

ARCHITECTURAL STYLES AND EXAMPLES IN ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

(Adapted from Virginia & Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1988)

Colonial Architecture

- Federal Style. (1780-1840)
- French Colonial Style (1700-1860)

Romantic Architecture

- Greek Revival Style. (1825-1860)
- Gothic Revival Style (1840-1880)
- Italianate Style (1840-1885)
- Exotic Revival Styles (1835-1900)

Victorian Architecture

- Second Empire (1855-1885)
- Queen Anne (1880-1910)
- Shingle Style (1880-1900)
- Richardsonian Romanesque (1880-1900)
- Folk Victorian (ca. 1870-1910)

Eclectic Architecture

- Colonial Revival Style (1880-1955)
- Neoclassical Style (1895-1950)
- Tudor Revival (1890-1940)
- Chateausque (1880-1910)
- Beaux Arts (1885-1930)
- Italian Renaissance Revival (1890-1935)
- Mission Style (1890-1920)
- Prairie (1900-1920)
- Craftsman Style (1905-1930)
- Modernistic (including Art Moderne and Art Deco) (1920-1940)

Folk Architecture (all time periods)

- Log Construction
- Shotgun Houses

Federal Style (1780-1840)

- Simple, rectangular floor plan, two or more rooms deep
- Brick or wood frame with lap siding construction
- Doors and windows arranged in a strict symmetry
- Usually has an elaborate entryway with a sem-circular or elliptical fanlight over a paneled door, often with porticos
- No front porch
- Windows with double-hung sashes (typically 6 panes of glass over 6 panes of glass)
- Cornice emphasized with tooth-like dentils or other decorative molding



Robidoux Row. 219-225 E. Poulin, St. Joseph, Missouri. The original row of seven apartments was built by Joseph Robidoux, the city founder. Robidoux rented these apartments to new settlers, at a nominal fee, while they established homes. This was the site of Robidoux's death on May 27, 1868. The restoration of Robidoux Row was a Bicentennial project of the Saint Joseph Historical Society.

French Colonial Style (1700-1860)

- Usually one story with many narrow door and window openings.
- Paired front doors
- Side gabled roof (urban cottages) or hipped roof (rural cottages)
- Steeply pitched or dual pitched roof
- Brick with stucco, half timbered, or vertical log construction
- Front entries raised a half story (rural cottages)
- Galleries across the entire front or around the entire house (rural cottages)
- Often has exterior stairs rather than interior hallways



604-606 N. 6th Street. Built by one of the Robidoux family members. This circa 1840's house is similar to Federal Style homes built during the same time period. Its asymmetrical pattern of doors and windows on the first floor and the single, massive chimney in the center of the roof show influences from French-Canadian homes of the St. Lawrence River Valley.



