

THE 1930's

WALK



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BOULOGNE-
BILLANCOURT

The interwar period was a time of intense architectural activity in Boulogne-Billancourt. Many architects, some of whom called themselves avant-garde, such as Mallet-Stevens, others more traditional, such as Courrèges, and still others more Neoclassical, such as Terry, built artists' studios, public buildings, and apartment buildings in the centre and the north of the city.

In addition to this, they received the support of bold and open-minded patrons, whether they were women and men of the world, artists or municipal councillors. The most discerning of them enabled the construction of masterpieces such as the villa built by Le Corbusier for the American journalist Cook.

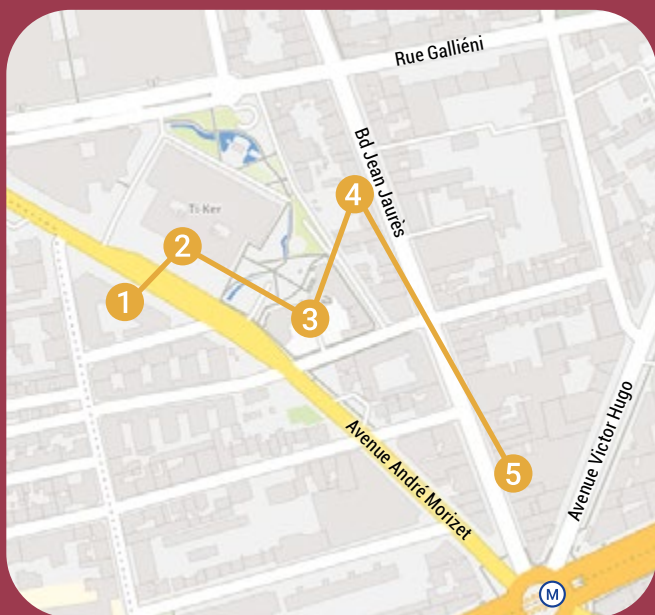
We have created three different routes through the city, each of which allows you to discover the richness and diversity of 1930s architecture. Enjoy your walk.

Pierre-Christophe Baguet

MP and mayor of Boulogne-Billancourt

President of Grand Paris Seine Ouest

1ST WALK



1 Post office building (1938)

27, avenue André-Morizet

Built by Charles Giroud, the post office building is the second building, after the city hall, of the administrative district that André Morizet wanted to create in the geographical centre of Boulogne-Billancourt.

The functional purpose of the building did not prevent the architect from paying great attention to the whole structure, as shown by the main entrance, which is decorated with ironwork.



Post office building
Charles Giroud (1871-1955)



City Hall
Tony Garnier (1869-1948)

2 City hall (1934)

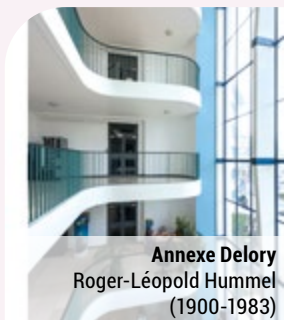
26, avenue André-Morizet

André Morizet, senator and mayor of Boulogne-Billancourt, commissioned the architect Tony Garnier to build this administrative masterpiece of the 1930s. The design of the building was innovative: two buildings with extremely distinctive shapes and functions form the city hall. The imposing appearance of the south facade, clad in limestone and punctuated with high windows, heralds the private lounges and the city council chambers, while the exposed concrete and the large, light-filled windows in the north facade emphasise its administrative function.

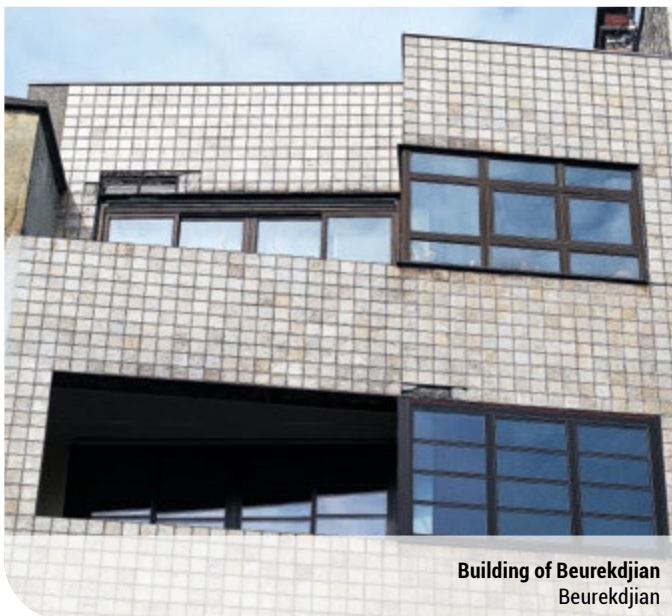
3 Annexe Delory Roger-Léopold Hummel (1900-1983)

24 bis, avenue André-Morizet

To complete his "administrative centre," André Morizet appointed the architect Roger-Léopold Hummel to build a municipal dispensary. The building is structured around a large, bright central hall with a long, curved wing and a short, rounded wing on the opposite side. The building was not finished until after the end of World War II.



