



**Look Up,
Chicago!**

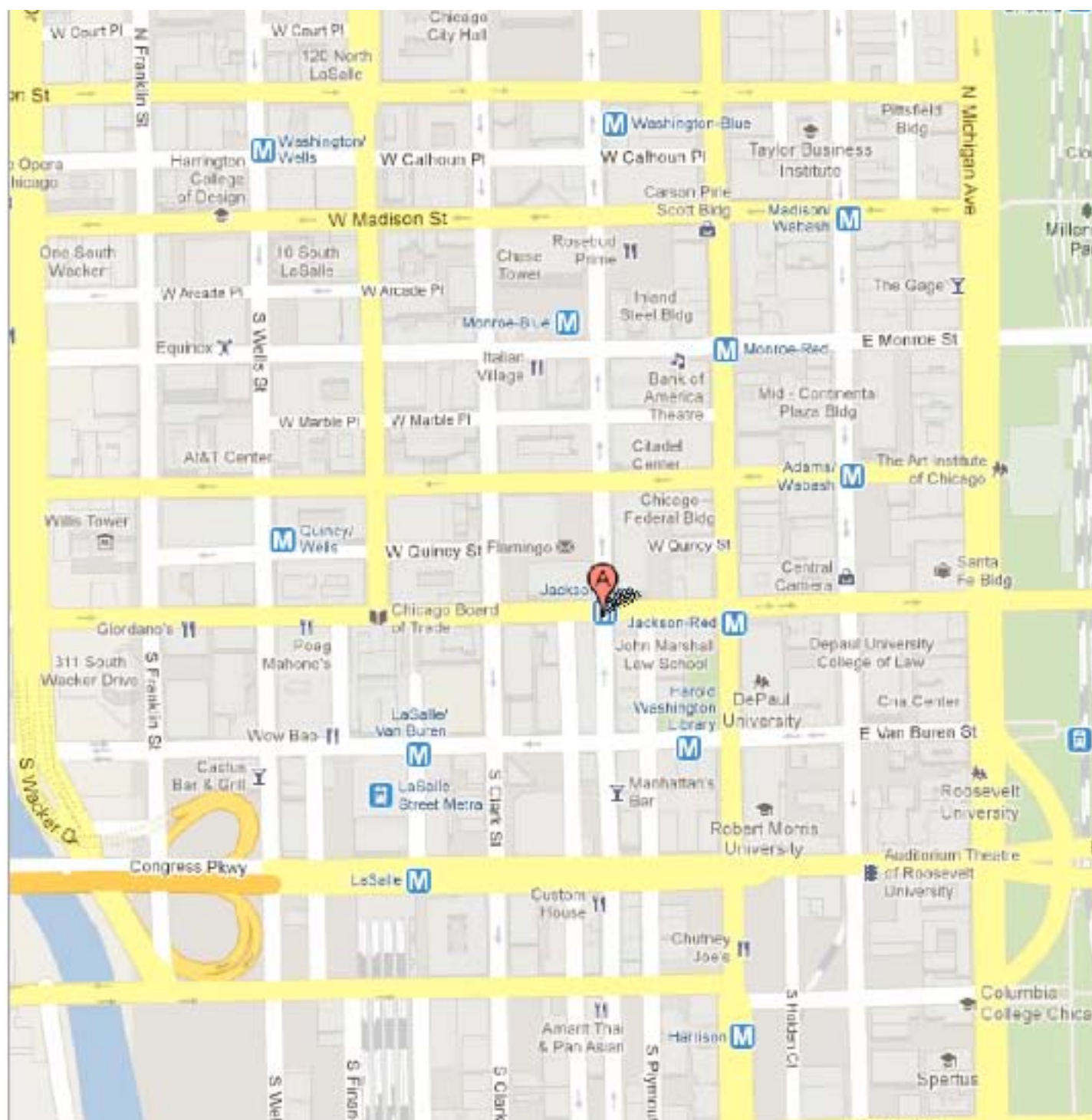
**5 Walking Tours in
the Windy City**

A Walking Tour of Chicago: The Loop-Center from **walkthetown.com**

The Loop, defined by the Chicago River to the west and north, Roosevelt Boulevard to the south and, of course, Lake Michigan to the east, is city's commercial hub (roughly some 16,000 of Chicago's nearly three million residents live here). It is the second largest central business district in the country, housing the world's biggest commodities market.

The Loop initially took its name from the circuitous route 19th century streetcars took but later became defined by the elevated train tracks that lead here from every part of the city. The Center of the Loop, containing the financial district, is where Chicago's reputation as the "Home of the Skyscraper" lies. The first tall building to be supported, both inside and outside, by a fireproof metal frame was built here in 1884. The oldest surviving skyscraper in the world is here. The tallest building in the United States has been here for almost 40 years. The skyscrapers came so fast and furious here that the building that lorded over the Chicago skyline for 35 years is now hard to see.

Our walking tour of the heart of the Loop will encounter many buildings with a "first" or an "oldest" or a "tallest" but before we descend into the great canyons of Chicago we will start in a treasured open space whose lakefront existence can be attributed to a single man...



1. Grant Park



Original plans drawn for Chicago called for the area between Michigan Avenue and Lake Michigan to remain undeveloped; in 1844 the town officially designated its “front yard” as Lake Park. In 1901 it would be renamed for Illinois native, triumphant Civil War general and 18th President of the United State, Ulysses S. Grant. By that time legal restrictions on building in the park were being routinely ignored and mail order pioneer Aaron Montgomery Ward personally financed four expensive court battles to rid Grant Park of its buildings and prevent the construction of new ones. The last twenty years of his life were spent preserving the Chicago waterfront as a park for the people. He spent over \$200,000 of his own monies to defending the public’s right to open space. Ward’s long-time efforts to prevent the erection of buildings along Lake Michigan won him the title of “The Watch Dog of the Lake Front.” At one time there were 46 building projects planned in the park and he fought them all successfully, losing many influential friends along the way. Finally, just before his death in 1913 he won his final legal battle to forever keep the waterfront, as a sign posted here once stated: “Public ground. Forever to remain vacant of buildings.” The Chicago Tribune, no friend of Montgomery Ward, wrote, “We know now that Mr. Ward was right, was farsighted, was public spirited. That he was unjustly criticized as a selfish obstructionist or as a fanatic. Before he died, it is pleasant to think, Mr. Ward knew that the community had swung round to his side and was grateful for the service he had performed in spite of misunderstanding and injustice.”

START THE TOUR WHERE MONROE STREET RUNS INTO GRANT PARK AT MICHIGAN AVENUE. TURN LEFT AND WALK SOUTH ALONG MICHIGAN AVENUE, STAYING ON THE PARK SIDE OF THE STREET (LAKE MICHIGAN WILL BE ON YOUR LEFT).

2. Monroe Building 104 South Michigan Avenue



Holabird & Riche, one of the town’s oldest and most prominent architectural firms, designed this unique pedimented skyscraper in 1912 as part of the street wall of Michigan Avenue. The Monroe

Building became such a distinguished office location that the designers moved into the penthouse of the 16-story tower. Later, another architect occupied the top floor loft under the peak of the gable roof: Frank Lloyd Wright.

3. Municipal Courts Building 116 South Michigan Avenue



The slender three-bay tower at mid-block was constructed in 1905 by the firm of Jenney, Mundie & Jensen, the final major project for William Le Baron Jenney who introduced the skyscraper two decades earlier with the Home Insurance Building. The building was first used as a court space for the City of Chicago until a new City Hall was raised in 1911. The architects then came back and added more stories seamlessly in white terra cotta to raise the height to 16 stories.

4. Art Institute of Chicago 111 South Michigan Avenue



This is the one building that Montgomery Ward could not get removed from Grant Park. The Beaux Arts confection was designed by Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge of Boston, Massachusetts for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition as the World's Congress Auxiliary Building with the intent that the Art Institute occupy the space after the fair closed. The Institute traces its beginnings to 1866 when 35 artists founded the Chicago Academy of Design. The iconic bronze lions at the Michigan Avenue entrance were carved by Edward L. Kenneys, an American sculptor known for his renderings of wild animals. If you walk around to the east entrance you can see the historic stone arch that marked the entrance to Louis Sullivan's Chicago Stock Exchange from 1894. When the Exchange was demolished in 1972 salvaged portions of the original trading room were brought to the Art Institute and reconstructed.

5. Peoples Gas Company Building
122 South Michigan Avenue



Daniel Burnham designed this burly building with more than a half-million square feet of office space in 1910 to match the ambitions of the Peoples Gas Company. The pillars at the base of the building are 26 feet tall and each one is crafted from a single piece of solid granite weighing 30 tons. Marble from quarries in Greece and 250,000 board feet of imported mahogany were used to fashion the interior. The classical flourishes of the facade include ornamental lions along the balustrade at the top.

6. Symphony Center
220 South Michigan Avenue



Daniel Burnham tapped the Neo-Georgian and Beaux Arts styles for this beautifully proportioned home for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1904. Construction on the brick building trimmed out in stone was begun in May and the first performance took place in Orchestra Hall December, a disarmingly short time to create a National Historic Landmark, as the hall was designated in 1994, just prior to a \$110 million facelift and expansion.

7. Santa Fe Building
224 South Michigan Avenue



The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad was organized single-handedly in 1859 by Cyrus K. Holliday and, through innovation and mergers, became the dominant carrier between Chicago

and Los Angeles in the early 20th century. Its flagship passenger train was the immortal Super Chief, often referred to as “The Train of the Stars” because of the many celebrities who traveled on America’s first Diesel-powered streamliner. The Super Chief pioneered the iconic glass domes on its lounge cars and was the first all-Pullman sleeping car train in America. Along the way travelers could enjoy meals at the famous Harvey House restaurants strategically located throughout the system.

The 17-story Santa Fe Building was designed by architectural luminary Daniel Burnham who was a major investor in the project and who moved his practice into a penthouse suite when the tower was completed in 1904. Standout features include bands of bay windows that climb the facade and the porthole windows along the cornice. The line’s “Santa Fe” logo sign still looks over the railroad tracks but all Santa Fe trains arrived and departed from Dearborn Station a few blocks away at Polk Street. The grand formal entrance is actually around the corner on Jackson Street, which was a more prominent street a century ago than Michigan Avenue.

8. Metropolitan Tower **310 South Michigan Avenue**



This was the first tower in Chicago to scamper up more than 30 floors when a city prohibition limiting buildings to 260 feet was abandoned in 1923. It was designed by the architectural firm Graham, Anderson, Probst & White as the headquarters of the investment firm S.W. Strauss & Co. The brawny 475-foot building is crowned by a 40-foot-tall pyramid and a blue beacon resembling a beehive. The beacon was intended as a symbol of the global reach of the financial men but came to be an apt landmark for the building’s most famous tenant - the Encyclopedia Britannica.

9. Karpen Building **318 South Michigan Avenue**



Solomon Karpen, the eldest of nine brothers in a family that emigrated from Prussia in 1872, founded S. Karpen & Bros. Furniture in in 1880. Combining European craftsmanship with

innovative American marketing practices, the Karpen brothers quickly built the largest upholstered furniture company in the world. When they weren't peddling divans and chairs, the brothers formed one of Chicago's most famous family baseball teams in the 1890s.

This six-story stone building began life in 1885 as the opulent Richelieu Hotel, credited with bringing fine dining to Chicago. Even so, it never made money. The Karpens fixed the building up as a factory in 1895. They would move on to more spacious digs six blocks south in 1911.

10. McCormick Building **332 South Michigan Avenue**



Cyrus Hall McCormick hailed from a farm in Rockbridge County, north of Lexington, Virginia. While still in his teens Cyrus, who was born three days after Abraham Lincoln in 1809, joined the family crusade to develop a mechanical reaper. His father had spent nearly 30 years working on a horse-drawn harvesting machine and obtained several patents but could never develop a reliable and marketable reaper. Cyrus received a patent for his version of a mechanical reaper in 1834 but would not sell one for another six years. Orders dribbled in for the next few years with all machines constructed by hand in the family farm shop. Finally McCormick received a second patent in 1845 for improvements and two years later moved to Chicago with his brother Leander to lay the seeds for what would become the International Harvester Company in 1902. The McCormick Reaper would yield one of America's great fortunes of the 19th century and that money would manifest itself in Chicago for generations. Leander's son Robert Hall McCormick used his share to invest in Loop commercial real estate and this was his headquarters, completed in 1910 on plans drawn by Holabird & Roche. It was originally much narrower, only 5 bays (10 windows if you are counting) and an additional four bays were added to the north later. If you look closely you can see the location of the original northern wall.

11. The Chicago Club

81 East Van Buren Street at Michigan Avenue



The business and social club had its inception in 1861 in Chicago's first business club known as the Dearborn Club. After a peripatetic first few decades the club moved into a handsome Daniel Burnham-designed building on this corner in 1893. Designed for the Art Institute, the distinguished structure was recognized as "the Gem of the Avenue." During a make-over in the 1920s the building collapsed. Architects Alfred H. Granger and John C. Bollenbacher executed a re-design, salvaging the glorious Richardsonian Romanesque entrance that once graced Michigan Avenue and repositioned it on Van Buren.

12. The Studebaker Building

410 South Michigan Avenue



Five Studebaker brothers learned the family trade of wagonmaking in Ohio. Clement and Henry, the eldest, moved on to South Bend, Indiana to manufacture freight wagons but the real family money was first made by John who was making wheelbarrows in Placerville, California at the time of the great Gold Rush of 1849. Orders from the Union Army during the Civil War sent the fortunes of the Studebakers soaring and by the time of the great Western migration in the next decade half of the wagons on the trail were Studebakers. In 1875 the Studebaker Corporation, with all five brothers involved, was the "largest vehicle house in the world" churning out sulkies, broughams, phaetons, runabouts, and tandems. In 1885 the Studebakers set up a showroom and sales offices behind the over-sized arches of this building designed by Solon Spencer Beman. The two granite columns at the main entrance were said to be the largest polished monolithic shafts in the country. Today, known as the Fine Arts Building, it serves the needs of artists, musicians and dancers.

13. **The Auditorium Building** **430 South Michigan Avenue**



Ferdinand Peck's father Phillip came from Rhode Island to Chicago in the 1830s and made one of the town's earliest fortunes in real estate. The younger Peck used his wealth mostly for civic causes - he was a founding member of the Illinois Humane Society and busied himself with bringing high art to the masses. In 1885 Peck organized the Chicago Grand Opera Festival that whetted his appetite to create the world's largest, grandest and most expensive theater. Peck hired celebrated architects Dankmar Adler and Louis Sullivan to make his vision a reality. Adler's engineering skills and Sullivan's design savvy concocted the tallest building in the city and the largest in the United States. President Grover Cleveland laid the cornerstone for the Auditorium Building and Benjamin Harrison began his march to the White House when the 1888 Republican National Convention was held in a partially finished building. Today the building stands as one of the finest extant designs of Adler and Sullivan, since 1947 it has been the home of Roosevelt University.

14. **Congress Plaza** **Grant Park at Congress Avenue**



In Daniel's Burnham and Edward H. Bennett's 1908 Plan of Chicago they envisioned this as the city's front door with a magnificent staircase and bodacious plaza leading to the Buckingham Fountain and beyond that the Field Museum of Natural History. When Montgomery Ward successfully got buildings banned from Grant Park, the museum slid to the south, crippling the vision. The plan crumbled completely in the 1950s when the stairway was demolished to make room for the lakeside highways. The two statues standing here are the Bowman and the Spearman by Ivan Mestrovic; the works date to 1928.

TURN LEFT AND WALK THROUGH CONGRESS PLAZA. CONTINUE UNTIL YOU REACH...

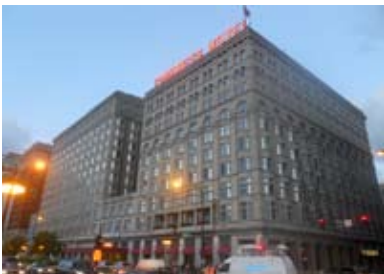
15. Buckingham Fountain Congress Parkway and Columbus Drive



The Buckingham family was instrumental in building southeastern Ohio around Zanesville in the early 1800s. Ebenezer Buckingham then brought his family to Chicago in the 1850s and became involved in grain and railroads. Son Clarence used lessons learned in the family business to build a fortune in banking and the Northwestern Elevated railroad company. Buckingham was an art enthusiast who took a stint as director of the Art Institute and much of his money, which continued to be dispersed by his sister Kate after his death in 1913, went to building the collection. Kate also put aside a million dollars for this fountain that was modeled after the Latonia fountain of Versailles, France. Edward H. Bennett designed the fountain in Georgia pink marble with four sea horses to symbolize the states that border Lake Michigan. The water jets, currently 193 of them, for one of the largest fountains in the world were turned on for the first time in 1927. Buckingham Fountain is the eastern terminus of America's most famous highway, Route 66, the Mother Road - 2,451 miles later it ends at the Santa Monica Pier of the Pacific Ocean.

TURN AND WALK BACK TO MICHIGAN AVENUE. CONTINUE ACROSS MICHIGAN AVENUE ON CONGRESS AVENUE.

16. The Congress Hotel 520 South Michigan Avenue at Congress Avenue



Clinton J. Warren carved a reputation in Chicago in a four-year span from 1889 to 1893 when he designed the Congress Hotel, the Leander McCormick Apartments, the Metropole Hotel, the Plaza Hotel, and the Lexington Hotel. Only the Congress still stands. The larger Annex to the south came along in 1958.

17. Congress-Wabash Building
33 East Congress Parkway



Alfred S. Alschuler, whose crowning achievement would be the Chicago Mercantile Exchange in 1927, designed this seven-story brick and terra cotta structure a year earlier for Ferdinand W. Peck, Jr. It initially housed a bank, offices, and recreation rooms that included dozens of pool tables. A national billiards championship was contested here in 1938. It is now owned by Columbia College, founded in 1890 and one of the largest art colleges in the United States.

18. Second Leiter Building
401 South State Street at Congress Parkway



Levi Leiter began his Chicago business career in 1853 as a bookkeeper at Cooley, Wadsworth & Company, then the town's leading retailer. He became a partner in the firm along with a fellow employee, Marshall Field. The two would go into business together until 1881 when Leiter cashed out and began investing his time and fortune in Chicago real estate. The First Leiter Building was designed by high-rise pioneer William Le Baron Jenney in 1879 and stood until it was demolished in 1972. The Second Leiter Building, another creation of Jenney, came along ten years later and is one of the earliest commercial buildings constructed with a metal skeleton frame remaining in the United States. Faced in pink granite, this was the flagship store of Sears, Roebuck and Company for over 50 years, beginning in 1932.

19. Harold Washington Library Center
400 South State Street at Congress Parkway



Sited in a virtual museum of historic skyscrapers, architects Hammond, Beeby and Babka adapted classical 19th century designs for this 1980s red brick-and-granite structure. The roof was accented with seven painted aluminum ornaments symbolizing the owl, the Greek symbol of knowledge. Since its opening in 1991 the block-filling library has appeared in the *Guinness Book of Records* as the largest public library building in the world.

TURN RIGHT ON DEARBORN STREET (CROSS OVER TO THE WEST SIDE OF THE STREET FOR YOUR BEST VIEW).

20. Manhattan Building
431 South Dearborn Street



This heritage skyscraper was constructed between 1889 and 1891 and is the oldest surviving building in the world to use a purely skeletal supporting structure. Architect William LeBaron used projecting bay windows as a device to bring more natural light into the building.

21. Old Colony Building
407 South Dearborn Street



The “Old Colony” was the Plymouth Colony - this landmark building was developed by a Boston lawyer. The Plymouth Colony seal is reproduced in stone on the pillars flanking the Dearborn Street

entrance. Holabird & Roche designed the 17-story tower to be constructed with arched portal bracing, the first skyscraper ever to employ the technique used in stabilizing bridges. Built with cream-colored Roman brick laid on a base of Bedford limestone, Old Colony features rounded bay windows at each corner.

