew up on the north and south sides of the Eau Claire River. They were separated from each other by the waterways which were so vital to their survival. By 1860, their combined population had grown from a handful of people to over 2,000. The face of the community was changing, and so was its housing. Family homes, rooming houses, stores, hotels and bars sprang up, all built with narrow boards produced in the local mills. The log cabin was a thing of the past.

The settlements boomed, in spite of setbacks caused by frequent fires and floods and the devastating economic Panic of 1857. Stagecoaches and steamboats connected them with the outside world. Reliable bridges were built across the Eau Claire River in 1859 and the Chippewa River in 1869, and the first locomotives arrived in 1870. In 1872, the three original villages were incorporated as the City of Eau Claire.

In these early years, as in all periods, people's living quarters reflected their station in life. Workers lived in very plain houses, often beginning as two-room structures onto which additions were built as the family grew. Although similar in style and structure, the houses of families with more money were larger and more elaborate, proclaiming their owners' wealth and power.

Continued migration to the west created a growing demand for lumber, and the Eau Claire mills were ready to meet it. Millions upon millions of board feet of lumber were processed here and shipped out by rail over the next twenty years. In 1880 and 1885, the

mills of Eau Claire produced more than one-half of all the lumber manufactured in the Chippewa Valley.

During the 1880s, lumber barons and successful merchants, borrowing from architectural styles popular in larger cities, displayed their prosperity in the massive houses they built. Decorative extravagances reached new heights. Wings and bays protruded from the previously simple wood boxes. Parapets, turrets and pinnacles were common. New technology in saws and lathes made it possible for carpenters to create elaborate shapes, complicated roof lines and exquisitely crafted detail. Even modest housing had decorative touches.

By 1885, the population had swelled to 21,000. Eau Claire was Wisconsin's third largest city, twice the size of Madison. In 1889, it became the fourth city in the United States to have electric street cars. It seemed that the good times would never end.

By the beginning of the 1890s, however, the dreams began to fade. Reductions in lumber output, followed by mill consolidations and then closings, accompanied the continuing depletion of the timber resource. Between 1885 and 1890, Eau Claire lost twenty percent of its population.



Despite this reversal, Eau Claire was able to make the transition from lumbering to diversified manufacturing. By the early 1900s, locally produced items included mill machinery, small appliances, paper, sulphite, boots and shoes, office fixtures, furniture, sleighs, furs, boxes, refrigerators, candy, hams, linens, beer, mattresses and canned goods.

After 1910, and with a strong manufacturing base, Eau Claire saw steady population growth. The city began its move outward from the historic center at the river junction. For the wealthy industrialist and the worker alike, houses became smaller and styles simpler, a trend which would continue for many years.

In the 1920s, automobiles became popular; streets were extended and improved. The population climbed to 30,745 in 1940, 44,169 in 1970 and 51,509 in 1980. The city continued to grow in the late twentieth century, with an economy based more on business, service, education, and government than on manufacturing. In 2000, the population of Eau Claire was 61,704; by 2010 it had grown to 65,883.

The early settlers of Eau Claire are gone now, and so are many of the dwellings in which they lived. But they left architectural diversity. Their buildings, streets and neighborhoods are symbols of the vibrant enthusiasm with which our forebears viewed the future.

Early residents may have been unaware that sometime in the future people like you would go past their houses and derive both pleasure and education from them. We hope that this booklet will help you appreciate the fact that what we do today will affect what our children and grandchildren will experience in the years to come. If you wish to join us in our efforts to preserve Eau Claire's past, please contact the Eau Claire Landmarks Commission.

# symbols and styles

#### **Explanation of Symbols**

- Local Landmark: Properties with this symbol have received designation as Eau Claire Landmarks. As such, they are subject to certain restrictions concerning alteration, new construction, reconstruction or demolition.
- National Register of Historic Places: These properties have been nationally recognized as worthy of preservation but have not yet been locally landmarked. Listing on the National Register is primarily an honorary designation, however qualified restoration may be eligible for tax credits.

Local Landmark and National Register of Historic Places: Both designations have been awarded to these properties.

- Eligible for National and Local Register of Historic Places: A few structures have been determined worthy of National and Local Register status, but formal nominations have not yet been prepared.
- Eligible for Local Designation: Several properties have been identified as being eligible for local landmark status, but their property owners have declined the designation.

#### Local Landmark Historic District AndNational Register Historic District:

Historic Districts are limited areas which have a significant concentration of historic sites. Eau Claire has two types of historic districts, local and national. Their boundaries are similar but not identical. Local district boundaries tend to be somewhat larger than those of the national districts. The seven historic districts which have been identified in the city are the Randall Park Historic District, the Third Ward Historic District, the Emery Street Bungalow Historic District, the Roosevelt Avenue District, the Park Company Addition Historic District, and the Water Street Commercial Historic District.

#### What Style Is It?

Turrets, arches, stucco . . . just what is it that makes one style Gothic and another Art Deco?

People build private homes and public buildings which reflect the local climate and building materials; their ethnic, educational and occupational backgrounds; their wealth; and the skills of local artisans. The combination of these influences has varied over the years to produce strikingly different styles of architecture.

The Victorian Era: A series of Victorian styles, those which arose during the long reign of Queen Victoria in England, appeared in Eau Claire and the Midwest in the late nineteenth century. Gothic, Greek Revival, Romanesque Revival, Italianate, Second Empire and Queen Anne styles are all represented in Eau Claire. Instead of building exact historical replicas of the periods they were "reviving", the Victorians selected architectural features from these periods and combined them in innovative ways to create picturesque styles.

Twentieth Century: After the turn of the century some distinctly American styles began to emerge, including the Romanesque of Henry Hobson Richardson, the Prairie School of Frank Lloyd Wright and later the bungalow style. These styles are characterized by simpler architectural details and a horizontal look. At the same time, the Revival styles, more historically accurate than during Victorian times, were popular and were especially influential in public architecture.

The period between World War I and II saw the emergence of the International style, Art Deco, and Modernism, representing a conscious break with the various revival movements of the time and aiming for clean, simple lines and a "Machine Age" esthetic. In the midwest, the bungalow style enjoyed great popularity during this early part of the century. Gothic, Tudor, Colonial, Georgian, and Classical styles were in use as well. Again, these revivals were less fanciful than their early Victorian counterparts.

The period after World War II brought a series of even more "ordinary" residential styles such as the single-story Ranch and Cape Cod homes as well as a number of variations of these styles.

#### **Architectural Styles**

Until about 1900, American architecture was heavily influenced by European designs. Usually originating on the east coast, styles moved westward, often arriving several decades later in the midwest. The dates in this chronology correspond to the appearance of these styles in Eau Claire.

I House/Upright and Wing (1860-1880): Common house forms consisting of a two-story main block with a gable roof; Upright and Wing has an attached one or one-and-a-half story wing; I House is one room wide, two rooms deep and two or three stories high.

Greek Revival (1870s): Low-pitched roofs; simple massing, Greek columns running the full height of the building; transom and sidelights around main door.

Italianate (1870-1880): Tall, square structures; low-pitched hipped roof; wide eaves with large brackets; cupolas; quoins (corner blocks); long porches; window hoods and bays.

Victorian Cottage (1870-1890): Small one or one-and-a-half story houses with a simple plan and few stylistic details; picturesque appearance.

Queen Anne (1870-1900): Asymmetrical house shape; steep-pitched roof; towers; tall chimneys; projecting bays; encircling verandas; varied wall textures; porches of many sizes and shapes.

Gothic Revival/Carpenter Gothic (1870-1920): Steeppitched roof; wall dormers; polygonal chimney pots; hood molds over windows; pointed arches; gingerbread trim along eaves and gable edges.

Second Empire (1880-1890): Tall, symmetrical house, often with tower, mansard roof; arched openings; window hoods; quoins; bracketed eaves.

Stick Style (1880s): Tall, often asymmetrical house; steep roofs, clapboard walls with half timbered patterns, bracketed eaves.

Colonial Revival/Georgian Revival (1890-1930): Symmetrical facades, hipped or gambrel roof, dormer, classical cornice at the eaves, projecting central bay or porch with columns and pediment, many-paned, double hung windows.

Romanesque Revival/Richardsonian Romanesque (1890-1930): Heavy, plain stonework; broad roof planes; deep-set windows; large, round arched openings; simple massing.

Beaux Arts/Classical Revival (1900-1920): Large stone buildings; classical columns, often two stories high; projecting facades with pediments; tall parapet or attic story; enriched moldings; low-pitched roof (usually not visible).

Prairie School (1900-1920): Brick or stucco house; low-pitched roof with deep overhang; large low chimneys; casement windows grouped in horizontal bands; dark wood horizontal bands.

**Tudor Revival (1900-1925):** Irregular massing, steep roof, half-timbered brick or stucco walls, bargeboards in gables, Tudor-arched openings (flat, pointed arches).

Collegiate Gothic (1910-1930): Large, simple brick building; stone trim; double-hung windows; many Gothic details at main entrance, such as pointed arched openings, stone moldings; traceried windows, turrets. Typical of school and college buildings.

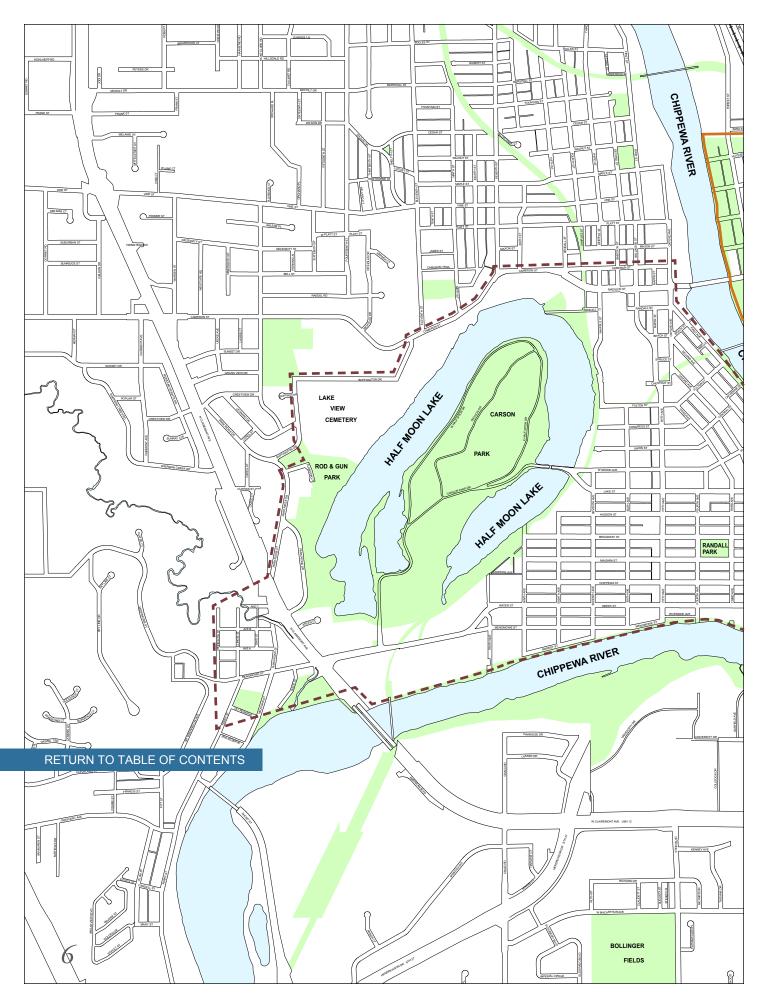
Commercial Gothic (1910-1930): Basic commercial structure with street facades of terra cotta tile work of Gothic pointed arches and tracery. Patterned after the Gothic skyscrapers of the 1920s and 1930s in New York, Chicago and other large cities.

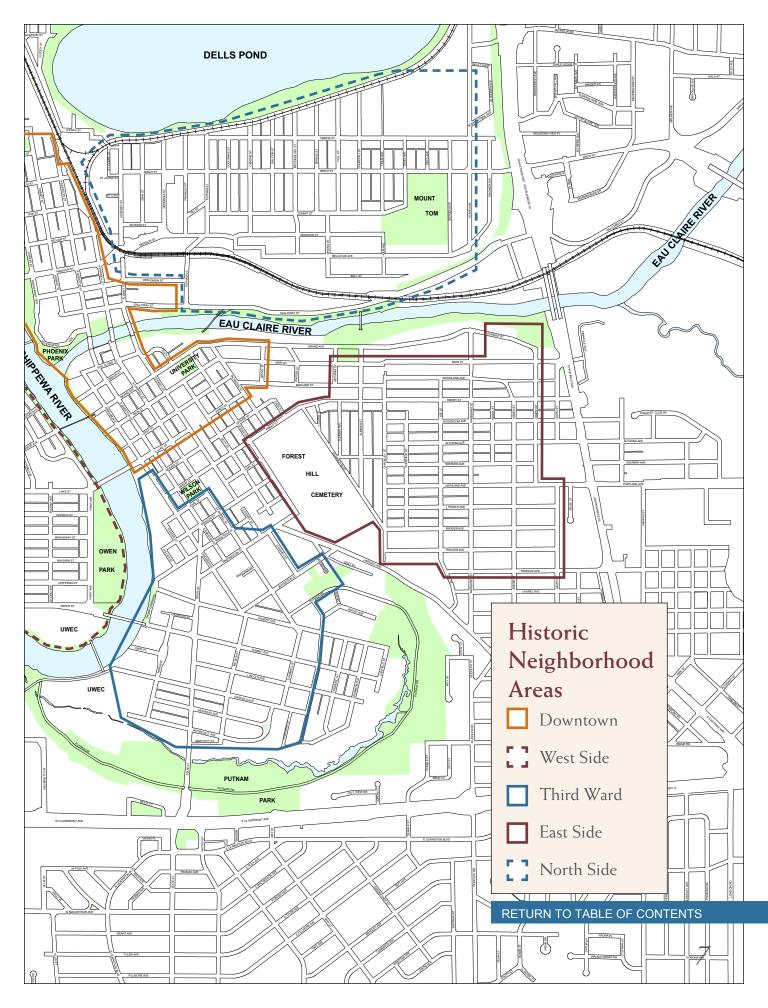
Bungalow Style (1910-1940): One-story house; gently-pitched gable roof with lower gable over small porch; exposed rafters; cobblestone or brick chimney.

