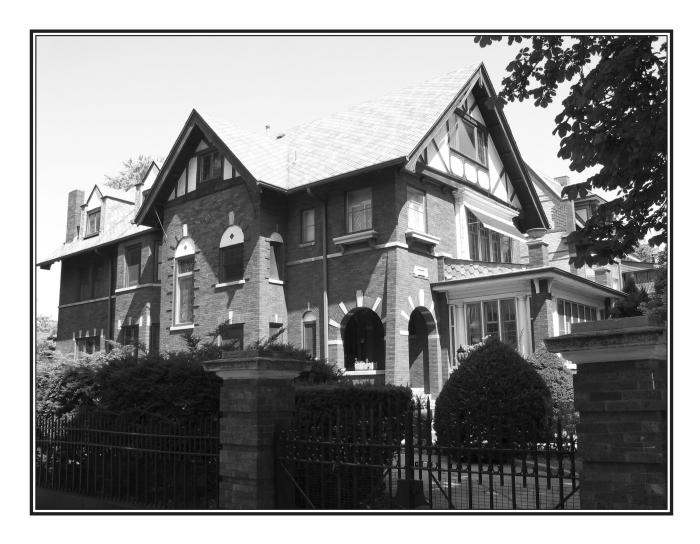
2004 House and Garden Walk

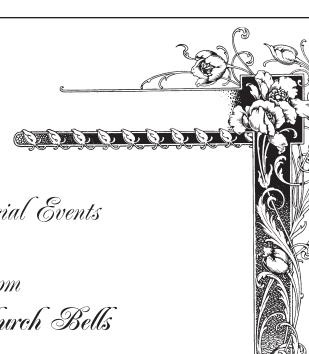
featuring the houses, churches and gardens of historic Palmer Square



Saturday, September 11, 2004

Presented By

Logan Square Preservation



Coday's Special Events

12:00 pm Pealing of Church Bells

12:15 pm

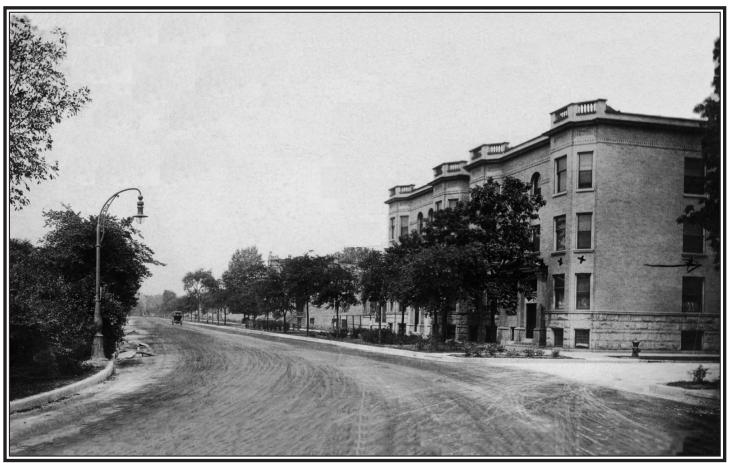
Concert in Palmer Square

(in front of St. Sylvesters Church)

"Wilmette Band"

2:00 pm Bethel Church Organ Recital "David Mayer, Minister of Music"

3:00 pm **Bethel Church Organ Recital** "David Mayer, Minister of Music"



1909 - Photo postcard by Masure & Leonhard, local view photographers located at 2419 N. Milwaukee Avenue, from the collection of Carl P. Klaus. Local view photographers were professionals who took pictures of buildings or scenes in the community and sold them at local newsstands, since most people could not afford a camera of their own. The postcard reads: "Dear Aunt and Uncle: Our new home. This shows the front half. We are on the second flat. [See Xs] Have a fine view. The boulevard is nearly two blocks wide here. Come and visit. Love from Bessie."

Palmer Square is actually Palmer Boulevard. Palmer Boulevard, along with Humboldt, Kedzie and Logan Boulevards, was part of the great boulevard system of Chicago. The land for construction of the boulevards was purchased by condemnation proceedings November 4, 1869. Originally all the boulevards north of Humboldt Park were named Humboldt, but due to the confusing nature of four distinct segments having the same name, on April 12, 1909 the City Council changed the names of three segments to Palmer, Kedzie and Logan, leaving the segment closest to the park named Humboldt.

