QUAPAW QUARTER HISTORIC HOMES TOUR
In 1860 Little Rock’s population was about 4,000 before the post-Civil War boom swelled the city to 40,000. Little Rock became more than an outpost – it became a thriving city. Prosperity produced a more affluent middle class intent on having homes that reflected success while providing comfort and luxury. By 1900 a thorough transformation had taken place. Little Rock enjoyed a full array of city improvements – street railways, water and sewer systems, electricity, telephones, and paved streets. Thousands of newly constructed buildings changed the landscape. A new era was born, ushering in a more cosmopolitan – but infinitely stylish – way of living and doing business.

The Quapaw Quarter was created in the early 1960s as an effort to identify and protect significant historic structures in Little Rock during urban renewal projects of the time. First defined in 1968 as sixteen square blocks, the Quapaw Quarter expanded over time to include other historic areas of Little Rock. It now encompasses nine square miles of the oldest parts of the city; including fifteen distinct neighborhoods and over a dozen National Register Historic Districts. The largest are the MacArthur Park, Governor’s Mansion and Central High School Neighborhood Historic Districts. Today, the Quapaw Quarter is known nation-wide for its diversity and architectural significance.

This brochure showcases more than 100 historic residences, but the Quapaw Quarter is so much more. By modest count, there are at least 15 historic churches, three schools, a military arsenal, several hotels, a Masonic Temple and countless buildings of commerce in the quarter. The architecture of the Quapaw Quarter ranges from small storefronts to the sprawling warehouses of the River Market District.

1. TRAPNALL HALL (C. 1843) 423 E. CAPITOL AVE
Built by attorney Frederic Trapnall, this antebellum design combines two neoclassical architectural styles: Greek Revival and Roman Classicism. In 1929 it was acquired and restored by the Junior League, then deeded to the State of Arkansas in 1976. Presently it serves as the official Governor’s Reception Hall.

2. WALTERS-CURRAN-BELL HOUSE (C. 1842-43) CURRAN HALL VISITORS CENTER 615 E. CAPITOL AVE
This antebellum house was built in the Greek Revival style with many outbuildings and gardens. Descendants of William Woodruff, founder of the Arkansas Gazette, acquired the house in 1884 and occupied it until 1993. After extensive rehabilitation and restoration appropriate to the 1850s, it now serves as the official Little Rock Visitor Center (Open seven days a week) as well as the Mayor’s Reception Hall.
11. PIKE-FLETCHER-TERRY HOUSE (C. 1840)  411 E. 7th ST
Albert Pike built this Greek Revival house which later served as the Arkansas Female College. Eventually, bought by banker and cotton broker John G. Fletcher, the house was enlarged in the Colonial Revival Style, and is one of the most attractive in the City. The Pulitzer-Prize winning Poet John Gould Fletcher, and his sister, Adolphine, grew up in the home and became strong champions for civil rights. Adolphine, wife of U.S. Congressman David Terry, used the dining room to host Women's Committee meetings during the desegregation struggle in 1957-59.

10. WELCH-CHERRY HOUSE (C. 1884)  700 Rock ST
This rather conservative example of the Italianate style was built for the Rev. Thomas R. Welch. Tall, narrow proportions in the front porch and window details are all Italianate in design. More restrained architectural elements featured are the unbracketed eaves and the plain ornamentation.

9. LINCOLN HOUSE (C. 1877-78)  301 E. 7th ST
With its iron roof cresting, arched windows, bracketed eaves, and other Italianate characteristics, the Lincoln House usually is considered the best existing High Victorian Italianate house in Little Rock.

8. RIEGLER HOUSE (C. 1902) 610 Rock ST
John Reigler, a German baker and confectioner, built this house for his family at the turn of the century. After 1910, the house had a series of owners and was used as a multifamily dwelling.

7. KEMPNER HOUSE (C. 1867) 521 Rock ST
A product of the building boom spawned by post Civil War growth, this house is typical pre-war Greek Revival style with Italianate style influences. As was the case with most houses from this period, it is well-built but not stylish.

6. AND 5. NASH RENTAL HOUSES (C. 1907) 409 E. 6th ST & 601 Rock ST
Built as rental property after the decline of the Old Arsenal neighborhood, Charles Thompson’s prominence as an architect made these highly desirable properties.

4. FOWLER HOUSE (C. 1840)  503 E. 6th ST
With fan-shaped transoms over the doorways in Federal style and Ionic columns of the Greek Revival, this simple house features a two-story building to its west – probably the original kitchen and servants’ quarters – and is the only original freestanding one still in existence. The home is now part of an apartment complex known as The Residences at Gracie Mansion.

3. BRAC-MANNING HOUSE (C. 1898)  620 E. 6th ST
Lewis W. Cherry built this house, and the house next door at 610 East 6th, at about the same time. Both reflect the transitional architectural taste of the late 1890s with prominent elements of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styling.

102. BELL HOUSE (C. 1843)
built at the end of the 19th century, this park-like oasis became the primary city cemetery in 1843. It is the final “residence” for so many notable Arkansans that engaged in questionable social change by divorcing his first wife, Emily, and this property was home to Sidney Redding and two Mrs. Reddings. Redding

101. REDDING HOUSE (C. 1903)  1716 Gaines ST
Well-known architect Frank Gibbs, who lived nearby on Arch Street, designed this Colonial Revival house. It served as the governor’s mansion in 1921 for Samuel Powell, state manager for Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., built this goods company, purchased the house and remained there until 1942.