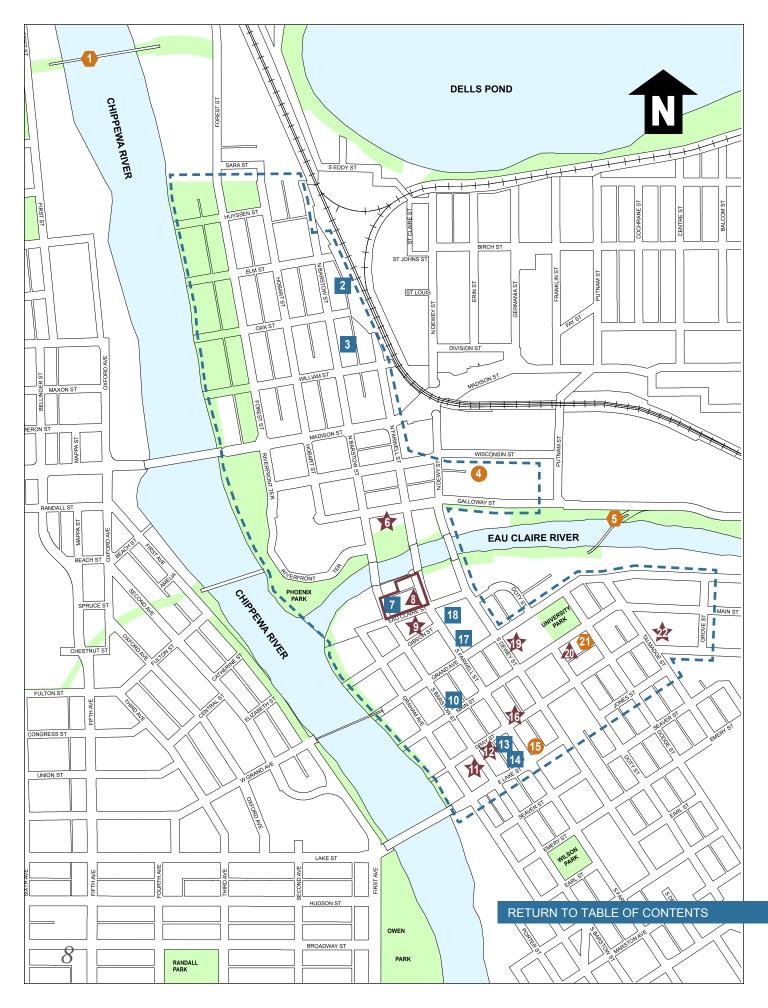
Art Deco-Moderne (1925-1945): Simple massing; horizontal window bands; Moderne has a streamlined horizontal look, while Art Deco is more vertical.

Ranch Style (1930-1970): This style originated in the United States the 1930s. Noted for its close-to-the-ground profile and minimal use of exterior decoration, this style gained in popularity during the 1940s to become the dominant style throughout the country during the decades of the '50s and '60s.

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#### Key

- Local Landmark
- National Register of Historic Places
- Local Landmark and National Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for National and Local Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for Local Designation
- Downtown AreaConfluence National RegisterHistoric District
- Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, & Omaha Bridge
- 2. John Walter House
- 3. Christina Eichert House
- 4. Andrew Ramstad House
- 5. Soo Line S-Bridge
- 6. Drummond Business Block

classical reviva

- 7. Cameron-Drummon -Slagsvold Building
- 8. State Theatre
- 9. Union National Bank (US Bank)
- 10. Eau Claire Masonic Temple
- 11. Federal Building
- 12. Union Auto Company
- 13. Christ Church Cathedral-Parish House
- 14. Christ Church Cathedral
- 15. Herman Schlegelmilch House
- 16. First Methodist Episcopal Church
- 17. Eau Claire Public Library (now part of City Hall)
- 18. Eau Claire City Hall
- 19. Eau Claire Senior High School
- 20. Darwin Whipple House
- 21. Hans Hanson House
- 22. Gilbert Gikling House

# downtown



Beginning as a collection of a few log houses, the downtown area readily expanded to meet the needs of the settlers who poured into this fledgling community. Eau Claire's first public school, built out of rough boards, was constructed in 1856 on what is now Barstow Street. The first post office stood nearby.

Barstow Street was also the center of the business district, which included banks, offices and hotels, in addition to a variety of retail establishments. Light manufacturing was limited to the streets bordering the rivers and the area north of the Eau Claire River. Just south of the river junction, the Hay Market provided a place for farmers to sell hay and other farm items. Dance halls, concert halls and theaters flourished.

Spreading outward from the business district were residential areas, with homes reflecting their owners' prosperity. To the north, modest homes and rooming houses accommodated the working class, many of who were German, Irish and Norwegian immigrants. Farther south lived the downtown merchants and their families.

The Confluence Historic District is a small collection of commercial buildings having a period of significance from 1881 to 1957. It is concentrated in Eau Claire's commercial core and represents diverse functions associated with the City transitioning from the post-settlement period to twentieth-century maturity. Due to its location to the southeast of the confluence of the Chippewa and Eau Claire Rivers, this area was the site for industry and commerce, attracting many local and out-of-thearea businesses. Architectural styles vary from the Romanesque Revival style of 15-21 South Barstow Street to the more simplistic more modern Art Deco design of the State Theatre.

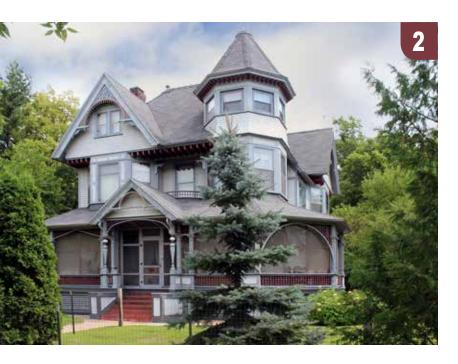
#### Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, & Omaha Bridge 1881, High Bridge

This six-span bridge is an iron lattice truss structure that spans 900 feet across the Chippewa River. It was constructed by the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Omaha Railway. The bridge is a rare example of this iron lattice deck truss design, of which few examples from the late 19th century remain. The bridge is also an excellent example of an iron bridge, a material that was replaced by steel around 1890.



The bridge is commonly known as the High Bridge because its deck is approximately 80 feet above the normal river level. The bridge was abandoned in 1992 and converted into a pedestrian bridge in 2015.

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#### John Walter House 605 North Barstow Street 1897, Queen Anne

Fourteen-year-old Johannes Walther apprenticed with a brewer in his native Germany. He and his brothers immigrated to the United States in 1874 and within a few years established breweries across Wisconsin. His first brewery, in Spencer, burned in 1889. The following year, Walter purchased the Empire Brewery in Eau Claire, which he renamed the John Walter Brewing Company. As the business prospered, the Walter family moved from their modest home at 628 North Barstow to this expensive residence.

# Christina Eichert House 527 North Barstow Street 1897-98, Oueen Anne

The Eichert House is a significant example of this popular late nineteenth-century style with its gables, bay windows, corner octagonal tower and sweeping veranda. Although a little smaller, this house is the same architectural design as the John Walter House at 605 North Barstow Street.

Christina Eichert, the sister of John Walter (see # 2), was a partner in the John Walter Brewing Company. She had lived in the house less than a year when she suffered a fatal heart attack in 1898 at age 38.

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#### Andrew Ramstad House

#### 627 Wisconsin Street 1893, Queen Anne

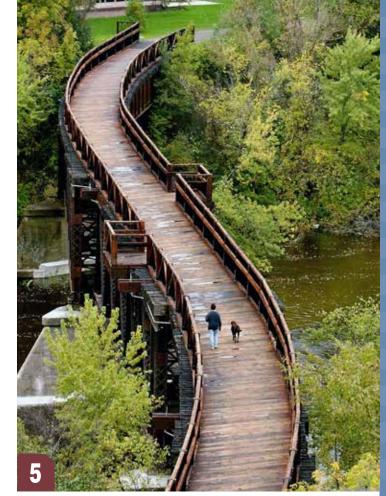
The Ramstad House is a fairly modest interpretation of the Queen Anne style relative to size, but is quite ornate with decorative detailing in the dormers, gables, porch and bay windows. The house is paired with the home to the east, which Andrew's brother John also built in 1893. This house, located at 633 Wisconsin Street extends the asymmetry of the Queen Anne style between the two homes.

Ramstad, a millwright, immigrated from Norway in the 1860's with his mother and brothers. He built this house in this predominately Scandinavian neighborhood where the First Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church was located across the street at the end of the block. The house remained in Ramstad ownership until 1974.

#### Soo Line S-Bridge 1910, Warren Truss Bridge

In 1910, this bridge was constructed to replace a previous wooden bridge and utilized the S-shaped configuration to span the Eau Claire River to connect the main line on the north side of the river to freight and passenger depots on the south side. The threespan bridge utilizes a Warren truss design and has the capacity of two 177 and a half ton locomotives. The massive timbers used to support the rails are still visible.

The Soo Line Railroad performed their locomotive servicing at the south end of the bridge until 1925, when their roundhouse at this location was destroyed by fire. The bridge continued to service the railroad until 1987 and the line was abandoned in 1991. The bridge was converted into a pedestrian bridge in 2002.



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#### Drummond Business Block

409-417 Galloway Street 1879-1884, Commercial Vernacular

The two-story Drummond Business Block consists of three buildings constructed between 1879 and 1884, but includes four storefronts. In 1910, the owners unified the appearance of the buildings by adding a pressed metal cornice and a brick veneer, covering the old façade.

This block is associated with several historic manufacturing, wholesale, and retail businesses, including most notably the Drummond Packing Company, Eau Claire Grocer Company, and the Farmers Store Company.

Born in Canada, David Drummond settled in Eau Claire in 1870 and soon after his arrival entered into the meat packing business. Additionally, Drummond was one of the founders of the Eau Claire Gas Light Company, and his business interests later expanded to include real estate development and furniture manufacturing.

#### Cameron-Drummond -Slagsvold Building

15-21 South Barstow Street, 1893-94,

#### Romanesque Revival

This structure features massive rough stonework at the basement and first floor levels and red brick on the upper two floors. Typical of this type of Victorian architecture are the round tower and decorative brickwork. This is the largest building in the city remaining from this architectural period.



The most prominent commercial tenant was the Chippewa Valley Bank, established by Byron Buffington (see # 87), H.C. Putnam, T.F. Frawley and A.H. Holen. Another important tenant was Samuelson's Department Store.

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# State Theatre 312-316 Eau Claire Street 1925, Art Deco

Designed by Minneapolis based architect/engineer and theater entrepreneur Joseph E. Nason, the State Theatre is a large two-story brick building built in the Art Deco Style, which is readily expressed in the building's interior. It is actually composed of two structures, one containing the theatre and the other having originally served as a bus station and the office and gallery for the Eau Claire Regional Arts Center.

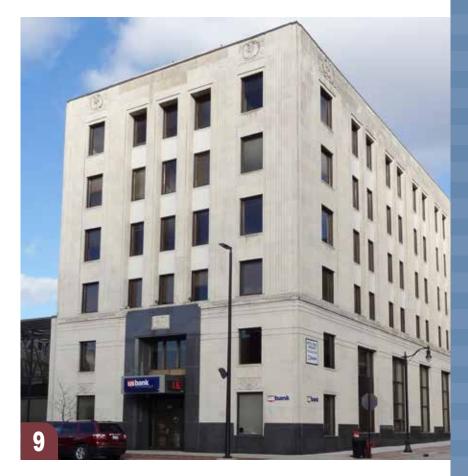
Built for \$315,000 as a vaudeville theatre, the State Theatre was one of nearly one hundred theatres built in the upper Midwest by the theatre enterprise of Finkelstein and Ruben. It was later

converted to a movie house, operating as such until 1982. It was donated to the Eau Claire Regional Arts Council in 1984. The renovated building reopened in 1986 to host theatre productions, concerts, and other community events.

# Union National Bank (now U.S. Bank)

131 South Barstow Street 1930, Art Deco/Moderne

This building was the city's primary example of Art Deco architecture and is the only major surviving building of its style. It represents the "modern" architecture that highlighted the central business districts of the nation's largest cities in the nineteen-twenties and thirties. The building was



designed by Burham Brothers, Inc., of Chicago. An architecturally compatible two-story addition was erected north of the main building in 1980.

The Union National Bank was organized in 1906 through the merger of two local banks, the Bank of Eau Claire (established in the early 1870s) and the Chippewa Valley Bank (founded in 1885). In 1929, First Wisconsin Bankshares obtained an interest in the bank. This additional backing enabled the Union National to survive the Great Depression, the only one of four banks in Eau Claire to do so.

The name of the bank was changed to First Wisconsin National Bank of Eau Claire in 1965, to Firstar Bank in 1994 and to U.S. Bank in 2002.

#### Eau Claire Masonic Temple

# 317-319 South Barstow Street 1899, Romanesque Revival

Located in the heart of Eau Claire's historic downtown commercial area, this building was constructed by the Masonic fraternity in 1899. The Masonic Temple is an excellent and mostly unaltered example of Romanesque Revival architecture and is one of the last surviving buildings of this style in the City. The interior is similarly well-preserved and features a curved first floor mezzanine and a second story balcony once used by the Masons.

The building was designed to accommodate the Masons occupying the upper floors of the building with access to their lodge from the Main Street side of the building. The first floor of the building has historically been used for retail including several furniture stores. The Masons moved out of the building in 1928, relocating to their present Graham Avenue location (see #66).



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#### Federal Building 500 South Barstow Street 1909, Neo-Classical

The Federal Building/U.S. Courthouse (formerly the U.S. Post Office Building) was constructed in 1909 at a cost of \$180,000. The three-story building is a classic example of Neo-Classical/Beaux Arts architecture that is similar in design to Eau Claire City Hall. An addition to the west side of the building was constructed in 1926.

The building was used as a post office until 1962 when a "new" post office was constructed on North Barstow Street. U.S. federal courtrooms and offices have occupied the building since that time.

#### Union Auto Company

505 South Barstow Street 1917, Commercial Style

The Union Auto Company building is associated with the early sales and service of the automobile and continued to be used for automobile related businesses until 1977. Constructed of reinforced concrete, the building features an elevator to allow for storage and display of autos in the basement, first floor and second floor.

The building was adapted to other uses starting in 1977 when the second floor was converted into apartments. The first floor was converted into a bar and restaurant in 1980, with the Acoustic Café occupying the building starting in 1995.

