

IN THE
ASTOR
HISTORIC
DISTRICT

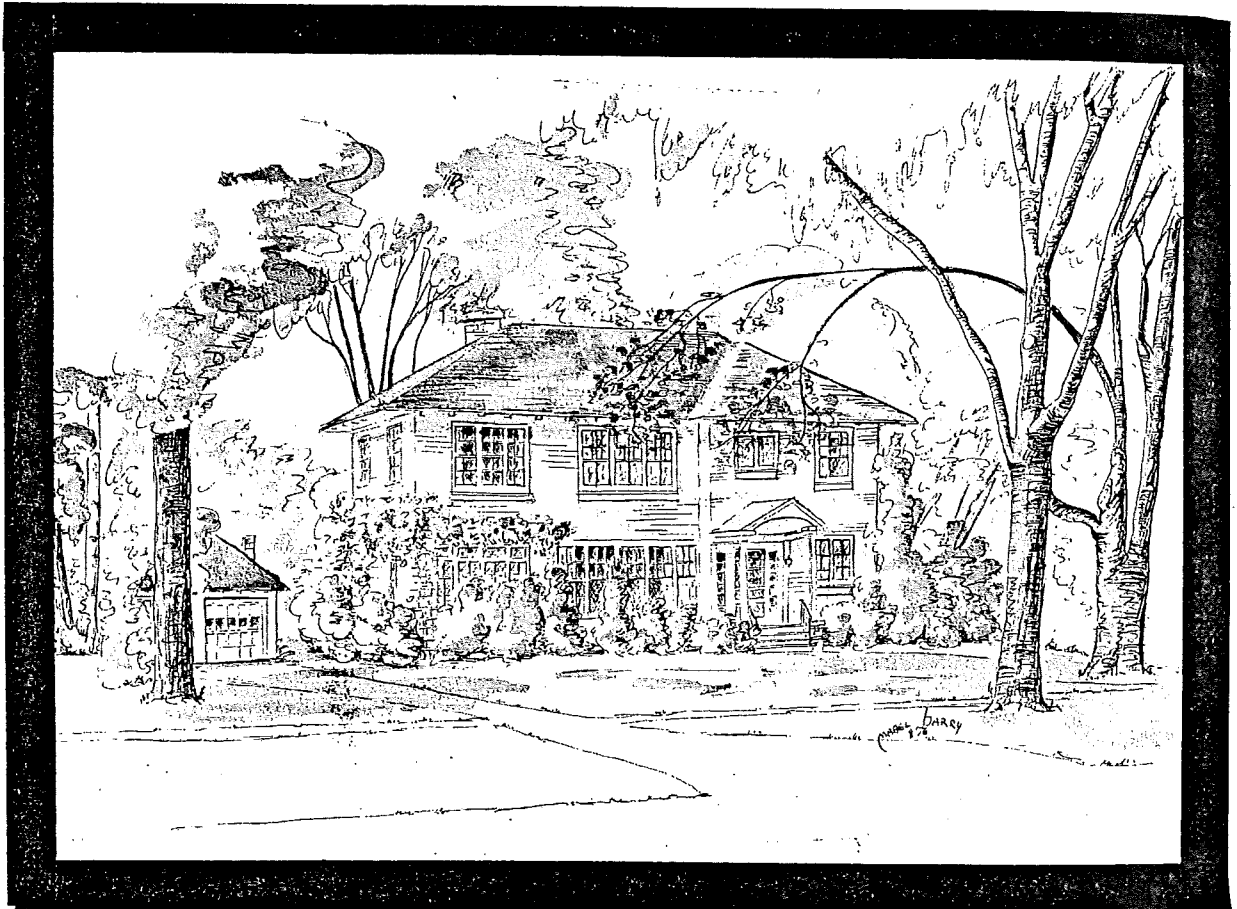
1120 S. Van Buren

GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN



THE ENOS COLBURN RESIDENCE

1120 S. Van Buren Street
Green Bay, Wisconsin



OCCUPANTS

The Enos Colburn Family: 1917-1946

The George Nau Burrige Family: 1946-

Address: 1120 S. Van Buren Street

Legal Description: Lots 3 and 4 of Block 82; Plat of Astor

HISTORY

Owners of the property:

John Lawe. The United States of America Patent, Dec. 21, 1829. Deposited in General Land Office, a certificate No.107 of the Register of the land office at Detroit in the territory of Michigan ...John Lawe was confirmed to his claim to the tract of land containing 212 acres and 17/100 of an acre...being designated on the corrected plat of the private claims at Green Bay as Lot 8 on the East Side of the Fox River.... Vol.205, Deeds 51, Doc. No. 166770