99. PRATHER HOUSE (C. 1890)
Leading attorney and statesman of Arkansas, Joseph W. House Sr., built this home circa 1898-1892. Constructed in the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles, it has an irregular shape with side projections. The front features a wrap-around porch with round wood columns and turned post balustrade. Finally, there is an additional side porch with turned post columns. Above this is a small one-half front porch with turned columns and turned post balustrade.

98. POWELL-CLEMENTS HOUSE (C. 1903)
In 1921, Sterling Scott began work on this residence; but before it was finished, the house was purchased by Robert C. Babcock. Bernie became a prolific writer, authoring over 40 works, including The Soul of Ann Rutledge. She was the first Arkansas woman to be included in Who’s Who in America and later founded the Arkansas Museum of Science and Antiquities, now known as the Museum of Discovery.

97. BABCOCK HOUSE (C. 1890)  1855 Gaines ST
This Queen Anne style home was built by William and Julia Burnelle (Bernie) and stuccoed walls.

96. JOSEPH W. HOUSE SR. HOUSE (C. 1898-92)
Lewis W. Cherry built this house, and the house next door at 610 East 6th, at about the same time. Both reflect the transitional architectural taste of the late 1890s with prominent elements of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styling.

95. BOYLE HOUSE (C. 1921-1922)
In 1921, Sterling Scott began work on this residence; but before it was finished, the house was purchased by John and Snow Boyle. Their new residence combined elements of several early 20th century styles: the exposed rafter ends and tile roof is typical pre-war Greek Revival style with Italianate style influences. As was the case with most houses from this period, it is well-built but not stylish.

94. FRAUENTHAL HOUSE (C. 1919)
A partner in Frauenthal & Schwartz Mercantile, Charles Frauenthal and his wife, Cora retained Charles Thompson's firm to design a house that remains a rare example in Little Rock of the Italian Renaissance style, featuring low-pitched roof, four windows of different shapes, pilasters, and the unusual stone entry porch seems to be inspired by the Beaux Arts style. While the half-timbered gables are reminiscent of English Revival styles, it has an irregular shape with side projections. The front features a wrap-around porch with round wood columns and turned post balustrade. Finally, there is an additional side porch with turned post columns. Above this is a small one-half front porch with turned columns and turned post balustrade.

93. BRAC-MANNING HOUSE (C. 1898)  620 E. 6th ST
Lewis W. Cherry built this house, and the house next door at 610 East 6th, at about the same time. Both reflect the transitional architectural taste of the late 1890s with prominent elements of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styling.

7. KEMPNER HOUSE (C. 1867) 521 Rock ST
This rather conservative example of the Italianate style was built for the Rev. Thomas C. McRae. In 1922, George Clements, manager of a local sporting goods company, purchased the house and remained there until 1942.

6. AND 5. NASH RENTAL HOUSES (C. 1907) 409 E. 6th ST & 601 Rock ST
Built as rental property after the decline of the Old Arsenal neighborhood, Charles Thompson’s prominence as an architect made these highly desirable properties.

5. RIEGLER HOUSE (C. 1902) 610 Rock ST
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Lewis W. Cherry built this house, and the house next door at 610 East 6th, at about the same time. Both reflect the transitional architectural taste of the late 1890s with prominent elements of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styling.
12. TURNER-KARCHER HOUSE (C. 1881) 503 E. 7TH ST
Judge Blakely Turner built this Italianate frame house for $4,000 in 1881. In 1912, the Karcher Candy Company President made this home a social gathering place. After years of neglect, the house was on the verge of being demolished in 1974, before being purchased and rehabilitated as apartments.

13. JOHNSON HOUSE (C. 1877) 507 E. 7TH ST
This Italianate style house was built in 1877 for Robert W. Johnson, who occupied it for only two years. Johnson served as U.S. Representative and Senator before Arkansas seceded from the Union during the Civil War.

14. KRAMER SCHOOL (C. 1895) 715 SHERMAN ST
Built in 1895, Kramer served as an elementary school school until the 1980s. The building is a combination of Queen Anne and Romanesque Revival, and until the 1960s featured a six-story tower. After closing as a school, Kramer was converted into residential lofts for both living and creative space as an artists' cooperative.

15. CHARTER HOUSE (C. 1875) 308 E. 8TH ST
This Italianate style, built around 1875 for grocer William Charter, has a boxy shape and low hipped roof that were very unusual for Little Rock. It was almost demolished in 1974, but was purchased by the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation to be used as its headquarters.

16. SCOTT HOUSE (C. 1896) 923 CUMBERLAND ST
As was common from about 1895 to 1905 in Little Rock, the Scott House combines elements of both the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. The house was occupied by members of the Scott family until the early 1950s, when it became rental property.

17. CAROLINE ROW (C. 1890) 217-220 E. 10TH ST
The two duplexes were built as rental property for Richard Bragg, a wheelwright and carriage-maker whose home was six blocks away. Now known as “Caroline Row,” after the original name for 10th St., the duplexes are rare surviving examples of 19th century multi-family dwellings.

18. HANGER HOUSE (C. 1889) 1010 SCOTT ST
In 1889, Frederick and Frances Hanger remodeled an existing house to create what is one of the best-known and most authentically restored Queen Anne style houses in the area. It was purchased in 1971 and returned to its original appearance and exterior color scheme.

