

Self-Guided Walking Tour

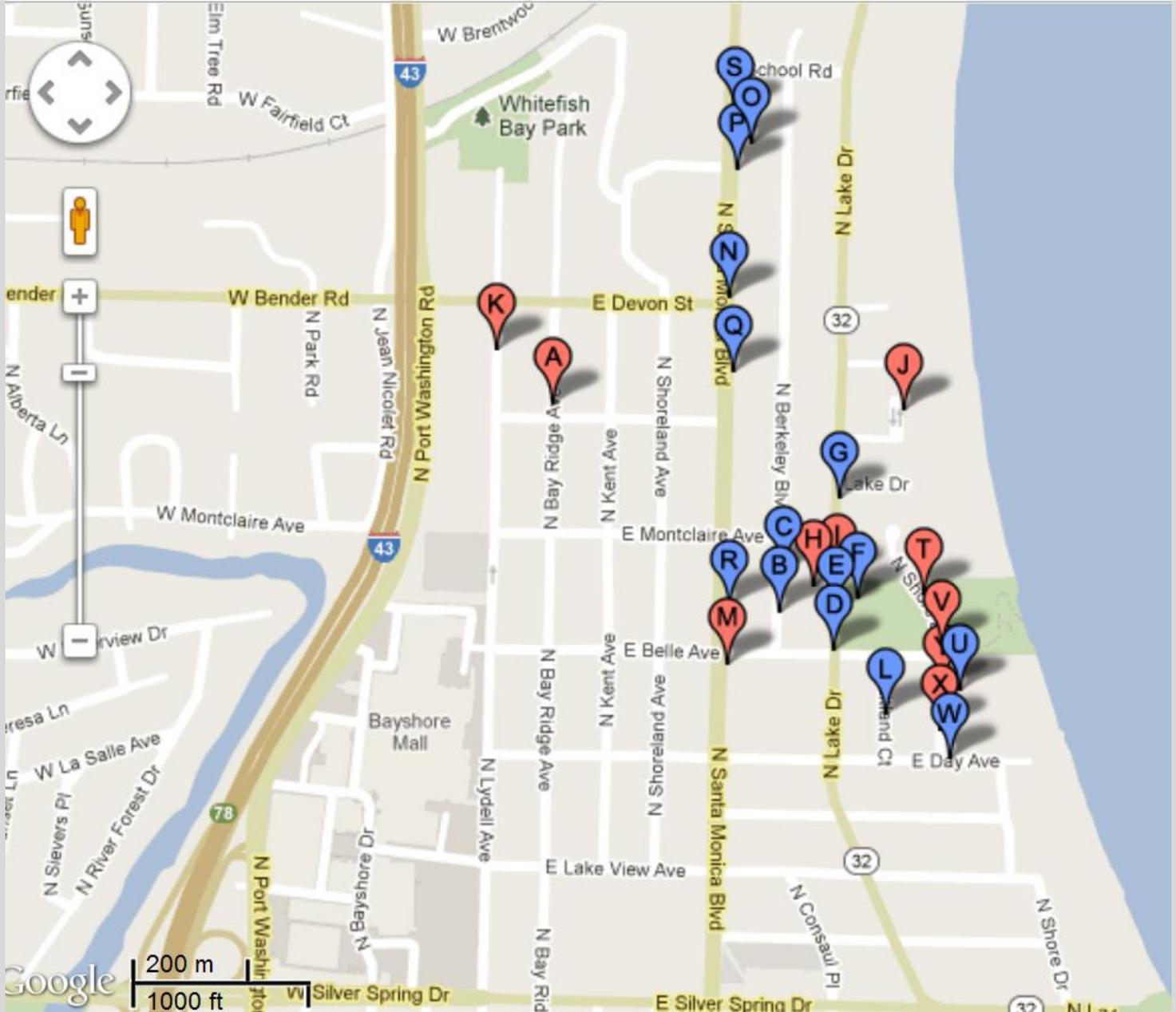
Whitefish Bay History and Architecture Tour

Tour Three:

Neighborhoods in Northern WFB



Scan with your Mobile Device to access the interactive map for this Walking Tour



Sites determined to be historic or architecturally significant in the Northern portion of the Village of Whitefish Bay, WI

Welcome to the Village of Whitefish Bay

Our Village is a community of attractive residential neighborhoods, punctuated with a vibrant district of fine stores, excellent schools and welcoming houses of worship. It is filled with homes and other buildings that are architecturally rich, well-designed and maintained, and diverse in character.

Past Village residents have contributed much to the broad cultural, political, economic and social history of the area. Its current residents are interested in maintaining their connection with the community's historic past.

To help maintain these connections, the Whitefish Bay Historic Preservation Commission has been identifying buildings and other sites within the Community that are architecturally significant or historic.