This land foreclosed by J.J. Astor and associates, then platted as the Town of Astor, 1835

Deed in Partition, Jan. 16 1855 allotting and assigning to the Estate of J.J. Astor among other lots 3 and 4 Block 82 which is in the extension of Plat east of Quincy Street. Vol. W, Deed 1

George T. Percy, by quitclaim deed, May 29, 1874. Vol 30, Deed 99

Fred S. Ellis and E.H. Ellis, warranty deed, June 6, 1874. Vol.29, Deed 249

Lydia Munro, July 1880, for \$25.00. Vol 41, Deeds 387

Property sold for taxes in following two transactions:

L. J. Billings, tax deed, Aug. 16, 1881, each lot for \$5.25
Vol. 44, Deeds 285

H. J. Huntington, tax deed, May 16, 1885, each lot for \$3.14
Vol. 49, Deeds 166

George G. Greene, warranty deed, June 8, 1886, for \$150.00
Vol 57, Deeds 559

August Kleinschmidt & Libbie, his wife, May 2, 1892, for \$200.00
Vol. 71, Deeds 200-201

David J. & Julia A. Davidson, warranty deed, May 20, 1896, for \$600.00
Vol. 65, Deeds 286

L. H. Hebel, warranty deed, Sept. 11, 1905, for \$1,100.00
Vol. 97, Deeds 583

Albert & Bertha Giese and Wm. Foerster & Bertha, Feb. 13, 1906
for \$ 1,250.00. Vol. 102, Deeds 534

Laurel A. Quintal, warranty deed, May 11, 1906, for \$1,300.00
Vol. 106. Deeds 197

- * Martha Colburn and Enos, as joint tenants; April 24, 1917. Vol. 139, Deeds 76.
Martha Colburn, Sept. 25, 1921. Warranty deed; Vol. 158, Deeds 7.
George Nau and Eleanor Armstrong Burridge - Jan. 10, 1946 for \$22,000. Warranty deed, Vol. 258, Deeds 303.
George Nau Burridge, Quit Claim Deed - April 3, 1950. Vol. 293, Deeds 418.

Construction of the house:

Owner who built: Enos and Martha Colburn

Architect: Henry A. Foeller

Builder: Henry Selmer of the Selmer Brothers

Plumbing: William Hartman

Date of construction: 1917

It appears that the property was not improved for many years, but was held for speculation beginning with H.J. Huntington in 1885 and continuing down through all the owners until the Colburns. The only owners who held the property for any length of time were the Quintels, from 1906 until 1917.

The Colburns purchased the property in 1917 and constructed the house. Enos Colburn, an owner of a lumber mill, considered this house "a labor of love." He carefully chose the lumber, expecting the highest quality of workmanship.

Changes over the years:

In 1956 a front entrance porch was added, consisting of two pillars and a sheltering roof. The "scroll" protection over the doorway was removed at that time.

Sources of information: Berners, Schober & Kelp, architects.
Mrs. John H. (Colburn) Wilterding

ARCHITECTURE

The house, architecturally, is very eclectic. While it is basically a Georgian Revival, it was built in the transition period of architectural design characterized by the Art Deco period. The influence of the Prairie architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright is also evident in the design of this house, most notably in the wide overhanging eaves and the horizontal bands of windows. The use of leaded windows and the plate glass windows with muntins in a six over one pattern lend an unusual openness to the house; there are over ninety windows in all.

The hipped roof has a wide overhang which is supported by rafter ends, as in the bungalow style. The house rests on a high brick foundation, permitting a series of basement windows and thus making the basement area, which is finished off into four rooms, very liveable. Wide wood siding adds to the dignity of the house, and the horizontal trellis at the height of the first floor of the southeast corner of the house supports a vine cover which adds to the interior comfort of the house on hot summer days.

The facade of the house is asymmetrical, with the entrance set off to one side and contained in a shallow projection as is typical of Georgian design. A portico with free standing columns and a pedimented roof shelter the front door. Originally, there was a decorative narrow oval protrusion over the doorway, but it gave no protection to the entrance, so an adaptation to Wisconsin winters was made by adding the covered portico. The door itself has glass panes, as do the sidelights.

The size of the lots permits a large enclosed garden area in the rear yard, in which the Burridges have a profusion of both perennial and annual flowers which bloom all summer long. This outdoor living area is heavily utilized in the summer months.

Description of the interior:

A feeling of symmetry and simplicity permeate the interior of this house. The ceilings are high, (9' on the first floor; 8' on the second) and the arched doorways and classical Doric window trim add to that sense of classic dignity. An open staircase adds to the feeling of openness in both the small library and parlor on each side of the hall. The favorite room of the Burridges is the sunroom with its Doric columns at the south end of the parlor, paneled in curly birch.