19. POLLOCK HOUSE (C. 1870) 914 SCOTT ST
This residence is one of the three houses on Scott St. that H.E. Mandelbaum built. It remained in the family, undergoing numerous “updates,” of which many needed to be reversed. In the early 1990s the exterior was restored to its original beauty and architectural style.
20. HOLTZMAN-VINSONHALER HOUSE (C. 1898) 500 E. 9th ST
Mr. Wm. F. Holtzman was the developer and owner of the first five house on the 500 block of east ninth street, across from MacArthur Park. The first two are strikingly significant in the then fading Queen Anne style, the first being the grandest with two stories. In 1905, Dr. and Mrs. Vinsonhaler bought the house in 1905 and did extensive remodeling, the most striking being the classic entry porch, which is an excellent fit with the house and adds to its beauty.

21. HOLTZMAN-VINSONHALER-VOGLER HOUSE (C. 1890) 512 E. 9th ST
Sharing many features with the two houses to the west, this one is smaller and has a limited number of additions. Contrary to the other Holtzman-built adjacent homes, there is only one story to this house. It has been divided into rental apartments since the 1970s.

22. W.D. HOLTZMAN HOUSE (C. 1903) 514 E. 9th ST
In the early 1070s, Mr. W.D. Holtzman built his own first home, one door from the previously noted structures. He lived there until 1890 when he began renting it out, then subsequently built and occupied the house at 512 E. 9th. (#21)

23. WILLIAM F. HOLTZMAN HOUSE (C. 1850) 516 E. 9th ST
The smaller wood-framed house, built in the 1850s, was the first of the five structures by Holtzman. His parents, William F. and Jeanette Holtzman, built the house and it is presumed to have been his boyhood home. By the 1950s, it was converted to a duplex and remains so today.

24. U.S. ARSENAL BUILDING (C. 1840-42)  MACARTHUR MUSEUM OF ARKANSAS MILITARY HISTORY • MACARTHUR PARK
In 1834, the surrounding border of this building was a popular race track, but in two years, it became a U.S. Arsenal. The tower building, now the only survivor of the entire military base, was used to store munitions, then house officers, until 1892. In 1880, Douglas MacArthur (later General) was born there. By 1890, the grounds were designed as Little Rock’s first City Park. By the 1940s, it housed the Museum of Natural History and Antiquities. It is now the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History.

25. LITTLE ROCK MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS (C. 1937) 501 E. 9th ST
The original 1937 Arkansas Arts Center was a handsome building with an impressive Art-Deco entry, that served the City well for the first time. By the 1960s, however, Jeanette Rockefeller, wife of Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller, championed the need for major improvements and the galleries and a small theater as well as more parking space and landscaping. In 2019, the times changed once more. With the exception of the Art Deco front, the entire structure was razed in preparation for a two-year project that will be vastly larger and more modern configuration of spaces, with futuristic features and functions.

26. OLD FIRE STATION #2 (C. 1917) 1201 COMMERCE ST
This firehouse, constructed in the popular Craftsman Style in 1917, opened as Fire Station #2, housing firemen and equipment. It is situated near the Arts Center, at the southwest corner of MacArthur Park. Since Little Rock’s population had become more dense, particularly in that area, it was necessity. In later years, however, the city moved west and the Fire Station was closed in 1957. After languishing for years with various proposals, it opened as the Firehouse Hostel and Museum, in 2016.

27. AND 28. KADEL COTTAGES (C. 1852) 407 E. 10th ST (C. 1860) 417 E. 10th ST
The second Kadel cottage (417 E 10th) is one of Little Rock’s most important antebellum houses. It was the residence of a butcher, not a person of wealth or prominence, which do not often survive. East of this Cottage is a simple frame residence (407 E. 10th) that may have been George Kadel’s first home.
29. ELLERMAN-FERLING HOUSE (C. 1890) 401 E. 10TH ST
The original house at this location is thought to have been built in the 1870s when it was purchased by August Ellerman, a grocer who enlarged it in 1883. It was later enlarged again by the Ferlings and remodeled into the Queen Anne style.

30. ALTENBERG HOUSE (C. 1889) 1001 CUMBERLAND ST
Like its across-the-street neighbor, the Scott House, the Altenberg House combines characteristics of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. The Altenberg House was rehabilitated in 1986-87 as a home and office.

31. BEIN HOUSE (C. 1889) 1302 CUMBERLAND ST
One of two Little Rock houses known to have been designed by architects Max Orlopp and Casper Kusener, who practiced in the area for less than a decade in the late 1880s and early 1890s. It was eventually divided into five apartments, and suffered many years of neglect until it was rehabilitated in 1982.

32. CHISM HOUSE (C. 1894-95) 1320 CUMBERLAND ST
Oscar Chism, a representative for a Kentucky hardware firm, built this house for his wife, and remained in their family for 45 years. An American Queen Anne with traces of the Shingle style, it boasts a widely varied textural usage and an irregular shape.

33. WIERMAN-GEMMILL DOUBLE HOUSE (C. 1884)
Comprised of two Italianate influenced mirror-image houses sharing a common wall, this is the only such 19th century residence known to exist in Little Rock. Each “house” originally was owned separately. The reason for the double design might have been to cut costs. It was rumored to be built and occupied by two brothers who chose not to live in the same structure together.

34. TERRY-JUNG HOUSE (C.1881) 1422 SCOTT ST
Reportedly built for $4,250 by Colonal William Leake Terry and later owned by Bakery owner Joseph Jung. The Italianate-style house has one Stick-style feature – the decorative truss supporting a small roof over a pair of second-story windows.