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#### Parish House, Christ Church Cathedral 510 South Farwell Street

510 South Farwell Street 1910, Tudor Revival

The Parish House, constructed with the church chancel in 1910, reportedly is patterned after Benham Abbey, Norfolkshire, England. On the ground level, three pairs of recessed windows contain the crests that document the history of the Episcopal faith.

#### Christ Church Cathedral

510 South Farwell Street 1910, Gothic Revival

Eau Claire's Episcopalians organized a congregation in the mid-1850s and first held a service in 1858. A frame church structure was completed on this site in 1875. In 1910, the present chancel and parish house were built adjacent to this original structure. Five years later, the frame church was dismantled and the present church nave was built. After the establishment of the diocese of Eau Claire, Christ Church was designated a cathedral in 1931.

Both the Cathedral and Parish House were the work of Purcell, Feick, and Elmslie, a prominent Minneapolis firm which designed churches, residences, and

public buildings in California, Connecticut, Massachusetts and the Midwest. (For other buildings designed by this firm in Eau Claire, see #45, #49 and #56). Perhaps its best-known public building is the Merchants National Bank in Winona (1912).



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#### Herman Schlegelmilch House

517 South Farwell Street 1871, Upright and Wing

Herman Schlegelmilch, an accomplished German gunsmith, immigrated to the United States in 1853 and settled in Eau Claire in 1860. He worked at his trade until 1866, when he built the first brick commercial building in Eau Claire at 217 South Barstow Street. He hoped it could survive the numerous fires that ravaged the "sawdust city" at this time.

Schlegelmilch purchased a frame house at 517 South Farwell Street in 1869, and in 1871 added

a two-story west wing, thought to be the first brick residence in Eau Claire. The main entrance faced Farwell Street. In 1906, three years after the death of Schlegelmilch's wife, his daughter Louise replaced the original framed portion of the house with a two-story brick addition. The entry was replaced by a bay window and moved from Farwell Street to Lake Street. Electricity and plumbing were installed at this time.

In 1977, Agnes Barland McDaniel, a Schlegelmilch descendant, donated the house to the Chippewa Valley Museum to be maintained as an example of an early merchant's home. The museum provides regular tours, special programs, educational classes and private functions, such as weddings, at the house.

#### First Methodist Episcopal Church

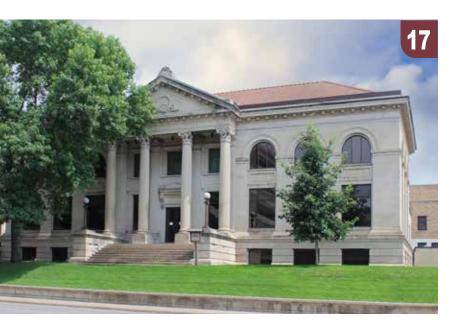
421 South Farwell Street 1911, Neo-Gothic Revival

Designed by the firm of Alban and Fisher from St. Paul, Minnesota, this building is one of five Neo-Gothic Revival buildings constructed in Eau Claire between 1911 and 1920. The church was originally built for the First Methodist Episcopal Church which occupied the building until 1930 when the congregation combined with the Lake Street Methodist Church located on the City's west side. Immanuel Lutheran Church then utilized the building until 1980 at which time they built a new church. The Unitarian



Universalist Fellowship then purchased the building and has since held services in the church.

The Neo-Gothic Revival style influences of the building include the Gothic arch transoms above the windows, the steeply pitched roofs and buttresses, pinnacles and battlements. The original Kimball and Company pipe organ, which was manufactured in Chicago at a cost of \$3,000, is still in the church.



# Eau Claire Public Library (Now part of City Hall) 217 South Farwell Street 1903, Classical Revival

Constructed with funds provided by philanthropist and steel magnate Andrew Carnegie, the Eau Claire Public Library was designed by Chicago architects Patton and Miller, who specialized in libraries, schools and collegiate buildings. Illustrating the style most commonly used for public buildings in the early twentieth century, this structure is among the earliest of 63 Carnegie-endowed libraries in

Wisconsin. Patton and Miller designed more than 100 such libraries around the United States, including the Mead Public Library (1904) in Sheboygan.

The building is constructed of buff and blue Bedford limestone. Above the portico is a sculptural element consisting of a wreath encircling an open book, an appropriate symbol for a library. In 1978-79, the library was attached to the City Hall and converted for use as a city office building.

#### Eau Claire City Hall

#### 203 South Farwell Street 1916, Beaux Arts/Classical Revival

Eau Claire's first City Hall was erected soon after the City was incorporated in 1872. The two-story brick structure stood on the northwest corner of Eau Claire and Farwell streets and contained both city offices and the fire station. The present building was constructed in 1916 at a cost of \$72,000. It was designed by George Awsumb, a former Eau Claire resident.

The architectural style of the City Hall is typical of civic buildings of the early twentieth century. The almost square two-story structure is constructed of buff Bedford limestone. Highlighting



the façade is a shallow projecting pavilion supported by four Corinthian columns. Large plates of glass have replaced the original multi-paned windows. In 1978-79, the City Hall was attached to its neighbor, the former public library building (see #17).

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#### Eau Claire Senior High School 314 Doty Street

1925 Collegiate Gothic

The Eau Claire Senior High School was designed by Edward Hancock, a local architect who also designed the former Boyd School (see #98) in the same style. The massive high school building is highlighted by the main entrance, which is treated as a medieval "keep." For many years, its hallways were the sites of lively after-school dances.

The construction in Eau Claire of a new, modern, and visually impressive high school in 1925 reflected the large growth in enrollment and elaboration of curriculum, which characterized secondary education in the

United States in the first half of the twentieth century. By 1939 most eighteen year-olds graduated from high school, and Eau Claire Senior High School enrolled 1,850 pupils. It served as the city's only high school until 1957. It was renamed Central Junior High School in 1962, and served as a junior high school until 1982, when the building was converted to administrative offices and storage space for the Eau Claire Area School District.

# Darwin Whipple House

603 Main Street 1876, Gothic Revival/ Italianate

This combination of architectural elements produces a pleasing and picturesque dwelling. The steeply pitched center gable, accented by lacy bargeboards, reflects the Gothic influence, while the stone window hoods and bay window are characteristic of the Italianate style. This was one of the earliest brick homes in Eau Claire. The original porch was removed in the 1940s.



Darwin Whipple was a captain in the Civil War. In 1870, he was part owner of the Otter Creek Woolen Mills. He later was a partner of Whipple and Dunn General Collecting and Loan Management.

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#### Hans Hanson House

611 Main Street 1885, Queen Anne

This house is a fine example of Queen Anne style architecture with fish scale shingles that can be seen in the gable ends and on the octagonal tower. A single-story porch with spindle work and a pent roof spans the main façade and the entrance is accented by bulbous columns.

The house was converted into three apartments in 1941.

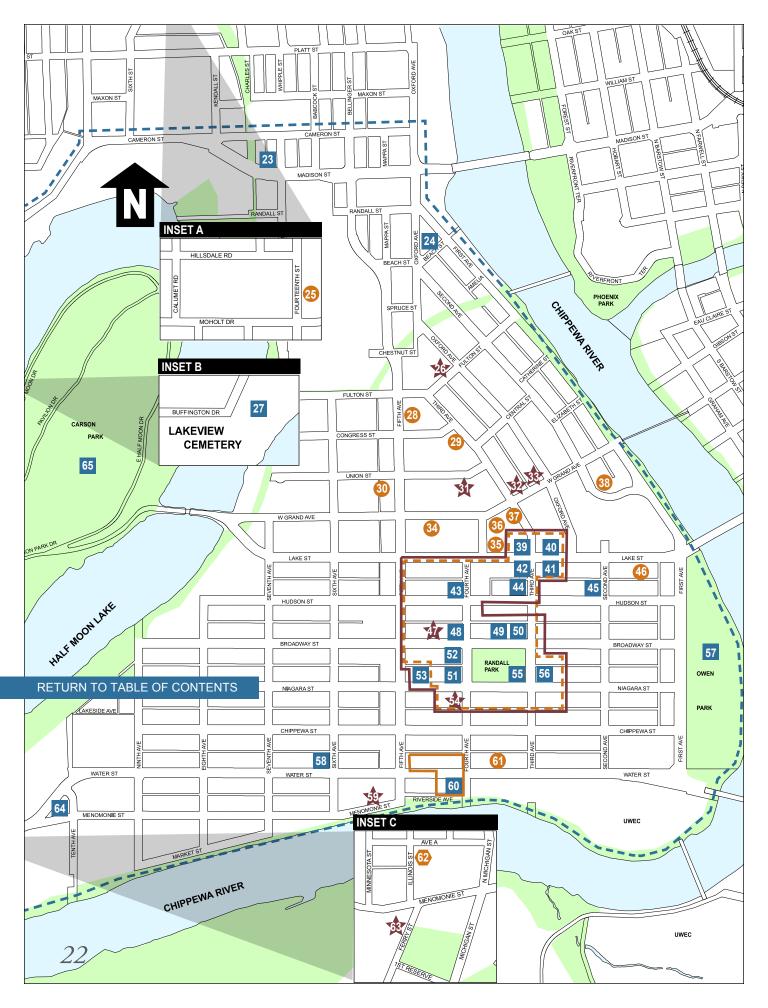


#### Gilbert Gikling House

421 Talmadge Street c. 1895, Queen Anne

This house exhibits many of the Queen Anne style characteristics and features including an asymmetrical façade with multiple gables, a combination of finishes that include clapboard and patterned shingles, and ornate turned and scroll sawn porch details.

Gikling worked in a lumber mill in Eau Claire and ventured on logging expeditions to the northwoods. In 1910, he worked as a filer with the Linderman Box and Veneer Company. The house was still in the Gikling family in 2002.



#### Key

- Local Landmark
- National Register of Historic Places
- Local Landmark and National Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for National and Local Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for Local Designation
- ---- West Side Area
- ----- Randall Park Local Landmark Historic District
- Randall Park National Register
  Historic District
- Water Street National Register
  District
- 23. Waldemar Ager House
- 24. Eau Claire Vocational School
- 25. Andrew and Anna Moholt House
- 26. St. Patrick's Church
- 27. Hoover Memorial Chapel
- 28. Charles and Aurora Susie Mittlestadt House
- 29. Herman T. Lange House
- 30. Asa Forman House
- 31. Charles L. James House
- 32. Clarence Chamberlin House
- 33. Salsbury Row House
- 34. William Christian Reinhard House
- 35. Maria Gans House
- 36. Elias Tarrant House
- 37. McDermott House
- 38. Frederick Woltersdorf House
- 39. Henry C. Van Hovenberg House
- 40. Mrs. Dewitt Clark House
- 41. Charles Ingram House
- 42. Edmund Hayes House
- 43. George Coghlan House
- 44. C.A. Bullen House
- 45. J.D.R. Steven House
- 46. Emma and Benjamin Stephanson House
- 47. George Johnson House
- 48. W.W. West House
- 49. Community House, First Congregational Church
- 50. First Congregational Church
- 51. First Baptist Church
- 52. John Pinkum House
- 53. Alvah Congdon House
- 54. Daniel M. Dulaney House
- 55. Adin Randall Statue
- 56. First Congregational Church Parsonage
- 57. Donald "Sarge" Boyd Bandshell
- 58. Ottawa House
- 59. Adin Randall House
- 60. Pioneer Block
- 61. Hutchinson's Saddlery (The Joynt Tavern)
- 62. King's Daughters Hall
- 63. Levi Merrill House
- 64. Kaiser Lumber Company Office
- 65. Carson Park Baseball Stadium

west side

brairie school



Adin Randall platted the area from Grand Avenue south to the Chippewa River in 1856. Locally know as Randall Town, the level tract of land included parcels for a park, cemetery and church. Just to the west of the village site was Half Moon Lake, a former oxbow of the river which lumbermen used as a log storage pond.

At the foot of Half Moon Lake were three of Eau Claire's principal lumber producers, the Daniel Shaw Lumber Company, the Empire Lumber Company and the Valley Lumber Company. As these mills prospered, a substantial business district developed along Water Street. Hotels, bars, rooming houses and a variety of retail establishments served the local residents and the travelers who arrived by steamboat at the end of Fourth Avenue.

The lumbermen built their homes within a comfortable carriage ride of their business interests. They shared the residential area with a cross section of the West Side's business and professional community and its working class. Generally, the economic elite clustered near Randall Park, the focal point of the neighborhood. Those of more modest means tended to reside closer to Half Moon Lake and in the blocks immediately north of Water Street.

Today, a cohesive core of this neighborhood forms one of the historic districts in the city. The Randall Park Historic District features numerous distinguished examples of late nineteenth-century architecture complemented by smaller homes with fine twentieth-century designs.

The Water Street Historic District located in the 400 block of Water Street is a distinctly separate commercial area from Eau Claire's downtown. Located along the Chippewa River, it was mostly built between 1882 and 1885 after a fire in 1882 destroyed the buildings. The buildings display design and ornamentation typical of brick two-story commercial buildings of the late nineteen century. The north side of the block exhibits some aspects of Commercial Italianate style, while the south side provides a mix of Victorian and Vernacular Commercial styles. The Pioneer Block building is individually listed on the National Register.

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#### Waldemar Ager House

514 West Madison Street 1892-94, Victorian Cottage

This distinctive dwelling is lavishly ornamented by handmade and machined detail provided by the original owner-carpenter, Brady Anderson, locally known for his carving ability. Within the gable at the front of the house are elaborately carved floral and leaf designs.

Waldemar Ager, a leading member of Eau Claire's Norwegian community, was editor of the Norwegian-language weekly *Reform*, and had a byline for the *Minneapolis Tribune*. He augmented his newspaper work with lectures on both temperance and Norwegian-Ameri-



can affairs. His literary output included short stories, essays, two short novels and a history of the 15<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, all written in Norwegian. His novel *Sons of the Old Country* is set in Eau Claire and tells the story of the conflicts of Norwegian immigrants with their Irish co-workers and English bosses. His son Trygve, also a writer, has translated it into English. Waldemar Ager's writings earned him recognition from the King of Norway, the Norwegian Society of America and the Norwegian Literary Association. He died in Eau Claire in 1941.

The Ager House was moved to its present site from 429 Chestnut Street in 1994. It is maintained by the Waldemar Ager Association.