Today, this 2 1/2 mile span of boulevards in Logan Square remain as the only vestige of the original system that looks like it did in 1900. Most of the grand mansions are preserved today as they were 100 years ago. For that reason the federal government in 1985 designated these boulevards as a national historic district to be forever preserved. At this point the boulevard is nearly a full block wide, compared

to ³/₄ block in other areas. Wealthy citizens built their homes along this parklike setting where they were close to public transportation at the Logan Square elevated train station and streetcar line.

As seen in the 1909 photo above, originally Sacramento Avenue did not pass through Palmer Square. Instead the boulevard circled in front of St. Sylvester's Church just as it did at Kedzie Boulevard, giving a true oval shape to the square. The term Square refers to a public plaza, not the shape of the area. Also notice the unpaved streets. Cement curbs were a modern convenience, but paved streets would be several more years in coming. Horses and carriages were restricted to moving slowly along the boulevards to avoid kicking up dust. Bicyclers would slowly circle the Square and strollers could enjoy a peaceful walk. Occasionally a shiny new car could be spotted in front of a wealthy family's home. We hope you will enjoy some of this ambience during your visit today!

1) 2157 N. Humboldt Boulevard (St. Sylvesters Church - 120th anniversary)



1884 - Original church building

This Gothic Revival style church, designed in 1906 by Egan and Pindiville, exhibits a romantic style distinguished by vertical pointed arches, steeply pitched complex gable roofs, buttresses, finials and various decorative motifs. The most impressive aspect is its soaring height and massive stained glass window set between heavy masonry walls, creating a contrast between mass and light.

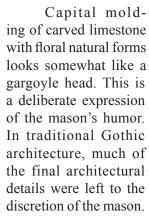
Tripartite arches (a series of three arches) can be seen surrounding the three entry doorways and are repeated in the front gable peak and at the top of the bell tower. A series of pointed arches alternating with long rectangular windows to balance light and mass can be seen in the bell tower.

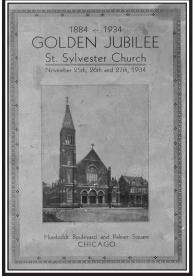
The front gable has an ornate main window of intricate,

Gothic tracery with long pointed arches. Note the trefoil arch with cusped intrados with three pointed foils at the top of the pointed arch. This is traditional Gothic tracery. The front entrance has an impost beside the tripartite arch doors. The impost is the part of the capital molding that receives the weight of the arch. At the corners of the bell tower are stepped buttresses (masonry supports which are thick at the base and thinner as they rise). Buttresses allowed massive buildings to have larger

windows, since much of the weight of the building is transferred to these supports. The buttress to the right of the entrance has a finial, which is a miniature building with gable ends and arch inset.

Capital mold-





50th Anniversary brochure (1934)



Interior of the church as it appeared in 1965 before the fire.

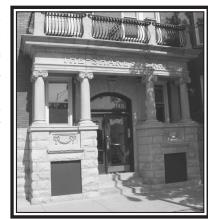
2) 2141-53 N. Humboldt - Schwinn Apartments



Not open today. This three-story apartment building was designed by Fred E. Gatterdam in 1907 for Ignaz Schwinn, the bicycle manufacturer who lived across the street at the southwest corner of Palmer and Humboldt Boulevards. Schwinn's home was raised in the 1950s and replaced by the Schwinn auditorium for St. Sylvester's School. This apartment building housed Schwinn's employees who worked at his local bicycle company nearby on Cortland Street. Ignaz could sit on his front porch across the street and keep an eye on his workers.

This building exhibits classical architecture with a rusticated limestone base,

brick walls and a strong horizontal cornice at the top. The long width of the building is broken up by vertical Chicago style bays alternating with flat walls. The entry is very ornate in a "temple" style with double paired columns and Doric capitals. The curved iron balustrade, however, is somewhat out of character with the otherwise solid design of the building. French ribbon ornamentation at the entry is another obvious "catalog purchase" decorative folly. It was not unusual at this time for various design elements to be combined in a decorative rather than architecturally purist manner.



