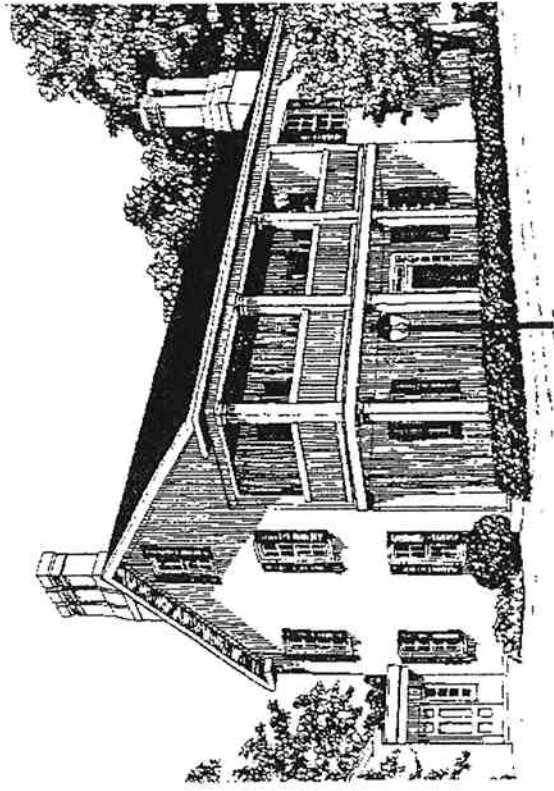


ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

FEDERAL



RUBICON FARM 1815 BROWN STREET

Built 1816
Patterson Homestead

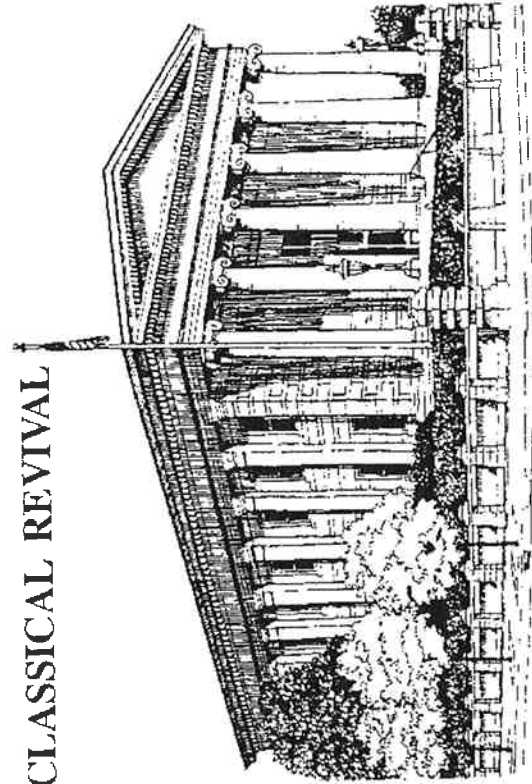
Many of the elements of the Federal style were borrowed from designs popular in England. Symmetry, delicate ornamentation and the use of geometric forms were elements common to architecture in both England and the U.S.

As the style made its way into the Midwest, it was greatly simplified. Smooth, symmetrical facades with long multi-paned windows were framed by end wall chimneys. Buildings were rectangular in shape, on low foundations and a long side of the rectangle served as the streetface. Ornamentation was minimal and was usually limited to the door surround.

Rubicon Farm is a two-story brick structure with a low pitched gable roof, grouped chimneys and a two-story southeast corner porch. It features a symmetrical plan with long rectangular windows and a small entry portico on the north side. Surrounding the entry doors are multi-paned glass sidelights and transoms.

The Farm was built by frontiersman Robert Patterson. His famous grandson, John Henry Patterson, founder of the National Cash Register Company, was raised at the Homestead. The latter's son Frederick donated the property to Montgomery County as an educational facility and museum.

CLASSICAL REVIVAL



OLD COURTHOUSE
7 NORTH MAIN STREET

Built 1850
Montgomery County Historical Society

The Classical Revival style, popular between 1820 and 1860, includes the Greek and Roman Revival styles. Both emulated the forms common centuries earlier to their namesakes in Europe. Greek Revival was by far the more popular of the two styles.

