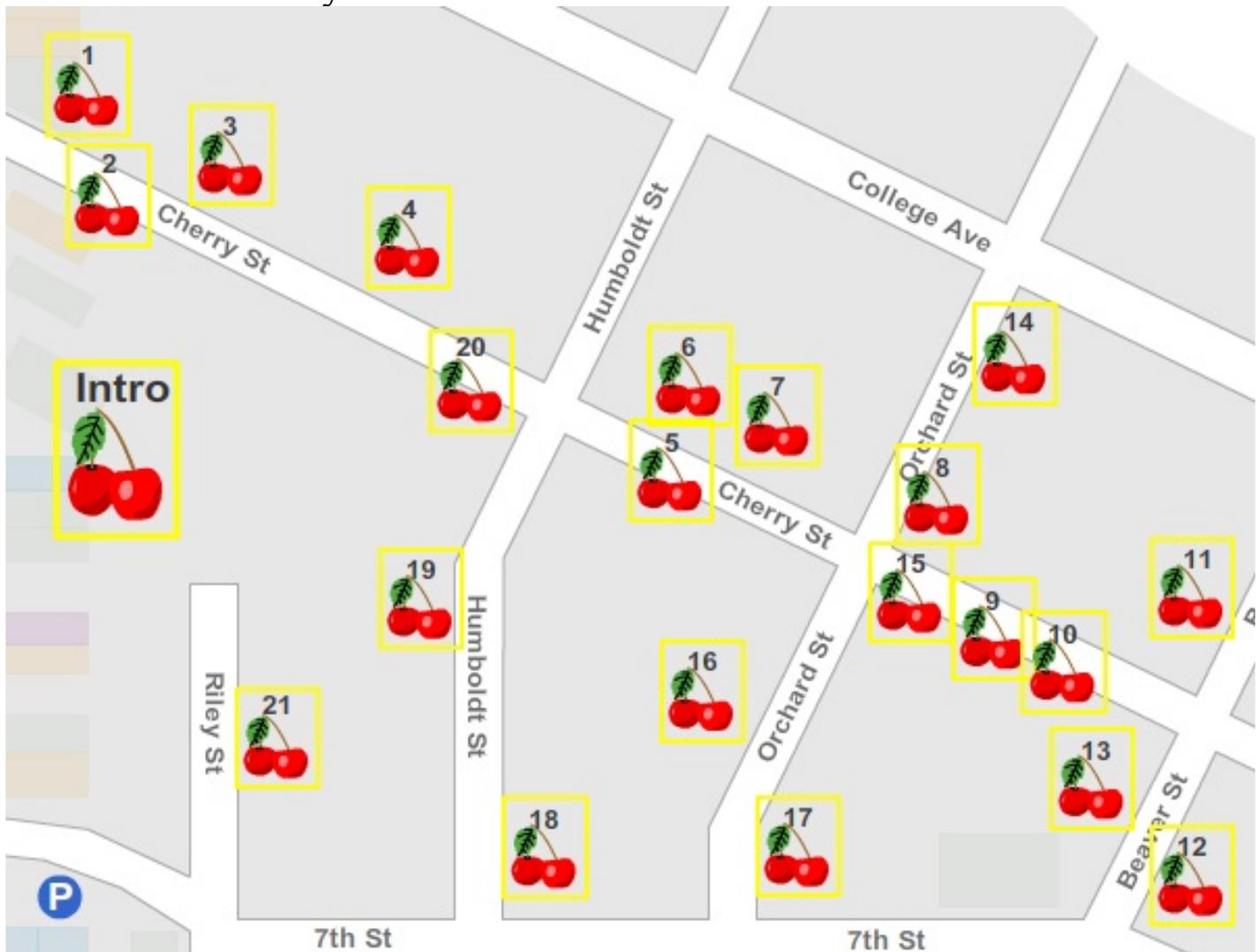


Santa Rosa - Cherry St. Tour



Cherry St Tour Intro

The Cherry Street District is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Santa Rosa and contains the highest concentration of 19th century buildings in the City.

The establishment of a major through-county railroad in 1872 created a tremendous growth boom in Santa Rosa. In one decade the District was almost completely formed. Most of the District homes in the 1800's were larger prestigious houses and were built on large lots. Divisions of these lots occurred in the 1905-1930 era when many houses were built in the Bungalow style.

While a significant advantage of this area was due to its close walking proximity to downtown, there was in 1892 and for more than a decade after a horse drawn trolley serving its residents. The District's wide alleys permitted stables and carriage houses. These evolved into garages not long after Henry Ford introduced his Model 'T'. Three church structures built between 1873 and 1911 still survive, and this District was the site of the first County Hospital. Due to a combination of the Chase Girls Academy and the nearby Pacific Methodist College the neighborhood was inhabited with an unusual number of teachers, doctors, and students. Other houses were owned by lawyers, judges, County officials, bankers, and a broad mix of carpenters, clerks, teamsters, and store proprietors. This diversity continues today.



