

#62

THE ERAS OF ARCHITECTURAL INFLUENCE

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The Eras of Architectural Influence

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The New Settlement

The pioneers naturally brought certain ideas and ideals with them as they trudged their way slowly, but surely, over the lands and rivers to the ever receding West. These ideas were modified and many times lost, only to be replaced as a new way of life began. The first pioneers to settle in the area of what is now Kalamazoo were no different in this respect than any others, the environment being the variable fact involved. Shelter as one of the basic necessities for human life was therefore of the utmost importance in the settlement of a new realm of human existence. The description of man and his home in reference to architectural design and those factors which have influenced his choice is the subject for this discussion of the Kalamazoo area. However brief it may be, for the theme is as endless and as varied as human desires, certain clear-cut eras of influence can be noted and some consistency found. It is in connection with these architectural designs which rise above the bare necessities that I have proceeded to direct my research and investigation.

It must be remembered that primitive stages of shelter are dependent upon materials found within the new environment, and the area surrounding this part of the country afforded its first settlers with an abundant supply of wood, mainly of ten or twelve varieties of oak.¹ These permanent visitors followed the trails worn by the Indians, missionaries, and fur traders to reach their new home in the wilderness, and thus in June of 1829 Titus Bronson made his way to the Kalamazoo region for the purpose of establishing a community.² In order that his claim might be

1. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880 Page 91.
2. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880. Page 85.

known to others, as was the custom, he constructed a crude tamarack hut, or claim shanty as it was more commonly known, as a means of establishing ownership.¹ Thus this hut was the beginning of the history of architectural design in Kalamazoo, as graceless and harsh as it must have appeared, standing alone in the wilderness as man's first attempt to settle and dominate this new environment.

Generally speaking, these huts could not be referred to as a home in reality for they were undoubtedly livable only during the warmer seasons, as their construction was similar to a lean-to or shed with a covering of grass or leaves to supplement the walls of logs, affording its occupants shelter in the barest sense of the word.² Upon the first signs of winter, Titus Bronson returned to a nearby settlement, Prairie Ronde, with his wife and child for refuge from the on-coming season, and to lay plans for his return in the future.³ His first real home, of log cabin style, he constructed in 1831 near the location of what is now the corner of Church and Water Streets.⁴ Consisting of a double wall of logs, it was of the more primitive log cabin style described below.

These first log houses were laid by notching the tree trunks, with the rough ends protruding from the corners, until a desired height was obtained, and then laid in degrees until a peak was formulated at the top. They were often roofed with hay or grass until oak shakes were made use of which were held in place by poles tied at both ends over each layer. A

1. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880. Page 210.
2. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880. Page 210-250, passim.
3. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880. Page 210-250, passim.
4. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880. Page 210-250, passim.

more advanced construction of the roof employed the use of pine and white-wood shingles held down by a similar means as mentioned. There were no nails or pieces of iron and the door was hung by means of wooden hinges and windows, if brought over the pioneer trail, were kept in place by wooden pegs. However, many pioneers merely kept the elements from entering by hanging blankets or scarfs across the openings. The floor consisted of packing and smoothing the earth and often there was no chimney, but only a square hold overhead for the release of smoke from the winter fires. A more advanced stage was culminated in the squaring of the logs to be used in the wall construction, in rafters for the support of roofs, and by the use of split timbers, hewed smooth, for the laying of the floor. Stick chimneys laid with mortar of sand and clay could be found at one end and until the use of lumber and brick could be taken advantage of, this was the only means at hand for home design of the new settlement.¹

In 1830, William Harris constructed a log cabin near what is now the corner of West and Water Streets which was truly a primitive dwelling, built of logs laid flat upon the ground and carried to a man's height at one end with a one-way slanting roof composed of poles and marsh grass. The floor of soil, openings for doors and windows, and the absence of a chimney made up a crude habitat indeed.²

Additional settlers began to tread their way to this location, among them including Nathian Harrison, William Mead, Cyrus Loyal, who built the first so-called basement with a trap door as its entrance, Elisha Hall, the first carpenter by trade, and David S. Dillie, a manufacturer of brick.³

1. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880. Page 89-92, passim.
2. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880. Page 210-212, passim.
3. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880. Page 210-215, passim.

