

LaGrange Area Historical Society
Walking Tours of the LaGrange Historic District – Tour #2

Welcome to the La Grange Historic District Tours

The Village of La Grange was incorporated in 1879, just nine years after its founder, Franklin D. Cossitt, began his program of organizing a quality residential community. The success of his plan has continued to be a source of civic pride and has resulted in the enduring attractiveness and stability of the community. According to architect Wilbert R. Hasbrouck, “Village of La Grange Historic District as a well preserved suburban community with excellent examples of domestic architecture dating from the late 19th century to the early 20th century.” In his statement requesting that the La Grange Historic District be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, architect Hasbrouck wrote:

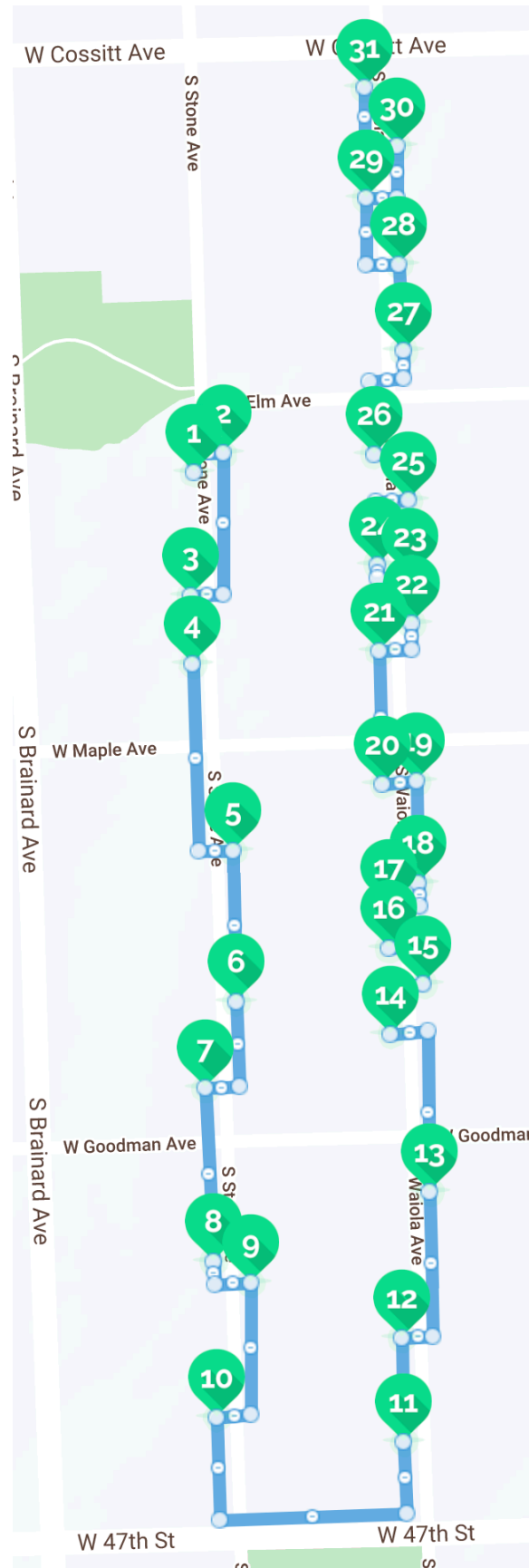
In its totality, the La Grange Historic District represents a period of architectural development of high artistic value and significance to the history of the region. Furthermore, the buildings have survived intact while continuing to be used for their original purpose.

In order to limit the length of each tour, the Society has highlighted only homes of the very highest degree of historical and architectural significance. However, the beauty of the Village lies in the overall quality of all of its residences. If you have an extra few minutes to devote to your tour, you might also want to study some of these other fine houses.

Tour two begins at the corner of Elm and Stone and ends near the intersection of Cossitt and Waiola. Like other tours, it features homes in the styles shown in this booklet. All houses marked with asterisks were identified during the creation of the Historic District as being of first architectural significance to the Village.

The residence identified as vernacular is not designed according to any specific rules and may be a product of several different styles. Nevertheless, it may be a fine example of form, scale, and materials.

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1 200 South Stone: is a vernacular house with little alteration to the original design. It was the home of Robert C. Ross, Vice-President of the Chicago Association of Commerce in the 1920's. Note the front door with decorative sidelights, fanlight, and fluted pilasters; dentilwork and curved panels surround the fanlight.



2 201 South Stone was home of Ralph B. Hayward during the 1920's. He served as Village President from 1925-1927. The house was built in 1910. The open loggia on the south side of the house features 3/4 fluted column supports.



