

GUIDE TO ARCHITECTURAL STYLES ON FRANKLIN STREET

COLONIAL REVIVAL (1880-1955)

Following on the heels of America's Centennial celebrations, the Colonial Revival style emerged in the early 1880s. The style borrowed heavily from early American architecture, particularly, Georgian and common features include accentuated front doors and surrounds with columns and fan or sidelights, symmetrically balanced facades with central doorway, and multi-pane double hung windows.



ITALIANATE (1840-1885)

This rectangular (almost square) house usually consists of two or three stories with wide eaves supported by decorative brackets. It commonly has tall narrow arched or curved windows with highly decorative surrounds, and a low-pitch hipped roof, sometime accented with a cupola. Symmetry and a high level of decoration is common to this style of house.



CRAFTSMAN (1905-1930)

The Craftsman style house is typically one to two stories tall, with projecting eave overhangs, usually with exposed rafter ends. Front porches can span either the full or partial width of the house. This style used various materials such as brick, clapboard, stucco, stone, or a combination. Unique wooden detailing is common.



FREE CLASSIC (1880-1910)

The Free Classic Style takes elements from all styles, materials and patterns, though restrained Queen Anne elements are the most commonly used. Features can include an asymmetrical internal and external layout, with steeply pitched gabled roofs, cross gables, towers, and pointed dormers. Large porches and rounded verandas are also characteristics. Each house is very unique and individualized.



GABLED-ELL (1830-1910)

This type is characterized by one to two stories often with a steep pitched gable roof and one-room wide plan. The "L" shape is easily visible, and decorative elements of any style could be added—often Queen Anne or Italianate. This was the most popular house type in Porter County.



QUEEN ANNE (1880-1910)

The Queen Anne style combines medieval and classical elements for an eclectic mix of materials, patterns and features. Common characteristics and features include an asymmetrical plan, steeply pitched irregular shaped roof, contrasting materials, bay windows, turrets, towers, spindled porches and balconies, tall chimneys, richly colored painting scheme, and stained glass windows. This style is very elaborate and highly decorative.



VERNACULAR T-PLAN, CROSS-PLAN (1870-1910)

Vernacular is a term used to describe a simplified house form with T, L, or cross plan, which is embellished with details derived from late-nineteenth century styles, most commonly Queen Anne or Italianate. Decorative elements such as window surrounds, brackets, woodwork, spindled friezes and turned porch posts were applied to a simple house form, reflecting popular styles of the time. Very commonly these types of houses received many additions over time.



A Brief History of Valparaiso, Indiana

The current city of Valparaiso was originally platted in 1836 as the town of Portersville, by the Portersville Land Company. In 1837, the name was changed to Valparaiso, meaning "Vale of Paradise," in remembrance of Commodore David Porter's famous War of 1812 naval battle against the British off the coast of Valparaiso, Chile. Valparaiso is the seat of Porter County, the only such-named county in the United States. It is located along the crest of the Valparaiso Moraine, a low ridge left by the receding glaciers of the last Ice Age. The southern shore of Lake Michigan is approximately 12 miles north of Valparaiso, and the city is located on the historic Sauk Indian Trail that stretched from Rock Island, Illinois to Detroit, Michigan.

The arrival of railroads and the occurrence of the Civil War led to the growth of industry and agriculture in Valparaiso. The first railroad to arrive was the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne, and Chicago Railroad in 1858, which ended the town's relative isolation, and greatly expanded not only their connectivity, but also their resources and sales market. Valparaiso saw growth with numerous small businesses and factories producing various goods including: woolen mills, pins, paint, varnish, and furniture. Agriculture, produce, and dairy products, however, remained the largest economic base for Valparaiso, and were shipped to Chicago, Gary, and Whiting.

In order to encourage growth, business, and industry, the Valparaiso Improvement Association was formed in 1889. This Association, along with the Chamber of Commerce, organized in 1909, marketed and advertised the advantages and possibilities available in Valparaiso. The 20th century produced steady growth in all areas of Valparaiso's economy, and the community still continues to thrive today.



For questions or more information:
Please call (219)462-1161 or
Visit our website at www.ci.valparaiso.in.us/

Revised by the
Valparaiso Historic Preservation Commission
2011

FRANKLIN STREET HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

Valparaiso, Indiana



VALPARAISO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

FRANKLIN STREET HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

1 101 Institute Street,
c. 1930, Colonial Revival
First Church of
Christ Scientists



2 406 N. Franklin Street,
Indeterminate

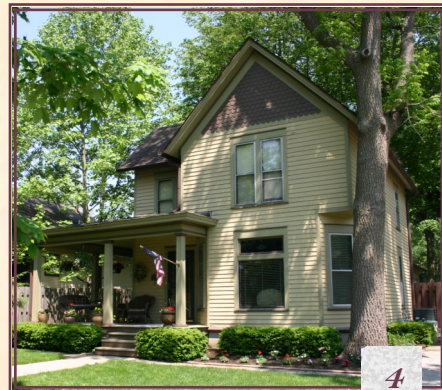
3 410 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1900, Gabled-ell



4 414 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1870, Free Classic

5 504 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1870, Vernacular

6 506 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1890, Gabled-ell



7 508 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1880s, Queen Anne

8 512 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1870, Italianate
John D. Wilson, builder

9 602 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1870, Italianate
John D. Wilson, builder

10 604 N. Franklin Street, c. 1870, Italianate
John D. Wilson, builder

11 606 N. Franklin Street, c. 1890s, Cross-plan

12 705 N. Franklin Street, c. 1910s, Craftsman

13 703 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1890s, T-plan

14 701 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1890s, Gabled-ell



(Front Cover, 505 N. Franklin
Back Cover, 703 N. Franklin)

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John D. Wilson was a prominent Italianate style builder in Valparaiso in the 1870's. He has five known remaining houses on Franklin Street.

15 607 N. Franklin Street, c. 1895, Cross-plan

16 605 N. Franklin Street, c.
1885, Italianate
John D. Wilson, builder

17 603 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1891, Italianate
John D. Wilson, builder

18 601 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1885, Gabled-ell

19 507 N. Franklin Street,
Indeterminate

20 505 N. Franklin Street, c. 1890, Queen Anne

21 501 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1880s, Italianate

22 411 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1880s, Italianate

23 409 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1895, Victorian

24 401 N. Franklin Street, c. 1880s, Italianate

25 305 N. Franklin Street, c. 1920s, Art Moderne/Art Deco
Old Valparaiso High School, now Central Elementary School



26 208 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1902/1916, Gothic Revival
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

27 202-204 N. Franklin Street,
c. 1908, Romanesque
Pioneer Apartments