Ignaz Schwinn

Schwinn Bicycle Company



One of the many prominent citizens of Logan Square was Ignaz Schwinn, owner of the Schwinn Bicycle Company. Mr. Schwinn built a beautiful mansion on the southwest corner of Palmer Boulevard at Humboldt Boulevard. Often he sat on his front porch and watched the neighbor children ride by on their Schwinn bicycles. At his death, he donated his home to St. Sylvester's Church who raised it to build their school. Schwinn Hall is named after him. In 1907 he built the three story apartment building seen above for his workers. Mr. Schwinn could watch his workers going to and from work. His manufacturing company was nearby on Cortland Street.

The history of the bicycle in Chicago can be traced back to Mr. Schwinn. In 1890, Ignaz worked for Hill and Mof-

fat Bicycle Company as a by adults, since cars had not

the new toys of the wealthy. They often cost \$150, that people could travel where they wished without

By 1895, Ignaz joined Adolph Arnold improved the design of the frame, using stronworldwide for quality and speed. To promote his many of the top racing athletes in the world. Races professional wooden racing track that burned in In the 1930s after adults had automobiles

designer. At that time, bicycles were used exclusively yet been developed. They were very expensive and over \$27,000 in today's money. This was the first time having to rely on a horse and carriage.

to form Arnold, Schwinn & Company. Ignaz ger materials. Soon his bicycles became known company, he sponsored national racing contests and were held at the Humboldt Park Hippodrome, a the 1940s.

In the 1930s after adults had automobiles for their primary mode of transportation, Ignaz reached out to children as his new consumers. He promoted the bicycle as the "automobile for children" and redesigned the frame to resemble the sleek, shiny cars of the day. Tires were widened from 1.5 to 2.125 inches to improve stability when riding.

During World War II, Schwinn produced top-secret devices, shells and ammunition and received the government's "E" award for excellence. Following the war bicycle sales rose, as soldiers returned home and began their families.

"My 1950s Schwinn Black Phantom with its curvaceous frame and center tank was my pride and joy. Chrome and swept-back fenders added a feeling of fast movement to a bicycle that was both stable and reliable. Headlights and horns added that "car-like" appearance. I fondly remember my childhood, partly due to Ignaz Schwinn and his bicycles."

Lewis Coulson, President Logan Square Preservation

3 2101 N. Humboldt - Bethel Zutheran Church

Norwegian immigrants originally settled in the neighborhood of Wells and Superior Streets and later moved northward and established their first church, now called Lakeview Lutheran Church, on Addison Street across from Wrigley Field. In 1870, a second migration of Norwegians settled at Milwaukee and Halsted Streets.

In 1880, a third migration settled near Humboldt Park. By 1889, they had organized a congregation, which met at various locations, including Gambrinus Hall and Scharlau's Hall on North Avenue. \$500 was raised in 1891



to purchase the one-story, wooden Christ Lutheran Church, located at Richmond Street and McLean Avenue, and they moved it to two lots recently purchased on Humboldt Boulevard at McLean Avenue. Soon after, a second story addition was added and later the entire building was raised and a new first story was constructed. Since most of the congregation spoke Norwegian, a minister was recruited from Norway to conduct services in the national language.

By 1906, the congregation had outgrown its church and two lots were purchased on Humboldt Boulevard and Dickens Avenue. The new brick church, which cost \$42,000 to build, was dedicated on December 8, 1907. During the post World War II exodus of citizens from inner cities to suburbs, this previously strong Norwegian congregation began to decline in size. Because of continued support of many of the original family descendents the church has survived.

The 1907 parsonage in the rear is home to the International Arts Club, which presents revolving contemporary art exhibits throughout the year. The current show "Homage to Nature" features works by twenty Chicago area artists. Also on view is a large selection of West India art, primarily from Haiti and Jamaica, from the private collection of Paul Waggoner, director and curator, who lives on the premises.

Organ recitals today

2 P.M. and 3 P.M. by David Mayer, Minister of Music

(4) 1918 N. Humboldt Boulevard

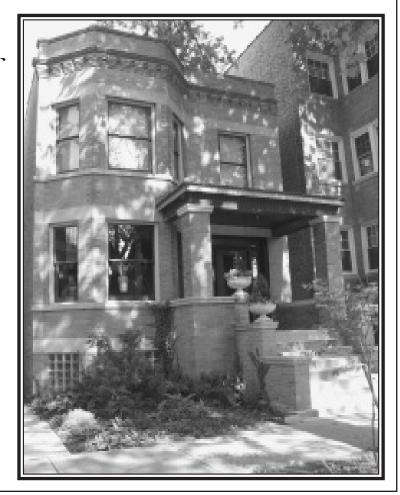


This example of a decorative front but plain-sided building indicates that today's construction design is not new. What a wonderful bit of building pastry this is! With the abundance of decorative stone detail, the builder must have had a joyous task selecting relief panels, column capitals, balustrades, stone belt lines and cornices. The effect is delightful with fine vertical columns playing against strong horizontal lines. The vertical lines, although lesser in mass, hold their own by having the columns set out from the horizontal.