In 1833 there were fifteen families situated in this area, living in dwellings ranging from crude claim shanties to the more advanced log houses spoken of above. The settlement grew slowly, and then more rapidly upon the transfer of the land office from White Pigeon to Bronson, as Kalamazoo was then called, in 1834.¹

The sight of the log cabin located on the grounds of the President's home of Western Michigan College is a familiar one. But its essence is not of those first homes built in this area, for as one can see by the accompanying picture the logs are laid with the help of mortar, and the windows are of a paned type. The shingles on the upper sections of the walls and the presence of the porch are also not true of the log cabins built by the first settlers. In reality, this cabin was built by a Mr. Streeter as a play house for his grandchildren near the end of the nineteenth century.²

Architectural design was afforded the stimulus to change upon the construction of the first saw mill in this locality in the year of 1835, and with the arrival of several home-builders such as Dwight C. Grimes and Willard and Cooley.³ Lumber and brick were now obtainable, at least to those who had the wealth to afford them, and new styles and designs were brought into this primitive settlement. From this point, Greek Revival Architecture, in its varied and diverse forms, dominates the domestic scene for the following thirty years of home construction and design.

1. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880, Page 210.
3. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880, Page 210-220, passim.
2. Personal Interview; Mrs. Charles Hays, April 8, 1956.

One further consideration to note at this time, is that from this point on, I am attempting to show the dominant architectural influences, and it must be remembered that many homes were constructed which were of no specific plan of design, but merely referred to as box shaped homes. For only the wealthy seemed to be in the position of displaying grandeur of taste in keeping with the design of the times.

Greek Revival

Eventhough Greek Revival Architecture dominates this era from about 1835 to 1855, another movement in styling seems to coincide with it, this being the design of American Gothic which is hidden in the shadow of the return to Classic ideas. One reason being that it required more skill and hand craftsmanship to produce ornamental designs, which the early builders did not possess.¹ I have included it, however, within the pages of this narration, for I feel that it was a trend of importance, for many homes were built under the influencing touches of this plan of construction.

American Gothic is characterised by its high pointed roofs, gables with ornamental barge boards, delicate moldings along the eaves and porch supports and railings, the presence of scalloped shingles or moldings along the wall of the upper story within the gabled portion of the roof, a high chimney, and with its basic material of wood. Often pointed or arched windows are found, especially in the upper stories, but this influence has many times disappeared in favor of the square and diamond paned casements.² It seems that these homes were constructed in a smaller percentage than the Greek Revival, among the more prosperous builders, and this may well be the reason that it has been overlooked as a major trend in architectural design. The accompanying picture is one of the best homes I could find which demonstrated a few of the characteristics mentioned above, and it is easily seen how the ornamental shingles are used and in addition how it is a contrast to the classical simplicity and unity of the Greek Revival.

1. Personal Interview: Peter VanderLaan of Kingscott's Architects; April 11, 1956.
2. Michigan; Writer's Program; Oxford University Press, New York, 1941, page 168.

Thomas S. Cobb, who arrived in the city in 1854, owned and operated a mercantile business here for many years, and in 1857 he constructed a typical Gothic style home containing fourteen rooms.¹ It is interesting to note that in 1943 his daughter Anna F. Cobb wrote in a letter to the Kalamazoo Gazette that as a young girl she had felt embarrassed as to the style of their home,² and from this one feels that the design was not too popular among Kalamazoo residents. Another home builder of this early style of dwelling was William De Yoe, who erected a full brick home with a high peaked roof. Mr. De Yoe was most noted for his position as postmaster of Kalamazoo from 1853-1857, in addition to being an able attorney in connection with 'De Yoe and Balch'.³

As Greek Revival, as well as American Gothic, were the earliest styles of architecture, the former being constructed in brick as well as in frame, there are few still standing today as a monument of their times. And it is for this reason that as you walk along the streets of Kalamazoo today you rarely find a pure form of either design, but merely a touch here and there which has endured the trial of time and taste. Hence, many homes built later than the dates mentioned were constructed along these lines, but were merely throwbacks of a later period or merely a borrowing of certain features and not a true copying of the entire design. Thus we have a revival of Greek Revival, which occurs in the Age of Elegance, or Victorian period, in relation to Kalamazoo, for Victorian has borrowed from every preceding period with the result of a congestion of designs in homes of every imagination. But this I leave until a little later for further discussion.