Annexe Delory
Roger-Léopold Hummel
(1900-1983)



Building of Beurekdjian
Beurekdjian

4 Building of Beurekdjian (1936)

140, boulevard Jean-Jaurès

This investment property, which was built by a doctor and designed by the architect Beurekdjian, is notable for its facade – quartzite tiles – and the modern appearance of the loggias.



Building of Wybo
Wybo (1880-1943)

5 Building of Wybo (1936)

187, boulevard Jean-Jaurès

The retail chain Prisunic commissioned one of its architects – Wybo – to build its shop in Boulogne-Billancourt. Although the interior of the building has been substantially altered, the facade is just as dynamic, resulting from the use of red brick and white stone.



Villas Miestchaninoff and Lipchitz
Le Corbusier (1887-1965)

1 Villas Miestchaninoff and Lipchitz (1924)
5, rue des Arts & 9, allée des Pins

Private driveway only accessible during guided tours of the 1930s walk offered by the municipality.

At the intersection of rue des Arts and allée des Pins, Le Corbusier built two studio residences, one for the sculptor Miestchaninoff and the other for the sculptor Lipchitz. The studios, which are directly connected to the driveway, face north, while the houses, facing south, open onto a green space. Villa Lipchitz is characterised by its exterior and interior polychromy.

2 Investment property (1933-1936)

5, rue Denfert-Rochereau

The villa that Le Corbusier built on this triangular plot in 1927 was replaced by an investment property at the request of the owners.

The architect Georges-Henri Pingusson was responsible for the new construction, which was inspired by the architecture of ocean liners, as evidenced by the porthole windows and the rounded, bow-shaped tip.



Investment property
Georges-Henri
Pingusson (1894-1978)

3 Villa Collinet (1926)

8, rue Denfert-Rochereau

The villa that Robert Mallet-Stevens built for the Collinet family is divided into two parts: a vertical block, on the left, which houses the staircase and a “cube” of rooms (servants' quarters, reception rooms and bedrooms) with horizontal lines.



Villa Collinet
Robert Mallet-Stevens (1886-1945)



Villa Cook
Le Corbusier (1887-1965)

4 Villa Cook (1927)
6, rue Denfert-Rochereau

In 1926, Le Corbusier and his cousin Pierre Jeanneret experimented here with their five-point theory for modern architecture: the pilotis that detaches the building from the ground, the roof garden, the open-floor plan, the horizontal window and the free facade.



5 Villa Dubin (1928)
4, rue Denfert-Rochereau

Fashion designer Suzanne Dubin commissioned Raymond Fischer to build this villa with its reinforced concrete frame and smooth white exterior. Together with its elegant neighbours, it forms a "triptych" of modern architecture.

Villa Dubin
Raymond Fischer (1898-1988)



Lombard studio residence
Pierre Patout (1879-1965)

6 Lombard studio residence (1928)

2, rue Gambetta

The architect Pierre Patout decided to use a cut-off corner to occupy the northern end of this triangular plot of land. At the top of the facade, he installed the studio of the patron, the painter Alfred Lombard.



Niermans private mansion
Jean Niermans (1897-1989)

7 Niermans private mansion (1935)

3, rue Gambetta

The architect Jean Niermans's personal house has two facades, one fairly classical on rue Denfert-Rochereau and the other, more original, on rue Gambetta, which is notable for its varied openings: a vertical slit, two or three casements and an oculus.

8 Private mansion (1931)

5, rue Gambetta

To decorate the facade of this private mansion, the architect Emilio Terry adopted a vocabulary of pilasters, capitals and modillion pediments typical of the neoclassical style, which was also in vogue during the interwar period. It was in this house, large enough to install a boxing ring, that singer Edith Piaf imagined her life with boxer Marcel Cerdan, who unfortunately died a few months later.

La Môme lived there from 1949 to 1951.



Private mansion
Emilio Terry (1890-1969)

9 Private mansions and apartment blocks (1934)

8-14, rue Gambetta

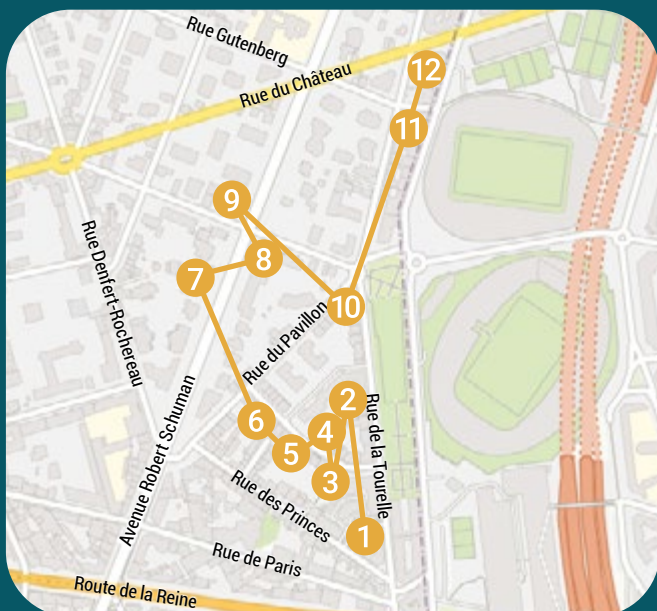
The private mansions and investment properties designed by architects Marcel Julien and Louis Duhayon are elegantly integrated into their architectural environment, thanks to architectural details inspired by classical, Art Deco and modernist styles.



