

Welcome to 5834 Middaugh Avenue





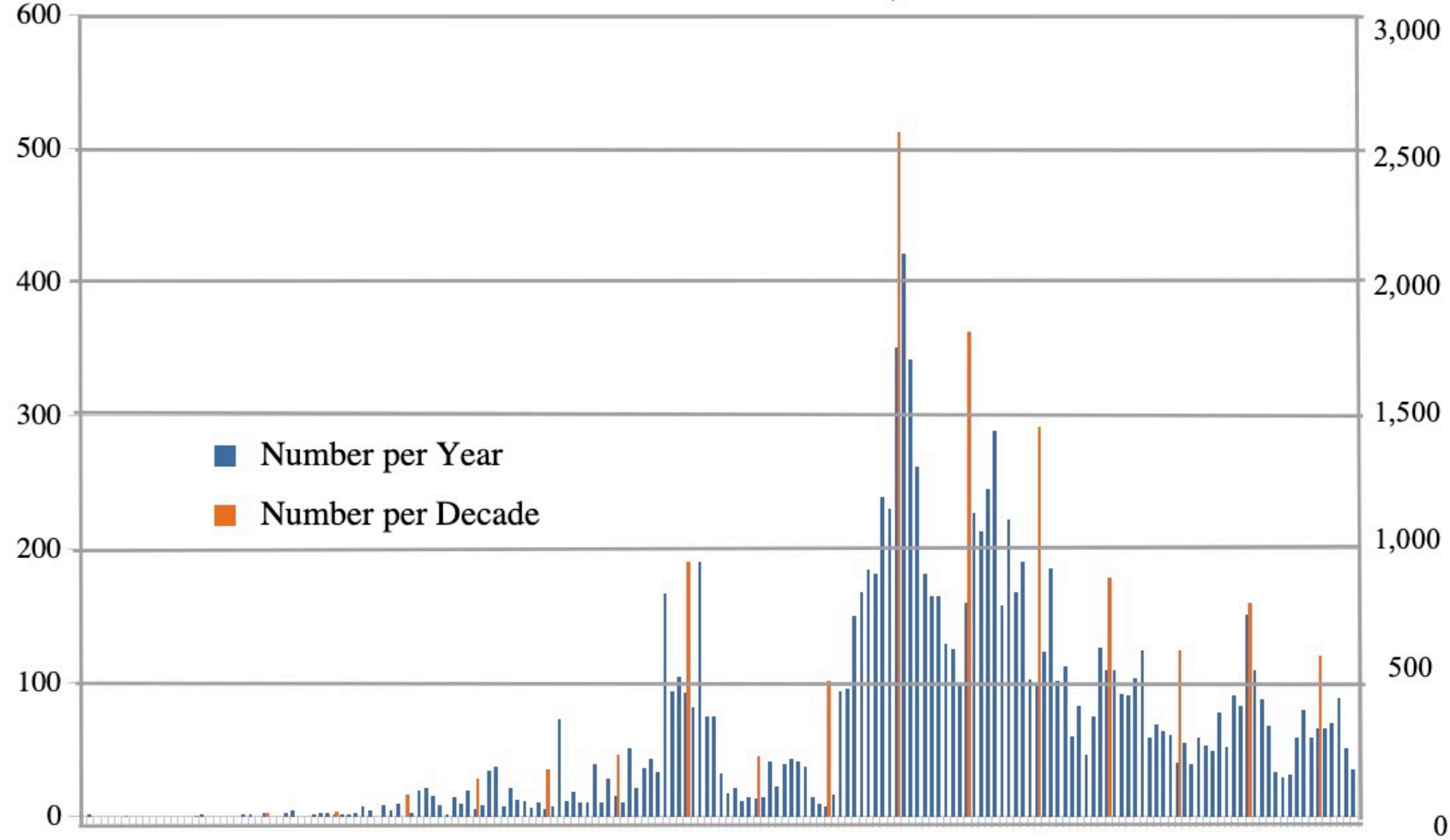
Number of Village of Downers Grove Residences Built in the Years 1830 to 2020

