

Astor Street Tour Notes

4 W. Burton

Richard E. Schmidt & Hugh M.G. Garden (1901-02)

Albert Fridolin Madlener House. Prairie Style with cubic massing and Sullivanesque limestone detailing around the front door. Clear influence of Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright. Home to the Graham Foundation since 1963.

40 E. Burton

Schmidt, Garden & Martin (1909)

John Shortall House. Georgian Revival by same architects as Madlener House. Symmetrical treatment of façade offset by gambrel roof.

20 E. Burton

McKim, Mead & White (1892)

Elinor Patterson-Cyrus Hall McCormick, Jr. House. Designed by Stanford White while working on the Columbian Exhibition. Neo-Classical Italian Palazzo style, in orange roman brick and terra cotta. 2nd owner, Cyrus Hall McCormick Jr. (son of the famous reaper inventor), engaged David Adler to add to the house in 1928 which destroyed its symmetry. Was used as a private school for many years, but is now townhouses and condos.

3 W. Burton

Jenney & Mundie (1894)

Dr. John Lynch House. Substantial stone clad structure with elaborate carvings. Substantial changes over past few years, to the windows and west wing.

1550 N. State

Benjamin Marshall (1910s)

Elegant multi unit apartment building.

1555 N. State

Alfred F. Pashley (1880)

Cardinal's Residence. Built on site of former Catholic cemetery. Entire block originally owned by Archdiocese of Chicago; once residence was built, rest of the block was gradually sold off. Red brick & sandstone in the Queen Anne style with turrets, gables dormers and 19 chimneys. Corbelled brickwork and stone bands between courses of brick. Porte-Cachiere for carriages and cars. Coach house just south of Cardinal's mansion. Note wooden pavers in alleyway behind coach house. This is the last wooden block alleyway in the city.

- 1555 N. Astor** Solomon, Cordwell, Buenz & Associates (1975)
Apartment highrise. Newest building in area. Replaced five rowhouses.
- 1525 N. Astor** Unknown (1916)
G. Swift Jr. House. Georgian Revival with 3 symmetrical window bays. Attention to proportion, formal simplicity and logical elegance. First floor windows topped by pediments.
- 1524 N. Astor** IW Colburn & Associates (1968)
Charles Haffner III Residence. Modern house blends in well with others on street through use of compatible materials and simplicity of design. Interior courtyard, and flowing design in which the house appears to be a continuation of the front of adjacent home.
- 1520 N. Astor** Jeremiah K. Cady (1911)
Frederick T. Vaux Residence. Georgian Revival. Flat brick front with curved by running full height of house. Doorway with large open pediment and carved stone. Doorway may have been a later addition.
- 1518 N. Astor** Jenney, Mundie & Jensen (1911)
FR Dickenson House. Georgian Revival converted to multi residential use. Small doorway, and large overhead arch attempting to reduce the expanse of wall and resulting in an asymmetrical design.
- 1515 N. Astor** Raggi & Schoenbrod (1968)
Park Astor Condominium. 27 floors in the "International" style of the 1960s
- 1511 N. Astor** Arthur Heun (1910)
William Henry McDoel Residence. Georgian Revival using symmetrical front façade with 3 window bays, limestone on ground level, brick above with banded rustication emphasizing horizontal lines.
- 1505 N. Astor** Jenney, Mundie & Jensen (1911)
Cyrus Bentley House. Georgian Revival. Limestone with banded rustication on ground floor emphasizes horizontality of the bricks. Three symmetrical window bays, and square brick pattern between square windows on the 4th floor
- 1451 N. Astor** Howard Van Doren Shaw (1910)

Peter Fortune Houses (includes 43 E. Burton). Pair of attached houses separated by party wall designed for 2 Fortune children. Jacobean style, including carved stone fruit baskets (a Shaw motif)

1449 N. Astor

ER Krause (1898)

CD Peacock, Jr. House. Chateausque style adapted to a rowhouse. Massive entry porch, large bay window, abundance of decorative elements including a shell-patterned frieze and twisted half-columns.

1447 N. Astor

Pond & Pond (1908)

Wallace Winter House. 4 storey brick row house in Georgian style, with Pond & Pond's 20th C twists. Donated in 1935 to the Junior League of Chicago.

