



Carl and Irene Haas House, 280 North Park Street - 1920.

This two story wood-frame house is an excellent example of the Gablefront vernacular house form in Richland Center. Well-preserved, it exhibits the gable roof entrance on the street facing the gable end of the house, open porch with classical influenced columns and decorative Queen Anne shingles in the gable end that is typical of this vernacular house form built in the early decades of the twentieth century. Two additional Gablefront houses exhibiting this Queen Anne and/or Classical Revival influence are the Baptist Parsonage, 393 North Church Street, and the Campbell-Breeden House at 595 East Haseltine Street.

The Gablefront house developed after 1825 and coincided with the popularity of the Greek Revival style, which placed emphasis on the gable-end of the house in the form of a pediment; often associated with Greek temples.

The Gablefront house allows the narrow part of the house to face the street, usually on a rectangular lot. The Gablefront house became a uniquely American house type. The Gablefront appears in a wide variety of styles ranging from Greek Revival, to Gothic Revival, to Queen Anne, to a simpler vernacular style home such as the Haas House. The Gablefront house form remained popular into the early 20th century when its popularity was diminished by the Bungalow Style house.

One variation of the Gablefront house is the Gabled Ell. The Gabled Ell incorporates a side gable, which was typically added to obtain additional space, light and cross-ventilation. The Gable Ell has two intersecting roof gables, which gives it an "L" shape. It generally contained four rooms; two bedrooms, a living room and a kitchen. A number of architectural variations were possible with gable ells to differentiate them from each other. The Gabled Ell form has a cross-gabled plan with a front porch stretched across the intersecting gables. The house is usually placed with the long side of the house parallel to the street. The entrance is double sided with doors on each of the wings facing one another. The First Fred Pratt House, 388 South Park Street, is a good example of this variant of the Gablefront Style.

Another variation of this house form is the T-plan house. The T-plan house consists of gable-ends on either side of the front-facing main gable.

(Keep in mind the homes listed are private residences which are not open to the public. Please respect the occupants' privacy when viewing their homes from the sidewalk).