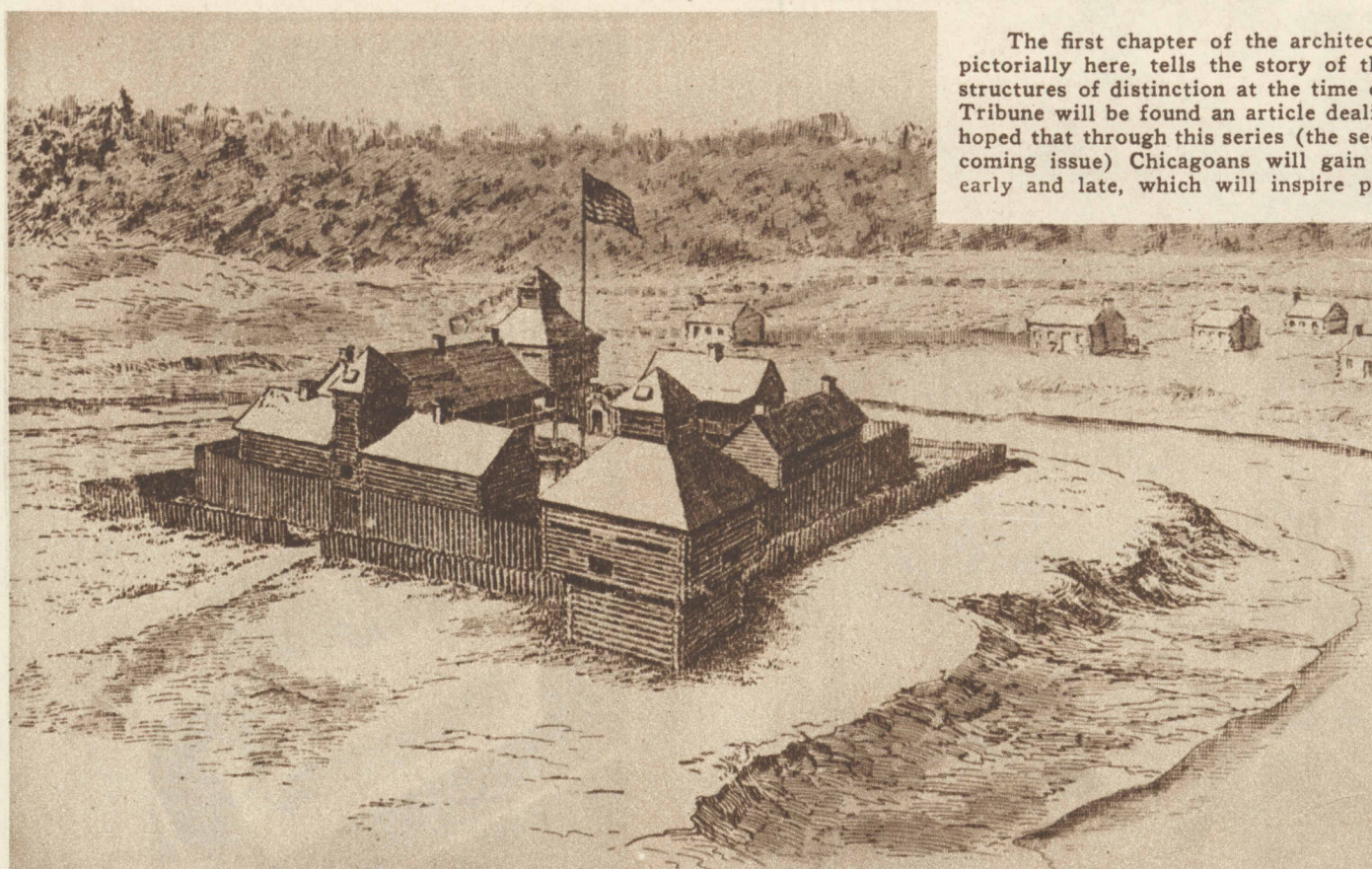


## CHICAGO'S CENTURY OF ARCHITECTURAL PROGRESS

(To be presented in four periods, of which this, the first, extends from the founding to the time of the fire in 1871.)



**FORT DEARBORN**—Capt. John Whistler built the first Fort Dearborn in 1803. It was a triumph of frontier architecture and also the first important Chicago structure. Grouped nearby were several rude cabins, one of which, belonging to Kinzie, the trader, marked the site of Point de Sable's original hut of 1779. Though not an architect, De Sable was, nevertheless, the first Chicago builder.

(Chicago Historical society photo.)



**THE CLYBOURNE MANSION**—Built in 1836 on the river near North avenue, this residence was not colonial, as is popularly supposed of midwest architecture of this type, but rather reflected Greco-Roman or classic revival models in the south and east. This earliest of brick structures marks the definite emergence of Chicago from the pioneer stage and its frontier craftsmanship.

(Chicago Historical society photo.)



**OLD STAGE OFFICE**—This structure on Lake street, a product of another age of transportation, was in the heart of the business district of the forties. Balloon frame construction, probably used here, was developed in Chicago. Neat cornice returns on the end and the small attic windows of this building are earmarks of the classic revival in our region.