22. Fisher Building

343 South Dearborn Street



There is no building in Chicago this tall that is older than the Fisher Building. Lucius George Fisher, Jr. was born in Wisconsin in 1843 and was about to enter Beloit College when gold fever erupted in Pikes Peak, Colorado. Fisher convinced his father to send him west to establish a quartz mill so across the Plains he went with a wagon and six yoke of oxen. During the Civil War he spent time in Sheridan's campaign in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. After his discharge Fisher wound up in Chicago with the Rock River Paper Company, which he was put in charge of in 1870. By the time he commissioned D.H. Burnham & Company to create this building in 1896, Fisher's Union Bag & Paper Company was the world's largest manufacturer of paper bags. Charles Atwood in the Burnham office provided the design for the 18-story tower and laced the facade with terracotta carvings of fish, crabs, eagles and dragons. A few generations down the Fisher family tree came actress Jodie Foster in 1962.

ON YOUR LEFT, FILLING THE BLOCK FROM VAN BUREN STREET TO JACKSON STREET IS...

23. Monadnock Building

53 West Jackson Boulevard



A monadnock is a geologic term for a hill that stands alone and dominates the surrounding landscape, which this building certainly was when the 17-story structure was completed by Burnham & Root in 1891. There were tall buildings before this one but the Monadnock is where the term "skyscraper" entered common usage. There are two similar but stylistically different halves

to the building; the north half was acclaimed as the best work of John Wellborn Root and it turned out to be his last as he died suddenly in early 1891 of pneumonia at the age of 41. Root eschewed all exterior ornament for his design, helping to usher in modern architecture where the beauty was in the form. He also supported half of the building entirely with a steel frame, which became the norm for tall buildings. Prior to that most buildings, including the northern half of this one, were supported by beefy masonry walls. One of the tallest brick structures ever executed, the north end required ground-level walls six feet thick. The north half of the Monadnock also displays the three-part ornamentation of traditional high-rises.

The Monadnock was designed so that it could operate as four separate office buildings. Each section stands on its own lot, and at one time each section had its own entrance, elevators, heating system and name: from north to south, they were the Monadnock, the Kearsarge, the Katahdin, and the Wachusett, each the name of a Civil War Union navy ship and also the name of a mountain in the developers' native New England.

**AT THE INTERSECTION OF DEARBORN STREET WITH JACKSON BOULEVARD,
DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF YOU ACROSS JACKSON IS...**

24. Federal Center 230 South Dearborn Street



This block once housed a showy domed Beaux Arts federal courthouse designed by Henry Ives Cobb. Al Capone, who had evaded all other charges, was convicted of tax evasion in the building in 1931. In 1960 Congress authorized a new government complex to be built here and modern architectural maestro Ludwig Mies van der Rohe was brought in as chief designer. The first of two towers, now a courthouse named for longtime Illinois Senator Everett M. Dirksen, was completed in 1964 (to your right on the east side of Dearborn). Mies died before the taller of the two, the 42-story John C. Kluczynski Federal Building, named for a Congressman, was finished in 1974. Both towers are elevated on open colonnades at the plaza level and are considered masterworks of the International Style as realized in Mies' "less is more" philosophy.

TURN LEFT ON JACKSON BOULEVARD.

**25. Bank of America Building (Continental Illinois National Bank)
230 South Clark Street at Jackson Boulevard**



Since someone invented the sundial man told time based on the position of the sun. Until a meeting took place here on October 11, 1883 when the famous Grand Pacific Hotel. With the coming of the railroad in the mid-1800s it became possible to travel much faster than the sun moved and long-distance train schedules became impossible to manage with more than 100 local timetables. The railroad men who met here that autumn day broke the country into four more-or-less equal time zones, each one hour ahead, moving east to west. The Standard Time System was inaugurated by the railroads on November 18, 1883. Almost immediately the federal government and cities and states across the country jumped on board and it is still used today. This Neoclassical office building replaced the Grand Pacific in 1924 for the Continental Illinois National Bank. Architects Graham, Anderson, Probst & White took note of the surrounding buildings with Corinthian and Doric columns and gave this building a complimentary ground level portico of massive fluted Ionic columns.

**26. Chicago Board of Trade
141 West Jackson Boulevard**



The Chicago Board of Trade opened for business in 1848 and has had a home at this location since 1885. The first building here, designed by William W. Boynington, sported a tower that was the first structure in Chicago to exceed 300 feet and was the city's tallest building for ten years. Its replacement, a classic Art Deco confection by architects Holabird and Root, was the first building in Chicago to climb over 600 feet and was the town's Sky King for 35 years. Today, even though it is situated at the near geographic center of the Loop and remains the gateway to the financial district, the monumental limestone building is almost hard to see. Find the right angle and look up to see *Ceres*, the Roman Goddess of Agriculture surveying the goings-on from the point of a copper pyramid. The statue is made of three tons of solid aluminum.

27. Insurance Exchange Building
175 West Jackson Boulevard



At one time there were more insurance companies in this building than any other in the world. The 310-foot Neoclassical tower was constructed in two stages; the north half in 1912 and the south half in 1928. An Ionic portico lines the street level and another is along the upper stories. The 22-story structure was designed to support another 20 stories but they were never built - twice as many insurance agents could have been here.

28. Brooks Building
223 West Jackson Boulevard



Boston developers Peter and Shepard Brooks were active players in building ever upward in Chicago. Here the go-to-skyscraper architects Holabird & Roche designed a classic Chicago-style structure in the image of a Greek column with a defined base, standardized windows and ornamental cornice at the top. A century on the 1910 building still radiates with brownish and green terra cotta detailing.

29. 311 South Wacker Drive
311 South Wacker Drive at Jackson Boulevard



Sitting atop this 961-foot tower, finished in 1990, are four smallish cylinders surrounding a large central barrel. More than 1,500 florescent tubes illuminate the cylinders producing a light so bright it is shut down at midnight so as not to be obnoxious. The odd rooftop conformation has

given rise to a host of nicknames for 311 South Wacker Drive: “The White Castle Building,” “The Wedding Cake Building,” or “The Bart Simpson Building.” The cylinder are actually a very large representation of the engagement ring given by the architect to his wife.

TURN RIGHT ON WACKER DRIVE.

30. The Willis Tower 233 South Wacker Drive



The history of the country’s tallest building began with a shipment of refused pocket watches. Richard Sears was 15 when he became the family breadwinner in 1879. He worked in the offices of the Minneapolis-St. Louis Railroad but pestered his bosses for a field job. They sent him to North Redwood, Minnesota as a freight agent. Checking shipments in the station everyday Sears quickly learned about the mail order business. In 1886 a town jeweler refused a shipment of “yellow watches.” The Chicago commission house handling the watches wired Sears that as the station agent he could have the watches for \$12 each rather than incur the return shipping costs. Sears knew the popular gold pocket watches were fetching \$25 in retail stores. But he wasn’t interested in retailing. He took the watches and sold them to local station agents down the line for \$14 each. Anything they made over that they could keep. Sears was hooked. As a bonded freight agent he did not have to pay to take delivery. He could settle his account when other agents paid him. It was a venture without risk, only profit. Sears began ordering more watches C.O.D. In six months he had amassed more than \$5,000, a substantial fortune in 1886.

He moved to Minneapolis, the biggest city he knew, and founded the R.W. Sears Watch Company. He began advertising watches in the paper, unheard of at the time, and found he had a natural flair for the work. So many orders poured in he needed to move to Chicago to facilitate shipping in 1887. In April 1887 an advertisement appeared in the Chicago Daily News: “WANTED - Watchmaker with reference who can furnish tools. State age, experience and salary requirement.” A tall, lean man from Hammond, Indiana answered the ad. He presented Sears an example of his best work. Sears studied it closely for a moment and admitted, “I don’t know anything about watchmaking, but I presume this is good, otherwise you wouldn’t have submitted it to me.” Alvah Curtis Roebuck was hired. Sears continued to build his business by undercutting the competition in price, often buying discontinued lines from suppliers. With low prices come suspicions of quality. Sears quelled such doubts with the strongest guarantees in the business. The business was always buoyed by its pledge: We Guarantee Satisfaction and Safe Delivery on Everything You Order. The story circulated through the Midwest of a customer who had come to Richard Sears with a crusty, bruised watch he had dropped on a rock in the mud. Sears handed him a new watch. When the

customer protested that the damage was his own fault Sears stopped him, “We guarantee our watches not to fall out of people’s pockets and bounce in the mud.”

Sears & Roebuck would one day have the most stores and the most customers in America. The company was the biggest publisher in the country. They shipped enough catalogs to fill a train of boxcars 30 miles long. One out approximately every 200 American workers worked for Sears. Sears alone accounted for 1% of the American Gross National Product. In 1969 when the company decided to consolidate all its employees around Chicago into a single building on the western edge of the Loop it would require the tallest building in the world. Well, not quite, but the plan was to rent out that extra office until the company’s expected growth would fill them up. Skidmore, Owings and Merrill LLP, an architectural and engineering firm that was formed in Chicago in 1936 by Louis Skidmore and Nathaniel Owings, built the grandest tower in the city using an innovative construction method of ever-longer bundled tubes. The height to the roof is 1,450 feet, the height to the top of the taller of two antennas is 1,729 feet. The tower is clad in black anodized aluminum.

Since its completion in 1974, the building has fared better than the company. Not only did the expected Sears expansion not occur, the company tumbled so far down the retail food chain that it surrendered naming rights to the tower in 2003 and shuffled its employees off to smaller, more appropriate digs. The tower remained the world’s tallest building for over twenty years and remains America’s tallest skyscraper. Perhaps more amazingly it has lorded over the Chicago skyscraper jungle unchallenged for over 36 years - longer than any of the many other buildings that have held that honor in town ever did.

TURN RIGHT ON ADAMS STREET.

31. Continental National Bank Building 208 South LaSalle Street



Originally designed by D.H. Burnham and Co. in 1911 for the Continental National Bank, this adaptive reuse of a banking complex has been converted to a J.W. Marriott Hotel. The grand entrance features a three-story glass curtain behind fluted Doric columns. The name that adorns the tower is that of the succeeding institution to Continental, City National Bank & Trust. The chairman of City National from 1932 until 1951 was Charles G. Dawes, a descendent of William Dawes who rode with Paul Revere at the dawn of the American Revolution and who interrupted a finance career for public service. Dawes was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his program to re-stabilize Germany after World War I (it proved unworkable in practice) and served a contentious Vice-Presidency under Calvin Coolidge from 1924 until 1928. A self-taught pianist and composer,

one of his pieces from 1912 was transformed into the chart-topping pop hit “It’s All In The Game” in 1958 by Tommy Edwards.

TURN LEFT ON LASALLE STREET AND WALK ONE-HALF BLOCK UP.

**32. Bank of America Building
135 South LaSalle Street**



For 45 years the world’s first skyscraper, the Home Insurance Company Building created by engineer/architect William LeBaron Jenney in 1884, stood here in anonymity. It was only when it was torn down to make room for this tower that its steel skeleton was discovered and it was anointed the distinction of “first skyscraper.” Even though construction for this 535-foot Art Deco tower began in the height of the Great Depression, its developers, heirs to the Marshall Field trust, had big plans to make this the biggest office building in the Loop. As it was, the Depression hit Chicago hard and there would not be another major building raised in town after this one for more than 20 years.

WALK BACK TO ADAMS STREET (YOU NOW HAVE A SPLENDID VIEW OF THE CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE A BLOCK DOWN) AND TURN LEFT.

**33. The Rookery
209 South LaSalle Street at Adams Street**



Built in 1887-1888, the Rookery is considered to be the oldest skyscraper standing in the world. Crafted of red marble, terra cotta and brick it is also considered on the masterpiece buildings of architects John Wellborn Root and Daniel Burnham. The architects combined iron framing with masonry bearing walls, marking a transition to modern high-rise construction. Its elegant appearance is a blend of Romanesque Revival and Victorian Queen Anne influences. While most of its contemporaries have been cleared out of the Loop for ever more modern high-rises, the Rookery managed to persevere through renovations. The first came in 1905 at the hands of Frank

Lloyd Wright who remade the lobby, substituting contemporary white carved Carrara marble for the original wrought iron fixtures. The unusual building name comes from the crows and pigeons that swarmed over the previous structure on the site, an old town hall. Some wags have suggested, however, that the name comes from the dealings of the old building's human inhabitants, not the avian ones.

34. Bankers Building **105 West Adams Street**



Designed by Daniel Burnham's sons and constructed in 1927, the Bankers Building is the tallest building, 476 feet, to be clad in bricks continuously from bottom to top. The architects designed a much more elaborate Gothic-flavored confection but plans were scaled back and the classical ornamentation is relatively sparse here.

35. United States Post Office - Loop Station **211 South Clark Street at Adams Street**



The configuration for the Federal Center called for two towers, one of which would contain the United States Post Office. But the need for a street-level loading dock and the buzz of mail delivery trucks coming and going would have clogged the open plaza between the buildings so architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe designed a separate post office with a below-grade access. Far from a throw-away, the single-story glass box post office instead evokes the guiding principles of Mies' "skin and bones architecture." The exterior of the building, like its fellow towers, is painted with flat black graphite paint to allow the shiny metal elements to be seen; look inside to see the number of service windows that harken back to 1973 when this building was finished and the post office was a busy, crucial space. The 53-foot steel structure in the plaza, painted in a contrasting bright red, is by celebrated artist Alexander Calder and called *Flamingo*.

36. Consolidated Edison Building
61 West Adams Street



Chicago Edison generated its first power a block west of here in 1888. Soon there were some 30 companies cranking out electricity, competing for customers. By 1907 when Consolidated Edison formed and moved into this 20-story tower the count was down to two and six years later there was only Con-Ed. Today this classically-flavored tower now houses the offices of the Chicago Public Schools, which purchased the Daniel Burnham-designed building for \$8 million in 1997.

37. Marquette Building
140 South Dearborn Street at Adams Street



The building was named after Father Jacques Marquette, the first European settler in Chicago who wintered in the area in 1674-5 winter season and it was a pioneer in its own right, standing as an early example of the Chicago School of Architecture. Designed by Holabird & Roche, the Marquette was one of the first steel-framed skyscrapers when it was completed in 1895. The architects gave the building large glass windows on a grid and a central light court, features that would become standard for Chicago-style skyscrapers. At the entrance four bas relief panels chronicle Jacques Marquette's expedition around the Great Lakes. This is another skyscraper financed by the Brooks Brothers of Boston who never bothered to travel to Chicago to see the buildings that went up on their dime.

38. The Berghoff
17 West Adams Street



Four German immigrant brothers began brewing Berghoff's Beer in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1887. Herman Berghoff began peddling the family's Dortmunder-style beer at the Chicago World's Fair of 1893 and the positive response encouraged him to open a cafe in town in 1898. Beer was a nickel, the sandwiches were free. Berghoff's would remain a family restaurant for 107 years, continuing even through the Prohibition era by offering a near-beer along the lines of root beer. After Prohibition was repealed in 1933, The Berghoff was issued Liquor License No. 1. In recent years the the cafe has been resurrected.

39. Chapin and Gore Building
63 East Adams Street



In the early 1850s, Gardner Spring Chapin, a broker in mining stocks, met James Jefferson Gore, who was running freight overland to Nevada but down on his luck. Chapin loaned Gore \$200 to get to Nevada and a lifelong friendship was forged. The two went their separate ways but by 1865 they were in business together at the corner of State and Monroe streets, running a grocery store. Liquor was their biggest seller and soon Chapin and Gore were distilling their own bourbon in brands like "1867," "Chapin & Gore Sour Mash," and "Old Jim Gore." The bourbon gained world renown as the company bounced around Chicago until 1904 when they moved into their own building here that combined a warehouse and office space with a street level retail store and bar. The design by Hugh M. G. Garden and Richard Schmidt is a paragon of the Chicago style emphasizing form over function. The building did have its decorative flourishes - ornamental capitals and cornice were removed in the 1950s. Today the Chapin and Gore Building is part of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra complex.

CONTINUE ON TO MICHIGAN AVENUE AND CROSS INTO GRANT PARK AND THE START OF THE TOUR.

A Walking Tour of Chicago-Gold Coast **from walkthetown.com**

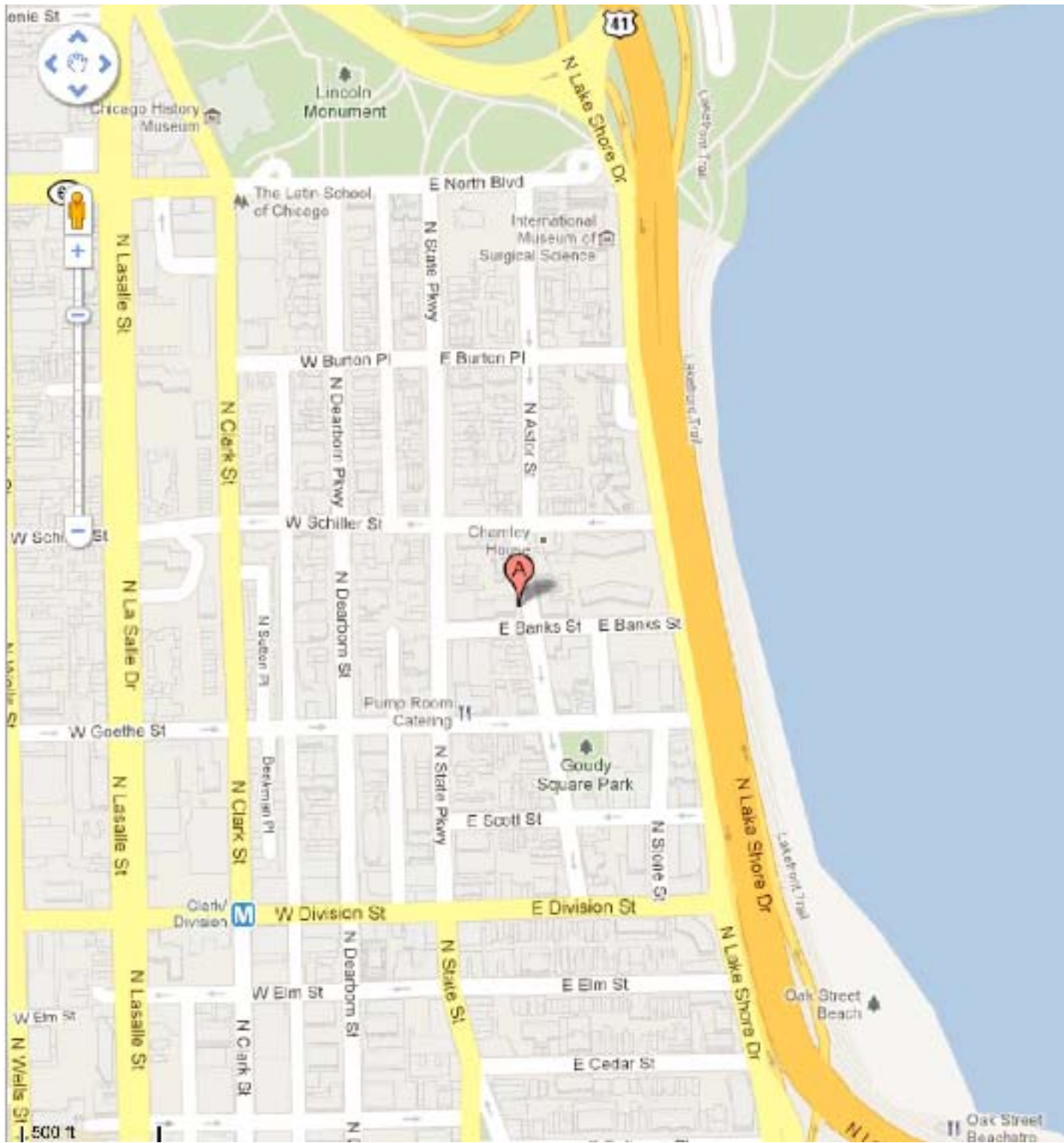
When Chicagoans first began to make serious money after the Civil War the place the wealthy chose to build their mansions was just south of the business district along Prairie Avenue. Names like Marshall Field and George Pullman and Philip Armour all puddled about in palatial estates there. The area had the advantage of being close to the Loop and did not involve crossing the Chicago River. It was the poshest address in town.

