

## ARCHITECTURAL WALKING TOUR OF HERKIMER 8/27/2007

The Village of Herkimer was incorporated April, 1807. It was among the first ten in the state to apply for a charter. Five trustees were elected, with the authority to raise money (nor more than two hundred dollars in any one year) to purchase fire equipment and to supply water.

Tonight's tour is about the architecture of North Main Street and a few of the people who lived in the homes.

1. Herkimer County Historical Society - 400 North Main - Queen Anne Style –Brick structure built in 1884 by Dr. A. Walter Suiter. The architect was Adolphus Simmons of Utica, NY. Notice the griffins on the hand carved doors. The wood carver put his initials CB n the right panel of the door at the top. Other features on the building are gargoyles over the windows, dentils under the eaves, stained glass windows on only five windows in the building, floral motifs and fish scales are many the features of this building.
2. Eckler Building – 406 North Main - Italianate Style – Wooden structure built ca. 1870. It has a flat roof, decorative brackets under the eaves, cap molding over the windows, and double hung windows.
3. Crandall's Law Office – 410 North Main - Owned by J.H. Stewart in 1868 & 1906. Notice the fish scales up in the peak and dentils over the arch of front door.
4. Former home of Frank and Heidi Young 412 North Main - John M. Richard's (living in this house as early as 1868) who was the former sheriff of Herkimer County during the Gillette Murder Trial and later became a lumber man. Notice the fanned stained glass on either side of the front door. There are columns on either side of the front doors. Dormer in front has an arched window and, keystone in the center over the window. Stained glassed window on either side of the front porch. Out back of the house is a well dating back possibly to the 1750's or 1776 when Fort Dayton was built.
5. 416 North Main Street. In 1906 this house belonged to Thomas M. Grogan President Village, he owned a clothing and men's furnishing store. He was well liked and helped out with the Herkimer Flood of 1910. Notice the fish scales up in the gable, 5 floral in design over the windows on the porch, dentils the windows on the second floor over the porch and then the little square window and then the two smaller windows in the attic area and quarter fanned design on either side of the two small windows on the second story and columns.
6. 420 North Main Street. This Yellow House was owned by J. Davis in 1906. There are columns, complex pitched roof, dormer on the south side, paired window and notice the different size windows.
7. 424 North Main Street. This white house was owned by Joseph & Jessie B. Palmer in 1906. It has a turret, pitched roof and different sized windows. Unfortunately the building has been sided.

8. 426 North Main Street - H.G.Munger-Zoller-Hanna House Victorian Style – Wooden clapboard structure was built in 1880 by Henry G. Munger who at one time owned Munger's Department Street on Main Street in Herkimer. The architect was A.N. Russell, Ilion, NY. It has three stories and has 14 rooms, complex pitched roof, entrance porch has ornate detailing, large double hung doors, inner doors with tinted glass portraying fruit and outer door with tinted glass with flowers. There are dormers, medallions, the sun porch on the left used to be the porte chere which was used for horse drawn carriages to pull up to the house to drop their passenger off. Notice the lightning rod on the roof. The garage out back has a turntable in it. Today it is an apartment house and offices.
9. 436 North Main Street. Blue House with the eagle over door was listed on the 1857 & 1868 as being owned by Miss Holden and 1906 Giles Griswold, surveyor. The house has clapboards, shutters, low pitched roof is asymmetrical and columns on either side of the front door.
10. 440 North Main Street. The clapboard white house has a porch with brick work for the columns on top of them. 1906 owned by Charles T. Bunnell work Remington Typewriter. This house is a two family house with low pitched roof.
11. 446 North Main Street. J. Richards owned this house in 1906. It is a two family house with pitched roof.
12. 448 North Main Street on corner Main and German Streets. Brick house painted blue was owned by C.H. Miller in 1857, Alonzo Rust in 1868 and was a Baptist Church in 1906. There are lintels over the windows, decorative brackets on the doors, pitched roof, pediment in the center of the arches of the porch.
13. Ross E. Sluyter House – Tudor Style – Stucco sided structure was built in 1922 for himself. The front doors facing North Main Street are three quarters of an inch thick. The windows open out. The roof slopes in the back of the house to give it a country cottage motif. Metal tiles on the roof are finished with a baked on paint that resembles aged copper. Decorative tiles are used to finish off the top of the chimney.

14. 457 North Main Street - The house dates back to 1789. There is an interesting story behind the house. Doctor James Ferrill and Gaylord Griswold, lawyer built two houses in 1789, one on the corner of Main and Mary Street and the other on Dorf Street. It was the understanding between the two men that the first of them to be married would have the first selection of the two houses. Doctor Ferrill won the race to claim a bride and selected the house on Dorf Street. Griswold married in 1796 to Miss Mary Hooker. Griswold died in 1809 at the age of 41. The house passed to his son-in-law, Benjamin Brooks, who moved to Utica and rented the house for several years. It then became a boarding house, then the Episcopal church owned it before its first removal to the 443 North Main Street, where the Lathrop Mansion is today at the turn of the century by Capt. Horatio Witherstine. In 1908 it was moved to its current site. Extensive alterations and remodeling has been done on the house. The exterior is much the same as it was originally, except the large front porch was removed. The original foundation beams are still sound. The house had eight large rooms and a large woodshed on the first floor. There were six rooms on the second floor. The first floor had a large colonial hall and a porch which extended across the north side and back of the large drawing room, forming the shape of an "L". (Show picture of house in 1900 and then today)
15. 453 North Main Street - 1906 Arthur T. Smith owned this house he was the Secretary for the Citizen Publishing. This house is two storied with addition to the back of the house. Notice the window on the side of the house. Barn out back of the house. Vacant lot next door because house burned down in the 1990's.
16. 443 North Main Street – Lathrop Mansion, Frank J. Lathrop once was the Treasurer for Standard Furniture Company. Italian Villa in style made of yellow brick was built in 1907 with brick wall bordering the grounds that extend back to Prospect Street. Notice the tiled roof, pillars, 8 over 8 windows, and has a dormer in the front on the second floor. Materials were imported from around the world to construct this mansion. The interior has mahogany woodwork, porcelain in laid balusters, tiled fireplaces and a stained glass window.
17. 433 North Main Street – House built sometime between 1886 and 1902. William C. Prescott owned the house. He was an attorney. Tower, steep pitched roof, narrow stained glass window and paired narrow windows in the front.  
(show picture of house in 1900 and then show picture today)
18. 437 North Main Street- former Boy Scout Office - Italianate Style House built in 1871 by George Gorman Harter. Notice the decorative brackets, cap molding over the windows, and flat roof. At one time it had a side porch.
19. Masonic Temple was built in 1918. It is made of brick, Masonic emblem, point out the cornerstone, windows are in sets of three.
20. Herkimer Reformed church was built in 1835 it is gothic in style made of brick. The stained glassed windows were a gift of Francis E. Spinner in memory of Rev. John P.

Spinner. Interior redesign in 1921 done by Louis Comfort Tiffany. The back portion was addition 1890's. The architect was Archimedes Russell.

21. Jail 1834 Federal in style made of limestone, elliptical window, and half fanned window. Quoins on the 1880's wooden structure.

22. Courthouse Post Civil War in Design built in 1873. Quoins, keystones and bell tower.