

East Grove Street
Architectural/Historical Survey
Project # 17-85-9302.501
Submitted to
McLean County Regional Planning
December 2, 1985

Greg Koos
Principal Investigator

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT NOTICE

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A. Survey Methodology

East Grove Street, Bloomington, Illinois

Survey Methodology

The architectural and historical survey of the 200 through 900 blocks of East Grove Street, Bloomington was divided into three areas: (1) compilation of physical data; (2) compilation of historical data; (3) data synthesis. Physical data survey forms were completed and photographs taken for each structure within the boundaries. These are filed by current street address.

The following sources were consulted to establish a physical reference for the structures: 1867 Birdseye View, 1873 Birdseye View, 1895 McLean County Plat, 1901, 1907, 1957 Sanborn Insurance Maps and the series of Illustrated Books of Bloomington dating 1889, 1896, 1904, and 1907. Notes and copies from these sources were entered into the street address file.

Historical data was compiled starting with street indexes of the City of Bloomington, those searched were 1855 through 1920. This yielded probable original owner and/or important personages associated with the structures. This list was then referenced with available newspaper and biographical indices. Finally a general search was made of relevant papers held by the McLean County Historical Society. All appropriate data was then added to the street address file.

B. Historical Context

The area of East Grove street surveyed contains within it sites and structures associated with the formation of the City of Bloomington and its development up to the beginning of this century. The primary focus of the district is of a residential street closely associated with the central business district. As John Jaeckle has noted with his small town geography important transportation corridors were also the home showplace streets in the 19th century. At the east end of the district stood the Illinois Central Railroad passenger station and at the west end stood the central business district. Grove street was a well maintained and well traveled corridor.

In 1829 James Allin built a double pen log cabin at the site of the McBarnes Building (201 E. Grove). At that time it was the northern edge of Blooming Grove and local tradition maintains that the area surveyed, Grove street, represents the northernmost edge of that grove.

In 1831 the town of Bloomington was founded by Allin to serve as the County seat of McLean County. This landlocked county and its county seats history is a story of failures associated with the national economic scene and success mostly attributable to promoters of the locale who saw that community growth was intertwined with personal economic success.

Up to the time of the arrival of the railroads Grove street was essentially nonexistent beyond the 400 block. In 1853 when the Illinois Central Railroad arrived it became a desirable residential street. This was due to the fact that efforts were made to keep it passable for longer periods of the year.

It was the railroads and Bloomington's ability to attract more than one railroad through the area that made the city prosper and

C. Tabulation of Results

The area surveyed comprised those structures on the south side and facing Grove Street on the two hundred and three hundred blocks, those structures facing Grove Street on the north and south sides on the four, five, six, seven, eight, and nine hundred blocks. This area is less than one square mile and contains 68 principle structures.

Of these structures those on the two hundred through seven hundred blocks or 50 structures in total were viewed to constitute a coherent whole and therefore merit consideration as a National Register of Historic Places District. To this end a nomination has been prepared and steps are being taken to achieve this status.

Because of the fragile and endangered status of the area studied, particularly the two hundred through seven hundred blocks this surveyor recommends that the area be rezoned S-4 (Cultural and Historic). Without this protection and incentive to potential residents who wish to preserve historic buildings it is doubtful whether the district will survive in any recognizable manner into the 21st century. It is also recommended that the individual structural narratives prepared on each structure be distributed to the owners and residents of those structures. The survey should also be placed on file at the Bloomington Public Library.

which is also reflected in the occupation of many people living on Grove street. By 1900 about 20% of the houses were occupied by people in the wholesale trade.. Another large percentage was occupied by retired farmers. Bloomington serving as a transportation hub and it being centered in the fertile black soil cornbelt insured economic prosperity for enough people to create the kind of neighborhood surveyed.

The decline in the district in the years following World War II are attributable to the desire for smaller and more managable houses and the resulting ownership of the structures by absentee landlords.

D. Previous Surveys

Structures in this district have been noted in three previous surveys. In the Illinois Department of Conservation's Inventory of Historic Landmarks in McLean County, prepared December, 1973, four structures were noted in the boundary of this survey of East Grove Street, they are: the McBarnes Memorial Building ML-H-8; The Oaks ML-H-12; Weldon/Funk House ML-H-13; Judge Rueben Benjamin House ML-H-14 (address incorrect in 1973 report).

Some structures were noted in the 1974 Illinois Department of Conservation Inventory of Historic Structures. They are 305, 409, 421, 507, 510, 604, and 701 E. Grove.

This principle investigator of this survey wrote a walking tour of this district in 1979. He noted the following to be of historical and/or architectural merit: McBarnes Building, The Oaks, Thornton Motors, Dr. Moore house, Weldon/Funk house, Gridley house, Roush house, 507 E. Grove, Benjamin house, Messing house, Wilcox house and Cox house.

E. Data Gaps

The most significant data gaps in this survey and those proceeding it are the inability of surveyors to gain information concerning the interior, structure, arrangement and detailing of the buildings surveyed.

The art history bias inherent in the analysis of a building based upon its facade can only be overcome by inspection of those salient interior features. In a district which is controlled by local ordinance the ability of filling a data gap over time is possible. It is not possible to gather the information at low cost in any other way. It is the belief of this surveyor, however, that through the preservation of the structure, some effort can be made in the future to gather information concerning these now identified resources.

F. Problems of Implementation

No problems were experienced in the implementation of the survey. There were problems with utilizing volunteer services. The nature of this type of work force is unpredictable and on occasion work had to be redone in the interest of accuracy. The extension requested and granted for completion was more closely tied to delay in notification to proceed (April, 1985) than in difficulty in procedure.

G. Promotional Activity

No promotional activities were undertaken as part of this survey. Promotional activities including public meetings will be an integral part of the implementation of the survey results.

GROVE STREET SURVEY

Address _____

Owner _____

Owner's Address _____

Sidwell # _____

Additional Owners on back _____

Contributing _____ Non-Contributing _____

Historic Name _____

Date _____

Present Use _____

Legal Description _____

Representation in Previous Survey _____

Bibliography and Notes

NONE	PLAIN RECESSED PANEL	RECESSED PANEL BEVELED	FLUSH PANEL	MOULDED RAIL	MOULDED RAIL, RAISED PANEL	MOULDED RAIL, DECOR. PANEL	UNKNOWN	OTHER			
81 MAIN DOOR GLAZING											
	NONE	UNKNOWN	PARTLY GLAZED	FULLY GLAZED	GLAZED AND DECOR.	STAINED GLASS	OTHER				
82 STAIRS-LOCATION AND DESIGN											
						OTHER					
NONE	MAIN FLOOR PLAIN	MAIN FLOOR W/ RAILING	MAIN FLOOR, SOLID RAILING	UPPER FLOOR W/ RAILING	UPPER FLOOR SOLID RAILING	OTHER					
83 STAIRS-SHAPE											
						OTHER					
NONE	SPIRAL	DOUBLE	CURVED	STRAIGHT, SIDE	STRAIGHT	OTHER					
84 PORCHES AND GALLERIES											
							OTHER				
NONE	PLATFORM	UMBRAGE	OPEN PORCH	CLOSED PORCH	PORTICO	VERANDAH	OTHER				
85 PORCHES AND GALLERIES-SUPPORTS											
						OTHER					
NONE	POSTS	TREILLAGE	PIERS	COLUMNS	ARCADE	OTHER					
86 PORCHES AND GALLERIES-SUPPORTS MATERIAL											
	NONE	UNKNOWN	WOOD	RUBBLE	BRICK	CUT STONE	TILE	CONCRETE	PLASTER OR STUCCO	METAL	OTHER
87 PORCHES AND GALLERIES-HEIGHT											
	NONE	1st STOREY	1st & 2nd STOREY	MULTI STOREYS	OTHER						
88 INTERIOR ITEMS OF INTEREST											
	NONE	UNKNOWN	STAIRS	HALL	MAIN ROOMS	FIREPLACE	DOOR TRIM	WINDOW TRIM	OTHER		
89 APPARENT ALTERATIONS AND/OR ADDITIONS YES NO Multiple Choice											
	NONE	WALL	WINDOWS	DOORS	ROOF	CHIMNEY	STAIR-PORCH	ADD. STOREY	OTHER		
90 CONDITION OF BUILDING GOOD FAIR POOR Multiple Choice											
	WALL	WINDOWS	DOORS	ROOF	CHIMNEY	STAIR-PORCH	OTHER				
91 PROPERTY FEATURES											
	NONE	GARAGE	STABLE OR BARN	OUT-BUILDING	FENCE	GARDEN FEATURE	WATER FEATURE	OTHER			
92 PRESENT STATUS											
	INHABITED	ABANDONED	OTHER								

ATTACH NEGATIVE STRIP

UNKNOWN	DOUBLE HUNG	FIXED	CASEMENT	HINGED	PIVOTED	HORIZ. SLIDING	OTHER

8 MAIN WINDOW PANES OR LIGHTS

UPPER OR LEFT SASH	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	MULTI	OTHER
FRONT OR RIGHT SASH	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	MULTI	OTHER

2 FLOORS-SECOND FLOOR	DIFFERENT FROM FIRST FLOOR	OPENING	HEAD	SIDE	SILLS	SAME AS FIRST FLOOR	NONE
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3 WINDOWS-THIRD FLOOR	DIFFERENT FROM FIRST FLOOR	OPENING	HEAD	SIDE	SILLS	SAME AS FIRST FLOOR	NONE
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1 SPECIAL WINDOW TYPES

NONE	ROUND	HALF-ROUND	QUARTER-ROUND	POLY-GONAL	HALF-ELLIPTICAL	ELLIPTICAL	EYEBROW	GOTHIC	TRI-ANGULAR	PALLADIAN	BAY OR BOW	BLIND	MULTI	OTHER

2 MAIN DOOR LOCATION

CENTRE DOOR, TABLE FACADE	CENTRE DOOR, MAIN FACADE	OFF-CENTRE, GABLE FACADE	OFF-CENTRE, MAIN FACADE	MULTIPLE, MAIN	MULTIPLE, GABLE	OTHER

3 MAIN DOOR STRUCTURAL OPENING SHAPE

FLAT	SEGMENTAL	CENTRE POINTED	SEMI-ELLIPTICAL	TRI-ANGULAR	SEMI-CIRCULAR	CENTRE OGEE	OTHER

4 MAIN DOOR SURROUND-HEAD

PLAIN	LINTEL	LINTEL DECOR.	LINTEL SHAPED	LABEL	FLAT ARCH VOUSSIORS	ARCH VOUSSIORS	KEYSTONE ARCH VOUSSIORS	ARCH STEPPED VOUSSIORS	ALTER ARCH VOUSSIORS	ENTABLATURE	PEDIMENT	PEDIMENT, SEGMENTAL	PEDIMENT, DOUBLE CURVE
PEDIMENT, BROKEN	HOOD, PLAIN	HOOD, CURVED	OTHER										

5 MAIN DOOR SURROUND-SIDES

NONE	PLAIN	MOULDED TRIM	QUOINS	PILASTER	DECOR. OTHER	OTHER

6 MAIN DOOR SURROUND-MATERIAL

NONE	RUBBLE	CUT STONE	BRICK	TILE	CONCRETE	PLASTER OR STUCCO	METAL	UNKNOWN	OTHER

7 MAIN DOOR ARCHITRAVE-SIDE PANELS

NONE	FLUSH, BLIND	FLUSH, LIGHTS	FLUSH, OTHER	RECESSED, BLIND	RECESSED, LIGHTS	RECESSED, OTHER	OTHER

8 MAIN DOOR ARCHITRAVE-TRANSOM PANELS

NONE	FLUSH, BLIND	FLUSH, LIGHT	FLUSH, LIGHT, MULLION	FLUSH, FAN	RECESSED, BLIND	RECESSED, LIGHT, PLAIN	RECESSED, LIGHT, MULLION	RECESSED, FAN	OTHER

9 MAIN DOOR TYPE

VERTICAL PLAIN	DIAGONAL PLAIN	SINGLE LEAF, 1 PANEL	DOUBLE LEAF, 1 PANEL	SL, 2 PANEL	DL, 2 PANEL	SL, 3 PANEL	DL, 3 PANEL	SL, 4 PANEL	DL, 4 PANEL	SL, 5 PANEL	6 PANEL	7 PANEL
DECOR. DOOR	FAN PANEL	OUTCH DOOR	FRENCH	FLUSH	OTHER							

3 DORMER SHAPE

NONE	GABLE, NO OVERHANG	GABLE W/ OVERHANG	GABLE W/ RETURN	PEDIMENT	GABLE, STEPPED	SWEPT	HOODED	HIPPED	HIPPED GABLE	GABLET	SHED	BAY	TRIANGULAR
JAMBREL	MANSARD	VICTORIAN SEGMENTAL	VICTORIAN ROUND	OTHER									

4 EAVES TYPE

CLOSE EAVES	EAVES PROJECTING	EAVES PROJECTING, RAFTERS EXPOSED	CORNICE FASCIA ALONE	CORNICE BOXED, PLAIN	CORNICE BOXED, DECOR.	BARGE-BOARD	CORNICE BOXED, BRACKETS	CORNICE BOXED, SLOPED SOFFIT	CORNICE BOXED, FRIEZE PLAIN	CORNICE BOXED, FRIEZE DECOR.	CORNICE BOXED-DECOR. FRIEZE PLAIN	CORNICE BOXED-DECOR. FRIEZE DECOR	CORNICE BOXED W/ FRIEZE & BRACKETS
PARAPET, PLAIN	PARAPET, CRENELATED	PARAPET, ENTABLATURE	PARAPET W/ BALUSTRADE	OTHER									

ROOF TRIM-EAVES MATERIAL													
NONE	UNKNOWN	WOOD	CUT STONE	BRICK	TILE OR TERRA-COTTA	CONCRETE	PLASTER OR STUCCO	METAL	OTHER				

ROOF TRIM-RAKING TYPE

VERGES CLOSE	VERGES PROJECTING	CORNICE FASCIA ALONE	CORNICE BOXED, PLAIN	CORNICE BOXED, DECOR	CORNICE BOXED, BRACKETS	CORNICE BOXED, W/ RETURN	CORNICE BOXED, DECOR. W/ RETURN	PEDIMENT	BARGE-BOARD	PARAPET, GABLE	STEPPED GABLE	DECOR. GABLE	NONE / OTHER
ROOF TRIM-RAKING MATERIAL													
NONE	UNKNOWN	WOOD	CUT STONE	BRICK	TILE OR TERRA-COTTA	CONCRETE	PLASTER OR STUCCO	METAL	OTHER				

ROOF TRIM-SPECIAL FEATURES

NONE	CUPOLA OR LANTERN	BELVEDERE OR OPEN WALK	FINIAL OR URN	CRESTING	DECOR. PEDIMENT	DROP OR PENDANT	PEDIMENT	ADD. GABLE W/ WINDOWS	ADD. OR DECOR. GABLES	OTHER			

MAIN WINDOW STRUCTURAL OPENING SHAPE-GROUND OR FIRST FLOOR

SEGMENTAL	TRIANGULAR	SEMI-CIRCULAR	CENTRE OGEE	CENTRE POINTED	SEMI-ELLIPTICAL	FLAT	OTHER					

MAIN WINDOW SURROUND-HEAD-GROUND OR FIRST FLOOR

NONE	PLAIN MOULDING	LINTEL	LINTEL DECOR	LINTEL SHAPED	LABEL	FLAT ARCH VERTICAL JOINT	ARCH RADIATING VOUSSOIRS	KEYSTONE ARCH W/ VOUSSOIRS	ARCH W/ STEPPED VOUSSOIRS	ARCH ALTERNATING VOUSSOIRS	ENTABLATURE	PEDIMENT	PEDIMENT, SEGMENTAL
PEDIMENT, DOUBLE CURVE	PEDIMENT, BROKEN	HOOD, PLAIN	HOOD, CURVED	OTHER									

MAIN WINDOW SURROUND-MATERIAL													
NONE	WOOD	RUBBLE	CUT STONE	BRICK	TILE	CONCRETE	PLASTER OR STUCCO	METAL	OTHER				

MAIN WINDOW SURROUND-SILLS

NONE	SLIPSILL	LOGSILL	DECOR. SLIPSILL	DECOR. LOGSILL	OTHER							

MAIN WINDOW SURROUND-SILLS MATERIAL													
NONE	WOOD	RUBBLE	CUT STONE	BRICK	TILE	CONCRETE	PLASTER OR STUCCO	METAL	OTHER				

MAIN WINDOW DIVISIONS-GROUND OR FIRST FLOOR

SASH	2 SASH	1 SASH W/ CURTAIN	2 SASH	2 SASH	2 SASH W/ CURTAIN	3 SASH OR CURTAIN	SASH W/ CURTAIN	OTHER				

ONE	COMP. SHINGLE OR SHEET	PLASTER OR STUCCO	ASBESTOS CEMENT SHEET	SLATE	TILE	UNDETERMINED	OTHER
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CONCRETE

