

Downtown Indiana Queen Anne Walk

ENJOY YOUR ARCHITECTURE TOUR OF THE MANY QUEEN ANNE STYLE HOMES LOCATED IN INDIANA BOROUGH.



The upper-class manor houses built during Queen Elizabeth's reign were an extravagant expression of wealth and power replete with turrets, towers and complicated roof forms. Richard Norman Shaw who pioneered another style based more on Tudor and 16th century Elizabethan architecture, combined this influence with the Queen Anne Revival style and marketed it to wealthy patrons as Queen Anne. The style arrived in America at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876 and came to represent the opulence of the Gilded Age.

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Indiana has a significant collection of Queen Anne style houses characterized by irregular massing, an eclectic mix of Neoclassical and sometimes Gothicarchitectural details, variegated surfaces, colors



and materials, and frequent use of wrap-around porches, turrets and towers. The Queen Anne at Church & 10th St. exhibits just about every feature that defines the style, such as irregular massing, variegated surface textures, and a corner turret.

2 Part of the 9th & Church Queen Anne cluster, this house has square columns and porch eve brackets that are Renaissance style and *lancet windows* that suggest *Victorian Gothic* influence.



3 Not all Queen Anne houses have turrets. This Queen Anne has a cutaway bay topped by a **vergeboard**decorated **gable**, which provides the visual prominence of a **turret**.

A central tower provides the visual accent for this Queen Anne that, like the house next door, makes use of windows trimmed in stained glass panes. Renaissance references are reinforced with Italianate brackets and an **Ionic columned** porch.



5 This Queen Anne at 9th & Church St. shows mixed surface textures favored by the style with fish scale shingles, clapboards of two different widths and decorative gable stucco all on the same house. Turreted



Queen Anne houses occupying corner lots often located this prominent visual accent on the corner facing the intersection.

6 The Queen Anne at 9th St. & Gompers Ave. is unusual in its monotone use of dark brick.



The Queen Anne at Church St. & Taylor Ave. has elements of two earlier styles. The *Italianate style* is referenced in the *brackets* under the *eaves*, and the *Gothic style* is suggested by the houses verticality,



emhasized with the pointed dormers in the tower roof.



8 This pair of Queen Anne houses formally contribute to the architectural significance of Indiana's 6th St., which showcases Victorian houses of the late-19th century south of Philadelphia St., and the Historical-Revival styles of the early 20th century north of Philadelphia St. The Queen Anne style straddles both time periods with a popularity stretching from about 1880 to 1920, and can be found along North and South 6th St. The green Queen Anne, which previously served as the parsonage of the Zion Luthern Church, was demolished in Spring of 2021.

The free-style use of different architectural details is a hallmark of the Queen Anne house like this one on S. 6th St. Historically-inspired American architecture has four points of reference: 1) the Neoclassical style of the ancient Greeks and Romans,



2) the Gothic style of the Middle Ages, 3) the Renaissance reinterpretation of the Classics, and 4) the common, place-dependent *Vernacular styles*. Rarely are Classical and Gothic styles mixed, but they can be in an eclectic Queen Anne like this one. This house has both a Renaissance *Palladian window* and a Gothic *lancet window*, among other odd-shaped windows designed to present a visually stimulating varied texture.

The house at 6th & School St. is a blend of Queen Anne **Romanesaue** styles and popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The irregular massing, turret, porch and balconies are Oueen Anne, but semi-circular the arches, contrasting mix of and smooth (ashlar) and rough (rusticated). light (buff) and dark (red) stone is Romanesque.



The square turret on the house at 5th & School St. has Victorian Gothic dormers. It is also partially projecting from an upper story in the way intended by the turret's original purpose as a defensive structure designed to protect the walls of a castle. The cantilevered corners



result from another feature common to Queen Anne houses, the cutaway bay capped with decorative trim.

barred windows), which was accessed directly from the

second-floor courtroom via the "Bridge of Sighs."

This turret-less house on the northeast corner of 5th & School St. has a rambling irregular form, textured wall surfaces, bay window, stylized Palladian window and a wrap-around porch, all notable features of Queen Anne style.

(13) The old Indiana County Jail's Sheriff's House on 6th St. is similar to the turretless Oueen Anne house east of 9th & Church St. Both Renaissance-inspired share Italianate details. The Sheriff's House was built as an addendum to the old Indiana Courthouse. Its Oueen Anne details are restrained but include bay window, central tower, and elaborate woodwork. The Sheriff was responsible for the jail behind the house (the part with the



14 The Governor Fisher House on N. 6th Street blends elements of the Queen Anne style with that of the contemporary Shingle style represented by its more simplified form, minimal decorative detail, massive front-facing gable and



shingled wall surfaces. Sparingly used architectural detail is decidedly Classical with **Doric columns** and **dentils** on the porch and **broken pediments** over the attic windows.

