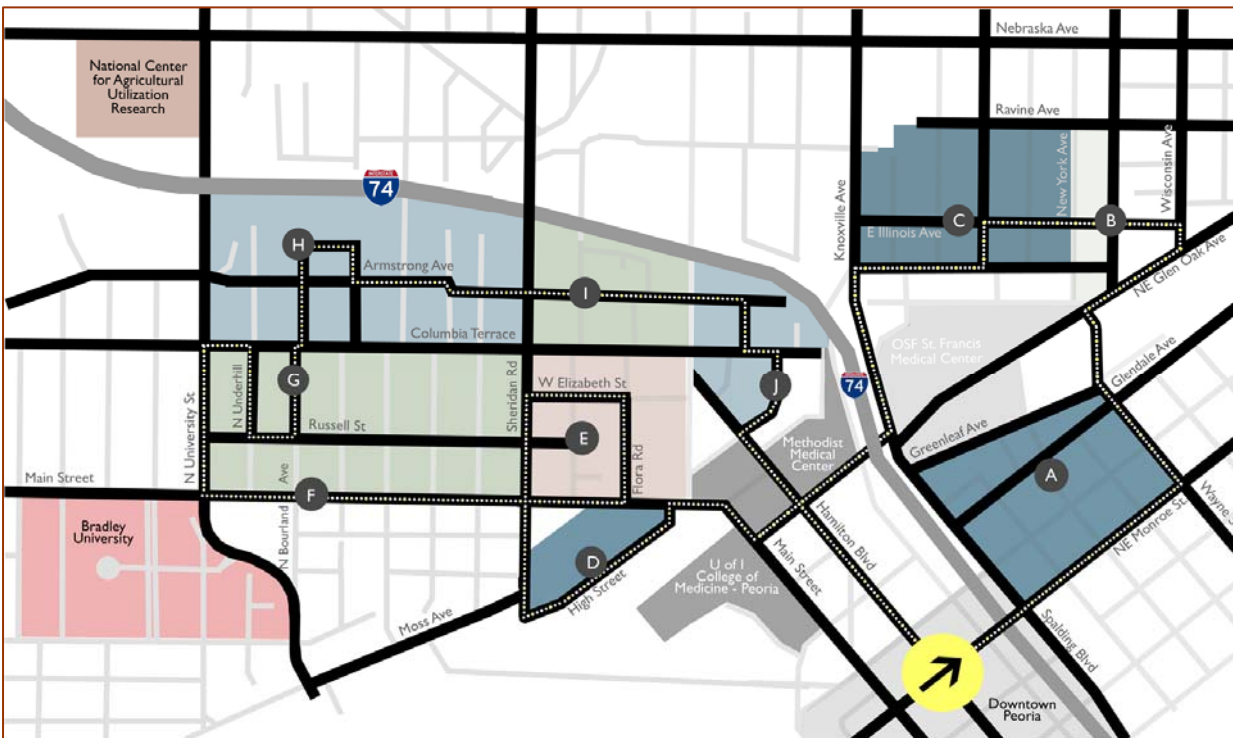




RENAISSANCE PARK

Neighborhood Guide

A driving tour



- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A Olde Towne North | F Main Street Corridor |
| B Glen Oak-Flanagan | G University East |
| C East Bluff United | H Columbia Terrace North |
| D High Wine | I Armstrong-Ellis |
| E Orchard District | J Randolph-Roanoke |