3 216 South Stone: is a Victorian design that has not been greatly modified. Notice the complicated roofline and full wrap around porch with full classical column supports.



4 230 South Stone: is a vernacular modified Prairie house that also has not been altered much over the years. It is set well back in six lots. As designed by C.F. Jobson, the House had six rooms on the first floor, three bedrooms on the second floor, and a servants' wing. The upper floor of the coach house also housed servants. Notice the columns at the

south porch loggia which borrow from the classical; note also the front door and the side windows. During recent years, the house has undergone extensive renovation.

The house was built in 1910 for Lowell Bassford, who was the fine arts dealer for Marshall Field and Company. The Bassfords were followed by C.C. Giles in 1929, and later by the Vaughns of Vaughn's See.



5 315 South Stone: is an example of the Bungalow style and appears very much as it did when first constructed. Notable are the exposed rafter that ends in eaves and the triangular knee braces in the front gable.



6 329 South Stone: is the Herbert S. Darlington home and is late Victorian Style. The north side of the house once included a tower and a porch. Mr. Darlington was a Village trustee from 1885-1888 and Village President from 1907 to 1909.

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7 **344 South Stone** is a fine example of the late Victorian style. Note the narrow windows with arches and the U-shaped porch. Note the rounded Italianate windows on the second floor and the elongated parlor windows. L.L. Bassford, who once owned this house, settled in the Village before 1880 and was a trustee on the first Village Board. Bassford Avenue in La Grange is named for him.



8 **414 South Stone** is an example of the vernacular based on the stick style, which is a variation of the Queen Anne. Characteristic of this style is the sunburst motif. Also look for decorative wood panels, transom windows, and the window crown in stick style houses. It is believed that C.F. Jobson was the architect of this house and that La Grange resident William Hulsberg was the contractor.



9 **423 South Stone** demonstrates many of the elements of the Queen Anne, including fishscales; tall, narrow windows; and complicated facades and floorlines. This house also shows the style's wide porch and elaborate railing. An outstanding detail is the turret and two-story corner.



10 **436 South Stone** is a revival home once owned by Sidney Gorham, a prominent resident of the past. Of interest are the full front porch with unusual square fluted Ionic piers, fluted Corinthian pilaster corner boards, and fluted Corinthian columns at the front door surround.

Turn left (east) and walk along 47th Street to Waiola.



11 **440 South Waiola** is a fine example of the Queen Anne style. Note the decorative shingled beltcourse between the first and second floors.



12 **424 South Waiola** is a bungalow with leaded windows which has stayed much the same as it was when built. The projecting front enclosed portico is of particular interest.



13 **405 South Waiola** is the I.A. Bennett House. Mr. Bennett was a manufacturing agent in Chicago. This Victorian/Queen Anne features a sunburst panel motif in the front gable and the porch gable.

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14

338 South Waiola: is a version of the American Foursquare style which was typical of Chicago suburban homes built between 1910 and 1930. Its large porch across the front is further accented by an unusually large front door. It was to this house that Ayres Lundy moved in 1902 from 225 South Ashland Avenue and he lived here until the 1950's in 1890 Lundy was district engineer from the Edison General Electric Company. In 1891 he joined Frederick Sargent and formed the company of Sargent and Lundy, which is today the largest consulting engineering firm in the world



15

333 South Waiola is a vernacular Prairie-type house which borrowed such design elements as the pediment and columns at the front door from traditional styles. Notice the use of simple lattice leaded windows throughout.



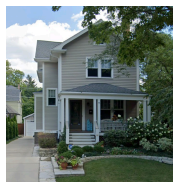
16

324 South Waiola demonstrates Wrightian horizontal lines combined with basic Victorian plan. Notice the unusual shaping of the stucco, porch, and driveway canopy.



17

320 South Waiola exhibits the fishscales, complicated roof lines, and wide L-shaped porch much as they were when this Victorian was built. Noted architectural details include decorative shingles and Palladian window in the front gable and the front door surrounded with Ionic pilasters. This house was known as the Raymond Clark House. The Clarks were socially prominent in La Grange and held many dances in their third floor. Mr. Clark was president of the La Grange Country Club. The house was also owned by Dr. George Tillson, Clarence Fenn Jobson, and G.E. Cullinan.



18

317 South Waiola is a Victorian built by C.F. Jobson and 1910. F. Jobson was the original owner. Of interest is the circular window in the front gable.



19

301 South Waiola was designed for J. Lyon by C.F. Jobson c 1910. It is an example of the Prairie style. Note the decorative strips on the facade and the decorations at the windows of the front and side entries. The striking window treatments define the mood and character of each room. The rooms are large and spacious with dark oak trim in the living room, dining room, and den.