According To Downers Grove Township Assessor's Records

As of November 11, 2020

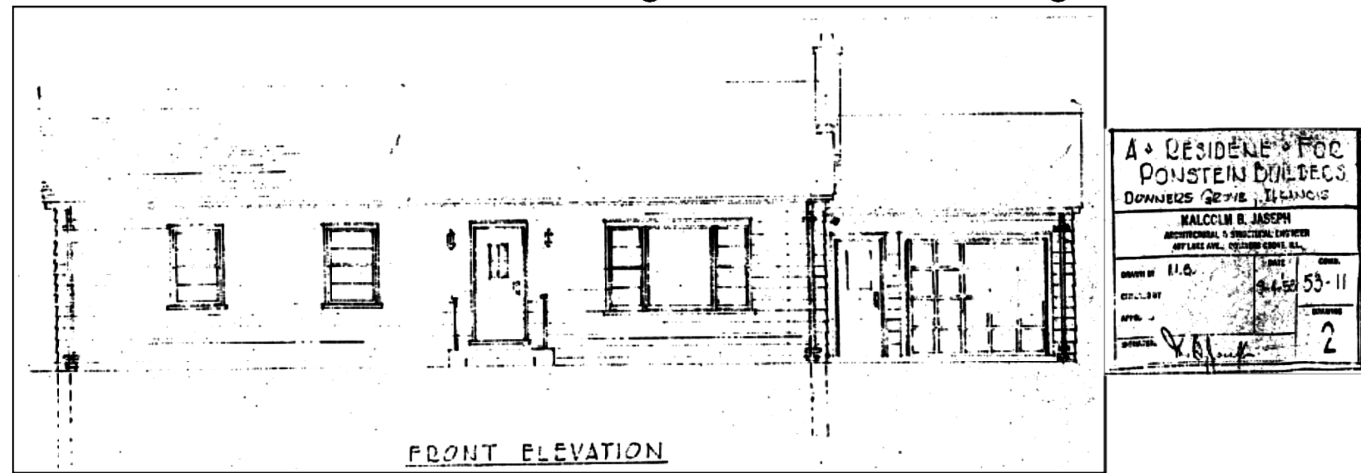
Scale for
Number per Year

Scale for
Number per Decade



1830 1840 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2020

Years 1830 through 2020



Detail of Drawing 2 of A RESIDENCE FOR PONSTEIN BUILDERS by MALCOLM B. JASEPH



Detail of early Polaroid photograph, perhaps from the 1950's



5834 Middaugh Avenue, East Elevation

Mid-Century Modern Ranch House

Characteristic Features:

- Large Picture Window
- Attached Garage
- Low Pitched Roof
- Low, Wide, Asymmetrical Overall Appearance



South Elevation



East Elevation

Exterior Prairie Style Design Elements:

- Cross Gable Roof
- Ribbon Awning Windows
- Extended Overhanging Eaves
- Horizontally-Oriented Brick Veneer
- Broad Chimney



December 9, 2021

Amy Gassen, Chair
Downers Grove Historic Preservation and Design Review Board
Village of Downers Grove
801 Burlington Ave

RE: 5834 Middaugh Avenue, Downers Grove

Dear Chairman Gassen and Members of the Board,

It has been brought to our attention that the long-time owners of 5834 Middaugh Avenue have nominated their home for Downers Grove landmark designation. Landmarks Illinois is a statewide historic preservation advocacy organization that provides tools and resources people need to save the special places in their communities. We commend the owners for having the foresight to protect their historic home and agree that it merits local landmark recognition and protection.

The mid-century home built in approximately 1955 at 5834 Middaugh Avenue is representative of rapid postwar housing development in Chicago's western suburbs. While considered humble in design and scale today, it is reflective of what was the desired ideal home of the time for a middle class family. Its ranch-style design features and amenities are intact. It has excellent historic integrity and has had only one other owner previous to the Goodman family, who purchased the home in 1965.

The home is located in the Powers Resubdivision, which was laid out in 1952 to include 30 building lots, with two added in 1955. Lots were individually purchased and homes were custom designed and built by numerous builders and architects in the Chicago and Great Lakes region. This particular home was issued one of the first building permits in the subdivision in 1953 and was designed and built by a Downers Grove team, adding to the significance of its local history. Acknowledging and protecting examples of Downers Grove's mid-century housing, now past the 50-year mark, is just as important to the village's architectural legacy as are homes built in the Victorian, Tudor-Revival and Foursquare styles.

Homes in Downers Grove from this period continue to be at risk of replacement. We hope the Board will give serious consideration to this nomination so that an early example of post-war housing in Downers Grove is protected.

Sincerely,



Lisa DiChiera
Director of Advocacy

In summary, the residence at 5834 Middaugh Avenue, Downers Grove, Illinois is more than 50 years old.

It represents the distinguishing characteristics of Mid-Century Modern Ranch houses of the 1950s with Prairie Style design elements.

We respectfully ask that you grant this house landmark status, as has been unanimously recommended by the Historic Preservation and Design Review Board with strong support from Landmarks Illinois.

Thank you.