



FARMS AFIELD: EXPERIENCE AN ARTS AND CRAFTS INSIDER'S CHICAGO

May 20-23, 2014

Arts & Crafts Tours is delighted to have been asked by The Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms to organize a tour to Chicago for their members. We hope you'll want to join them, and us, from May 20 to 23, 2014 to see the wealth of wonderful architecture that is unique to Chicago.

We will visit many of the wonderful examples of Arts and Crafts architecture that influenced designers across the country. Access to many of these is limited. We begin on Tuesday late afternoon with a welcome reception at our historic hotel located close to Chicago's new Millennium Park. If you arrive in time, we hope you will join us on a short walk through the South Loop to visit buildings designed by arts & crafts architects and the extraordinary interior of the Chicago Cultural Center (below).



Chicago is especially rich in work by some of the leading American arts and crafts designers. The highlight of this trip will be our visit to a privately owned property, Crab Tree Farm. The farm buildings display Arts and Crafts collections in settings that have been created to reflect the aesthetics of the Arts and Crafts movement. Furniture displayed in the buildings is primarily the work of Gustav Stickley. In addition to furniture, owner John Bryan's collection includes artwork (metalware, ceramics, textiles, paintings, etc.) created by American, English, and European designers, makers, and artists who were Stickley's contemporaries.



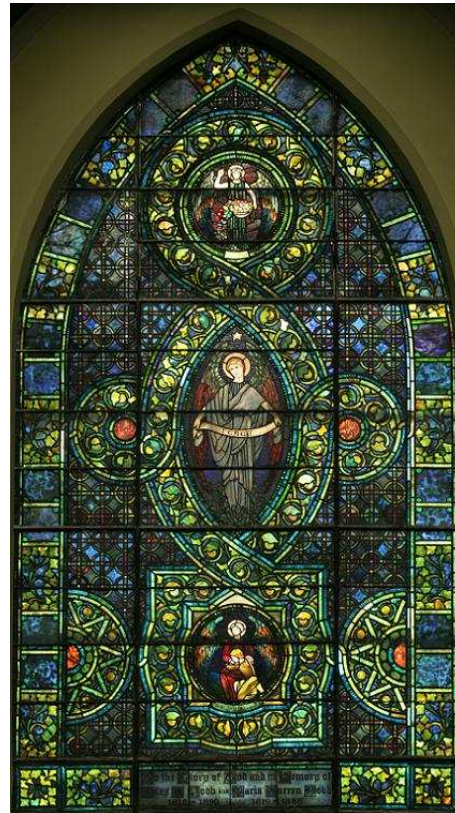
Rear Façade of Ellis House, Crab Tree Farm, Lake Bluff, IL

Crab Tree Farm remains a working farm with livestock and crops and a showcase for Arts and Crafts furniture and decorative arts. It is also a place where contemporary craftsmanship is valued and practiced. Half of the central barn is devoted to a fully equipped workshop for woodworkers, ceramic artists, metalworkers, and sculptors who receive short- and long-term residencies. Also in the main barn is a showroom with rotating exhibitions of furniture made in the workshop, often out of materials found on the property. We are delighted that John Bryan will be our host and guide at his remarkable estate.



Interior of the Ellis House, Crab Tree Farm

The extraordinary Second Presbyterian Church designed by James Renwick in 1874 was completely redone by Howard Van Doren Shaw after a disastrous fire in 1900. He brought in many leading arts and crafts designers such as Edmund Burne-Jones and Louis C. Tiffany and the gallery of windows in the church is one of the most exceptional in the world.



St Cecilia by Burne-Jones and *The Peace Window* by Louis C. Tiffany
Second Presbyterian Church

We've included the Fourth Presbyterian Church by Ralph Adams Cram in his best Gothic Revival Style, with recently restored windows by Charles Connick. Nearby is The Charnley-Perskey House by Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright which is considered by some scholars to have been Wright's first residential project when he was an employee of the Sullivan company. One can clearly see the beginnings of Wright's Prairie School design from the first glimpse of the exterior of the house. But to get the full flavor of Wright, we will visit the Robie House which has been masterfully restored and completed with original furnishings. You will see why it is considered by many as his masterpiece.



Robie House

A little further along is Bertram G Goodhue's splendid Rockefeller Memorial Chapel at the University of Chicago. It has splendid ceiling mosaics by Hildreth Meier and sculptures by Lee Laurie.

One morning we head to Oak Park where we visit the Frank Lloyd Wright home and studio and the Unity Temple and will drive by some of others. One of the best examples of the work of H.H. Richardson, whose work influenced so many architects and designers, is the Glessner House (below) which is filled with marvelous pieces from the English arts and crafts.



We hope you will want to come along.

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The cost, all inclusive of land arrangements, \$1,958.00 per/person based on double occupancy.

If you are not yet a member of The Stickley Museum you can join by emailing them at info@stickleymuseum.org