The dining room with wainscot paneling is unusually large in comparison with the other rooms and is connected with a butler's pantry and breakfast area, which then opens into the kitchen. A back stairway serves the more utilitarian portion of the house.

The second floor has a wide hallway which opens to three bedrooms and baths. The master bedroom utilizes a large share of the southeast side of the house; it contains thirteen windows. The spacious third floor has an apartment for the housekeeper and a generous attic for storage. Two separate stairways lead to the basement, which furnishes room for a workroom/indoor gardening area, a large study, a central laundry room and a room devoted to yachting equipment. For a house built in 1917, it is well insulated; comfortable in winter, cool in summer, and conservative in fuel use.

BIOGRAPHIES

The Enos and Martha Colburn Family

Enos Colburn, who was a part of the community of Green Bay all of his adult years was born October 10, 1876 to Marshall Colburn and Ida Mae LeMieux. He was a descendent of the early and prominent D'Amours family of Quebec. As early as 1608 records show a member of this family in the expedition of Champlain. In 1652, Matthieu D'Amours de Chauffour came to Quebec, having been appointed by King Louis XIV to the first King's Council.

Enos Colburn's roots are deep in the early history of LaBaye and Wisconsin. Matthieu's son, Philippe D'Amours Sieur de la Morandiere, became the first commandant of the first French fort at La Baye in 1718. He was succeeded by Jacques Testard Sieur de Montigny in 1721, who married Phillippe's sister, Marguerite D'Amours. In 1726 Louis Matthieu D'Amours was present at the Indian Council held at LaBaye. He also headed a furtrading company in the west, holding leases of the Fort at LaBaye.

In 1852, Francois D'Amour D'Courberon and his family came to DePere. Along the way, this branch of the family discontinued the D'Amour name, and D'Courberon was anglicized to Colburn.

Enos Colburn and Martha Amanda Schrubbe were married at St. Patrick's Church at Stiles, Wisconsin on May 22, 1900. Martha Schrubbe was born in Samico, December 31, 1875, where her father, William Schrubbe, was Office Manager of the Conn Lumber Company, and her mother, Wilhelmina Schrubbe, was the local post mistress.

The Colburn's first home was on South Broadway, Green Bay. This home was not too far distant from the Diamond Match Company, where Enos was employed. Within a few years, they built their first home at 903 Howard Street. It was at this home that Enos Colburn opened his first office as a lumber broker, about in the year 1906. He was in business for himself with a roll-top desk, a wall telephone, and Clara Hanson as his stenographer. The Green Bay & Western Railway crossed Howard Street, not far from the Colburn home. Enos would often travel by this train to conduct his business. Upon returning home, the train would make a special stop at Howard Street.

Within a short time, he moved his office from his home to the McCartney National Bank building on Walnut Street. Here he maintained offices for many years, expanding his dealings to lumber yards in several surrounding towns, as well as developing and operating the American Sash and Door Mills in Green Bay.

By 1915, the family had expanded to include two daughters, Irene and Florence, and one son, Ralph. It seemed desirable to move to a larger house and in 1917 they moved to a new house on Van Buren Street. Except for scattered homes, this area at the southeast boundary of Green Bay was not developed. The street cars ran just beyond Webster Avenue to Allouez. Only a gravel road went on to DePere. Beyond were farms and wooded lands where gypsies could be seen camping in the summertime.

Nothing but the finest of lumber was used in building this house of a lumber dealer; it included oak, walnut, and paneling of curly maple. Leaded glass windows, French doors, large plate glass windows, and sun porches created a living environment which flowed between the indoors and outdoors. A breakfast room had built-in benches and table, and an all white kitchen added to the uncluttered look, which was a definite departure from the Victorian. The wallpapers were hand painted and leather embossed, and the wool chenile rugs which were made to room sizes complemented the woven wool tapestry which covered all of the living room furniture. Other chairs, including the dining room chairs, had seats of woven cane. The bedroom curtains and bedspreads were matched to the wallpapers. Everything was solid and simple, showing the influence of Frank Lloyd Wright's designs which simplified and built in furniture to avoid the "overdone" look of the Victorian.

During the early years, vegetables and flower gardens and fruit trees were maintained and enjoyed.

The dogs were always airdales.. and named Andy

The Colburn children all attended East High School, besides attending special classes at St. Joseph's Academy. All went on to graduate from Lawrence College.

The Colburn years at 1120 S. Van Buren were happy and fulfilling years. Each one became interested in some form of civic, school, and church activities. The history of Green Bay, its surrounding area, and Wisconsin, became of great importance to the family and continues to be the present generation.

