

Pick a Room Challenge

1. Choose any stop from the 'core tour' and craft a station card for that stop.
2. Include an introduction in your interpretation.
3. Use interpretive language, at least 1 architectural term.
4. Include the transition to the next room.
5. Be prepared to deliver the content for your room using your station card at the next session.
6. Mentors will review your card and provide feedback.

Your card should include: bullet points of for memory jogs. Use **highlights**, **bold**, *italics* for important words to make them stand out as you quickly glancing at them. These cards are meant to be used as a memory jog. You should not write out complete sentences or paragraphs.

Below is are sample station cards for the Home & Studio. Your final notes should look similar to these.

"LABORATORY" FOR 20 YEARS—3 MINS

1887—RICHLAND, WI

1888—ADLER & SULLIVAN

1889—CATHERINE/ HOUSE (\$5K)

EXTERIOR—SHINGLE + FLW "NATURAL"

1898—STUDIO

1909 = RESTORED APPEARANCE

TICKETS

STOP 1: FOREST AVENUE SIDEWALK/WELCOME TO FLW H&S—3 MINS.

❖ CATHY, Trained Interpreter with FLW Trust

❖ LOOKS LIKE A HOUSE, BUT ALSO A LABORATORY

❖ 19th C Influences → 20 YRS of EXPERIMENTATION → Prairie Style of early 20th C → ...

❖ 1887—FLW leaves family farmlands in Richland, WI = 19 yrs old

○ Residential architect Joseph Lyman Silsbee = 1st employer in Chicago

❖ Early 1888—Adler (Dankmar) & Sullivan (Louis)—next employer in Chicago

❖ 1889—Marries Catherine Tobin, who is 18 yrs. old

○ Builds 6-room, 2-story house w/\$5K (!) borrowed from Sullivan

❖ EXTERIOR—NOT Prairie Style, but adapted East Coast Shingle Style (= Silsbee influence)

○ Clearly articulated geometric forms—Gable, rectangular base, curved wall of porch

○ Anchored to site, not dominating it. Materials/colors of house → NATURAL

❖ 1898—Architectural Studio added = Birthplace of uniquely American Prairie Style

❖ 1909—Restored to appearance during last year of FLW's occupancy (Museum since 1974)

TRANSITION: HAVE TICKETS READY TO BE CHECKED, PLS.

❖ CHGO AVE SIDEWALK → ENTRYWAY → LR, FACING FIREPLACE

You can create a quick reference guide for important dates and names and place it in the front or back of your book. This will keep your content cards decluttered and will make this information much easier to find.

Spring 1908-Robie buys lot from Goodman \$13,500 60x180 TOTAL\$35K

Summer 08-Robie commissions FLW for "One of those damn Wright houses!"

March 09-Construction begins under **Harrison B Barnard**

Sept. 09-FLW to Germany, Wasmuth Portfolio

- **George Mann Niedecken**-interior arch-design, production, supervision
- **Hermann von Holtz**-took over FLW practice in Steinway Hall
- **Mary Mahony**-supervised completion of commissions in Oak Park- 30!

Summer 10-Robie's move in= 1 year in residence.

Dec 11-David Lee Taylor (Ellen)"X-mas gift to wife/\$50K house" 6-sons, Wilmette
= 1 year in residence

Nov 12-Marshall & Isadora Wilber-"Wilber Mercantile" = 18 year in residence

Nov 16-Jeanette dies@ 25years: Marcia is photographed everywhere in house.

Winter 26-CTS purchase \$90K-dorm for married students=26 years

1941-CTS to demolish-FLW letter writing campaign

1957-CTS to demolish-FLW visit @ 90 years old!

1957-1st House granted Chicago Landmark Status

1958-Robie purchased by William Zeckendorf (Webb & Knapp, NY) \$125K

1958-CTS purchases 2 lots north of Robie-builds dorms

1962-Web & Knapp gives house to University

1963-US Registered Nat'l Historic Landmark-solely on architectural merit

1966-Adlia Stevenson Institute for Intn'l Affairs office (think tank)

1970-Campus riots damage house & art glass

1975-UoC Alumni Affairs office

1980-Illinois Historic Landmark

1997-FLWPT granted stewardship, UoC owners & Natn'l Trust for Historic Presv.

1998-Review Board Conference- restoration master plan

2001-Restoration begins

Robie Chronology of Occupancy

- Private Residence- Robie:1 Taylor:1 Wilbur: 14 = 16 years
- Chicago Theological dorm for married students:15 = 31 years
- Private Investment-4 = 35
- U of C 50 = 85 years
- Trust = 16 years in 2013