

ELGIN HISTORIC BUILDING PLAQUE PROGRAM  
BUILDING PLAQUE APPLICATION FORMS  
ELGIN HERITAGE COMMISSION

Building Location : Street: CHICAGO ST  
Number: 570

Present Owner :

Original Owner : William A. Gabriel

Building Name :

Date of Construction : 1891

Builder :

Architect : SMITH HOAG

Architectural Style : STICK STYLE



Description of Present and Original (if known) Physical Appearance :  
(identify information sources)

SOURCES

{ NAT'L REGISTER APPL. (#35) XEROX ATTACHED  
{ PICTURESQUE ELGIN - BORDEN LIBRARY PHOTO ATTACHED

House has lost its original <sup>front</sup> porch and cresting, but what remains is still a nice example of Stick Style architecture. House has varied shingle styles, siding patterns, and porch details. Rear porches enclosed but posts remain exposed. It is well maintained.

Statement of Significance :

X architecture, \_\_\_\_\_ commerce, \_\_\_\_\_ community planning, \_\_\_\_\_ education, \_\_\_\_\_ industry, \_\_\_\_\_ government, \_\_\_\_\_ religion, \_\_\_\_\_ social, local, \_\_\_\_\_ history. Please check appropriate categories and describe the importance of the building being considered for a plaque including information sources.

SAME SOURCES AS ABOVE

House is a unique asset to E. Chicago St, it's good condition contributing to the revival of the area's former glory.

Other Pertinent Data :

Representation in Existing Surveys:

- National Register of Historic Places
- Illinois Register of Historic Places
- Illinois State Survey of Historic Structures
- Other Surveys or Studies (please list)

LOCAL  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Building Condition:

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- unaltered
- altered

Application Submitted By :

Name: *Martee Whitehead-Kahn*  
Address: *600 E Chicago St*  
City: *Elgin IL*  
State:

Date of Application Submission : *9-26-86*

# NAT'L REGISTER APPLICATION



This high Victorian home reflects Queen Anne and Stick Style details. Note the intricate siding patterns, porch details, varied shingles and expressive roof lines.

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (SEE INDEX FOR ABBREVIATIONS)  
FEDERAL \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL X

NAME: Residence  
ADDRESS: 570 East Chicago Street  
DATE: 1891 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNIFICANCE: Architectural

From "Picturesque Elgin"  
showing original construction



Mr. Richardson's Residence.

Dairy Views.

Irregularity was the rule. Wings and gables protruded in all directions. Balconies, overhanging gables, and bay windows dotted the facade. Towers and turrets were common. Small garret windows crop out of the roof. Roofs were usually steeped, giving the house a tall proportion. Trim and ornament were lavish. Note the finial on the turret here.

Although Queen Anne houses are now often painted white, when new they were adorned in two or three deep colors—red-brown, deep green, amber, ochre, maroon, and burnt orange—to emphasize the decoration. The restoration of No. 18 Warwick is a good example of this use of color.

**TURN RIGHT AT E. CHICAGO**

**503 East Chicago**

Erected in 1883, this was the home of Charles Marckhoff, one of four brothers who came from Germany to form a brick and stone work contracting firm.

**Intersection with Porter**

Porter Street was named after Aaron Porter, a Gifford brother-in-law, who once had a claim in this vicinity.

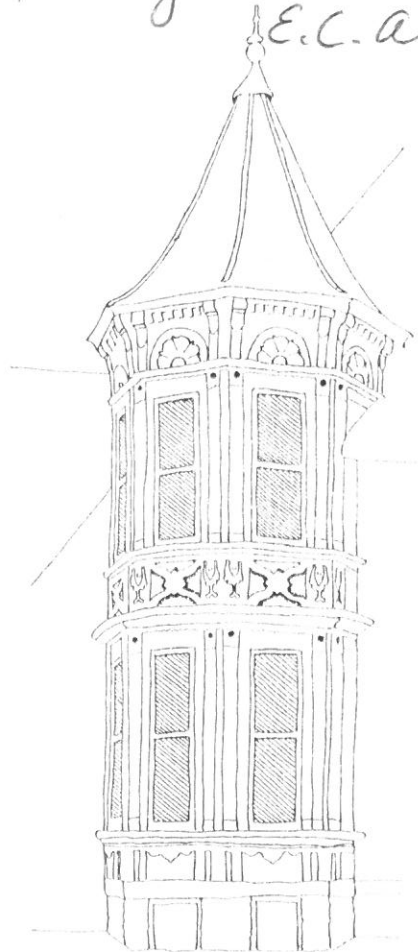
**552 East Chicago**

There is a north European look to this house, perhaps because it was built in 1891 for Christian Wuestenfeld, a German-born electrical expert. While working for Thomas A. Edison, he is said to have trimmed the first electrically lighted Christmas tree. He came to Elgin to install the power plant and distribution system for the streetcar line.