5) 2031 N. Whipple Street

This classic Chicago two flat has a three windowed bay, which creates a strong vertical element to the house. Horizontal balance is created by stone belt lines and a nicely corbelled cornice. The entry is emphasized by a larger than normal horizontal roof. The original use of tile adds an ornamental touch over the porch.

There is some question as to the original design of the steps, because there is evidence of a step in the footing at the bottom. It is likely that a wider pier existed at the base. At some point the planters were replaced as these are not original to the facade.



6 3071 W. Palmer Boulevard



This home was designed by Paul Hansen in 1908 for Peter Erickson, co-owner of a tanning company in "Buck Town." The house to the left at 3065 was also designed by Paul Hansen in 1908 for Charles Aeppli, partner of Peter Erickson. Notice the subtle differences in columns, brackets and downspouts.

Strong Prairie School influence can be seen in the very powerful front porch with an impressive horizontal roof. The typical Chicago bay which is often vertical in other Chicago houses here terminates below the roof, further accentuating the horizontal appearance. Examples of varied architectural styles include Doric capitals on the porch columns, an Oriental influence of the curved roof over the second floor and dormer, and the Greek urns and half columns in the porte cochere.

The coach house in back originally housed

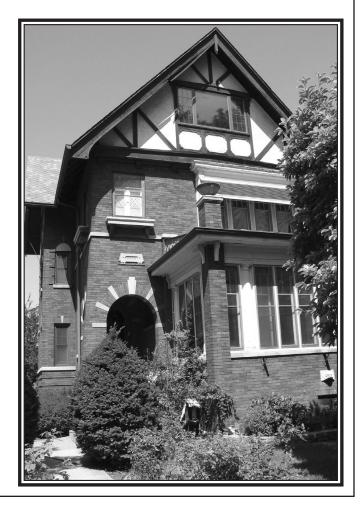
horses and carriages. During renovation, the owners have tried to keep much of the integrity of the original coach house. Today, it serves as a photographic studio, but could also be used as a guest house or separate living quarters.

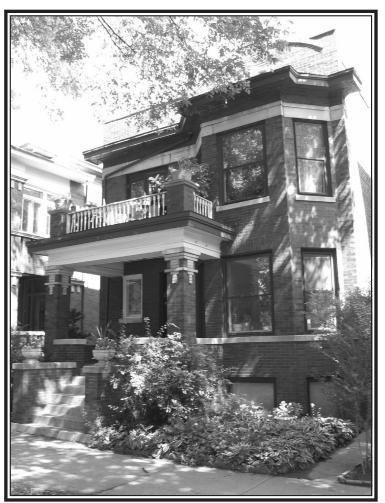
(7) 2302 N. Kedzie Boulevard (cover)

This 1906 house was designed by Horatio R. Wilson for Adam Kreuter, owner of a laundry machine company. The architecture is varied using many different design pallets. The half-timbered gables and high pitched roof suggest Tudor design, however the placement of windows gives the effect of being built by different stone masons over many years. This is accentuated by the varied construction materials used including rusticated bricks, surrounds, stone key blocks and lintels and cantilevered window sills. The house seems to have one of everything!

The entry is almost hidden behind tall arches and an extension of the front facade to create a Gothic buttress effect. Details that suggest a country manor house are the horizontal belt lines that stop and start as they move across the face of the building. The porch at front was probably originally open with a paired square brick Doric column at each corner. The colored glass window in the side is original.

A coach house can be viewed in the rear. Horses and carriages would have been housed there along with a carriage driver or caretaker. An impressive oval carriage drive is the primary feature of the yard.