1. Scrapbook of Pioneer Homes; Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.
2. Scrapbook of Pioneer Homes; Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.
3. Scrapbook Of Pioneer Homes; Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.

The Greek Revival was given an impetus due to the war of independence which the Greeks were engaged in against the Turks, and for romantic reasons such as this, the people here in Kalamazoo, as elsewhere in the United States, began to copy the styles and lines of the ancient Greek temples.¹ Since Michigan was rapidly growing at this time, and Kalamazoo with it, many homes were built along this form, with porticos having heavy columns topped with simple cornices, usually of the doric style, and plain pilasters. In general it was only the external details which were copied and which prevailed in home building in the Kalamazoo area. The low slanted roof, beneath which an entablature of simple lines containing the cornice is found, and square windows and doors with rectangular moldings are typical features in homes of this type. The reason for such simplicity is based on the fact that the Greeks built with the use of rectangular blocks which lead to a plain and unified beauty. This style, as with all others, went through various and endless modifications. The columns were reduced to boards on either side of the door and at the corners of the building. The entablature became more and more ornamental and less extensive, and the returns became extinct. What few curves there were being lost to straight edges completely, for this took a certain amount of skill which was not abundant at this time.⁴ The best example of Greek Revival which is still standing today is the Purcell home in Schoolcraft which was erected in the late 1830's,⁵ and the only

1. Personal Interview; Peter VanderLaan of Kingscott's Architects.
2. Personal Interview; A. Praus of Kalamazoo Public Museum, March 4, 1956.
3. Personal Interview; A. Praus of Kalamazoo Public Museum, March 4, 1956.
4. Personal Interview; Peter VanderLaan of Kingscott's Architects.
5. Personal Interview; A. Praus of Kalamazoo Public Museum.

one of a pure nature to be found in Kalamazoo today is on Lovell Street. This brick Greek Revival home, supposedly the oldest brick home in Kalamazoo,¹ is believed to have been built in or near the year of 1836, and the original owner is not known. Today it is used as an insurance office, and the photograph here included portrays its simple and unified lines, complete with columns, cornices, and square windows and door.

At the location of 527 W. South Street, E.H. Van Deusen, a leading philanthropist of his time, established his residence a few years after his arrival in 1858. Mr. Van Deusen's fame lies mostly in his aid in establishing the mental hospital of which he was superintendent until 1878.² A home built during the early years of the transition from Greek Revival to Victorian, it displays more of the former influence in its columns and entablature than it does of the latter features.

1. Personal Interview: A. Praus of Kalamazoo Public Museum.
2. Scrapbook of Pioneer Homes; Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.

Age of Elegance

As Greek Revival began to lose its predominance in taste, Victorian design entered the scene during the eighteen-sixties, following a decade of transition between the two. Victorian is often referred to as the Age of Elegance and the reason can well be seen after viewing homes of this era. Having arrived on the domestic scene after the Civil War, the locality in and about Kalamazoo was gaining economically and many homes were constructed on an extravagant plan until the close of the nineteenth century. These homes were the centers of Kalamazoo society of the inhabitants at this time.

During the transitional stage, Victorian borrowed greatly from both Greek Revival and American Gothic, and in the sixties a style of rectangular homes, built on a grand scale, with high ceilings, tall doors and windows, spacious rooms, and often as not a cupola perched high upon the almost flat roof became the fad of the day.¹ Constructed of either wood, stone, or brick these homes gave any viewer an air of austerity which soon becomes lost in the later Victorian mansions. Examples of early Victorian owners are Hon. H. G. Wells, who served as the president of the village board of trustees during four different years, and who was in charge of the agricultural college at Michigan State during the middle of the nineteenth century;² Colonel F. W. Curtenius; Fred K. Bush; and Mary Trowbridge. Pictures of their homes are found in the History of Kalamazoo County and these represent the true forms of early Victorian styles.

1. Story of Architecture in America, R. Tallmadge, New York, 1928, Part IV, passim.
2. History of Kalamazoo County; Philadelphia, 1880. Page 235.