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#### Eau Claire Vocational School

1300 First Avenue 1891, Commercial Vernacular

This building was constructed for the Eau Claire Trunk Company in 1891 which used it as a factory for making leather goods until its bankruptcy in 1921. Several short-term tenants occupied the building until 1941 when it was purchased by the City of Eau Claire and the Eau Claire Vocational School began operating out the building. The building was renovated to accommodate the Vocational School which included classroom space and dormitories.

The Vocational School, later the Chippewa

Valley Technical School moved to a new facility on Clairemont Avenue in 1967 and the building was then occupied by the City's Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department. The building also provided community meeting spaces and facilities for various non-profit organizations. The Parks Department moved out of the building in 2010 and the building was converted into apartments in 2015.

# Andrew and Anna Moholt House

2425 Fourteenth Street 1921, Craftsman Bungalow

This Craftsman Bungalow which was constructed by Andrew and Anna Moholt is similar to several bungalows found in the Eastside Hill Neighborhood. Bungalows became very popular in the 1930's and were most commonly constructed by middle class people with a preference towards convenience and simplicity.

Andrew Moholt immigrated to Eau Claire from Norway in 1881 and worked alternatively in construction in the summer, and during winters as a cook in logging camps. Shortly after his mar-

riage in 1886 to Anna Arntson, also an immigrant from Norway, he began raising fruits and vegetables. As his business grew, he became known as the "apple king" of the mid-northwest, with the largest orchard in the State employing at times as many as one hundred workers.

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# St. Patrick's Church

322 Fulton Streetc. 1885, Gothic Revival

Highlighted by numerous lancet windows, St. Patrick's is the oldest remaining church building in Eau Claire and one of the few examples of monumental nineteenth-century architecture in the city.

Missionaries from nearby Chippewa Falls brought Catholicism to Eau Claire in the 1850s. The first church building was erected on North Barstow Street and served the congregation until 1882. In that year, a new frame church was built on the present site. It was destroyed by fire in 1884, and this impressive brick structure replaced it.

#### Hoover Memorial Chapel

Lakeview Cemetery 1936, Neo-Gothic Revival

Designed by John Tilton of Armstrong, Furst and Tilton from Chicago, this chapel was built at a cost of \$25,000 and was financed by Fannie Hoover Buffington, in memory of her parents. The chapel retains excellent integrity and was refurbished by members of Christ Church Cathedral in 2001.

The chapel lacks the ornamentation of Neo-Gothic Revival buildings built before 1936, but retains many of the noted features of this style such as the random ashlar construction, buttresses, Gothic-arched openings and a rose window.

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#### Charles and Aurora Susie Mittelstadt House

1011 Fifth Avenue1921, American Foursquare

This house is an excellent example of American Foursquare style house, the most common of the sub-types of the Prairie Style popularized in the twentieth century by Frank Lloyd Wright. Typical characteristics include the irregular square footprint, symmetrical primary façade, low-pitched hipped roof, three-hipped dormers, and full-width front porch.

Charles Mittelstadt was a prominent businessman within the community with the H.T. Lange Grocery Company (see #29) and was very involved in activities and organizations within Eau Claire.

#### Herman T. Lange House

930 Third Avenue 1901, Queen Anne

Herman T. Lange was President of the H. T. Lange Company, which was a wholesale grocery and fruit business that was located at 202 Graham Avenue. Lange also was on the board of directors for the Union National Bank (presently U.S. Bank) and served in the Wisconsin State Senate from 1921 to 1929.

The Lange House is a significant example of

the Queen Anne style and is distinguished by the partially enclosed gables, bay windows and a classically inspired veranda featuring dentils and paired columns. In addition, it features steeply pitched roof gables with pointed arch openings and transoms above the doors and windows, which are made from cut glass and stained glass.

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#### Asa Forman House

519-521 Union Street c. 1895, Stick Style

Asa Forman, an electrician, built this Stick Style house around 1895 and lived there until 1903 when a sawyer from the Daniel Shaw Lumber Company, Frank Bruell purchased the house. The house is a duplex although it is difficult to ascertain whether the house was originally built as two units. Records show double occupancy by 1912.

The house has an asymmetrical floor plan, original wood siding, a wide band of trim below the cornice and above the foundation and decorative mullions incorporated into the windows.

# Charles L. James House

#### 411 Union Street 1874, Victorian Cottage

Born in 1846 in Germany, Charles L. James settled in Eau Claire with his family in 1865. Leading the quiet life of scholar and writer, he became a nationally recognized influence in the anarchist movement in the United States. James contributed to a number of anarchist publications including *Free Society, Lucifer the Lighthearer* and *Mother Earth*. In the community he worked as a journalist, was one of the founders of the public library and served one term on the City Council.



Well-known figures within the anarchist community described him as "the most learned American anarchist" and "one of the most striking figures" in the movement. James also lectured on temperance (a popular topic in Eau Claire) and religious issues and was a prominent figure in the city's waterworks strike, where he advocated non-violence and stressed the importance of labor unions. He died in Eau Claire in 1911.

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#### Clarence Chamberlin House

#### 322 West Grand Avenue 1882, Second Empire/Queen Anne/Classical Revival

This house represents the evolution in residential architectural styles between 1881 and 1904 from the Second Empire to Queen Anne/Classical Revival, reflecting the changing tastes of the period. Constructed in Second Empire style in 1881, it was remodeled circa 1904 as a result of fire caused by a lighting strike. The remodeling added many fine elements of the Queen Anne/Classical Revival style. The original mansard roof, for example, was replaced by intersecting shingled gables.

Clarence Chamberlin settled in Eau Claire in 1856 and worked for the Ingram and Kennedy Lumber

Company as a salesman. The firm was reorganized as the Empire Lumber Company in 1881 and Chamberlin served on their board of directors. He also served on numerous boards until his death in 1911.

#### Salsbury Row House 302-310 West Grand Avenue 1891, Queen Anne

The Salsbury Row House is a two-story, wood frame, five-unit structure that was originally built for James F. Salsbury, an early Eau Claire lawyer and land developer. It is a well preserved example of a late Victorian, Queen Anne style row house, usually found in larger cities on the east and west coasts. In Wisconsin, they are rarely seen outside of Milwaukee. The Salsbury Row House has been historically owner-occupied, with the owners residing in the corner unit, which possesses a larger floor plan and higher style design than the four other dwelling units in the building.



The building has an asphalt shingle mansard style roof, light blue-colored horizontal aluminum siding and an exposed ashlar limestone foundation. The exterior walls are punctuated by symmetrical double hung and fixed pane windows with contrasting white trim. Functional and stylistic elements include single and multi-story bays, decorative gables and scrollwork, pent roofs and a tall ornamented brick chimney.

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#### William Christian Reinhard House

459 West Grand Avenuec. 1900, Queen Anne

This house was built by William Christian Reinhard who moved to the Eau Claire area in 1858 from Milwaukee. While in Milwaukee, Reinhard established the Milwaukee Mechanics Mutual Fire Insurance Company, served in the State Assembly and started the first brass band for the Milwaukee Rifle Company. Reinhard died in 1887 and his obituary states that he started the first brass band in Eau Claire.

A son, William Jr., a contractor, lived in the house until his death in 1931. The house remained in the Reinhard family until 1968.

#### Maria Gans House

### 719 Fourth Avenue 1891, Victorian

The Maria Gans House is a significant property in the City as it is an example of housing constructed specifically for the purpose of providing rental housing in the community. Until that time, few dwellings were specifically constructed to be rented to the occupants. Maria Gans was the wife of William Gans who was listed as a laborer in the city directory. She had the house constructed in 1891 after her husband's death in 1888.

Its simplified "Victorian" architecture includes some of the detailing typically found on this style, but not as ornate as what is generally found on such housing constructed for owner-occupied purposes. The house has been owner-occupied at various times since the 1930s.







#### Elias Tarrant House

#### 415 West Grand Avenue 1895, Queen Anne

The front composition of this house is far more formal and decorative than the private faces of the building. The front porch is quite ornamented with its center roof gable, turned wood columns, and shallow arches to support the roof and decorated side bays. Several other houses in the neighborhood replicate the features of the Tarrant House.

Elias Tarrant, a lumberman associated with the Dick Wilson Mill, and his wife Eliza were the first owners of this house. They sold it to William Gans, whose widow Maria lived here until about 1900. The subsequent owner was Thomas McDermott, a Civil War veteran of the 6th Minnesota Infantry, who became a railroad manager and timber scout. McDermott and his wife lived at 403 W. Grand and maintained 415 and 417 West Grand as rental properties.

#### McDermott House

#### 403 West Grand Avenue 1886, Queen Anne

An excellent example of the Queen Anne style, this house was built in 1886 by Thomas McDermott, a local lumberman and businessman. Its asymmetrical façade features a round tower at the corner of the house, along with a curved porch that wraps around the house on two sides.

McDermott originally moved to Eau Claire in 1866 and worked in the lumber industry as both an explorer and a scout. He worked for a number of lumber enterprises and later retired and began to buy and sell lumbered parcels in Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin. He was also the superintendent of the Chippewa and Menomonie Railroad for two years.



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#### Frederick Woltersdorf House

## 751 Second Avenue 1893, Queen Anne

Woltersdorf immigrated from Germany in 1858 and moved to Eau Claire in 1874 where he worked in a bookbindery and a barbershop before becoming a partner in a cigar manufacturing business with Charles West in 1891. The West-Woltersdorf Cigar Store was located at 771 First Avenue. Frederick and his wife Mary had one daughter, Hazel. Hazel became the principal of Bartlett (Third Ward) School and resided in the home after her parents' deaths.

The front of this late Queen Anne residence is dominated by a Classically inspired porch consisting of a rusticated masonry base supporting substantial Ionic columns. The Classical elements include large urns at the ends of the stair which are repeated in a small side entry on the south.

#### Henry C. Van Hovenberg House

310 Lake Street 1872, Queen Anne

Altered at least twice in the 1880s, this house retains elements of its typical late nineteenth century simplified Queen Anne look.

Henry Van Hovenberg settled in Eau Claire in 1856 and worked as a carpenter, joiner and millwright. With F.J. Mills he established the *Chippewa Valley News* in the 1860s. An active participant in the organization of the town government, Van Hovenberg also engaged in the implement business and in real estate ventures.

This house suffered a major fire in 2010 and was rebuilt in 2011.

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#### Mrs. Dewitt Clark House

244 Lake Street 1897, Classical Revival/ Queen Anne

The two-story colossal columns, which support a pediment-like gable, are typical of this style of architecture. The building has remained essentially unchanged except for the addition of a full second-story balcony on the Lake Street side. Dewitt Clark settled in Eau Claire in 1862 and was a banking partner of Orrin H. Ingram. Clark died in 1882, and his wife Nancy later built this house. In 1919, the house was sold to H.D. Davis.

# Charles Ingram House 617 Third Avenue 1899, Colonial Revival

This residence is believed to have been designed by St. Paul architect Cass Gilbert. Gilbert's nationally known work included the Minnesota State Capitol (1904) and the Woolworth Building in New York City (1913).

Charles Ingram, the eldest child of lumberman Orrin H. Ingram, was born in Eau Claire in 1858. He held a succession of positions within his father's Empire Lumber Company, and in particular was responsible for maintaining the supply of good draft animals that was essential to the logging industry.

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#### Edmund Hayes House 620 Third Avenue 1900, Classical Revival

Edmund Hayes was the husband of Miriam Ingram Hayes, daughter of Orrin H. Ingram and sister of Charles Ingram, whose home is across the street. The large Queen Anne home (no longer standing) of Orrin Ingram and his wife Cornelia was nearby at the corner of Third and Hudson. Hayes left his medical practice and became a partner in the O.H. Ingram Company, which was established in 1906 to manage the Ingram family's investments.

The Hayes house shares features with that of Charles Ingram (see # 41), and is also believed to have been the work of Cass Gilbert. A central main entrance and symmetric features, including Ionic columns on the Hayes house and Corinthian ones on its companion, characterize both houses. The Hayes house, however, has a curved semi-circular portico with a low balustrade, while the Ingram house's porch is rectangular.

#### George Coghlan House

606 Fourth Avenue c. 1867-1881, Stick Style/Queen Anne

George Coghlan built the original structure on this site. In 1873, Ethan Ellen, a riverboat captain, added a section. I.K. Kerr, owner and operator of several lumber camps in northern Wisconsin, bought the home in 1881 and completely renovated it. Two stick style porches on the front and back of the house were added at that time, along with a pulpit style stairway landing and trim work on the interior of the house.

The Coghlan house was the first landmark in Eau Claire, designated in 1975.

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# C.A. Bullen House 606 Third Avenue

606 Third Avenue 1889, Queen Anne

Soon after his brother-in-law Daniel Shaw established his fledgling lumber company, C.A. Bullen arrived in the Chippewa Valley. He was a partner and president of the Shaw Lumber Company, which operated until 1912, and served on the first Eau Claire City Council and as a director of the Eau Claire Railway Company.

Bullen's wife died in 1863. Subsequently, he married her sister, after whose death he married a third sister. He died in this house in 1921 at the age of 95.

### J.D.R. Steven House

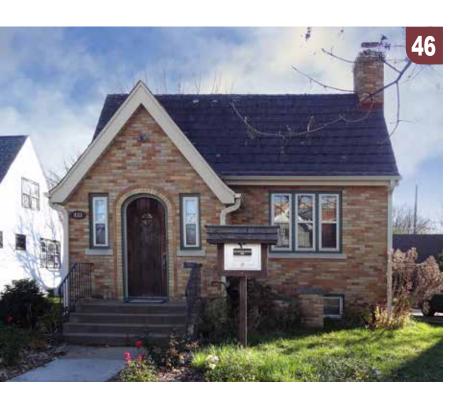
606 Second Avenue 1909, Prairie School

This house was designed by Purcell and Feick of Minneapolis (see #14, #49 and #56). Its living spaces are arranged around a central hearth, which emphasized the open floor plan. Low-pitched roofs, projecting porches, simplified leaded glass windows and low horizontal lines meant to blend with the surrounding landscape are typical of Prairie School houses.

J.D.R. Steven was part owner of the Eau Claire Book and Stationary Company.

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# Emma and Benjamin Stephanson House

133 Lake Street 1930, Tudor Style Bungalow

The Emma and Benjamin Stephanson House is a unique example of a small workman's home. The house is architecturally significant as an example of Tudor-style bungalow architecture, of which few examples exist in Eau Claire. The design elements of the house pay homage to the large and imposing Tudor manor houses and bungalows built by Eau Claire's lumber barons in the late 19th and early 20th century.