This Queen Anne at 6th St. & Shryock Ave. boasts two Palladian windows in addition to the corner turret. The three-part window with a larger, arch-topped center light is attributed to Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio. The random use of



this presentational feature is common to Queen Anne "freestyle" architecture.

16 The Queen Anne on the southeastern corner of 9th & Chestnut St., although not as large and on a smaller lot, mirrors its larger neighbor on the northwest corner. It too has a wrap-around porch corner with a turret oriented towards the intersection.



The Queen Anne on the northwest corner of 9th & Chestnut St. has a wraparound porch punctuated by a **conical corner roof**, and an oblong turret. These eye-catching elements have limited utility but seat the



house to its corner address with a public presentation of prosperity.

PHOTOS AND INFORMATION FROM KEVIN PATRICK, professor of Geography & Regional Planning and admin of the Historic Indiana, Pennsylvania Facebook group. **18** The house at 9th & Water St. is part of the cluster of N. 9th Street Queen Annes, featuring a corner turret with a wrap-around porch and different surface textures, clapboard on bottom and fish-scale on top. It also has



a prominent cup-and-ball finial on the turret and decorative gables.

19 Queen Anne corner turrets were visual accents that came in a variety of shapes and styles including the **bell-domed turret** at 10th & Water St. The turret is a presentational feature that adds romantic interest to



the house, and is typically positioned to face the intersection on corner lot houses like this one.

Glossary

Brackets - An ornamental projection from the face of a wall providing visual or structural support for a statue, cornice, balcony, or window.

Broken Pediment - a pediment having a gap at the apex (as for a statue or vase).

Columns, Dornic - characterized by a plain, unadorned column top and a column that rests directly on the continuous base of the temple without an extra base.

Columns, Ionic - characterized by a small base, a thin elegant shaft, and a capital composed of volutes (a spiral or scroll-shaped form).

Conical (corner roof) - resembling a cone especially in shape.

Cornice - a box-like wooden valance typically crafted from plywood, then covered with paint, wallpaper, or fabric and mounted to the wall above the window.

Cutaway Bay - formed when roof gables overhang the bay window shaped into the wall below.

Dentil Molding - An even series of rectangles used as ornament to decorate cornices of classical buildings and fireplace mantels.

(1830s-1880s) Italianate - identifiable by their wide projecting cornices with heavy brackets and their richly ornamented windows, porches, and doorways.

(1840s-1880s) Victorian Gothic - Always executed in brick or stone, High Victorian Gothic buildings are distinguished by the use of multi-colored bands of decorative masonry.

(1830s-1900s) Neoclassical - characterized by grandeur of scale, simplicity of geometric forms, Greek—especially Doric or Roman detail, dramatic use of columns, and a preference for blank walls.

Dormers - a window set vertically in a structure projecting through a sloping roof; the roofed structure containing such a window.

Eaves - the underneath area of the roof that projects from the exterior siding.

Finial - a crowning ornament or detail (a decorative knob).

Gable - the vertical triangular end of a building from cornice or eaves to ridge.

Lancet (window) - a high narrow window with an acutely pointed head and without tracery.

Palladian (window) - an architectural unit consisting of a central window with an arched head and on each side a usually narrower window with a square head.

Pediment - a triangular space that forms the gable of a lowpitched roof and that is usually filled with relief sculpture in classical architecture.

Turret - an ornamental structure at an angle of a larger structure.

Variegated (surfaces) - having discrete markings of different colors.

Architectural Styles

(1880s-1920s) Romanesque - based on Roman architectural elements. It is the rounded Roman arch that is the literal basis for structures built in this style.

(1890s-1920s) Renaissance - high style Victorian houses of the late-19th century south of Philadelphia St., and the Historical Revival styles of the early 20th century north of Philadelphia St.

Vernacular - constructed with cultural origins of their design, rather than their period of construction. They are built from affordable and readily available materials to satisfy basic and immediate needs.

Definitions sourced from the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission's Pennsylvania Architectural Field Guide, the Encyclopædia Britannica, Merriam-Webster Dictionary, WentworthStudio.com, TheSpruce.com, OntarioArchitecture.com, and KhanAcademy.com.

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