If you wanted to live north of the Chicago River in the mid-1800s you not only had to deal with crossing the river but much of the land near Lake Michigan was swampy and uninviting. It was retailer and hotelier Potter Palmer who changed all that. In the 1880s he set about filling in the swamp and creating building lots. Lake Shore Drive became a popular destination for carriage rides. The first street inland parallel to the lake and north of Division Street was named "Astor Street" after John Jacob Astor. The fur trader Astor never had anything to do with Chicago but as America's first millionaire his name was synonymous with wealth. In fact, John Jacob Astor had bought up most of the land north of New York City in the 1830s, correctly predicting the rapid growth northward on Manhattan Island. Similar to the scenario hoped for in Chicago.

Palmer and his society wife Bertha selected a spot on Lake Shore Drive to begin building his mansion in 1882. His castle-like residence, since torn down, was the largest house in the city when it was completed. Other wealthy Chicago families followed the Potters into the Astor Street District. Meanwhile the businesses around Prairie Avenue were beginning to make "the most expensive street west of Fifth Avenue" feel sooty and old. By the turn of the 20th century the Gold Coast was where you had to be if you were anybody in Chicago.

As more and more people sought shelter on the Gold Coast there wasn't much room left for mansions and the newly popular skyscrapers of the early 1900s were adapted to hold apartments instead of offices. A century on, the Gold Coast is regarded as the second-most affluent neighborhood in the United States after Manhattan's Upper East Side. It is a mixture of mansions, stylish row houses and high-rise apartments.

Our walking tour of the Gold Coast will begin in the great park that adjoins its northern boundary, at the foot, literally, of its immortal namesake...



1. *Standing Lincoln*
Lincoln Park at Dearborn Parkway



Irish-born Augustus Saint-Gaudens became America's most celebrated sculptor in the 19th century on the strength of his Civil War commissions and his rendering of Abraham Lincoln in 1887, depicting a thoughtful President rising to speak, is considered the finest portrait statue in America. A copy of the work graces Lincoln's tomb in Springfield and another copy stands in London in front of Westminster Abbey. Saint-Gaudens also produced a seated figure of Abraham Lincoln in Grant Park in 1909 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. The setting for Standing Lincoln was designed by Saint-Gaudens' friend, Stanford White.

WITH YOUR BACK TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN WALK DOWN THE DIAGONAL PATH TO YOUR RIGHT, ANGLING TOWARDS THE INTERSECTION OF CLARK STREET AND NORTH BOULEVARD. THE BUILDING ON YOUR RIGHT IS...

2. **Chicago History Museum**
1601 North Clark Street



The Chicago Historical Society was up and running in 1856, only a generation after the town's founding. That early collection went up in flames with the Great Chicago Fire in 1871 but the Society was quickly back in operation only to have the new collection again destroyed by a fire in 1874. This time it took more than two decades for the Society to re-establish its collection in a fire-proof building. The current museum was constructed in 1932 as part of a get-back-to-work Depression-era project and has been expanded twice. The porticoed entrance from 1932 can be seen on the Lincoln Park side.

AT THE INTERSECTION, TURN LEFT DOWN CLARK STREET.

3. Village Art Theatre
1548-50 North Clark Street



This movie house opened as the Germania in 1916 but when the United States entered World War I the name was quietly changed to the Parkside. Over the years it also operated as the Gold Coast and the Globe. Long a popular venue for art, foreign and cult films, the Village was closed in March 2007. Despite a ghastly modern marquee, look up to see the original terra cotta detailing against the red brick facade.

4. Germania Club
108 West Germania Place at Clark Street



The Germania Club was formed in 1865 under unhappy circumstances - German-American Civil War veterans assembled to perform a concert in honor of recently assassinated President Abraham Lincoln. The building, awash in terra cotta ornamentation, came along in 1889. It would function as a social club for German immigrants to Chicago for the better part of the following century and landed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.

TURN LEFT ON BURTON PLACE.

5. Wilson/Bullock Houses
1450-1454 North Dearborn Parkway at Burton Place



John P. Wilson, a prominent property attorney and architect of the plan to clean up Lake Michigan for drinking water, and Joseph C. Bullock, who made his money in boots, were pioneering homesteaders here when this was just about as far north as civilized Chicago reached in 1877. Although they appear as one, there are actually two separate houses here, unified by a French Second Empire mansard roof.

6. Madlener House
4 West Burton Place



This cubical precursor to the Prairie School of architecture was designed in 1902 by Hugh Garden for liquor wholesaler Albert F. Madlener. Garden used brick and limestone to create the three-story residence up to a hip roof fronted by a parapet. Notably, he placed the entrance door off-center. Today this is the home of the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts which purchased the building in 1963.

TURN RIGHT ON NORTH STATE PARKWAY. CONTINUE ACROSS SCHILLER STREET.

7. Playboy Mansion
1340 North State Parkway



This 70-room mansion, designed in what was referred to as a French classical style by James Gamble Rogers in 1899, has seen its share of parties. The first soirees were upright, proper affairs thrown by surgeon George Snow Isham and his wife Katherine Porter, scions of two of Chicago's oldest and most respected families. After 1959 when Hugh Hefner purchased the residence for \$400,000 a decidedly different guest list was used for the parties. A gold plaque at the entrance proclaimed: Si Non Oscillas, Noli Tintinnare; which translates into, If you don't swing, don't ring. Hef and the Bunnies stayed in the original Playboy Mansion until 1971 after which he leased the building to the School of Art Institute, where he had once been a student, for a token few dollars a year. Today, the mansion has been converted into multi-million dollar condos.

TURN LEFT ON BANKS STREET. TURN LEFT ON NORTH ASTOR STREET TO EXPLORE TWO OF THE MOST OPULENT BLOCKS ON THE GOLD COAST.

8. Houghteling Houses
1308-1312 North Astor Street



James L. Houghteling, made his money in banking but is best remembered for founding the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, a worldwide Episcopalian ministry. In the 1880s he moved to the emerging Gold Coast neighborhood and in 1887 he took the plunge into speculative real estate by snapping up four building lots around the corner from his house. He hired Daniel Burnham and John Wellborn Root to design a row of four townhouses. Burnham and Root joined forces in 1873 with Root acting as chief designer and Burnham handling the sales and business end. The duo were responsible for more than 300 buildings across America but only three of their seminal works survive in Chicago: the Monadnock, the world's tallest load-bearing masonry building, the Rookery and the Reliance, the first skyscraper to boast plate glass windows. Root was apparently happy enough with the Queen Anne designs provided for Houghteling that he moved his family into #1310. He was named chief architect for the upcoming World's Columbian Exposition of 1893

and, after hosting a reception for fellow architects involved with the fair on a bitter January night, Root contracted pneumonia seeing his guests to their carriages and died in the house in 1891. He was only 41. Tragedy would strike the block again three years later when Francis Stockbridge, a United States Senator from Michigan died in James Houghteling's house, his nephew by marriage. The original fourth member and southernmost of the quartet was torn down in 1962 to make way for the Astor Tower.

9. Potter Palmer Row Homes **1316-1322 North Astor Street**



This compact block of five stone-faced townhouses was developed in the late 1880s, leaning heavily on the Romanesque style. The trio on the south side were developed by Potter Palmer. Palmer opened a dry goods store on Lake Street in 1852 when he was 26 and began putting his innovative retailing ideas into practice. He catered mostly to women and instituted a “no questions asked” returns policy. He expanded the store size to display goods in large sidewalk windows as Potter Palmer and Company became the town's leading store. For health reasons Palmer sold the business to his partner and one-time clerk, Marshall Field, in 1867. Field would go on to develop the Midwest's most iconic department store and Palmer turned to real estate. His Palmer House Hotel was the town's most luxurious. In 1885 he constructed Chicago's largest private residence in former swampland north of Chicago overlooking Lake Michigan. Before the castle-like Palmer Mansion, Prairie Avenue had reigned as the town's most fashionable address. But as Palmer energetically built attractive properties such as these on the surrounding streets the super-rich came to join him and the Gold Coast became a reality.

10. Astor Court **1355 North Astor Street**



Chicago-born Howard Van Doren Shaw received his architectural training at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1892 and returned home to build a vibrant practice with a lengthy client list of the town's rich and famous, including William Owen Goodman. Goodman migrated

to Chicago from Pennsylvania in 1868 at the age of 20 and found work as a bookkeeper for the Menominee River Lumber Company. As he worked began investing in his own timberlands and built one of the great lumber fortunes of the Midwest. In 1914 Shaw created this Neoclassical-Georgian Revival brick mansion for the Goodman family. Four years later the Great Flu Pandemic of 1918 claimed Goodman's son Kenneth Sawyer, a playwright, and he donated \$250,000 to the Art Institute of Chicago to establish a professional repertory company and a school of drama in his memory. Shaw designed the original Goodman Theatre that opened in 1925.

11. James Charnley House **1365 North Astor Street**



When lumber baron James Charnley commissioned the esteemed architectural firm of Dankmar Adler and Louis Sullivan to design a home on this corner lot in 1892 an obscure 25-year old junior designer named Frank Lloyd Wright got assigned to the project and this became an early landmark in the career of the man recognized in 1991 by the American Institute of Architects as “the greatest American architect of all time.” Adler and Sullivan rarely designed houses, doing so only when asked by important commercial clients. Wright's work here is the only residence from his years at Adler & Sullivan from 1888 until 1893 that still stands. The plain brick facade was an obvious departure from its richly ornamented neighbors and traces of the horizontal planes which came to be a Wright hallmark can be seen in the sleek structure. Today the Charnley House belongs to the Society of Architectural Historians.

12. Perry H. Smith, Jr. House **1400 North Astor (entrance on Schiller Street)**



New York-born Perry H. Smith graduated second in his class at Hamilton College when he was only 18 in 1846 and was admitted to the state bar on his 21st birthday. But he turned his back on the lucrative practices in New York and traveled instead to the wilderness of Wisconsin where by the age of 23 he was a judge in the newly formed village of Appleton. Smith took a leading role in Wisconsin politics and became Vice-President of the Chicago, St. Paul and Fond du Lac Railroad

in 1857. When the line was reorganized as the Chicago and Northwestern Railway he moved to Chicago to take charge of the corporation, building one of the region's most formidable fortunes. When Perry Smith died in 1885 he left one of the largest estates in America up to that time, big enough that his will merited coverage in the New York Times. Perry Smith, Jr., a lawyer in his own right, took his share of the estate and followed Potter Palmer into the reclaimed swamps of the Gold Coast to build one of the first mansions here. Henry Ives Cobb and Charles Frost provided the plans for the 1887 rambling brick mansion that boasts a splendid Romanesque entrance arch on Schiller street.

The Perrys enjoyed only a scant few years here before they left for Europe to tend to the health of Emma McCormick Perry. The house passed through several owners before landing in the Wrigley family in the early 20th century. The western part of the mansion along Schiller Street is actually a 1991 addition that was executed so seamlessly into the Perry House that it seems like architects Hammond Beeby and Babka obtained century-old brick from the original brickyard.

13. Ryerson House **1406 North Astor Street**



In 1842 Joseph T. Ryerson was sent to Chicago as an agent for a Pittsburgh iron manufacturer. Ryerson was soon on his own, selling boilers and other iron products. The company evolved into one of America's foremost fabricators and wholesalers of steel products and remained family-operated until 1935 when Ryerson was acquired by Inland Steel. This house, a refugee from the streets of Paris, was designed for Joseph T. Ryerson, Jr. in 1922 from the busy shop of David Adler. Adler, with more than 200 buildings to his credit, personally supervised the 1931 addition of the French Second Empire mansard roof. The well-proportioned facade of finely etched limestone is, appropriately, highlighted by wrought-iron grillwork in which can be seen the Ryerson initials.

14. Thomas W. Hinde House
1412 North Astor Street



This bit of medieval Dutch whimsy was added to the Gold Coast streetscape in 1892 by Douglas S. Pentecost. Look closely to see the multipaned, diamond-shaped windows set into the carved-stone facade. The original owner was Thomas Hinde, a liquor wholesaler.

15. Edward P. Russell House
1444 North Astor Street



Hollabird & Root was an architectural firm that toiled mostly on massive projects, as evidenced by their work on the Chicago Board of Trade skyscraper and Soldier Field. But here they used their Art Deco expertise for a small scale Astor Street townhouse. The construction budget, provided by real estate banker Edward P. Russell, was not small-scale - \$195,000 in 1929. Holabird & Root designed a skyscraper in miniature, with an emphasis on verticality. The limestone for the facade was imported from France and trimmed in black granite. The three-story cast iron bay window that pours natural light into the entrance foyer weighed in at 18 tons. Russell would sell the house in 1938 for only \$65,000 and has only recently been returned to its original splendor in a painstaking restoration.

16. Peacock Mansion
1449 North Astor Street



In 1837 Elijah Peacock arrived in Chicago determined to sell jewelry and fine timepieces in a dusty frontier town with scarcely 4,000 inhabitants. The House of Peacock had been established three generations earlier in England and it was this “old world elegance” that Elijah sought to impart to Chicagoans from a small frame building on Lake Street. After Elijah’s son Charles Daniel took over the family business in 1889 at the age of 51 the trade became known as C.D. Peacock, under which name the firm still operates today. It was C.D. Peacock who built this chateausque residence, fronted by a dominating stone porch, in 1898. Look up to see one of Chicago’s most intricate friezes of scrolls and shells.

17. Peter Fortune House
1451 North Astor Street



The Tudor Revival style was popular for country estates but here Howard Van Doren Shaw tapped it for a Gold Coast townhouse in 1910. The client for the red brick and Indiana limestone residence was Peter Fortune who was one of Chicago’s best known brewers. Fortune sailed from Ireland in 1854 and scouted New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington and Virginia before settling in Chicago where he wound up running a grocery store. In 1866 Fortune and his brother John established a small brewery, where at first ale and porter were brewed before Fortune Brothers’ Brewing Company switched to lager beer and became one of the city’s largest breweries.

18. Patterson-McCormick Mansion
1500 North Astor at Burton Place



Stanford White of the fabled New York City architectural partnership of McKim, Mead and White brought his Fifth Avenue sensibilities to Chicago in 1893 for this classically inspired Italian palazzo. He crafted the exquisite Neoclassical confection with golden Roman bricks and terra cotta trim and enclosed the corner with a whimsical iron fence. White's client was Elinor Medill of the Chicago Tribune family and her husband Robert Patterson. Cyrus McCormick, Jr., heir to the mechanical reaper fortune, purchased the mansion in 1914 and after a decade of making do in such cramped quarters had architect David Adler double the size of the building in 1927.

TURN RIGHT ON BURTON PLACE. TURN LEFT ON LAKE SHORE DRIVE.

19. International College of Surgeons/Polish Consulate
1516-1524-1530 North Lake Shore Drive



This Neoclassical trio was built as separate houses designed by different architects between 1914 and 1916. The elegant digs at #1516 and #1524 now house the International College of Surgeons, founded in 1935 in Geneva, Switzerland by Max Thorek, a Hungarian-born surgeon who practiced in Chicago, and #1530 is home to the Polish Consulate.

20. 1540 North Lake Shore Drive



As you walk past this 1920s apartment tower there is nothing special but if you look up you'll see the makings of a French chateau attached to the upper floors of the 17-story building. Originally each floor was made up of two 8-room apartments. After the building went into receivership during the Great Depression the residents bought the deed and created a cash-only co-op.

TURN LEFT ON NORTH BOULEVARD.

21. Residence of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Chicago 1500 North State Parkway at North Boulevard



This three-story Queen Anne red brick mansion, trimmed in stone, was one of the first structures to rise in the Gold Coast, built in 1885 as the the direction of Most Reverend Patrick A. Feehan, the first Archbishop of Chicago. The Residence houses a small chapel, sitting rooms, rooms for resident priests and guests, a kitchen, and a dining room. The Archbishop's private quarters are on the second and third floors. President Franklin Roosevelt once stayed here and so did Pope John Paul II in 1979. If you want to look up through the trees you can count 19 chimneys - only three are still in use.

22. 1550 North State Parkway at North Boulevard



After seeing the gleaming new buildings rise in Chicago for the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, 19-year old Benjamin Henry Marshall decided to become an architect. Despite having no formal education Marshall apprenticed in the firm of Marble and Wilson and hung out his own shingle in 1902. His resume would come to include many palatial multi-unit high-rise buildings such as the Blackstone Hotel, the Drake Hotel and this building, completed in 1911. In the beginning each floor of the undulating Beaux Arts composition was a single 9,000-foot, 15-room apartment.

WALK ACROSS NORTH BOULEVARD INTO LINCOLN PARK AND THE START OF THE TOUR.

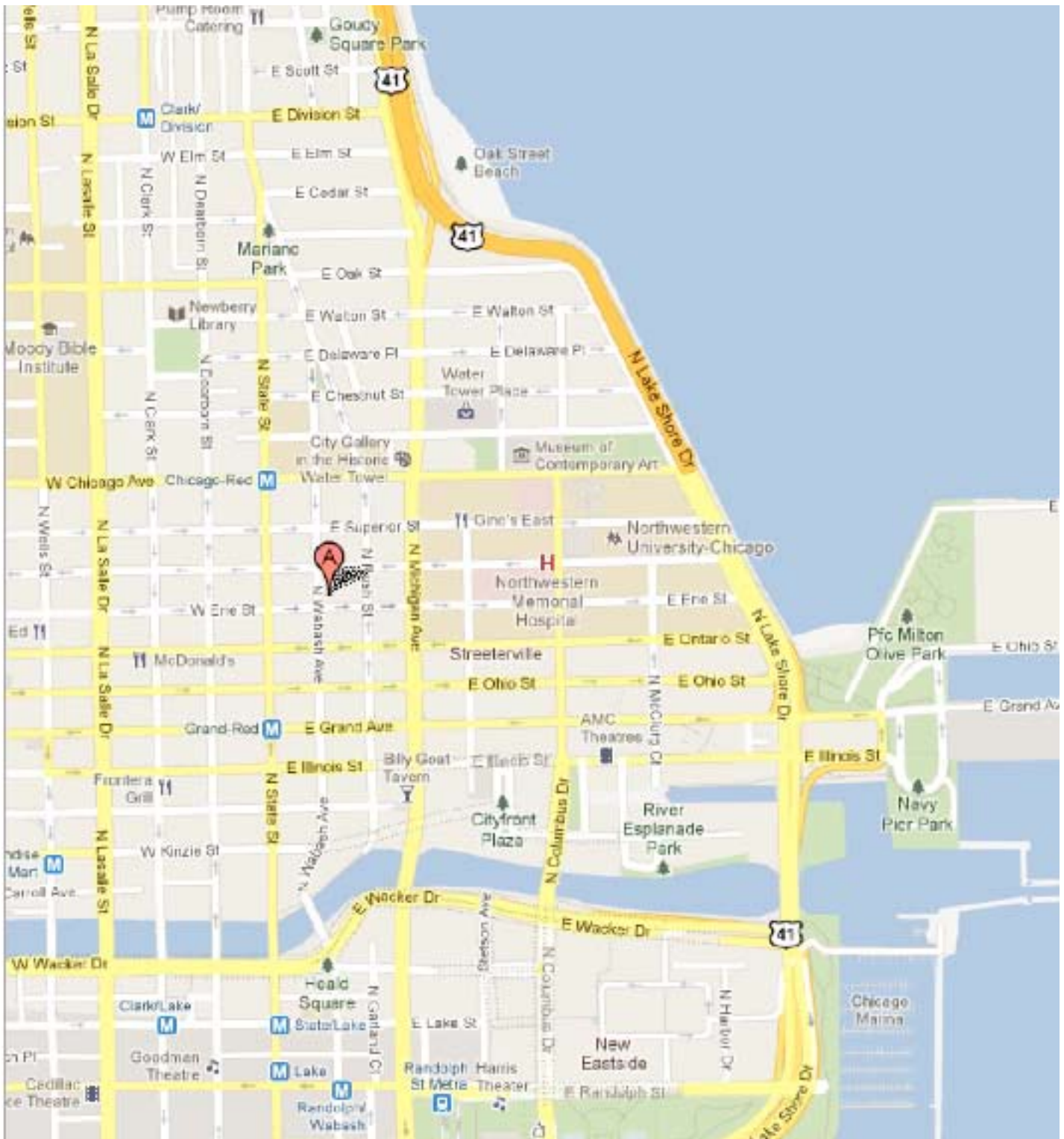
A Walking Tour of Chicago - The Magnificent Mile from **walkthetown.com**

It was real estate developer Arthur Rubloff who first called it the Magnificent Mile in the 1940s but it was architect and urban planner Daniel Burnham who envisioned North Michigan Avenue as a “grand avenue” back in 1909. It wasn’t even Michigan Avenue at the time; it was Pine Street and the only people going there were factory workers and warehousemen heading to their jobs.