A

Olde Towne North

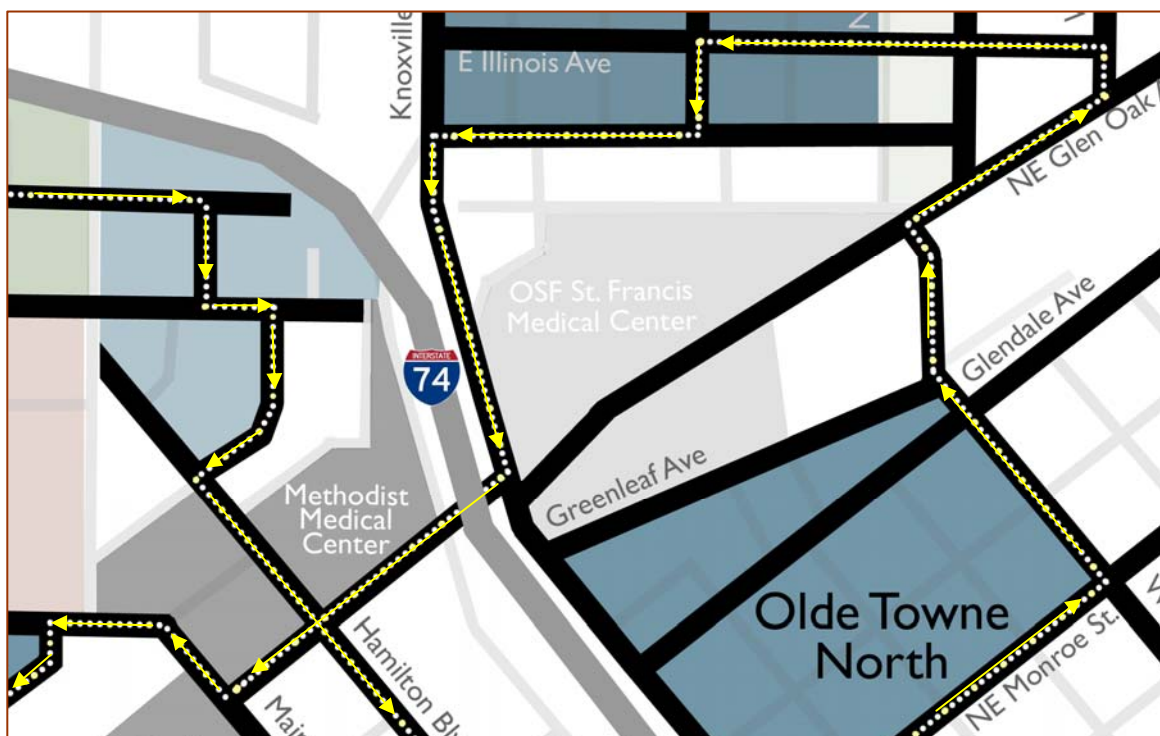
This culturally diverse neighborhood is filled with wonderful housing opportunities. Olde Towne North is a microcosm of Peoria architecture, with houses being built from the 1850's to the 1950's (and some more recent construction). The mansions along Perry, Monroe and Madison Streets were built by Peoria's upper class: the Proctor family (Proctor Stove Company), the Case family (Sutliff & Case Drugs), and the Kingman family (Kingman Plow Company). The smaller houses that are found on the north/south streets were for workers of the nearby railroad and servants of the richer families in the area.

With its close proximity to downtown Peoria and OSF St. Francis Hospital (each less than 3 blocks away), Olde Towne North has become a great place to live for people who want to live in a unique environment close to work and entertainment. There are great opportunities for renovating great old mansions or finding a more modest investment.

Don't Miss: The Cathedral of St. Mary (607 NE Madison), the view of "old" St. Francis Hospital.



Tour Location Key





B

Glen Oak-Flanagan Historic District

For more than 150 years, this neighborhood has been home to some of Peoria’s more colorful names, like Frink’s Hollow, Flanagan’s Gut, Gypsy Hill and the once-popular Sylvan Park—an 1890’s era amusement park. The heart of this neighborhood – historic Glen Oak Avenue – was an early horse and wagon trail that crisscrossed Peoria. One of Peoria’s oldest roads, it was called “Bluff Street” until 1898. The first house built on the East Bluff was the Flanagan house in 1837.

Today, Glen Oak-Flanagan provides quick access to the area’s two major hospitals, the 117-acre Glen Oak Park, Luthy Botanical Gardens and the Peoria Zoo. Plus, the housing here is as diverse and interesting as the area’s residents. There are spectacular homes with views of the Illinois River valley, quaint cottages and varieties of homes in between.

Don’t Miss: The John C. Flanagan House Museum at 924 NE Glen Oak Avenue (Call 309/674-1921 for information on tours).