ONE	PRE-CAST PANEL	BLOCK	PRE-CAST PANEL SHAPED	POURED	UNKNOWN	OTHER
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METAL

ONE	METAL SHEET	GALVANIZED TIN OR IRON	METAL AND GLASS	CAST IRON	UNDETERMINED	OTHER
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IS BUILDING SHEATHED?	YES	NO	UNDETERMINED
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WALL CONSTRUCTION

VERTICAL LOG	VERTICAL PLANK	HORIZ. LOG	LOG CORD WOOD	HORIZ. PLANK	MORTISE AND TENON	MORTISE AND TENON	GLUED OR LAMINATED FRAME	EARTH	STONE	BRICK	CONCRETE BLOCK	CONCRETE, POURED	STEEL OR IRON	OTHER
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EXTERIOR SHEATHING-MAIN FACADE

MATERIAL	WOOD	TILE OR TERRA COTTA	PLASTER OR STUCCO	STONE	BRICK	METAL	COMPOSITION	OTHER
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EXTERIOR SHEATHING-OTHER FACADES	SAME AS MAIN	DIFFERENT FROM MAIN
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WALL DESIGN & DETAIL

ONE	RECESSED PANELS	ARCADING	INSCRIP. OR DATE STONE	DECOR. PANEL OR CARVING	ENTABLATURE AND/OR FRIEZE	QUOINS	CORBELING	STRING OR BELT COURSE	ENGAGED COLUMN OR PILASTER	PICK AND SPANDREL	PLINTER	DESIGN OR PAINTING	OTHER
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ROOF SHAPE

ROOF SHAPE	LOW GABLE	MEDIUM GABLE	HIGH GABLE	CENTRE GABLE	CROSS GABLE	HIPPED GABLE	HIPPED, CROSS GABLE	BELLCAST GABLE	BELLCAST HIPPED GABLE	LOW HIP	MEDIUM HIP	HIGH HIP	TRUNCATED HIP	HIPPED W/ CENTRE GABLE
ROOF SHAPE	BELLCAST GABLE	GABLED HIP OR GABLET	GAMBREL	HIPPED GAMBREL	BELLCAST GAMBREL	BELLCAST HIPPED GAMBREL	MANSARD	GABLED MANSARD	BELLCAST MANSARD	HALIFAX	SHED	SALTBOX	FLAT	BOOMTOWN
ROOF SHAPE	MONITOR	DOME	VAULT	CONICAL	PYRAMIDAL	OTHER								

ROOF MATERIAL	UNKNOWN	WOOD	METAL	SLATE	GLASS	CONCRETE	COMPOSITION	OTHER
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CHIMNEY LOCATION-PLAN

ONE	CENTRE	OFFSET LEFT	OFFSET RIGHT	SIDE, LEFT	SIDE, RIGHT	CLUSTER	OTHER
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CHIMNEY LOCATION

ONE	STRADDLE RIDGE	FRONT SLOPE	REAR SLOPE	SIDE SLOPE	EXTERIOR	OTHER
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CHIMNEY STACK MATERIAL	NONE	UNKNOWN	TILE	RUBBLE	CUT STONE	BRICK	PARGE	CONCRETE	OTHER
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CHIMNEY STACK UNITS

ONE	SINGLE	LINKED, TOP	LINKED, AT BASE	PIE	JOINED	OTHER
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SQUARE	RECTANGULAR	L	U	T	H	CIRCULAR	PAVILLION	CENTRE SPACE	CRUCIFORM	APSIDAL	APSE AND TRANSEPT	APSE AND NARTHEX	NARTHEX AND TRANSEPT
		OTHER											
POLYGONAL	IR-REGULAR	OTHER											

9 WINGS

NONE	FRONT REAR	EITHER SIDE	FRONT AND EITHER SIDE	BOTH SIDES	FRONT AND REAR	FRONT AND BOTH SIDES	REAR AND EITHER SIDE	REAR AND BOTH SIDES	FRONT, REAR & EITHER SIDE	FRONT, REAR & BOTH SIDES	IR-REGULAR	UNKNOWN	OTHER

10 PLOT AREA	Frontage	Depth
11 BUILDING AREA	Width	Depth

12 STOREYS

1 STOREY	1 1/2 STOREY	1 SPLIT	1 FRONT, 2 REAR	2 STOREYS	2 STOREYS OVERSAIL	3 STOREYS	2 SPLIT	2 1/2 STOREY	4 STOREYS	MULTI	IR-REGULAR	UNKNOWN	OTHER

3 BAYS-MAIN FACADE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	multi	other
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4 BASEMENT

NONE	CRAWL SPACE	PARTIAL	FULL	UNKNOWN	OTHER

5 BASEMENT WALL MATERIAL

NONE	UNKNOWN	WOOD POST	LOG SILL	MASONRY	RUBBLE	CUT STONE	CONCRETE BLOCK	PURED CONCRETE	BRICK	OTHER
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EXTERIOR WALL MATERIAL

6 EARTH

NONE	UNDETERMINED	TAMPED EARTH	MUD BRICK OR BLOCK	SOD & TURF	EARTH & LIME	OTHER
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7 WOOD

NONE	VERTICAL LOG	VERTICAL PLANK	HORIZ. LOG	HORIZ. SHAPED LOG	LOG CORDWOOD	HORIZ. PLANK	MORTISE AND TENON	PLYWOOD	FLUSH-BOARD	ASHLAR IMITATION	CLAP BOARD	SPLIT WEATHER BOARD	SHIPLAP

SINGLE	VERTICAL BOARD & BATTEN	OTHER

STONE SHAPE AND COURSING

NONE	FLINT AND/OR COBBLE	PLAIN OR SPLIT FIELD-STONE	CUT STONE BROKEN COURSE	CUT STONE COURSED	SLATE OR SHALE	RUBBLE, RANDOM	RUBBLE COURSED	RUBBLE, SQUARED	COMPOSITION	OTHER

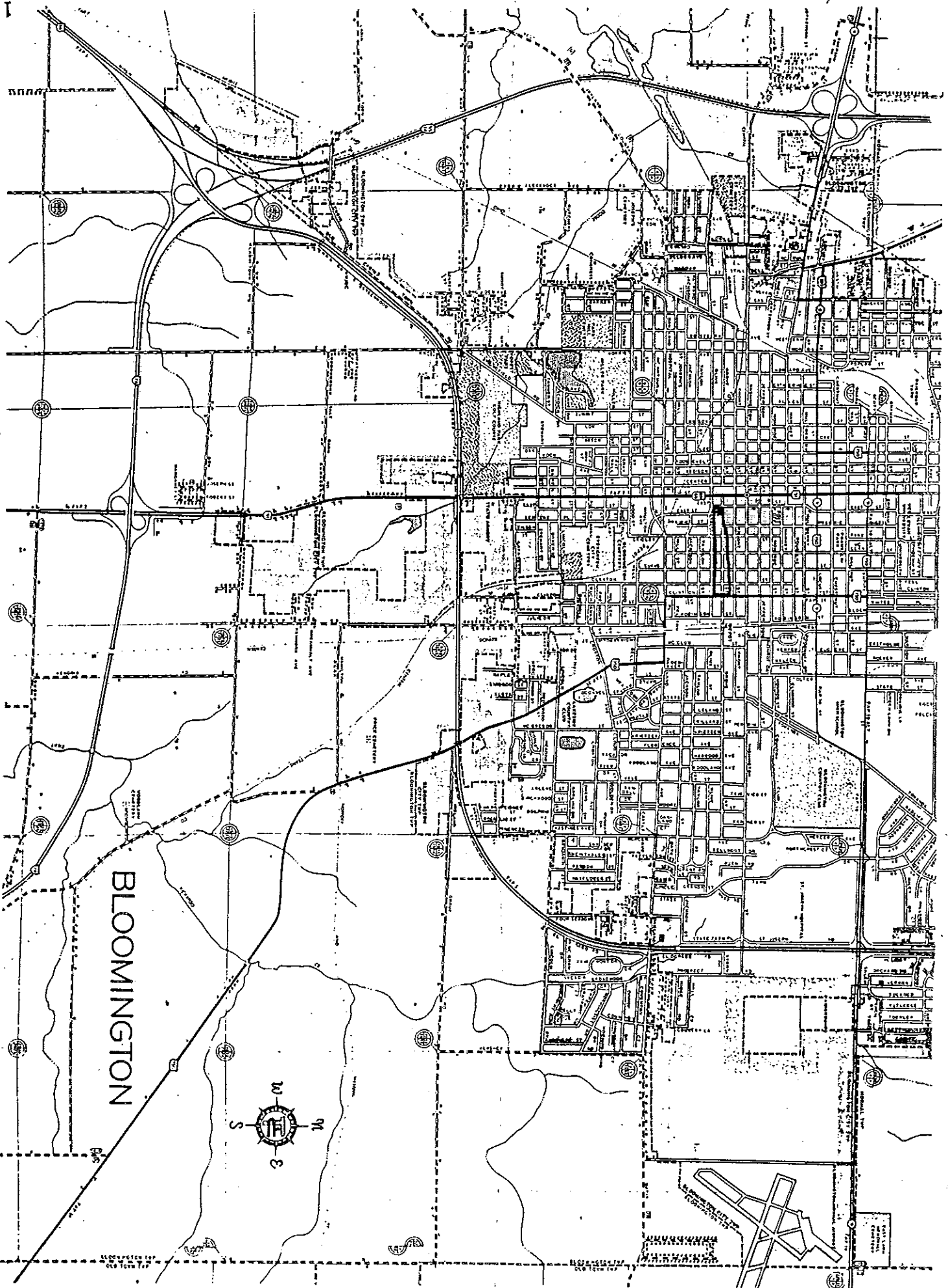
STONE TEXTURE OR FINISH

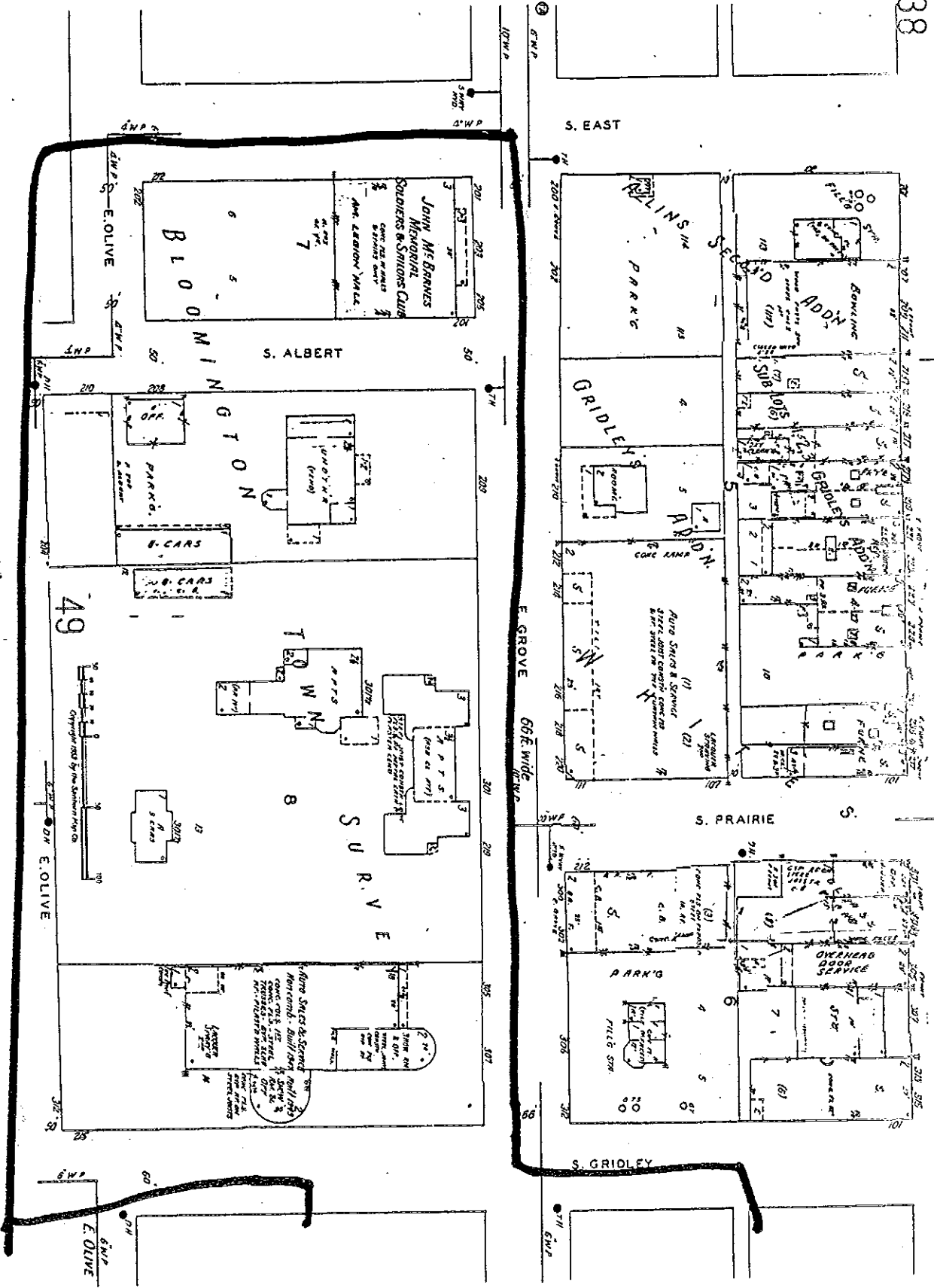
NONE	NATURAL	SAWN	TOOLED OR HAMMERED	SMOOTH DRESSED	POLISHED	RUSTICATED	ROCK-FACED	VERMICULATED	OTHER