35. LITTLE ROCK HIGH (C. 1905) EAST SIDE LOFTS 1401 SCOTT ST
Designed by architect Frank Gibb in 1905, it served as Little Rock’s premier high school until a newer high school, Central High, was built in the 1920s. After the opening of Central High in 1927, East Side became a junior high school until the late sixties. For decades afterwards, it was partially used for various ideas, then the classroom part opened as an example of “adaptive use”. Former classrooms were converted into loft apartments, some including the original black boards, in 2002. A few years later, the auditorium/gymnastics building was also converted to varying space and more creative apartments.

36. GARLAND-MITCHELL HOUSE (C. 1873-74) 1404 SCOTT ST
Augustus Hill Garland built the historic residence that housed two governors, is the birthplace to a Pulitzer Prize winning poet, and was home to a prominent newspaper publisher. The house is an example of the Italianate style with a two-story gallery designed to provide shade and catch a breeze. For decades it has been divided into rental property.
<p>| <strong>37. VILLA MARRE (C. 1873-74) 1404 SCOTT ST</strong> | Built by saloonkeeper Angelo Marre, this is the first post-Civil War residence to be rehabilitated in Little Rock. Except for its mansard roof, the Villa Marre is predominately Italianate, and became a popular icon as the Sugarbaker House on T.V.’s Designing Women. |
| <strong>38. ROZELLE-MURPHY HOUSE (C. 1887) 1301 SCOTT ST</strong> | This American Queen Anne with Colonial Revival and Craftsman style additions was built by George Rozelle and sold to Attorney General of Arkansas, George Murphy, in 1900. Under different ownership, the house has been used as offices since 1953. |
| <strong>39. COHN BUILDING (C. 1911) COMMUNITY BAKERY 1200 MAIN ST</strong> | Population flight to the suburbs, coupled with the mobility provided by automobiles eventually closed old businesses in the neighborhood commercial districts along Arch, Gaines, and Main Streets. Residential rebirth and the creation of the Capital Zoning District Commission has sparked a renewed interest from businesses, and increasing commercial activity. Entities like Community Bakery are leading the way for other enterprises. |
| <strong>40. FIRST HOTZE HOUSE (C. 1868) 1620 MAIN ST</strong> | Following the Civil War, Peter Hotze built the one-story frame house. With a floorplan like its antebellum predecessors, the trim indicates the new Italianate style had arrived in Little Rock. At the time the house was built the area was considered rural, with Main St. resembling a country road. |
| <strong>41. HORNIBROOK HOUSE (C. 1888) THE EMPRESS OF LITTLE ROCK SMALL LUXURY HOTEL 2120 LOUISIANA ST</strong> | The Hornibrook House, known as The Empress of Little Rock Small Luxury Hotel, is the most flamboyant example of Gothic Queen Anne style regionally. Except for paint colors. The house has lived through numerous incarnations with an exterior virtually unchanged, including the original iron fence and gate. |
| <strong>42. WILSON-MEHAFFY HOUSE (C. 1883) 2102 LOUISIANA ST</strong> | Around 1902 Tom M. Mehaffy, a prominent lawyer who later served as an Associate Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court, purchased the house from William T. Wilson. During Mehaffy’s occupancy, the house was remodeled and enlarged at least twice when he engaged the services of Charles Thompson. |
| <strong>43. ROSSI HOUSE (C. 1905) 1716 LOUISIANA ST</strong> | This Colonial Revival house with Craftsman influences was built in 1905 for Joseph Rossi, an Italian immigrant who owned a saloon on Main Street. Having remained relatively intact and unaltered over the years, it has had minor restoration and updating to accommodate the needs of modern life. |
| <strong>44. THE FLETCHER-HEISKELL HOUSE (C. 1892) 1708 S. LOUISIANA ST</strong> | Built by coffee merchant Frank Fletcher, then purchased by Arkansas Gazette President and Editor J. N. Heiskell, this house burned and was reconstructed for use as a Catholic pre-school and kindergarten until 1969. By 1994, the house was vacant and seriously deteriorated, but was restored as a single family home in 1999-2000. |</p>
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<tr>
<th><strong>45. TURNER-LEDBETTER HOUSE (C. 1891-92)</strong> 1700 LOUISIANA ST</th>
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<tr>
<td>This Queen Anne style house was one of the large, costly residences built during the late 1880s and early 1890s that helped transform the neighborhood from a dominant population of shopkeepers and clerks into an enclave of the city's upper-middle class.</td>
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<th><strong>46. NEWTON HOUSE (C. 1885)</strong> 202 W. 17th ST</th>
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<td>Built to serve as the office of the U.S. Corps of Engineers in Little Rock, the house's relatively small size is due to the fact that it was an office, squeezed into the back yard of the Corps chief, Capt. Henry S. Taber, who lived at 1624 Louisiana. As a family cottage it is a charming example of the period, demonstrating that not all families lived on a grand scale.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>47. HOTZE HOUSE (C. 1900)</strong> 1619 LOUISIANA ST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Designed by Charles Thompson as Peter Hotze's “retirement home” upon his return to Little Rock after 30 successful years in New York, this Colonial Revival exterior was inspired by Georgian architecture, as seen in the broken pediment over the front door and the balustrade around the top of the hipped roof.</td>
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<th><strong>48. FRESE COTTAGE (C. 1882)</strong> 1614 LOUISIANA ST</th>
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<td>Many wooden clapboard houses probably looked very much like the Frese Cottage, but now it is one of just a few remaining intact. The cottage retains its original slate roof and is well known among old house enthusiasts for its fanciful millwork trimmed porch.</td>
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<th><strong>49. MURRELL-STONE HOUSE (C. 1890)</strong> 1600 LOUISIANA ST</th>
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<tr>
<td>The original Queen Anne style house was updated in the early 20th century to add the large wraparound Colonial Revival porch. A unique feature is its massive single chimney, which serves five individual fireplaces in five different rooms on two floors.</td>
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<th><strong>50. NELSON AUTO COMPANY – SOUTH SIDE GARAGE (C. 1911)</strong></th>
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<td>THE WAREHOUSE LOFTS 1509 LOUISIANA ST</td>
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<td>Built to serve as a garage for early automobile owners of the neighborhood, this structure incorporates design elements of what would become known as “Art Deco.” In 2002, the structure was rehabilitated into loft-style apartments.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>51. AND 52. TURNER TWIN HOUSES (C. 1890)</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>1414 LOUISIANA ST &amp; 1418 LOUISIANA ST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mirror images of each other, the two Queen Anne style houses were built at the same time around 1890 by Mrs. Blakely Turner, Sr., and her two unmarried daughters, Sue and Bettie.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>53. ABELES APARTMENTS HOUSE (C. 1910)</strong> 1409 LOUISIANA ST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Now condominiums, the apartments show the Craftsman style in its multifamily form. Built by Charles Abeles and designed by Charles Thompson, the apartments were built at a time when quality materials and craftsmanship were highly desirable. Through many and varied changes in the neighborhood, the structures have retained their well-kept attractive exterior.</td>
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BEGIN TOUR