As the Age of Elegance progressed toward the twilight of the nineteenth century the style became more elaborate with gingerbread becoming more generous in proportion, higher roofs, and the inclusion of towers and spires became the custom. Many of these later characteristics were borrowed from Gothic to a great extent, coupled with extractions from Romanesque and Greek Revival, and the connotation of such eclectic design seems to be one of disfavor among architects of today.¹ Rambling, spacious homes began to grow up with elaborate moldings, ornate chimneys, leaded glass casements with stained windows and many, varied forms of ornamental and showy features, such as a decorative railing around a flagpole atop the house.

In 1882, H. F. Horton built a home at the corner of Westnedge and South, of hand-hewn Vermont stone in the Victorian style, and it contained glass stained windows in the dining and stair area. Mr. Horton gave this home to his daughter Mary and her husband Giles Chittenden Burnham², and it is now occupied by the Gown Shop. O. M. Allen constructed a similar home in 1885 at the corner of Allen Boulevard and W. Main Street, which was of three stories and displayed a generous amount of gingerbread.³ A Victorian mansion of native stone was erected in 1891 by M. H. Lane, who was a local merchant, at the corner of Michigan and Westnedge.⁴ The Peck Mansion, which is presently being used as the Kalamazoo Public Museum, was built just before the turn of the century by a Mr. Peck who was associated with banking and lumbering in this area.⁵ Julius Caesar Burrows,

1. Personal Interview; Peter VanderLaan.
2. Scrapbook of Pioneer Homes: Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.
3. Scrapbook of Pioneer Homes: Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.
4. Scrapbook of Pioneer Homes: Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.
5. Scrapbook of Pioneer Homes: Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.

one of Kalamazoo's more famous men, constructed a home at 315 Woodward Avenue in the above style.¹ The Castle, built in the early nineties by Frank Henderson of Henderson-Ames Company, a manufacturer of merchandise,² is constructed of brick and is a picture of grandeur with its roccoco tower. Its approximate cost at that time was \$72,000. This home, located on the West Main hill, was the social center for the elite groups of Kalamazoo residents for many years.³ The above are just a few of the many homes of this era, and by viewing the included photographs of these typical dwellings, from the more simple to the more elaborate, a good reflection of the times can be seen. These homes added a great deal of charm with their beautifully kept lawns, an abundance of flowers, ample shade trees, and the presence of neatly laid plank sidewalks to the prosperous city of Kalamazoo. As one walks along the streets of the older residential sections of the city one finds an abundance of early, middle, and late Victorian homes standing as extravagant clues to the life which existed in this Age of Elegance.

1. Scrapbook of Pioneer Homes: Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.
2. Scrapbook of Pioneer Homes: Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.
3. Scrapbook of Pioneer Homes: Kalamazoo Public Library, 1943.

Colonialism

The dawn of the twentieth century initiated an era of architectural design of simplicity in direct contrast with the preceding Age of Elegance, whose elaborate carved moldings, embellished towers and spires, and extensive forms of gingerbread had ceased to be the fancy of the home builder's eye. The formal grandeur of the Victorian modes had become blase indeed, and a return to the simpler forms of architecture led to a retrospection of the colonial forms which had existed in the earliest areas of the country. These styles, some purer than others, are to be seen today in abundance throughout the city of Kalamazoo. I have particularly noticed a great deal of the influencing touches of Dutch Colonial, Georgian, both New England and Southern, Early American and Old English. Many architects¹ seem to feel that Victorian culminated in such extremes of elaboration, that the only road to follow was one of simplicity and symmetrical beauty, and thus these features returned to the Kalamazoo scene of domestic design.

There is of course no sharp line of demarcation between the preceding era and that which followed, and in the same light there is no predominance of one colonial style, but rather an intertwining of them all for a period of two or three decades, with many of them enduring into present plans of construction. These designs are rarely found in the true or pure style. Only a touch here and a handful there was taken as the fancy of the builder saw fit, and many homes have such a combination of influences that the finished product is a synthesis of nullity. A charming analogy of the

1. Personal Interview: Peter VanderLaan.

situation would be in the preparation of left-over stew - a handful of odds and ends with the results sometimes tasty and sometimes not. As a result I am not attempting to date these divergent designs, but only the framework of the years in which they all participated, from approximately 1900 to 1930. With this conception of the antithesis and synthesis of these years as a backdrop, the stage is set for a description of the Kalamazoo portrayal of home design.

