

Village of Lake Bluff

Landmark Homes Brochure

presented by the

Lake Bluff
Historic Preservation
Commission

A guide to educate the public of the
architectural and historic character
of the Village.

Common Landmark Designation Criteria:

The HPC considers its recommendation on landmark applications by using three sets of criteria, established by the Village Code, a sample of which, includes:

General Considerations:

1. Have significant character, interest or value as part of the historic, aesthetic, cultural, or architectural characteristics of the Village, Illinois or the United States;
2. Be closely identified with a person who significantly contributed to the culture or development of the Village, Illinois or the United States or have characteristics that makes it an established or familiar visual feature; or
3. Involve the notable efforts of, or is the only known example of work by a master builder, designer, architect, architectural firm, or artist whose individual accomplishment has influenced the development of the Village, Illinois, or the United States.

Architectural Significance:

1. Exemplify a particular architectural style in terms of detail, material, workmanship and have undergone little or no alterations since its original construction;
2. Represent certain distinguishing characteristics of architecture inherently valuable for the study of a time period, type of property, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials; or
3. Embodies elements of design, detail, material, or craftsmanship of exceptional quality.

Historic Significance:

1. Be an exceptional example of a historic or vernacular style or be one of the few remaining properties of its kind in the Village;
2. Have a strong association with the life or activities of a person who has significantly contributed to the historic or cultural events of the Village, Illinois, or the United States; or
3. Be associated with a notable historic event.

A complete listing of the criteria used by the Commission in considering landmark applications is available at lakebluff.org or by calling Village Hall (847-234-0774).

The Lake Bluff Register of Historic Places

40 E. Center Avenue

115 E. Center Avenue

525 E. Center Avenue

550 E. Center Avenue

700 E. Center Avenue

319 Crescent Drive

333 Crescent Drive

136 Green Bay Road

113 Moffett Road

231 E. Prospect Avenue

401 E. Prospect Avenue

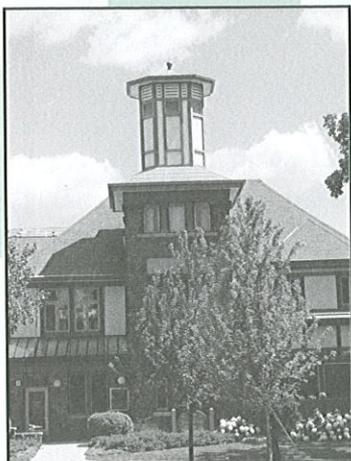
271 Ravine Forest Drive

548 E. Scranton Avenue

121 E. Sheridan Place

512 Sunrise Avenue





40 E. Center Avenue

Year built: 1905

Style: Tudor Revival

Architect: Webster Tomlinson

Historic Facts: The Village Hall, a Tudor Revival style building with Prairie details, was designed by architect Webster Tomlinson. Built in 1905, with money received as fees from the CN&W Railroad, the building has seen repairs and renovations in the 1970s and 1990s. It has served as the focal point of Village government for over 100 years.

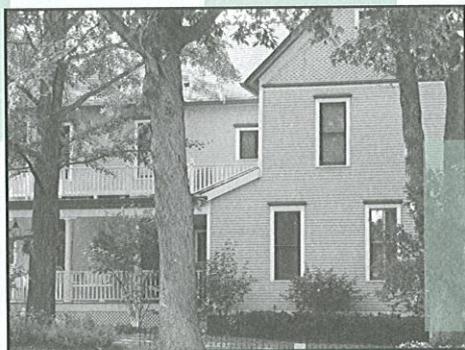
115 E. Center Avenue

Year built: 1888

Style: Queen Anne

Architect: Unknown

Historic Facts: Reverend Charles Trusdell, a Methodist minister and leader of the Lake Bluff Camp Meeting Association, built this house. Trusdell was the town's first Village President and built this house in the Queen Anne style in 1887 located near the heart of town.



525 E. Center Avenue

Year built: 1915

Style: Tudor Revival

Architect: Vernon W. Behel

Historic Facts: The John G. Magaw House., designed in 1914 by Lake Bluff architect, Vernon W. Behel, is historically significant for reflecting building development during a period of transition, when Lake Bluff was evolving from a small Christian summer resort to a suburban village. It is architecturally

significant as an excellent example of a suburban house designed in a style that combines Tudor Revival, Prairie and Craftsman features.



550 E. Center Avenue

Year built: 1905

Style: Queen Anne

Architect: Unknown

Historic Facts: A Queen Anne style home with a wrap around porch and a round tower, this home was built in 1905 by John Murdock. Murdock and his business partner, B.F. Keith, operated a chain of vaudeville and movie theaters. Later they were to enter into a merger that created RKO studios.