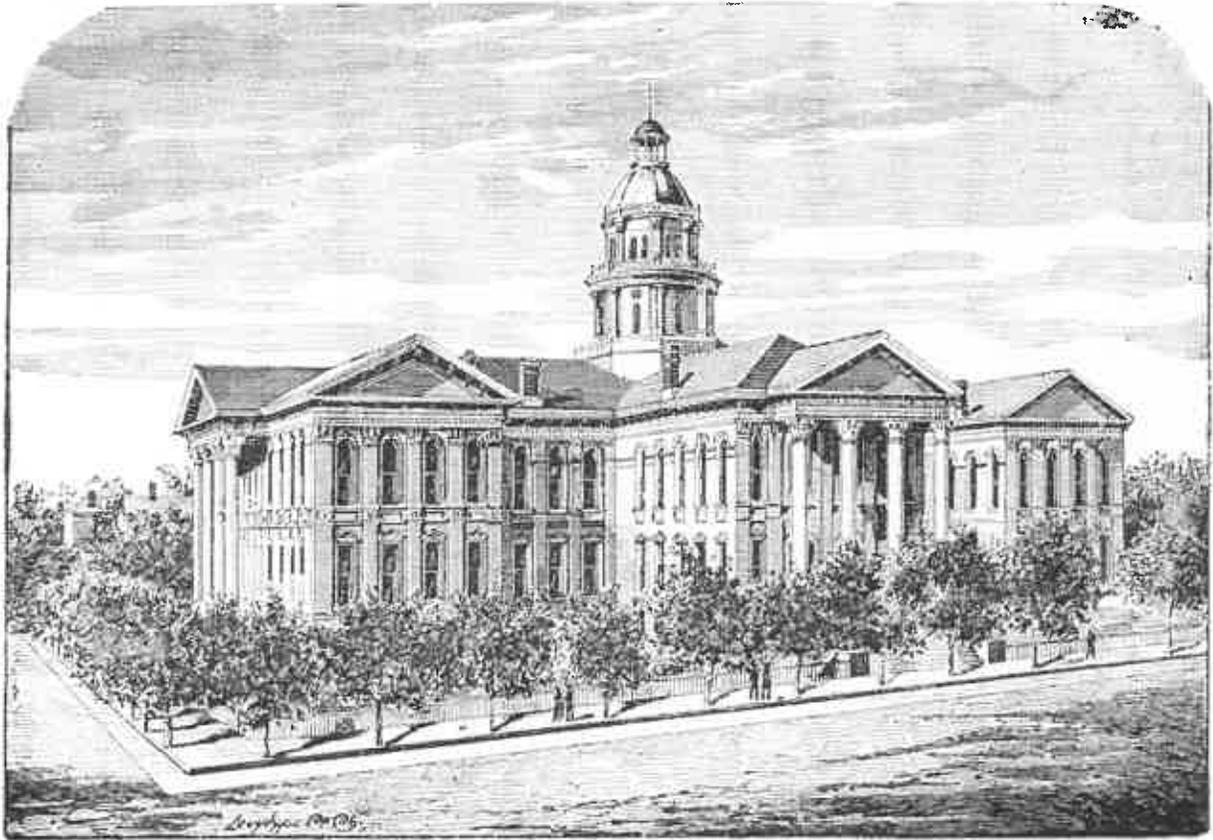
1709 Howard Street, St. Joseph, Missouri. The porch's turned columns and decorative spindlework are clearly Victorian. However, the building form, and side gabled roof with raised front entry are hallmarks of the French Colonial Style as seen in Louisiana.

Greek Revival Style (1825-1860).

- Low pitched, gabled or hipped roof
- Entry porch with prominent square or round columns
- Greek columns and pilasters frequently present
- Triangular pediment or gable end often present
- Front door surrounded by a narrow line of transom and sidelights
- Cornice lines emphasized with wide, divided band of trim representing the classical entablature
- 6 over 6 windows



119 N. 19th Street. Harris-Tootle House. William T. Harris pre-empted a quarter section of land in the 1840's and built this farm home.



THE PRESENT COURT HOUSE.

411 Jules Street, St. Joseph, Missouri. Buchanan County Courthouse. This grand Neo-Classical courthouse was the second largest in size in the state of Missouri when it was built. The second floor was not occupied by county offices during the early period but rented to lawyers and other citizens of the county. The size of the structure indicates great growth predictions by the county court and is a definite statement of the confidence and optimism of the citizens of Buchanan County. A commemorative volume of the Philadelphia Centennial listed this building as one of the outstanding buildings in the United States. An 1885 fire caused extensive damage to the interior and the remodeled dome is shorter than the original.

Gothic Revival Style. (1840-1880)

- Steeply pitched roof, usually with a steeply pitched cross gable facing the front
- Castellated or parapeted tops of walls
- Windows frequently extend into gables and have characteristic pointed arch
- Gables commonly decorated with elaborately cutout wood vergeboards
- Carpenter Gothic houses are usually simple, rectangular boxes but with extremely elaborate cutout wood decoration for porches and vergeboards



301 S. 11th Street, St. Joseph, Missouri. St. Joseph Museum. Architect: Edmond J. Eckel. Built in 1879 for William M. Wyeth, this Gothic-style sandstone building is copied after a castle on the Rhine. The home was sold to Mrs. Kate Tootle in 1888 and was the home of Milton Tootle Jr. until his death in 1946. William L. Goetz purchased the house in 1947 for the Saint Joseph Museum.