Pure Greek Revival featured a pedimented roof with a wide cornice supported by colossal columns, presenting the impression of a Greek temple. Simpler versions did not use the temple, but by placing columns flat against the wall face (called pilasters), provided a similar impression. Sometimes the pediment, or triangle, was broken. It did not form a complete triangle; the horizontal line only would begin its return from the diagonals.

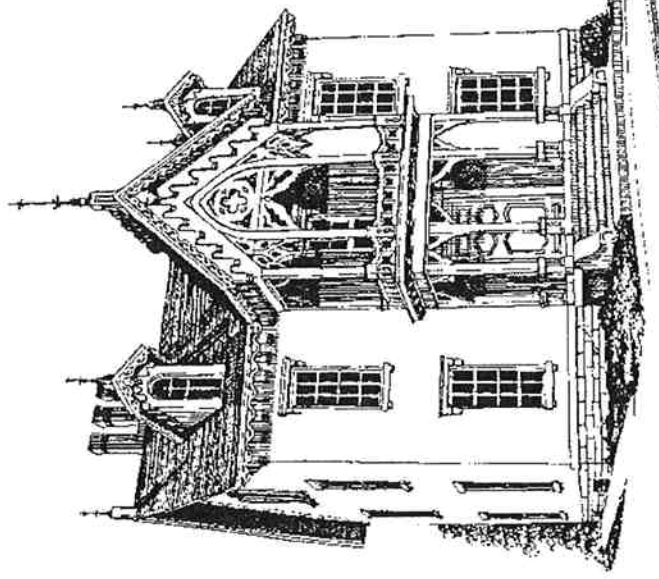
Roman Revival employed the temple form also, but its highlights were a raised first story and a window set in the pediment. Many times, Roman

Revival buildings featured hipped roofs, whereas the Greek mode used a gabled roof.

Both forms of the Classical Revival were quite symmetrical and featured very little trim. In this way the design, symbol of all that was noble and pure, appealed to all classes of people. The wealthy executed majestic temples while the workman imitated the form and symmetry, perhaps incorporating only wide cornice and columns on a small entry porch.

The Old Courthouse is probably one of the finest examples of Greek Revival architecture in the country. It is rectangular in shape, constructed of limestone with a pediment supported by colossal columns. It has pilasters—pillars set against a wall—running the length of the building. Long windows sit between each pilaster. The rear facade has semicircular inward curving walls with a column set on each corner. The building is enhanced by a stone wall at its street faces.

GOTHIC REVIVAL



ALTA NURSING HOME
20 LIVINGSTON AVENUE

Built c. 1860

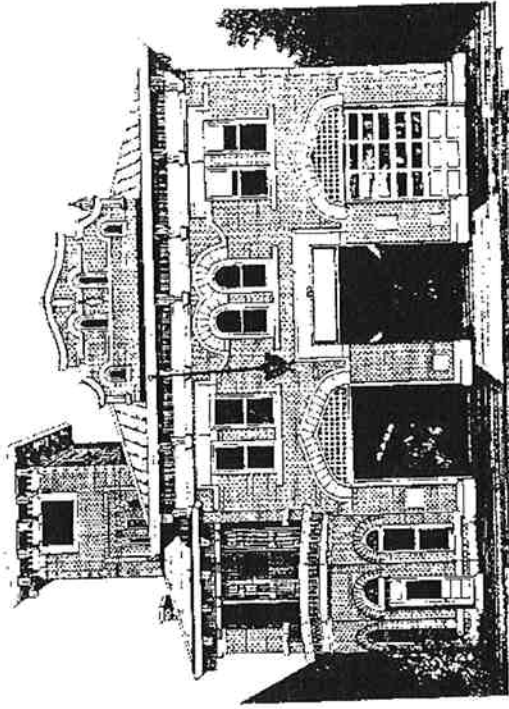
Romanticism flourished in mid-nineteenth century America as the nation emerged from its infancy into precocious childhood. Fantasies of knights and castles were reflected in architectural designs as well as being popular novel material.

From 1840-1860, the Gothic Revival style developed from buildings with steep gables, dormers and arched windows to intricate testimonials to the carpenter's craft. All forms of "ginger bread"—frivolous, solely decorative, details—abounded. Wall surfaces featured variety as well; many a Gothic Revival's walls featured the board and

batten technique—uniformly sized, vertical pieces of wood with narrow vertical strips used to cover seams.