BRICK

NONE	HEADER BOND	STRETCHER BOND	ENGLISH BOND	FLEMISH BOND	COMMON BOND	GARDEN WALL	OTHER

Area of Grove st. District Survey, Project # 17-85-93.501





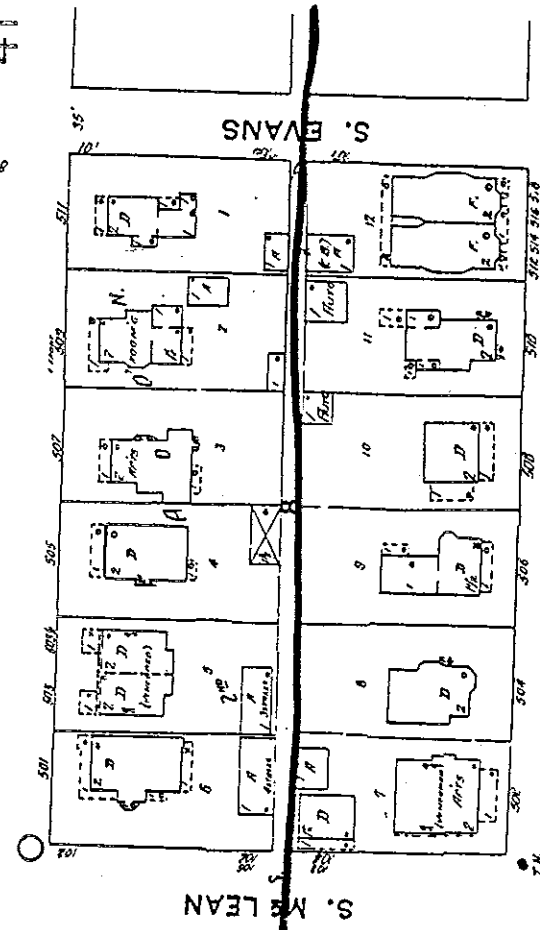
East Grove St District
Blomington IL

Limits of Survey
Project # 17-85-96.501

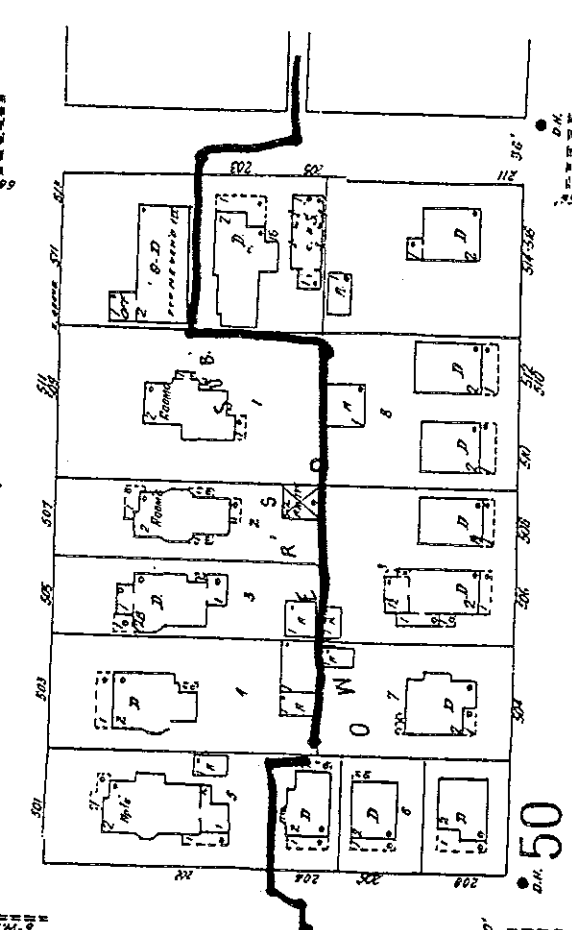
1043

39
D.M. 17-85-93-501

E. FRONT



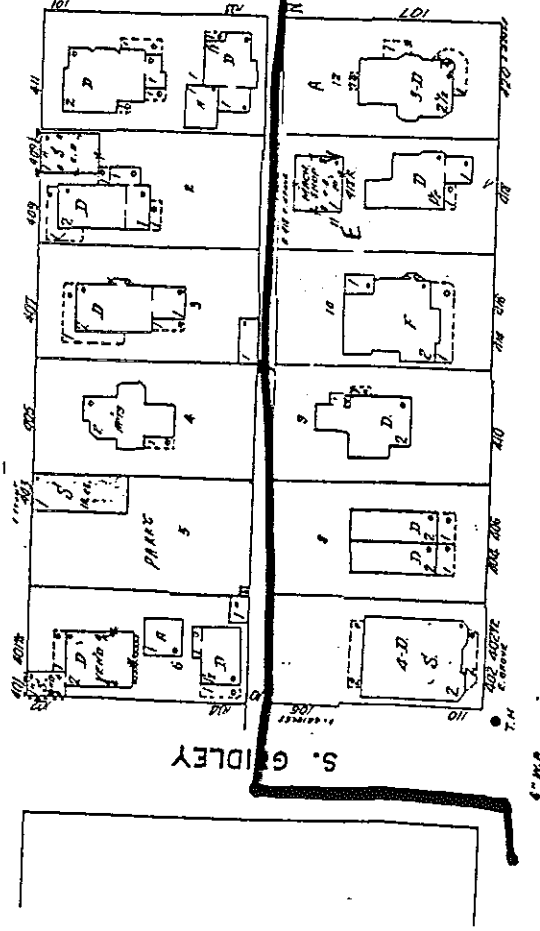
E. GROVE



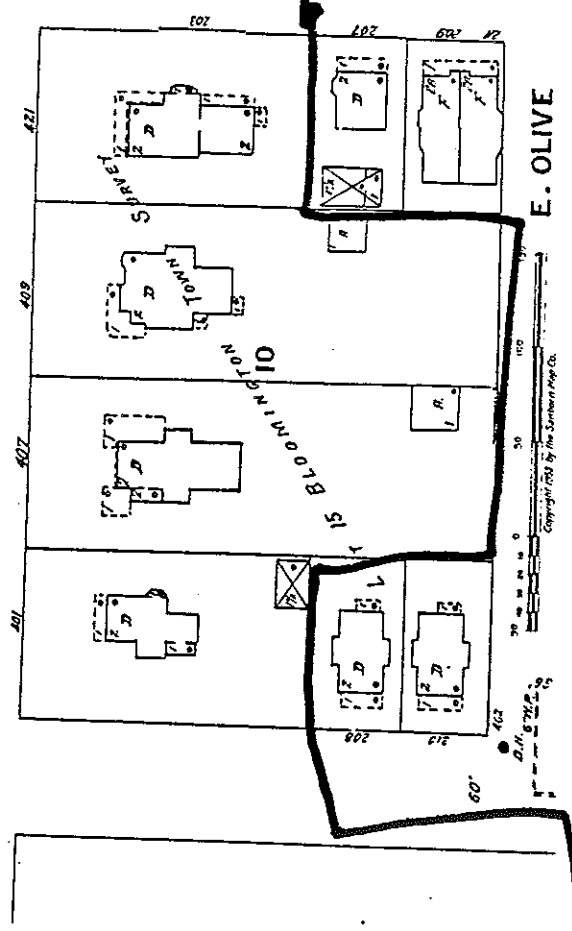
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S. GRIDLEY



E. GROVE



50

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2 of 3

S. EVAN

S. CLAYTON

S. CANTON

E. GROVE

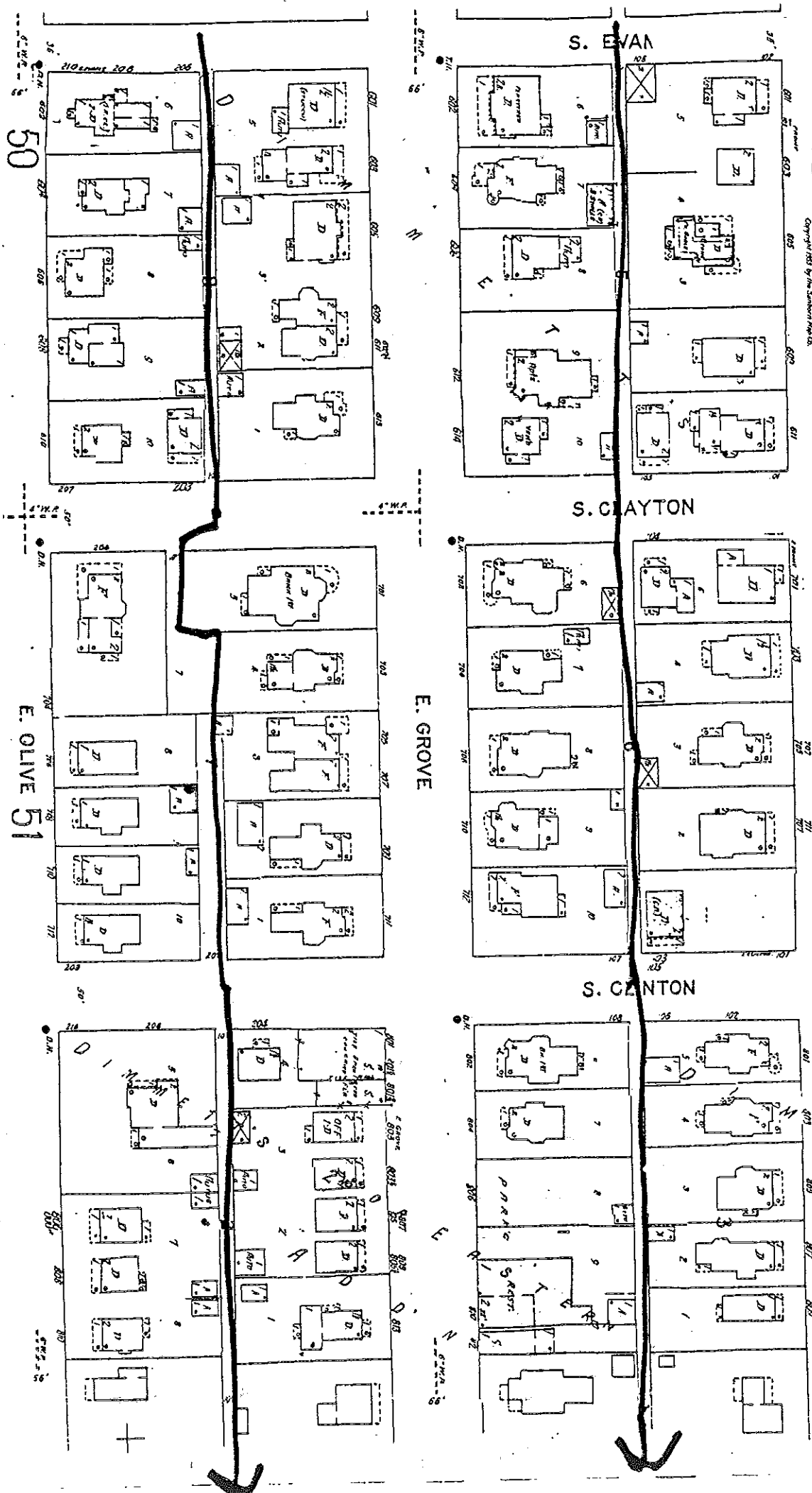
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E. OLIVE 51

East Grove St District
Bloomington IL

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3043



RESUME

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609 E. Front Street
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(309) 828-5791

Marital Status: Married
Born: September 26, 1949

Education: Illinois State University 1967-1973

Employment: Archivist/Site Manager
McLean County Historical Society
201 E. Grove Street
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 827-0428

Skills: Collecting, organizing and creating finding
aides for historical research. Also assist-
ing and conducting research on McLean County
and State of Illinois history. Also experi-
enced in supervising and directing building
restorations utilizing the Secretary of the
Interior's standards. Also trained and
experienced in historical architectural
survey work.

Professional
Memberships: Illinois State Historical Society
Pioneer America Society
Association for Preservation Technology
Vernacular Architecture Forum
Society for Commercial Archeology
Illinois Association for the Advancement of History
Bloomington/Normal Old House Society

Professional
Service: Board Member, Illinois Association of Historic
Preservation Commission
Program Committee, Landmarks Preservation Council
of Illinois
Board Member, Congress of Illinois Historical
Societies and Museums
Chairman, Bloomington Historic Conservation
Commission
Board Member, McLean County Arts Council

K. Bibliography

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ORDINANCE NO. 1983-93

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING BLOOMINGTON CITY CODE, CHAPTER 44, ARTICLE 3.00, SECTION 3.20; ARTICLE 6.00, SECTION 6.44; ARTICLE 6.00, SECTION 6.81; ARTICLE 6.00, SECTION 6.90; AND ARTICLE 9.00, SECTION 9.10(g) BY DEFINING TERMS ASSOCIATED WITH HISTORIC PRESERVATION, BY ESTABLISHING THE BLOOMINGTON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AND BY ESTABLISHING NEW PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS.

WHEREAS, Section 6(a) of Article VII of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois, provides that any municipality which has a population of more than 25,000 is a home rule unit, and the City of Bloomington, McLean County, Illinois, with a population in excess of 25,000 is a home rule unit and may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs, including, but not limited to, the power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, morals, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, movement and shifts of population and the changes in residential, commercial, and industrial use and customs threaten the destruction of certain areas, places, buildings and structures having special historical, community, or aesthetic interest or value and whose preservation and continued utilization are necessary and desirable for the enjoyment and beauty of the City of Bloomington and for the welfare of the citizens of the City of Bloomington; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington contains certain areas, places, buildings and structures which embody a sense of time and place unique to the City, or which exemplify or reflect the cultural, social economic, political, or architectural history of the nation, the State of Illinois, or the City; and

WHEREAS, certain specific areas, places, buildings and structures within said City, including Franklin Square, Clover Lawn-The David Davis Mansion, the McLean County Court House and Square, the Miller-Davis Building, the George Miller House, the Reuben M. Benjamin House, the John M. Hamilton House, and Adlai E. Stevenson II House have been identified and placed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, without coordination of future improvements in the City of Bloomington with desired aesthetic qualities, developments can and will occur which will adversely affect the value of other properties within the vicinity and discourage the maintenance and improvement of surrounding properties with the result that surrounding properties will become degenerate and blighted and will adversely affect the health, safety, morals, and general welfare of the inhabitants of the vicinity in which such uses are located and the inhabitants of the City at large, and cause an erosion of the City's tax base by reason of blight and deterioration; and

WHEREAS, it is highly desirable and within the exercise of the police power to provide special conditions, regulations and other measures reasonable and appropriate to the preservation, protection, enhancement, and use of such areas, places, buildings and structures; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bloomington has determined that the health, safety, morals, and general welfare of the residents of the City of Bloomington will be promoted by the protection of this historic character of the City of Bloomington in the manner hereinafter provided;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Bloomington, McLean County, Illinois:

SECTION ONE:

That the Chapter 44, Article 3.00, Section 3.20 of the Bloomington City Code, 1960 shall be and the same is hereby amended by inserting Subsections 3.20-10.0, 3.20-33.1, 3.20-33.2, 3.20-47.1, 3.20-54.1, 3.20-55.1, 3.20-75.1, 3.20-94.1, 3.20-102.1, 3.20-150.1, 3.20-153.1, and 3.20-153.2 as hereinafter printed in Exhibit 1 which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by this reference;

SECTION TWO:

That the Chapter 44, Article 6.00, Section 6.44 of the Bloomington City Code, 1960 shall be and the same is hereby amended as hereinafter printed in Exhibit 2 which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by this reference;

SECTION THREE:

That the Chapter 44, Article 6.00, Section 6.81 of the Bloomington City Code, 1960 shall be and the same is hereby amended as hereinafter printed in Exhibit 3 which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by this reference;

SECTION FOUR:

That the Chapter 44, Article 6.00, Section 6.90 of the Bloomington City Code, 1960 shall be and the same is hereby amended as hereinafter printed in Exhibit 4 which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by this reference;

SECTION FIVE:

That the Chapter 44, Article 9.00, Section 9.10 of the Bloomington City Code, 1960 shall be and the same is hereby amended by inserting subsection (g) as hereinafter printed in Exhibit 5 which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by this reference;

SECTION SIX:

That this Ordinance is enacted pursuant to and as an exercise of the City of Bloomington's authority as a home rule unit under Article VII, Section 6, of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois;

SECTION SEVEN:

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten (10) days after publication; and

SECTION EIGHT:

All other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with the foregoing are hereby amended accordingly.

PASSED this 27th day of December, 1983.

APPROVED this 28th day of December, 1983

ATTEST:

Sandra Cordero
City Clerk

APPROVED:

Richard Buchanan
Mayor

DISAPPROVED:

REASON:

Richard Buchanan
Mayor

John B. McBarnes Memorial Building
1922
201 E. Grove Street
Public Building
A.F. Moratz, Architect

McLean County Court House
Bloomington, IL
21-04-350-002



The John B. McBarnes Memorial Building is a three story masonry structure of Neo-Classic design. It has a full basement whose walls are all made of hand fired red brick. The walls above are hollow glazed tile faced with pale yellowish tan brick probably from St. Louis. It is trimmed with Bedford limestone. The floors are of wooden construction, covered with terrazo in many locations.

Built in 1922 with a donation of \$100,000 by Mr. and Mrs. John McBarnes, and about equal expenditure by the County of McLean, it was specifically designed to house rooms and offices of the Grand Army of the Republic, United Spanish

War Veterans, the American Legion and the McLean County Historical Society. The third floor was developed as public rooms to be used for banquets and dances held by veterans' organizations.

This structure in form is a cube, the primary facade, facing Grove Street is comprised of five bays of windows. The facade is dominated by a three story stone portico composed of four columns of Bedford stone which were diagonally quarried, so as to emphasize the graining. These columns are backed by four, three story pilasters which as a whole support the entablature upon which is carved the building's name. The entrance is trimmed with stone moulding and an entablature. The outer windows on the first and second story are trimmed with two story Bedford stone pilasters which support an entablature like belt course. Between all first and second story windows is a cast metal panel which is decorated with a stylized American shield. The third story windows are situated above those lower and at the outer windows are separated by bas relief panels of fasces carved in Bedford stone. Above these is an entablature and brick parapet which is a continuation of the portico. The East and West facades are composed of six bays of windows in two sets of threes separated by a stair hall window at a half story. They are identical in treatment to the outer windows on the primary facade. A door with classic moulding trim in stone is on the East. Every twelfth course of the brick is recessed on the first and second stories which at the corners gives the appearance of quains. The third story and parapet brick is plain stretcher bond.

The building burned in 1972 destroying much of the third floor and water damage occurred on much of the lower stories. Because of various political problems a decision to rehabilitate the building was not made until 1975-76. John Gardner of Mills, Lux', and Gardner provided plans for

the rehabilitation. To save money historic design features on the interior were, for the most part removed. These included custom hardware, neo-classic plaster work and period doors, including a surprising number of French doors. The entry hall was, however, restored. More recent changes have included the installation of thermo-pane windows eight over four immatation light sash. The originals were eight over eight.

The architect, Arthur F. Moratz, was born in Bloomington in 1881. He was the son of a local building contractor named Herman Moratz. His older brother, Paul, was an architect and Moratz went to work for him as a draftsman in 1899. In 1904 he enrolled in the School of Architecture. It is uncertain whether Moratz graduated or not but by 1909 he was in Business in Cleveland, Ohio in partnership with a man named Fountain. He returned to Bloomington in 1919 and made the city his home for the most of the rest of his life. Moratz's practice was primarily ecclastical. Over 60 of his church designs are known. His design, Holy Trinity Church, Bloomington was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. His own home, which he designed is at 315 E. Chestnut and is part of the Franklin Square Historic District. This district is both National Register and zoned S-4 (Historic and Cultural) by the City of Bloomington. A.F. Moratz died in 1963.

Beich House/Beck Memorial Home
c 1902/1935
209 E. Grove
Mortuary
George Miller ? and unknown

John A. Beck Co.
209 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-417-006



The Beich/Beck structure is a two story brick veneered frame building with attic. Essentially rectangular in shape it has a rear wing made from the Paul F. Beich house and a wing to the west.