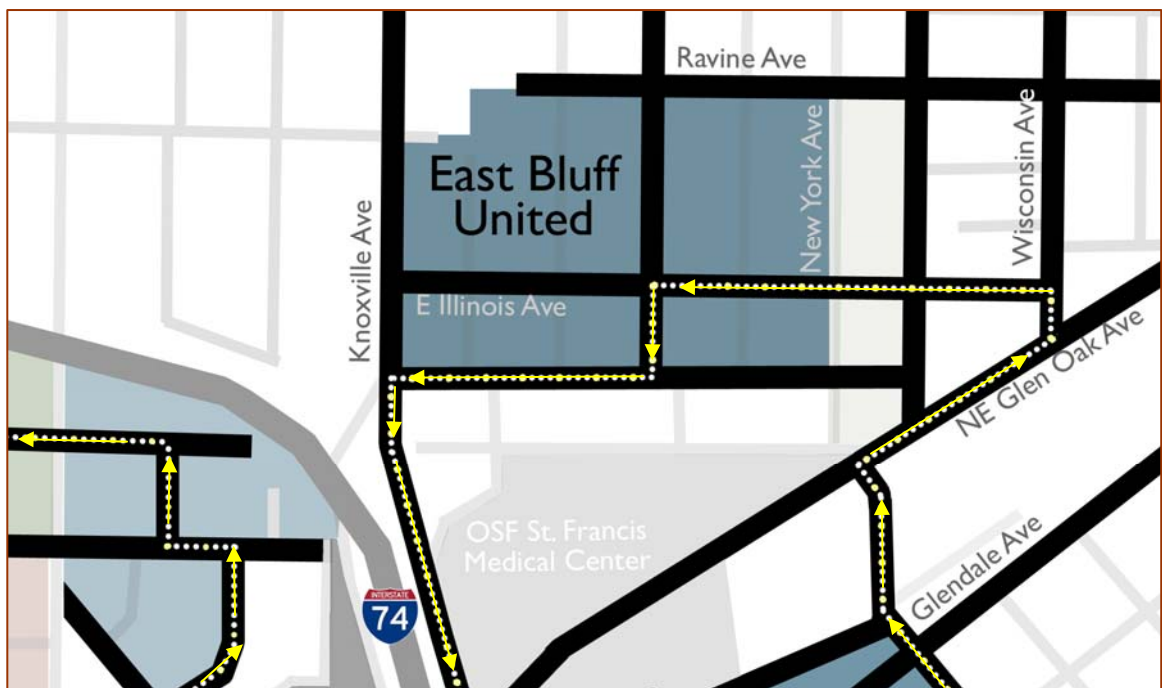
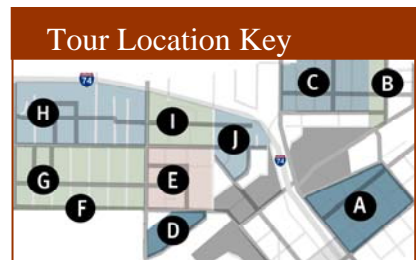
C

East Bluff United

This area contains a rich variety of architecture and home types—some designed by Fredrick Klein, the self-taught architect behind Peoria High School and the Apollo, Madison and Rialto theaters. The neighborhood is home to White Middle School, named after S.H. White, former principal of Peoria County Normal School—a teacher’s training school located on the site in the 1800s. The current school building was constructed in 1902.

East Bluff United provides its residents with easy access to Peoria’s downtown, as well as to the area’s major healthcare facilities—which is especially convenient to Peoria’s thousands of healthcare-related employees. In addition to medical employees, residents are attorneys, business owners and hourly workers.

Don’t miss: An Italianate-style home built in 1886 at 413 E. Illinois; East Bluff United’s neighborhood park – a bit of urban tranquility at the corner of California and Illinois.





D

High Wine Historic District

In the 1800s, whiskey barons built their magnificent High Wine homes atop the bluff that overlooked the Illinois River and their distilleries below. They chose a variety of architectural styles, including Flemish Renaissance, Italianate, Victorian and a pre-Civil War farmhouse.