1444 N. Astor

Holabird & Root (1928-29)

Edward P. Russell House. Art Deco Townhouse by same firm as Chicago Board of Trade. French limestone, with black granite trim. Among the last houses built on street.

1443 N. Astor

Joseph Lynam Silsbee (1891)

Horatio N. May House. Romanesque style, symmetrical façade, stone with mica flecks that reflect light. Reminiscent of HH Richardson's Romanesque arches. Silsbee was Frank Lloyd Wright's first employer.

1442 N. Astor

Pond & Pond (1891)

C. Vallette Kasson House. Subtle gothic influences including pointed stone arch over entry porch and tracings of arches in brick above windows. Classic bay windows. One-storey wing to south, breaks up rhythm of row houses.

1436 N. Astor

Unknown (1891)

Heaton B. Owsley House. Same time frame as the Charnley House. Romanesque style, with 2nd storey porch, with elaborate wrought iron and carved stone columns.

1435 N. Astor

Thomas & Rapp (1892)

OW Meysenburg House. 20,000 sq ft - largest house on block. Italian Palazzo style. North section original. South section (set-back from sidewalk) added in 1902 by Henry Ives Cobb for 2nd owner

1434 N. Astor

Unknown (1890)

George F. Westover House. Romanesque townhouse, rough textured stone used for all elements of the house.

- 1432 N. Astor** James Eppenstein (1937-38)
- James Eppenstein House. Architect reconstructed house in the International Style adapted to an urban townhouse. Main entry was moved to lower level, sheathed in granite and accessed by staircase with stainless steel handrails. Original house had been a romanesque townhouse.
- 1431 N. Astor** Holabird & Roche (1894)
- George W. Meeker House. Federal-style rowhouse. Interesting metal cornice with garland of balls. Recently restored to original appearance.
- 1430 N. Astor** Francis M. Whitehouse (1891)
- Site of former Joseph T. Bowen House (now demolished). Originally in Colonial style, with large ionic columned front entry portico and landscaped yard. Garden wall was recently rebuilt.
- 1429 N. Astor** Pond & Pond (1890)
- Eugene R. Hutchins House; Pond Brothers known for combining elements from different styles: Romanesque rough faced masonry, gothic pointed arches, crooked dormers, Mansard roof.
- 1427 N. Astor** William LeBaron Jenney (1889)
- Rensselaer W. Cox House; Restrained design enlivened with unusual rock-faced brick. Jenney was as much engineer as architect, and many late 19th C & early 20th C architects got their start in his office.
- 1425 N. Astor** JN Tilton (1895)
- William D. Kerfoot House. Georgian limestone house displays perfect symmetry, gracious entryway, classical features especially popular following the Columbian Exposition
- 1421 N. Astor** CM Palmer (1889)
- George Farnsworth House. Originally a spec house in the Romanesque style designed for Potter Palmer, real estate investor (no relation). Glassed in entry not original.
- 1416 N. Astor** Arthur Heun (1912)
- William McCormick Blair House. Shared garden with Bowen House (#1430). Georgian townhouse. Main entrance faced the Garden with a classical revival portico; street entrance with fan light over the door - more restrained.
- 1415 N. Astor** Schmidt, Garden & Martin (1912)

Georgian style; a sharp contrast to the Madlener House designed by the same architects a decade earlier

1412 N. Astor

Douglas S. Pentecost (1892)

Thomas W. Hinde House. Copied from the French Renaissance house of Diane de Poitiers; in roman brick and cast stone, with diamond shaped windows and medieval motifs. Original house in France was executed in wood and stucco, and destroyed in WW II.

1406 N. Astor

David Adler (1922)

Joseph T. Ryerson Jr. House. Parisian style townhouse with rigid symmetry, ornate wrought iron details, and 3 pairs of french doors on first floor. 3rd floor added in 1931 by David Adler to house owner's private collection of Chicago memorabilia, eventually donated to the Chicago History Museum.

1406 N. Astor

Unknown (1888)

Perry H. Smith Jr. Built 2 years later for son. Classical design features portico with pairs of ionic columns and recessed shell set into the pediment. Top floor has large Palladian window set beneath a gambrel roof.