The original Paul F. Beich house was built c 1902 and was a two story framed building with a hipped roof and curved portico. The walls were covered with clapboard. It may have been designed by George Miller for Beich's wife was a close friend of Miller's in-laws and Miller 3 years later designed large additions to Beich's candy factory at Lumber and Front Streets. Paul F. Beich was born in Germany in 1864 and came to the United

States in 1882. He learned the candy business from various people and by 1905 had acquired the Bloomington Caramel Company from its Lancaster, Pennsylvania owners. He died in 1937.

The present Beck Memorial Home was created by placing additions onto the Beich house and covering the whole with brick veneer. The design would have been considered Federal by the architect, who was probably local. The Grove Street facade is a two story 5 bay rectangle with a one story, one bay wing originally to each side. More recently a one bay wing has been added to the west wing. The Grove Street facades prime feature is a two story portico formed of four wood columns supporting a wood pediment trimmed with dentils. The first story windows are eight light two door casements with a raised panel and rail base. They have fan windows above and have a half round brick trim with a lime stone key. The windows of the bays each side of the front door are cameo with cruciform stone trim. The door itself is trimmed with a broken pediment in wood. On the second floor the outer two windows are eight over eight sash with louvered shutters. The inner three windows are one over one sash. The whole is topped with a hip roof imitation slate composition roofing. The side wings are flat roofed. A parapet with a plain stone panel above each bay is finished with a stone parapet cap. Located on the east facade to the rear is a porte-cochere of brick.

The John A. Beck Company was located in various downtown locations and had this structure remodeled to suit the needs of their business. The structure is very well maintained.

Ashael Gridley House
1859/c 1910
301 E. Grove
Apartments
Architect Unknown

James F. Thornton
301 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-417-006



The Ashael Gridley house is a two story Italianate structure of masonry construction. It has undergone three major phases of use and change: the initial occupation by the Gridley family from 1859 to c. 1905, occupation by the Howard Humphries family from c. 1906 to 1935 and its use as part of a larger apartment complex, known as The Oaks, from 1935 to the present.

The Gridley house was originally a rectangular building with a rear service wing. Much of the original fabric is intact. Set upon a coursed ashlar faced Joliet stone foundation, the masonry rectangle of Milwaukee Brick laid in stretcher bond is two stories in height and has symmetrical

fenestration. Between the foundation and brick is a water table of Joliet stone. The original primary or north facade is composed of three bays separated by an entry way, which reflects the center hall form of interior room arrangement and three bays of double windows on the second story. The windows and door are headed with carved Joliet stone curved hoods. A wooden veranda was originally located on this facade. The roof is hipped and features three gables with overhangs and inset double sash windows, the upper sash being half round. The roof is covered with red tile. The original west facade is composed of two windows on each story closely centered on the wall. As on the north facade the first story windows are long double sash and the second story windows are purportionally shorter, they also have curved stone hoods. On the roof slope are paired dormers identical to those on the north and these are flanked by single chimney stacks of pale yellow brick. They are decorated with relief panels and corbeled tops. The south and east facades date from c 1910.

Ashael Gridley was born in Cazenovia, New York in 1810 and came to Bloomington in October of 1831. He was a highly energetic individual and quickly put himself in the midst of the affairs of the four month old community. He served with distinction in the Black Hawk War in 1832 and was cited for coolness during the panic of the Battle of Stillman's Run. Gridley was the epitome of the yankee capitalist seeking fortune in the West. He was involved in numerous business propositions and was largely responsible for the founding of Lexington and Leroy, Illinois in 1836. Like the rest of the State he went bankrupt during the Panic of 1837. He then turned to law and politics and became associated with Abraham Lincoln, David Davis, and Jesse Fell. Elected state senator in 1850 he is credited with insuring the location of the Illinois Central Railroad through Bloomington, thereby guaranteeing the city's eventual success. With the railroad assured he became

he became their principle land salesman in central Illinois. This was a tremendous business opportunity for the railroad was funded by the sale of every other section of publicly owned land eight miles either side of the right of way. During the height of the land sales it was said that Gridley was earning \$10,000 per week.

The impact of this was to make Gridley the town's first millionaire, the town's first banker, the town's first public utility franchisee (a gas works) and the town's most reviled man. Local tradition has it that when Lincoln saw the house going up he asked, "Do you want everybody to hate you, Gridley?" In the years up to his death in 1881 Gridley's name appears for almost every public subscription and he was also intimately involved in almost every large local business deal. During his entire life he was involved in litigation, suing and being sued in return. His nature was perhaps best summarized by Lincoln when in a successful negotiated settlement of a slander suit he simply told the plaintiff that if he went to court he would say, "Its not slander, everybody knows Gridley talks that way."

About 1905 Howard Humphries purchased the property from Mrs. Gridley's estate. He, by 1916 had extensively remodeled the place by putting on numerous additions, replacing the wooden veranda with one of brick and building a piazza at the east facade. Humphries was a whole sale grocer who valued the area for its convenience to the nearby location of the main line of two national railroads. His example was followed by many wholesalers, who as a class, nearly dominated the entire Grove Street district.

In 1935, Fred Hitch, a local developer acquired the house and lot. He erected a large apartment building in front of the Gridley house and removed the brick veranda built during the Humphries occupation. He also erected a steam plant on the rear of the Gridley house. Most importantly

he left the house pretty much intact and was sensitive to it when dividing it into apartments.

The Oaks
c 1935
301 E. Grove
Apartment House
Architect Unknown

James F. Thornton
301 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-417-004



The Oaks is a three story masonry structure of irregular plan, designed in a Federal style. Developed as an apartment house by Fred Hitch c 1935 it is known for its elegance and as a good address. Its primary draw has been from well-to-do widows.

The primary facade is composed of a pavilion like arrangement containing nine bays of windows. The walls are made of red brick laid in flemish bond with occasional stretcher courses. Limestone trimmings include a water table, stone panel and a stone belt course in the wing's parapets. Windows at the first story are six over nine light and six over six light on the

second and third stories. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and has plain moulding. The principle design detail is the half round header of brick voussiors with a stone key. The door is also finished half round and has raised panels and moulded rails. It is approached by elipsoid concrete steps. The roof is hipped and has hipped dormers.

The two wings which form the pavilion have diagonally placed entrances above which are second and third story porches of cast iron.. These entrances and porches serve as the signature pieces to the structure for oak motifs are freely used. The entrances have stone pilasters supporting oak leaf swags and a large centered acorn. The porches are constructed of cast iron in an oak leaf and acorn filigree.

Along the sidewalk runs the original Gridley fence which is of cast and wrought iron with large Joliet stone gate posts. It is the finest mid-Victorian yard fence in the area. Other features on the property include: a fine three bay brick barn or garage, large Oak trees from the original Blooming Grove, a "picturesque" ruined wall and a Purple Martin bird house in Chalet style with a fine slate roof.



Thornton Motor Company Building
1947/1949
207 S. Gridley/307 E. Grove.
Automobile Repairs
Architect Unknown

James F. Thornton
301 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-417-004



The Thornton Motor Company building is a two story masonry structure built in Moderne style as a sales and repair facility for Lincoln-Mercury automobiles. It is an "L" shaped building oriented North-South. The wing which completes the "L" was built in 1949.

Although it is not compatible with the theme of this survey this building is one of the finest examples of Moderne styled buildings in this vicinity. It clearly expresses the streamlined nature of the Moderne movement with emphasis on the horizontal through the banding of windows, thin profile roofs

rounding about the show windows, circular windows, and occasionally vertical relief by the use of engaged brick columns.

It is apparently constructed of concrete block sheathed with variegated brown brick. Windows are steel casement of two and four light surrounded by fixed lights numbering 10, 12 and 16 panes. The larger windows are at the first story. The show windows are large flat pieces of plate glass held by thin profile muntins. On the north facade a paneled garage doors of a common type. The two primary entrances are double leaf wood doors with large panels of glass. Limestone is used for window sills and parapet caps. The roofs are flat.



T.W. Wood Flats
1902
402 E. Grove
Apartments
Architect Unknown

Harold M. and Mary Alic Franzen
Flanagan, IL
21-04-415-009



The T.W. Wood flats is a frame construction four flat structure. Rectangular in form it has some late Victorian era detailing. Completed by Mr. Wood in 1902 work on the site was apparently started in 1900. T.W. Wood was probably the son of Wm . T. Wood of 410 E. Grove. The stucco covered frame, enclosed two story front porch was probably added between 1910 and 1925. It is an Arts and Crafts period design. It now is divided into seven or eight units.

The primary facade is composed of two large two story bay windows which are capped with gabled wall dormers. In the face of the wall in each dormer are thin rectangular fixed windows of 12 lights. The gable face is shingled.

These two bays which define the four flat function are linked by a flat wall which contains the entrance for the upper story. This is capped by a hipped wall dormer faced with paired double sash having nine oval lights. The nature of this composition is much hidden by the two story porch. The porch itself is on the first story arcaded and features low angular arches. The porch entrance is trimmed in wood to reflect this. The upper story is closed and was undoubtedly designed as a sleeping porch.

The long secondary facade to the west is composed of symmetrically placed windows which are trimmed with plain wood moulding. This wall has six inch beveled siding on the first story and four inch beveled siding on the second story. Transition between the two is provided by flat stock capped with slight bell casting of the first four courses of the upper story siding. Exposed wall flush chimneys run from the full basement through the roof edge at the north end. The whole is topped with a truncated hip roof with hipped dormers.

The house is in fair condition and needs repair work on many of its elements. Sensitive repairs have been made on the shingle work in the primary facade.

Primary source:

Bloomington Daily Pantagraph, September 5, 1900
Bloomington Daily Bulletin, December 12, 1902

Miss Mabel Holmes duplex
c 1914
404-406 E. Grove
Apartments
Architect Unknown

Brett and Cynthia Green Reno
206 Imperial Drive
Bloomington, IL
21-04-415-010



The Holmes duplex is a two story frame structure designed in the Craftsman style. It was originally a single family structure built c 1895 for Mrs. Sarah Colvin, widow of a prosperous farmer, and extensively remodel- ed on the interior and exterior c 1914. The soft brick foundation is, perhaps, the major exterior fabric of the original c 1895 structure remain- ing. It is presently a four unit apartment. Miss Holmes was a legatee of Mrs. Colvin and the duplex was undoubtedly developed to provide income for Miss. Holmes.

This balloon framed building is rectangular in form and on the primary

facade its design clearly reflects the intended purpose. Two entrance doors are situated on the outer edges and to the inside of each are single windows. A veranda with a low profile roof supported by three square wooden columns completes the composition with the center column bisecting the house. The upper story has two windows with one centered on their respective halves of the facade. On the front slope of the low hipped roof is a low gabled dormer with projecting verges which is also centered. Both the porch and the roof have wide plain fascias and soffits. The side walls have symmetrical fenestration. The whole is covered with 6 inch beveled siding. The windows and doors have plain wooden moulding. It is unknown when the shutters were applied.

The structure is in fair condition. The porch and roof soffits have apparently been damaged by water and boards are hanging loose. Porch skirts, which are made with fret work are hanging loose. One has fallen. Only one of the porch railings has the original ballisters intact. The other three are recent infills using a large X pattern done with 2" x 4"s. Even these very recent additions are in poor shape. Since the structure has apparently been kept well painted it would be inexpensive to return the house, on the exterior, to its original 1914 configuration.

William T. Wood House
1869
410 E. Grove
Apartments
Architect Unknown

Robert E. Finnegan
1104 Morrissey Drive
Bloomington, IL
21-04-415-011



The William T. Wood house is a two story frame structure originally Italianate in design. It is presently covered with stucco, applied c 1950.

William T. Wood was a dry goods store owner whose business was located on the East side of the Bloomington courthouse square. This was a prime location and Wood was considered to be a leading merchant. His son, Richard, became a widely known political cartoonist, being syndicated out of his home paper, the St. Louis Post - Dispatch, at the turn of the century. Richard was raised in this house.

The house maintains its original Italianate form, a three bay primary

facade and low hipped roof with paired roof brackets. From earlier photos it can be seen that the house had beveled wood siding, a one story veranda with considerable decoration. Mrs. Dimment recalled "long French windows" on the first story.

Presently the house bears little resemblance to the original. The veranda has been remodeled, the French windows replaced with smaller ones and filled with siding. The door has been decorated with wooden pilasters and entablature in an effort to make the house appear "colonial". On the second story the original six over six light window sash remains.

For a house that was substantially rehabilitated 25 years ago it is in poor condition. But sufficient photographic and documentary evidence remain for an accurate restoration to be accomplished. The structure is an important part of the Grove Street area and should be preserved.

Horace S. McCurdy House
1877
414-416 E. Grove
Apartments
Richter and Harris, Architects

Patricia Cich and
Barry L. Spitznass
414 E. Grove, Apt 1
Bloomington, IL
21-04-415-012



The Horace McCurdy house is a two story framed structure designed in an Italianate style. It is irregular in form and has received changes and additions from c. 1895 to recent times.

Attribution of architect is based upon Richter and Harris's plan "Western Cottage" which was design number 33 in the American Builder in 1874. The Horace McCurdy house is, in essence, that plan mirrored. Other variations from the plan as published was the elimination of the tower above the entry hall and less use of exterior millwork, finial, and other embellishments. Richter was an immigrant from Prussia who had started on architectural practice in Bloomington in 1856 with a local contractor,

S.D. Rounds. He practiced on his own up to about the period this plan was published. By the time this house was built Richter was working for Henry Miner a builder, planning mill operator and self-taught architect. Little is known concerning Harris. Richter's other known designs include the Rounds block (105-109 E. Front) part of the Bloomington central business district, and Home Park Place, near Towanda, both on the National Register of Historic Places.

The primary facade of the McCurdy house is composed of a four bay front. It is arranged as a slightly offset gabled mass with wings of unequal length set to each side. The original entrance is offset to the far left of the left wing of the house. A later entrance, to accommodate apartments is centered on the right. Windows on the first floor front facade are relatively new installations, dating c 1960, which are not in keeping with the original design. The upper story is far more revealing. The left wing has a single two over two light window with an elipsoid wooden header. This wing is placed behind the entrance hall. The right wing has two windows of identical design. The gabled section has a doubled window with one over one sashes. Above this is placed a wide flat hood with Victorian turnings which "drip". Beneath this window is an open balcony supported by large stick style wooden brackets. The gable has two closely placed round windows. The entire primary facade was sided with German or Novelty siding. It remains at the entrance and on the upper stories. The other facades have weather-board siding used, a less costly product. The front corners of the house are trimmed with rope moulding identical to that used on the Henry Miner remodeling of the Hudson Burr house on Franklin Square in Bloomington. The original 1877 house can be identified from windows which are identical in form to those of the primary facades. Turn-of-the-century additions have flat windowheads. Also,

in that time period a large porch was added to the structure which completely overwhelmed the original design. This porch was in place as late as 1957.

Horace McCurdy (b. 1823 - d. 1923) was a successful hardware dealer who acquired this lot known as the Nichol's property in 1877. He traded a house and lot on West Locust Street in Bloomington for it. Miss Laura McCurdy (b. ___ - d. 1954), Horace's daughter, was a well known art collector in this area. She was instrumental in establishing the first art gallery in Bloomington, The Russell, which was located in Withers' Public Library. She traveled widely in her collecting efforts and donated work to the Russell Gallery including etchings by Whistler and Ingres.

The house is in good condition and interest in its preservation has been shown by the owners. Removal of the c 1960 windows on the front facade and replacement with period windows and the replacement with period windows and the replacement of the first story siding on the front facade with German siding would do much to return the structure to its original appearance.

Primary sources:

The American Builder New York, 1874, design #33
Bloomington Weekly Pantagraph March 9, 1877

Prince/Mower House
c 1855/c 1900
418 E. Grove
Architect unknown

Howard A. Jacobs
418 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-415-013



The Prince/Mower house, the east half of which dates c 1855, is a frame structure of parallel rectangles in plan. It had gained its present form by 1901 although shingle siding was applied to it later in this century.

Mrs. Laura Benjamin recalled the house standing in 1856 in a 1906 interview. The 1873 bird's-eye view of Bloomington indicates that the east or right half of the house is the earlier for the story and a half section is not present in that view.

As it stands today the Prince/Mower house is a $1\frac{1}{2}$ story house of two bays on the prime facade. Each bay is set on the two parts of the house

which are of two distinct periods. Entrance is gained from a small porch on the left bay, the roof of which is supported by three neo-classic wooden pillars. Above the porch is a steeply pitched roof. A low hipped dormer is centered on this roof. The half story gable has two windows centered in it. The roof pitch ends midway on the slope for it is intersected with a 1½ story low pitched roof for the rear wing.

The right section of the house, dating c 1855 is, perhaps, typical of the quickly built, low cost housing associated with the railroad boom of the period 1853-1857. Entrance to this section is gained from a door on the east facade. It is unknown whether this is the original entrance location or whether it was on the primary facade. This section sits very close to the street, is one story, and has a moderately pitched roof.