Burnham saw a link between the town’s business hub in the Loop and the residential area of the Gold Coast that had recently established itself as Chicago’s toniest address, but not any ordinary thoroughfare. Burnham wrote in his Plan for Chicago: “Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men’s blood and probably themselves will not be realized. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble and logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing, asserting itself with growing intensity. Remember that our sons and grandsons are going to do things that would stagger us. Let your watchword be ‘order’ and your beacon ‘beauty.’”

The North Central Business District Association (today the Greater North Michigan Avenue Association) was organized in 1912 to provide a unifying vision of the development of Michigan Avenue in 1912. And there was much to be done. The street would need to be much wider to be transformed into a major commercial boulevard. And Lake Michigan, then only a block away, would need to be filled in and tamed. Eventually 125 acres of landfill were created to stabilize the shoreline and control flooding.

But before the Magnificent Mile could become one of the world’s premier urban communities with over 50 hotels, 250 restaurants, 400 retailers and some of the choicest office space on the planet the most important thing to do was to build a bridge. When all the great plans for North Michigan Avenue were being hatched prior to 1920 the only way to breach the Chicago River was with swing bridges. The movable bridges could be open to ship traffic for half the day and a more practical solution was needed to carry traffic from the core of downtown onto North Michigan Avenue. And the solution to that problem is where we will begin our figure-8 walking tour of the Magnificent Mile...



1. Michigan Avenue Bridge Chicago River



Technically, the Michigan Avenue Bridge is a double-deck, double-leaf trunnion bascule bridge, the first of its kind ever built. Specifically, a bascule bridge is a drawbridge hinged with a counterweight that continuously balances the leaf throughout the entire upward swing in providing clearance for boat traffic. When it opened in 1920 it was considered a mechanical marvel and remains so today. Artistically, the walls of the four Beaux Arts bridgehouses are decorated with bas relief sculptures depicting important moments from Chicago history. Originally the bridge was staffed 24 hours a day, and opened up to 3000 times a year to allow ships through, but since the 1970s bridge lifting has been scheduled in the spring and autumn, when the bridge is raised twice weekly to allow sailboats to pass between Lake Michigan and inland boat yards where they are stored for the winter.

WALK AWAY FROM THE RIVER, GOING NORTH ON NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE.

2. The Wrigley Building 400-410 North Michigan Avenue



No one knows how William Wrigley became interested in chewing gum. Wrigley was the eldest of eight children born to a Philadelphia soapmaker in 1861. He had \$32 and one carload of soap when he established William Wrigley Jr. and Company in Chicago in 1890. He ordered his first batch of gum in September 1892 as an inducement to buy his baking powder, which he had just added to his product line. Jobbers found they could sell the free gum better than the baking powder so Wrigley decided to sell chewing gum. His first product was the long-forgotten “Wrigley’s Vassar.” The gum was mixed like dough, rolled, cut into sticks and packed by hand. Wrigley changed the product by making chicle, a juicy extract from tropical trees, his main ingredient. Growth was slow. He began advertising with trademark arrows and elves and gradually his gum gained acceptance. On two occasions he collected the names of every telephone subscriber in Chicago and sent each a package of chewing gum.

In 1902 Wrigley came to New York with \$100,000 to attempt a large-scale advertising campaign, but failed. Another attempt failed until in 1907, despite a general economic recession, he broke through with a \$250,000 national campaign. His name and products became firmly established in American culture. Chewing gum factories were established in London, Berlin, Toronto, and Sydney as well as Brooklyn. Wrigley gum packages eventually bore wording in 37 languages as output reached 40,000,000 sticks a day, always selling for five cents a pack.

Wrigley went looking for a statement location for his new headquarters in 1920 and selected this triangular lot on the north side of the Chicago River that became the pioneering building for the North Michigan Avenue business district and the anchor for the Magnificent Mile. The Wrigley Building is patterned after the Seville Cathedral's Giralda Tower in Spain with French Renaissance ornamentation provided by lead designer Charles Beersman. The 454,000 square-foot tower consists of two sections connected by an open walkway at street level and two enclosed walkways. The exterior is clad in some 250,000 individual glazed terra cotta tiles, the most extensive use of terra cotta in the world during the time of construction. Each tile is uniquely identified in a computer database that enables consistent tracking and maintenance of each and every tile located on the building.

BEFORE CONTINUING UP THE MAGNIFICENT MILE, LOOK THROUGH THE PLAZA ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE WRIGLEY BUILDING, TOWARDS LAKE MICHIGAN, TO SEE...

3. NBC Tower 200 East Illinois Street



NBC's presence in Chicago, in this 37-story building from 1989, is considered one of the finest reproductions of the Art Deco style in town and mimics the broadcaster's headquarters in New York's Rockefeller Center. Crafted of limestone piers and sporting a dark green motif in marble and concrete, the tower rises 617 feet in setbacks that harken back two generations. The familiar NBC peacock logo is illuminated at night.

4. *Tribune Tower* 435 North Michigan Avenue



James Kelly, John E. Wheeler and Joseph K.C. Frost put out the first edition of the *Chicago Tribune* on June 10, 1847 but it was under the 20th century editorship of Colonel Robert R. McCormick that the *Tribune* became the self-styled “World’s Greatest Newspaper.” In 1922 McCormick hosted a \$100,000 international design competition for “the most beautiful and eye-catching office building in the world.” Mostly a publicity stunt, the competition attracted 260 entries and indeed produced a memorable building from the \$50,000 first prize winners Raymond Hood and John Mead Howells of New York. Their French Gothic skyscraper is a flurry of flying buttresses, spires, and grotesques. But the creation was an interpretation of the past; the most influential design would turn out to be the simplified tower with setbacks that anticipated the future submitted by runner-up Eliel Saarinen of Finland, who pocketed \$20,000 for his efforts. Even before construction of the 462-foot tower began McCormick was instructing his *Tribune* correspondents to brick back stones and bricks from historically important sites from around the world. Today more than 150 such artifacts are incorporated into the base of the tower from places such as the Great Pyramids of Egypt, India’s Taj Mahal, the Great Wall of China, the Alamo in San Antonio and Old Swedes Church in Wilmington, Delaware.

5. *Medinah Athletic Club* 505 North Michigan Avenue



There is a lot going on with this landmark tower from 1929, commissioned by members of the Masonic order. Walter W. Ahlschlager, an architect with numerous big projects on his resume including the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, was hired with instructions to combine many architectural styles entwined with the heritage of the Shriners. Look up to see a frieze of carved bas relief figures that depict the ancient construction of a building. On the roof is a Moorish-inspired gold dome that was intended as a mooring dock for lighter-than air dirigibles, the most famous of which was the German airship Hindenburg which exploded and burned in Lakewood, New Jersey in 1937. In the tower beneath the grand dome was a full miniature golf course complete with

real water hazards. The club's 3,500 members had use of a shooting and archery range, miniature golf course, running track, billiards room, bowling alley, two-story boxing arena, ballrooms and 440 guest rooms. The Medinah Athletic Club was most renowned, however, for its Olympic-sized swimming pool on the 14th floor, one of the highest indoor pools in the world and an engineering marvel. After gold-medalist and future movie Tarzan Johnny Weismuller trained in the pool, it was named for him. The Shriners, unfortunately, only enjoyed its marvelous club for four years before losing the building in the Great Depression. In the 1940s it began a run as a hotel and since 1988 has been the InterContinental Chicago, along with the 25-story 1961 tower next door.

6. McGraw-Hill Building **520 North Michigan Avenue**



“A rare survivor of the type of building constructed during the early period of this street’s development” reads the plaque designating this elegant limestone and pink granite Art Deco tower from 1929 as a Chicago landmark. A rare survivor indeed. In 1999 the building was dismantled and carved into 4,000 carefully labeled pieces and stored in a warehouse while an entirely new structure was built and the original exterior was stitched back together. The McGraw-Hill Building was constructed as the venerable publisher’s Midwest headquarters and features the work of one of America’s first woman sculptors, Chicago-born Gwen Lux.

7. Lake Shore Trust and Savings Bank **601 North Michigan Avenue**



The North Central Business District Association was founded in 1912 with a mission to create a grand boulevard that would connect the Gold Coast residential community with the central city, as envisioned by architect and planner Daniel Burnham. Their bank was the Lake Shore Trust and Savings Bank which opened in this Neoclassical vault in 1922. Benjamin Marshall and Charles Fox, who had been partners since 1905 and became go-to architects along North Michigan Avenue, provided the design that called for full-height Corinthian columns, crafted of Indiana limestone, rising to the top of the four-story building. The squarish building served several banking masters before being redeveloped as retail space.

8. Woman's Athletic Club
626 North Michigan Avenue



Philip Brooks Maher was a busy architect here in the 1920s, designing six major buildings close by on North Michigan Avenue within four years. This ten-story confection, created for the Woman's Athletic Club of Chicago in 1928, is the only one to travel through the decades intact. Maher adapted the French Second Empire style, popular fifty years prior, for the classically ornamented limestone structure. The Woman's Athletic Club is America's oldest such organization, considered revolutionary when it was founded by Belle Ogden Armour and Paulina Harriette Lyon in 1898 for women who sought a "retreat where health, grace and vigor can be restored." Patronizing men scoffed but the enterprise thrived and women traveled to Chicago from around the country to learn how to start their own clubs.

9. The Allerton Hotel
701 North Michigan Avenue



This Northern Italian Renaissance tower opened in 1924 as one of the first high-rise towers on North Michigan Avenue. The Allerton House started as a residential club hotel for single professionals; men and women lived on separate floors. Fourteen floors were reserved for men and six floors for women and the mens' floors and womens' floor were serviced by different elevators. By the 1940s the mixing of the sexes was taking place in a swanky lounge on the top floor called the "Tip Top Tap." The lounge closed in 1961, but the room lives on in the illuminated sign on the facade. In 1963 Don McNeill brought his long-running morning variety show, "The Breakfast Club," to the Cloud Room in the Allerton. The hotel is a designated Chicago landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places; it picked up a \$60 million facelift in 1998.

10. 777 North Michigan Avenue



It is easy to walk past this angular 400-foot without notice but it was a pioneering structure in the canyonization of North Michigan Avenue when it was constructed a half-century ago in 1964.

11. Park Tower 800 North Michigan Avenue



At 844 feet this is the eleventh tallest building in Chicago and the 35th tallest in the United States. But it is one of the tallest buildings in the world to be constructed without a steel frame - it is formed with cast-in-place yellow concrete. Completed in 2000, the building pays homage to its predecessors on this location. In 1907 the Perkins, Fellows & Hamilton Office and Studio was constructed here and Park Tower was built 40 feet back to preserve the century-old facade. In 1960 the 16-story Park Hyatt hotel stood here; it occupies 15 floors of the current building.

12. Old Chicago Water Tower 806 North Michigan Avenue



This is the only public building to have survived the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 and it looks like the last remaining piece from a giant medieval game of chess. In 1855 the Chicago Board of Sewerage Commission was created to come up with an answer to the young city's problems with waste disposal and drainage. The solution was a two-mile tunnel beneath Lake Michigan to bring uncontaminated water into the city. The tunnel was finished in 1866 and that same year construction began on the Pumping Station across the street and the Water Tower, to plans drawn

by William W. Boyington. Boyington surrounded the 138-foot high standpipe with Gothic-styled turrets rising from every corner on every level of every section. The rough-faced limestone for the tower, that has served as a tourist information center since the 1970s, was quarried in Joliet.

13. Chicago Avenue Pumping Station
821 North Michigan Avenue



Across Michigan Avenue is the pumping station that was completed in tandem with the Water Tower in 1869. Despite several modernizations the pumping station still serves its original purpose to monitor to fluctuations in water pressure and still looks like it did a century-and-a-half ago.

14. Loyola University Chicago Lewis Towers
820 North Michigan Avenue



This slender, Gothic-flavored 17-story high-rise rendered in brick began life as the Illinois Women's Athletic Club when it was raised in 1927. Just about everything in the building was planned for women, including shops, studios and offices. The club was the brainchild of Mrs. William Severin, an owner of the Women's Federal Oil Company, in 1918 and rapidly became the most prestigious women's club in Chicago. After meeting in rented space for several years monies were available for their own clubhouse. Plans were drawn by Richard E. Schmidt, who had been in practice in Chicago since 1887, and Hugh M.G. Garden. The final price tag of \$3,500,000 far exceeded the cost estimate of \$1,250,000. Today the building is one of the six campuses of the Loyola University Chicago, founded by the Society of Jesus in 1870 as St. Ignatius College and the largest Jesuit university in the United States.

15. Water Tower Place
835 North Michigan Avenue



When it opened in 1975 Water Tower Place and its block-long atrium-style shopping mall marked the return of Chicago to retail prominence, bringing middle-class shops to what had been a street dominated by luxury retailers, tony hotels, and expensive apartments. It shifted downtown Chicago's retail center of gravity north from State Street to North Michigan Avenue. The 74-story tower, the eight tallest in Chicago, contains the award-winning Ritz-Carlton Hotel, luxury condominiums (Oprah Winfrey is a resident) and office space. When it was constructed the 859-foot Water Tower Place, faced with gray marble, was the tallest reinforced concrete building in the world.

16. Fourth Presbyterian Church
125 East Chestnut Street at Michigan Avenue



The Fourth Presbyterian Church was founded in February of 1871 when the congregations of Westminster Presbyterian Church and North Presbyterian Church merged. On October 8 the new congregation celebrated the dedication of its new sanctuary. That night the entire city of Chicago burned. It would be another three years before a new facility was ready. The current Gothic-flavored church building was constructed in 1914 on plans drawn by Ralph Adams Cram; it was familiar design territory for Cram who created the world's largest Gothic cathedral, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. Prominent architect Howard Van Doren Shaw contributed the Tudor Revival parish buildings around the courtyard. Save for the Water Tower, the Fourth Presbyterian Church is the oldest surviving structure on Michigan Avenue north of the Chicago River.

17. The John Hancock Center
875 North Michigan Avenue



Many would argue this is the best tall tower in Chicago. When the building topped out at 1,127 feet (the antennas rise almost another 400 feet) on May 6, 1968, it was the tallest building in the world outside New York City. It is currently the fourth-tallest building in Chicago and the sixth-tallest in the United States. The tower's signature cross braces that climb the building as it tapers to the top are each 18 stories tall. The John Hancock Center was erected on the site of the city's first cemetery and later Cap Streeter's 19th century steamboat shanty. The area is called Streeterville after him, and consists of landfill reclaimed from the lake.

There is a public observation deck on the 94th floor, 1000 feet above Michigan Avenue that is accessed by walking below the entrance. When the skies are clear you can see the states of Indiana, Wisconsin and across the lake to Michigan. Barack and Michelle Obama had their first date in the restaurant on the 95th floor and, in a less happy note, comedian Chris Farley died in his apartment on the 60th floor in 1997.

18. Bloomingdale's Building
900 North Michigan Avenue



Architects Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates deviated from the standard glass box for this 66-story skyscraper in 1989. At the end of its 871-foot run to the sky the building is topped with a quartet of pyramidal towers.

19. The Palmolive Building **919 North Michigan Avenue**



Although it is now somewhat obscured in a skyscraper phalanx, this was a pioneering high-rise when it was constructed in 1929 as the headquarters for the newly created Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Company. The building itself is a testament to the power of soap - William Colgate began making soap by hand on the streets of New York City in 1806 and B.J. Johnson crafted the world's best selling soap in 1898 from palm and olive oil and called it Palmolive. Johnson merged his company with the Peet Brothers, Missouri-based soap-makers, and they purchased the Colgate Company in 1928. The architectural firm of Holabird & Root created one of the town's most celebrated Art Deco buildings with setbacks marching all the way to the tower's crown. Colgate-Palmolive would stay only a few years before shifting its base of operations to New York City, although the building retained the name. That changed in 1965 when Playboy magazine set up shop here, a happenstance announced by the installation of nine-foot tall illuminated letters. The first Playboy Club was located here. Playboy Enterprises would remain here for a quarter-century before moving on in 1989.

Soon after the Palmolive Building was finished two aircraft beacons were installed on the roof. One rotated to guide aircraft into Chicago and the other marked the route to Chicago Municipal Airport, today's Midway. The beacons claimed to be the most powerful in the world, which became an annoyance to residents of the taller skyscrapers that grew up around the Palmolive Building until the lone remaining beacon, that had been named for Charles Lindbergh, was turned off in 1981. The Lindbergh Beacon was turned back on in 2007 but now only shines out into Lake Michigan.

20. Drake Hotel **140 East Walton Place at Michigan Avenue**



Anchoring the north end of the Magnificent Mile, overlooking Lake Michigan with its iconic script sign and serving as a gateway to the Gold Coast, the Drake Hotel has set the standard of luxury in Chicago since 1920. Celebrities from Winston Churchill to Princess Diana to Frank Sinatra to

Joe DiMaggio and Marilyn Monroe have signed the guest register and the Drake has starred in a score of Hollywood movies. The hotel was the inspiration of brothers Tracy and John Drake, sons of 19th century hotel mogul John Drake. The elder Drake is famous for buying a hotel property at the height of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871 when its owner offered to sell at any price. Drake had noticed a subtle shift in the winds and the building indeed survived the conflagration. The hotel, designed by Benjamin Howard Marshall, boasts 537 guest rooms and 74 suites. The Drake was the first hotel in Chicago to provide air conditioning in every room and the first to have color televisions in all guest rooms. Not every modern convenience was so eagerly embraced - the Drake spurned the advent of ice machines until the quality of the ice became comparable to handmade cubes.

TURN RIGHT ON EAST WALTON PLACE. TURN RIGHT ON MIES VAN DER ROHE WAY.

21. 200 East Pearson

200 East Person Street at North Mies van der Rohe Way



Architectural legend Ludwig Mies van der Rohe was a master of Modern architecture and a major player in the re-shaping of the skylines of America's major cities in the mid-20th century. Several of his sleek, glassy residential buildings grace this neighborhood. But for most of his life Mies, who abandoned his native Germany in 1937, chose to live in this traditional ornate Renaissance-flavored building that was built in 1916. The six-story brown brick building contains only ten apartments. The street out front was renamed in his honor.

22. Museum of Contemporary Art

220 East Chicago Avenue at North Mies van der Rohe Way



The museum opened in 1967 in a small space on Ontario Street that had been designed as a bakery and once served as office space for Playboy Enterprises. In 1996 the collection moved into this space that was once the site of a National Guard Armory. Over 200 proposed designs were reviewed

until a conception by German architect Josef Paul Kleihaus was selected. Kleihaus's signature was a hickory-leaf shaped interior staircase in an glass-walled atrium that serves up views of the city and Lake Michigan across Lake Shore Park.

