CRAFTSMAN HOUSES
IN TITUSVILLE
BY
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A brief Discussion in 3 parts

1. What are Craftsman houses?

2. Craftsman houses in Titusville

3. My craftsman house and how I got a nice Brass Plaque
I bought 1120 Riverside in 2011.

I did know it was a classic Craftsman Bungalow or Arts & Crafts style house.

The bank did not know anything about the house and would not have told me if they had.
1. WHAT ARE CRAFTSMAN HOUSES?

Different names:

- American Bungalow,
- Craftsman house,
- Sears Kit house,
- Prairie house,
- Arts and Crafts style house,
1. WHAT ARE CRAFTSMAN HOUSES?

- The Arts & Crafts Movement began in Europe about 1880 as a reaction to mass produced products.
- The concept was to have skilled craftsmen hand make houses, furniture, and hardware.
- The resulting style was beautiful, but the products were very expensive.
- American manufacturers picked up on the style, and then mass produced the hardware.
- The Craftsman style was a hit with the new force emerging on the social scene...

..the American Middle Class.
Features of the American Bungalow:

- **Porch** - prominent front Porch, beneath extension of main roof.
- **Columns** - tapered or double square Columns supporting roof.
- **Pedestals** - low masonry pedestals supporting those columns.
- **Local Stone** - mixed materials throughout, including Local Stone.
- **Gables** - Low-pitched roof lines, gabled roof, often multiple Gables.
- **Exposed Rafter** - ends and beams under deep roof eaves.
- **Colors** - Earthy Colors; often window trim.
- **Dormers** - Shed Dormers, Gabled Dormers, or Eyebrow Dormers.
- **Knee Braces** - Decorative Beams or Braces under Gables.
- **Multipane Windows** - instead of single-pane. Usually 3 over 1.
- **1 or 1½-story form, not 2 story.**
- **A partially paned door.**
- **Frank Lloyd Wright design motifs.**
2. CRAFTSMAN HOUSES IN TITUSVILLE

- Gable
- Exposed rafters
- Double Columns
2. **CRAFTSMAN HOUSES IN TITUSVILLE**

Shed-roofed dormer.

Multipane windows.

Local stone used for column pedestal.
2. CRAFTSMAN HOUSES IN TITUSVILLE

A perfect Craftsman with a gorgeous 3 color paint scheme.

Notice the new, but matching, garage.
2. CRAFTSMAN HOUSES IN TITUSVILLE

Oh, the colors!

A hidden gem of Titusville!
2. CRAFTSMAN HOUSES IN TITUSVILLE

Use of mixed materials: stone & cement; 2 types of siding;

One of the best looking Craftsman houses in town.
3. MY CRAFTSMAN HOUSE AND HOW I GOT A NICE BRASS PLAQUE
3. MY CRAFTSMAN HOUSE AND HOW I GOT A NICE BRASS PLAQUE

A. In 2013, I attended a Workshop just like this one.

B. I filled out the form from the Titusville Historic Preservation Board. (It’s free.)

C. The Titusville HPB’s consulting firm independently verify my data.

After the City Council approved my application, I bolted the beautiful brass plaque next to my front door.
3. MY CRAFTSMAN HOUSE AND HOW I GOT A NICE BRASS PLAQUE

Here’s how to get the Application form

Start at Titusville city website home page: Titusville.com
Government (ribbon at top)
Boards & Commissions (left side)
Historic Preservation Board (6th item down)

Please click here for the Historic Resources Nomination Form.

The PDF appears. Print the form and fill it out by hand, unless you have Adobe Acrobat Pro.
3. MY CRAFTSMAN HOUSE AND HOW I GOT A NICE BRASS PLAQUE

◆ When I bought the house, the Real Estate guy said it was built in 1926 because his papers said so.

◆ I was confident that it was not actually a Sears Craftsman house because few houses are.

If I had not started researching my house I’d have never known that...

...both of us were wrong.
3. My Craftsman House and How I Got a Nice Brass Plaque

Paul Marion of the Historical Society of North Brevard, gave me this photo, and told me how to find the other in the Florida Master Site File.
Paul Marion gave me this photo. I found the other photo through Google. It is from the Gordon Van Tine catalog.

I was off and running.
My wife also searched in the county records. All the deeds, mortgages and tax records are on microfiche in this office.

The county employees in this office are very helpful – and patient.
3. MY CRAFTSMAN HOUSE AND HOW I GOT A NICE BRASS PLAQUE

[Handwritten document image]

I, [Name], do hereby certify that

to me well known as the wife of...

and as one of the persons described in, and who executed, the foregoing Deed of Mortgage, did this day to me, on a separate and private examination before me taken and made, separately and apart from her said husband, acknowledge and declare that she made herself a party to and executed the same for the purpose of mortgaging and of releasing, relinquishing, renouncing and conveying all her right of dower, separate estate and homestead, and all her rights in and to the lands in said deed described and granted, and that she executed the same freely and voluntarily, without any constraint, apprehension, fear or compulsion of or from her said husband.

WITNESS my hand and seal at

[Seal]

this 20th day of September

A.D. One Thousand Nine Hundred and

[Seal]

State of Florida

County of Orange

On this day personally appeared before me

[Seal]

to me well known as the person described in and who executed the foregoing Mortgage Deed, and acknowledged that the execution thereof expressed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my hand and seal, this

[Seal]

John Henry

Notary Public

[Seal]

A.D. 1914
3. My Craftsman House and How I Got a Nice Brass Plaque

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Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hubert, of West Pittson, Pa., who have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Cookling, at their river front home in Bayview for several days past, left Monday for Fort Pierce. Mr. Hubert is a cousin of Mrs.
3. My Craftsman House and How I Got a Nice Brass Plaque

We found the records that substantiate the house’s 1914 construction date:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>Homer Conkling buys Lot # 4 of Gleason’s Addition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Homer Conkling marries Sara Best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1913</td>
<td>Homer Jr. born in Titusville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Homer &amp; Sara buy Lot # 3 and get a house mortgage. They pay taxes on 2 empty lots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>Homer &amp; Sara build the house and move in. They pay higher taxes on the improved lots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The <em>Advocate</em> reports that a cousin of Sara Conkling visits her “river front home in Bayview”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917</td>
<td>Virgil Conkling is born in the house on Riverside Drive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. **MY CRAFTSMAN HOUSE AND HOW I GOT A NICE BRASS PLAQUE**

The Board and then the City Council approved my application and ordered a fine brass plaque for my house.

All this at no cost to me!

Sure I was pleased, but the best part was something I had never expected...
The Historic Preservation Board hired an architectural firm to research my house and check my application. The firm suspected that the house was Sears, not Gordon Van Tine, so they contacted the lady who wrote the book.

Bottom line: 1120 Riverside is definitely a Sears and Roebuck kit house, the Hazlton model.
3. My Craftsman House and How I Got a Nice Brass Plaque

You can get your very own Brass Plaque.

Go see Brad Parrish!