Ezra Morton Prince (b 1831 - d 1917) was the earliest known occupant of the house. He is listed there in 1868. He may have lived there ten years earlier. Prince was born in Turner, Maine, graduated from Harvard Law School and arrived in Bloomington in 1856. He, a small scholarly man with a pronounced limp successfully passed the State Bar Exam and went into practice locally. As a young lawyer he came into close contact with Abraham Lincoln, David Davis, and the other lawyers who travelled the 8th Judicial Circuit. He was one of the founders of the Free Congregational Society and Unitarian Church. Prince's most lasting contribution to the community was his founding, in 1892, of the McLean County Historical Society. Prince oversaw the work of this organization from its founding to his death in 1917.

By 1891 the house was occupied by Rufus and Nellie Mower. Their two sons, Paul Scott (b 1887) and Edgar Ansel (b 1892), were both born here and spent their early childhoods here. These two brothers became two of the

best known American journalists in their long careers as foreign correspondents. Paul Scott, the better known of the two covered W.W.I, the troubles of Europe in the 1920's and 30's and W.W.II, all for the Chicago Daily News. This newspaper was known internationally for its European coverage. He received a Pulitzer Prize for his work in 1929. In his autobiography, published in 1945, Mower fondly remembers Grove Street and provides an excellent description of the neighborhood. During Mower's work with the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations in the 1930's he came in close contact with fellow Bloomingtonian, Adlai Stevenson II and provided Stevenson many contacts and insights important to the latter's career.

Sources:

Mower, Paul Scott The House of Europe, Houghton, Mifflin & Co.,
Boston 1945

Martin, John Bartlow Adlai Stevenson of Illinois, Doubleday & Co.,
Garden City, New York, 1976

W. Wesley Hall house
c 1890
420 E. Grove
Apartments
Architect Unknown

Joseph L. Warner and
David Hartweg
525 N. East
Bloomington, IL
21-04-415-014



The W. Wesley Hall house is a Queen Anne style two story frame house, situated on a corner lot. It was rehabilitated in the past ten years.

This large frame house, sided with clapboard, and essentially rectangular in plan, has many of the attributes of the Queen Anne style. Its neo-classic detailing lends an asymmetrical appearance with the design being dominated by a wrap around veranda from which rises a corner turret with a pyramidal roof. Other design features include a flat stock belt course in wood between the first and second story. On the first story wide cornerboards connect to this feature. The upper story is decorated with a plain

entablature placed underneath the bracket eaves. These classically inspired details are reinforced with a pedimented porch entrance, with returns on the gable and a gabled roof dormer which also has returns. Porch columns are also classic in nature being based on the Doric order. The east facade features a large side porch, a two story bay window and a large attic story gable. This gable's face is now covered with contemporary shingle which may be covering decorative shingle work. The small gabled dormer on the primary or south facade is faced with decorative slate. Other Queen Anne details include the smooth brick base and wall of the porch and assymetrical window placement. During the c 1975 rehabilitation windows on the primary facade on the first and second story were removed and replaced with siding which matched the existing siding.

Little is known concerning W. Wesley Hall. His occupation was not indicated in the City directory listings and his obituary could not be located. He was, presumably a man of some means. He was the father of Judge Homer Hall of the McLean County Circuit Court.

The building is presently in good condition. The rehabilitation performed in the past ten years certainly saved the building for it was, previously, in horrible shape. Restoration of the structure at this point would simply mean reestablishing windows of proper size and scale on the primary facade and restoration of the gable face on the east facade.



Dr. D.O. Moore House
1874
401 E. Grove
Single Family
Architect unknown

James and Lucy Koehler
401 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-418-009



The Dr. D. O. Moore house is a large two story framed structure. Designed in an Italianate style, it contained both Dr. Moore's residence and office.

The Moore house is not only a good example of Italianate design, it also features an interesting construction technique. This rectangular structure with a side office and rear service wing is set upon a common bond soft brick foundation. The foundation windows have semi-elliptical headers in brick. The first story walls are of heavy timber construction and have brick nogging. The nogging was a period form of insulation. The

studs, sills and corner posts are of heavier grade material than is found on balloon frame structures of this period. The upper story walls are framed as the lower story but are not nogged. The walls are faced with clapboards.

The north or primary facade is a three bay arrangement. On the first a door to the west servicing the stair hall. This entry has a small porch of recent construction. The side light and half elipses fan light which dated c 1910 has been removed and replaced with a plain rectangular transom light and double leaf doors of Eastlake design. The windows are two over two light sash and have eliptical wooden head mouldings. The three second story windows have flat heads with similar moulding. The whole is capped with a low pitch truncated hip roof. The roof line is defined with a boxed cornice with a plain frieze and brackets. A wide, low pitched gabled wall dormer is found on the primary facade. The eave line is carried beneath this pediment creating the effect of gable returns. A round window is placed in the center of this dormer. On the east facade is a one story bay window and on the west is located a small office wing. The north facade of this wing has a period single leaf door placed beneath the original large and fanciful over door. Arts and Crafts period double leaf french doors have been installed on the west facade.

The interior of the house features a white marble fireplace, curved stairs, ornate mouldings and original wainscotting in the service area.

Dr. D. O. Moore was born in Harrison County, Ohio in 1838. He began the study of medicine in 1858, had a period of high adventure and began his medical practice in 1863. His biographer in 1879 provides an insight to, not only Dr. Moore but also the rationale behind his fine house: "During 1859-1860 he was engaged in freighting goods and supplies from Omaha,

) Nebraska to Denver, Colorado; while employed in this way he learned much about Western life and travel on the plains. The hardness and sickness endured by him while there stimulated him to provide himself with a good home, which he now enjoys."

Sources:

Bloomington Weekly Pantagraph June 15, 1874
Bloomington Weekly Pantagraph July 12, 1874
LeBaron, Wm. The History of McLean County, Wm. LeBaron, Chicago,
1879

Weldon/Funk House

1870/1911

407 E. Grove

Duplex

) Pennington and Coultas, architect ?

Richard L. Jones

P.O. Box 3211

Bloomington, IL

21-04-418-004



The Weldon/Funk house is a large two story masonry structure built by Lawrence Weldon in 1870 and substantially modified by Jacob Funk in 1911. It occupies a full quarter block, a typical period lot.

The original Weldon house was a cruciform brick structure, probably built out of local soft baked brick and designed in an Italiante style. Its three bay primary facade featured a door and tall windows on the first floor. A large wooden veranda ran across the front to the wings on either side. The veranda, perhaps, explains the lack of large stone window headers as found on the three windows on the second story. A low pitched cross gabled roof is set upon the structure. The wooden roof cornice is the most elaborate

and finely worked in this vicinity. The brackets are delicate and well proportioned and the fret work on them is expressed in large fret work panels located on both the cornice frieze and soffit. Dentils provide the transition between the wood and masonry. This work is repeated on the cross gables.

The contractors for this building, William Pennington and Thomas Coultas, worked during the period when the differences between architect and builder was not yet distinct. They may well have designed and constructed the building. Their advertisement in the 1870-71 Bloomington City Directory credited them with building it. Coultas, a fine carpenter who designed and constructed the Judge Scott bookcases, now at the McLean County Historical Society is credited with designing the Hewit-Wilson Building 417-419 N. Main Street in Bloomington. An interior stairway, possibly now removed, was designed and constructed by the Melcher Stair Factory of Bloomington.

The building was converted to a duplex in 1911. At this time the brick was stuccoed. A contemporary description of this treatment called it "pebble and dash". A stair hall was added on the west side of the building. The veranda was removed. Twin porches now flank the house. They feature low gabled roofs, large piers and heavy plain wooden support brackets. This work created a curious hybrid of a distinct Arts and Crafts period overlay to an Italiante base. The effect is not displeasing.

Judge Lawrence Weldon the original occupant practiced on the 8th Judicial Circuit before the Civil War. A friend of Lincoln's, he was appointed Federal State's Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois in 1861. He maintained close ties to the Republican Party, in 1868 delivered the dedicatory address for the Veteran's Monument in Franklin Square and

in 1883 was appointed Judge of the United States Court of Claims. President Ulysses S. Grant stayed at his house in April of 1880 while attending a soldiers' reunion in Bloomington. In his retirement Judge Weldon was active in the Chautauqua movement and presented lectures and reminiscences on Lincoln. He died in 1905.

Jacob Funk obtained the house from the Weldon estate and converted it to a duplex. He was a descendent of Isaac Funk the early settler noted for his large land holdings. He was prominent in his own right being the President of the State National Bank of Bloomington. He died, on the same day as his brother in 1919.

Edward B. Gridley House
1886-87
409 E. Grove
Single Family
George Miller, Architect

Alice L. and Lee McTurnan
409 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-418-005



The Edward B. Gridley house, a large two story frame, is the finest example of Queen Anne architecture in McLean County and is the most meticulously maintained 19th Century structure in this vicinity.

Irregular in form it exhibits every positive aspect of Queen Anne design, rich detailing in asymmetrical placement creating a pleasing whole. To describe the structure in any depth would be to detail practically every product that wood, brick and slate manufacturers were producing in that period. Set upon a full brick foundation which features some decorative brick panels, the essentially cubical plan house on its primary facade

features a two story turret to the east balanced by an open porch which wraps around the west side. This tends to disguise a two story bay window set off center below a large and highly decorated gable. The porch roof has a steeply pitched gable to indicate the entry. Directly above the porch gable is a second story porch which undercuts, but visually completes, the large attic story gable. The roof itself is complex in forms and features a conical roof for the tower, a swept roof dormer and cross gables. The siding of the house is predominantly clapboard and features decorative belt courses and panels, fish scale shingling on the turret and diamond pattern shingling on the roof gables. Turnings are used for the porch railing balisters, posts, and porch and window eave curtains. The roof slating, which is very well preserved, consists of square, fish scale and diamond pattern shingle. The finals and ridge cups are sheet metal. Even the diamond pattern lattice work on the porch skirting is in high relief. Now painted a pale yellowish brown, the house was originally in greens and reds, highlighted with black and gold. The interior also featured frescoing by Cyrenius Russell, a local decorator.

The house was designed by Bloomington architect George Miller for Edward B. Gridley. Gridley was the son of the town's first millionaire, and apparently did not inherit his father's astuteness, only his temperament. Costing \$10,000 the house was cause for a law suit against Gridley for his failure to purchase hardware from a local dealer as agreed by contract. Gridley was later to be named in a breach of promise suit and lost much of his father's fortune on a scheme to extract natural gas from water that was found close to pockets of methane gas. By 1903 or 1904 the house was owned by Huber Light a local attorney who was best known as the brother of the Broadway actress, Maude Light (Margaret Illington). Maude Light was later to marry Major Bowes of "the Original Amateur Hour", an immensely popular

) radio show. Today the home is owned by the same family.



John S. Roush House
1870
421 E. Grove
Apartments
Architect unknown

Arden K. Nowers
421 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-418-006



The John Roush house is a two story brick Italianate structure. Built in 1870 it was indicative of the newly arrived wholesale grocers' assumption of status in the community. The building is well maintained and in an excellent state of preservation.

The structure is divided into two distinct parts, a formal front, cubical with a wing and a service wing at the rear. Built of local hard common brick laid in stretcher bond, it is set on a Joliet stone foundation laid in a coursed ashlar manner. The two are separated by a stone water-table. The north or primary facade is composed of three bays. On the first story two windows and an entrance at the west indicate a sidehall interior.

configuration. The upper story has three, two over two light windows. The upper sash of which is topped half-round neatly fitting the round window openings formed by header laid brick. This header type is used on all of the openings in the front section of the house. The service wing has all flat headers. On the east wing is a one story brick bay window. The roof is extremely low pitched and is completely dominated by a large and highly worked cornice, featuring brackets with pendants. The cornice line is interrupted by a wall dormer centered on the primary facade and the east facade of the wing. The original wooden veranda was replaced c 1907 by the present one during remodeling for W.F. Engle. This veranda is neo-classic inspired and features large smooth ashler Bedford limestone piers from which rise wooden columns. At the corners these columns are interpreted as piers. To indicate entrance on to the porch a pedimented gable is placed on the west. The cornice of the porch and pediment is decorated with dentils. The cornice of the service wing porch is, perhaps, a remnant of the original 1870 porch.

The nature of the masonry material and construction detailing is highly reminiscent of features found on buildings known to have been constructed by S.D. Rounds, contractor and Rudolph Richter, Architect. One of these men is, perhaps, the designer of this structure.

John Roush was born in Highland County, Ohio in 1832. He worked and was partner in various grocery concerns in the midwest. Coming to Bloomington in 1869, after apparently considerable success, he went into partnership with John McMillan (506 E. Grove). In 1879 he became partner with J.F. Humphries and was killed in 1884, dragged to death by a runaway horse.

Source:

Bloomington Weekly Pantagraph April 20, 1870

John Mikel House
c 1912
502 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Mary M. Baker
502 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-416-008



The John Mikel house is a two story structure of rectangular form built of wood frame with a brick veneer. Stylistically it is of Arts and Crafts period. Its attempt to create a low swept appearance is compromised by its essentially Victorian bulkiness. In its day it would have been considered a "craftsman" style house.

The structure is rectangular in form and symmetrical in layout. The south or primary facade is composed of three bays. Set up on a higher grade from the sidewalk, the porch floor is reached by 10 steps. That is very high for this essentially flat landscape. The entrance, centered on the facade, is formal and has a beveled glass door and recessed sidelights.

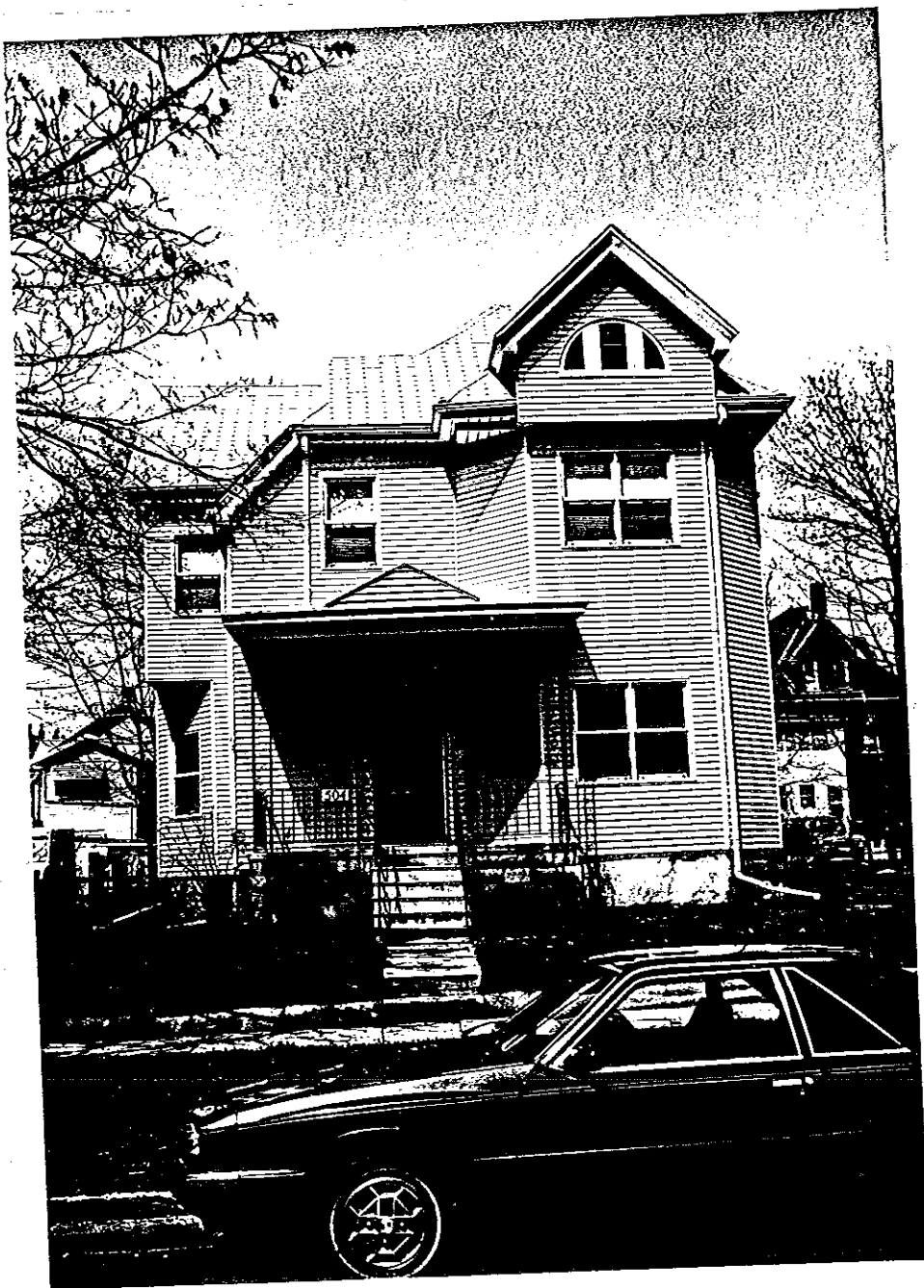
The entrance is flanked on the right by an open veranda and on the left the veranda has been closed. The projecting center bay on this facade is further reinforced on the second floor by paired one over one light windows. The flanking single windows on the exterior bays also have one over one lights. The west facade features the same window arrangement and center projecting bay. This sameness is relieved by stone belt courses, window sills and wide eaves, which have been recently covered with aluminum. The frame construction of the house is signaled by hipped roof dormers which are faced with wood shingle. The primary roof is also hipped.