700 E. Center Avenue

Year built: 1936

Style: French Eclectic

Architect: Jerome Cerney

Historic Facts: Known as Claire Haven, this home is a French Norman style house with a tower and slate roofs. The house is architecturally significant for its distinctive architecture and gardens, remodeled by local architect Jerome Cerny, in 1936. The house is also socially significant as the home of Marion Claire, an internationally famous opera singer, and her husband Henry Weber, former conductor of the Chicago Civic Opera orchestra.



319 Crescent Drive

Year built: 1937

Style: French Eclectic

Architect: Probst & Probst and Stanley Anderson

Historic Facts: French Eclectic architecture defines this home set on the side of a ravine. It was built in 1937, the first house on Crescent Drive and one of the first in the Ravine Forest subdivision. The architect was Probst & Probst of Chicago and the first owner was Ralph Hines, president of the Edward Hines Lumber Company.



333 Crescent Drive

Year built: 1938

Style: Colonial Revival

Architect: William D. Mann

Historic Facts: This two story Colonial Revival home was built in 1939 for J. Gardener Goodrich. The architect was William Mann of Highland Park the designer of six homes in Highland Park which have received landmark status. The home has recently been restored maintaining the original design.

136 Green Bay Road

Year built: 1916

Style: Unknown

Architect: Howard Van Doren Shaw (structure) and Jens Jensen (landscape)

Historic Facts: Built in 1916 for William V. Kelley, a manufacturer and financier, Howard Van Doren Shaw designed the Manor House and Gate House and worked with Jens Jensen to fit the buildings into the landscape. The gateposts, the lagoon and the stone bridge with the long entry drive through the woods leading to the house, were all part of the original design. In 1934 the estate was sold to William Patton Murphy, industrialist and philanthropist who bequeathed the estate to Northwestern University. The university sold the site to the Servite Order of the Catholic Church.



113 Moffett Road

Year built: 1922

Style: French Eclectic

Architect: David Adler

Historic Facts: Once used as the orangerie for the Morse Ely Estate, it was separated and sold off from the original estate in the 1950s. It is important to note that the orangerie is one of several structures located on the Ely Estate, which also includes the Estate House, Gate Homes (along Moffett Road), and the north wing of the Estate House (relocated to the west lawn).



231 E. Prospect Avenue

Year built: 1917

Style: Prairie

Architect: Frank Lloyd Wright

Historic Facts: As an American Systems-Built home, this landmark is one of the few remaining Frank Lloyd Wright homes of its kind in the Midwest. Between 1915 and 1917,



Wright designed a series of standardized “system-built” homes and were his first experiment with mass production. The characteristically low cantilevered roofs, the linear wood trim visually unifying the stucco wall planes, and the geometric decoration of the art-glass windows constitute a compelling modern alternative to the typical suburban bungalow.



401 E. Prospect Avenue

Year built: 1927

Style: Colonial Revival

Architect: Elmer Vliet

Historic Facts: A home, whose architecture was a prime example of the style of homes in the Village during the first half of the 20th century, is best known for its original owner, Elmer Vliet. Vliet epitomized the concept of volunteerism and civic spirit that helped to develop the character and unique pride found throughout the Village today. The Vliet Center for Lake Bluff History bares his name as a tribute to his public service and commitment to documenting Village history.

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271 Ravine Forest Drive

Year built: 1940

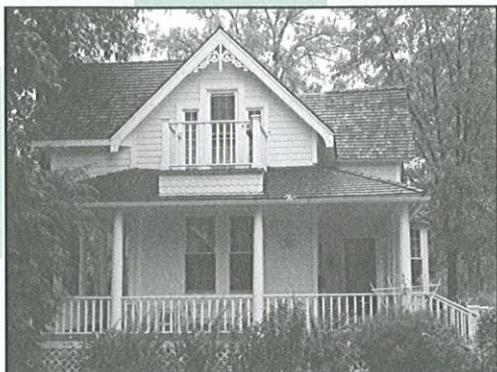
Style: Colonial Revival

Architect: Harlan & Harlan Homes

Historic Facts: An excellent example of its architectural style, the side gabled roof, symmetrical floor plan with side wings, elaborate classical door surrounds, a brick veneer, double hung windows incorporating multiple



panes of glass, and dormers are all characteristic of the Colonial Revival style. During the time of its construction, the architectural detailing of this style was considerably simplified due to cost and restraints on using certain building materials during World War II.



548 E. Scranton Avenue

Year built: 1875

Style: T-Form Cottage

Architect: Unknown

Historic Facts: Located two blocks from the Lake Bluff Camp Meeting Association's tabernacle, this dwelling, built to resemble the letter "T", would have served as sleeping quarters for summer residents. Built on property owned by the Camp Meeting Association, this residence is one of only 10 remaining T-form cottages in the Village.