Enos Colburn was for many years active as a member, and served as President of the Green Bay Park System. Following his death in 1945, Colburn Park in west Green Bay was named in his memory.

Both Colburn daughters were married in their home. Irene married Mark H. Peacock on August 17, 1925; and Florence married John H. Wilterding on November 6, 1926. Ralph Colburn was married to Ruth Taylor of Racine on February 1, 1936. Eight of the ten Colburn grandchildren had the joy of visiting in their grandparents' home.

In 1946, the home was sold to George Nau Burrige, Martha Colburn moved to a home in Menasha to be near her daughter, Florence Wilterding.

Enos Colburn died November 10, 1945

Martha Schrubbe Colburn died December 2, 1951

Irene Colburn Peacock died June 2, 1971

Ralph Marshall Colburn lives in Decatur, Illinois

Florence Colburn Wilterding lives in Menasha, Wis.

by Florence Colburn Wilterding, September 1, 1980

The Burridge Family

In 1946, George and Eleanor Burridge purchased the Colburn home. Their family consisted of three daughters, Ann, Belle, and Jennifer, and their housekeeper, Vera Krutz.

Both George and Eleanor had deep roots in the community. Eleanor's family, the F.H. Armstrongs, while living most of their early married years in Vulcan, Michigan, had moved to Green Bay in 1923. Eleanor finished her last two years of high school in Green Bay (East High, Class of 1925) and her first two years at Lawrence College before her family moved to Chicago. While here, Mr. Armstrong was an engineer for the C.A. Lawton Company, they were members of Union Congregational Church, and made many friends while residents of Green Bay.

George Nau Burridge was the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. George D. Nau, and was raised by his grandparents after the death of his mother, Gladys Nau Burridge in 1912. The Nau family on the maternal side dates back to the arrival of Joseph Houle from Montreal about 1800.

The daughter, Margerete Houle, married Lambert Nau June 29, 1855, who had arrived in Green Bay from Hesse Damstadt in the early 1850's. From that time on, the Naus were engaged as owners of a fleet of sailing ships, and a ship chandlery and general merchandise store. In the next generation, George Nau, assumed the leadership of the family and developed a fleet of tugs, the Nau Tug Line, primarily engaged in towing logs to Green Bay for the paper mills in the Bay and Fox River Valley. He became president of the Green Bay Paper & Fibre Company, later treasurer of the Hoberg Paper & Fibre Co. He was active in banking circles, president of the Citizens National Bank, and a director of the Peoples Savings and Trust Company.

Mrs. Cora Frances Minar Nau, his wife, was a civic and social leader, being a charter member of the Green Bay Art Colony, the Monday Shakespeare Club, as well as president of the Green Bay Women's Club. Their homes were in the Astor Neighborhood, first on the corner of Doty and Adams, and later at 504 Forlier Street in 1912.

George Nau Burridge has lived his entire life in Green Bay. ^{He} is a graduate of East High (1926), University of Wisconsin (1930), and the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration (1932). On returning to Green Bay, he spent the first nine years with the Hoberg Paper & Fibre Co., later in the 1940's and 50's was a director of this company. In 1933, he organized what was to be known as Nau's Ltd. a women's specialty store, which at its peak was the largest store of its kind between Milwaukee and Minneapolis. He became active in the direct management of Nau's in 1941 until the business was sold in 1967. Other business activities included a directorship of the Peoples Marine Bank, and he was instrumental in the founding of W.F.R.V., Channel 5, and Tape, Inc.

(Burridge biography con't.)

Mr. Burridge's larger community interests ranged from the presidency of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Green Bay Chamber of Commerce to the Community Chest, the Brown County United Way Fund Drive, the Green Bay Area Commission of Human Rights, and the Astor Neighborhood Association, in which he has been very active on the Board of Directors and on the Historic Committee, as well as on the Historic District project. Other civic activities included Gregby, chairing the committee that recommended the restoration of downtown Green Bay in 1978, the Planning Division of the United Way, and the Brown County Advisory Committee of the N.E. Health Systems Agency. He served two years as the organizer and administrator of the Streetworker Program in Green Bay as a volunteer.

For years he was active in religious circles, serving as Moderator of the Wisconsin Conference of Congregational-Christian Churches and later as Moderator of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ. He was active for over a decade as a corporate member, and from 1965-73 as a director of the United Church Board for World Ministries. Both he and Mrs. Burridge are active members in the Union Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.

In education, Mr. Burridge served on the Green Bay School Board, was a member of the Governor's Commission on Education in the late 1960's, and was chairperson of the Board of Visitors for the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay.