

Cleveland Architects

Joseph M Blackburn

Birth/Established: 1820 **Death/Dissolved:** 1891

Biography: Joseph M. Blackburn was born in Cudworth, Yorkshire, England. In England he served a seven year apprenticeship to William and Thomas Topam at Ackworth, Yorkshire. Blackburn worked as an architect at Ackworth for an additional four years. He came to the United States and to Cleveland in 1850. As an architect from 1850 to 1891, he worked in Cleveland throughout the Victorian era designing buildings in the Second Empire, Gothic and Italianate styles of his day. He received many significant commissions during his career including the St. Vincent's Charity Hospital, the Ohio Deaf and Dumb Asylum in Columbus, the Central Ohio Insane Asylum in Columbus, and the remodeling of Presidential candidate James Garfield's Mentor home. He was the architect of private and public buildings in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia. During his career he formed many partnerships. From 1861 to 1864 he was a member of the firm of Blackburn and Fuller. About 1865 he moved to 471 Euclid Avenue. From 1866 to 1868 he was a member of the firm of Blackburn and Koehler; from 1879 to 1880 he was a member of the firm of Blackburn and Charlot; and finally he was with the firm of Blackburn and Daniels. When not in partnership he was listed as working alone. J. N. Richardson and Andrew Mitermiller worked in his office before they went into business in their own firms. Most of his buildings were constructed before building permits were required in Cleveland (1888) and remain unidentified. He was a member of the Euclid Avenue Baptist Church. He is buried in Woodland Cemetery.

Building List

Structure	Date	Address	City	State	Status
Clinton French Building	1857	318-24 Superior Avenue, N. W.	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Cleveland City Prison and Police Court	1860	420 Champlain Street	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Dr. Worthy S. Streater Residence	1864	9803 Euclid Avenue	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
University Heights Congregational Church (St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church)	1865	2460 West 14th Street	Cleveland	OH	Standing
St. Vincent's Charity Hospital	1865	2315 East 22nd Street	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
First Presbyterian Church	1866-8	201 Wick Avenue	Youngstown	OH	Demolished
Euclid Avenue Baptist Church	1868	1746 Euclid Avenue	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Parshall Opera House	1870	201 - 7 West Spring Street	Titusville	PA	Demolished
Second National Bank Enlargement	1871	202-8 Spring Street	Titusville	PA	Standing
Winslow Block	1872	1228 - 44 Old River Road	Cleveland	OH	Standing
McKenzie House	1874		Ashtabula	OH	unknown
Caine-Miller House	1878	9135 Broadway	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Southworth Building	1882	2013-9 Ontario	Cleveland	OH	Standing
6 residences for I. Reynolds	1882		Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Dr. Joseph Lewis Residence	1883	2340 East 55th Street	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Remington Arnold Residence	1883	1646 East 55th Street	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Leader Sewing Machine Factory	1883	1791-1807 East 40th Street	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Frame dwelling on Sibley for C.B. Couch	1883		Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Four dwellings for Price Brothers	1883		Cleveland	OH	Demolished
G.H. Chandler Residence	1883	2230 East 40th Street	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Residence for William McFarland	1888	1877 East 59th Street	Cleveland	OH	Demolished
Residence for William McFarland	1888	1881 East 59th Street	Cleveland	OH	Demolished

Sources:

Biographical Encyclopedia of Ohio of the 19th Century

Brenner, William A. Downtown and the University : Youngstown, Ohio March 1976

Cleveland City Directories

Cleveland Necrology file