TOUR ENDS AT MOUNT HOLLY CEMETERY

SUGGESTED ROUTE OPTIMIZED FOR NAVAGATING ONE-WAY STREETS.

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL STRUCTURES SHOWN ARE PRIVATELY-OWNED RESIDENCES OR BUSINESSES AND ARE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
Many earlier Little Rock residences, through the late 19th Century, were largely self-sufficient, surrounded by flower and vegetable gardens, orchards, poultry and livestock with firewood used for heating and an on-premise water supply.

Greek Revival was popular from 1820 until the Civil War, peaking in the 1830s and 1840s, and is most popularly known as the Southern plantation style.

Quapaw Quarter is named for the Quapaw Indian Nation, which had Little Rock as one of its territorial boundaries as defined by the treaty of 1818.

The Italianate style is based on the picturesque structures of Italy, originally inspired by the farmhouse architecture of the Italian countryside.

Little Rock was captured and occupied by Federal troops on September 10, 1863.

By the 1850s, Little Rock’s gardens were lovely and numerous, attracting the attention of surprised travelers expecting less cultivated beauty in the frontier city.

Arkansas achieved Territorial status in 1819 and became a state in 1836.

The approaching conflict of the Civil War helped spur progress in Little Rock, causing town leaders to support the development of manufacturing and production to reduce our dependency on the North.

Referred to originally as the Blind School Neighborhood, its signature building was demolished in 1948 to make way for Arkansas’s first Governor’s Mansion.

By 1900 there were no more farmsteads occupying entire city blocks but a few outbuildings could still be found behind the homes of more prosperous residences.
Maintaining a horse and carriage was a luxury relatively few could afford; but street car fares were low enough to be afforded by almost all residents and gradually created the first “urban sprawl.”

Until the early- to mid- 1950s downtown Little Rock had an extensive trolley system, now being recreated as River Rail.

One of the great tragedies of historic building destruction is the loss of smaller, less prominent buildings... the cottages and farmhouses of average people.

A nationwide financial panic in 1893 caused growth and residential construction to slow and ushered in the close of the flamboyant architectural period typified by the Queen Anne style. Restraint became the new hallmark.

Central heating was introduced to Little Rock in 1872 and had been sufficiently perfected by 1883 to attract the attention of wealthy homeowners.

Between 1877 and 1888 the City of Little Rock put into operation water and sewer systems, telephone service and electric plants.

By 1900, Little Rock’s 12 churches blossomed to over 50 and included the city’s first synagogue. Church architecture became more and more grand with steeples reaching unprecedented heights.

Between 1865 and 1900 Little Rock’s population grew from 4,000 to 40,000 causing a residential building boom.

Between 1880 and 1900, commercial brick buildings were rapidly appearing in downtown Little Rock. Numerous were multi-story buildings boasting a new device called an elevator.

Today’s Quapaw Quarter is made more interesting by the juxtaposition of the old neighborhood with the developing business district.

Saloonkeepers apparently enjoyed a lucrative career in the 1880s and 1890s as city records indicate they owned significant property ranging from the grand Villa Marre and Hornibrook House to more modest but upscale cottages.

Large windows were needed to allow in light because artificial lighting was so poor. Working shutters secured windows and protected from heat and cold.

Electric lights debuted in 1879 as a circus attraction but were not widely installed in homes until the turn of the century.

Little Rock’s 1887 telephone directory consisted of four pages, mostly businesses. Although at $48 annually a residential connection was less, even in those days, than the cost to business costumers.

By the late 1870s a street railway system (trolleys) began operation and emphasis was placed on paving streets and sidewalks.

In the early 1880s, everything south of what is now I-630 was considered the “outskirts” of Little Rock; beyond Seventeenth Street was “in the country.”

Dedicated to the education of African-American students, Philander Smith was established during the 19th century and remains a thriving urban college.

Arkansas’s first Governor’s Mansion was not built until 1950. For that reason, many prominent Quapaw Quarter houses served as temporary “First Mansions” – the personal residences of the State’s Governors during their term in office.
54. FEWELL-FLICKINGER-SCHMAND HOUSE (C. 1899) 1416 CENTER ST
Originally constructed for Benjamin Fewell, proprietor of a laundry, this house is an excellent example of the Queen Anne style. In 1909, the house was purchased by Louis and Ella Flickinger. As was the fate of many of these large neighborhood gems, the house was converted into apartments in the 1970s. In the mid-1990s the house was converted back to its original single-family use.