Private mansions and apartment blocks
Marcel Julien et Louis Duhayon (1884-1968)



3RD WALK





Apartment block
Constant Lefranc (1885-1972)

1 Apartment block (1931)

60-62, rue de la Tourelle

The building complex built by the architect Constant Lefranc for the companies Urbaine et Seine and Urbaine-Vie creates an impression of power thanks to its stone facade cladding, the protruding balconies and the enormous oriels.

2 Apartment block (1924)

52, rue de la Tourelle

Behind the Billy stone and limestone facade of this apartment block – designed by the architect Urbain Cassan – lies a concrete frame. The maids' rooms no longer occupy the top floor (another departure from tradition) but instead the ground floor.



3 Private mansions (1927 and 1929)

4 et 5, rue du Belvédère

The architect Raymond Bornay chose to build this private mansion in the curve of the street. The result is an elegant concave facade with classical decorations: moulding, oculus and balustrade. Opposite is a convex, undecorated mansion built by the architect Ray-Mond Fischer.

Private mansions
Raymond Bornay,
Raymond Fischer (1898-1988)

4 Villas of Jean Hillard (1935)

6-12, rue du Belvédère

The materials used in these five villas – brick, stone, slate and tile – are reminiscent of an English street... They are the work of the architect Jean Hillard.



Villas of Jean Hillard
Jean Hillard

5 Froriep de Salis studio residence (1927)

9, rue du Belvédère

The street facade of this villa is characterised by a large horizontal bay window announcing the presence of an artist's studio and by a cement pergola that continues to the entrance! It was the architect André Lurçat who built this block.



Froriep de Salis studio residence
André Lurçat (1894-1970)



Villa Dora Gordin

Auguste (1874-1954) and Gustave Perret (1876-1952)

6 Villa Dora Gordin (1929)

21, rue du Belvédère

The Perret brothers built two villas here, one of which – Villa Dora Gordin– has preserved its original elegance. Reinforced concrete, left exposed, was used, but this did not exclude the use of traditional shapes: the facade, for instance, is decorated with a cornice with a poetic “key” in the centre. By contrast, the villa they built for Marguerite Huré, master glassmaker, (at no. 25) has been extensively modified.



7 Joseph Bernard studio (1921)

24, avenue Robert-Schuman

Joseph Bernard commissioned the architect Charles Plumet to build his sculptor's studio. The simplicity of the building highlights the Dance Frieze, a sculpture by the artist, set into the cornice of the facade.

Joseph Bernard studio
Charles Plumet (1861-1928)

8 Renard private mansion (1928)

19 bis, avenue Robert-Schuman

When constructing this private mansion where André Malraux lived from 1945 to 1962, the architect Jean-Léon Courrèges opted for traditional materials and shapes – bricks, tiles, sloping roofs and gables – which give the building a regionalist character.



Renard private mansion

Jean-Léon Courrèges (1885-1948)

9 Dujarric de la Rivière private mansion (1930)

2, rue Salomon-Reinach

Everything here is designed to highlight the room which housed the organ of the wife of the patron, Mr Dujarric de la Rivière. A large window illuminates the room, which occupies two levels and extends over half the building.

The organ has since disappeared.



Private mansion

Louis Faure-Dujarric (1875-1943)



Private mansion

Marcel-Victor Guilgot

10 Private mansion (1937)

1, rue du Pavillon

A play of concave curves – the main facade – and convex curves – the overhang – enliven this villa built by the architect Marcel-Victor Guilgot for the actor Albert Préjean. The entrance is located on the sides.



Immeuble Molitor
Le Corbusier (1887-1965)

11 Immeuble Molitor (1934)

24, rue Nungesser-et-Coli

The proximity of sports facilities, the Bois de Boulogne and the possibility of having windows in two facades were music to Le Corbusier's ears, who was confident that the conditions for a brilliant city were in place. He built an apartment block here which is clearly part of modern life: it has a concrete frame and a glass and steel facade. The master reserved the top floor for his studio residence.



Apartment block
Jean Fidler

12 Apartment block (1930)

14, rue Nungesser-et-Coli

The apartment block, which stretches from rue de la Tourelle to rue Nungesser-et-Coli, was built by the architect Jean Fidler. The rounded oriels, arched bay windows and ironwork with floral motifs give this luxurious building its elegance.



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TOURIST OFFICE OF BOULOGNE-BILLANCOURT

25 AVENUE ANDRÉ MORIZET, 92 100 BOULOGNE-BILLANCOURT

Tel : +33 1 41 41 54 54

Courriel : contact@otbb.org

www.otbb.org



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