Architect Jobson designed this home in 1909 for Joseph and Emma Lyon who lived here in until 1926, when the home was sold to the George Montgomery family. Later owners included Walter Templeton, William Brandt, and John Gilmore, who was President of the Chicago Board of Trade.

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20

300 South Waiola is the H.B. Kilgour house. It is a vernacular house which combines the symmetry and columns of the classical with Victorian elements such as the ornamental railing and porch. Mr. Kilgour was a Village trustee from 1908-1910 and President of La Grange State Bank. The house was designed by C.F. Jobson and constructed in 1910.



21

232 South Waiola was built c1873 by David Lyman who was the son-in-law of F.D. Cossitt. It is an excellent example of the classical revival style. Notice the columns, terra cotta roof, and decorations over the first floor windows. It was originally known as “The Larches.” Mr. Lyman was the Village Attorney, La Grange developer, and builder of the Stone Avenue Station. Prior to the construction of the Episcopal Church, David Lyman held church services in his home. Mr. Lyman was among the founders of the La Grange Country Club. He sold his house to Dr. Roscoe F. Ludwig, a dentist with his practice in Chicago who counted among his patients the Marshall Fields and the McCormicks. Dr. Ludwig and his family were very prominent in La Grange society. After the Suburban Club fire, the Ludwigs opened their home to the membership and it became known as “the dance hall.”



22

231 South Waiola is the C.W. Northrup house. Mr. Northrup was township collector, Village trustee from 1887-1890, Village clerk from 1892-1896, and an original director of the La Grange State Bank. The house was occupied in the early 1880's by the family of Mr. Northrup's father-in-law, Levi Blakeslee, and later by the family of Dr. Herbert C. Dewey, whose wife was Mrs. Northrup's sister. It remained in the family's possession for almost sixty years.

This Italianate and the Northrup nurseries occupied a whole side of Waiola until 1890 or 1891. It exhibits these characteristics of its style: hipped roof, brackets, cornices, unusual window framing, and cubical form. It is listed on the National Register of Historic places and is currently being restored by its architect-owner. The home was built c. 1883.



23

221 South Waiola was the home of Village president Charles A. Moses. He was President from 1894-1895 and from 1899-1901. This vernacular home features arched windows on the first floor facade and French doors with pseudo balconies on the second floor facade.



24

220 South Waiola was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley. Mrs. Stanley was the daughter of Dr. Ludwig, who lived next door. The home was also owned by the Dallach family. Mrs. Dallach was valedictorian of the first graduating class of LTHS in 1891. Architectural details of note include the symmetrical facade, pedimented portico, and loggias on both sides - all characteristic of neo-classical design.

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25

211 South Waiola was built in 1892, after its original owner, Mr. White, selected the design he desired from a catalogue. Queen Anne style window muntins are incorporated throughout. The house was also owned by Henry Noble Cooper when he moved from 300 S. Seventh. Mr. Cooper was an attorney and resident agent for Levi Lieter, who purchased all the lots east of 5th Avenue (La Grange Road) from F.D. Cossitt. Mr. Cooper was Village President from 1895-1896.



26

200 South Waiola is the Pike House, designed in 1913 by C.F. Jobson. F.J. Pike was President of the Chicago Board of Health. It was later owned by William Schnute, a Village trustee and prominent orthopedic surgeon. Of particular note are the elaborate gardens and manicured lawns.



27

141 South Waiola is a Victorian whose modified turret, decorative details, and elaborate front porch with columns have not been greatly altered.



28

131 South Waiola is a good example of the shingle style. Notice the fishscales, interesting windows at the third floor, and decorative windows at the front door.



29

116 South Waiola is another lovely example of the Victorian style. Details include a two-storey square tower at the cross section of the gables, the banding on the second floor, and the fishscaled beltcourse between the first and second floors.



30

109 South Waiola was the home of the children of George O. Pratt, who lived at 222 South Spring. This Victorian remains largely as it was when constructed in 1896. Of particular beauty is the arched Romanesque partial porch made from rusticated stone.



31

102 South Waiola, the last home on this tour, is another example of a fine Victorian house which has undergone little alteration. Notice the window with the “Bull’s Eye” molding motif.

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This ends walking Tour #2 sponsored by the La Grange Area Historical District. We hope that you have gained a greater appreciation of the homes in this area by taking this tour.

If you enjoyed this tour, please tell others and consider a donation to the LaGrange Area Historical Society. Your donations make it possible for us to continue to provide services like this tour to the community.

For information about membership, donations and other programming at the LaGrange Area Historical Society, please visit our website at www.lagrangehistory.org