John Mikel was born in Dark County, Ohio in 1841. He was brought to McLean County in 1845 by his family. A successful stockman and farmer in Downs and Old Town Township, he owned 450 acres by the time he built this house, his city retirement home.

The house is well maintained. Only the aluminum placed on the eaves seriously detracts from its appearance.

George F. Brand House
c 1883
504 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Ruth Kohler
504 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-416-009



The George F. Brand house was a Queen Anne style two story frame structure. Because of extensive modification which took place in the past 10 years, no historic features remain. From the general form it can be

said that it had the detailing and assymetrical layout typical of the Queen Anne period. All windows have been replaced with modern sash inappropriate to the scale of the house. All exterior walls are covered with aluminum siding.

Brand was named for his father and followed him into the furniture business. He died at the age of 83 in 1935. Because of the close connection between the Brand family and George Miller, the Bloomington architect, it is probable that Miller designed this house.

As it sits the house little resembles the structure which George Brand built. Undoubtedly much original detail is left behind the aluminum siding but the interior design and detailing is probably a complete loss. The grounds are well maintained.

John McMillan House
c 1854
506 E. Grove
Builder/Architect Unknown

Wilbur G. and Dorothy B. Taylor
506 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-416-010



The John McMillan house is a good example of cottage style architecture promoted by various authors in popular and nationally distributed pattern books before 1860. Similarities in layout, detail and facade to those suggested by Oliver Smith in his The Domestic Architect (Buffalo, New York 1854) suggest that, perhaps the unknown builder used Smith's book to design this house. Smith said, "the cottage style is well suited to domestic purposes, and harmonizes admirably with the picturesque rural scenery of this country" (pg 23).

This one-and-a-half story house with clapboard siding is composed as a

three bay primary or south facade. Set upon a common brick foundation, the house is rectilinear in plan and has a kitchen wing to the rear. Later additions have been made to the house including the front porch. It is the front porch which obscures some of the carpentry work which typifies this style of house. The front door is flanked with two windows and each of these openings is capped with a wooden, classically inspired, cornice. The classicism is further reinforced by the wide corner pilasters and entablature. A wide freize board runs across the entire front at the roof eave.

The highly pitched roof, which parallels the street, is bisected by a steeply pitched wall dormer which has a triple window reminiscent of a palladium window. The gable is facade with a classic profile moulding. The windows on the secondary facades have plain moulding. A bay window is located upon the east facade. Modern wood has been applied over the base of the bay window.

Little is known of John McMillan except that he was a wholesale grocer in Bloomington from c 1855 to at least 1870, when he was in partnership with John Roush (421 E. Grove).

The house is maintained in good condition.

Source:

Victorian Domestic Architecture, A Facsimilie of Oliver P. Smith's,
The Domestic Architect American Life Foundation, Watkins Glen, NY
1978

E.F. Klienau House
1910
508 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Ronald and Carolyn Montgomery
508 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-416-011



The E. F. Klienau house is an excellent example of the craftsman style house of the midwest. The design is essentially a four square with wing. Yet the window placement and detailing certainly suggest that it was not produced from nationally distributed plans.

This clapboard sided frame construction, two story house is essentially a three bay composition. The asymmetrical placement of the multi-light casement windows on the first story in relationship to the symmetrical upper story windows and dormer suggest a careful hand. The first story windows are visually secured in their placement by the basement windows found directly below them. The entrance to this four square is at the east

side of the facade which is highly unusual for a house of this plan. Brick stoops are arranged in front of tapering brick piers which flank the entrance from which a gabled over door is supported by large craftsman style brackets. The upper story which is defined by a wood belt course at three-quarter wall height, features six long rectangular light over one light windows. On the hip roof centered between the upper story windows is a gabled dormer with a widely projecting overhang. The 16 light rectangular dormer is framed by two squat wooden pilasters above which is verticle wooden board siding with chamfered ends creating a folk-like appearance. This work is reflected in the overdoor on this first story. A sun room wing is placed on the west facade, it features wide eaves.

E.F. Klienau was a Bloomington confectioner of German origin or descent. As an active member of Bloomington's German community it is probable that he commissioned Paul O. Moratz, Bloomington architect, who was also active in the German community to design this house.

The house is well maintained and perhaps only the white paint is in variance with the original intent.

Rueben M. Benjamin House
1854
510 E. Grove
John Routt, Architect/Builder

James F. and Lucy J. Koehler
401 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-416-012



The Rueben Benjamin house is a two story braced frame construction New England side-hall house type. Because of the importance of Benjamin, Routt and its quality of architecture it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

The structure is a well preserved example of a house type associated with layout and detailing popularized by pre-civil war builder's guides. The sidehall layout was developed on the east coast and was adopted as a means of the economical use of space when building on a narrow urban lot. This is definitely a city house type. The utilization of material is typical for the 1850's in Bloomington. Sills, studs, joists, and rafters are

local black walnut and siding, floor boards, doors, windows and mouldings are of imported northern yellow pine. The framing is a transitional type reflecting the move from heavy timber to balloon framing. Sills, corner posts, and plates are heavy and feature new braces which are sectioned by the wall studs.

The structure is massed as a rectangle with the gable facing the street. Behind this is a similar form of lower height which functions as the service wing. The primary or south facade is a three bay composition. The first floor features two windows with two over two lights. On the far left is a double leaf door featuring a single light above the transom. This entrance is approached by a newly constructed period porch. An over door is supported by two console brackets which are placed above the door mouldings. The doors were originally installed at 901 N. Main in Bloomington. The primary decoration on the windows are classically inspired window cornices. The three second story windows are identical to the first. The roof is moderately pitched and in the gable center is placed a round window. The roof frieze is wide and the roof has boxed cornice decorated with widely spaced brackets. A one story bay window is on the west facade. General changes to the rear have included removal and addition of various rooms and porches on the rear. When the house was used as a duplex a downstairs entry had been created on the east facade. It has now been removed.

The house was built by John Routt who later became the last territorial and first elected Governor of Colorado in 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Rueben Moore Benjamin moved into the house on October 10, 1856. Benjamin was born in Columbia County, New York in 1833, attended Amherst College and came to Illinois in 1856. Active as a lawyer, Benjamin was influential in creation of the 1870 Illinois Constitution and became nationally known for his able

) arguments before the United States Supreme Court during the famous "Grange" cases in 1874. His anti-monopoly pleadings set the groundwork for the Interstate Commerce Commission. Benjamin later was a Professor of Law at Illinois Wesleyan University and was author of widely used law text books. He died in 1917.

The house is presently undergoing extensive rehabilitation by the present owners who have done much to save and enhance the buildings structural and architectural integrity.

Source:

Walters, William Inventory of Historic Structures in McLean County

Anna Merrit Apartments
c 1905
512-518 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Dennis and Sandra Brooks
50 Whites Place
Bloomington, IL
21-04-416-013



The Anna Merrit Apartments is a four flat multi-family structure, frame in construction and neo-classic in design. It has been sided with aluminum.

The structure, in form, is two rectangles faced with bay windows separated in the rear by an air shaft and connected in the front by the upper story entrances. The two first story flats are approached by large porches which are placed at the far left and right on the primary facade. The upper story flats are approached by a double porch which is centered on the facade. All porch columns are Doric. On the second story the cornice line is carried beyond the bay windows which create small porch-like constructions which

are placed above the four entrance doors. The projecting cornice line is carried by three columns also designed in the Doric order. Centered on the two rectangular masses are two lowly pitched roof pediments with boxed cornices. Between these is a lowly pitched hip roof which has a hipped roofed, two window dormer. Fan lights a set in the roof pediments. On the east and west facades are two story bay windows capped with roof pediments. Large wooden verandas extend along the rear.

Mrs. Merrit was a school teacher in the Bloomington 4th Ward primary schools. Among her students were Judge Homer Hall and Judge Louis Fitzhenry. Mrs. Merrit undoubtedly erected this building for her own residence and to supplement her meager income.

The building structurally is in fair condition. The out of sight, out of mind philosophy upon which aluminum siding sales is based is reflected in this structure. Those structural and decorative elements which have not been entombed in aluminum are in bad need of maintenance. Columns, railings, and porch floors are in need of repair and paint. Porch skirtings are in some cases pushed in and are laying on the ground. Panes of glass in the fan lights are broken out. Brick porch piers and the foundation in some places is in need of tuckpointing. An unknown amount of damage is taking place under the aluminum siding. A complete exterior restoration would be easily accomplished by removal of the siding and repair of all features which have deteriorated.

Charity Adams House
c 1888
501 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Harold F. Hill
312 Felmlly Drive
Normal, IL
21-04-419-001



The Charity Adams house is a large two story frame house built on an irregular plan, in a Queen Anne style. Application of asbestos siding c 1950 destroyed much of its detailing.

Set upon a brick foundation this house exhibits asymmetrical layout, facade and roof typical of the Queen Anne period. The primary facade is a three bay front. The front has an L shaped veranda capped by a low hipped roof with turned wooden posts. The veranda ends with a pedimented and projecting entry porch also supported by turned wood posts. The pediment is decorated by a machine carved wing motif panel. Also centered on the facade is a double

leaf door with a transomed light. To the left of the door is a small multi-paned hall window. To the left is a large six light window which may have had art glass panels. On the second story one over one light windows are placed above the first story windows. The right hand window bay is carried to completion by a attic story gable decorated with a small bisected rectangular window. This gable projects from the low pitched hip roof. Dominating the roof is a tall corbeled brick chimney stack. The west facade features a two story bay window centered on the facade and a side porch at the south end. This porch is original and has turned posts identical to those on the primary facade. Other features on that facade remain on the attic story. They include a clipped corner, a gabled dormer and a complex double hip inset in a gable which completes the bay window.

Charity Bishop Adams was born in Perry County, Ohio in 1826 and married Wiyett Adams, a farmer of Randolph Township in McLean County. She remained on the farm until 1887, that was probably the date of her husband's death. She died in 1904. The house was perhaps built with the proceeds of the sale of the farm on which she resided.

The house is in fair condition. From the relief of the asbestos siding from the plain window frames which appear to be original, it is possible that most of the decorative clapboard and shingle expected to be found on this type of structure remains.



H.W. Kelley House
1906
503 E. Grove
A.L. Pillsbury, Architect

Joe Mittal
22 Robinwood
Normal, IL
21-04-419-002



The H.W. Kelley house is a two story clapboard frame structure. It is built upon the American four square plan, a popular layout for this type of Arts and Crafts design house. The house is in good condition.

The primary facade is essentially a symmetrical three bay front. Entrance is provided under a wide veranda with an extremely low pitched bell cast roof. This roof is supported by three cinder-faced brick piers upon which are set paired and square wooden columns. The columns appear to be inset into the facia, a decorative effect achieved by hollow flat stock brackets supporting a flat stock extension of the facia. Asymmetry is found on the first story

where the off center door is arranged with a three leaf casement window. The door features a large beveled glass cameo light. It also slightly projects from the facade which creates an interior air-lock, important for north facing entrances. The casement lights are leaded clear and colored art glass designed in the craftsman style. On the right is a large picture window with a craftsman style leaded glass placed above the transom. The second story facade is distinguished by a wooden belt course at three-quarter wall height. Above the belt course are two windows whose sills are created by the belt course. The whole is capped with a moderately sloped hip roof featuring a slight bell cast at the eaves. Centered is a hipped dormer with double windows. The eaves project widely and the soffit is sloped.

H. Walton Kelley was a traveling salesman for the Campbell-Holton Company, wholesale grocers. He undoubtedly picked this location for its proximity to three railroad passenger stations. Kelley was born in Heyworth, Illinois in 1870, became Vice President of Campbell-Holton in 1917, and died in 1950.

All original architectural elements of this house are present, excluding the roofing material. The primary facade was painted recently but the other facades have peeling paint. The owner should be encouraged to paint and warned against aluminum, vinyl or steel siding.

Rev. J.H. Gilliland House
c 1893
505 E. Grove
Architect unknown

Joseph G. Mittal
22 Robinwood
Normal, IL
21-04-419-003



The Reverend J.H. Gilliland house is a two story frame, clapboard sided structure in Queen Anne style design. It is a good example of the more conservative type of this design and most of its decorative elements are intact.

This structure, irregular and asymmetrical in form and layout presents a three bay front on its primary facade. Entrance is provided through a small, yet highly detailed porch on the far left of the facade. The entry door faces west. It is uncertain whether this is its original position. Porch decoration includes turned posts, newell and balisters. The porch roof

is highly pitched and features a applique décoration on the gable face of an urn and flower motif. Centered on the first story facade is a large fixed glass window with a transomed light above. At the left of this is a one over one light sash window. This story has a six inch to weather clapboard and the window lintels are decorated with bulls-eyes. Flat stock is used for corner boards and a belt course between the first and second story windows. On the second story four inch to weather clapboards are used and two sash windows are placed beneath the attic story gable. These windows are also decorated with bullseyes. The roof is cross gable in form and on the primary facade the gable is decorated with alternate coursings of diamond and fish scale shingle. Centered in the gable four over four light double windows. On the west facade the gable is identical and caps a two story bay window. Decorative brackets are placed where the bay undercuts the gable.

This house and the houses at 503 and 507 E. Grove are situated on the site of Connovers Academy. This female academy closed after the civil war. It apparently stood and was used as a residence until c 1870. Reverend Conover, the owner, retired from his pastorate in Lexington, Illinois in 1893 and it is probably at this time that the land was cleared for these buildings.

Reverend J.H. Gilliland was an active churchman with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). During his active work in this community he founded the Second Christian and Centennial Christian Churches and raised funds to build their structures. He died in 1922.

The house is in good condition and is simply in the need of a coat of paint.

Eugene Funk House
c 1895
507 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Kenneth and Donna L. Mann
507 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-419-004



The Eugene Funk house, if this analysis is correct, is a very late example of a Queen Anne style house. It is a two story clapboard sided frame exhibiting features associated with structures of the previous decade. It is a very well preserved house.

Essentially symmetrical this two bay front house with irregular plan is approached through an L shaped porch which maintains its original intricately detailed decoration, which are in excellent condition. The lowly pitched hip porch roof is supported by turned posts. The porch fascia has small brackets and larger brackets connect it to the posts. Above the entry stairs are two connecting brackets with pendant which creates an arch-like appearance.

Connecting to the right of the porch is a front projecting two story gabled wing. Centered on this on the first story is a large fixed window with a transomed light. This window lintel is decorated with a bulls-eye and floral motif, as are all most other windows and the front door. The first and second stories are distinguished by the use of larger siding and corner boards and the first and the belt course between the two stories made from moulding and projecting siding courses. The upper story openings are placed above the first. The attic story is composed of a hip with gables projecting over the primary facade wing and a two story bay window on the west facade. On the primary facade the gable is decorated with fish scale and diamond shingle. Centered in the gable is a large rectangular fixed light surrounded by small square lights. Above this is a decorative panel. The gable cornice is boxed and has high relief moulding. At the eaves is closely spaced brackets on a plain soffit and fascia.

At the rear is a brick and frame urban barn in excellent condition. It is the best example of this type of structure in Bloomington.

Eugene Funk (b 1867 - d 1944), grandson and heir of Isaac Funk, an early settler and landowner, is best known for his contributions in the development and distribution of hybrid seed corn. Funk was important in using scientifically based research to improve the quality of yeilds in the corn dominated midwest.

This house and barn are in a state of excellent preservation. It is obviously well cared for and apparently every effort has been made to preserve its distinguishing architectural features.

George Brand House
c 1886
509 E. Grove
Henry Miner, Architect (?)

Donna L. Mann
507 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-419-005



The George Brand house is a two story frame house layed out in an Italianate plan but detailed with Eastlake inspired features. Green asbestos siding and modern porches detract from its original appearance.

Built as a three bay front with side-hall entrance the first story is completely obscured by a glass enclosed sun porch or room and a small entry porch. Above this are three one over one light window sash. The attic story is the only exterior part of the structure which maintains any integrity. The truncated hip roof features a boxed cornice and wide fascia which is decorated with one-quarter wheel spoked bracket made of fret work.

Centered on the primary facade is a gabled wall dormer with a recessed double window. A gable screen is made of a half wheel fret work design panel, supported by two brackets. On the west facade attic story a gabled wall dormer feature boxed cornice and brackets with the eave decoration carried beneath the gable creating the effect of gable returns.

George Brand in 1880 had hired Henry Miner, a local planning mill operator and architect to prepare plans for a house to be built on the 400 block of East Grove. This structure was never built. Perhaps the out of period design for this building can be attributed to the fact that the plans were at least six or seven years old.