55. WINFIELD MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH (C. 1888-89)
CATHEDRAL SQUARE APARTMENTS 1500 CENTER ST
This building is an example of the Gothic Revival style with a towering, dramatic spire. From 1888 to 1921, it served as the Winfield Memorial Methodist Church. In 1983 the building was converted into the Cathedral Square Apartments.

56. HALLIBURTON HOUSES (C. 1905) 1601 & 1605 CENTER ST
These Colonial rental houses were built for Tom Halliburton, a conductor for the Missouri Pacific Railroad. The twin houses have an urban townhouse appearance not typical of Little Rock. Toward the rear of each house are two-story cutaway bays – throwbacks to the Queen Anne period.

57. RAGLAND HOUSE (C. 1889) 1617 CENTER ST
Twenty-one year old architect Charles Thompson designed this fanciful residence in the Queen Anne style for Mr. and Mrs. William Ragland. Its irregular shape and textural variety is commonly associated with Queen Anne, along with millwork-trimmed porches and stained-glass windows.

58. TURNER-FULK HOUSE (C. 1903-04) 1701 CENTER ST
Miss Sue. C. Turner hired Charles Thompson to build a very grand “spec” house – something that hadn’t previously been done in Little Rock. Designed in the Colonial Revival style with a Dutch Colonial gambrel roof, the house is large and well detailed.

59. PIERCE HOUSE (C. 1881) 1704 CENTER ST
A simple builder’s version of the Italianate style, the Pierce House is one of the oldest houses still standing in the Governor’s Mansion Historic District. It originally stood on the southwest corner of 17th and Center Streets, but at the turn of the century was rotated and moved a short distance to the south.

60. TURNER-MANN HOUSE (C. 1905) 1711 CENTER ST
The Turner-Mann house, built speculatively by Miss Sue Turner, is one of Little Rock’s few examples of the Prairie Style, popularized by Frank Lloyd Wright. Architect George Mann, who designed the Arkansas State Capitol, the Gazette Building, and the Boyle Building, bought the house in 1913.

61. TURNER-BACK HOUSE (C. 1884-85) 1722 CENTER ST
Constructed for realtor W. J. Turner, this was the first large architect-designed residence in what is now the Governor’s Mansion neighborhood. Originally a rambling, red-brick Queen Anne, it was extensively remodeled into the Craftsman style in about 1917 for Gus Lyon, vice-president of a wholesale hardware company and builder of the Lyon House at 1710 Center.
<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>62. ARKANSAS GOVERNOR’S MANSION (C. 1947-50)</strong> 1800 CENTER ST</th>
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<tr>
<td>A newer addition to the neighborhood, the mansion occupies the original location of “Rosewood,” an 1840s country estate which was also home to the Arkansas School for the Blind. The mansion has housed Arkansas’ first families since 1950 including President Bill Clinton, who served as governor for twelve years.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>63. CARUTH-CACHRAN HOUSE (C. 1882)</strong> 320 W. 18TH ST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Built for attorney George Caruth, this house was originally a mixture of Italianate, Gothic Revival and Queen Anne styles. Extensive remodeling between 1905-1913 left its basic shape and roofline intact, but replaced many features with Colonial Revival styling.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>64. OLD METHODIST PARSONAGE (C. 1927)</strong> 401 W. 18TH ST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Built to serve as the first parsonage for the First Methodist Church, architect John Parks Almand – who also designed Little Rock Central High School – designed it in the classic Georgian style. Hot Springs contractor George Burden, who also built the Arlington Hotel, executed the plans.</td>
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<th><strong>65. ROGERS HOUSE (C. 1914)</strong> 400 W. 18TH ST</th>
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<td>This large American Foursquare features Craftsman details such as exposed rafter ends and decorative braces under the eaves of the gabled dormers. Architect Charles Thompson added Colonial Revival elements, like the classical portico and balustrades beneath the second-story windows.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>66. KAHN-VESTAL HOUSE (C. 1915-16)</strong> 1701 BROADWAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Although the house is an American Foursquare, it has one of the most distinctive porches to be found among the City’s historic houses. Its decorative terra cotta trim, based on the type of ornamentation used by Frank Lloyd Wright in his Prairie-style houses, is highly unusual for Little Rock.</td>
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<th><strong>67. SECOND SARLO COTTAGE (C. 1895)</strong> 1314 SPRING ST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saloonkeeper Joseph Sarlo built this house, as well as the houses on either side, as rental properties. The house is a Queen Anne cottage with a Colonial Revival porch, which is not believed to be original to the house since the foundation footprint indicates an earlier wrap-around porch to the north.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>68. ALMAND HOUSE (C. 1922)</strong> 324 W. DAISY BATES DR</th>
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<td>Designed by Little Rock Central High School architect John Parks Almand as his own residence, the house is one of the “newer” historic homes in the district. Although Almand is known for early 20th century styles, he chose the English Revival style while evoking medieval English architecture.</td>
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<th><strong>69. DIBRELL HOUSE (C. 1892)</strong> 1400 SPRING ST</th>
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<td>This Queen Anne was built by a real estate agent, H.A. Bowman, and sold to Dr. and Mrs. James A. Dibrell, Jr. The Dibrells added some of their own touches such as parquet floors and walnut woodwork. Since the 1960s this house has enjoyed restoration of a quality rarely seen outside of museums.</td>
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70. DUNKLIN HOUSE (C. 1896) 1422 SPRING ST
Built for railroad conductor William J. Dunklin, the house uses an interesting mix of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival features. Except for the corner turret and bay window, the house is rectangular, with Palladian windows, a classical porch, and numerous other Colonial Revival details.