2410 Jackson Street, St. Joseph, Missouri. Carpenter Gothic Style. Notice elaborate vergeboards.

Italianate Style. (1840-1885)

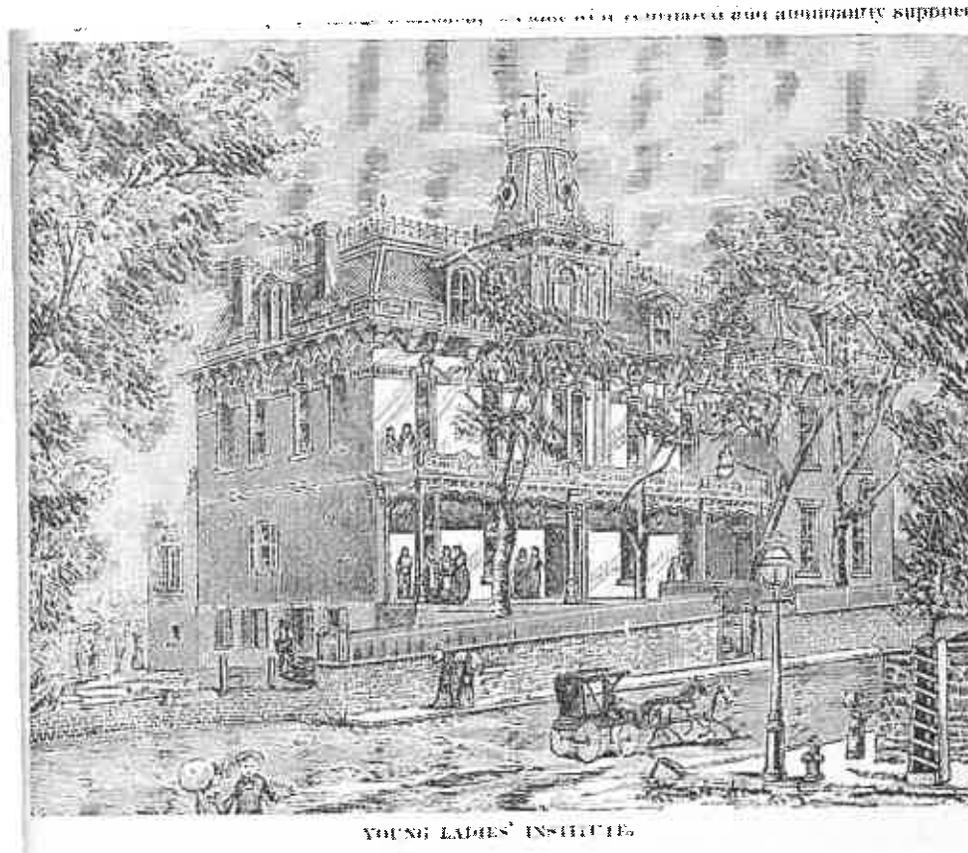
- Two or more stories (rarely one) and most commonly of masonry construction
- Low pitched roof, often hipped, and commonly with a square cupola or tower
- Widely overhanging eaves supported by decorative brackets
- Tall, narrow windows, frequently with elaborate window crowns, usually of an invested-U shape
- Either 2 over 2 or 1 over 1 pattern of windows



1202 Penn Street, St. Joseph, Missouri. Patee House Museum. Opened by John Patee in 1858 as a luxurious hotel, the 140 guest rooms featured red Brussels carpets, winding stairs and a unique mechanical call system. It was the headquarters for the Pony Express. Mr. Patee was responsible for the development of the Patee addition and the growth of the southern part of the city.