1400 N. Astor

Cobb & Frost (1886)

Perry H. Smith House. Romanesque style; Entry porch beneath massive stone arch facing Schiller (similar to Glessner House) Rear addition by Hammond, Beeby & Babka in 1991.

36-50 E. Schiller

HM Hansen (1885)

Olof Ostrom Town Houses; picturesque example of Queen Anne style. Mr. Charnley's brother Charles occupied #50 until 1897

39 E. Schiller

Jenny & Mundie (1896)

Binderton Apartments. Built for James B. Waller, Jr., who bought the Charnley House in 1918. Original structure was modernized in the 1980s when converted to condominiums

41 E. Schiller

Unknown (1892)

Theron L. Pardee House; constructed same year as Charnley House. Was part of original Potter Palmer property purchased and subdivided by Mr. Chanrley.

1365 N. Astor

Louis Sullivan & Frank Lloyd Wright (1891)

Charnley-Persky House. Designed by Sullivan for close friends James & Helen Charnley. Draftsman Frank Lloyd Wright. Roman brick, indiana limestone,

simplified geometry and original decorative elements from nature. Features interior atrium to light interior, mosaic and hand carved fireplaces, and dramatic staircase screen. Many very early elements of Frank Lloyd Wright's later designs. HQ for the Society of Architectural Historians.

1355 N. Astor

Howard Van Doren Shaw (1914)

William O. Goodman House. 80 foot façade with 7 symmetrical bays in a very formal Georgian style. 2nd floor windows mark the Piano Nobile. Shaw details include carved stone fruit baskets, animal heads, skulls and stacked urns. Brass door knocker features a lady's hand holding a golden apple. Courtyard originally included a carriage drive.

1350 N. Astor

Ralph C. Harris (1950)

High rise apartment building.

1349 N. Astor

Unknown (1888)

Additional residence commissioned by Potter Palmer. Original façade no longer remains; Neo-Georgian characteristics and an asymmetrical façade with a large rounded bay to left of doorway.

1347 N. Astor

Henry Ives Cobb (1887)

WH Warren House. Elements of both Queen Anne & Romanesque including a 2 story tower-like bay with a steeply pitched roof. Houses designed to fit an irregularly shaped trapezoid lot, off-set from each other by 45 degrees.

1345 N. Astor

Treat & Foltz (1887)

Edwin J. Gardiner Residence. Romanesque Revival; white cream and red sandstone blocks add to the house's unique appearance. Two large ground floor arches match arched windows on 2nd floor. Often with 2 ground floor arches, one was a door, the other a window.

1340 N. Astor

Reinheimer (Hirschfeld partner) (1969)

Astor House Apartment Building. Modern Post War highrise.

1335 N. Astor

Leo S. Hirschfeld (1949)

Co-op Apartment House. Modern Post War highrise.

1325 N. Astor

Ribori (1928)

Astor-Banks condominium. 14 story Georgian Revival with interior skeletal metal frame. Rusticated stone base and ornamentation on the 12th floor parapet.

1316-1322 N. Astor Charles Palmer (1890s)

Row Houses designed for real estate investor Potter Palmer, 4 unique residences including rusticated limestone, turret-topped bay windows, arched entrances, and alternating brick patterns. #1322 is Sullivanesque smooth limestone, foliate trimmed gables and curved dormers.

1308-1312

N. Astor

Burnham & Root (1887)

James L. Houghteling Row Houses. Combination of Romanesque and Queen Anne Styles. John Root lived at #1310.

1301 & 1260

N. Astor

Philip B. Maher (1928, 1932)

Apartment Towers. Verticle style with elements of Gothic Revival, Art Deco, Cubism emphasizing the height of the buildings with verticle continuous piers, and dark colored spandrels. Two-story bases are more traditional in feeling. Art deco detailing in slightly arched windows and chamfered corners. Architect was son of Prairie School architect George W. Maher.

