

Asahel Bemis Hinsdell built 443 East Chicago Street in 1848 after moving from Hanover Township to Elgin in 1847. It is with great pleasure that the Gifford Park Association presents this home on its Sesquicentennial historic home tour, for it is the only building in Elgin included in Rex Newcomb's "Architecture of the Old Northwest Territory." Hanging in the foyer is a certificate,

signed by the Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, that attests to this home's historical and architectural significance.

An example of the Greek Revival architectural style, note this home's recessed classical Greek Revival entry with its sidelights and transoms. In the square foyer is a beautiful, free-standing spiral staircase along a curved wall. The staircase has turned balusters and newel post and carved ornamentation. Also of note is the heavy woodwork molding in the original portion of the house, the room that is now the music room.