(8) 3110 W. Palmer Boulevard

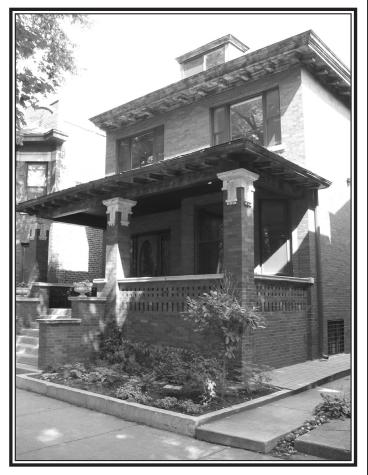
The entry porch consists of brick columns and stone capitals with contrasting ornamentation in a Prairie style effect. The black above white banding at the top of the porch is echoed in the cornice at the top of the building. Similar horizontal banding can be seen beneath the windows.

The Chicago style bay is topped by an unusual extension which caps the design.

9 3104 W. Palmer Boulvard

This Romanesque style house has a strong, yet light, appearance. The carefully detailed perforations in the porch create a trellis-like balustrade. Strong brick columns are topped by white Prairie style capitals, which provide contrast detailing to the plain masonry structure.

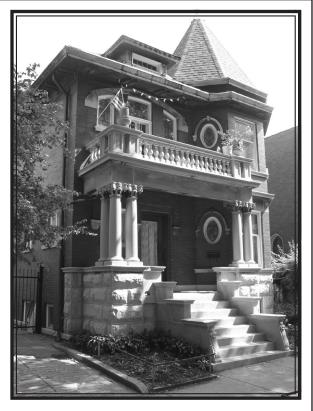
Supported by the columns is a massive, bracketed cornus that is duplicated at the top of the house. Note the triple Chicago style windows on the second floor. The two small side windows were designed to be opened for ventilation, while the large central, stationary window admitted light into the house. These add a somewhat modern effect to a more traditional building.



10 3080 W. Palmer Boulevard

Thies Reyertson, a Norwegian architect, designed this impressive house in 1907 as a single-family residence for himself. The beautifully detailed porch in rusticated stone creates a solid, massive feeling to the building. Tripartite columns support a delicately detailed ornate balustrade. Above the porch is a curved window with central door and side windows in a Prairie School style. A small flat dormer with a horizontal eyebrow window in the attic caps the vertical movement of the porch.

The vertical lines of the Chicago style bay with turret and finial are complemented by horizontal stone banding at the base, under windows, floors lines and roof. The double stone cornice and the turret make the roof cap seem to float. Note the two delicate "oculus ovule" (oval eye) windows on the first and second floors, suggesting a Victorian influence. This house demonstrates a great balance between strength and lightness, vertical and horizontal movement, and ornamentation and simplicity.



11) 3062 W. Palmer Boulevard Serbian Orthodox Church of the Holy Resurrection

The original building on the left, designed by Lowe and Bollenbacher, was built in 1910 for the First English Evangelical Church. The style is Gothic with Arts and Crafts overtones. In 1923 the same congregation built the larger edifice to the right. The architect of this building was Worthmann and Steinbach. Use of the corbeled out buttress and the peaked arch and tracery is an homage to the Gothic period. That building was badly burned in the 1960's leaving only the exterior walls standing, therefore the stained glass window is not original. The entrance has been modified somewhat, but it may have looked like the one to the left.

Because of the fire damage and the inability of the congregation to foot the bill of rebuilding, the entire property covering five city lots was sold to the Serbian Orthodox congregation in 1970 for \$75,000. They restored it and made interior changes in keeping with Orthodox churches world wide. The entire remodelling cost only \$150,000, because the Board of Trustees acted as its own general contractor and church members performed some of the essential services at cost.

The bell tower is essential to the Orthodox religion, calling the faithful to prayer. You will hear the bell ringing today at Noon. The bridge between the two buildings was added later and houses Sunday School rooms. The original church now contains offices and meeting rooms.





A - 2039 N. Humboldt Boulevard

A huge variety of perennials, native plants, climbing vines and miniature roses surround a brick patio and pergola. The small pond and waterfall were designed by the owner.

B - 1918 N. Humboldt Boulevard

An extra-spacious side and back yard create a very private feeling in this garden. The sitting and playing areas are bounded by mature shrubs, trees and climbing ivy. Be sure to note the grape vines enjoying the sunshine along the driveway.

C - 2031 N. Whipple Street

Enter through the gangway to reach a serene Asian-inspired garden shaded by a large ginkgo tree. Note the unusual container plantings on the deck and the sound of the small fountain.