71. KIRKWOOD COTTAGE (C. 1882) 1500 SPRING ST
Built in the traditional Queen Anne style and charmingly embellished with decorative millwork, the Kirkwood cottage dates to the earliest development of the Governor’s Mansion Historic District.

72. STRASSER COTTAGE (C. 1882) 1504 SPRING ST
Strasser Cottage, a comfortable Queen Anne frame residence, was built in 1882. The earliest recorded owner of the house was the Ladies Building Association. Little is known about this group, but the name is intriguing for the times.

73. ALLISON-CRAWFORD HOUSE (C. 1890) 1510 SPRING ST
In the mid-1890s Patrick Crawford purchased a house at this location, which had been built by William Allison. It's unclear if Crawford greatly remodeled an existing house on the property or demolished the original structure, replacing it with this Queen Anne style house.

74. TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL (C. 1884-92) 310 W. 17TH ST
Designed by Bishop Pierce’s son, Rev. A. W. Pierce, this Cathedral is an example of Gothic Revival architecture patterned after rural English churches. When construction began it was in a rural area, with a few cottages nearby but no surrounding streets. The cathedral proper has changed little since the late 19th century, but several buildings have been added, creating a complex that occupies a vast area.

75. O’BRIEN HOUSE (C. 1882-83) 323 W. 17TH ST
Originally a one-story L-shaped cottage, the house is typical of the early 1880s neighborhood. By the 1890s, P.J. O’Brien’s success as a tailor enabled him to enlarge and remodel the house, creating the two-story Queen Ann-style residence that exists today.

76. REMMEL FLATS (C. 1906) 1700 SPRING ST
Charles Thompson designed Remmel Flats, a duplex consisting of one unit on each side with two floors – perhaps the neighborhood’s first duplex. Thompson made no effort to conceal its multi-family use by incorporating two front doors and two porches.

77. HANEY-BRACY-BARKSDALE HOUSE (C. 1882) 1812 SPRING ST
This house combines elements of three architectural styles – Italianate, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman. Originally located further north, the house was partially destroyed by fire in 1912. It was then moved to its present location facing Spring Street and rebuilt.
78. HARDY HOUSE (C. 1922) THE MANOR HOUSE 2400 BROADWAY
Designed by Charles Thompson’s partner, Thomas Harding, this house is stylistically an English Manor House. The trend of English Revival designs was inspired by “doughboys’” remembrances of England when they returned home following World War I.

79. KEITH HOUSE (C. 1912) 2200 BROADWAY
This Craftsman style house is notable for its architecture as well as having survived almost a century virtually unaltered. Designed by Charles Thompson it is one of the city’s best Craftsman examples, with hints of the Prairie style thrown in for good measure.

80. FOSTER-ROBINSON HOUSE (C. 1905) HOPE LODGE 2122 BROADWAY
Architecturally distinctive, this house is an early example of English Revival or Tudor style. Home to U.S. Senator Joseph T. Robinson in 1929, the house witnessed one of Little Rock’s most momentous social events when the Robinsons hosted a dinner party for President and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

81. VINSON HOUSE (C. 1905) 2123 BROADWAY
Often said to be Little Rock’s best example of a Colonial Revival cottage, the house is really too large to be called a cottage. In the typical Colonial Revival cottage style, however, in the typical Colonial Revival cottage style, the Vinson House has a steeply-pitched hipped roof with cross gables, and a wraparound porch with classical Ionic columns.

82. FORDYCE HOUSE (C. 1904) 2115 BROADWAY
Built for Mr. and Mrs. John R. Fordyce, the house is designed in the exceedingly rare Egyptian Revival style, used in no more than a dozen houses in the U.S. While examples typically date from the mid- to late-19th century, the Fordyce House is an early 20th-century example, making it even more unusual.

83. THOMPSON HOUSE (C. 1906) 2015 BROADWAY
Architect Charles L. Thompson designed for himself a conservative American Foursquare, but added then-popular Arts and Crafts style. Most out of the ordinary is the shaped dormer and the red tile roof.

84. FRENCH-ENGLAND HOUSE (C. 1905) 1700 BROADWAY
Designed by Charles Thompson for Dr. Frank L. French, the house falls into the American Foursquare category but is a large and very well detailed version of the style. It also boasts Colonial Revival features such as the porch roof balustrade and classical columns. In 1914, Thompson designed the two-story sunroom addition.

85. THE DICKENSON HOUSE (C. 1880)
ROSEMONT BED & BREAKFAST 515 W. 15TH ST
Built for George Dickinson, this is one of the neighborhood’s oldest homes and an example of a surviving 1880s farmhouse. In 1992, it was the site of President-elect Clinton’s “morning after” celebration. The house has since been converted to “Rosemont, a popular bed and breakfast.
86. NEEL-DEANE HOUSE (C. 1901) 1701 ARCH ST  
A charming representative of the period from about 1895 to 1905 when many Little Rock residents wavered between the Queen Anne or Colonial Revival Styles, this “transitional” design incorporates mostly Queen Anne characteristics.