The rambling and the compact plans and exteriors of the homes of the earlier colonial days were not accidental. They did not come by sudden whims of their builders, but instead, they were outgrowths of, or were modified by, wet or dry weather, warm or cold climates, wealth or near poverty, the abundance or lack of building material, and in addition the religious and spiritual attitudes.¹ However, during the years that these plans were borrowed and altered for use in this locality, an abundance of all types of building materials and methods prevailed, and climatic conditions did not limit the type of design to be followed. The only factors to be considered were those of fancy and money. The austerity of the Pilgrim fathers and the climate in which they dwelled resulted in the simplicity of compact houses with maximum protection; whereas the southern weather coupled with the gay social life which existed led to pretentious, spacious homes with rambling plans of patios, porches and gardens.

Copying of the Early American homes of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was not prevalent in this area, with the exception of one feature

1. Story of Architecture in America; R. Tallmadge, New York, 1928, Part I, passim.

which was characteristic of them, this being the over hanging second story, devised as a means of defense by the early colonials and modified as a decorative feature in some of the homes constructed here. However, the breadth of the over-hang has been limited, until in some cases only the effect is recognizable. The example shown is typical of this influence.

American Georgian, which was originated in the eighteenth century up to the Revolutionary War, contained two plans of determination, both similar in many ways. The New England Georgian, commonly seen today, has a Renaissance basis by way of England, with modified columns, cornices, and balustrades creating a graceful and slender effect upon a two-story frame house of white siding and shutters. They were topped with the presence of two chimneys generally found at both ends or in the central areas of either side. Virginian or Southern Georgian, of brick and wood construction, was very similar to the New England, being of two-stories, but there was many times an addition of two wings of a one-story nature in the more formal plan of construction.¹ The columns, cornices, and balustrades were used more in a monumental sense and were thus less graceful due to their being more bulky. The characteristics of Georgian-influenced homes today are basic materials of either white siding or red brick, with green shutters, and symmetrical spacing of the windows and doors to produce a simple uniform beauty.² Some fine examples of the red brick Georgian homes are found along College Row at Kalamazoo College, though they have more of an informal atmosphere, in contrast to the formal homes of which they were copies. The photographs accompanying this narration

1. Story of Architecture in America; R. Tallmadge, New York, 1928. Part II, passim.

2. Personal Interview: Peter VanderLaan, April 18, 1956.

are examples of this Georgian influence. The John Van Dis home (1940), located at 1546 Grand Avenue is almost an exact copy of the Southern Colonial home of George Washington's Mount Vernon, and it was interesting to discover that Mr. Van Dis's son was the architect and his daughter the interior decorator.¹ The front porch and columns are plainly visible, as well as the symmetrical spacing of windows, shutters, and doors, accompanied by the two wings at either end. The second scene is a common result of New England Georgian found in this vicinity, with the columns reduced to simple moldings, the absence of wings, but the retention of symmetrical spacing.

Features of Dutch Colonial influence are quite prevalent throughout the somewhat newer districts of residential homes in Kalamazoo, especially areas which were being built up in this period. The major characteristic borrowed from the original stucco, brick, or stone homes of the Dutch Colonial, has been the influence of the double pitched roof, necessitating the use of dormer windows. The reason for the origination of the double pitch is one of interest and shows economic insight on the part of the colonists who first designed them. It seems that in the earlier days of taxation, a home was assessed in accordance with the amount of living space available, based on the assumption that room covered by the roof was considered an attic and thus exempt. By constructing a home with a gambrel roof and dormer windows, attic space could thus be used as living quarters tax free.² The effect of this characteristic is clearly seen in the accompanying picture of a Kalamazoo home of this commonly found type.