1300 N. Astor

Bertram Goldberg (1962)

Astor Tower. Originally a French-themed hotel, now apartment building. Previous site of Burnham & Root's 1890 Goudy residence. Originally intended as a round building, architect adapted it to a square footprint to blend with the neighborhood. 24 floors with a concrete core that took 3 weeks to pour. Structure emphasized, and core is exposed at ground and top levels. Building still contains a lower-level restaurant space, currently unoccupied.

1250 N. Astor

Unknown (Early 20th C)

Renaissance Revival with classical details. Limestone front façade with 3 arches on 1st floor, and framed windows on 2nd floor. Note elaborate grillwork on doorway and pilasters running up to cournice.

1248 N. Astor

Unknown (1890s)

Private Residence. Combines elements of Romanesque Revival and Queen Anne styles. Romanesque rounded arch at entrance combined with Queen Anne curved oriel window and iron railing. Gable and turret are somewhat Romanesque, but their unbalanced placement suggest a Queen Anne style composition.

1244 N. Astor

Unknown (1890s)

Simplified Georgian townhouse. Brickwork has early modern features including arched motifs above windows and on cornice.

1240-42 N. Astor Unknown (1888)

Pair of Romanesque Revival houses. Rock-cut limestone displays geometric Romanesque motifs and two Romanesque arches on the ground floor, with inlaid columns. Oriel windows on the 2nd floor, one curved and one squared.

1236 N. Astor Unknown (1880s)

Romanesque Revival residence. Brick with ornamented rock cut stone band at 2nd floor lintel height, and archway over front door. Rounded bays covered by hipped roofs. Large trapezoidal bay window.

1233-45 N. Astor Andrew Sandegren (1914)

Jacobean Revival. Numerous bays and gables break up large mass and affect its proportions in relation to other buildings on the street. String course around the building at sill height serves to unify house. Elaborate chimneys and battlements are typical Jacobean Revival details.

1224 N. Astor John E. Youngberg (1911)

Georgian classical style.

1223 N. Astor Treat & Foltz (1891)

Georgian Revival . Cornice above 2nd floor provides contrast with the orange brick and limestone façade. Ionic capitals atop 2-storey pillasters and a broken pediment on some of the dormers over Astor Street

1222 N. Astor Unknown (1920s)

Single Family Residence with Classical details.

1221 N. Astor John E. Youngberg (1920s)

Jacobean Revival. Extensively altered but original details include quoin trimmed corners, redbrick and limestone façade. L-shaped building results in a small front courtyard.

1218 N. Astor Unknown (1910s)

Georgian Revival includes a limestone course on ground floor and pedimented portico over front door. Cornice contains an alternating balustrade.

1216 N. Astor Gregory A. Vigaent (1930s)

Georgian Revival. Extensive remodeling has removed original ornamentations but the façade retains complex unique shape. Curved bay and curved corner both on front elevation. Recessed brick courses give the effect of rustication. Elaborate portico over entrance.

1214 N. Astor

TV Ness (1910s)

Apartment House. 5 storey Georgian Revival, brick with rusticated limestone base, with central bay from 2nd to 4th floor and quoins also in limestone. 4th floor cornice and parapet above the 5th floor

1210 N. Astor

Holabird & Roche (1897)

McConnell Apartments. Firmly ensconced in the Chicago School. 6 storey rounded projected bays and door trim reflecting Classical Revival Style.

1209 N. Astor

Alfred S. Alschuler (1926)

Apartment House. 14 storey Georgian Revival, projecting central bays with top floor set-back to break continuity of large brick walls. Rusticated terracotta base followed by 2 storey pilasters topped with a cornice (3rd & 4th floors)

1350-1360

N. Lake Shore Dr.

Cobb & Frost (1882)

Former site of the Potter Palmer Mansion. A crenelated and turreted sandstone and granite "monstrosity plucked from a goldfish bowl". 3 years under construction, cost \$1,000,000 in 1892. Potter Palmer owned the entire block and purchased many other parcels of land in the area. Referred to as "the Castle", torn down in the 1950s to build the two current apartment houses.

17-25 E. Banks

Charles Palmer (1889)

Graham Mansion built for Potter Palmer. 2 story bay topped by balcony over prominent entrance; with two chimneys emerging from the roof. Mix of horizontal sandstone patterns on first floor and randomly along subsequent floors.