Stripped of its gingerbread, the Alta Nursing Home would be a nondescript structure. Construction involved very regular application of limestone and brick for its foundation, walls and chimneys, slate for its roof, and wood for its doors and windows. Its true significance is, quite obviously, its magnificent two story steeply gabled porch, flanking dormers, and decorative vergeboard. Small finials and pendants at the gable peaks complete the design.

ITALIAN VILLA



FIRE STATION NO. 16
31 SOUTH JERSEY STREET

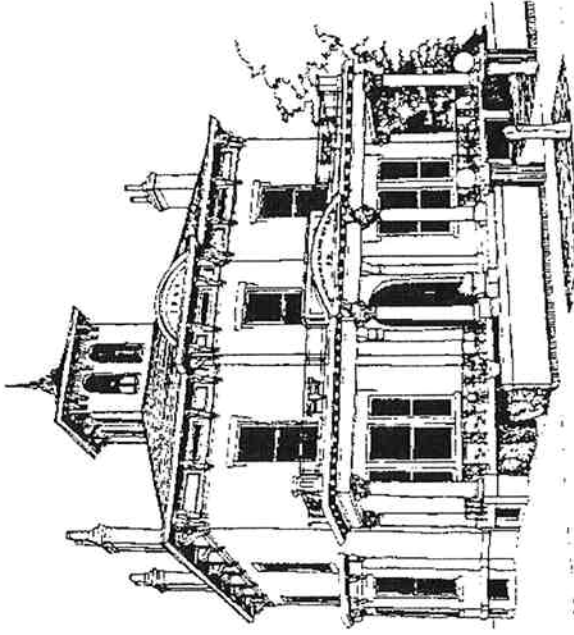
Built 1909

A commanding tower is the Italian Villa style's most notable feature. It rises above the primary roofline of the building and usually features a pyramid shaped roof. The structure adjoining this square tower may be either symmetrical or asymmetrical in design. Other features of this style include straight or round headed windows in pairs or threes, bay windows and small balconies.

Italianate style details of a low hipped roof, wide bracketed eaves and ornate window and door trim are common to the Italian Villa style, also. Both styles shared popularity during the mid-nineteenth century, though the Italian Villa

was much less prevalent. Fire Station #16, though constructed nearly thirty years after the heyday of the Italian Villa, is quite representative of the style. It features a square, pyramid roofed tower with wide eaves and brick keets. The symmetrical structure has pairs of straight and round-headed windows with limestone trim. Vehicular entries with rectangular transoms are on the front (east) and north walls. Flanking the front wall rectangular entry are vehicular entries with Tudor arches. A symmetrical wing, featuring a polygonal bay and recessed second story porch, provides entry to the upper story rooms and lookout tower. The decorative dormer contributes an almost Moorish flavor.

ITALIANATE



CHARLES HUFFMAN HOUSE
49 LINDEN AVENUE

Built 1869

Harris Funeral Home

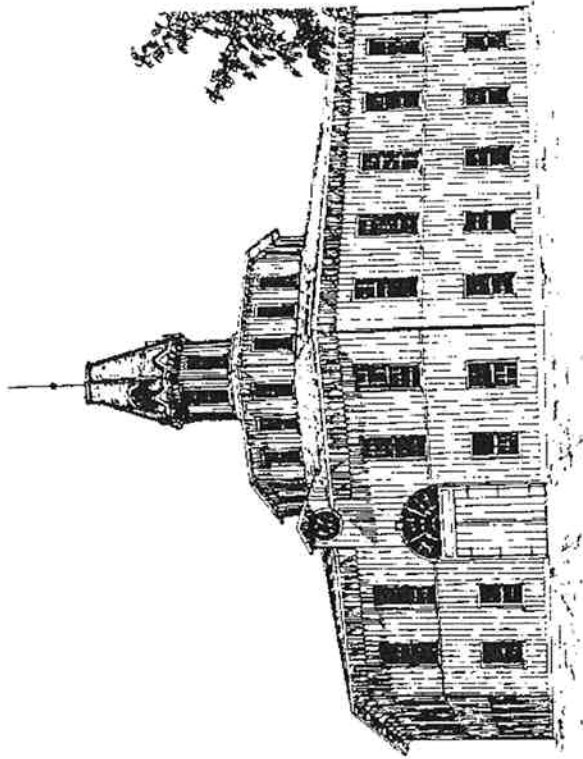
Characteristic of the Italianate style are a wide, heavily bracketed cornice and eaves over a nearly square structure. Many Italianate houses feature a flat hipped roof topped by a belvedere—or lookout tower. Simpler versions retain the cornice detail and arched windows with hood molds on the prominent facade only.