121 E. Sheridan Place

Year built: 1895

Style: Gothic Revival

Architect: Unknown

Historic Facts: Built in 1895, the original school held 1st through 8th grades in four large classrooms - two grades for every classroom. The school was enlarged in 1923 when the gothic style center doorway was added as well as the gymnasium and seven classrooms.

The west wing was built in two phases, the first floor in 1947 and the second floor added in 1950. An outside theater space, designed by Howard Van Doren Shaw, was used for graduations and school performances.



512 Sunrise Avenue

Year built: 1928

Style: Tudor Revival

Architect: Unknown

Historic Facts: This two-story arts and crafts residence facing the lake was built in 1928 when Lake Bluff was experiencing a building boom. The stucco exterior and decorative entrance are original as are many of the interior elements.



Demolished Landmark Designated Properties

210 E. Center Avenue
700 Forest Cove Road
624 E. Prospect Avenue
345 E. Scranton Avenue





210 E. Center Avenue

Year built: 1890s

Style: Side Hall

Architect: Unknown

Historic Facts: A structure with a gable front cottage and side hall dating from the 1890s. The house was built in the era when Lake Bluff was the center of the Methodist Camp Meeting association resort. It was one of the few, intact homes that typified the camp meeting era with

its double front porches and gable front. The house was demolished and replaced with a facsimile house that reproduces the gable front and double porches. The developer worked with the HPC and Village to retain the historical references of the original house.

Learn more about Lake Bluff
historic preservation at lakebluff.org.

700 Forest Cove Road

(Sprague-Armstrong-Isham Estate)

Year built: 1915

Style: French Eclectic

Architect: Harrie Lindeberg and
Jerome Cerny

Historic Facts: New York based Harrie
Lindeberg designed the original A.A.

Sprague estate house at what is now
700 Forest Cove Road. The house was



substantially altered by Jerome Cerny for Mr. and Mrs. Julian Armstrong in the 1930s. Cerny demolished part of the Lindeberg designed house and made it smaller. The house was then further remodeled by Cerny and Lake Forest-based architect, Walter Frazier, in the 1950s for Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Isham. The house was demolished in 2009.



624 E. Prospect Avenue

Year built: 1917

Style: Prairie

Architect: Unknown

Historic Facts: No longer standing, this home was an excellent example of the Prairie style of architecture popularized by Frank Lloyd Wright, and prevalent

during the early 1900's. The house's broad overhangs, horizontal clapboard siding and natural finishes typify the Prairie style. This home was built by the Wintermeyer family, who were camp meeting visitors during the 1890's and founding members of the Union Church, and who provide a rare, direct link to Lake Bluff's past.

345 E. Scranton Avenue

Year built: 1885

Style: Cross-Form

Architect: Unknown

Historic Facts: This cross-form cottage with a covered front & side porch was built by Captain Henry Cribben in 1886. The home was a prominent structure in Lake Bluff for 120 years representing the camp



meeting era. Henry Cribben served in the Civil War, was a survivor of the battle for Little Round-Top at Gettysburg and later captured by the Confederate Army. A prominent businessman, he owned and operated the Cribben & Sexton Universal Stove Co. in Chicago.

Goals of the Historic Preservation Program:

- Foster civic pride in the accomplishments of the past;
- Preserve and promote the Village's historic character;
 - Maintain and improve property values;
- Protect and enhance the Village's aesthetic character;
 - Establish polices regarding preservation;
 - Encourage landmark designation status; and
- Educate residents on the importance of preservation.

Lake Bluff

Historic Preservation Commission

As Lake Bluff is a community with a rich historical, cultural, and architectural character that is unique among other Illinois communities, the Village Board of Trustees adopted the Lake Bluff Historic Preservation Ordinance ("HPO") to maintain these characteristics. In addition to establishing the Village's historic preservation program, the HPO also created the Historic Preservation Commission ("HPC"). The HPC, as an advisory body to the Village Board, is responsible for educating Village residents on the importance of preservation and recommending policies regarding the preservation, protection, enhancement, rehabilitation, reconstruction, maintenance, and use of the Village's historic structures, sites, and landscapes.

Recognizing the Benefits of Preservation

The Village recognizes the importance of historic preservation by offering residents the opportunity to receive property tax benefits by participating in the State administered Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program. In addition to the tax benefits associated with historic preservation, Lake Bluff landmark property owners receive a bronze plaque to attach to the house in honor of its historic significance.



***Village of Lake Bluff
40 E. Center Avenue,
Lake Bluff, Illinois 60044***