**558, 564 and 570 East Chicago**

Leading officials of the Elgin National Watch Co., each born in New England, once lived in these three houses. No. 558 was built in 1890 for E. F. Gooding, foreman of the balance department, 1868-1913. Smith Hoag designed the Queen Anne at No. 564 for Hiram S. Thomas,

*"The Elgin Historic District"*  
E.C. Alft

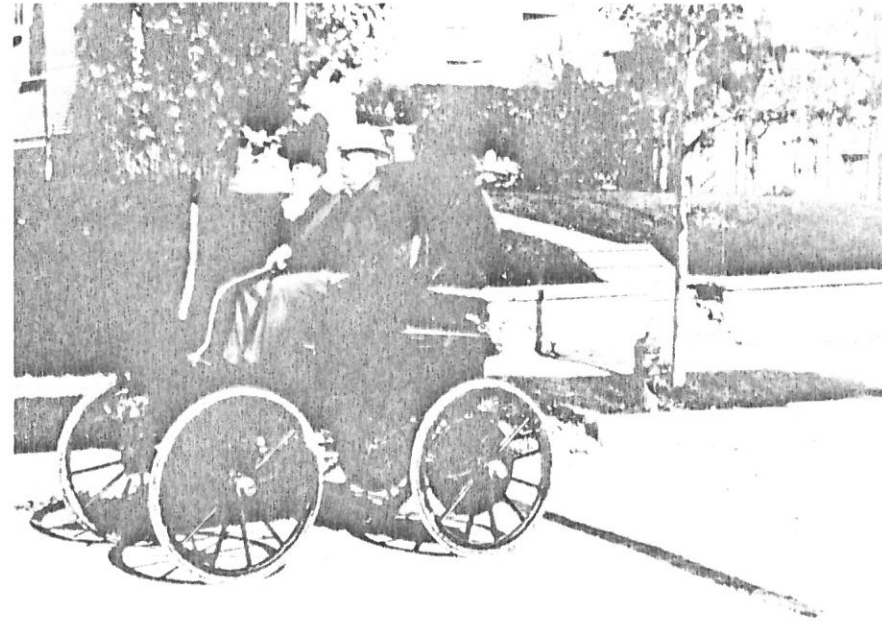


18 Warwick

foreman of the plate department, 1868-1909. It was also erected in 1890. No. 570, completed in 1891, was later occupied by William A. Gabriel, chief designer for more than forty years.

**600 East Chicago**

Erected in 1892, this is an example of the SHINGLE style. The walls have a uniform covering of shingles which contrast with the sweeping rough stone veranda railing. The round tower and round arched side windows were common features. The effect is simpler and more subdued than the Queen Anne style. The peak on the tower was called a witch's cap.



The Richardsons' electric, 1900

The home was built for George B. Richardson, production superintendent for the David C. Cook Publishing Co., who bought Elgin's first individually owned automobile in 1900. It was a Waverly electric that could be driven thirty miles after a charge.

Across the street is a modern apartment complex that was once the site of the home of William Hintze, president of the Elgin Butter Co. Its huge barn, erected in 1887, is still standing and can be viewed from Porter Street.

**TURN LEFT AT NORTH LIBERTY**

Liberty Street may refer to the Liberty party, which opposed the extension of slavery into the territories. Local elections in 1847 gave

**BUILDING PLAQUE PROGRAM  
PLAQUE CRITERIA RANKING WORK SHEET**

Telephone Number:       -      

Address of Building Under Consideration: 570 E. CHICAGO STREET

Average Scores

1. Architectural Significance	_____
2. Maintenance of Building	_____
3. Conservation of Details	_____
4. Historical Significance	_____
5. Age of Building	<u>12</u>
Average Total Score	<u>75.1</u> *

\*Note: To qualify for a plaque a building must receive at least 65 points for a total average score.

Voting Record

<u>Members</u>	<u>Criteria</u>				
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
1. Heather Hunt	<u>17</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	_____
2. Karen Schock	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>13</u>	_____
3. Arthur Allen	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>15</u>	_____
4. Patricia Miller	<u>17</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>	_____
5. Paul Patterson	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>	_____
6. Viola Swanson	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u>	_____
7. Jerry Turnquist	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>	_____
8. Mark Herzog	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
9. Bruce Dahlquist	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>	_____
TOTAL SCORES	<u>16.6</u>	<u>17.5</u>	<u>15.5</u>	<u>13.5</u>	<u>12</u>

Note: Voting can only take place if 5 or more members of the Elgin Heritage Commission are present. The high and low scores in each category will be dropped prior to determining the average scores by category and total average score.