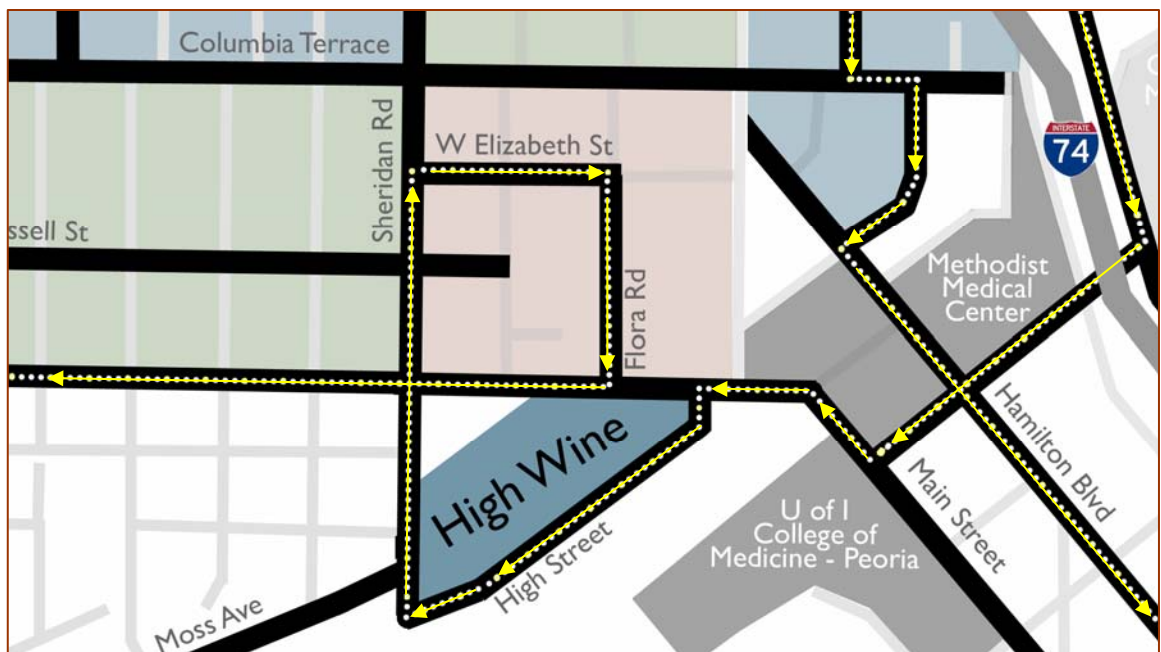
The unique Joseph B. Greenhut mansion on the corner of High and Sheridan was built by the most powerful and influential figure in the whiskey business, who hosted President McKinley and his Cabinet at his home in 1899. Three other presidents are said to have visited homes in the neighborhood.

In High Wine, you'll find extraordinary homes with a rich sense of history—and a more than 500-year-old tree at Giant Oak Park. Some of the mansions have been converted into apartments and offices of companies like United Way and Converse Marketing.

Don't Miss: The Easton Fountain in Giant Oak Park, views of the Illinois River, the Preston Jackson-painted mural on the side of Running Central (Sheridan & Main).