TURN RIGHT ON CHICAGO AVENUE.

23. Chicago Fire Station 98 202 East Chicago Avenue



Horses were still pulling the fire apparatus when this was Host Company Number Two and its station was constructed in 1902. Architect Charles F. Hermann borrowed the castellated style of its water-control neighbors down the street for this building down to the use of limestone from the same Joliet quarry. It is still an active fire company, responding to an average of ten calls a day, the firefighters still sliding down the original brass poles.

CROSS MICHIGAN AVENUE AND CONTINUE TO WABASH STREET.

24. Hotel Saint Benedict Flats 801 North Wabash Avenue at Chicago Avenue



James J. Egan was born in Cork, Ireland in 1839 and sailed to New York where he apprenticed in some of the leading architectural shops of the city. He arrived in Chicago in the age of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 where he busied himself in reconstruction, eventually developing a working relationship with the Roman Catholic church. Among the structures he designed was this four-story Victorian structure in 1882-83. The Flats were designated a Chicago Landmark but the church-owned land underneath is vastly more valuable today than the historic building so its future is tentative.

TURN LEFT ON WABASH AVENUE.

25. Samuel Nickerson House
40 East Erie Street at Wabash Avenue



Samuel Mayo Nickerson, founder of the First National Bank, watched several of his properties go up in flames in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 and he was determined not to re-live that experience. When he hired Edward Burling, one of the city's first professional architects and designer of his bank building, for this house Nickerson directed that it be constructed to be fireproof. The exterior was completely Ohio stone and granite and inside the floors were laid on iron beams, between which brick arches, covered in cement, were created. The surfaces were all tile and stone - unless they were marble. Eighteen different types of marble were used in the Nickerson house, so much that it was known as the Marble Palace. Not that there wasn't any wood to be found; each room had some hand-carved decoration in the finest woods available. When completed in 1879 it was the most extravagant house built in Chicago to that date. In recent years the grand mansion was purchased by Richard Driehaus and restored as a museum for his decorative arts collection.

ATTACHED, NEXT DOOR, IS....

26. John B. Murphy Memorial Building
50 East Erie Street



When Richard Driehaus sought to purchase the Nickerson House the deal was contingent on his restoring the Murphy auditorium for the College of Surgeons. The building was constructed following the death in 1916 of John B. Murphy, one of the more prominent founders of the American College of Surgeons. Architects Benjamin Henry Marshall and Charles Eli Fox used the Chapelle de Notre-Dame de Consolation in Paris as their model for this splendid French Renaissance confection, both inside and out. Dedication took place in 1926 with the \$600,000 price tag being picked up by donations from more than 2,000 individuals and organizations in Dr. Murphy's memory.

CATTY-CORNERED, ACROSS THE INTERSECTION, IS...

27. Ransom R. Cable House 25 East Erie Street at Wabash Street



Ransom R. Cable came from a wealthy family but he began his working life in the 1850s as a railroad conductor and worked his way up to become president of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad and an important investor in several other roads. His house from 1886 was designed by Henry Ives Cobb and Charles S. Frost in an adaptation of the Romanesque style of Boston architect Henry Hobson Richardson. It displays such hallmarks of the form as a powerful arched corner entrance, corner tower, variations of rough-faced stone and multi-patterned triangular gables. In 1902 Cable moved on and sold the house to Robert Hall McCormick of the McCormick reaper fortune. It was never more than a stop-over home for Ransom Cable anyway - his primary residence in Rock Island made this Chicago mansion seem like a carriage home.

CONTINUE ON WABASH STREET.

28. Medinah Temple 600 North Wabash Street



Architects Harris W. Huehl and Richard Gustav Schmid, fellow Shriners, brought exotic Moorish Revival architecture to the Chicago streetscape in 1912 for this ornate auditorium. It originally seated more than 4,000 and its fine acoustics made the Medinah Temple a favorite spot for recording, even used by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The exterior is festooned with pointed domes and an abundance of colorful tiles. After nearly a century the grand building was vacant and awaiting a date with the wrecking ball when it was purchased for retail space by Bloomingdales.

29. Pizzeria Uno
29 East Ohio Street at Wabash Street



Ike Sewell, a one-time football star at the University of Texas, was looking to bring southwest cuisine to Chicago in 1943 with a Mexican restaurant. Instead, he wound up here with partner Rick Ricardo serving up the first Chicago Deep Dish pizza. The brick building with mansard roof has held its own against the onslaught of surrounding high-rises since 1905.

TURN RIGHT ON OHIO STREET.

30. Lambert Tree Studios
603-621 State Street at Ohio Street



Lambert Tree was a circuit court judge who ran for the United States Senate in 1882 and lost by a single vote. he consoled himself with an appointment from President Grover Cleveland as ambassador to Belgium. An enthusiastic patron of the arts, Judge Tree and his wife constructed this building to provide low-cost housing and space for artists as a way to keep out-of-town talent in Chicago after the Columbian Exposition in 1893. The eclectic Arts & Craft design withstood additions in 1912 and 1913 . After a restoration at the beginning of this century it once again houses artist studios.

TURN LEFT ON STATE STREET. TURN LEFT ON KINZIE STREET AND WALK UNDER THE MULTI-TIERED STREET.

31. Billy Goat Tavern 430 North Michigan Ave at Lower Level



The Billy Goat Tavern worked its way into popular Chicago lore during the 1945 World Series when the Cubs were battling the Tigers. The story goes that when bar owner William “Billy Goat” Sianis showed up for Game 4 with his pet goat, Murphy, in tow as a good luck charm, he was denied entry to Wrigley Field - even though he had purchased a seat for Murphy. Sianis supposedly placed a curse on the Cubs that very moment. Despite leading the Series two game to one, the Cubs went on to lose four games to three and have never been back to the World Series since. Sianis, a Greek immigrant, started the tavern in the 1930s with a bounced check he covered from the opening weekend’s proceeds. The bar moved to its current location under Michigan Avenue in 1964.

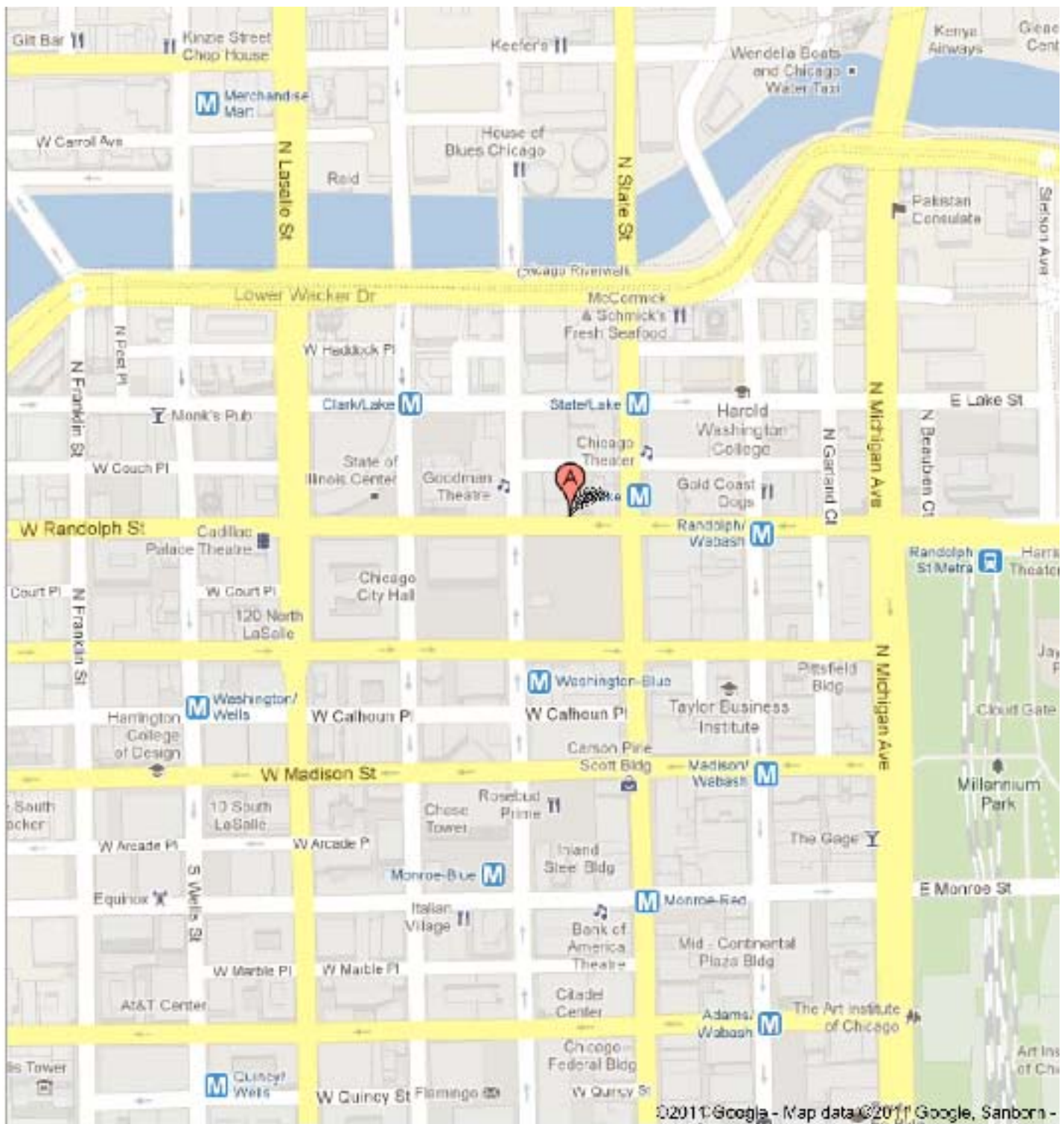
WALK AROUND THE CORNER AND UP THE STAIRS TO THE SURFACE OF MICHIGAN AVENUE. TURN RIGHT TO RETURN TO THE CHICAGO RIVER AND THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

A Walking Tour of Chicago: The Loop-North End **from walkthetown.com**

The Loop, defined by the Chicago River to the west and north, Roosevelt Boulevard to the south and, of course, Lake Michigan to the east, is city's commercial hub (roughly some 16,000 of Chicago's nearly three million residents live here). It is the second largest central business district in the country, housing the world's biggest commodities market.

The Loop initially took its name from the circuitous route 19th century streetcars took but later became defined by the elevated train tracks that lead here from every part of the city. The Loop has always been dominated by high-rises. The first tall building to be supported, both inside and outside, by a fireproof metal frame, the Home Insurance Building, was built here in 1884. Also the first high-rise to be torn down took place in the Loop - in the early 1900s when Marshall Field's was expanding. The tallest building in the United States has been here for almost forty years.

Our walking tour of the northern end of the Loop will take in the theater district, the "cliffs" of Michigan Avenue, Chicago River, City Hall and more but before we descend into the great canyons of Chicago we will start in a treasured open space whose lakefront existence can be attributed to a single man...



1. Grant Park



Original plans drawn for Chicago called for the area between Michigan Avenue and Lake Michigan to remain undeveloped; in 1844 the town officially designated its “front yard” as Lake Park. In 1901 it would be renamed for Illinois native, triumphant Civil War general and 18th President of the United State, Ulysses S. Grant. By that time legal restrictions on building in the park were being routinely ignored and mail order pioneer Aaron Montgomery Ward personally financed four expensive court battles to rid Grant Park of its buildings and prevent the construction of new ones. The last twenty years of his life were spent preserving the Chicago waterfront as a park for the people. He spent over \$200,000 of his own monies to defending the public’s right to open space. Ward’s long-time efforts to prevent the erection of buildings along Lake Michigan won him the title of “The Watch Dog of the Lake Front.” At one time there were 46 building projects planned in the park and he fought them all successfully, losing many influential friends along the way. Finally, just before his death in 1913 he won his final legal battle to forever keep the waterfront, as a sign posted here once stated: “Public ground. Forever to remain vacant of buildings.” The Chicago Tribune, no friend of Montgomery Ward, wrote, “We know now that Mr. Ward was right, was farsighted, was public spirited. That he was unjustly criticized as a selfish obstructionist or as a fanatic. Before he died, it is pleasant to think, Mr. Ward knew that the community had swung round to his side and was grateful for the service he had performed in spite of misunderstanding and injustice.” The statue of *Sitting Lincoln* was created by celebrated Irish-born sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens in 1909 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the 16th President’s birth.

TODAY THE NORTHWEST SECTION OF GRANT PARK IS OCCUPIED BY...

2. Millennium Park



The railroad was the first to breach the dictum that the land east of Michigan Avenue remain undeveloped. The tracks were actually constructed on a causeway offshore but over time more and more land became filled in around the rail right of way, which became sunken. This space was part of the Illinois Central rail yards and after the City gained airspace rights over the tracks in 1997 a

new civic park was conceived to fill 16 acres above a commuter rail station and parking garage, a project that would cost \$150 million with the tab begin picked up by taxpayers and private donors. When the award-winning park opened in 2004 it was four years behind schedule, 50% larger than originally planned and over budget by \$325 million. It boasts performance pavilions, interactive public art, gardens, an ice rink and more. By some measures Millennium Park is Chicago's second most popular tourist attraction.

WALK OVER TO THE CORNER OF MONROE STREET, THAT SLICES THROUGH GRANT PARK, AND MICHIGAN AVENUE. TURN RIGHT AND BEGIN WALKING NORTH ON MICHIGAN AVENUE, THE LAKE IS ON YOUR RIGHT AS YOU WALK. STAY ON THE GRANT PARK SIDE OF MICHIGAN AVENUE.

3. The University Club
76 East Monroe Street at Michigan Avenue



This has been called the world's first Gothic skyscraper, designed by Martin Roche and completed in 1909. The price tag of over a million dollars was picked up the private University Club, formed in 1887 by graduates of mostly elite Eastern schools looking to extend their collegial experience. it was an age of luxurious private club buildings and this one had few peers. Over the years the University Club has played a prominent role in fostering the sport of squash in America.

4. Gage Group
18, 24 and 30 South Michigan Avenue



This prime real estate was occupied in the 1890s by a trio of competing millinery businesses: Theodore Ascher and Company at #30 (the southernmost), Edson Keith and Company at #24 and the Gage Brothers and Company at #18. Today the most celebrated is the tallest, the Gage Brothers Building. The ornamental facade was designed by Louis Sullivan, the "father of the skyscraper" who helped usher in the creation of modern commercial architecture. One of only five Sullivan buildings still standing in Chicago, four additional stories were added to building in 1902 by different hands.

**5. Chicago Athletic Association
12 South Michigan Avenue**



In the 1800s big city athletic clubs were a place where businessmen could exercise, enjoy an elegant meal and spend the night in convivial surroundings. It was common practice to erect palatial buildings to that end and this ornate 11-story Venetian Gothic structure was raised in 1890 when the Chicago Athletic Association was organized. The club formed the first quality football team in the city, in the years before Chicago came to be the dominant force in the sport.

**6. Willoughby Tower
8 South Michigan Avenue**



Chicago's first convent was constructed on this corner in 1846. This landmark tower was forced into its iconic form by a zoning mandate that decreed that once a tower reached a certain height any further construction could only be 25% as hefty. The limestone confection came online in 1929.

**7. Montgomery Ward Tower
6 North Michigan Avenue**



Aaron Montgomery Ward was born in Chatham, New Jersey in 1844 and his family went west to Niles, Michigan in 1853 where his father took up the cobbler's trade. Aaron left school at 14 to work in brickyards and a barrel factory and clerked at a shoe store and then a country store earning \$6 a month -plus board. Ward was ready to go to the big city. In the 1850s Chicago was home to

30,000 people and known, none too affectionately, as “The Mudhole of the Prairies.” The streets were barely above the level of Lake Michigan and covered with bottomless goo. But by the late 1860s Chicago was teeming with post- Civil War energy. Fifteen railroad lines moved 150 trains a day out of the busy terminals. Like thousands of other young men Ward arrived in Chicago in 1866 and began work in various dry goods firms, including one operated by Marshall Field. He became a salesman, his income rising to the princely sum of \$12 a week.

While making his rounds Ward considered how he could help the disadvantaged farm and decided on a mail order store. His friends told him he would go broke trying to sell goods sight-unseen to backcountry folk. At first they were right by Ward persevered and he bound his first catalog in 1874 - it has since been chosen on many lists as one of the 100 most influential American books ever published. One such nominating committee, the Grolier Club, stated: “The mail order catalogue has been perhaps the greatest single influence in increasing the standard of American living. It brought the benefit of wholesale prices to city and hamlet, to the crossroads and prairie.”

Ward erected this building, the tallest in Chicago at the time, in 1898, not only as a company headquarters but to put an impressive physical presence to his goods that were flowing facelessly through the United States mail. The building originally sported a ten-story rooftop tower, an 18-foot weather vane and an observation deck.

8. Michigan Boulevard Building **30 North Michigan Avenue**



This 1914 Gothic-flavored high-rise stands as the northernmost brick anchor on Michigan Avenue’s famed architectural “cliff” running along Grant Park just across the Millennium Park. Look around the corner to see the building’s true form - a classic, two-story skyscraper with a light well running through the center. The building was originally only 15 stories but picked up six more in the early 1920s.

LOOMING BEHIND THE MICHIGAN BOULEVARD BUILDING ON WASHINGTON STREET IS...

9. Pittsfield Building
55 East Washington Street



A 1923 zoning ordinance mandating setbacks for the tallest skyscrapers helped shape this 551-foot tower developed by the heirs of Marshall Field in 1927. The name is a tip of the fedora to the Berkshire Mountains town of Pittsfield, Massachusetts where Marshall Field obtained his first job and clerked for four years. After Field achieved unprecedented success in Chicago his first employer remarked, “Well, I’d never thought it of him. He was about the greenest looking lad I ever saw when he came to work for me.” Designed by Graham, Anderson, Probst and White, the structure combines both Art Deco and Gothic detailing.

CONTINUE ON MICHIGAN AVENUE.

10. Chicago Cultural Center
78 East Washington Street at Michigan Avenue



After Henry Hobson Richardson, working out of Boston and the most influential American architect of the 1880s, died suddenly at the age of 47 in 1886 his practice was assumed by George Foster Shepley, Charles Hercules Ruan, and Charles Allerton Coolidge. For major commissions in Chicago and the World’s Columbian Exposition, Coolidge moved to Chicago and the firm opened its branch office there in 1893, winning a design competition for the city’s central library and Grand Army of the Republic Museum. The block-filling Italian Renaissance structure, faced in Bedford blue limestone, was completed in 1897 at a cost of nearly \$2 million. The library moved on in 1991 and the City created the nation’s first free municipal cultural center, presenting more than 1,000 programs and exhibitions covering a wide range of the performing, visual and literary arts.

TURN RIGHT ON RANDOLPH STREET.

11. Aon Center
200 East Randolph Street



This tower was designed as the headquarters for the Standard Oil Company of Indiana and when it was completed in 1973 it was the tallest building in Chicago and the fourth tallest in the world. Befitting its lofty stature, “Big Stan” was sheathed with 43,000 slabs of Italian Carrara marble, the same stone Michaelangelo worked with. Marble had never been used for so high a building before and the marble panels proved to be too thin and buckled and cracked within a year of the Standard Oil Building’s opening. Unsightly stainless steel straps were added to hold the marble in place but in the early 1990s all 5,900 tons of marble were removed and replaced with North Carolina granite. The cost was estimated at \$60 million, more than half of the 1,147-foot high building’s original price tag. Most of the granite was crushed and hauled to an Amoco refinery in Whiting, Indiana but some just ended up as paperweights.

TURN LEFT ON NORTH COLUMBUS DRIVE.