This self guided walking tour features sites within the northern portion of the Village of Whitefish Bay. Sidewalk medallions have been installed in front of many of these properties, to aid in their recognition.

Several of the sites on this tour are early farm houses, characteristic of the period when this portion of the Village was very rural in nature. Other sites on the tour represent some of the architecturally significant homes in the Village.

This tour is designed to be traversed in about one hour. You are free to walk to the sites in any order, using the map on the first page. The sites are listed below in alphabetical order of the Street Addresses. The map may also be viewed on many smartphones, using the QR link on the first page.

Additional information on these sites is available at the Reference Desk of the Whitefish Bay Library or online in the Historic Preservation Commission section of the Village's website (www.wfbvillage.org).

The Whitefish Bay Architecture and History Inventory

The Whitefish Bay Historic Preservation Commission has identified and catalogued these sites in its Architecture and History Inventory (AHI). The AHI serves as a tool by which information is gathered and used to identify sites that may be eligible for designation as local historic landmarks.

The AHI is obviously not a complete listing of all historic or architecturally significant sites within the Village. It reflects, at best, a start of the process that is expected to continue into the indefinite future.

The Whitefish Bay Public Library maintains a complete copy of the inventory at its Reference Desk.

If you are interested in getting your residence added to the AHI, you are encouraged to file an application with the Commission. Information about researching your home is available on-line in the Historic Preservation Commission's section of the Village's website. Applications can also be downloaded from the site.

Please respect the rights of private property owners when viewing any of the properties on this Walking Tour and obey all traffic laws.

A LOCAL NO. 150

Trayton H. and Marjorie A. Davis 6110 N. Bay Ridge Avenue

An exemplary local example of a residence designed in the Colonial Revival style of architecture. Circa: 1930

B LOCAL NO. 111

The Edward McIntyre Residence 5936 N. Berkeley Blvd.

A 'Vaulted Tudor' residence constructed by the John Edwards, Co. and designed by architects Wesley L. Hess and George A. Kemnitz in the English Tudor Revival style. Circa: 1930

C LOCAL NO. 145

Frederick and Anna Grams 5967 North Berkeley Boulevard

One of the earliest surviving farmhouses in Whitefish Bay. It is believed to have been built in 1869 or 1870. Frederick Grams was a farmer, originally from Prussia - also worked as a carpenter. Anna was from Mecklenberg (a section of Germany). They had a large family of 8 children. They owned the land that eventually became Klode Park in WFB. Circa: 1870s

D LOCAL NO. 83

Reinhold and Anna Knop House 5915 N. Lake Dr.

This Queen Anne-style residence sits on the west side of North Lake Drive, directly across from Klode Park, this residence was built for Reinhold and Anna Knop and their family. Built in 1893, it was extensively remodeled in the late 1990s. Reinhold Knop and his wife Anna were early settlers of the Village. They purchased land on Lake Drive in the Town of Milwaukee (now Whitefish Bay) in 1891, and had this home built in 1893 – the year after the Village was incorporated. Circa: 1893

E LOCAL NO. 139

Alfred Knop House 5925 North Lake Drive

Good example of early Tudor-style residence. Alfred's parents, Reinhold (Richard) and Anna were early settlers of the Village. They purchased land on Lake Drive in the Town of Milwaukee (now WFB) in 1891 and built the adjacent home (5915 N. Lake Dr) in 1893, the year after the Village was incorporated. They gave their son Alfred the land for this house upon his marriage. Circa: 1920s

F LOCAL NO. 140

Ferdinand Grams 5955 N. Lake Dr.

Home of Ferdinand Grams, son of Fred and Anna Grams whose house is noted as "C" above. Ferdinand lived in the home until his death in the 1950s. Built in 1912.

G LOCAL NO. 143

Dr. B. G. Narodick 6018 N. Lake Dr.

Designed by the firm Willis and Lillian Leenhouts for an estimated price of \$35,000. Two story brick and wood siding. Addition added in 1989 by same firm. Constructed by Nick Eisert Circa: 1955

H LOCAL NO. 179

The Raymond & Teresa Jaekels House 5960 N. Lake Drive

This house was determined to be an exemplary local example of a residence designed in the Second Empire style of architecture. It was built by H. Schmitt & Sons. Circa: 1929

I LOCAL NO. 180

Arthur J. & Margaret Butzen House 5966 N. Lake Drive

An exemplary local example of a residence designed in the Spanish Colonial style of architecture. The architect was Raymond W. Dwyer. Circa: 1940

J LOCAL NO. 181

Rita Jane Goldmann House 6130 N. Lake Drive Court

An exemplary local example of a residence designed in the Tudor Revival style of architecture. The builder was Zaplewski Construction Co. Circa: 1931