Constructed in 1930, Emma and Benjamin Stephanson lived in the house for forty years until 1970. Benjamin worked at Huebsch Laundry, formerly located on North Dewey Street.

### George Johnson House

414 Broadway Street 1889, Queen Anne

This house is a beautifully preserved example of this grand architectural style, with numerous balconies and elaborate wall-texture detailing. The enclosed porch once wrapped around the side of the house. A large carriage house completed the picture.

George Johnson was vice-president of the Eau Claire Roller Mill Company and later secretary of the Eau Claire Grocery Company.

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### W. W. West House 404 Broadway 1865-1885, Gothic Revival

The steep gabled roof of this structure suggests Gothic architecture, yet the house has Italianate ornamentation over the windows.

W.W. West built part of this house in 1865. In the 1880s, S.S. Kepler, a mayor of Eau Claire who was associated with Kepler Dry Goods Company, purchased, enlarged, and remodeled the property. Mrs. Roy Mitchell bought the property in 1912.

# Community House First Congregational Church

310 Broadway Street 1915, Prairie School

Cornelia Ingram, a church member and wife of prominent lumber baron Orrin Ingram (see #41), provided the funds for construction of this building. It was designed by Purcell and Elmslie of Minneapolis (see #14, #45 and #56) and has suggestions of the Gothic Revival as well as the Prairie School. It has a broad street-facing gable, characteristic of several of the firm's other buildings at this time. Its stained-glass windows and other decorative features show Elmslie's style.



As long-time associate of Louis Sullivan, George Elmslie had been responsible for the decoration of numerous important American buildings, including the Carson-Pirie-Scott department store in Chicago (1899, 1904) and the National Farmers Bank, Owatonna, Minnesota (1908). He also designed dining room furniture for the Eau Claire home of A.J. Keith (108 Emery Street, no longer standing), which is now in the collection of the Minneapolis Institute of Art.

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## First Congregational Church

310 Broadway Street 1919-21, Gothic Revival

The First Congregational Church was established in 1856. The original church building, a small structure of rough boards, was erected in the central business district. Its first minister, A.A. Kidder, was influential in the early history of Eau Claire. In 1858, a larger church building was completed on this site, which was donated by Adin Randall (see #55 and #59). A fine stone structure replaced it in 1887 and served the congregation until it was destroyed by fire in 1918.

The present Gothic church was completed in 1921. The chapel was added to the north side in 1954, replacing an attached Sunday school building. The congregation is now First Congregational-United Church of Christ.

### First Baptist Church

### 416 Niagara Street 1912, Georgian Revival

The Baptist congregation in Eau Claire was organized in 1861 and built a church in 1868, which was enlarged later in the nineteenth century. The present stone structure replaced the original building in 1912. George Stair, pastor of the congregation at the time of the church's construction, designed this dignified building, a fine example of Georgian Revival architecture. The present steeple replaced an original dome-like structure. That dome, along with the church interior and the original stained glass windows at the sides of the building, were destroyed by fire in 1935. The windows at the front of the building, however, were saved.

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### John Pinkum House

### 420 Fourth Avenue 1889, Second Empire

Built in 1859, this home was almost completely redone in 1889. The mansard roof puts this house in the Second Empire style with a strong Queen Anne influence. It contained a third floor ballroom, a common feature in houses of this scale.

John Pinkum came to Eau Claire in 1855 as a carpenter, joiner and mill-wright. In 1862 he erected a mill, which he operated in partnership with Ingram & Kennedy and which later became the Empire Lumber Company. He managed his mills until his death in 1899.

### Alvah Congdon House

434 Niagara Street 1875, Greek Revival/Italianate

This house has a low-pitched roof with prominent gables trimmed with moldings. Decorative pilasters with finial trim overhead frame the front door. Stained glass windows once surrounded the door.

Alvah Congdon, a carpenter for Valley Lumber Company, built the home in the period immediately after the Civil War. Congdon's daughter Mary married William H. Lamb, who was the first editor of the *Daily and Weekly Leader*, predecessor to the *Leader-Telegram*.

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# Daniel M. Dulaney House

326 Fourth Avenue 1888, Queen Anne

A three-story circular tower with conical roof, added between 1891 and 1906, distinguishes this irregularly massed residence. Renovations have also removed several original features, including a porte-cochere on the south side.

Missouri lumberman Daniel M. Dulaney became a partner with Orrin H. Ingram in the Empire Lumber Company, which had its main office and sawmills in Eau Claire. Formed in 1881, the company operated until 1899, when the local lumber industry was in decline due to depletion of timber resources. Dulaney and his wife lived in this house until 1910, when they built a magnificent home at State and Garfield (no longer standing).

### Adin Randall Statue Randall Park 1913

New York native Adin Randall, at age 26, was already a successful Madison contractor and builder. He and his family arrived in Eau Claire in 1855, where he was engaged to build a large hotel. His Eau Claire House was situated approximately at the junction of Farwell and Eau Claire Streets, with its stables at the northeast corner of Eau Claire and Barstow.

Randall recognized the value of the vast timber resources and was quickly caught up in the excitement of this thriving little lumber town. At one time he owned much of the present West Side.

One of Eau Claire's most colorful early settlers, Randall was a man of unusual, perhaps reckless, energy and daring enterprise. It is said that he started or suggested more business ventures than any other man Eau Claire has known. One of his most lasting contributions was his success in persuading such important lumbermen as O.H. Ingram to settle in Eau Claire and win their fortunes from the "limitless" pine forests of Wisconsin.

As a token of his faith in the future of the city, Randall donated parcels of land for Randall Park, a portion of Lake View Cemetery, a Methodist Seminary and the First Congregational Church. He planned to build his home where the Eau Claire County Courthouse now stands, but that dream would not be fulfilled.



After a series of business setbacks during the difficult years of 1857 through 1860, Randall lost his West Side property. He died at Reed's Landing in 1868 at thirty-nine years of age.

This bronze statue in the center of Randall Park was designed by Wisconsin's most celebrated sculptress, Helen Farnsworth Mears. It was commissioned and dedicated by O.H. Ingram in memory of a remarkable man.

The City of Eau Claire constructed a new pedestal for the statute in 1990. The new pedestal replicates the materials, size and design of the original.

# First Congregational Church Parsonage

403 Third Avenue 1915, Prairie School

This building was designed by Purcell and Elmslie of Minneapolis, the most prolific architectural firm working in the tradition of Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie School (see #14, #45 and #49). It is an example of that firm's work in the area of small and relatively inexpensive residences. Purcell and Elmslie designed numerous such homes in the newly developing middle class neighborhoods of southwestern Minneapolis in the decade before World War I, most notably the Purcell-Cutts House (1913).



The widow of Peter Truax, an 1855 settler and lumberman, donated the land on which the parsonage was built. She and her husband had been active members of the First Congregational Church.

The church no longer owns the residence. Its façade was significantly altered in the mid-twentieth century.

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# Donald "Sarge" Boyd Bandshell

Owen Park 1937-38, WPA Project

The Donald "Sarge" Boyd Bandshell was constructed at a cost of \$10,000 in 1937-38 from funding provided by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The Bandshell is located in Owen Park, which was donated to the City in 1913-14 by John S. Owen, a prominent lumberman and civic leader.

City Engineer Alex Garnock drew up plans for the structure based on plans of other bandshells located in the Upper Midwest. The bandshell is named after Donald "Sarge" Boyd who became

the director of the Eau Claire Municipal Band in 1929. Boyd came to Eau Claire to take the position of director of the high school band and orchestra. His enthusiasm and dedication for music was well known throughout the community as he organized many patriotic events, weekend concerts and other festive occasions. Boyd served as the director of the Municipal Band until 1984. He died in 1985. The Bandshell was dedicated and renamed in his honor in 1992.

### Ottawa House

### 602 Water Street 1882, False Front

During the mid- to late-1800s, numerous saloons and rooming houses on Water Street catered to lumber mill workers and steamboat passengers. The Ottawa House was a combination saloon and residence constructed after the 1882 fire which destroyed many of the structures in the commercial Water Street District. Among its recorded owners are Napoleon Lalonde (1885) and Leon Perrier (1898), suggesting a connection with the French-Canadian population that worked in the large mills nearby.

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### Adin Randall House

### 526 Menomonie Street 1862, Upright and Wing

Adin Randall, one of Eau Claire's first settlers and boosters, enthusiastically promoted the community's advantages as a lumber center (see #55). This typically modest 1860's house was built near his small sash and door factory and planning mill, located on the Chippewa River at the foot of Ninth Avenue.

Randall operated an early ferry across the Chippewa River, providing a link with settlers in the downtown area. Along with other

lumbermen, he developed the natural log storage facility available in Half Moon Lake. To simplify the channeling of logs, Randall invented the shear boom, a remarkable device that used the force of the river to divert logs into Half Moon Lake, drastically cutting losses during floods. Old pilings from the boom can be seen behind Hobb's Ice Arena when the river is low.

### Pioneer Block

401-409 Water Street 1882, Victorian Commercial

This is the most prominent historic structure in the Water Street business district. The existing building replaced the original wooden one, which was destroyed by the Fire of 1882. A spark from a passing riverboat ignited refuse behind the building and the resulting fire destroyed seventy-three shops and houses. Within a year, the owners rebuilt this structure, which included two drug stores, a bookstore, two gen-



eral stores, a doctor's office and a bakery and candy store. The cost was approximately \$20,000.

Special architectural features of the Pioneer Block include decorative brickwork, original metal storefront components and pressed tin roof caps. The Pioneer Block was restored with federal funds and dedicated as a landmark in August, 1984.

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# Hutchinson's Saddlery (The Joynt Tavern)

322 Water Street 1869, Italianate

Originally constructed in 1869, this building was occupied by a variety of businesses in the early years including a saddlery and harness making business, automobile tire business, women's clothing shop, used furniture store, and a meat market. Purchased by George W. Farrell in 1945, the building was converted into a tavern, which it continues to be today. The building was eventually purchased by William "Bill" Nolte, in 1973, after which it became known as the Joynt.

From 1974-1990, the Joynt offered live music to audiences. Nolte was able to book five to twelve live music performances a year, picking up nationally known acts that were traveling between the Twin Cities and Milwaukee/Madison/Chicago.

### King's Daughters Hall

125 Illinois Street 1927

The Shawtown Circle of the International Order of the King's Daughters was organized in 1901 with 18 members to assist the sick and needy in the community. The organization constructed the meeting hall in 1927, mostly with labor donated by members and their husbands.

The building was also used as a polling place and the Unitarian Church held services there for many years. The organization's membership



peaked with 190 members, but by 1935 membership had declined to about 75 persons. The King's Daughters disbanded in 1990 and the Baptist Evangelical Fellowship now owns the building.



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### Levi Merrill House

120 Ferry Street 1873, Gothic Revival/Italianate

Originally an upright and wing house, this dwelling combines both Classical and Gothic elements in a picturesque composition. The original owner, Levi Merrill, was a noted stone mason who had his quarry at Mt. Washington, just west of this site. He lived in Eau Claire as early as 1867, when he cut the stone pedestal for a sundial which once stood at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Water Street.

This is the major remaining period structure in Shawtown, once a lumber company town located between Half Moon Lake and the Chippewa River. Although nothing remains of the Shaw mansion, stable, boarding houses or lumber mill, the Sanford Fire Insurance Atlas of 1888 depicts in detail the spatial arrangement of the original town. It extended from just east of Carson Park Drive westward to beyond Minnesota Street. Daniel Shaw's mansion was located on the riverbank just west of Michigan Street.

### Kaiser Lumber Company Office

1004 Menomonie Street 1905, Vernacular Commercial

The Kaiser Lumber Company office is historically significant as one of the few remaining buildings directly associated with the large-scale lumbering which was central to the economy of late nineteenth and early twentieth century-Eau Claire.

A realignment of Menomonie Street in 1999 resulted in what had been the rear of the building coming to face the street.

Organized in 1905, Kaiser was the last lumber company established in the city. Headed by John Kaiser, it owned 16,700 acres and timber-cutting rights to

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another 21,200 acres in the Chippewa Valley. By 1911, it shipped twenty railroad cars of lumber out of the city each day. In 1913, Kaiser purchased the Daniel Shaw Lumber Company. After this expansion, the company employed 350 men and sawed between 150,000 and 175,000 feet of lumber daily. Its Eau Claire facilities occupied 46 acres in the lumber district at the south end of Half Moon Lake and included sawmills, a box factory, dry kiln, lathe mill, planning mill, power plant, and lumber yards. As a byproduct to lumber production, the company manufactured boxes utilizing timber not suitable for building purposes. By 1917, box manufacturing dominated the company's business. The cessation of production in 1939 marked the end of the final phase of the lumber industry in Eau Claire.

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### Carson Park Baseball Stadium

Carson Park 1936-37, WPA Project

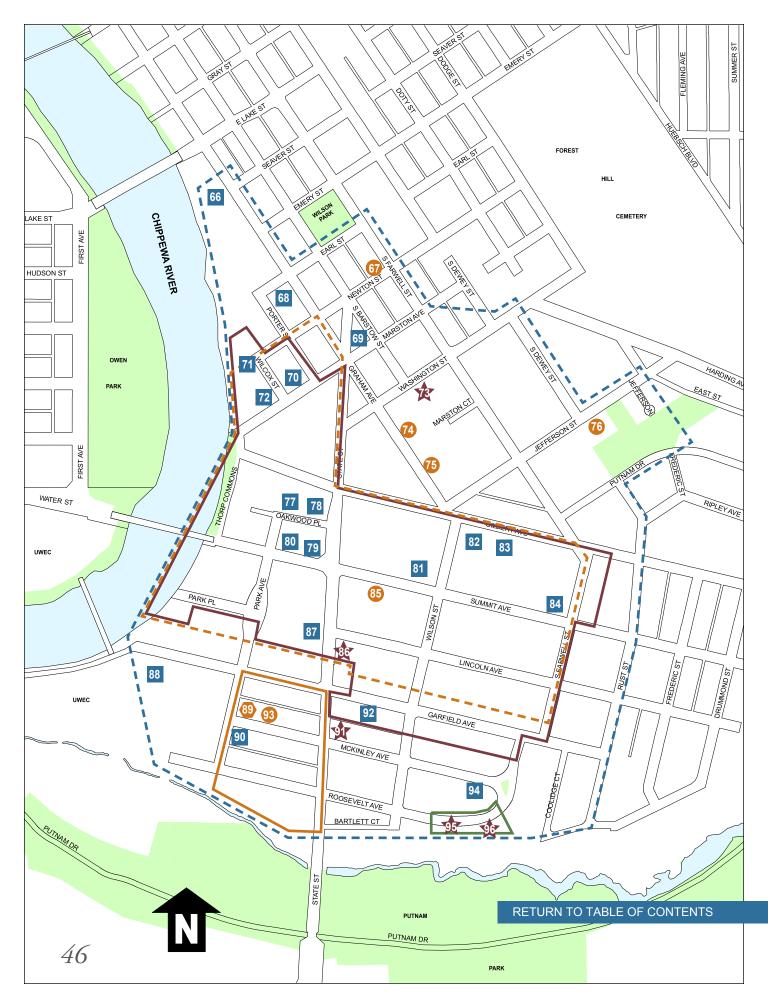
The Carson Park Baseball Stadium is a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project that was built in 1936-37 for professional minor league baseball that was becoming popular in Eau Claire at that time. The stadium is located in Carson Park, which is a 134-acre community park that was donated to the City in 1915 by the heirs of William E. Carson, a prominent lumberman and banker.