12. Aqua
225 North Columbus Drive



With Jeanne Gang at the lead of the design team, this 86-story mixed-use residential skyscraper is the tallest building in the world to have a woman as lead architect. The sculptured facade is created by undulating balconies of varying lengths to reproduce the Great Lakes topography. Some balconies are as wide as twelve feet, others just big enough to stand on. When it was finished in 2010 the 870-foot tower was the first residential building in Chicago to have a charging station for electric cars.

TURN LEFT ON WATER STREET AND MAKE YOUR WAY, PARTIALLY UNDERGROUND, BACK TO MICHIGAN AVENUE. WHEN YOU ARRIVE, IN FRONT OF YOU WILL BE...

13. Carbide and Carbon Building 230 North Michigan Avenue



The Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation was formed in 1917 from the merger of the former Union Carbide founded in 1898 and the National Carbon Company founded in 1886. These companies made carbon rods for arc lights and electrodes for electric arc furnaces, and produced aluminum. Their 37-floor headquarters was constructed in 1929 on plans drawn by Daniel and Hubert Burnham, sons of skyscraping pioneer architect Daniel Burnham. The exterior of the building is covered in polished black granite, and the tower is dark green terra cotta that enabled its creators to claim it was the world's first full-color skyscraper. If that wasn't enough ornamentation the designers draped the tower and upper floors in 24-karat gold leaf - real gold 1/5000 of an inch thick. The gold accents drip all the way down the building's facade. The look of the Carbide and Carbon Building was said to have been inspired by a green champagne bottle.

TURN RIGHT ON MICHIGAN AVENUE AND WALK UP TO THE CHICAGO RIVER.

14. Michigan Avenue Bridge Chicago River



Technically, the Michigan Avenue Bridge is a double-deck, double-leaf trunnion bascule bridge, the first of its kind ever built. Specifically, a bascule bridge is a drawbridge hinged with a counterweight that continuously balances the leaf throughout the entire upward swing in providing clearance for boat traffic. When it opened in 1920 it was considered a mechanical marvel and remains so today. Artistically, the walls of the four Beaux Arts bridgehouses are decorated with bas relief sculptures depicting important moments from Chicago history. Originally the bridge was staffed 24 hours a day, and opened up to 3000 times a year to allow ships through, but since the 1970s bridge lifting has been scheduled in the spring and autumn, when the bridge is raised twice weekly to allow sailboats to pass between Lake Michigan and inland boat yards where they are stored for the winter.

TURN RIGHT ON CONTI STREET.

15. 333 North Michigan Avenue



This was the last of the four sentinels to rise over the Michigan Avenue Bridge, representing one of the most valuable patches of real estate in Chicago. A slight jog in Michigan Avenue insures the high visibility of this building plot. John Wellborn Root, Jr. based his long and narrow design on principles pioneered by his famous architect father and the runner-up design of Eliel Saarinen in the Tribune Tower design contest that introduced setbacks to high-rises. The architect was so pleased with the finished product that he and his partner William Holabird took commercial residence here. The building is embellished by a polished marble base and ornamental bands.

ALSO ON THE CORNER, ACROSS THE STREET IS...

16. London Guarantee and Accident Building 360 North Michigan Avenue



A small fort was built on this site in 1803 beside the Chicago River - the first stirrings of what would become Chicago. It was constructed by troops under Captain John Whistler and named in honor of Henry Dearborn, then United States Secretary of War. Fort Dearborn was destroyed in the War of 1812 but re-constructed on the same site in 1816. The fort was de-commissioned by 1837, and parts of the fort were lost to the widening of the Chicago River in 1855 and a fire in 1857; the last vestiges being destroyed in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. From 1872 until 1921 the Hoyt Building stood here and currently the birthplace of Chicago is occupied by this 342-foot trapezoidal tower, one of a squadron of sky-tickling sentinels around the Chicago River with distinctive tops. Here designer Alfred S. Alschuler provided a rooftop pavilion modelled after the Stockholm, Sweden's town hall. Under a Roman-flavored doorway, the London Guarantee Building boasts a large relief above the entrance commemorating Fort Dearborn.

ACROSS THE CHICAGO RIVER, TO THE RIGHT OF THE MICHIGAN AVENUE BRIDGE, IS...

17. *Tribune Tower* 435 North Michigan Avenue



James Kelly, John E. Wheeler and Joseph K.C. Frost put out the first edition of the *Chicago Tribune* on June 10, 1847 but it was under the 20th century editorship of Colonel Robert R. McCormick that the *Tribune* became the self-styled “World’s Greatest Newspaper.” In 1922 McCormick hosted a \$100,000 international design competition for “the most beautiful and eye-catching office building in the world.” Mostly a publicity stunt, the competition attracted 260 entries and indeed produced a memorable building from the \$50,000 first prize winners Raymond Hood and John Mead Howells of New York. Their French Gothic skyscraper is a flurry of flying buttresses, spires, and grotesques. But the creation was an interpretation of the past; the most influential design would turn out to be the simplified tower with setbacks that anticipated the future submitted by runner-up Eliel Saarinen of Finland, who pocketed \$20,000 for his efforts. Even before construction of the 462-foot tower began McCormick was instructing his *Tribune* correspondents to brick back stones and bricks from historically important sites from around the world. Today more than 150 such artifacts are incorporated into the base of the tower from places such as the Great Pyramids of Egypt, India’s Taj Mahal, the Great Wall of China, the Alamo in San Antonio and Old Swedes Church in Wilmington, Delaware.

ACROSS THE CHICAGO RIVER, TO THE LEFT OF THE MICHIGAN AVENUE BRIDGE, IS...

18. *The Wrigley Building* 400-410 North Michigan Avenue



No one knows how William Wrigley became interested in chewing gum. Wrigley was the eldest of eight children born to a Philadelphia soapmaker in 1861. He had \$32 and one carload of soap

when he established William Wrigley Jr. and Company in Chicago in 1890. He ordered his first batch of gum in September 1892 as an inducement to buy his baking powder, which he had just added to his product line. Jobbers found they could sell the free gum better than the baking powder so Wrigley decided to sell chewing gum. His first product was the long-forgotten “Wrigley’s Vassar.” The gum was mixed like dough, rolled, cut into sticks and packed by hand. Wrigley changed the product by making chicle, a juicy extract from tropical trees, his main ingredient. Growth was slow. He began advertising with trademark arrows and elves and gradually his gum gained acceptance. On two occasions he collected the names of every telephone subscriber in Chicago and sent each a package of chewing gum.

TURN LEFT ON WACKER DRIVE AND WALK ALONG THE CHICAGO RIVER, WHICH WILL BE ON YOUR RIGHT.

19. Mather Tower
75 East Wacker Drive



Alonzo Mather, a direct descendent of the influential 17th century New England minister Cotton Mather, pioneered a more humane stock car for the shipment of livestock by rail in the 1880s. When the railroads discovered it was cheaper to lease Mather’s boxcars than to build their own fleet, his fortune was assured. Mather’s business model was so successful his was one of America’s few companies that prospered during the Great Depression and carried him to his deathbed in 1941 at the age of 92 a very rich man. Mather commissioned Herbert Hugh Riddle to build him a new company headquarters but he remained active in its design. When Mather’s Neo-Gothic tower, clad in terra cotta, was completed in 1928 it was briefly the city’s tallest building at 521 feet high. The unusual configuration placed a 21-story octagonal tower atop a more familiar 20-story rectangular box. To this day the interior of the octagonal tower has the smallest floors of any skyscraper in downtown Chicago.

ACROSS THE RIVER, BEFORE THE WABASH AVENUE BRIDGE, IS...

20. Trump Tower Chicago 401 North Wabash Street



This building was planned as the world's tallest in 2001 but after the terrorist attacks in New York City Donald Trump dialed down those lofty ambition. When it opened in 2008 it topped out at 1,389 feet, ranking it sixth or seventh, depending on various measuring criteria. Either way, it did boast the world's highest residence above ground at the time. Trump Tower's 98 stories rise on the historic location of the former Chicago Sun-Times Building; its setbacks and sensual aluminum-and-steel curves help battle the frisky Lake Michigan winds. Trump thrust the tower into the national spotlight when the winner of the first season of *The Apprentice*, Bill Rancic, was chosen to manage the construction of the tower.

21. Jewelers' Building 35 East Wacker



The ornate appearance of this domed Renaissance Revival tower from 1926, one of the last of its ilk in the coming era of stripped-down Art Deco classicism, masks some of its ingenious practicalities. The wildly decorative four corner turrets, for instance, hold cast iron water tanks that could be emptied in the event of a fire. The building was originally constructed for jewelry merchants and inside was a car elevator that enabled couriers with valuable stashes of jewels to be whisked directly to their upper floor offices without getting out of the car. By 1941 the car elevator was sacrificed for more revenue-producing office space.

ACROSS THE RIVER, AFTER STATE STREET, IS...

22. Marina City
300 North State Street



These twin corn cob towers are credited with triggering the residential renaissance of American cities after they appeared in 1964, the first urban high-rise residential complex built in the United States after World War II. The \$36 million price tag was picked up mostly by the International Union of Janitors who were trying to stem the flight to the suburbs of its members. When finished, the two towers were both the tallest residential buildings and the tallest reinforced concrete structures in the world. Marina City was exactly that - a city inside a building. On-site facilities included a theater, a gym, ice rink, bowling alley, stores, a restaurant and the marina. The bottom 19 floors form an exposed spiral parking ramp and a laundry room occupies the 20th floor; the residences are located above that. In their half-century of existence the towers have done star turns in countless Hollywood productions including the opening sequence of The Bob Newhart Show, The Dark Knight, Nothing In Common and more.

ACROSS THE RIVER, BEFORE LASALLE STREET, IS...

23. Reid, Murdoch & Co. Building
325 North LaSalle Drive



George Croll Nimmons was a Chicago architect best known for his work for Sears, Roebuck and Company, including a Kenwood mansion for Sears' President, Julius Rosenwald. Here he designed a warehouse and office for grocers Reid, Murdoch & Company in 1914. the landmark clocktower was originally centered in the building but the proportions shifted when LaSalle Street was widened in 1926. The City of Chicago was a long-term tenant beginning in the 1950s and the Encyclopedia Britannica has been headquartered here.

24. LaSalle-Wacker Building
221 North La Salle Street



This classic Art Deco tower, clad in limestone and granite, was originally planned as a 37-story building but when an adjacent site was purchased the final structure picked up a recessed center that filters light down into the office space. The 512-foot high-rise comes alive at night with colored illumination - the beacon on top of the roof was built to be seen from 200 miles away.

ACROSS THE RIVER, BEYOND WELLS STREET, IS...

25. The Merchandise Mart
222 Merchandise Mart Plaza



Goods have been handled on this location from Chicago's earliest days when a Native American tradign post was here. The Chicago and North Western Railway had their main terminal here until 1911 after which retailer Marshall Field eyed the location on the north bank of the Chicago River for a single wholesale warehouse for the entire nation that would consolidate 13 warehouses. Construction on the "largest building in the world" began in 1928 on Art Deco plans drawn by the Chicago architectural firm of Graham, Anderson, Probst and White. With more than 4,000,000 square feet the Merchandise Mart kept the title until surpassed by the Pentagon - it had its own zip code until 2008. If you walk across the Wells Street Bridge you can see over-sized busts lining the river of merchants inducted into the Merchandise Mart Hall of Fame by Joseph Kennedy. The Kennedy family owned the building for over 50 years.

TURN LEFT ON LASALLE STREET.

26. The Cadillac Palace Theater
151 West Randolph Street at LaSalle Street



The Rapp Brothers, George and Cornelius, were the acknowledged leaders in theater architecture in America in the early decades of the 20th century, with a long list of sumptuous entertainment palaces around the country on their resume. Here, in their hometown, the Rapps adapted the look of the palace of Versailles in Paris in burgundy and beige, with gold leaf accents for the New Palace Theater in 1926. Atypically for the age, the Palace was designed only for live performances, no silent pictures or new “talkies” here (at least until 1931). This would be one of the final projects for the Rapp brothers - Cornelius would pass away in 1926. The current vertical marquee is the product of a recent renovation.

27. City Hall
121 North LaSalle Street



This is the town’s fourth building to serve as City Hall, with more than a century of service since its completion in 1910. William Holabird and Martin Roche had worked in the office of William LeBaron Jenney before emerging on their own. The new firm became well-known for its groundbreaking Chicago School skyscrapers and here they tapped the Neoclassical style for the block-filling civic structure. Each of the fluted Corinthian columns that march around the exterior is 94 feet tall.

28. Lumber Exchange Building
11 South LaSalle Street



Leander J. McCormick joined his older brother Cyrus in manufacturing mechanical reapers and becoming one of the wealthiest families in America. At the age 70 in 1889 Leander left the agricultural implement business behind and began buying up large swaths of downtown Chicago with his cash. This corner was one of his purchases, then housing a rambling seven-story structure called the Roanoke. In 1915 McCormick's heirs hauled down the Roanoke, hired the go-to skyscraper designers William Holabird and Martin Roche, and signed up the Lumberman's Exchange as major tenants. Holabird & Roche delivered a vertically ribbed 16-story tower with affectations described as Portuguese Gothic to the facade. The confection came with a decorative crown but it was jettisoned when the tower grew another five stories in 1922. Another tower was added along Madison Street three years later.

29. Central Y.M.C.A
19 South LaSalle Street



In 1858 a branch of the Young Men's Christian Associations (YMCA) was constituted in Chicago, fourteen years after the birth of the organization in London in 1844. The YMCA moved into this facility in 1892, built by engineer and architect William Le Baron Jenney. The L-shaped design featured 54 feet fronting La Salle Street and 187 feet along the alley on the south side. Members could avail themselves of a bowling alley, swimming pool and gym. Today the building is a branch of the State Bank of India.

30. The Northern Trust Company Building 50 South LaSalle Street



There was a time when all the buildings in the Loop were constructed on the same scale as this orange stone Beaux Arts vault constructed for the Northern Trust Company in 1905. Of course, a tower was planned for the top of the building but it was never constructed. Northern Trust was founded in 1889 by Byron Laflin Smith in a one-room office in the Rookery Building, planning to cater to Chicago's elite. Smith provided 40% of the bank's original capitalization of \$1 million himself, while financial heavy hitters such as Marshall Field, Martin A. Ryerson, and Philip D. Armour were among the original 27 shareholders.

TURN LEFT ON MONROE STREET.

31. Chase Tower 10 South Dearborn Street



At 850 feet this is the tallest building inside the Chicago Loop elevated tracks, the official geographic boundary for the mythic "Loop." It is the tenth tallest tower in Chicago. Completed in 1969 the Chase Tower rises from a sunken concrete Plaza that was the site of the First National Bank of Chicago, chartered in 1863 and located here since 1896. The tower's distinctive curving northern and southern flanks serve a practical purpose - they provided needed retail banking space down low without sacrificing prestigious upper office space. Fans of National Public Radio will recognize Chase's Auditorium as the taping location for the weekly news panel game *Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!*

32. Inland Steel Building **30 West Monroe Street**



The Great Depression slammed the brakes on development in Chicago and this was the first skyscraper to be constructed in the Loop in twenty years when it was started in 1956. Designed by Bruce Graham and Walter Netsch of the Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, the 332-foot tower is considered a landmark of modern architecture. The placement of all structural columns on the building's perimeter—and the consolidation of elevators and other service functions in a separate tower—allowed for a highly flexible interior floor layout with no interior columns. The brushed stainless steel skin speaks to the original owner, Inland Steel Company, founded in 1893 and a specialist in manufacturing cold-rolled steel for motor vehicles. Inland Steel was acquired by international interest in 1997.

33. The Majestic Building **22 West Monroe Street**



The main attraction of this 18-story tower when it opened in 1905 was its large vaudeville theater with seating for 2,000. Edmund R. Krause designed the Renaissance-flavored, four-bay building with richly ornamented white terra cotta.

TURN RIGHT ON STATE STREET AND WALK A FEW STEPS DOWN TO THE SKINNY BUILDING.

34. Singer Building
120 South State Street



Isaac Merritt Singer was born in upstate New York in 1811. He ran away from his parents at age 12 to join a group of traveling actors. Singer remained an actor until he was 24. After that he worked as a machinist and acted on the side. For years his means were small and he despaired of ever inventing anything successful. Sewing machines had been available since 1790 but it was Isaac Singer who created a reliable machine with a straight needle that moved up and down. By the 1900s the Singer Manufacturing Company was synonymous with sewing machines. Singer's retail presence on State Street began here in 1902 and in 1926 this 10-story store/office/warehouse was squeezed into this 25-foot wide lot. Despite the constricting circumstances Elmer C. Jensen was able to make an architectural statement with this Neo-Gothic thread executed in cream-colored terra cotta. Through serendipity this sliver of Chicago's architectural heritage has survived the evolution of State Street around it.

RETRACE YOUR STEPS TO MONROE STREET.

35. The Mentor Building
39 South State Street at Monroe Street



Architect Howard Van Doren Shaw, who was associated with many projects on the Gold Coast, dipped into Chicago's retail hub to design this 17-story tower in 1906 the second Mentor Building to stand here since the Great Chicago Fire. Shaw would remain in practice another 20 years but he never again designed a building as tall as this one.

TURN RIGHT ON MONROE STREET. AT WABASH STREET, TURN LEFT.

36. Silversmith Hotel
10 South Wabash Avenue



As the 19th century tip-toed to a close the dominant Romanesque influence on the streets of major American cities began to wane. Peter J. Weber, a designer in Chicago's leading architecture shop of D.H. Burnham and Company, helped introduce the Arts and Crafts Movement to the town's streetscape with this boutique hotel in 1896. Typically these buildings would feature heights over five stories, rise to a flat roof, display uniform rhythmic window patterns, and abandon projections on the facade. Weber gave the upper floors of the Silversmith Moorish details in red brick and terra cotta and the lower floors a zigzag surround on the windows, typical of the turn-of-the-century European geometrical designs that inspired the Arts and Crafts movement. The new style suited the jewelry and silver trade in what is still called "Jeweler's Row."

TURN LEFT ON MADISON STREET.

37. Chicago Building
7 West Madison Street at State Street



The intersection of Madison and State streets is the 0-0 degree point of the city, from which all addresses north and south and east and west, begin. Over-stimulated civic boosters once called it the "World's Busiest Corner." In 1939, a government survey showed 265,376 pedestrians and 24,898 autos poured through it in a 12-hour period. Things have quieted greatly in the intervening years as retailers have shuttered and shoppers migrated to the suburbs and tonier districts in the city.

This tower from 1904 was the creation of Holabird & Roche and is an early example of the Chicago school of architecture, sporting large "Chicago windows," metal frame construction, distinctive bays, and terra cotta cladding. In 1997, the 16-story skyscraper was converted to a dormitory for the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

**38. Carson, Pirie, Scott and Company Building (Sullivan Center)
33 South State Street at Madison Street**



This was the last major commercial work by the influential architect Louis Henri Sullivan, an exemplary model of his decree that form follows function. An iron and steel framework supports the building that was designed in 1899 as a nine-story building but grew an additional three stories and down the block as well. In between the windows are lavish bands of light-colored terra cotta. The bronze-plated ornamental work above the rounded corner and the terra cotta were selected to be fire-resistant. Look up to see the cast iron ornamentation which adorns the first two floors; the horizontal effect, created by the alignment of the large “Chicago windows;” and the cylindrical main entry rotunda which rounds the corner of State and Madison Streets. The ironwork represents some of the most famous art of its kind in the world and best illustrates Sullivan’s ability to transform iron into lace. The building, now a National Historic Landmark and restored early this century, was built for dry goods merchant Schlesinger-Mayer who sold out to Carson Pirie Scott in 1904.

**39. Sears on State
2 North State Street**



The most famous building associated with the one-time retail king was the Sear Tower but its flagship store was located on State Street at Van Buren from 1932 to 1986. After almost 20 years, Sears returned to State Street in this renovated 1905 building, designed by Holabird & Roche. It was built for another legendary retailer, the Boston Store. Charles Netcher opened his store in 1873 and famously slept on showcase countertops as he built his emporium. Along the way he spied a hard-working buyer in the underwear department named Mollie Alpiner and married her in 1891. After Netcher died in 1905 Mollie took the reigns, constructed this building and parlayed the Boston Store from a \$3 million moneymaker into a \$20 million fortune as she ran the business for 42 years. The colonnade at the top of the building is a souvenir from the Netchers early days in retailing - as the building expanded it got pushed continually upwards.

