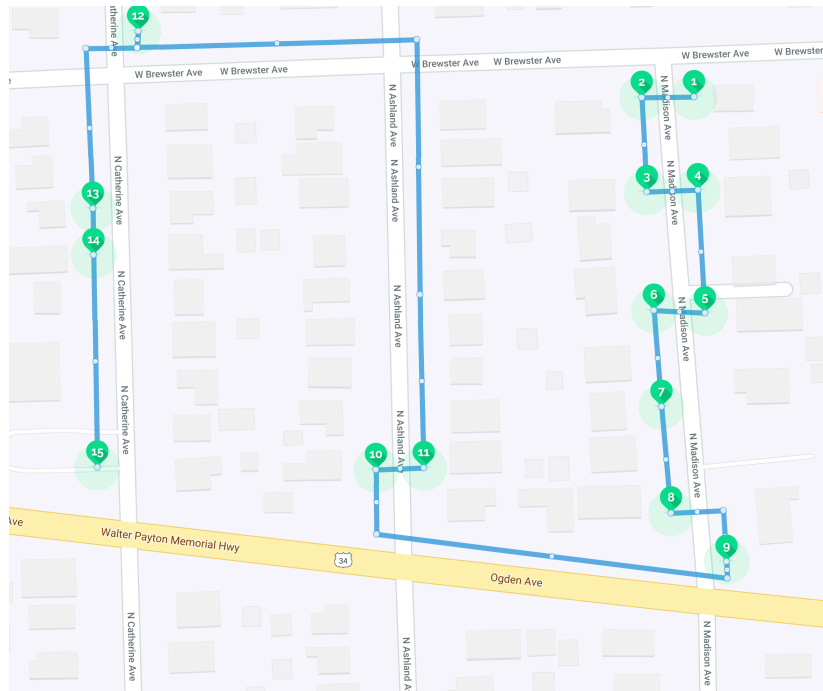


LaGrange Area Historical Society
Walking Tours of the LaGrange Historic District – Tour #7



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.”

All tours include commentary about the history and style of the buildings, which represent a variety of architectural styles and which were often designed by such notables as Frank Lloyd Wright, J. C. Llewellyn, E. H. Turnock, and J.N. Tilden.

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.

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141 North Madison Miss Julie Arnold came from France to Chicago and eventually to La Grange, where she opened the first hat shop in the village. Her first customer was Mrs. Emma Murry, who lived at this address in 1884.



142 North Madison is a late Victorian whose original owner was P. Sharkey. Note the ribbon windows in the front gable.



138 North Madison In 1929 “Who’s Who in La grange” in the Citizen spoke of L.C. Jones, Chairman of the zoning board of appeals, as “one of the men helping to make La Grange an ideal community.” The house has several lovely leaded glass windows.



135 North Madison is an excellent vernacular home that has influences from the Colonial Revival Style. Of particular interest are the hipped roof and dormer, the dentil work cornice, and shingled coach house.



124 North Madison is a vernacular with influences from the Craftsman and Victorian styles. Notable in this excellent examples of residential architecture are the large triangular knee braces in the gable eaves. The home’s original owner was J. Rusing.



123 North Madison was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles I. Sackett, who were among the 17 charter members of the First Congregational Church when it was founded in 1881. Mr. Sackett has been president of the La Grange State Bank and a bank director from 1899 until his death in 1917. The house is a vernacular with Foursquare influences. Note the leaded glass parlor transom, entry window, and the second floor bay window. The house dates from c. 1908.



114 North Madison In 1922 the owner of this home, R.M. Hitchcock, was honored for his 57 years of service to Marshall Field at a dinner in the Lake Forest home of John G. Shedd, who became the president of Marshall Field & company when Marshall Field died in 1906.

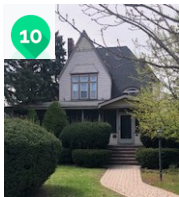
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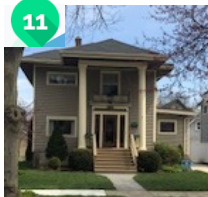
106 North Madison Mr. & Mrs. Frank F. Miles came to La Grange in 1893. Mr. Miles was associated with Philip D. Armour in the meatpacking industry. Mrs. Miles was a suffragette who worked for women's rights. One of their daughters married State Representative Farley, whose home was at 111 South Seventh. A son and a grandson managed the real estate company of La Grange pioneer F. D. Cossitt. The vernacular house has been influenced by the American Foursquare style. Note the two story bays and the parlor and second floor window transoms with stained glass.



105 N Madison Seventh Day Adventist Church This church was built in 1950. Before that time the congregation met in the odd Fellows hall which was then located on Harris Avenue.



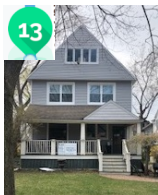
104 North Ashland This Queen Anne Victorian is of excellent architectural quality and has undergone little alteration. Note the shingled hood over the windows in the front gables, the fishscaling and the modified turret on the south facade.



107 North Ashland This unique vernacular contains elements of several architectural styles, including two story hipped roof portico with full, two-story classical column supports, and influences of the foursquare and prairie styles. There are sidelights at the front door and leaded glass windows incorporated throughout.

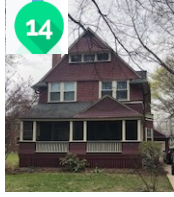


301 North Catherine, which is technically outside the Historic District, was the home of Daniel Lyon, the first president of La Grange Park, and was the site of the first La Grange Park Village Board meeting in 1892. Captain Dan Lyon was a charter member of Hiram McClintock Post No. 667, Grand Army of the Republic.



226 North Catherine was once the home of artist John McKee.

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222 North Catherine This home belonged to the Lewis H. Holmes family. Lewis Holmes (1866-1910) was a pioneer businessman in Chicago. His family, who came to La Grange in the 1890's were among the highly respected citizens of la Grange, listed in the old "Blue Book" of 1892, which contained the "aristocracy" of the Village at the time. Among the family were Frank (Taylor) Homes, the Broadway actor, Phillips Holmes, a young silent movie idol killed in the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II, and Ralph Holmes, husband of torch singer Libby Holman. Elizabeth Holmes Hoffmann was a teacher at Kenwood Loring School for girls and the wife of opera singer Dr. Emil Hofmann.

The house was designed in 1894 by Architect E.T. Turnock and is a vernacular with Queen Anne characteristics as in the fish scaling and modified turret.



200 North Catherine Grace Lutheran Church The church was known as the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran and adopted its present name in 1924. The current building dates from 1928 and is in the Norman Gothic style. The church has forty-one symbolic stained glass windows and a Moller pipe organ, which was purchased in 1929 for \$4,500.

This ends walking Tour #7 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.

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