Tour Location Key





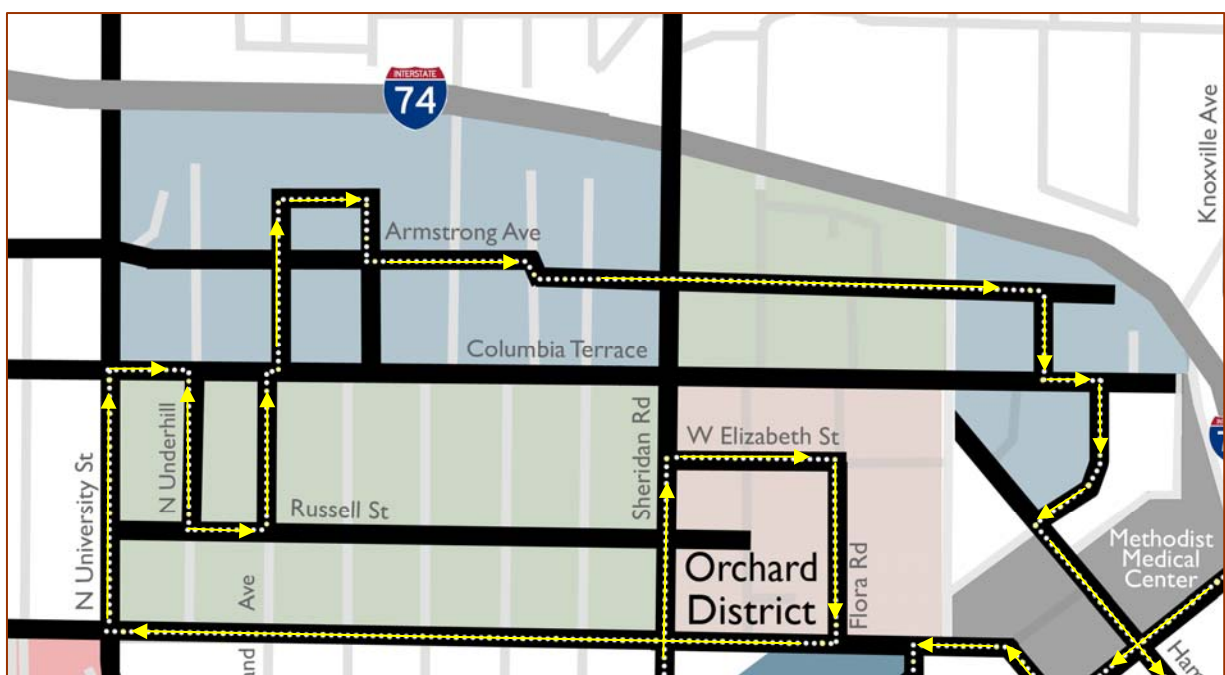
E

Orchard District

Formerly known as Flora-Ellis, this lovely neighborhood is moving along in its revitalization process with a new park, varied housing opportunities, committed residents and an active association. The Orchard District name comes from the fact that this area was once home to a grove of fruit trees. Flora Street was part of the Coleman's Nursery subdivision, and Ellis Street was named after William H. Ellis, a local nurseryman.

The Orchard District is within easy walking distance of the new Illinois Medical Center, the University of Illinois - College of Medicine and Peoria's two largest hospitals. Some of the homes you will see in this neighborhood are being sold for renovation at low prices by West Bluff NHS.

Don't Miss: The sister-houses at 1015 and 1200 Flora Street (built as wedding presents for the children of W.E. Stone); the cherry red house at 1205 Ellis (former home of famous local musician Louise De Lent Straesser).





F

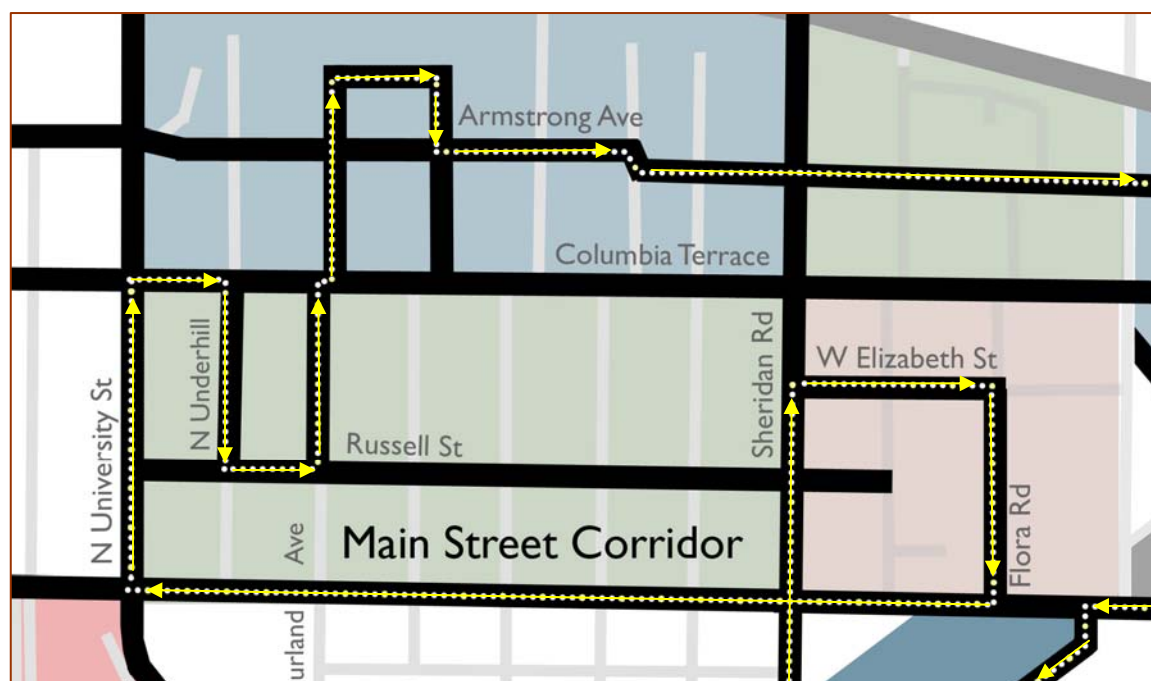
Main Street Corridor

This one-mile stretch of West Main Street is the urban center of Renaissance Park. It is the home of the Peoria NEXT Innovation Center and is lined with a growing group of small businesses, retail stores, boutiques and restaurants.

The 1200 and 1100 blocks of West Main are likely the most diverse collection of ethnic dining outside Chicago. In two blocks you'll find Lebanese, Chinese, Indian, Vietnamese, and Mexican restaurants, plus cafés, pubs, sandwich shops and pizza joints.