TURN RIGHT ON STATE STREET.

40. The Reliance Building 32 North State Street



This groundbreaking skyscraper is the first in the world in which most of its surface area is composed mostly of plate glass windows. Legendary architect John Wellborn Root began construction of the building in 1890 but he died of pneumonia when only the base was finished. Charles B. Atwood, who designed several buildings for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, finished the building. The building did not age well and staggered to its recognition as a National Historic Landmark in 1970 by the National Park Service. The former retail space finally received a \$27 million rehabilitation in 1999.

41. Marshall Field and Company (Macy's On State) 111 North State Street



Of all the merchant princes of the 19th century, none was richer than Marshall Field; when he died in 1906 he was said to have been the largest taxpayer in the United States. Field traveled west from the hills of Massachusetts in 1856 to become a clerk in the largest wholesale drygoods house in Chicago. Field's salary was \$400 a year. He slept on the premises and saved \$200. He became a partner by 1860 at the age of 245 and made enough money supplying Union troops during the Civil War to buy into the business of Potter Palmer at 137 Lake Street, the town's leading retailer.

Palmer soon concluded that his present Lake Street location did not hold as much promise as a State Street address. State Street was little more than a muddy ribbon flowing through rows of dilapidated shacks but Potter quietly acquired all the property on State Street. He built a street 100 feet in width, erected a 6-story building and opened his doors. State Street was on its way to becoming one of the great shopping streets in the world. Field and his partner Levi Leiter leased the new building. This building, designed by Charles B. Atwood in a Renaissance Revival style, came along in 1892. Or at least the beginnings of this building. Over time Marshall Field's swallowed

the entire block and the retailing giant grew out and up. A street level facade attempts to unify the conglomeration but if you look up you can discern the antecedents of today's building. For a time after 1907 it was the largest department store in the world. Marshall Field and Company was sold out of existence in 1982, beginning a chain of new ownership that culminated in Federated Department Stores taking over in 2005. Federated did the unthinkable, jettisoning the Marshall Field nameplate in favor of its New York Macy's brands. Some outraged Chicago shoppers still haven't been back and vowed never to meet under the iconic clock on State Street again.

TURN LEFT ON WASHINGTON STREET.

42. First Methodist Episcopal Church 77 West Washington Street



This is the oldest church in Chicago, founded by Methodist circuit riders in 1831, six years before the City of Chicago was incorporated. The first church was a log cabin sited north of the Chicago River in 1834. Four years later it was hauled to the river, floated across and rolled on logs to its present site at the corner of Washington and Clark streets. Four buildings later the congregation is still there. The present 568-foot skyscraper, faced in Indiana limestone, was dedicated in 1928. In 1952 a sky chapel donated by the Walgreen's Drug family came online.

43. The Burnham Center 111 West Washington at Clark Street



This was the last skyscraper to come out of Daniel Burnham's influential shop, in 1913, constructed for Marshall Field and named for the developer's hometown of Conway, Massachusetts. Today the building carries the architect's name rather than the financier's. The massive 21-story office building rests on concrete caissons which are sunk 100 feet to bedrock. The outside facing being granite terra cotta and enameled brick. Sixteen electric passenger elevators provided the fastest and most efficient service of the day to the upper floors. Lead designer Peirce Anderson is credited with many of the Beaux Arts decoration of the 300-foot skyscraper marked by rounded corners.

TURN RIGHT ON CLARK STREET.

44. Richard J. Daley Center

55 West Randolph Street between Clark and Dearborn streets



This was the Chicago Civic Center when the International Style tower was completed as the town's tallest building. A week after his death in 1976 the building was renamed for 21-year mayor and "the last of the big city bosses," Richard J. Daley. Only his son Richard M. Daley, who began in office in 1989, served longer as mayor of Chicago. The 648-foot building features Cor-Ten, a self-weathering steel that is designed to rust, actually strengthening the structure and giving the building its distinctive red and brown color. Daley Center features only 30 floors inside, half the number typically contained in a building of this height; it is the tallest structure in the world with fewer than 40 stories.

The untitled sculpture in the plaza to the south of Daley Center is a gift to the city from Pablo Picasso, even though the artist never visited Chicago. Picasso actually donated a 42-inch model from which U.S. Steel fabricated the 50-foot, 162-ton statue using the same corrosive tensile steel as the Daley Center.

45. Chicago Title Tower

161 North Clark Street at Randolph Street



Tens of thousands of people took their first steps in Chicago here when this was the site of the Greyhound Bus Terminal. In 1990, this 50-story granite-and-glass tower skyscraper on the site; its defining feature is an east-facing slant at its top. It was supposed to be part of tower tandem but its northern partner was never built.

TURN RIGHT ON RANDOLPH STREET. TURN LEFT ON DEARBORN STREET.

46. Goodman Theater
170 North Dearborn Street



William Owen Goodman migrated to Chicago from Pennsylvania in 1868 at the age of 20 and found work as a bookkeeper for the Menominee River Lumber Company. As he worked began investing in his own timberlands and built one of the great lumber fortunes of the Midwest. In 1914 Shaw created this Neoclassical-Georgian Revival brick mansion for the Goodman family. Four years later the Great Flu Pandemic of 1918 claimed Goodman's son Kenneth Sawyer, a playwright, and he donated \$250,000 to the Art Institute of Chicago to establish a professional repertory company and a school of drama in his memory. Chicago-born Howard Van Doren Shaw designed the original Goodman Theatre that opened in 1925. The new building next door opened in 2000, named the Albert and the Owen, after two members of the Goodman family who continue to be major donors.

47. Delaware Building
36 West Randolph Street at Dearborn Street



The Delaware Building stands as a rare relic of the massive rebuilding effort that swept the city after the 1871 Great Chicago Fire. Still retaining its Italiante facade, it is significant for its early use of a precast concrete façade. The building was constructed with five floors above a basement; two additional stories came along in 1889.

48. Oliver Building
159 North Dearborn Street



Thomas Oliver was a Canadian who migrated to Iowa to serve as a Methodist minister. Seeking a way to produce more legible sermons, Oliver began tinkering with a version of a typewriter fashioned from strips of tin cans. In 1891 he received a patent for his typewriter. Four years later Oliver rounded up enough investors to walk away from his ministry at the age of 42 and begin making the world's first typewriters where the text was visible to the typist as it was entered. In 1908 the Oliver Typewriting Company moved into this building designed by Holabird & Roche that typified the principles of the Chicago School of architecture then coming into vogue. Look up into the cast iron exterior features typewriter-related motifs and the Oliver name. Thomas Oliver died unexpectedly in 1909 and the company went bankrupt in 1928. The license to manufacture the machines was purchased and Oliver typewriters continued to be manufactured until 1959.

TURN RIGHT ON LAKE STREET. TURN RIGHT ON STATE STREET.

49. Chicago State Street Studio
190 North State Street



This building began life as the State-Lake Theater back in 1919, a treasure in the RKO chain of movie houses designed by the Rapp brothers. In the mid-1980s, the building was converted into a television studio for WLS, the Chicago outlet of the American Broadcasting Company. WLS-TV and WLS-Radio were owned by Sears Roebuck and Company and the call letters stand for "World's Largest Store."

50. Page Brothers Building
177-91 North State Street in the Loop



Cast iron became a popular building material in the middle of the 19th century, a quick and affordable way to erect commercial buildings. The iron was easily fashioned into decorative facades, often in an Italianate style. The building was constructed for the Page Brothers by John M. Van Osdel in 1872. Osdel, then 61 years old, was considered Chicago's first prominent architect. Osdel placed the cast-iron faced, the last remaining in the Loop, on the Lake Street elevation, which was the town's prime retail street at the time. The building's west facade (State Street) was remodeled and another floor added in 1902, reflecting the reorientation of commercial activity from Lake to State Street.

51. Chicago Theater
175 North State Street



This was the flagship theater in the Balaban and Katz chain of over 100 movie houses. More than four million dollars was poured into its construction in 1921 with the brother tandem of Cornelius and George Rapp creating a French Baroque palace that could seat nearly 4,000 patrons. Accompanying the silent films was a 50-piece orchestra and 29-rank Wurlitzer organ. During its 40 years of operation the marquee became an instantly recognized emblem of the city in photographs and movies. The Y-shaped figure behind the horizontal word Chicago on the State Street marquee is the city's municipal badge, symbolizing the forked Chicago River at Wolf Point. The current marquee, part of a multi-million revitalization of the theater, is a reproduction - the original was donated to the Smithsonian Institution.

52. Gene Siskel Film Center
164 North State Street



The Film Center of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago began in 1972 as a way to premier new American and foreign films, revive classics, present retrospectives, and stage festivals of international scope. With over 100 programs each month it is one of the world's largest venues of its kind. In 2001 it was named for film critic and Advisory Board member Gene Siskel.

53. Joffrey Tower
8 East Randolph Street at State Street



Robert Joffrey, then 23 years old, formed his modern ballet company in 1954 and toured the country with a six-dancer ensemble in a station wagon and U-Haul trailer. The Joffrey Ballet relocated to Chicago in 1995, several years after the founder's death in 1988. This is their first permanent home, raised in 2007 on the site of the flagship Walgreen's Drug store.

AT RANDOLPH STREET TURN RIGHT AND WALK A FEW STEPS DOWN TO SEE...

54. The Oriental Theater
24 West Randolph Street



The consortium of A. J. Balaban, Barney Balaban, Sam Katz, and Morris Katz organized in 1916 and operated over 100 theaters in the Midwest, including some 50 in the Chicago area and a half-dozen in the Loop itself. Balaban and Katz often used the celebrated Rapp brothers to design their

theaters and the duo provided an exotic Indian motif for the Oriental in 1926. The site was historic and infamous - in 1906 a fire swept through the Iroquois Theater here, claiming 602 lives. The exterior remained intact and it was used to rebuild as the Colonial but the building was finally razed to make way for the Oriental. The theater followed a familiar arc as it declined from its heyday as a movie palace into exploitation films in the 1970s and then vacancy. But it was one of the lucky ones - it escaped the wrecking ball and has been restored. It was reported that it required 4,000 gallons of paint, 12,500 square feet of gold leaf, and an astounding 62,500 square feet of aluminum leaf to complete the project.

TURN AND RETRACE YOUR STEPS ON RANDOLPH STREET TOWARDS STATE STREET. CONTINUE ACROSS, PAST MARSHALL FIELD'S (MACY'S), UNTIL YOU REACH MICHIGAN AVENUE. CROSS TO RE-ENTER GRANT PARK AND THE START OF THE TOUR.

A Walking Tour of Chicago: The South Loop

from walkthetown.com

The Loop, defined by the Chicago River to the west and north, Roosevelt Road to the south and, of course, Lake Michigan to the east, is the city's commercial hub (roughly only 16,000 of Chicago's nearly three million residents live here). It is the second largest central business district in the country, housing the world's biggest commodities market.

The Loop initially took its name from the circuitous route 19th century streetcars took but later became defined by the elevated train tracks that lead here from every part of the city. Business-wise, the South Loop came to be known as Printing House Row where printers and publishers set up their presses and constructed utilitarian warehouses and office buildings. The southern part of the city was the first refuge of Chicago's wealthiest business barons but the push northward across the Chicago River began in the late 19th century and the South Loop became known for brothels, bars, burlesque theaters and cheap residential hotels.

Today some of those buildings have been reclaimed as residential lofts, many owned by the South Loop's four colleges: Roosevelt University, Columbia College, Robert Morris University Illinois, and DePaul University. Our walking tour of the heart of the South Loop will dip into these heritage structures but we will start in a treasured open space whose lakefront existence can be attributed to a single man...



1. Grant Park



Original plans drawn for Chicago called for the area between Michigan Avenue and Lake Michigan to remain undeveloped; in 1844 the town officially designated its “front yard” as Lake Park. In 1901 it would be renamed for Illinois native, triumphant Civil War general and 18th President of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant. By that time legal restrictions on building in the park were being routinely ignored and mail order pioneer Aaron Montgomery Ward personally financed four expensive court battles to rid Grant Park of its buildings and prevent the construction of new ones. The last twenty years of his life were spent preserving the Chicago waterfront as a park for the people. He spent over \$200,000 of his own monies to defending the public’s right to open space. Ward’s long-time efforts to prevent the erection of buildings along Lake Michigan won him the title of “The Watch Dog of the Lake Front.” At one time there were 46 building projects planned in the park and he fought them all successfully, losing many influential friends along the way. Finally, just before his death in 1913 he won his final legal battle to forever keep the waterfront, as a sign posted here once stated: “Public ground. Forever to remain vacant of buildings.” The Chicago Tribune, no friend of Montgomery Ward, wrote, “We know now that Mr. Ward was right, was farsighted, was public spirited. That he was unjustly criticized as a selfish obstructionist or as a fanatic. Before he died, it is pleasant to think, Mr. Ward knew that the community had swung round to his side and was grateful for the service he had performed in spite of misunderstanding and injustice.”

START THE TOUR WHERE CONGRESS PARKWAY RUNS INTO GRANT PARK.

2. Congress Plaza Grant Park at Congress Avenue



In Daniel’s Burnham and Edward H. Bennett’s 1908 Plan of Chicago they envisioned this as the city’s front door with a magnificent staircase and bodacious plaza leading to the Buckingham Fountain and beyond that the Field Museum of Natural History. When Montgomery Ward successfully got buildings banned from Grant Park, the museum slid to the south, crippling the vision. The plan crumbled completely in the 1950s when the stairway was demolished to make

room for the lakeside highways. The two statues standing here are the Bowman and the Spearman by Ivan Mestrovic; the works date to 1928.

TURN LEFT AND WALK THROUGH CONGRESS PLAZA. CONTINUE UNTIL YOU REACH...

3. Buckingham Fountain Congress Parkway and Columbus Drive



The Buckingham family was instrumental in building southeastern Ohio around Zanesville in the early 1800s. Ebenezer Buckingham then brought his family to Chicago in the 1850s and became involved in grain and railroads. Son Clarence used lessons learned in the family business to build a fortune in banking and the Northwestern Elevated railroad company. Buckingham was an art enthusiast who took a stint as director of the Art Institute and much of his money, which continued to be dispersed by his sister Kate after his death in 1913, went to building the collection. Kate also put aside a million dollars for this fountain that was modeled after the Latonia fountain of Versailles, France. Edward H. Bennett designed the fountain in Georgia pink marble with four sea horses to symbolize the states that border Lake Michigan. The water jets, currently 193 of them, for one of the largest fountains in the world were turned on for the first time in 1927. Buckingham Fountain is the eastern terminus of America's most famous highway, Route 66, the Mother Road - 2,451 miles later it ends at the Santa Monica Pier of the Pacific Ocean.

TURN AND WALK BACK TO MICHIGAN AVENUE. TURN LEFT AND STAY ON THE GRANT PARK SIDE OF THE STREET FOR THE BEST VIEWS. WALK SOUTH WITH LAKE MICHIGAN ON YOUR LEFT.

4. The Congress Hotel
520 South Michigan Avenue at Congress Avenue



Clinton J. Warren carved a reputation in Chicago in a four-year span from 1889 to 1893 when he designed the Congress Hotel, the Leander McCormick Apartments, the Metropole Hotel, the Plaza Hotel, and the Lexington Hotel. Only the Congress still stands. The larger Annex to the south came along in 1958.

5. Harvester Building
600 South Michigan Avenue



Christian A. Eckstorm began his architectural life in the shop of Henry Ives Cobb, who designed a litany of important Chicago civic buildings in the final years of the 19th century. Eckstorm carved a niche for himself by bringing classic design sensibilities to warehouses and industrial buildings. He created this heritage skyscraper in 1907 using classical Bedford limestone detailing to set off the 15-story brick tower. It was constructed as the headquarters for the International Harvester Company. In 1975 the property was acquired by Columbia College Chicago, the largest landowner in the South Loop, and now does duty as their main administration building.

6. Blackstone Hotel
636 South Michigan Street



One of Chicago's most storied hotels, the Blackstone was named for Timothy Bleach Blackstone although he had nothing to do with the project. Blackstone came west from Connecticut after

helping construct railroads in New England and made a fortune developing lines around Chicago. He became one of the major players in developing the Union Stock Yards into the biggest meat processing facility in the world. This was the location of the business scion's mansion and after he died in 1900 it was developed by John and Tracy Drake, sons of a former business partner of Blackstone, hotelier John Drake. Architect Benjamin Marshall blended elements of the Neoclassical and French Second Empire styles and a \$1.5 million to create the mansard-roofed tower that opened in 1910.

The luxury hotel evolved into a political hangout and came to be known as "The Hotel of Presidents." Every United States President from Theodore Roosevelt to Jimmy Carter signed the guest register here. A special room was designed for the Chief Executive that was separated from the main hotel by hollowed out walls in which the Secret Service could operate. In 1920 when a deal to nominate Warren G. Harding was hammered out by Republican operatives in the Blackstone it was reported that the delegates had emerged from "a smoke filled room." The phrase is now the standard to describe any political decision hashed out away from public eyes. By 2000 the Blackstone was crumbling inside and out. More than \$100 million was poured into a restoration and only two original guest rooms survived intact - the ninth floor "smoke-filled room" and the tenth-floor presidential suite.

7. The Stevens Hotel (Hilton Chicago) **720 South Michigan Avenue**



This was the largest hotel in the world when it opened in 1927 with 3,000 guest rooms in the segmented towers of the Beaux Arts complex. Developer James Stevens made his money with the Illinois Life Insurance Company but his timing was bad here. The Great Depression two years later sunk the Stevens family and the grand hotel, like four out of every five American hotels in the 1930s, went bankrupt. In 1942 the U.S Army purchased the property for \$6 million (Stevens had spent \$30 to build it) for use as barracks and classrooms for the Army Air Force during WWII. The Stevens housed over 10,000 air cadets during this time, who utilized the Grand Ballroom as their mess hall. Hotel mogul Conrad Hilton rescued the Stevens in 1945 and turned it into his Chicago flagship; in 1984 when renovations were required, \$185 million was spent on the facelift - the most money ever spent on a hotel makeover.

8. Crane Company Building
836 South Michigan Avenue



Richard Teller Crane left New Jersey at the age of 23 in 1855 for Chicago where his uncle Martin Ryerson was an influential lumber baron. It wasn't wood but brass where Crane would make his fortune, however. In time the Crane name would be recognized in bathrooms across the country but the business began with pipe and steam-heatign equipment in large public buildings. When skyscrapers began rising on every corner of the Loop the pipes used were most often Crane Company pipes. Richard T. Crane's own classically-inspired skyscraper came courtesy of high-rise masters Holabird & Roche, although the founder died before it was completed in 1913. Several rungs down Richard Crane's family tree is his great-great grandson, Chevy Chase.

9. Columbia College Chicago Music Center
1016 South Michigan Avenue



This Parisian-flavored red brick and terra cotta building has held this corner since it was constructed in 1912 by Christian A. Eckstorm. Developed as a speculative commercial property, its first decades saw a shingle distributor, a lumber company and an electrical parts manufacturer pass through. In 1941, the building was rehabilitated for the Sherwood Conservatory of Music, founded in 1895 by William H. Sherwood, a piano virtuoso, teacher and composer. Since 1997 the music department of the Columbia College Chicago has resided here.

TURN LEFT AT 11TH STREET AND FOLLOW THE PATH BACK INTO GRANT PARK.

10. Montgomery Ward Bust **Grant Park Path opposite 11th Street**



The plaque reads “Grant Park is his legacy to the city he loved... his gift to the future.” This bust recognizes the work done by Montgomery Ward in preserving this open space. Carved by Russian-American sculptor Milton Horn, it is a scaled-down version of Ward’s bust at the Merchandise Mart Hall of Fame of important Chicago businessmen.