1. Personal Interview: John Van Dis, April 20, 1956.

2. Personal Interview: Peter VanderLaan, April 11, 1956.

Another influence which is of importance in the Kalamazoo area, though not nearly as great as those mentioned, is the design based on Mediterranean styles, mainly of Spanish and some Italian characteristics which are extremely hard to distinguish at times. The original Spanish Colonial, of which I will speak in the main, dates from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, with homes composed of informal and rambling rooms often grouped around a pation or courtyard. Tile roofs and grilled windows accompanied by stucco or brick materials used as basic building aids are the features usually copied. The example which I have presented in picture form was built by a Mr. Hudson in 1928, who specialized in unique home styles composed of brick.¹ It is situated at 2022 Waite Avenue, and its decidedly Spanish design is portrayed in the curved windows bounded by grills, the use of light colored brick, the front pation, and a roof built to afford an effect of tile. It is interesting to note that at one time a swimming pool accompanied the home, but has since been removed.

Remnants of Old English can be seen in various homes within the area of the city, and the effects which have been copied are the high angled roofs and the half-timbered design coupled with stucco; thus the charm and style of the English countryside is found in a varied form. The home pictured, located on Academy Street, displays just such rustic influence.

The above are the major characteristics, which have been varied, altered and copied to fit the fancy of the home builder as well as his means

1. Personal Interview: Mrs. R. Lacross, March 21, 1956.

2. Personal Interview: Mrs. R. Lacross, March 21, 1956.

of finance. I have included only those home designs which stand out and pronounce themselves against the ordinary box homes of no particular design or plan of construction other than one of necessity. In addition, I have also left those homes in the background which have attempted to combine endless features of various colonial home types with the result culminating in the lack of form and beauty. These influences which I have touched upon seem to be the most prevalent characteristics borrowed by Kalamazoo builders - in order to fulfill their desires for simplicity, symmetry, and uniform beauty in their homes.

Modern Trends

Falling into step with the era of simplicity, the so-called "modern" architectural designs came into their own. These two have intertwined in a brief transition stage ending in the development of the present fancy of home building - that of the ranch type house, and with the unique constructions of such famous architects as Frank Lloyd Wright of California, George F. Keck of Chicago, and Edward D. Stone and Alden B. Dow of Michigan. All of these noted men have representations of their work located in Kalamazoo, along with the styles of many others.

Many traditional two-story homes are still being constructed at the present, but the dominant form of domestic design in Kalamazoo is the rambling ranch style with all its varieties of forms. This style of home is truly American in origin,¹ having developed in the western portions of the country where space was of no concern and in a warm climate which afforded this home design a great impetus. Its general characteristics include such features as a one-story design with simple lines composed of common material such as wood, brick, and stone or, is often the case, a combination of these. There is not one set plan of construction, unless it merely be a rambling arrangement of rooms to give the effect of long, low, simple, informal homes of comfort and leisure. The roofs are either flat, low sloped, or are slightly slanted as a shed roof; more often than not a fireplace chimney is at one end. A home, such as pictured, is now an everyday sight upon the streets of Kalamazoo.

1. Personal Interview: Peter VanderLaan.

Frank Lloyd Wright, perhaps America's most successful contemporary architect, is represented here in Kalamazoo in the number of eight homes,¹ each unique and different, for they are never built in exactly the same manner, and yet they each contain his artistic conception of architectural design as a clue to his work and creation. The example which I am giving is located on Parkwyn Drive and was built by Mr. Robert Levin, the present occupant. Constructed in 1950, it consists of a double wall of pre-cast concrete blocks which were molded at the scene of building. One of its modern features is the presence of many windows including corner ones. Its particular name is that of Usonian House and it was the first Wright home erected in this area.² It is very picturesque with its high windows, slanting roof and simple lines overlooking a small pond from its position on the slope of a hill.

A unique project was undertaken here in Kalamazoo in 1945 by the Ingersol Company, Borg Warner Division, when it devised a central heating and plumbing unit and invited leading architects of the United States to design their type of home around it.³ The result was the construction of Ingersol Village, located on Crown Street between Lacross and Hillsdale, which contains twelve homes of various styles of architecture. A one-story brick bungalow complete with one wall of glass and flat roof was designed by George F. Keck, the man who devised and is famous for the solar heating systems in modern homes. Edward D. Stone is represented by a unique home which has the basement above the ground and the material used is that of redwood. From Boston an architect of outstanding ability, Royal Barry Wills, constructed a conventional frame Cape Cod cottage complete with