Stop 01

607 Cherry Street

Starting at the west end of Cherry Street, the Sweet House 1886 is worth a special look. James Sweet, president of Sweet's Business College, was also Mayor of Santa Rosa. The Queen Anne style home is characterized by encircling verandas, textured surfaces, and a variety of forms, textures, materials, and colors. Note the fish scale shingles in the upper gable.

Stop 02

612 Cherry Street

Across the street at 612 Cherry Street, a Prairie School style apartment built about 1920 and next door at 613, a Craftsman style house built in 1892 share elements of the same architectural approach. Many of the Craftsman houses were pre-manufactured and shipped to the site to be raised. With steeper roofs than the bungalow design, they are simple, non-ornate structures. The eaves are low and wide, resulting in a balanced composition. As a contrast the Italianate style is represented at 617 Cherry. Note the slender porch posts and elaborate spindles of the porch rail. The Italianate style is usually rectangular, often accentuated by pronounced moldings and details. Note this house's squarish bay window.

Stop 03

621 Cherry Street - Fannie Gamble House

Built at the turn of the century, the Gamble House is a graceful Queen Anne/Commercial design. Note the ornate fish scale shingles in the main gable, with its odd shaped lunette and gingerbread cornices.



Stop 04

647 Cherry Street - William Shaw House

The William Shaw House 1888 is a Colonial Revival style. This style is often a combination of various Colonial styles and contemporary elements. The porch piers are simulated Doric columns.

Stop 05

710 Cherry Street

Further along and across the street at 710 Cherry is a striking example of a 1908 Bungalow in excellent conditions. It's a handsome house, along with its neighbor at 712, another Bungalow built in 1910, with unmistakable roof lines and low long eaves.



Stop 06

709 Cherry Street - W.R. Carithers House

This 1910 era Bungalow with its low peaked roof provides a contrast with its neighbors. It is said plans for a Bungalow could be purchased for as little as five dollars. In this style the porch piers are often flared and are commonly based on heavy brick piers.

Stop 07

717 Cherry Street - Burnett House

At 717 Cherry is found the steep pitched roof line of the Burnett House built in 1905, a Shingle style with Doric columns, shingle siding, and multi-light, three window casements.

Contrast this design with the striking Stick/Eastlake house at 725 Cherry. It was developed by Charles Eastlake, an English interior designer. Its perforated gables, pediments, carved panels, and profusion of spindles and lattice work add to the complexity of the facade. J.D. Burnett, who lived here from 1888-1920's, was a founder of Santa Rosa Savings and Loan.

Stop 08

801 Cherry Street

At the northeast corner of Cherry and Orchard is a well preserved Gothic Revival church 1888. The Gothic Revival style was used for everything from timber cottages to stone castles. Common design elements include a steeply pitched roof, gingerbread trim, and a carriage porch entry. Note the very long lancet pointed triple windows.

Stop 09

812 Cherry Street - Merrill-Wood House

Named for Benjamin Wood, the County Recorder circa 1900, this is a well kept two story Gothic Revival style built in 1892. Again at 813 and 817 Cherry Street are two Italianate style homes, both built in the 1880's era, both similar yet different. Note the tall front windows, the Doric columns, the ornamental double roof brackets.

Stop 10

818 Cherry Street

In 1884 the Queen Anne style home at 818 Cherry was built. With its round turret and conical roof, it was a grand home for Congressman Duncan McKinlay, his name remembered because of a 1905 bill introduced to build the old Post Office. In local history, the McKinlay house was the quarters for the Wheelman's Bicycle Club and an exclusive group known as the Santa Rosa Bachelors' Club which occupied the upper stories of this 14 room mansion.



825 Cherry Street

Stop 11

825 Cherry Street - Samuel Talmage House

At the northwest corner of Cherry and Beaver Streets, Samuel Talmage, local rancher, built this imposing two story Stick/Eastlake house. Mr. Talmage's fame came from being the first man in Sonoma County to introduce hop growing to the region.

At 914 Cherry is the Rogers House, a Colonial Revival style dwelling with a symmetrical appearance and interesting sunburst carving at the front porch gable. At 926 Cherry is a well kept and attractive Stick/Eastlake cottage with projecting gables, purloins, and cross gables that mark the typical Eastlake treatment. At 930 is a Colonial Revival house with its interesting curved bay window and spindle railing.

Stop 12

508 Beaver Street - Hosmer House

On your right as walk south is an unusual Colonial Revival style house, built in 1903, with the historical name of Hosmer House. It is a striking example of the New England gambrel roof, with its arched gable and inverted pendant and finial.



508 Beaver Street

Stop 13

509 Beaver Street

Across the street at 509 is an Italianate cottage built in 1888. This early design is a square house, but without the usual decoration that was added in with Eastlake additions.