



Murphysburg was incorporated on September 4, 1871 (150 years ago!) before merging with Joplin in 1873.

What better way to celebrate a **Sesquicentennial** than to investigate this historic neighborhood?

Your objective is to uncover certain classical elements that can be found on certain houses. The architectural scene of your search will be from First to Seventh Street on Sergeant Avenue. All elements of style can be seen from the sidewalk. Be sure to investigate the entire house closely, for the element may be in an obscure location.

Historic Murphysburg Preservation, Inc.
Post Office Box 1332, Joplin, MO 64802
(417) 208-9376 | www.Murphysburg.org
Murphysburg@gmail.com

HMP is a non-profit 501(c) (3) corporation governed by a volunteer board. The organization is dedicated to the preservation of historic homes in Joplin's only designated residential historic district. Their mission is to implement charitable and educational activities that promote and stimulate historic preservation throughout the city.

Glossary of Architectural Terms

Architecture - The art or practice of designing and constructing buildings

Art Glass - Colored/stained or clear glass pieces fitted together to depict a picture, scene, or design

Glossary continued

Baluster - vertical supporting element, like a small column

Balustrade - series of balusters supporting a rail

Column - a supporting pillar consisting of a base, a cylindrical shaft, and a capital on top of the shaft; may be plain or ornamental

Dentils - small rectangular blocks that, when placed together in a row abutting a molding, suggest a row of teeth

Fish Scale Shingles - used extensively as a finishing element; generally wood and found on the gable or upper section of the building

Frieze - a horizontal panel or band of richly sculpted ornamentation

Gable - wall that encloses the end of a gable roof; triangular end below a roof overhang

Hitching Post - a stone or metal post firmly planted in the ground used to tie up horses

Keystone - wedge-shaped block at the top center of an arch or window

Oculus - bull's-eye or round window, surrounded by decorative molding often found in gables or pediments

Parapet - low wall located at the top of any sudden drop, such as at the top of the façade

Pediment - decorative triangular piece situated over a portico, door, or window; top can be **Pointed, Curved or Broken**

Spindlework - Three dimensional decorative wood trim applied to porches, windows, gables, and more; also known as *gingerbread*

Turret - small tower that pierces a roofline

Start Here **CSI:Murphysburg** **Classical Style Investigation**

1. Start from the southeast corner of First and Sergeant, walk south to the middle of the block, look left and up.

This may sound a little fishy. There are many of us but we do not swim in the ocean, lake, or river.

Fish Scale Shingles | 111 S. Sergeant circa 1899 | Queen Anne

2. Stroll south and cross Second Street. There are two houses on the block, so you will need to hunt for the next element.

We are quite a pair perched up high even though we are not broken. Peer closely for the leaves may hide our curves.

Curved Pediments | 219 S. Sergeant circa 1917 | Georgian Revival

3. Proceed south, watch for traffic and cross Third Street, stay on the east side.

I have freedom of expression by using many decorative wood elements. I am fancy and have many paint colors.

Spindlework | 301 S. Sergeant circa late 1890s | Queen Anne

4. From the northeast corner of Fourth and Sergeant, look for the white house and then look up.

Perched way up high stand three similar elements in a row, but one of us is broken.

Broken Pediment | 623 W. Fourth Street circa 1899 | Colonial Revival

5. Cross Fourth & Fifth Street and keep to the path heading south on the east side of Sergeant. Stop at the house located on the southeast corner of Fifth & Sergeant. My burden is heavy, but I have eleven friends to help me carry the load.

Column | 501 S. Sergeant
circa 1905 | Colonial Revival

*This is not a clue,
it is just a
pretty picture.*



6. Stay the course south on the east side. You should find yourself at the fourth house down from Sixth and Sergeant.

We are a series of elements that enclose an outdoor space where visitors can catch the breeze.

Balustrade | 611 S. Sergeant
circa 1902 | Colonial Revival

7. Time to cross Sergeant to the west side and move north one block to the middle brick structure.

My smile is wooden with many teeth. Fortunately, I do not worry about cavities.

Dentils | 518 S. Sergeant
circa 1917 | Colonial Revival

8. Continue north on the west side of the street, cross Fifth Street and look for a round turret on a castle-like structure. Even though my name may make you think that I am cold, I give warmth with my presentation.

Frieze | 422 S. Sergeant
circa 1890 | Romanesque

9. Continue north to the next house. I may be hard to see because I am also undergoing a massive restoration project.

I cannot be petted because I am out of reach, but look to the sky and you should find me interesting.

Parapet | 406 S. Sergeant
circa 1893 | Queen Anne

10. Continue north, cross Fourth Street and peer closely at the first house.

I have many pieces soldered together to make a beautiful light filtering picture.

Art Glass | 318 S. Sergeant
circa 1891 | Second Empire

11. Continue north on the west side.

Beware of the Lion! Follow a white iron fence. At this house the element is a horse of a different color.

I keep my ride close to home and stop it from straying off.

Hitching Post | 218 S. Sergeant
circa 1903 | American Foursquare



*ANSWERS
can also be found at
murphysburg.org/walking tours*

12. Continue on to the next house to find your last element.

Peering from my two eyes, I can see you on your hunt for classical architectural details.

Oculus | 210 S. Sergeant
circa 1904 | Colonial Revival