1. Personal Interview: Mrs. Robert Levin, March 26, 1956.

2. Personal Interview: Mrs. Robert Levin, March 26, 1956.

3. Personal Interview: D. Williams, Ingersol Company, April 6, 1956.

breeze-way and car-port. R. Morgan Yost completed a frame house without a basement which boasts a built up roof, and Hugh Stubbins Jr. of Massachusetts constructed both a basic ranch style home in brick and wood and one of the frame-expanded type with a patio complete with lattice roof. Two additional conventional Cape Cod cottages, one with basement, and one of the corn-crib style were erected by L. F. Lankton; and Alden B. Dow and Harold Hurris are represented by conventional ranch style homes of frame construction. This project was quite successful, as its purpose was to demonstrate the ease with which this heating and plumbing unit could be adapted for use in modern home construction of any style,¹ and in addition it adds a charming district to the residential section of Kalamazoo.

1. Personal Interview: D. Williams, Ingersol Company, April 6, 1956.

Conclusion

And thus the panorama of home design in Kalamazoo has culminated in the styles of today; and as the log cabin stood as a symbol of trial, privation, of loneliness and danger, the modern home stands as a symbol of man's progress toward leisure and comfort. From simplicity through elaboration and back to simplicity, Kalamazoo has been the setting for the various architectural designs discussed. Man's desires are reflected and mirrored by his choice of style, and his means of procuring it either alters or enhances the end result; but whatever home is constructed it plays an important role in his culture and his way of life.

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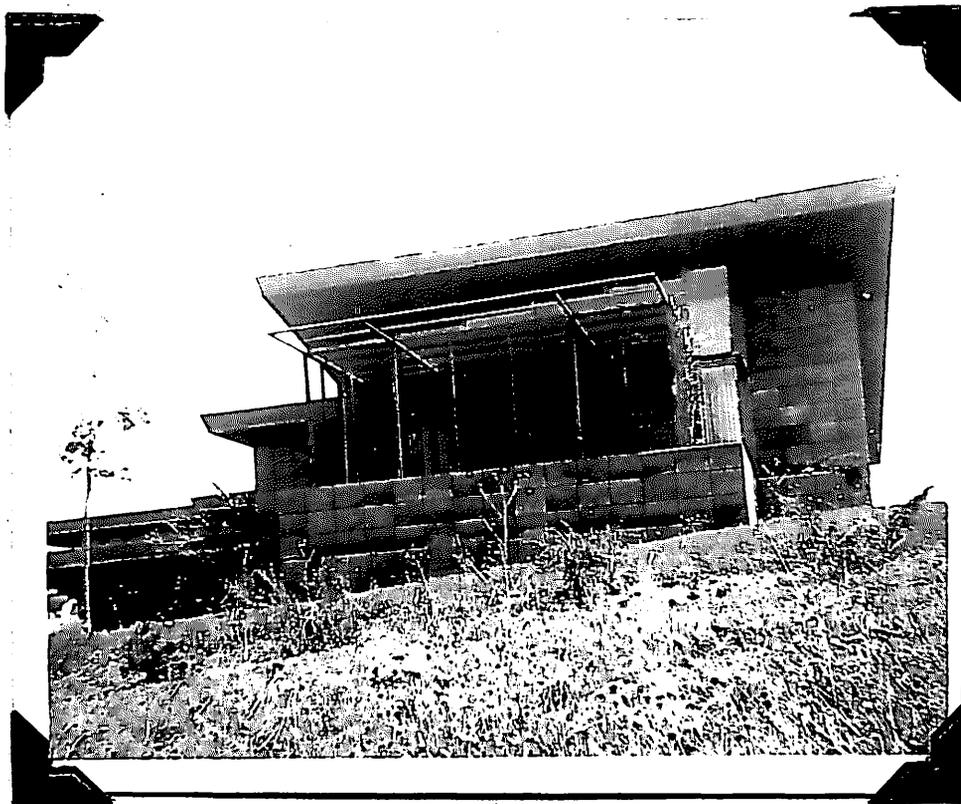
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This home shows many features of the Gothic influence, but was built in the early Victorian period, about 1865. It is located on Woodward Ave., next to the Christian Science Church, and its house number is 111.



A typical example of the early styles of Victorian architecture. This home, built in the early sixties, is located in one of the older residential sections of Kalamazoo, at 532 West South Street. The original owner is not known.



