Among notable features of the Queen Anne style house are a classical veranda which wraps around the southeast corner and an octagonal tower which projects from the main roof. While Frank Strickler lived in this house, he was an executive of the Janesville Hay Tool Company, which later became the Strickler Hay Tool Company. The Stricklers resided here until 1925.

This house was built for Dr. William H. Palmer, who was the son of noted Janesville physician and Mayor Dr. Henry Palmer. The William Palmers lived here until 1910. (The Henry Palmer house is located at 237 Madison Street in the Look West Historic District.) Dr. Guy Waufle and his wife Maude lived here from 1917-1950.

The Palmer House exemplifies many of Janesville's well-detailed Queen Anne style houses from this period. The roof has several gables and projections, and a large bell-roofed circular turret. The exterior of the house is sided with very narrow clapboards and the gables are shingled. A Palladian window is a dominant element of the facade and a veranda carried by paired Tuscan columns wraps around the northeastern corner. The building has been recently rehabilitated for use as a law office.
This distinctive cream brick duplex was built by John Watson, a prominent Janesville contractor and bridge builder, to house the families of two of his daughters. The low-pitched hip roof, wide overhanging eaves, and projecting bays and slender posts at the porch are among its important features. The side-by-side duplex form is quite unusual for buildings of this period in Janesville.

John Watson came to Janesville from England in 1855, where he had worked on railroad construction. In Chicago, he worked for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad on bridge and track projects. He left Chicago for California, where he unsuccessfully tried gold prospecting. His first venture in Janesville was as a hotel proprietor, but he soon turned to railroad construction for the Milwaukee and St. Paul R.R.

Watson became an expert in tunnel construction and assisted the City of Janesville with mill race maintenance and flood control along the Rock River. Over the course of his career, he built bridges for many towns and cities in Wisconsin.

In 1866, Watson's son-in-law, Orion Sutherland, purchased this building and continued to reside here until about 1915. Sutherland was a partner in J. Sutherland and Sons, and was also active in local politics.