The stadium was built for \$60,000. The sandstone for the stadium was quarried at Downsville, WI, about 25 miles away.

The stadium was the first permanent home of the Eau Claire Bears, a minor league team that was affiliated with the Chicago Cubs. In 1954, the team became the Eau Claire Braves and was affiliated with the Milwaukee Braves. A number of players that played for the Bears went on to play in the major leagues, including: Henry Aaron, Andy Pafko and Bob Uecker. The Braves remained in Eau Claire until 1962, when the team was forced to quit operating.

Today, the stadium plays host to several baseball teams and numerous events are held there throughout the summer. In 1998, the City completed a major renovation of the stadium and constructed a plaza area in front of the stadium.

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### Key

- Local Landmark
- National Register of Historic Places
- Local Landmark and National Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for National and Local Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for Local Designation
- - Third Ward Area
- Third Ward Local Landmark Historic District
  - Third Ward National Register Historic District
- Park Company Addition
  National Register Historic
  District
  - Roosevelt Avenue National Register Historic District
- 66. Temple of Free Masonry
- 67. Dean Griffin House
- 68. John S. Owen House
- 69. Bradley Marcy House
- 70. James Barber House
- 71. Roy Wilcox House
- 72. Orlando Brice House
- 73. Martin Van Buren Barron House
- 74. Elijah Swift House
- 75. Chris Kinney House
- 76. Otto Demmler House
- 77. George Winslow House
- 78. Addison Cutter House
- 79. David Drummond House
- 80. William K. Galloway House
- 81. Delos Moon Jr. House
- 82. Sumner Moon House
- 83. William Bailey House
- 84. D.A. Cameron House
- 85. Cornelius Webster House
- 86. N.B. Rundle House
- 87. Byron Buffington House
- 88. Schofield Hall
- 89. Lewis Phillips House
- 90. James Wickham House
- 91. Pearl Chambers House
- 92. A.L. Kenyon House
- 93. Herman D. and Frieda White House
- 94. William Schwahn House
- 95. Owen Ayres House
- 96. Nels Werner House

third ward

second embire



This tree-lined neighborhood, nestled between the downtown and the university campus, recalls a prosperous Eau Claire at the end of the nineteenth century.

Once the city's most prestigious neighborhood, the Third Ward was home to successful business and professional leaders, including lumber barons, bankers, politicians, lawyers, doctors and architects. Although a number of the earliest homes have been demolished, several impressive examples of late nineteenth-century architecture remain, reflecting the wealth and accomplishments of their owners. Other houses in the area, though not as grand, were certainly substantial and stylish residences.

The Third Ward Historic District, which includes a large portion of the neighborhood, has as its focal point four exceptional Queen Anne houses located on Oakwood Place. Architecturally, the district provides an impressive array of styles from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The Roosevelt Avenue Historic District is a small concentration of large-scale residences that display a variety of architectural styles and retains good integrity. The residences were built in the late 1920s and 1930s. Two properties within this district are individually eligible for the National Register.

The Park Company Addition Historic District includes the residential area in the southwest corner of the Third Ward. It includes 39 properties that were constructed from 1907 to 1952. The district contains an impressive collection of houses from the first half of the twentieth century representing a shift in styles from Colonial Revival to Art Moderne to the Ranch style. Most of the houses in the district are associated with the City's professional, commercial, and industrial leaders.

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### Temple of Free Masonry

616 Graham Avenue 1927, Neo-Classical

Edward Hancock, an English architect who lived in Eau Claire from 1915 until his death in 1930, designed the Masonic Temple. The building was built in 1927 and is one of the finest examples of this style in Eau Claire. The building is constructed of Indiana limestone and is a symmetrically designed two-story structure that is characterized by a colossal pedimented portico in the Doric order.

The Temple of Free Masonry was organized in Eau Claire in 1857 when seven lumber and business leaders petitioned the St. Croix Lodge #56 in Hudson, WI to organize. The lodge received

its own charter as the Eau Claire Masonry Lodge #112 in 1859. The lodge met in several buildings until 1927 including its former site located at 317 South Barstow Street (see #10).

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The interior spaces retain their original layout and decorations. The interior features a large auditorium on the first level and two lodge meeting rooms that are ornately decorated.





# Dean-Griffin House

920 South Farwell Street 1885, Queen Anne

This house, a robust interpretation of the Queen Anne style, comprises a red brick first story and shingled upper stories and gables. The somewhat irregular plan disguises a highly formal suite of rooms on the main floor.

William Dean worked for the Graham & White Sash and Door Company, which became Phoenix Manufacturing. He worked as general manager and eventually vice

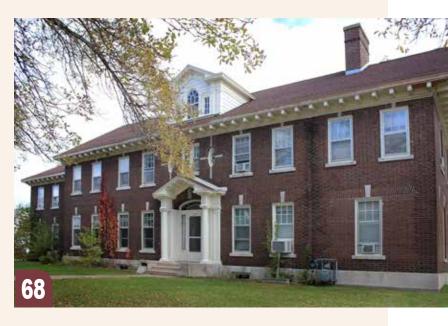
president. Michael Griffin, a former State Senator and City Attorney, purchased the house in 1893. Griffin was a First Lieutenant and served under General William T. Sherman during the Civil War and was wounded in the battle of Bald Hill. He died in 1899; Governor Edward Schofield and other state dignitaries attended his funeral.

The house was purchased by Deborah and Daniel Freund in 1998 and converted into an attorney's office.

### John S. Owen House 907 Porter Avenue 1923, Colonial Revival

John S. Owen married Cora Rust, the daughter of a Michigan lumber baron who owned 37,000 acres of land in the Eau Claire area. In 1873, they moved to Eau Claire where he was initially employed by Henry Putnam, agent for or part owner of much of the best pineland on the Chippewa River.

Through his connections with Putnam and his position in the Rust family, John S. Owen became one of Eau Claire's most powerful lumber barons. In 1913-14, Owen donated land along the Chippewa River for a city park, now known as Owen Park.



This house, Owen's second residence, was converted to a five-family apartment building in 1948. There has been an addition to the north side. Owen's first residence, a massive brick and frame structure, had been located across the street. A portion of the cedar block driveway leading to its carriage house still remains, although the house itself was demolished, about 1940.

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# Bradley Marcy House (Cobblestone House)

### 1011 State Street 1866, Gothic Revival

Settlers from New York brought cobblestone architecture with them to southeastern Wisconsin. This house is the only example of cobblestone architecture in the Chippewa Valley. The setting of the pebbles in mortar seems more like the work of a jeweler than that of a mason.

Bradley Marcy, a stonemason and the original owner of the house, had these cobblestones gathered by wheelbarrow from the confluence of the Eau Claire and Chippewa Rivers. Dr. Charles

Hogeboom added the left annex of the house, which appears to have been crafted by the same stonemason, in about 1879. An original L-shaped porch, which graced the front of the house, was removed in the 1950s.

### James Barber House 132 Marston Avenue 1903-04, Tudor Revival

This brick and stucco residence is characterized by decorative half timbering, steeply pitched gable roofs and bargeboards, the most significant of which is ornamented with exquisitely carved detail. Fashionable Minneapolis architect Harry Wild Jones designed this residence.

James Barber was a prominent lumber baron who settled in Eau Claire in 1886. He was president of the Northwestern Lumber Company until his death in 1926. On average, Northwestern Lumber produced 38 million board feet of lumber each



year between 1883 and 1903. As the timber supply dwindled, the company made adjustments, converting its logging railroad for passenger use, establishing the American Colonization Company to encourage settlement of its cutover lands and securing an interest in the Linderman Box and Veneer Company. Barber was also a director of Eau Claire's National Bank and the National Electric Manufacturing Company and president of the Eau Claire County Historical Society.

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### Roy Wilcox House 104 Wilcox Street 1915-16, Georgian Revival

Roy Wilcox was a prominent politician active in both state and local government during the early twentieth century. A native of Eau Claire, Wilcox was a trial lawyer who practiced in the community from 1897 to 1946. He spearheaded the legislation providing for the commission form of government adopted by Eau Claire in 1910. Wilcox served as state senator from 1917-1920. He died in Eau Claire in 1946.

### Orlando Brice House

120 Marston Avenue 1918, Georgian Revival

This stately residence is the most significant example of this style of architecture in Eau Claire. Three pedimented dormers project from the sloping roof surface and encompass rounded windows. A semi-circular Doric portico identifies the main entrance.

Orlando G. Brice was the treasurer and general manager of the

Wisconsin Refrigerator Company, an Eau Claire firm noted for its production of the "Wisconsin Peerless" refrigerator. Brice and his family resided in the house until 1934.





### Martin Van Buren Barron House

221 Washington Street 1871, Carpenter Gothic

One of the most striking remnants of Eau Claire's early decades, this picturesque residence was constructed by Eau Claire builders Bangs and Fish. Highlighting the steeply pitched gables are scalloped bargeboards, which became popular in the late nineteenth century with the advent of mass production of wood trim. The wraparound porch was common for houses in the Victorian era and served as a center for social activities.

Martin Van Buren Barron settled in Eau Claire in 1865 and initially oper-

ated a flour and feed store. From 1878 to 1891 he worked for the Rust-Owen Lumber Company (see #68). In 1872, he was elected a member of the first City Council of Eau Claire, representing the lower Third Ward.

### Elijah Swift House

1233 Graham Avenue 1883, I House/Stick Style

This simple style was common in the 1800s and was typical of working class city neighborhoods and rural areas of the Midwest. This home was originally located at 615 Graham Avenue and was used as a kindergarten until 1887 when Kate B. Hardy converted it into the Hardy School for Young Ladies and Children. The school was closed in 1890, the same year the structure was moved to its present location.



Moving large houses was not uncommon in the late nineteenth century. Eau Claire's William Palmer listed his occupation on the 1900 United States Census as "contractor, house moving." Structures to be moved were rested on logs and pulled by several teams of horses.

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### Chris Kinney House 1229 Graham Avenue 1911, Craftsman Bungalow

This small house exemplifies the modest philosophy at the core of the Craftsman style. Situated in a block of two-story homes, this single story home hugs the ground with its brick base and low eaves providing a very horizontal feel with few vertical elements in its composition. The roof features purlins that are exposed at the gable ends of both the porch and main roofs and the eaves have a very thin expression with the rafter tails exposed.

Kinney was the secretary and treasurer of the Kinney Motor Car Company that was incorporated in 1917. The dealership was located at 420 South Barstow Street and featured such car models at the Mitchell, Oakland and Maxwell. The company was sold in 1923 and Kinney then started working as a travel agent. By this time, there were eleven car dealerships

in Eau Claire!

### Otto Demmler House

435 Jefferson Street 1887, Classic Revival

This Classic Revival style house is actually characterized by a combination of styles including Queen Anne with its two-story clapboard siding and massing and an influence of Colonial Revival with its detailed veranda and porch expressed by its triangular pediment, slim Doric porch columns and simplified moldings.



Otto Demmler and his brother Edmund started a florist and seedsman business at 427 Oxford Avenue. In 1887 Otto built this house and relocated the florist business to the rear of the home and built six greenhouses totaling over 6,000 square feet. The land on which the Demmler greenhouses stood became Demmler Park in 1992.

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### George Winslow House 210 Oakwood Place 1889, Queen Anne

Carrie Foster, daughter of a prominent lumbering and railroad businessman, married George Winslow in 1889. Mr. Winslow published the *Woodsman Journal* and manufactured and distributed to the lumbermen of northern Wisconsin patent medicines known as "camp remedies," including magnetic oil liniment, magnetic bomb, and blood purifier. The basic ingredient of all was alcohol.

Middle class Victorians commonly purchased modestly priced mail order house plans designed by architects. This plan was purchased from Tennessee architect George F. Barber. An unusual feature of the house is the distinctive chimney, which frames a window.

# Addison Cutter House

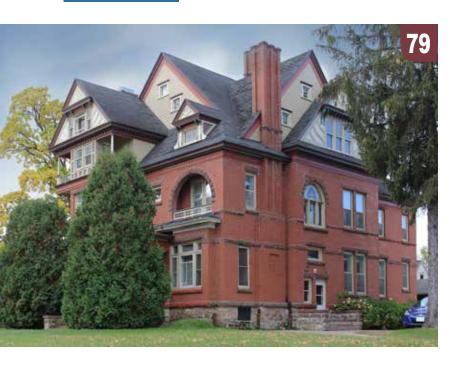
1302 State Street 1885-89, Queen Anne

This massive house exterior has an immense variety of woodcarvings, arcades, cantilevered gables, porches and various leaf patterns in its wood siding. Houses of the Victorian era typically had several tall, elaborate brick chimneys. The more elegant homes, such as this one, had their own private ballrooms on the third floor. Guests arrived at the porte-cochere on the south side.

Addison Cutter, a shoe retailer and owner of a boot factory that manufactured a distinctive type of boot for lumberjacks, built this house. Cutter's boots, constructed chiefly by German and Norwegian cobblers, were famous

for their quality and comfort and were in great demand. Cutter was also a director of the Union National Bank (see #9) and was actively involved in community affairs. His widow, Belle, lived here until her death in 1943.