A Frank Lloyd Wright creation owned by Mr. Robert Levin. It is located, with four others, in Parkwyn Village, on Parkwyn Drive.



A typical ranch style home located 2121 Winchell Street, owned by Mr. R. Boudeman.



The charm of the English country side recreated at 1136 Academy Street.



The Lacross residence at 2202 Waite Avenue has been built under the influencing touches of the Spanish Colonial.



A home showing the Dutch Colonial influence of the double pitched roof and dormer windows. This home is found at 916 West Lovell. There is no present occupant.



The Van Dis home located at 1546 Grand Avenue. It is constructed only the lines of the Southern Colonial home of Mount Vernon.



An example of New England Georgian. This home is located at 2223 Waite Avenue.



The influence retained from the Early American is shown in this home at 2237 Waite Avenue. The over-hang of the second story is used for a charming decorative touch.



The Castle, built by Mr. Henderson in the early nineties, is located at 1411 West Main. It is very elegant looking indeed, perched upon the West Main hill and surrounded with spacious lawns.



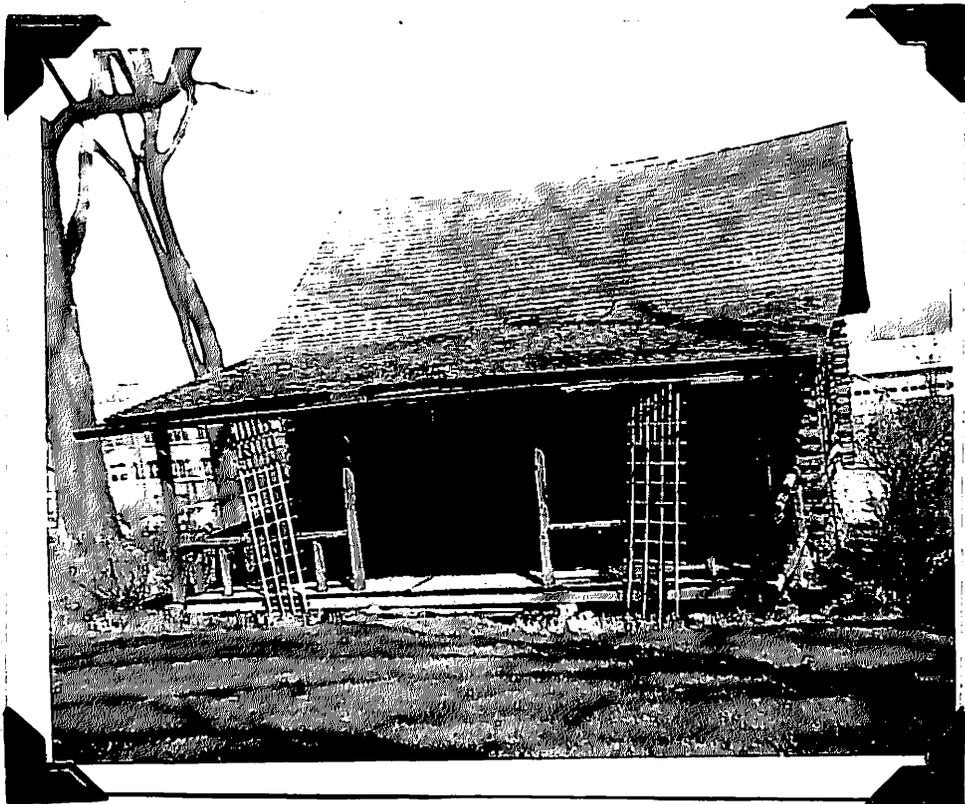
An example of a Late Victorian home with its tower and generous amount of gingerbread. This dwelling is located on West South Street at 534.



The Horton-Burnham home located on the corner of Westnedge and South was built in 1882. It is presently occupied by the Gown Shop.



This is an example of Victorian Romanesque. The home is located at 529 West South Street.



This log cabin is located at 1815 West Michigan, on the grounds of the President's home of Western Michigan College. Explanation is given in the text.



The Van Deusen home, located at 527 West South Street, was built in the late eighteen-fifties.



The oldest brick home in Kalamazoo is a typical Greek Revival home located at 226 W. Lovell Street. It is being used as an insurance office today.