Second Empire Style. (1855-1885)

- Mansard roof with dormer windows on steep slope
- Mansard roof allows use of decorative, patterned shingles
- Decorative roof cresting is common
- Wide eaves normally with decorative brackets below
- Paired entry doors, sometimes with top half
- Hooded windows are common
- Usually 2 over 2 or 1 over 1 window panes



503 Antoine St., St. Joseph, Missouri, in 1889.

Queen Anne Style (1880-1910)

- Complex building plan
- Steeply pitched roof or irregular shape, with prominent front gable
- Extremely rich exterior wall decoration, often divided by stories. Spindlework, patterned masonry, and half timbering are common. Smooth wall appearance is avoided.
- Corner conical tower is common
- Partial or full width asymmetrical porch, normally one story high
- Textured and patterned shingles



510 S. 12th Street, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Folk Victorian Style (c. 1870-1910)

- Simple, rectangular box building form
- Fairly elaborate turned and cutout decoration, especially on the front porch
- One or two stories
- Usually wood frame construction with lap siding



720 S. 17th St., St. Joseph, Missouri.

Richardsonian Romanesque Style (1880-1900)

- Heavy masonry construction
- Prominent arched entryways and/or windows
- Rough-faced, squared stonework
- Steeply pitched roofs
- Façade usually asymmetrical
- Masonry towers



RESIDENCE OF J. W. McALISTER

J.W. McAlister Residence. 105 N. 19th Street, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Shingle Style (1880-1900)

- Wall cladding is a continuation of roofing.
- Steeply pitched roof line with prominent cross gable
- Shingled walls without interruption at corners (no corner boards)



2635 Frederick Ave., St. Joseph, Missouri

Colonial Revival Style (1880-1955)

- Usually symmetrical façade but sometimes asymmetrical
- Architectural details very similar to Federal and Georgian style buildings
- Different from those styles in having frequently having paired windows, and bottom sashes of windows being a single pane of glass.
- About 10% of Colonial Revival homes have a gambrel ("barn") or Dutch Colonial revival roof



2649 Frederick Avenue, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Neoclassical Revival Style (1895-1950)

- Similar to Greek Revival Style buildings with Classical details
- Always has a full-height front porch, supported by Classical columns with Ionic or Corinthian capitals
- Windows may have one pane of glass on bottom sash



1923 Clay Street, St. Joseph, Missouri

Tudor Revival Style (1890-1940)

- Steeply pitched roof with its façade dominated by one or more prominent cross gables
- Use of both masonry and half timbering
- Tall, narrow windows, often in groups or two or three
- Massive chimneys usually crowned by decorative chimney pots



2902 Frederick Ave., St. Joseph, Missouri. Frank L. Goetz Residence.

Chateausque Style (1880-1910)

- Extremely complex or “busy” roofline with many vertical elements
- Steeply pitched hip roof
- Multiple dormers, usually extending through the roof line
- Masonry walls, usually of stone



809 Hall St., St. Joseph, Missouri.

Beaux Arts Style (1885-1930)

- Flat or extremely low pitched roof
- Elaborate rooftop balustrade
- Quoins on building corners
- Masonry wall surfaces with decorative garlands, floral patterns, or shields
- Symmetrical facade



520 N. 5th St., St. Joseph, Missouri. Former U.S. Weather Observatory.

Italian Renaissance Style (1890-1935)



1100 Frederick Ave. St. Joseph, Missouri. City Hall. Architects: Eckel & Mann, George Burnap, and Jacques Greber Constructed 1927. George Burnap and Jacques Greber drew plans which called for soldiers memorials at all the approaches to the mall. The seven and a half acres acquisition and City Hall construction cost nearly \$1,700,000. A planned children's theater and art museum were never completed due to the 1929 recession.

Mission Style (1890-1920)



Century Apartments. 627 N. 25th St., St. Joseph, Missouri.

Prairie Style (1900-1920)



2911 Sherman Ave., St. Joseph, Missouri.

Craftsman Style (1905-1930)



915 Ashland Court, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Modernistic Styles (1920-1940)



901 Jules Street, St. Joseph, Missouri. Art Moderne Style.

Folk Style (all time periods)



The 900 block of S. 16th Street in St. Joseph provides a good example of Folk architecture. The uniform setback, gable front roof design, simple rectangular building form, and uniform placement on lots provide strong visual continuity for the street. Some of these appear to be missing original porches and have been covered with modern asbestos and vinyl siding.



The house on the left, 1622 S. 11th Street, is a good example of a Shotgun Style building form.