K LOCAL NO. 188

Anthony & Pearl Sottile House 6156 N. Lydell Avenue

This well-maintained period house is an exemplary local example of a residence designed in the French Provincial style of architecture. The architect was Raymond O. Steffen. Circa: 1951

L LOCAL NO. 144

Sidney Siesel House 5843 N. Maitland

Designed by the Willis and Lillian Leenhouts Architectural firm. Extensive sympathetic addition added in later years. This house of Contemporary Ranch design was built in 1950 for Sidney Siesel and his family. The modest Ranch house was substantially remodeled in 2005 for the current owner. Circa: 1950

M LOCAL NO. 45

Richards School 5812 N Santa Monica Blvd.

School building of Brick Collegiate Gothic with entry tower and wide segmental arch. Gothic tracery between windows.

N LOCAL NO. 4b

University School Milwaukee 6201 N. Santa Monica Blvd.

Concrete Tudor Revival with some one-half timbering; details obscured by ivy.

O LOCAL NO. 92

The Fred Zindler Residence 6344 N. Santa Monica Blvd.

Built under the "New American" home program inaugurated in 1935 by the General Electric Company as an experiment in helping to provide general information on better, more livable houses. Featured in a June 1936 article in Wisconsin Electric's Rail and Wire magazine. Circa: 1936

P LOCAL NO. 136

Gottfried and Caroline Funke's House 6310 N. Santa Monica Blvd.

Gottfried Funke's house, built in early 1880s. His sons were plumbing contractors and serviced many homes in Whitefish Bay. Circa: 1880s

Q LOCAL NO. 137

Carl Steffen House 6166 N. Santa Monica Blvd.

Carl Steffen house, built 1880s, remodeled since. Parents' old frame house stood to South of it, was torn down in 1960s. Circa: 1880s

R LOCAL NO. 138

Joseph and Magdalena Patza's house 5932 N. Santa Monica Boulevard

Joseph and Magdalena Patza's house, built in late 1860s to 1870s. Original portion of north end; south addition built later. House went to daughter Anna and husband, Henry Lemke. Gen Geraty, a granddaughter, said that the house was built on an angle because of an apple orchard the family had. Circa: 1860

S LOCAL NO. 141

John and Mini Heims' Farmhouse 6350 N. Santa Monica Blvd.

Built in 1887? – was the Heims' farmhouse. The home went to their daughter and son-in-law, the Patzas, in the early 1900s. The present owner has turned her front yard into beautiful flower gardens accessible by the handicapped. Circa: 1880s

T LOCAL NO. 88

George T. and Lucille M. Meyer Home 5960 North Shore Drive

This distinctive house was built in 1934 for George T. and Lucille M. (nee Sickinger) Meyer. It is located on a bluff overlooking Lake Michigan, immediately to the north of the Village's Klode Park. George T. Meyer was the general manager of the Geo J Meyer Mfg. Co, founded by his father, which made bottle cleaning equip for breweries and other industries. The Meyers had an annual tradition of celebrating the 4th of July with a spectacular fireworks display. For fifty years, between 1935 and 1985, their display attracted hundreds onto the hillside in adjacent Klode Park.

Circa: 1934

U LOCAL NO. 122

The W. E. Gifford Residence 5961 N. Shore Drive

The home was constructed in the year 1950 for the original owner of the property, W. E. Gifford. It was designed in a contemporary Prairie School style by architect Jesse Claude Caraway, who studied under Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin . Although it lacks the overt organic detailing of the most famed prairie school buildings, it nevertheless stands out in its neighborhood of traditional Tudor and Georgian homes. The most prominent features of the home are the strong line of the deeply overhanging eaves, and the large masonry chimney, both ubiquitous among prairie school style homes. Circa: 1949-51

V LOCAL NO. 142

Howard and Mary Tobin 6009 N. Shore Dr.

Designed by Willis Leenhouts; two story brick veneer. Constructed by Nick Eisert. Estimated original purchase price \$14,000

W LOCAL NO. 147

John and Tillie M. Geerlings House 5822 N. Shore Drive

The original building application for this residence was signed on May 9, 1927 by Cornelius Leenhouts as architect, and Tillie D. Mueller as owner. Circa: 1927

X LOCAL NO. 201

Dr. Edwards H. & Katherine Mensing House 5827 N. Shore Drive

An exemplary local example of a residence designed in the French Provincial style of architecture. The architect was Val M. Schramka. Circa: 1927

Y LOCAL NO. 202

Dr. Leon H. & Mrs. Thelma Guerin House 5867 N. Shore Drive

An exemplary local example of a residence designed in the Georgian Revival style of architecture. The architect was A. L. Grootemaat & Son Inc. Circa: 1936