George Brand was born in Wurtemberg, Germany in 1829 and came to this country in 1845. While living in Ohio he apprenticed to a cabinet maker and relocated in Bloomington in 1854, opening shop as a furniture maker. This business expanded with Brand ceasing the manufacture of furniture and concentrating on retail trade. He died in 1895 leaving his business with his son George F. Brand.

Although it is structurally in sound condition, from a historical viewpoint, the house little resembles the structure which Brand had erected. It is difficult to estimate how much of the original exterior wall material remains under the asbestos siding. Documentation for any restoration plans could be soundly based in the excellent photo of the house which was published in Bloomington Illustrated, 1889.

Hadden Clinic
c 1954
511 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Edward A. and Ivey Weaver
American State Bank Tr ASB 535
1242 E. Empire
Bloomington, IL
21-04-419-014



The Hadden Clinic is a two story commercial structure erected by Dr. Harold Hadden, a foot specialist. It is out of character for the entire neighborhood and was undoubtedly built before zoning was particularly enforced. The Brunery/Reibsame house which sits immediately behind this structure was moved to open this lot c 1947.

Because this structure is anomolous and non-contributing to the district being considered, a description of the premises is not needed.

A.J. Messing House
c 1910
602 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Darrel Hartweg and
William Sulaski
306 N. Center
Bloomington, IL
21-04-435-007



The A.J. Messing house is a two story stuccoed brick structure. In consideration of its detailing it could be considered California Mission Style, although it is an overlay on a colonial revival floor plan. It is in fair condition.

The exterior walls of this center hall structure are soft baked local brick covered with stucco. Entrance is provided through a wide veranda of brick and frame construction. Piers at either end of the veranda rise to the railing height, are capped with stone from which rise two square piers

which are themselves capped with stone and form a half round arch which is a continuation of the pier. Between these piers span a low and graceful arch which gives the structure its California Mission signature. At the center of the arch a large oval and cruciform decoration in wood is inset in a step and half round false gable. The primary facade is a three bay composition. The center bay, which projects, houses the front entry door which has recessed side lights. The flanking bays have large one over one light windows and stone sills. The second story windows are the same except the center, which is double. The attic story features a low pitched gabled roof with a centered wall dormer capped with a gable composed of steps, quarter rounds and half rounds. The east and west facades have symmetrical window placement of identical construction of the primary facades, the wide projecting eaves and cornice return.

The house is similar in layout to 502 E. Grove and similar in form and layout to 605 E. Grove.

A.J. Messing was a Rabbi and a teacher at Illinois Wesleyan when this house was built.

The structure is in fair condition, needing stucco repair. Because of apartments it is probable that much interior detailing has been lost.

Lucius T. Wilcox house
1893
604 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

C. Steve Pampel
R. Thomas Fogler
202 E. Front
Bloomington, IL
21-04-435-008



The Lucius T. Wilcox house is an excellent example of Queen Anne architecture. It is a two story frame structure of irregular form and plan. It is sided with clapboard. The structure is in good condition and all decorative work excluding porch rail ballisters appear to be intact.

The primary facade is composed of a four bay front. Essentially asymmetrical in appearance and rich in detailing, the irregular plan is expressed by the use of towers, multi-story bay windows, oriels, and off-center positioning of major structural components. Entrance is made through an L shaped porch which features a low pitched projecting pedimented gable

over the stairs. The gable face is decorated with stamped sheet metal shingle. Porch posts are high relief turnings. Spindle work is used in wooden eave curtains. Under the gable this is worked to create a graceful arch. The window headers on this story are decorated with appliqued wooden bullseyes.

The second story, divided from the first by a projecting clapboard belt course, is expressed by the multiplane surfaces formed from the bay windows and it features a small porch which is decorated with two semi-circular wooden curtains. The attic story is dominated by a pedimented gable which overhangs one half of the front facade except in the area occupied by the corner bay. The underside of the projection is decorated by long thin eave brackets. The gable face in which is place two windows is decorated with decorative shingle work. Competing for attention as the structure's cap is a small gale with a window and a tall conical tower roof which is slightly bell cast.

The structure is in good condition, the only noticeable problem being the front porch which has apparently settled. Attempts to correct this problem has left the roof and porch columns jacked away from the column bases. The porch roof on one side in being supported by three large boards.

Lucius T. Wilcox was a dry-goods merchant. His store was located in downtown Bloomington. As a measure of his success he took out a building permit for the structure in 1893 for a house to cost \$5,000. He also employed Cyrenius Russell to frescoe the interior.

Source:

Bloomington Daily Pantagraph May 12, 1897

Charles Stephenson House
c 1903
606 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Margaret Bonson
606 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-435-009



The Charles Stephenson house is a rectangular plan, two story frame structure originally designed in the plain, late Victorian style. It has been altered at least twice, once in the 1920's by the addition of a rear two story wing containing an automobile garage and in the post World War II period by siding with asbestos shingle over the original clapboard.

The first story primary facade is dominated by a veranda which extends across the entire front. This is an original feature for the fretwork porch skirting which underlies the veranda appears to date from the period of construction. The veranda has been entirely enclosed by large one over one

light windows. The date of this enclosure is unknown.

The second story shows the three bay front intent of the original design and fully one-third of the facade to the left is recessed to serve as a porch. The porch detailing is intact and features turned spindle balusters, turned wooden columns and scallops. The attic story is dominated by a large pedimented gable, the upper third of which projects slightly. At this projection is found small brackets. Centered on the lower two thirds is a triple window with one over one light sash. The gable is faced with decorative shingle. This gable is crossed by two side gables. Window mouldings throughout the structure are plain.

Charles Stephenson who was associated during his active business life with Campbell Holton & Co., a local wholesale grocery company was born in Heyworth, Illinois in 1874. By 1894 he was working in the wholesale field and joined Campbell Holton in 1907. He died in 1955. A son of his in 1939 was associated with J. Walter Thompson Advertising Company of New York City.

Judge Sain Welty House
c 1888
610-612 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Richard Nice
Ronald Wyce
203 S. McLean
Bloomington, IL
21-04-435-010



The Judge Sain Welty house is a tall two story brick structure of irregular plan of late Victorian design. Alterations made between 1896 and 1901 caused removal of a large front porch and the addition of a small room.

to the first story. This work was probably done to convert the structure into a duplex.

Essentially three bay in composition, the primary facade is plain and is dominated by large transomed windows centered on the first and second stories. On the east is a two-and-a-half story rectangular bay window. The bay features narrow and tall one over one sash windows on the short walls and on the long wall at the first story is another large transomed window. Entrance is gained through double leaf single glazed 16 panel doors.

The tall and rectangular nature of the entire composition is broken at the attic story where is found a gable. Contained in the gable is a triple window which features nine over one sash. Offset from the gable is a half hexagonal dormer, the base of which is decorated with feathered shingle. It is roofed with a low pyramid like structure. The bay window at the attic story contains a triple window at the long wall. The tall pyramid roof, the eaves of which are bracketed, is shingled with slate. The rest of the roof is shingled with composition roofing. The facia is highly unusual being constructed in a panel and rail method and having two courses of panel designed in a brick like manner.

Painting of the brick walls has obscured certain decorative elements. At least two colors of brick are used on the structure. Some of the color variation may, however relate to the turn of the century remodeling. Basket weave pattern brick panels are found at the eaves and in places between the first and second stories. Stone is used in the structure for a water table, window sills and headers. The concrete entrance steps are of an unknown date.

Judge Sain Welty was born in Somerset, Ohio in 1853. He attended Illinois Wesleyan University, graduating in 1881 and Yale University, graduating

in 1883. At Yale he graduated at the head of his class and won the Marshall Jewel Prize. He moved to Bloomington in 1883 and became law partners with John Sterling who was later to serve this Congretional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Welty was elected Judge of the Circuit Court in McLean County. He died in 1920.



Samuel Denton House
c 1929
614 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Lewellyn Jones
614 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-435-010



The Samuel Denton house is a framed cube with cinder faced brick veneer typical of the style of structure known as an American Foursquare. It is surprising that a structure of this type of design typical of a period 15 years previous, was built as late as 1929.

The primary facade is composed of two bays. On the first story entrance is gained through a semi-circular topped door. This is enhanced by a large semi-circular overdoor which features two horizontal wings. The whole is supported by plain console brackets. The single window has four over one lights and features a projecting header course sill and soldier course header.

On the east is an enclosed porch with identical window sash. The second story windows are placed above the first story openings. At the sill level runs a belt course of header laid brick. Small limestone cubes are placed at the corners of this course. The roof is a pitched hip and has wide projecting sloped eaves. Centered at the primary facade is a low gabled dormer with projecting eaves. The dormer face has an attic vent set into it. A satellite disk on the west caps the whole.

Samuel Denton was the manager of the Denton Drug Company in 1929-1930.

Logan Perry House
c 1916
601 E. Grove
) Architect Unknown

William M. Partridge
601 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-439-001



The Logan Perry house is a one-and-a-half story framed structure covered with stucco. American Bungalow in design, it is typical of the type of house built from purchased plans obtained either mail order or through a lumber yard.

The primary facade is a three bay front with a centered door and two flanking windows. The deep veranda dominates the facade. It is composed of four large limestone capped cinder faced brick piers from which rise the four support columns. The outer columns are massive in appearance and the inner columns which flank the stairs are relatively spindly in appearance.

These columns support a long elipsoid porch roof fascia. The stairs have large cinder faced brick stoops which are capped with limestone. The porch skirting is made of lattice work and the porch railings and ballisters are rectangular.

Centered to the rear of the low sloping porch roof is a large dormer. It is decorated with false half-timbering and centered in it is a double window. These windows are one over one sash as are all the windows in the structure. The half story is formed by a low pitched gable and it has widely projecting eaves with a plain fascia but no soffit. The side walls of the house rise from a cinder faced brick foundation above which is a wooden watertable. The walls are stuccoed.

Logan Perry was in the investment and bond business, located in downtown Bloomington. He died in 1968.

Ellis/Bodell House
c 1855/c 1916
603 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Roger B. and Sue R. Wells
206 Grandview Drive
Normal, IL
21-04-439-002



The Ellis/Bodell house is a two story framed New England sidehall house which was heavily remodeled in 1916. Situated on a parcel of land which comprised the parcels for 601 and 603 E. Grove. It was apparently moved to allow for the construction of 601 E. Grove. It is in poor condition.

Its original appearance would have been similar to the Ruben M. Benjamin house at 510 E. Grove but much of the detailing of that period has been removed in the Bodell period (c 1916) and a post World War II remodeling. A New England sidehall design it retains its rectangular form, a three bay primary facade, Italianate style classical window and door mouldings, and a

curved transom light over the front door.

In 1916 remodeling the house was moved onto a foundation made of large shale paving brick. The brick mason who laid the foundation was allowed a tour de force in his construction of the L shaped veranda which replaced a veranda which was only on the primary facade. This new porch is huge, starting from corbeled bases nine large square piers rise approximately eight feet and are capped with limestone. Supporting the veranda are short wood columns. Porch skirting and railings are also worked with shale pavers.

Other features altered in the 1916 remodeling include three large craftsman style brackets at the roof eave which probably replaced a console style bracket. Side lights at the front door were also installed. These are two color-leaded glass and feature a pleasing Arts and Crafts period motif.

Jessee Ellis the earliest known resident of this structure operated a hat store in downtown Bloomington in 1855. He died in 1868. Reverend William Bodell was an evangelist who operated on a state wide basis. Born in 1863 he was associated with the Presbyterian church later in his life.

The decidedly amateurish nature of the front porch design and the fact that the structure was moved to a much narrower lot suggests a volunteer effort to create the 1916 remodeling of the house. Reverend Bodell died in 1945.

Samuel Crawford House
c 1911
605 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

John P. and Lillian P. Duetech
301 E. Front
Bloomington, IL
21-04-439-002



The Samuel Crawford house is a two story masonry structure. In design it is a California Mission style overlayed on a Colonial Revival plan. As such it closely resembles the A.J. Messing house at 602 E. Grove. The two structures are undoubtedly designed by the same person who, at this point in time, is unknown.

The primary facade is composed of three bays. This arrangement is reflected in the porch where entrance is made through the center of a three bay arranged porch. Although the porch is frame it has been stuccoed to match the remainder of the structure. The four porch piers flare to quarter

round tops which support the large parapet of the porch. The parapet decoration is composed of a semi-circular projection the face of which is decorated by an oval and cruciform inlay of wood. The parapet slopes down from this projection to exterior corner piers. The front door is situated on a projecting center bay and has large one over one light sash flanking it. On the second story this arrangement is maintained but the center bay features a double window with one over one sash. At the attic story the projecting bay ends as a hipped roof wall dormer with a fixed four light sash centered in it. This dormer projects from a moderated pitched gabled roof. Eave returns on the gable ends, an exterior chimney, and the general symmetry of composition lend the structure its colonial associations.

Crawford built the structure in 1911 for his retirement.



Young/Perrigo House
c 1855/1904
609-611 E. Grove
) Unknown/A.L. Pillsbury

Mary A. Jones
RR #2, Charterwood
Bloomington, IL
21-04-439-004



The Young/Perrigo house is a New England side hall type house similar to 510 E. Grove which was enlarged to a multi-family structure by an addition designed by a local architect. This clapboard sided structure was originally intended to be a duplex but is now in four or more units. Structurally it appears to be in good condition.

The primary facade is composed of a five bay front; three associated with the c 1855 structure and two associated with the 1904 structure. Entrance to the two parts is gained through a double porch which divides by

a set of double columns which are flanked on their respective ends by large square recessed panel columns. The columns rise from three brick piers capped with clapboard sided bases. The Pillsbury designed addition on the left has two bays which have a door and two windows on the first story and one single and one double window on the second story. The roof to this part is a low pitched hip with a bay dormer offset on the roof.

Dr. P.G. Young was born in Virginia in 1810 and came to Bloomington in 1848 accompanied by his wife and six children. Young was not a medical doctor but rather was a diagnosing pharmacist and advertized his business widely. By 1850 he was also serving as a preacher and maintained both professions up to the civil war. The house had a variety of occupants up to 1891 when Mr. and Mrs. Charles Perrigo obtained the structure. Upon the death of Mr. Perrigo, Mrs. Perrigo had the building expanded, undoubtedly to provide her with secure income in a period without government social programs.



Frank D. Marquis House
1888
613 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Timothy and Victoria Dietsch
1861 Longway Court
Cincinnati, Ohio
21-04-439-005



The Frank D. Marquis house is a two story frame structure of late Victorian period design. Because of the heavy coverage of aluminum siding it is difficult to ascertain the original design concept although it probably closely resembled 507 E. Grove.

The house has a two bay primary facade. On the first story the porch is the only detail left intact. It features a shingle roofed gable with a sunburst design in the gable face. The whole is supported by square columns and on the sides has wooden eave curtains of spindle work. The window has a triple sash with a large center and two flanking sash. An upper story window has an art glass transom. The structure is topped with a cross gabled roof,

steeply pitched which maintains its original slating. The aluminum siding apparently covers much intact original siding and shingling.

Frank Marquis was president of Peoples Bank.

Augustus Elbe House
c 1882
702 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Mr. and Mrs. James P. Russell
702 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-436-007



The Augustus Elbe house is a large two story frame structure designed in the Queen Anne style. Its wall surfaces and window and door mouldings have been covered with aluminum siding.