The Italianate style had its heyday between 1840 and 1860 and was used extensively in the Midwest for both residential and commercial architecture. It reflected the rising middle class who could not afford palatial mansions but

exhibited their new found wealth in smaller scale with ornate detailing applied to simple structures.

The Charles Huffman House was one of the first residences to be constructed along Linden Avenue during the post Civil War building boom. It features its original belvedere, chimneys, cornice detailing, and window and door trim. Also, it boasts an unusual 1911 full length front porch with wrought iron railing and entry door with beveled glass sidelights. Completing the scene is the 1869 carriage house at the rear of the property.

OCTAGON



EXHIBITION BUILDING MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

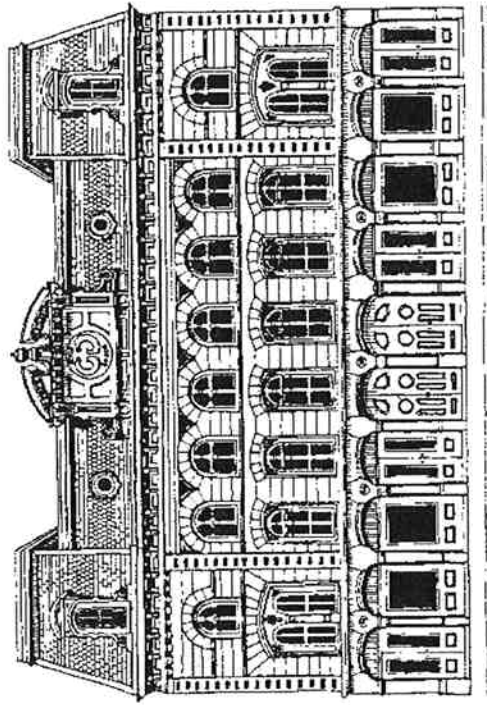
Built 1874

Though it enjoyed only short-lived popularity (1850-1860), the innovative Octagon style was used for houses and barns throughout the nation. Eight sides, each with windows, provided excellent cross-ventilation. Building scale was maintained either by the reduction in size of upper stories or by the appearance of a size change through the use of a veranda on the lower story only. The Octagon style usually included a cupola or belvedere which rose over the building's central hall and again, provided for ventilation. Interior spaces remained rectangular with resulting triangular spaces used for closets, dressing rooms, and pantries.

The Exhibition Building reflects a transition in styles. It is octagonal in shape and features a belvedere—or lookout tower. Carpenter Gothic elements are present in the board and batten wall surface and simple eave brackets and gingerbread. The large multi-paned arched transom with its keystone is a classical element of an earlier era. Finally, the belvedere roof with its dormers is mansardic in design—the most common feature of the Second Empire style—which provides interior space within the roof area.

This focal point of the Fairgrounds complex has been altered through the years and has lost its belvedere, but it continues to serve as the significant architectural piece of the group.

SECOND EMPIRE



VICTORIA THEATER 138 NORTH MAIN STREET

Built 1866; Rebuilt 1871, 1918, 1988

The Second Empire style, though it began in France as a revival style, was quickly adapted by Americans for large, formal residences. The style features a symmetrical plan of two or three stories, usually with a projecting central entry bay, and is topped by a mansard roof.

Located atop a heavy cornice, a mansard is a steep roof, flat on top, with concave or convex sides covered with decorative slate or tin. Its primary advantage is its steepness, which permits the use of the interior space including plenty of wall space for dormer windows. An additional story can be gained without the appearance of a disproportionately-sized exterior facade.

This style was popular between 1860 and 1890 and incorporated many elements of the Victorian Italianate style. Quoins, arched windows with

hoods, heavily paneled entry doors, and bracketed cornice all were commonly found on both styles.

The Victoria Theater retains much of its original character which is admirable since it has experienced two fires, a flood, and has recently undergone a major rehabilitation. While the auditorium has been remodeled, the primary facades remain essentially intact.

The building features a first story grand lobby (originally a commercial storefront), topped by symmetrical upper stories of brick with cast iron metal trim and arched multi-paned windows. A bracketed and paneled cornice supports a slate-covered mansard roof with corner bases (for missing turrets) extending above the primary roofline.

A decorative central roof projection with pilasters, brackets, and a broken arched pediment is flanked by porthole dormers.