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# David Drummond House

1310 State Street 1888, Queen Anne

Characteristic of the late nineteenth century, this house style features steep gables, multiple stories, intricate woodwork, many porches and a third floor ballroom.

Canadian-born David Drummond came to Eau Claire in 1870 and established the Brooks and Drummond meat packing firm, Eau Claire Gas and Light Company, a real estate company and later, the Pioneer Furniture Company. He conducted much of his business in the Drummond Block, a commercial and office building he erected in 1893 at Barstow and Wisconsin Streets.

# William K. Galloway House 213 Oakwood Place 1888-89, Queen Anne

This is a fine brick example of the Queen Anne style. It is a three-story house with four extending gables. The major feature on the west façade is a tall, slightly projecting chimney with recessed panels, one



of which is inscribed with the date "1889." The original open porch emphasized the vertical lines of the house and was replaced in 1917 by one with horizontal lines. Occupying the third floor is a spacious ballroom with its original wainscoting.

William K. Galloway, an agent for the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, built the house. In addition to selling insurance, Galloway also handled abstracts of titles and loans. Mrs. Galloway was the first president of the Eau Claire Women's Club.

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### Delos Moon, Jr. House 1328 Wilson Street 1905-08, Colonial Revival

This large brick structure, surrounded by a spacious lawn and wrought iron fence, reflects the early twentieth century desire for a traditional form in a comfortable and spacious setting.

Moon's father, Delos, Sr., came to Eau Claire as a banker in 1857 and was soon involved in the lumber industry (see #82). Delos Moon, Jr., was a partner in the Linderman Box and Veneer Company, which was organized in 1895 by A.T. Linderman and the Northwestern Lumber Company. In 1902, after the death of Linderman, Moon purchased and became president of the company.

### Sumner Moon House

1307 Wilson Streetc. 1904, Georgian Revival

This elegant brick structure was altered somewhat in 1945 when a complementary addition was added at its east end. When the home was built, the Doric portico facing Gilbert Street and the open porch surrounding it served as the main entrance. A carriage house is located behind the residence.

Sumner Moon, a prominent businessman in Eau Claire, was the president of the Northwestern Lumber Company, which was established in 1863 by his father, Delos Moon, Sr., and his

father's partner, Gilbert Porter. Sumner Moon was also president of the Gillette Rubber Company, a tire manufacturing business established in 1917 which operated, successively, as U.S. Rubber, Uniroyal, and Michelin until closing in June, 1992.

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# William Bailey House

415 Gilbert Avenue 1874, Upright and Wing/Italianate

This is an excellent example of ordinary housing in middle class neighborhoods in the mid-1870s. Originally covered with narrow wooden clapboards, the house has been resided with asbestos shingles.

William Bailey, who owned a paint store on Graham Avenue and was a house painter, built the house. Josiah Cass, the last veteran of the Civil War in the county, purchased the house in 1886. For 68 years he operated a drug store at 315 Barstow Street and helped to organize the Grand Opera House Company in Eau Claire.

### D.A. Cameron House 470 Summit Avenue 1885-88, Second Empire

Architect, contractor and builder D.A. Cameron erected this house for his residence and the adjacent house for resale. Because of their mansard roofs, both houses are characteristic of the Second Empire style. The walls are clapboard sided and unadorned except for decorative stick work. An 1890 photograph shows the porch extending around the square tower, which originally featured paired bays and a roof with a rounded convex surface.

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### Cornelius Webster House

333 Summit Avenue1881, Victorian Cottage

Brick veneer on a one-story L-shaped house such as this was unusual for Eau Claire in the 1880s. The selection of the building material reflected the occupation of the owner, Cornelius Webster, who was a bricklayer and contractor. A veranda supported by columns and a trefoil in the main gable provided some detail for Webster's home. He sold it to Henry Van Hovenberg in 1891 (see #39). Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Larson purchased the home in 1951.

### N.B. Rundle House 1501 State Street

1501 State Street 1885, Queen Anne

This carpenter's home is an example of late nineteenth century Eclectic Architecture, reflecting elements of the Queen Anne, Italianate and Stick styles.

Later occupants included Edward Kidder, son of the first pastor of the First Congregational Church (see #50), Percy Atkinson, secretary/treasurer of the *Leader* Publishing Company, and Ralph Owen, son and business associate of John S. Owen (see #68). From about 1925-48 it was the residence of funeral director Oscar Lenmark.

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# Byron Buffington House

1500 State Street 1890, Queen Anne

Except for the simplified upper porches, this house appears much as it did in the 1890s. A prominent feature is the cut-stone foundation, characteristic of Victorian houses.

Buffington arrived in Eau Claire in 1856, when he was five years old. The family lived in a log house. His father, George, operated a steamboat and a sawmill that later became the Valley Lumber Company.

Byron Buffington engaged in logging for several years and involved himself in a number of local enterprises, including the Eau Claire Grocery Company, the Chippewa Valley Bank, and the Chippewa Valley Light and Power Company, which later became Northern States Power Company and then Xcel Energy. He donated land overlooking Half Moon Lake for Lakeview Cemetery. His widow, Fanny Hoover Buffington, left the house to the Episcopal Diocese of Eau Claire as a home for the aged. It served this function until March 2001 and was converted into four apartments in 2010.

# Schofield Hall 105 Garfield Avenue 1914-16, Collegiate Gothic

Schofield Hall represents the origin and foundation of what is now the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. The 'Old Main' first housed the Eau Claire State Normal School, which prepared teachers for positions in the public schools. One hundred forty girls and eighteen boys registered in 1916. Old Main was their entire campus as it contained all classrooms, laboratories, administrative offices, a model school, a gymnasium, the library, and the auditorium. Today it is the administration



building for the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, which enrolls more than ten thousand students.

The building is named for Harvey Schofield, first president of the normal school. The brick used in its construction came from Danville, Illinois, and the stone from Downsville, a small community in Dunn County southwest of Eau Claire.

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### Lewis E. Phillips House

### 1615 Park Avenue 1940, French Provincial

A massive high-pitched roof of slate caps this two-story residence, which is the only example of this style in Eau Claire. Decorative elements include dentils, lintels, a recessed main entry, diamond pane windows and an oriel window above the entrance door.

Lewis Phillips moved to Eau Claire in 1918 and opened a branch of the Ed Phillips and Sons Company, which was a distributorship of newspapers, magazines, tobacco products, candies and liquor. In 1941, Phillips founded L.E. Phillips Charities. Phillip's charitable organization funded many health and educational organizations in the community and a number of buildings bear his name. In 1942 Phillips founded National Presto Industries.

### James Wickham House

1705 Park Avenuec. 1926, Colonial Revival

This two and half story white stucco residence displays decorative elements of classical and Spanish influence. The main façade is dominated by a combination of a classical portico and French doors in window bays. Three dormers rest on the gabled roof and feature arched caps with end flares.

James Wickham, an attorney, established the well-known firm of Wickham & Farr and served as City Attorney in 1897 and from 1899 to 1905. He also served as a circuit court judge until 1944.

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### Pearl Chambers House

1615 State Street1928, Colonial Revival

The main façade of this Colonial Revival residence is dominated by a classical style portico of six Doric columns and two pilasters. Sidelights and a fanlight window surround the main entrance door.

Edward Hancock (see #19, #66, #96 and #98) designed this house for the owners Pearl and Eva Chambers. Pearl was vice-president of the New Dells Lumber Company, which was located on the Chippewa River to the north of Madison Street. The influence of the lumber industry can be seen in the interior of the house where decorative woodwork is featured.

### A.L. Kenyon House 333 Garfield Avenue 1915, Bungalow

This rather elaborate bungalow was typical of a high-income neighborhood in the early 1900s. The contrast of stucco and shingle surfaces, the prominent horizontal framing and the use of exposed rafters form an exceptional composition which identifies the building as an architect's rather than a builder's project. More modest versions of bungalows can be seen in the Emery Street Bungalow District on the East Side Hill (see #100).

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# Herman D. and Frieda White House

212 McKinley Avenue 1929, Vernacular/Tudor Revival

This house is locally important as an excellent example of Tudor Revival architecture with vernacular influences, and for its association with Herman D. White, a prominent business and civic figure in Eau Claire. Herman D. White and his brother Henry owned and operated White Machine Works until 1966, which was important in assisting in Eau Claire's transition from a lumber economy to a manufacturing economy.

Herman White was also heavily involved in community affairs, serving as the president of the Board of Directors for Luther Hospital and donating generously to the Boy Scouts and YMCA. White also participated in local government, serving as Eau Claire City Council President from 1949-1955.

Mr. White made significant contributions to Eau Claire's strong baseball identity as he was instrumental in starting the Northern Baseball League, a Class D minor league and helped Eau Claire secure a baseball club in this league. Herman White was inducted into the Eau Claire Baseball Hall of Fame in 2008.

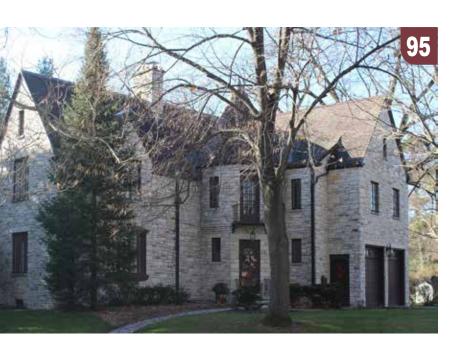
# William Schwahn House

447 McKinley Avenue 1928, Georgian Revival

One of the finest examples of the Georgian Revival Style in Eau Claire, the Schwahn House exemplifies the characteristic features of the style and retains its original integrity. Schwahn was the vice-president of Schwahn-Seyberth, a saddlery that operated a large factory on Wisconsin Street. Schwahn's father, William E. Schwahn, was a well-known Eau Claire citizen, belonging to the Schuetzen Society where he was a celebrated rifleman.

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### Owen Ayres House 415 Roosevelt Avenue c. 1937, Tudor Revival

This Tudor Revival style residence features an entrance tower with a cone-shaped roof at the center of the main façade. The two-story, L-shaped house includes wall dormers and paired casement windows, and the exterior wall materials consist of irregularly cut, rectangular, limestone blocks with a smooth face.

Ayres, a civil engineer, was first employed in 1919 by the Eau Claire Sand and Gravel Company, which supplied materials for road building. He became president of the company by 1928.



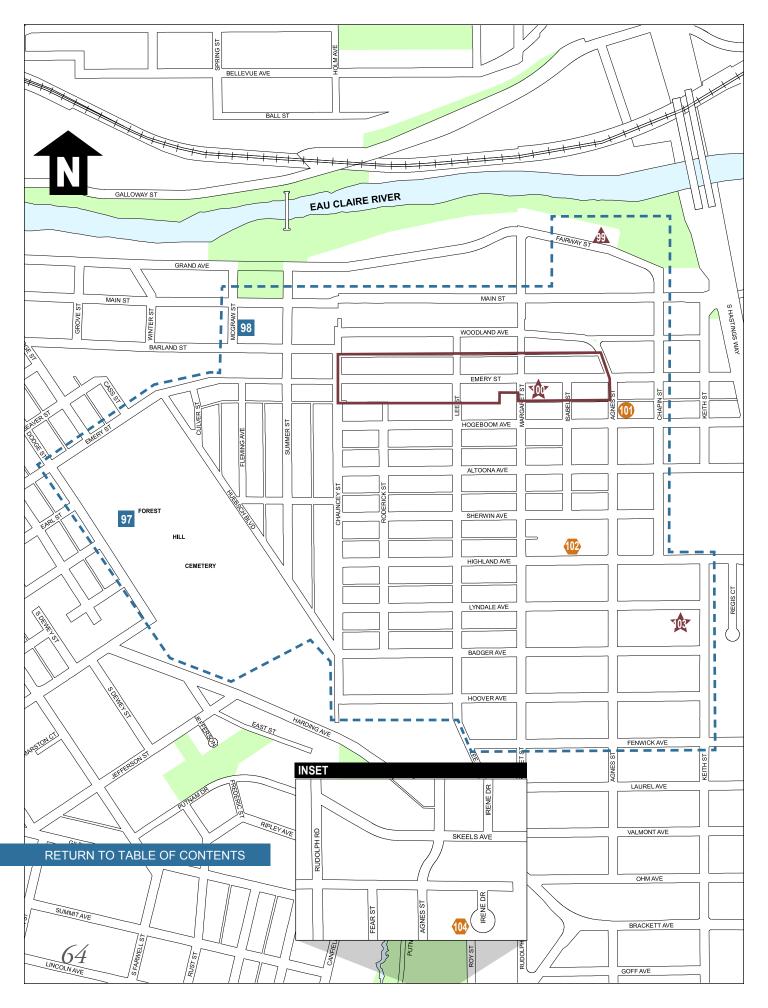
### Dr. Nels Werner House

443 Roosevelt Avenue 1929, Georgian Revival

The Georgian Revival style was commonly built in Wisconsin between 1900 and 1940 and

represents an architecturally correct interpretation of the Georgian and Federal architecture of the American colonial period.

Dr. Nels Werner, a local physician, hired Edward Hancock, a prominent local architect, to design the house. Hancock designed several important buildings in Eau Claire including Boyd Elementary School (see #98), Eau Claire Senior High School (see #19) and the Masonic Temple (see #66).



### Key

- Local Landmark
- National Register of Historic Places
- Local Landmark and National Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for National and Local Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for Local Designation
- ----- East Side Area
  ---- Emery Street National Register
  Historic District
- 97. Putnam Memorial Chapel
- 98. Second Ward School
- 99. John Julin House
- 100. Typical Bungalow-Emery Street Historic District
- 101. Chicago Style Bungalow
- 102.Immaculate Conception Church
- 103.Einar and Alice Borton House
- 104. Turner and Ihinger House

east side

ypical bundalou



The East Side Hill is situated on a bluff overlooking the Chippewa River and extends east towards South Hastings Way. Where the neighborhood joins the downtown, late nineteenth-century housing styles dominate. Farther east it takes on an early to mid-twentieth century flavor. Of particular interest are the numerous bungalows, which reflect the preference for simpler styles in the nineteen-twenties and thirties.