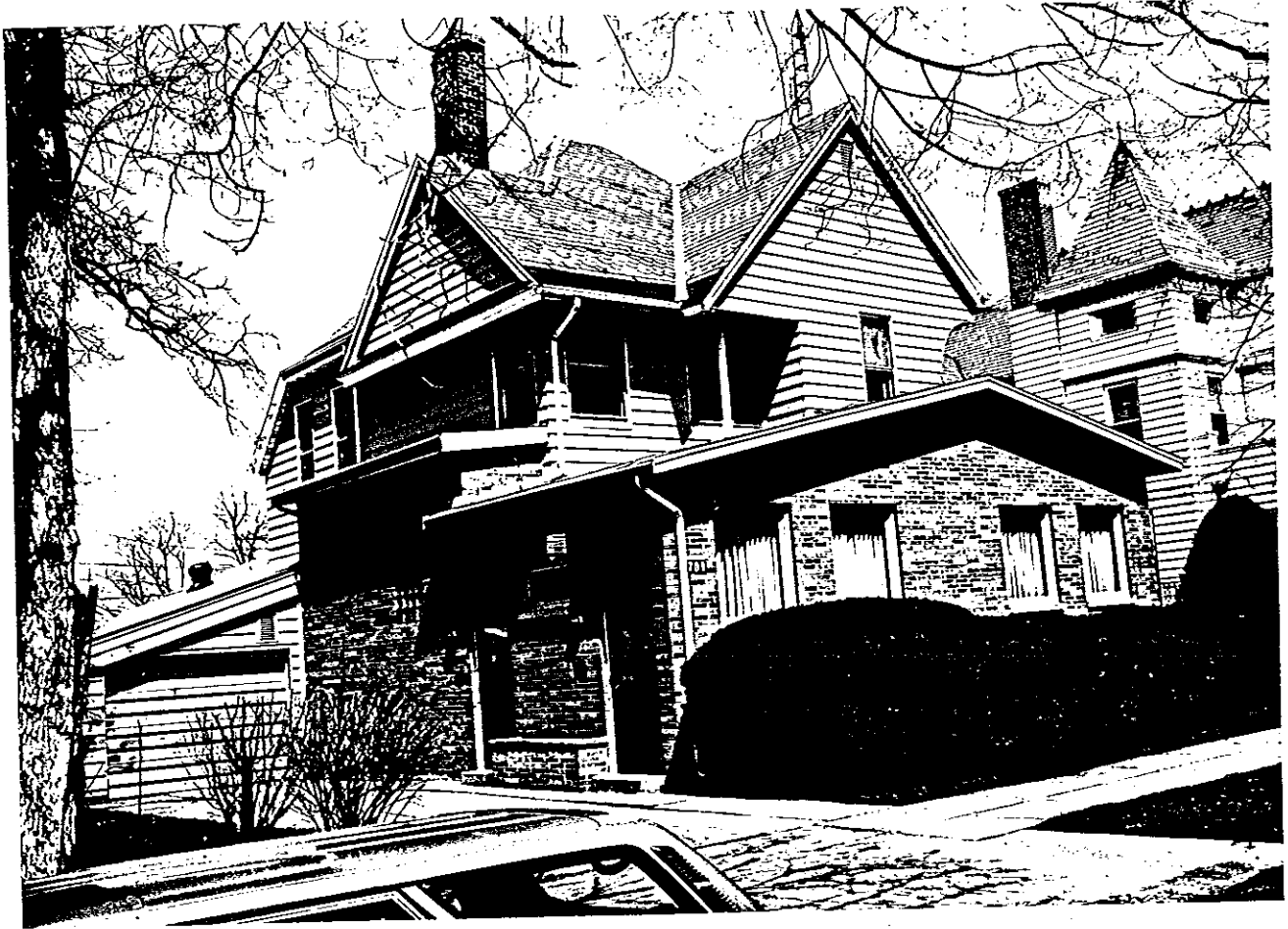
Because of the residing it is difficult to assess the original design emphasis. It can be safely said that it has a three bay primary facade. The structure is dominated by a large rounded tower with a conical roof. The residing has left the towers relationship to the house similar to a silo and barn. Beneath the siding undoubtedly lies a very beautiful house. Other features of note are front doors, porch columns, eave and fascia detail-

ing and gable barge boards and panels.

Augustus Elbe was a German born jeweler who was doing well enough in the 1880's to build a house costing \$4,500.

First M.E. Parsonage
1888
704 E. Grove
Architect - George Miller

Harold Walters
P.O. Box 760
Bloomington, IL
21-04-436-008



The First M.E. Parsonage is a two story frame structure so severely altered from its originally designed appearance that it barely falls into the purpose of this survey. It should suffice to say that of the house George Miller designed only the roof line remains. The structure cost \$3,500 to build and was used as a parsonage for the First Methodist Church. Frank Crane, the widely published inspirational writer, lived here when preaching in Bloomington.

Source:

Bloomington Weekly Pantagraph July 27, 1888

John F. Heffernan House
c 1892
706 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Robert G. Russano
706 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-436-009



The John F. Heffernan house is a two story frame structure built in a Queen Anne design. It has been altered by a front porch which dates later than the remaining structure. The structure has aluminum siding over stucco. The stucco was probably applied over the original clapboard and decorative shingling typical of this style structure. The first renovation probably occurred c 1915.

The primary facade has a three bay front with the center projecting bay on the first story holding the entrance. The entry way features a segmented arch transomed light above double leaf eight panel doors. Flanking

the entry are large one over one light sash. The second story has three identical windows centered in the three bays. At the attic story the center bay forms a gabled wall dormer and is flanked on the left by a truncated tower with a pyramidal roof. The roof is in essence a cross gable type but is asymmetrical by suggestions of gambrels, towers, and gables projecting above the attic story.

John Heffernan was a civic leader, active in politics. He died in 1921. The second Boy Scout camp in this locale was named for him.

Robert McElvaine House
c 1892
710 E. Grove Street
Architect Unknown

Anna Workman
1403 Mayfair Road
Champaign, IL
21-04-436-010



The Robert McElvaine house is a modest late Victorian structure of a type described as a Princess Anne by Old House Journal publisher Clem Labine. It is a two to one-half story frame structure covered with aluminum siding. Its design is perhaps a stock plan published for national use and sold either mail order, or through a local lumber yard.

Entrance to the house is gained through a straight side stair onto a porch which dates c 1920. Aluminum siding covers most of the historic material, although it can be seen that on this three bay structure window mouldings were plain. All windows are one over one sash and are set singly

except a double window in the projecting full second floor bay on the primary facade.

It is said that this structure is the house which the Roland family lived in during the time they started their store in downtown Bloomington.



Dr. W.A. Elder House
c 1855
712 E. Grove
Architect Unknown

J. Perry and Minnie Osnowitz
Tr. 5089
RR#13, Box 104
Bloomington, IL
21-04-436-011



The Dr. W.A. Elder house was built sometime between 1853 and 1855. It is a two story frame structure which features an original front wing built in a side hall arrangement. The structure has an extensive history of additions being made to it, the most recent and major one dating c 1905.

As a three bay front the primary facade maintains an appearance typical of the side hall house. Its front door is to the left and on the right are two symmetrically placed windows. These windows have four over one sash and plain mouldings. The upper story has three openings directly above the

lower but a door has been added to permit access to the upper story porch. The two level porch generally obscures the facade although because of other changes to this c 1855 structure the porch does not detract from it. It is supported by three large tapered wooden posts. This system is duplicated at the upper story where the posts support a porch roof. On both levels ballisters are made of flat stock wood. Perhaps the most unique aspect of this structure is the apparent lack of a deep foundation. The only other structure in the district (418 E. Grove) with this feature also dates from this period.

Because of numerous changes to the rear wings only a thorough physical examination would allow a dating of their sequence of development.

Dr. W.A. Elder was born in Watertown, New York in 1826. He moved at a young age to Missouri where he studied medicine at the University of Missouri where he graduated in 1847. His stay in Missouri is perhaps responsible for the appearance of this house for it closely resembles a house type built in the "Little Dixie" area of that state known as a stacked house. Dr. Elder came to Bloomington in 1852 and established a practice as a physician and surgeon. He died in 1895.

George Cox House
1886
701 E. Grove
George Miller, Architect

Jane Lee
701 E. Grove
Bloomington, IL
21-04-440-001



Because of the superb nomination to the National Register to Historic Places prepared by the owner Jane Lee and because the information required in a nomination to the National Register closely parallels the information being presented in this survey Ms. Lee's narrative is used.

"This two and a half story Queen Anne style brick and frame residence with attic stands on the south east corner of Grove and Clayton Streets. Six wide curved limestone steps rise to a three-quarters circular wrap-around entrance porch. Curved wooden porch railings are supported by balusters turned in a highly figured design. The circular porch roof,

supported by turned wooden columns, rises gently to a small circular balcony with a decorative railing. Behind this facade is an octagonal tower, 15' in diameter, rising to a height of more than 40' from the ground. At the half-story level, there are stained glass windows on the four completely visible sides of the tower. The tower roof is a slightly belled octagonal dome. To the immediate right is a larger, partially enclosed and recessed balcony whose railing echoes that of the smaller, lower balcony. A gable over the larger balcony is finished with false half-timbering. An ornamental brick chimney shaft rises beyond this roofline.

The body of the house consists of six different sized rectangles set together asymmetrically in three projecting wings, producing a total of twelve bays. The overall dimensions of the house are approximately 30' X 70' on a relatively small lot, 70' X 125'. The foundation and first story are constructed of dark red brick, trimmed with limestone and decorative brickwork. The second, half-story and attic levels are of various types of shingles and clapboard, currently painted dark buff. There are three porches, three chimneys, and a large number of decorative elements, including dormers and an oriel. Slate gray shingles cover the original ridged and hipped T-shaped slate roof. There is a narrow cemented driveway but no outbuildings. The lot is developed into lawn, with flower gardens on all sides of the house. The house has decoratively bordered sidewalks, tall trees, strips of lawn, wide stone steps to Grove Street and stone curbing separating it from the asphalt covered brick streets.

George H. Cox was a descendant of David Cox, an early settler in Bloomington Grove in 1826. Cox had come from Ohio, and his livelihood was farming and stockraising. The Cox family was prestigious and one of the oldest in Bloomington.

George H. Cox was the Secretary-Treasurer and General Manager of the Hungarian Roller Mill Company, a prominent westside landmark of Bloomington, owned by his brother Thomas J. Cox. George was also a business partner of William Hasenwinkle, with whom he owned a flour mill and other business interests. He was a board member of the Corn Belt Bank and a leader of the First Presbyterian Church. He married and had two children, at least one of whom, Herman, attended a local college."

Elijah Horr House
c 1886
703 E. Grove
Henry A. Miner - Architect ?

William J. Phillips
305 Grant Road
Bloomington, IL
21-04-440-002



The Elijah Horr house is a two story frame structure of a rectangular plan. It is nearly identical to 709 and 711 E. Grove and also 310 E. Walnut Street in Bloomington. Henry Miner was the designer of the Walnut Street house and the existence of many other structures of this plan in Bloomington argues for a single plan, marketed locally with much of the mill work supplied locally. Henry Miner was also the operator of a large planing mill.

Entrance to the house on the primary facade is through a large L shaped porch which dates c 1925. The porch is enclosed with screen. The left bay provides an original entrance. Much of the original wall detailing

is underneath asbestos siding which dates post World War II. Window mouldings remain and have bullseye decorated lintels and bullseye decorated corner blocks. Wooden eave curtains decorate a bay window on the west facade. The roof structure is a truncated hip with two gables. Eave and soffit is covered with a 45 degree diagonal trimboard which is figured. Both gables have window vents, have decorated trim boards and decorative shingle work. The house is in apparently good structural condition.

Elijah Horr was born in Denmark, New York in 1826. At the age of 10 he was brought to Bloomington by A.C. Washburn one of the earliest teachers in the community. He became successful being at various times a farmer, mercantilist, and President of the Third National Bank of Bloomington. He also served on the building committee of the 1868 McLean County Courthouse. Horr died in 1895.

Kersey Fell House
Pre-1855
705-707½ E. Grove
Architect Unknown

Charles E. Mitchell
1506 Northbrook, Unit 101
Normal, IL
21-04-440-003



The Kersey Fell house is a large two story house which was perhaps originally built as a duplex. At the time of this report's writing (Fall, 1985) its distinguishing 19th century characteristics are being removed through application of aluminum siding. The destruction of this house's architecture by this means only underscores the necessity to preserve this neighborhood from further thoughtlessness.

The house was originally clapboard sided and presents on its primary facade a five bay front. It was, perhaps, originally a New England side hall house with a wing to the east. There are presently three entrances on

the primary facade. Besides the work presently underway certain remodeling was done c 1905, in 1890 and perhaps earlier. The c 1905 remodeling left the house with a double porch supported by round wooden columns. Window trim was also changed on the first story. Original pre-1855 detailing existed as wide pilaster boards, eave brackets and wide renaissance inspired wooden window mouldings. The gable window had a superb window and vent arrangement with a pedimented cornice and flat wall brackets dominant.

Kersey Fell was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania in 1815 and came to Bloomington, at the urging of his brother Jesse in 1836. He passed his Illinois Bar Exam in 1841 and maintained an active practice until 1856 when political organizing became his prime interest. Fell was one of the organizers of the National Republican Party, was a Fremont delegate at the 1856 National Convention. In 1860 he was part of the Illinois coalition which put Abraham Lincoln into the presidency. He died in 1893.



Parker Bros. Lumber Co. House I
1883
709 E. Grove
Architect - Henry Miner

J. Michael and Sally A. Payne
R.R. 2
Bloomington, IL
21-04-440-004



The Parker Brothers Lumber Company House I is a two story frame structure of a rectangular plan. It is nearly identical to 703 and 711 E. Grove Streets and also 310 E. Walnut Street in Bloomington. Henry Miner was the designer of the Walnut Street house and the existence of many other structures of this plan in Bloomington argues for a single plan marketed locally, with much of the millwork supplied locally. Henry Miner was also the operator of a large planing mill. As late as 1889 Parker Bros. Lumber had contractors Ziegler and Ferre erect a house on East Front Street and at 607 E. Front another structure of the same plan as 703, 709 and 711 E. Grove stands.

The structure has a three bay primary facade with entrance on the right bay. It has a vestibule built out from the wall at the front door undoubtedly to provide protection from this areas prevailing northern winter winds. The vestibule structure has been paneled over. At the left is a large fixed glass transomed window. It is uncertain as to whether that is an original element. The entire house, save the front gable has been covered with aluminum siding. That gable shows a fanciful imitation half-timber design.

The city directories record numerous occupants to the structure and by 1907 George Parker, of the lumberyard family, resided there. The structure cost \$3,500 to construct in 1883.

Source:

Bloomington Weekly Pantagraph October 12, 1883

Parker Bros. Lumber Co. House II
1883
711 E. Grove
Architect - Henry A. Miner

Carlos and Virginia Rivera
504 S. Denver
Bloomington, IL
21-04-440-005



The Parker Brothers Lumber Company House II is a two story frame structure of a rectilinear plan. It is nearly identical to 703, 709 E. Grove Streets and 310 E. Walnut Street in Bloomington. Henry Miner was the designer of the Walnut Street house and the existence of many other structures of this plan in Bloomington argues for a single plan marketed locally with much of the millwork supplied locally. Henry Miner was also the operator of a large planing mill.

The structure has a three bay primary facade with entrance gained through a vestibule on the right bay. This vestibule is constructed in a

rail and panel technique and feature side lights and large diamond lights on the side walls. Porch columns are constructed from rock-faced concrete block indicating a c 1900 date for the sleeping porch which dominates the second story facade. The house has its original clapboard siding. Other features are bullseye decorated lentels and corner blocks on the windows. The roof structure is a truncated hip with gables and eaves are boxed diagonally with decoratively figured material. The gables are also decorated.

The house was built in 1883 at a cost of \$3,500.

800 and 900 East Grove Street

As part of the original survey the 800 and 900 blocks of East Grove Street were surveyed in the field and historical research conducted concerning the structures on those blocks. It was concluded that although some historical and/or architectural resources exist on those blocks they were not closely related to the general theme of the 200 through 600 blocks.

Essentially the 800 and 900 blocks are mixed residential and business sections. There are large parking lots, contemporary buildings, historic buildings and older buildings barely recognizable as to their historical periods and most of the other buildings have been sided in inappropriate products. For this reason these structures are not within the boundaries of the proposed Grove Street historic district.

However to give some idea of the structures on those blocks the following is provided. It is not the intent of the author of this report to comment fully upon each structure as is provided in the balance of the report. It is his intention to provide some of the more interesting and salient facts concerning those properties.

802 E. Grove The John Wycoff house was built c 1894. It is Queen Anne in design and has its upper stories covered with aluminum siding. A front porch is of uncertain date.

808-810 E. Grove This commercial structure has parts to it which may date back to 1880. It is originally associated with Dr. M. Kopf a physician who used hydro-therapy treatment.

812 E. Grove This structure dates as early as 1867. It was apparently the first structure used by Dr. M. Kopf.

814 E. Grove According to Alice Schlenker of Bloomington this structure was originally sited at the south east corner of Washington and Robinson

and that it was known as the old Robinson place. It has been so severely altered that it is nearly impossible to say anything about it by its structural appearance.

816-818-820 E. Grove This set of three two flat structures were made in 1924 by the moving and rebuilding of Harwood Lumber Company sheds. The work according to an unknown source was done under the direction of Bloomington architect Paul O. Moratz. From the general appearance this statement could well be true.

801 E. Grove This c 1924 commercial structure was built to serve as an auto repair facility.

803-803 $\frac{1}{2}$ -805-805 $\frac{1}{2}$ E. Grove These four structures were all built c 1910 in the design known as American Foursquare. This type of house is common in this community although the coursed siding on 803 is particularly well done and is expressive of the Arts and Crafts movement which spawned it.

813 E. Grove The A.B. Ives house was built c 1857. It is a good example of a Victorian pattern book cottage. It would be eligible for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places on its architectural merits if the existing aluminum siding was removed.

815 E. Grove The Sanford Robinson house is an I type house and was built c 1855. It is in poor condition.

 E. Grove This is a one story brick structure attached to 817 E. Grove. It dates c 1927.

817 E. Grove This two story brick structure was built c 1905 for commercial and residential purposes. It is nicely preserved.

819 E. Grove The Reinholt Graf Grocery building was constructed c 1873. It is in poor condition.

IC Railroad Freighthouse This structure dates c 1880 and was built in the Eastern stick style. The modern doors detract from its appearance.