87. HEMINGWAY HOUSE (C. 1893) 1720 ARCH ST  
After resigning as Associate Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court, Wilson E. Hemingway hired architect Charles Thompson to design his home. It is one of Little Rock’s most notable examples of Queen Anne style and one of the oldest surviving examples of Thompson’s work.

88. GIBB-ALTHEIMER HOUSE (C. 1906) 1801 ARCH ST  
Engineer Frank W. Gibb began designing houses in the late 1880s and hit his stride with this imposing portico that faces Arch Street, giving the house a true Greek temple appearance. An interesting design “trick” is the shuttered window on the second floor – it is a false window, existing merely for sake of symmetry.

89. CORNISH HOUSE (C. 1916) 1800 ARCH ST  
Banker Edward Cornish and his wife Hilda commissioned esteemed architect Frank Gibb to design a home for the couple and their six children. Primarily Craftsman in style, the house shows traces of English Revival, mostly in the half-timbered gables.

90. KAVANAUGH HOUSE (C. 1898-99) 1854 ARCH ST  
Judge William Marmaduke Kavanaugh played an important role in the development of Pulaski Heights and was recognized by Little Rock City Council by the naming of Kavanaugh Boulevard in his honor. This transitional house combines an asymmetrical Queen Anne floor plan with decorative details in the Colonial Revival style.

91. FRANK GIBB HOUSE (C. 1890) 1858 ARCH ST  
This exceptional Queen Anne style house was Architect Frank W. Gibb’s first home, built on one of the many neighborhood properties his father owned. Recently repainted in Gibb’s original paint scheme, these Victorian colors were inspired by nature to be in harmony with their surroundings.

92. FULK-DAVIS HOUSE (C. 1905) 2001 ARCH ST  
Charles Thompson designed this home for Circuit Court Judge Guy Fulk and his family in 1905. In 1937, John Davis, president of Dixie Culvert Manufacturing Company, bought it and remodeled it from its original Queen Anne-Classical Revival style to the Queen Anne-Colonial Revival appearance.

93. MARSHALL HOUSE (C. 1908) 2009 ARCH ST  
Built for Josephus C. Marshall, the original plans and 28-pages of construction specifications are still in existence. This Colonial Revival house with Craftsman style characteristics was wired for electricity and plumbed for gas lights – common practice during the late 19th and early 20th century.
94. FRAUENTHAL HOUSE (C. 1919) 2008 ARCH ST
A partner in Frauenthal & Schwartz Mercantile, Charles Frauenthal and his wife, Cora retained Charles Thompson's firm to design a house that remains a rare example in Little Rock of the Italian Renaissance style, featuring low-pitched hipped roof covered with tile, a symmetrical façade, small classical columns and stuccoed walls.

95. BOYLE HOUSE (C. 1921-1922) 2020 ARCH ST
In 1921, Sterling Scott began work on this residence; but before it was finished Scott sold it to John and Snow Boyle. Their new residence combined elements of several early 20th century styles: the exposed rafter ends and tile roof is Craftsman, while the half-timbered gables are reminiscent of English Revival and the unusual stone entry porch seems to be inspired by the Beaux Arts styles.

96. JOSEPH W. HOUSE SR. HOUSE (C. 1898-92) 2126 S. ARCH ST
Leading attorney and statesman of Arkansas, Joseph W. House Sr., built this home circa 1898-1892. Constructed in the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles, it has an irregular shape with side projections. The front features a wrap-around porch with round wood columns and turned post balustrade. Above this is a small one-half front porch with turned columns and turned post balustrade. Finally, there is an additional side porch with turned post columns.

97. BABCOCK HOUSE (C. 1890) 1855 GAINES ST
This Queen Anne style home was built by William and Julia Burnelle (Bernie) Babcock. Bernie became a prolific writer, authoring over 40 works, including The Soul of Ann Rutledge. She was the first Arkansas woman to be included in Who’s Who in America and later founded the Arkansas Museum of Science and Antiquities, now known as the Museum of Discovery.

98. POWELL-CLEMENTS HOUSE (C. 1903) 1821 GAINES ST
Samuel Powell, state manager for Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., built this Colonial Revival house. It served as the governor’s mansion in 1921 for Thomas C. McRae. In 1922, George Clements, manager of a local sporting goods company, purchased the house and remained there until 1942.

99. PRATHER HOUSE (C. 1890) 1721 GAINES ST
Well-known architect Frank Gibbs, who lived nearby on Arch Street, designed the house for John and Grace Prather who lived there until their deaths in 1915. The current owners purchased the house in 1983 and began its extensive rehabilitation.

100. REDDING HOUSE (C. 1903) 1716 GAINES ST
Built in the Colonial Revival style with a Boston roof covered in wood shingles, this property was home to Sidney Redding and two Mrs. Reddings. Redding engaged in questionable social change by divorcing his first wife, Emily, and then marrying civic and social leader Daisy Rosenbaum.

101. BELL HOUSE (C. 1843) MOUNT HOLLY CEMETERY BROADWAY & 12TH ST
Built at the end of the 19th century, this park-like oasis became the primary city cemetery in 1843. It is the final “residence” for so many notable Arkansans that its nickname is “The Westminster Abbey of Arkansas.”
Acknowledgements

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Our special appreciation goes to the owners of these fine historic homes who are allowing us to share them with visitors to Little Rock.

Founded in 1968, the Quapaw Quarter Association’s mission is to promote the preservation of Little Rock’s architectural heritage through advocacy, marketing and education. Through its efforts, many public buildings and private homes have been saved, preserved and rehabilitated. For more information, please call 501-371-0075 or visit Quapaw.com.