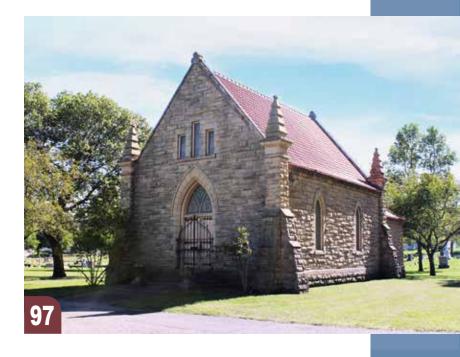
A five-block section of Emery Street has been designated as the Emery Street Bungalow Historic District. It provides the city's most intact and visually cohesive collection of this popular house style.

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# Putnam Memorial Chapel

Forest Hill Cemetery 1908, Neo-Gothic Revival

The chapel was funded by a bequest from Jane E. Putnam, wife of Henry C. Putnam, for the people of Eau Claire, to be used for holding services and as a receiving vault for those who died during the winter. The chapel was constructed at a cost of approximately \$10,000. The Putnams were civic-minded people who donated land, money and time to improve the community, including the donation of Putnam Park, assisting in the funding of the First Presbyterian Church and YMCA and founding the public library.



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### Second Ward School (Boyd Elementary School)

1105 Main Street, 1916-17, 1929, Collegiate Gothic

Eau Claire architect Edward Hancock designed the Second Ward School and a matching 1929 addition. Hancock was born in England in 1889 and immigrated as a boy to the United States. He moved to Eau Claire in 1915 and designed a number of landmark properties such as the Masonic Temple (see #66), the commercial block at 403 South Barstow Street, two homes within

the Third Ward Neighborhood and the Eau Claire Senior High School (see #19). The school was renamed Boyd Elementary School in 1951 recognizing Robert Boyd, a realtor and city councilman who donated the land to the north for Boyd Playground

The building is a fully developed example of the Collegiate Gothic style including a brick finish accented with stone, parapets, towered keep-like entrances and ornamentation such as the stone quoining, paterae, classical moldings and human-faced grotesques.

The school closed in the spring of 2002 and was converted into condominium dwelling units.

### John Julin House

1700 Fairway Street 1949, Lustron Home

This is one of about 2,500 prefabricated houses manufactured between 1948 and 1950 by the Lustron Corporation of Columbus, Ohio. It was brought to Eau Claire and erected on a cement foundation and concrete slab according to company specifications. Its steel walls and roof have a baked enamel finish on the exterior and interior that make this home maintenance free. The permanent fireproof insulation and

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specially designed radiant panel heating system make the home inexpensive to heat.

The Eau Claire area has four such houses, but only this one has a Lustron garage.

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### **Typical Bungalow**

The bungalow, with its early twentieth-century style, which remained popular until 1940, is easily recognizable. Usually one or one and a half story structures, these informal wooden, stucco or brick houses have broad, sloping roofs ending in wide eaves, and may exhibit exposed rafters, gable windows, or dormers and a modest front porch. The small residences, most commonly erected by middle class people, conform to the early twentieth century preference for convenience and simplicity.

Highly popular in the 1930's, inexpensive bungalow plans were available from Sears and Montgomery Ward catalogs and in other "bungalow books" prepared by local contractors and builders. Individual examples may feature cobblestone chimneys or decorative half-timbering.

First popularized in California, bungalows are thought to have evolved from thatched hut cottages in India.

### Chicago Style Bungalow

1808 Hogeboom Avenue 1929, Bungalow

The Chicago Bungalow is a unique style of bungalow that was very popular in the Chicago area between 1920 and 1930 when over 100,000 such homes were built in Cook County alone! Without exception, they were built of brick due to its fireproof quality, which became important after the Chicago Fire of 1871. These dwellings are uniformly one and a half stories in height, and long and narrow to accommodate the narrow lots on which they are typically constructed.



This home is typical of the bungalows built in Chicago during the 1920's. The dwelling was built by Tony Luhm, a local contractor who lived in the home for three years.

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# Immaculate Conception Church Complex 1712 Highland Avenue 1950, 1959, and 1966 Mid-Twentieth Century

The Immaculate Conception Church complex consists of three buildings including the church, rectory, and school. The rectory and school were

constructed in 1950, with a 1966 addition to the school involving the construction of the gymnasium.

The church was constructed in 1959 and represents an understated example of Collegiate Gothic style. Together, these buildings constitute an architecturally important group of modern church-related buildings.

### Einar and Alice Borton House

1819 Lyndale Avenue 1949, Lustron Home

The Borton House is a well preserved example of the prefabricated all-metal houses designed and built by the Lustron Corporation between 1948 and 1950. Built in the Ranch style, Lustron houses were small, single-story houses with steel frames, exterior walls of enameled steel panels, and simple gable roofs also sheathed in enameled steel panels. The interior of the house also features enameled steel panels and factory



provided built-in steel storage spaces, as well as factory-supplied sinks and bathtubs.

The Borton House itself is an example of the Lustron Corporation's pre-fabricated Westchester Deluxe model two-bedroom single family dwelling. The Lustron Corporation was located in Columbus, Ohio, but ceased their operations in 1950 due to poor sales and lack of interest in this innovative design.

This is one of four such houses in the Eau Claire area. The Lustron house at 1700 Fairway is eligible for the local register.

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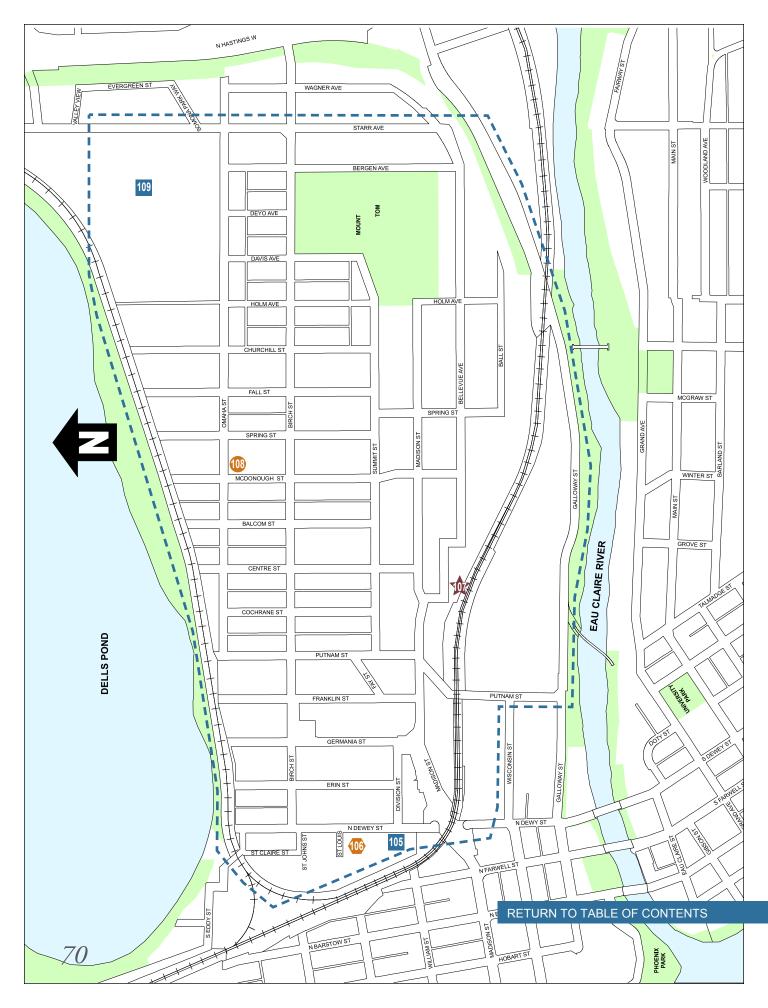


# Turner and Ihinger House

3030 Irene Drive 1959, Ranch

This home is an example of the Ranch style, built in the United States from the 1930s through the 1970s. The ranch style is noted for its close-to-the-ground profile and minimal use of exterior decoration. They were extremely popular with the booming postwar middle class of the 1940s to 1970s

This house is a variation of the two-story raised ranch, built near the end of the Ranch style period. The low gable roof, wide eave overhangs, and unusual shaped windows exhibit characteristics of this style from the 1950s through 1970s.



### Key

- Local Landmark
- National Register of Historic Places
- Local Landmark and National Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for National and Local Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for Local Designation
- North Side Area

105. Sacred Heart Church

106. Former Sacred Heart Hospital

107. St. Edwards Chapel

108. Sears Catalog House

109. St. Joseph's Chapel

north side

neo-gothic reviva



Since the early days of Eau Claire, the area north of the Eau Claire River and east of the Chippewa River has been known as North Eau Claire. To the residents who lived below the Madison Street Hill, however, the area was called "The Flat". Platted around 1857, North Eau Claire comprised a diverse housing stock as well as a number of industries that provided employment opportunities for the neighborhood residents. McDonough Manufacturing, Wisconsin Refrigerator, Gillette Tire Company and Drummond Packing were some of the anchor businesses that provided jobs for those that lived in "The Flat".

Except for a handful of large homes, most of the homes in the North Side are modest. Ownership tended to pass from one generation to another, until World War II heralded the beginning of the exodus of many longtime residents of the neighborhood and the immigration of new families.

Today, the North Side retains much of its nine-teenth century charm. Reflecting a solid working class image, it has numerous parks such as Mount Simon, McDonough Playground and Mount Tom, as well as a vibrant neighborhood school in Longfellow Elementary School.

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### Sacred Heart Church

418 North Dewey Street 1928, Late Romanesque Revival

Located on a prominent bluff overlooking the city, Sacred Heart Church is characterized by identical metal-covered twin towers, each supporting a Latin cross. Rose-colored windows and round arched openings are significant features of the building.

Eau Claire's Catholics organized a congregation in 1858 and constructed a small frame church on North Barstow Street. Originally called St. Peter's Church, it was renamed St. Patrick's (see #26) in 1865. About ten years later, sixty German-speaking families left the church to form their own parish, Sacred Heart. They built a frame church and school on this site but soon replaced them with brick structures, a church in 1880 and a school in 1910. Sacred Heart Hospital, founded in 1889, was constructed just north of that church (see #106). The present church building was completed in 1928. In 1999 a new parish, Sacred Heart of Jesus-St. Patrick, recombined the two oldest Catholic congregations in the City.

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### Former Sacred Heart Hospital

550 North Dewey Street 1890, Colonial Revival/ Neo-Gothic Revival

Sisters of St. Francis, from Springfield Illinois, erected the initial three-story portion of Sacred Heart Hospital in 1890 that contained 17 rooms and accommodations for 50 patients. A number of expansions and changes occurred over the years as the hospital grew to accommodate 158 beds. However, the front façade appears today largely the way it did back in 1931 with the exception of some changes to the windows. Sacred Heart Hospital discontinued its operation at this site in 1964

and moved to a new and larger facility on Clairemont Avenue. Eau Claire Academy, a child and adolescent treatment center, has occupied the building since 1967.

Initial construction and additions to the building were of Colonial Revival style. A later addition in 1926 to the north end of the hospital and east side of the chapel, called the Dulaney Memorial Annex, displays Neo-Gothic Revival style features.

### Saint Edward's Chapel

1129 Bellevue Avenue 1889-1896, Neo-Gothic Revival

Rev. B. F. Cooley of Christ Church, located on South Farwell Street (see #14), designed and supervised the construction of the chapel that was initiated in 1889. The chapel was intended to be a mission church for Christ Church, Eau Claire's Episcopal parish, to serve the growing number of parishioners living north of the Eau Claire River. Work stopped on the chapel with Cooley's departure in 1889 and was not resumed until 1896 when a scaled-back design was completed.

The chapel did not attract the parishioners hoped for and was closed in 1918. Sometime between

1923 and 1926, the chapel was converted into a single-family dwelling. Circa 1982 the interior of the building was remodeled into its current appearance.

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### Sears Catalog House

1403 Omaha Street 1910, Catalog House

Sears started selling catalog homes in 1908 and the concept revolutionized construction methods at that time. Although not the first company to sell catalog homes, Sears sold over 100,000 houses between 1908 and 1940. The buyer received approximately two boxcar loads of materials, accompanied by detailed plans and construction information.

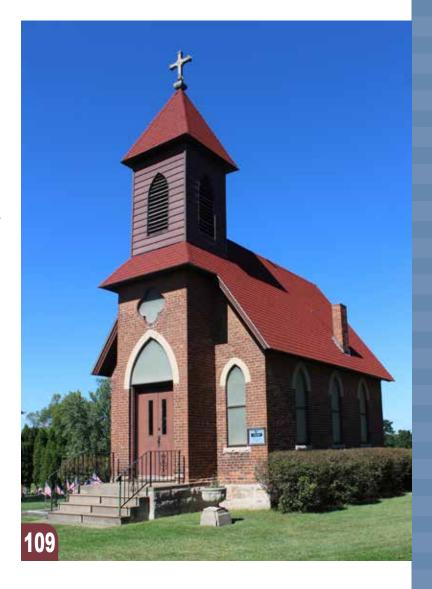
The Sears Catalog House was constructed based on a floor plan that was the precursor of a home that was later called the "Clyde." Catalog houses such as this made home ownership much more possible for many families across the country.

### St. Joseph's Chapel

### Sacred Heart Cemetery, Omaha Street 1896, Gothic Revival

A steeply pitched gable roof and central entrance tower characterize this one-room red brick Gothic Revival building. The building is erected on a limestone foundation with common brick walls laid with 7<sup>th</sup> course headers. Many of the original interior features have been retained including a multicolored tile floor, gold leaf detailing on the walls and ceilings and the altar with its intricately hand-carved wooded relief reredos.

Rev. John Metzler of Sacred Heart Catholic Parish commissioned the construction of the chapel in 1896 in the memory of Rev. Joseph Boehm. Sacred Heart is located at 418 North Dewey Street (see #105) and was founded by sixty German-speaking families in 1875. Masses were held periodically in the chapel through 1943 at which time the building fell into disrepair until the parish undertook restoration efforts in 1982. Today, the chapel is used periodically for various services and gatherings.



special thanks



### Acknowledgments

This booklet is an update of the Landmarks booklet published in 1986 and later updated in 2002. Many of the narratives from the previous booklet have been utilized for this edition. New photographs for the majority of the properties have been taken for this publication. The Landmarks Commission wishes to acknowledge all those that contributed to this publication.

Landmarks Commission members during this project:

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Special thanks to Mary Taylor, Preservation Consultant, who authored the Intensive Historical/Architectural Survey of the City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, from which much of the historical information was taken.

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