

GUIDE TO ARCHITECTURAL STYLES ON LAFAYETTE STREET

AMERICAN FOUR-SQUARE (1900-1930)

This style was part of the early Prairie school movement, and commonly features a square or rectangular plan, a low-pitched hipped roof, and symmetrical façade.

Decorative brickwork, carved wooden eave brackets, a central dormer window, and a one-story full-house-width porch distinguish this style.



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. Often, this style is used with the brick bungalow form.



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.



GABLE-FRONT (1830-1910)

This type is characterized by one or two stories with a steep pitched gable roof and one or two room wide plan. Unlike other vernacular house types, the gable-front typically does not have any side projections, bays or rooflines, and is a pure rectangle in plan. Ornamentation was often added in a variety of styles including Victorian and Queen Anne.



ITALIANATE (1840-1885)

This rectangular/square house usually consists of two or three stories with wide eaves supported by decorative brackets. It commonly has a symmetrical façade with tall narrow arched or curved windows with highly decorative surrounds, and a low-pitch hipped roof.



QUEEN ANNE (1880-1910)

The Queen Anne style combines medieval and classical elements for an eclectic mix of materials, patterns and richly ornamented 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, and a richly colored painting scheme.



TUDOR REVIVAL (1890-1940)

Features include a steeply pitched side-gabled roof, and often a front façade cross gable. Exterior walls can be stucco, brick, stone or wood. Tall narrow multi-pane windows and massive chimneys dominate the façade.



VERNACULAR: T-PLAN, CROSS-PLAN, GABLED-ELL (1870-1910)

Vernacular is a term used to describe a simplified house form with central-passage, 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. Multiple additions over time to the original house are common.



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 continues to do so 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

LAFAYETTE STREET HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

Valparaiso, Indiana



VALPARAISO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

LAFAYETTE STREET HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

1 302 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1880, Queen Anne



2

2 304 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1870, Free Classic

3 306 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1965, Ranch

4 310 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1870, I-House, Indeterminate

5 58 W. Institute Street, c. 1880/1910, Indeterminate

6 404 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1880s, Gable-front/Queen Anne



6

7 406 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1920, Craftsman Bungalow
The wrought iron fence at the
front of the property was taken
from the old City Cemetery.



7

8 408 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1905, Craftsman Bungalow

9 502 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1910, Tudor Revival



9

(Front Cover, 401 N. Lafayette; Back Cover 601 N. Lafayette)

10 504 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1870; Gable-front

11 506 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1893; Queen Anne

12 602 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1880s, Vernacular

13 604 N. Lafayette Street, Indeterminate

14 606 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1880, Gable-front

15 608 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1900, Gabled-ell

16 702 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1910, Free Classic

17 708 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1926-28, Tudor Revival



17



18

18 707 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1920, Tudor Revival

19 705 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1900, Vernacular

20 703 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1900, Bungalow/
Queen Anne Cottage

21 701 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1900, Vernacular

22 607 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1920, Colonial Revival

23 605 N. Lafayette Street, Indeterminate

24 603 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1900, English Cottage

25 601 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1925, American Four Square



24



11



15

26 507 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1900, Free Classic

27 503 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1860, Gable-front

28 501 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1890, Free Classic

29 407 N. Lafayette Street,
Indeterminate

30 405 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1930, Tudor Revival

31 401 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1920, Georgian

32 309 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1925, Craftsman



32

33 305 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1890, Queen Anne

34 303 N. Lafayette Street,
c. 1875, Gable-front/
Italianate

35 152 W. Erie Street,
c. 1888, Queen Anne

36 205 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1890, Queen Anne

37 203 N. Lafayette Street, c. 1876, Italianate



27



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36