The Corridor represents an opportunity for developers with a vision for New Urbanism. With its proximity to Bradley and the medical infrastructure of Peoria, it is the perfect area for mix of retail, commercial and residential developments.

Don't Miss: The new PeoriaNext Innovation Center (800 W. Main, opening Summer 2007); a walking excursion through Bradley University (corner of Main and University).





G

University East

This is one of the most promising neighborhoods in Renaissance Park, where singles, couples and families are buying and restoring its older homes. University East offers a wide variety of affordable housing—from apartment buildings and duplexes to large Victorians and stately homes.

University East includes nine subdivisions—the first platted in 1865 and the last filed in 1911. Former residents include James and Marian Jordan of “Fibber McGee and Molly” fame and Shaun Livingston, current team member of the Los Angeles Clippers.

The neighborhood is close to Bradley University and is a short walk to the diverse selection of restaurants on the Main Street Corridor. The City of Peoria will be completing a \$1.5M streetscape improvement of Columbia Terrace in Fall of 2008.

Don't Miss: The mural on the side of One World Café (1245 W. Main).





H

Columbia Terrace North

Located in the heart of Renaissance Park, this neighborhood is characterized by charming cottages and Dayspring Park. A variety of people call Columbia Terrace home, including Blue Collar workers, teachers, architects, doctors and lawyers.

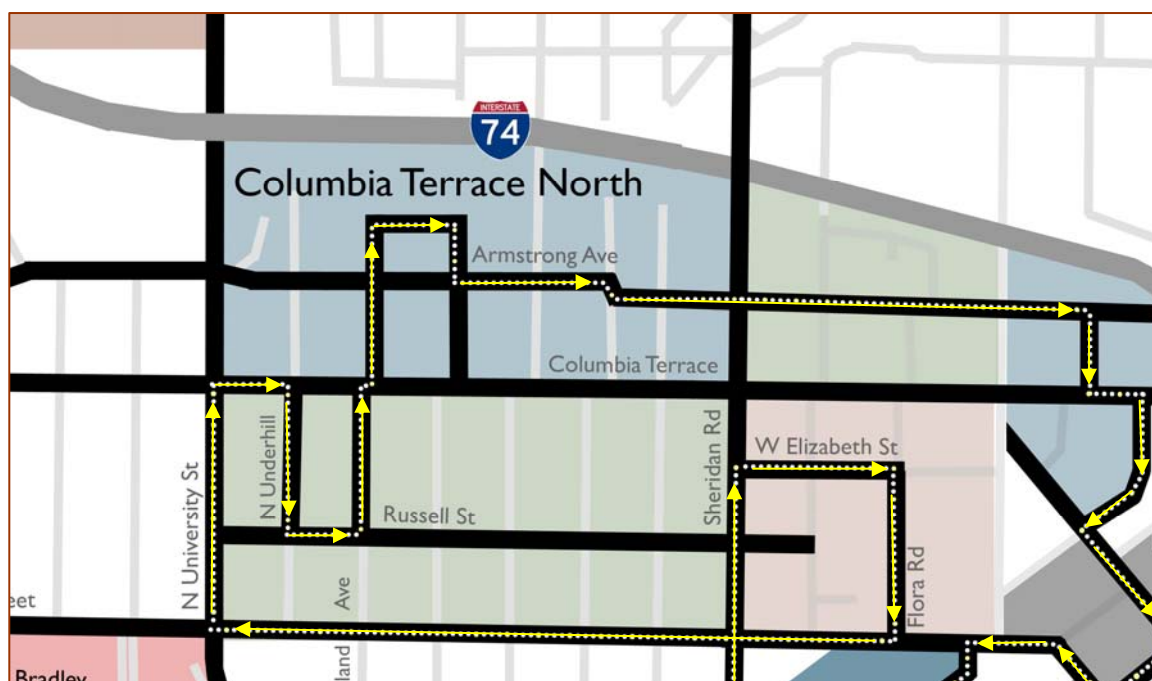
A wide variety of architectural styles are found here—from a 1920s English Tudor to a late 1800s Queen Anne. You'll find Dutch Colonial, French Country, Cape Cod, Norman Revival, Brick Federalist and more.

More improvements to the streetscapes are planned in this historic area, which has a strong neighborhood association and residential pride.