(Chicago Historical society photo.)



**THE OLD MARKET HALL**—In 1848 this structure was erected by the city in the center of State street south of Randolph at a cost of about \$11,000. Van Osdel, the architect, provided market stalls below and common council accommodations above. A curiously flamboyant belfry crowned this structure, which was so commandingly located.

(Chicago Historical society photo.)



**THE WILLIAMS HOUSE**—About 1845 Edward Burling, early architect, designed this residence at Monroe street and Wabash avenue. Greek temple fronted houses like this exemplified the architectural yearnings of the forties to be more Greek than the Greeks. Magnificent trees justified the phrase on Chicago's seal, "Urbs in Horto"—city in a garden.

(Chicago Historical society photo.)



**TREMONT HOUSE**—It was a chief ornament of the city of 1850. Designed by our first architect, J. M. Van Osdel, in a classic revival spirit, it shows the beginnings, by the use of brackets, of a decadence which led toward the atrocities brought forth by the seventies.

(Photo from Felix Mendelsohn.)



**THE SECOND COURTHOUSE**—A daguerreotype showing Courthouse square from the northwest in 1855. Van Osdel's finest work, a noble classic design in Lockport "marble," it was just complete. It was soon defaced with wings and a third floor. An excellent little Greek courthouse of 1835 formerly stood near by.

(From Andreas' History of Chicago)



**METROPOLITAN HALL**—Successor to the old Saloon building, it occupied the corner of Randolph and La Salle streets from 1854 until the fire. This graceful building sheltered the important musical and literary activities of the time. Here Ole Bull and Adelina Patti performed.

(Photo from Felix Mendelsohn.)



**THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**—W. W. Boyington built the church across from the courthouse in 1854, but it was re-erected at Monroe and Morgan streets during the sixties. Now the Aiken institute, it remains today an interesting survival of the fire. The fine stone belfry formerly supported a spire of great delicacy.

(Tribune photo.)



**THE POSTOFFICE**—This postoffice and custom house stood on the corner northwest of the present structure from 1860 until 1871. Excellently constructed, its walls survived the fire. Though somewhat monotonous, it was, nevertheless, restrained in taste—in grateful contrast to the overembellished type of building of the post-fire era.

(Chicago Historical society photo.)



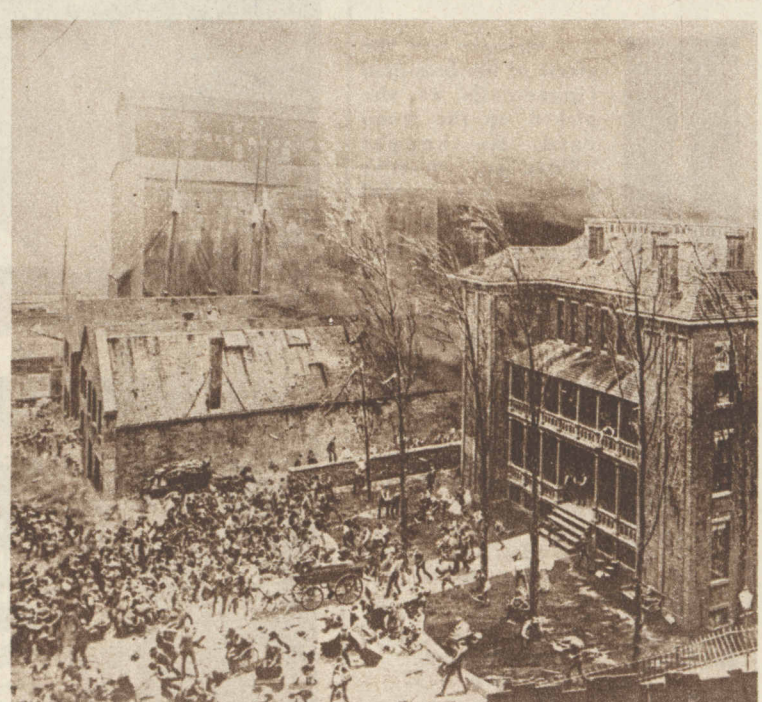
**THE CROSBY OPERA HOUSE**—Chicago's most extravagant ambitions were embodied architecturally in this theater of 1865. The view is along the north side of Washington street toward the lake, with Leiter's store and the Second Presbyterian church at the right.

(Photo from Felix Mendelsohn.)



**TERRACE ROW**—In Terrace row, on Michigan near Van Buren, there lived in the sixties such eminent families as the Scammons, Kings, and Dyers. Other streets had splendid residences, too, decadently Victorian, perhaps, but marking dramatic progress.

(Photo from Felix Mendelsohn.)



**THE OLD MARINE HOSPITAL**—Seventy-one's "Demon of Desolation" is here seen at work near Rush street and the river. The hospital was consumed, but the freight house and the grain elevator beyond remain, with Boyington's Water Tower further north, as reminders of ante-fire architectural glory.

[Prepared by Earl H. Keed Jr. of the committee on public information, Chicago chapter, American Institute of Architects, Eugene Klaber, chairman.]