D - 2056 N. Whipple Street

Many people worked together to turn this sunny corner lot into the Whipple Community Garden. Planted just this year are evergreens, perennial flowers and flowering shrubs. Vegetables and herbs grow in raised beds.

E - 2124 N. Whipple Street

This informal cottage-style garden is decorated with many architectural ornaments and found objects. The outdoor pit is made of purple flag stones. Please enter at front.

F - 3071 W. Palmer Boulevard

Organized in four outdoor "rooms", this mostly shade garden features a grape vine covered pergola. The owner has filled a formerly bare space with columnar pear trees, climbing roses and a vegetable garden.

G - 2430 N Kedzie Boulevard

Allow plenty of time to see all the details in this large garden which includes two fountains, one with a face and one with a waterfall. A sunny deck overlooks big islands of annual and perennial flowers with some sculptural surprises.

H - 3110 W. Palmer Boulevard

At the front of the house hostas and other shade-loving plants grow under carefully preserved elm trees. The main garden in back is designed to host small gatherings surrounded by plants.

I - 3104 W. Palmer Boulevard

The center of this professionally designed garden is a pergola-topper deck. Ferns, evergreens and unusual ground covers display many shades of green. Except for the window boxes, all plants are perennial including the fall-blooming clematis at the back gate. Enter at the blue door.

J - 3078 W. Palmer Boulevard

A water garden built with stone blocks is the focus of this delightful back patio protected by a wall of matching stone. Impatiens, begonias and coleus in raised beds add vibrant color throughout the summer. A side gate connects with 3074 W. Palmer Boulevard.

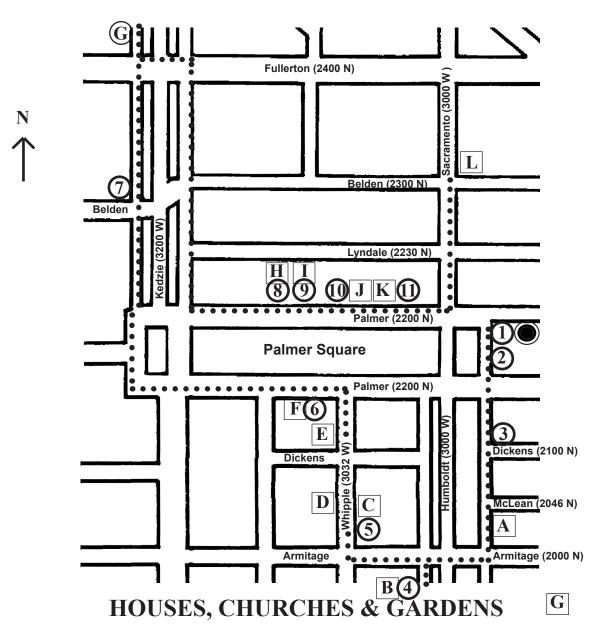
K - 3074 W. Palmer Boulevard

Enter at the front or through the gate which connects this shady dining nook to the garden at 3078 W. Palmer Boulevard. Guess the origin of the unusual stone fountain tucked in the corner!.

L - 2319 N. Sacramento Avenue

A love of flowers combined with very limited space inspired this densely planted garden which wraps the front and side of this corner property. Sunflowers along the side have achieved impressive heights.

No smoking or pets in gardens. Stay on walkways or designated lawn areas. Do not touch flowers, foliage or garden property. Please do not ask to use private bathrooms. Children must be closely supervised.



- (R) (1) 2157 N Humboldt (St Sylvesters) (
 - **(2)** 2141-53 N Humboldt (not open)
- (R) (3) 2101 N Humboldt (Bethel Church)
- A 2039 N Humboldt (Garden)
- **B** 4 1918 N Humboldt (House/Garden)
- C 5 2031 N Whipple (House/Garden)
- D 2056 N Whipple (Garden)
- **E** 2124 N Whipple (Garden)
- F 6 3071 W Palmer (House/Garden)

- **(7)** 2302 N Kedzie (House)
- **G** 2430 N Kedzie (Garden)
- H 8 3110 W Palmer (House/Garden)
- 1 (9) 3104 W Palmer (House/Garden)
 - **(10)** 3080 W Palmer (House)
- J 3078 W Palmer (Garden)
- K 3074 W Palmer (Garden)
 - (1) 3062 W Palmer (Serbian Church)
- L 2319 N Sacramento (Garden)