Don't Miss: The secluded and quaint homes along Cole Court; the nation's largest Agricultural Lab (across I-74 on University); Franklin Edison Primary School (an Illinois Spotlight School at 807 W. Columbia Terrace).



Tour Location Key





I

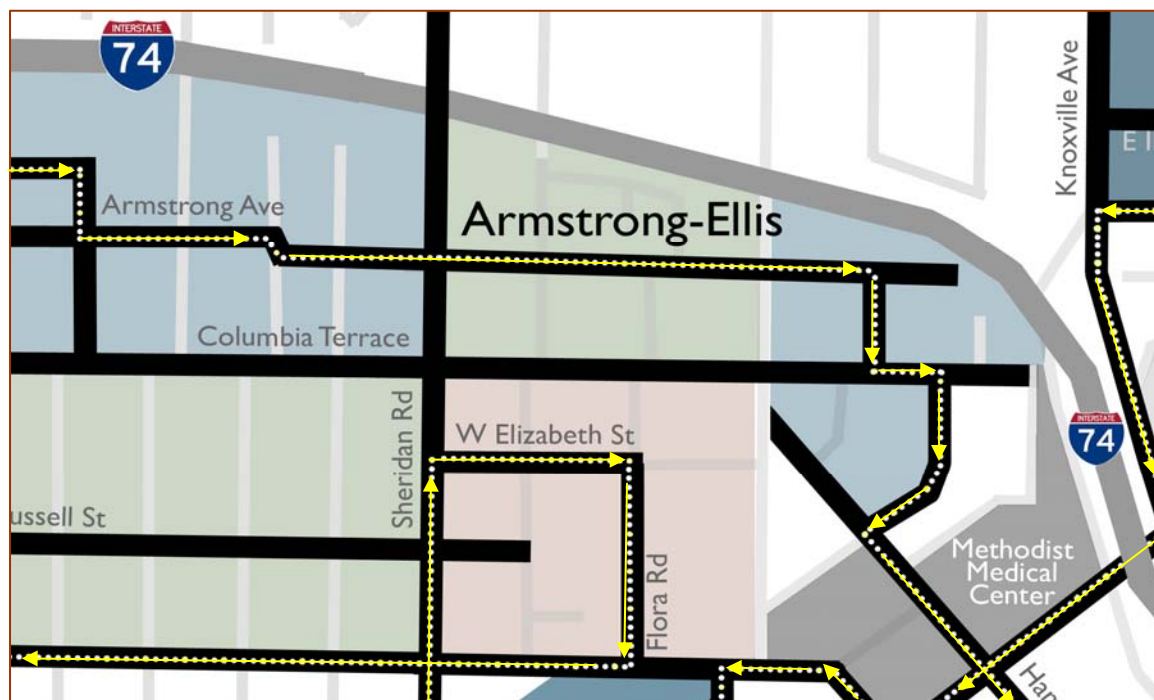
Armstrong-Ellis

The Armstrong-Ellis neighborhood, developed in the mid-1800s, is home to Peoria's only remaining brick boulevard and the state's oldest high school—Peoria Central (opened in 1916).

One of the neighborhood's historic homes, the Charles H. Feltman House, was built in 1884 by a prominent grain trader and organizer of the Peoria County Farm Bureau. Another was home to John B. Bartholomew, who designed and built the Glide automobile—one of the first made in America.

Armstrong-Ellis is an area with beautiful homes, tall mature trees and a developing park. It's home to a large population of professionals and is within walking distance of both hospitals and the University of Illinois College of Medicine.

Don't Miss: The brick street along Armstrong Avenue; the plaque at the Feltman House (401 W. Armstrong).





J

Randolph-Roanoke

Randolph-Roanoke is Peoria's first designated historic district. Once home to some of Peoria's richest and most powerful families, this neighborhood is a wonderful example of urban revitalization and elegant living with its beautiful restored homes—as well as many more restoration opportunities. Residents enjoy a close proximity to the growing Methodist Medical Center complex and are devoted neighborhood advocates.



Many residents enjoy walking through the neighborhood—following a scenic route that begins at Methodist Park at Randolph and Hamilton streets and includes a stop at the nearby Randolph-Roanoke Park.

Don't Miss: The Randolph Terrace Historic Inn (201 W. Columbia Terrace); the stained glass window on the north side of the Ballance-Herschel House (now the Junior League of Peoria at 256 NE Randolph); the relatively modern (1910) bungalow at 270 NE Randolph.