11. Illinois Central Yards **Grant Park**



The Illinois Central was officially chartered by the Illinois General Assembly on February 10, 1851 with two of its backers being Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln. Its first tracks here were actually laid on a causeway offshore in Lake Michigan in the days before landfill brought the line inland. The first stretch of rail from Cairo at the southern tip of the state to Galena in the northwest corner was the longest railroad in the world when the first trains chugged along in 1856. Eventually the Illinois Central evolved into the main road from New Orleans to Chicago.

In 1893, in anticipation of the World’s Columbian Exposition, the Illinois Central Railroad constructed one of the most impressive Victorian buildings Chicago ever saw here. New York architect Bradford Gilbert created a grand Romanesque structure around a 225-foot high clock tower. The 600-foot train shed was an engineering marvel that would handle 19 long-distance passenger trains in the heyday of train travel. Passengers waited for legendary trains such as the Panama Limited and the City of New Orleans in a luxurious three-story marble waiting room looking out on Lake Michigan.

The last passenger station pulled out from Central Station at 6:30 p.m. on March 5, 1972. By that time Chicagoans were more enamored of their views of Lake Michigan than Victorian anachronisms, no matter how grand, and the depot was soon reduced to a gravel parking lot.

FOLLOW THE PATH INTO MUSEUM CAMPUS, CROSSING COLUMBUS DRIVE AND LAKE SHORE DRIVE. WHEN YOU EMERGE FROM THE TUNNEL, BEAR LEFT.

**12. Shedd Aquarium
1200 South Lake Shore Drive**



John Graves Shedd left his family's New Hampshire farm for Chicago in 1871 at the age of 21 to work as a stock clerk for Marshall Field. When Field died in 1906, Shedd became the second president of the largest wholesale and dry goods company in the world. As Shedd's career wound down in the 1920s he provided three million dollars to build an aquarium as a complement to the Field Museum. Shedd's plans were audacious. Not only was the aquarium planned as the world's largest but it was going to be a saltwater aquarium a thousand miles from the sea.

The commission for the building went to Graham, Anderson, Probst and White, the largest architectural firm under one roof in the country with a lengthy resume of iconic Chicago landmarks. The firm delivered a trademark Beaux-Arts inspired design executed around a central octagonal aquarium. More than one million gallons of saltwater were transported from Key West, Florida to Chicago to fill the exhibits for a May 30, 1930 opening. It took 20 specially made railroad tank cars eight round trips to create an artificial ocean environment in Chicago. Today the Shedd Aquarium attracts more than two million visitors; one who never saw it was John Shedd who died before construction was completed.

FOLLOW LAKESHORE TRAIL AROUND THE BACK OF THE AQUARIUM. WHEN YOU REACH SOLIDARITY DRIVE, TURN LEFT.

**13. Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum
1300 South Lake Shore Drive**



Max Adler began his working life as a concert violinist before marrying the sister of Julius Rosenfeld, president of Sears Roebuck & Company. Adler became a vice-president of the retail

giant and retired in 1928 to start giving his money away. The planetarium he funded was the first in the Western Hemisphere when it opened in 1930. For its design, architect Ernest A. Grunsfeld, Jr. was awarded the gold medal of the Chicago chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

FOLLOW SOLIDARITY DRIVE BACK AND FOLLOW AS IT BEARS LEFT AND THEN TURN RIGHT, HEADING BACK TOWARDS THE CITY. ON YOUR LEFT IS...

14. Soldier Field 1410 South Museum Campus Drive



In the 1920s this municipal stadium was constructed with a configuration capable of seating more than 100,000 spectators and became an icon during the “Golden Age of Sports.” Architectural firm Holibird and Roche won an architectural competition to build the stadium and designed the arena in a classical tradition with Doric columns rising above the stands. Intended as a memorial to American soldiers who had died in wars during the previous 150 years, the stadium opened in 1924 as Municipal Grant Park Stadium but was renamed a year later as Soldier Field.

For much of its early life Soldier Field was the venue of choice for big college and high school football games, boxing matches, and special events. It also hosted rodeos, stock car races and even a skiing/toboggan event. The Chicago Bears, who today are most associated with Soldier Field, did not make this their home facility until 1971, playing mostly at Wrigley Field until then. To up the comfort level for the Bears the plank boards fans had sat on for 50 years were replaced by seats in and capacity was sliced into the 57,000-range. In 2003 Soldier Field underwent a 20-month modernization with an entire new stadium bowl constructed inside the familiar Greek colonnade. As a result, Soldier Field lost its designation as a National Historic Landmark.

ON YOUR RIGHT, ACROSS FROM SOLDIER FIELD IS...

15. Field Museum of Natural History
1400 South Lake Shore Drive



Today the steward of over 21,000,000 specimens, the Field Museum of Natural History began as the Columbian Museum of Chicago at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. In 1905 the collection picked up the name of retailer Marshall Field who was the museum's first major benefactor. In 1921 the museum relocated here into one of the world's largest museum buildings, so large that the Neoclassical temple has never needed to be expanded.

AT THE END OF THE ROAD, TURN RIGHT AND MOVE ALONG THE FIELD MUSEUM TO YOUR RIGHT.

16. *Brachiosaurus*
northwest corner of Field Museum



Elmer Samuel Riggs, a paleontologist working under the auspices of the Field Museum, unearthed the first known skeleton of a giant sauropod dinosaur that came to be familiarly known as the Brachiosaurus on the high mesas of Colorado in 1900. The original specimens were not seen until 1994 when a skeletal mount was constructed inside the museum's main Stanley Field Hall. A few years later a second bronze cast was constructed here.

CONTINUE DOWN THE SHORT HILL. AT THE TUNNEL ON YOUR LEFT, RE-ENTER AND WHEN YOU REACH A SIGN POINT TOWARDS ROOSEVELT ROAD, FOLLOW THE PATH TO THE LEFT.

17. Christopher Columbus Monument
Grant Park opposite Roosevelt Road



Christopher Columbus never made it to the American mainland but this likeness of the Genoese explorer made it to Chicago in time for the city's centennial anniversary in 1933 and the Century of Progress World's Fair. The monument is sited at the location of the fair. Italian born and trained sculptor Carl Brioschi, who settled in Minnesota, created the bronze Beaux Arts depiction of Columbus scanning the horizon with map in hand. The Art Deco pedestal is adorned with a passel of symbolic images including Columbus' flagship, the Santa Maria, the city seal of Genoa, a nod to Amerigo Vespucci for whom America' was named and allegorical busts representing Faith, Courage, Freedom, and Strength.

CONTINUE TO ROOSEVELT ROAD.

18. The Columbian
1160 South Michigan Avenue at Roosevelt Road



This 517-foot residential skyscraper from 2008 is the tallest brick-clad building, and 76th tallest building, in Chicago.

CROSS MICHIGAN AVENUE AND WALK ONE BLOCK TO WABASH AVENUE.

19. The Union Bus Depot
1157 South Wabash Avenue at Roosevelt Road



David Saul Klafter designed this two-story, white terra cotta building as a station for Greyhound Lines and other inter-city bus lines in 1928. The terra cotta not only looked good but it was easy to clean the soot from exhaust fumes. The second floor was used as Greyhound's Chicago office headquarters as the line grew to become the nation's dominant bus company. Greyhound moved into a modern terminal in 1953 and by the 1970s the depot was abandoned. It dodged the wrecking ball, however, and has recently been redeveloped for retail use.

20. The Hotel Somerset
1152 South Wabash Avenue at Roosevelt Road



This was prime guest house real estate when the Hotel Somerset opened in 1893 to greet visitors to the Chicago Columbian Exposition. One block away was the Illinois Central Railroad Station and the South Side elevated train ran right past the front door. Architect Jules De Horvath designed the Romanesque brick building with curved bay windows to catch the breezes off Lake Michigan. The hotel's fortunes withered with the decline of the South Loop and under the moniker Hotel Roosevelt it deteriorated into a transient hotel. A place on the National Register of Historic Places helped trigger a renovation of the Roosevelt in recent years.

TURN RIGHT ON WABASH STREET.

21. Ludington Building
1104 South Wabash Avenue



Skyscraper pioneer William Le Baron Jenney made this the first high-rise clad entirely in terra cotta when it was constructed in 1891. At the time this was the heart of “Printing House Row” when Chicago was the national center for the publishing industry. This eight-story building was built for the American Book Company to house its offices, printing presses, packaging and shipping operations. The Ludington Building has been owned by the Columbia College Chicago since 1999.

22. Fairbanks Lofts
900 Wabash Street (behind parking lot)



Thaddeus Fairbanks began unleashing his inventive mind in St. Johnsbury, Vermont in 1823 when he started an ironworks to manufacture cast iron plow and heating stoves of his own design. But it was his invention of the platform scale that launched one of the great American enterprises. Marine and railway shippers charged by the pound and the platform scale was critical to their operations. As a result the Fairbanks scale became the first truly international product, used even in Imperial China. A Fairbanks employee, Charles Hosmer Morse established the Chicago branch of the company and by the time Christian A. Eckstorm designed this loft building for the Fairbanks-Morse Company in 1907 the company catalog ran to 800 pages and included typewriters, hand trucks, railway velocipedes, pumps, tractors and a variety of warehouse and bulk shipping tools and would come to include diesel engines and locomotives.

23. Buddy Guy's Legends

700 South Wabash Avenue at Balbo Street



Louisiana-born Buddy Guy has shelved six Grammy Awards and a Rock & Roll Hall of Fame statue in his 50 years in the music business and defined the electric Chicago blues scene in the process. The blues club opened in 1989 and Guy performs shows here every January.

Historically, this was the location of the grand Gettysburg Panorama. Before there were motion pictures people came to look at stationary pictures - in this case as 400-foot by 45-foot painting in the round of a scene from the Battle of Gettysburg painted by Parisian artist Paul Philippoteaux. The Gettysburg Panorama opened in a 16-sided polygon building sited here in 1883. Although it cost \$110,000 visitors were so enthralled the seed money was made back within months. In short order another panorama - depicting the Battle of Missionary Ridge at Gettysburg - opened across the street and another one was created on Michigan Avenue for the Battle of Shiloh in 1885. The arrival of moving pictures did indeed end the craze of moving people in front of a still picture, regardless of how dramatic it was painted, and the Gettysburg Panorama shuttered in 1895. The building was razed in 1921 and replaced by a Masonic lodge, into which Buddy Guy's Legends is incorporated.

TURN RIGHT ON BALBO STREET AND WALK A FEW STEPS DOWN.

24. Blackstone Theatre

60 East Balbo Drive



The Blackstone Theatre was created at the same time as the iconic hotel, also by developers Tracy and John Drake and also designed by the firm of Benjamin Marshall. When it opened in 1910 management claimed the 1,400-seat auditorium in the French Renaissance building could be cleared in three minutes in the event of fire as theater operators were still reeling from a fire that claimed 605 lives in the Iroquois Theatre on Randolph Street in 1903 - the deadliest single-building fire in United States history. A century later, through a multi-cast of owners, the stage is still hosting major productions, currently under the auspices of DePaul University.

RETURN TO WABASH STREET AND TURN RIGHT, CONTINUING NORTH ON WABASH STREET.

**25. Studebaker Building
623 South Wabash Avenue**



This Chicago School heritage skyscraper was built for the Studebaker Brothers of Fort Wayne Indiana in 1895, when the future car company was still making buggies. It was soon acquired by the Brunswick Company which was manufacturing built-in wood furniture for libraries and other government institutions but would become more famous for its pool tables and bowling alleys. The building was designed by Solon S. Beman, best known for his work with the Pullman Palace Car Company, including planning the industrial town of Pullman. Beman apprenticed in the shop of Richard Upjohn, America's foremost cheerleader for the Gothic Revival style and you can see traces of it here on the terra cotta detailing on the vertical piers.

**26. South Side Elevated Line
Congress and Wabash streets**



The world's first elevated railroad ran for a half-mile in New York City in 1868. Chicago's more celebrated elevated railroad was planned in 1888 and began operating on June 6, 1892 in advance of the opening of the 1893 World's Fair in Jackson Park. The first track began here at Congress Street and ran through an alley east of State Street down to 39th Street. The Loop would be constructed in 1897. In 1992, the South Side Elevated, today's Green Line, was closed for modernization after 100 years but some of the original steel pillars are still in place.

AT CONGRESS PARKWAY TURN RIGHT AND RETURN TO GRANT PARK AT MICHIGAN AVENUE AND THE TOUR STARTING POINT.

IDENTIFYING AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE

Recognizing Early American Architecture:

Postmedieval English Colonial (1600-1700)

- * steeply pitched, side-gabled roof
- * small casement windows with many small panes (restored often)
- * massive chimney
- * vertical board (batten) door
- * little or no eave overhang, no cornice detailing
- * one room deep

Dutch Colonial (1625-1840)

- * side-gambreled roof
- * usually one story
- * batten door, most divided into upper and lower halves
- * little or no eave overhang

French Colonial (1700-1830)

- * steeply pitched roof, either hipped or side-gabled
- * one story
- * tall, narrow door and window openings
- * doors and windows typically divided vertically into pairs
- * walls of stucco (over half-timbered frame)

Spanish Colonial (1660-1850)

- * low-pitched or flat roof
- * normally one story
- * few small windows
- * multiple external doors
- * walls very thick in stucco over adobe brick or rubble stone
- * long, narrow porches opening to courtyards

Georgian (1700-1780)

- * windows with double-hung sashes, typically nine or twelve small panes per sash; windows are never in adjacent pairs
- * paneled door, normally with decorative crown (most often pedimented but at times broken-pedimented) and supported by decorative pilasters
- * row of small rectangular panes beneath door crown
- * cornice usually emphasized with tooth-like dentils or other decorative molding
- * windows typically five-ranked and symmetrically balanced with center door; less commonly three-ranked or seven-ranked

Adamesque (Federal) (1780-1820)

- * windows with double-hung sashes, typically six small panes per sash; windows are never in adjacent pairs
- * semi-circular or elliptical fanlight over paneled door, typically accompanied by sidelights, elaborated crown and surround, and/or extended as small entry porch
- * cornice usually emphasized with tooth-like dentils or other decorative molding
- * windows typically five-ranked and symmetrically balanced with center door; less commonly three-ranked or seven-ranked
- * while similar to Georgian, features are often “lighter”

Greek Revival (1825-1860)

- * gabled or hipped roof of low pitch
- * entry porch or full-width porch supported by square or round, prominent columns
 - Doric: plain capitals
 - Ionic: capitals with scroll-like spirals
 - Corinthian: capitals shaped like inverted bells decorated with leaves
- * narrow line of transom and sidelights around door, usually incorporated into elaborate door surround
- * cornice lines emphasized with wide, divided band of trim

Recognizing Victorian Architecture:

General Victorian Features (1840-1910)

- * roof ornaments
- * bay (protruding) windows
- * three-part Palladian (rounded in middle) windows
- * gingerbread porch trim

Gothic Revival Style (1835-1875)

- * high-pitched center gables
- * pointed arch windows and doors
- * pendants and finials extending from roof

Italianate Style (1840-1885)

- * brackets under roof cornices
- * cupolas on the roof
- * narrow, square porch posts with chamfered corners
- * tall, slender windows

Second Empire Style (1855-1885)

- * mansard roof, concave or convex, with dormer windows on steep lower slope
- * molded cornices bound lower roof slope above and below
- * eaves normally with decorative brackets below

Stick Style (1860-1890)

- * stick-like bracketing on porches, often diagonal or curving
- * stick-like grid on wall surfaces
- * Jerkin-Head (cut-off triangular) roofs and dormers
- * pent (or shed) roofs on dormers, porches and bays
- * decorative trusses in gables; often steeply pitched gables
- * wooden wall cladding (boards or shingles)

Queen Anne Style (1880-1910)

- * asymmetrical facade
- * patterned shingles
- * turned porch posts and trim
- * corner towers and turrets
- * wraparound porch
- * steeply pitched, irregular roofline

Shingle Style (1880-1900)

- * shingled walls without interruption at corners
- * multi-level eaves above asymmetrical facade
- * extensive porches
- * walls and roofs covered with continuous wood shingles

Richardsonian Romanesque (1880-1900)

- * based on the innovative designs of Boston architect Henry Hobson Richardson
- * round topped arches over windows, porch supports or entrance
- * most have towers, usually round with conical roofs
- * always masonry walls, usually with rough-faced, squared stonework
- * facade usually asymmetrical
- * elements grouped in sets of three

Recognizing 20th century Architecture:

Colonial Revival (1885 and beyond)

- * accentuated front door with fanlights and sidelights
- * symmetrical facade around centered entrance
- * windows with double-hung sashes
- * large dormers
- * round, smooth porch columns, often clustered

Neoclassical (1895-1950)

- * facade dominated by full-length porch supported by classical columns, typically Ionic or Corinthian
- * facade shows symmetrically balanced windows and center door
- * revivals may have curved porticos, two-story entrances, paired or tripled windows and/or bays not seen on originals
- * often very large

Tudor (1890 -1940)

- * massive chimneys, commonly crowned by decorative chimney pots
- * facade dominated by one or more prominent cross gables, usually steeply pitched
- * decorative half-timbering often present
- * steeply pitched roof, usually side-gabled
- * tall, narrow windows, commonly in multiple groups with multi-pane glazing
- * walls of brick, stone, wood, stucco or in combination

French Chateausque (1890-1930)

- * busy roof line with many vertical elements (spires, pinnacles, turrets, gables, shaped chimneys)
- * steeply pitched hipped roof
- * multiple dormers, usually wall dormers extending through cornice line
- * walls of masonry, usually stone

Beaux Arts (1890-1930)

- * wall surfaces with decorative garlands, floral patterns or shields
- * masonry walls, usually of light-colored stone
- * facade with corner quoins and columns, oftne paired with Ionic or Corinthian capitals
- * first story typically rusticated (stonework) with exaggerated joints
- * facade symmetrical

Spanish Mission Style (1890-1930)

- * shaped Mission dormer or roof parapet
- * porch roofs supported by large square piers, commonly arched above
- * commonly with red tile roof covering
- * widely overhanging eaves, usually open
- * wall surface usually smooth stucco

Pueblo Revival (1910-present)

- * flat roof with parapeted wall above
- * stucco wall surface, usually earth-toned
- * projecting wooden roof beams (vigas)
- * wall and roof parapet with irregular, rounded edges
- * unpainted wood porch columns - maybe just tree trunks
- * tile or brick floors

Prairie Style (1900-1920)

- * low-pitched roof with widely overhanging eaves
- * two stories with one-story porches or wings
- * massive square porch supports
- * detail emphasizing horizontal lines
- * hipped roofs are more common than end or side gables
- * one of few indigenous American styles developed by Chicago architects Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright and built only during first two decades of century

Craftsman (1905-1930)

- * low-pitched gabled roof with wide, unenclosed eave overhang
- * roof rafters usually exposed
- * porches supported by square columns
- * decorative braces or false beams under gables
- * columns frequently continue to ground level without a break at porch level
- * generally one or one-and-a-half stories

Art Deco (1920-1940)

- * zigzags and other geometric and stylized motifs
- * towers and other vertical projections
- * smooth stucco wall surface
- * decorative motifs: geometric floral; chevron with lozenge; reeding and fluting, often around doors and windows; sunrise pattern

Art Moderne (1920-1940)

- * streamline, curved corners
- * smooth stucco wall surface
- * asymmetrical facade
- * flat roof, usually with ledge at roof line
- * horizontal grooves, lines, balustrades
- * windows can turn corners and can be roundly shaped
- * glass-block windows or sections of the wall

International (1925-present)

- * no decorative detailing at doors or windows
- * smooth, unornamental wall surface
- * asymmetrical facade
- * flat roof, usually without ledge at roof line
- * windows usually metal casements set flush with outer walls