



City of Geneva, Illinois

Local Historic District & Landmarks
Property Inventory Survey

GENERAL PROPERTY INFORMATION:

HISTORIC NAME: Disciples of Christ Meeting House

COMMON NAME: n/a

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1857

SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION DATES: 1940, circa 1970-1980

ARCHITECT: n/a

BUILDER: n/a

WILSON BROTHERS: ☐ AUGUST ☐ OSCAR ☐ BOTH

ARCHITECTURAL DATA:

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Gable Front, Cottage

OVERALL PLAN SHAPE: Rectangular

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1

FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Limestone

PRIMARY WALL MATERIAL(S): Limestone

FRONT PORCH: No

VISIBLE SIDE PORCH: Yes

ENTRY DOOR(S): Original

WINDOW MATERIAL: Wood

WINDOW STYLE: Double-hung (2/2) (6/6 at rear addition)

PRIMARY ROOF FORM: Gable

PRIMARY ROOF MATERIAL: Asphalt

VISIBLE CHIMNEY: Yes

CHIMNEY MATERIAL: Limestone

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES:

n/a

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

420 Campbell Street (402 Campbell Street)

PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN):

12-03-454-003



LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE RATING:

- ☐ Significant
- ☒ Contributing
- ☐ Non-Contributing – Built After 1987
- ☐ Non-Contributing – Reversible Alterations
- ☐ Non-Contributing – Irreversible Alterations

HISTORIC DISTRICT LOCATION:

- ☒ Central Geneva NRHD
- ☐ North Geneva NRHD
- ☒ Local Geneva HD
- ☐ Not in HD / Individual Historic Landmark

NR DISTRICT SIGNIFICANCE RATING:

- ☒ Contributing
- ☐ Non-Contributing
- ☐ Not Applicable / Not in NR District



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ADDITIONAL PROPERTY INFORMATION:

BRIEF HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION:

In 1857, Benjamin Wilson leased land from his business partner, Joseph Cockroft (207 S. Fifth Street), for Disciples of Christ Church (the congregation previously met on the upper floor of 416 Hamilton Street). Cockroft sold the parcel to church trustees in 1859. The property reverted to Cockroft's heirs in 1893 when the church closed.

At some point in time (some historians suggest in the 1920s, but others say earlier or, perhaps, at the time of construction or shortly after), the exterior was finished with stucco, which was removed after 1945.

A garage was built for Axelina (Pearson) Anderson by George W. Wilson (contractor from Batavia) in July 1940 (Gen Rep). Axelina Anderson (1877-1964) married Charles Anderson in 1901 but divorced between 1920 and 1930. She and her daughter, Carla (who worked as a secretary at Mooseheart Children's Home), rented the house before 1930 but had purchased it by 1940. Carla Anderson sold the property in 1961 to Harding & Harding, Inc.

Harding & Harding, Inc. was a livestock insurance company, headed by Frank W. Harding, Jr. (1912-2002), who moved to Geneva in 1950 and acquired the corner of Fourth and Campbell streets in 1955.

Around 1961, the former Anderson home was converted into two apartments. According to unverified oral accounts, the exterior stucco was removed between 1970 and 1985, when the property was converted back to a single-family home. At that time, a limestone facade may have been installed on the east wall of the 1940 garage addition (believed to be the southernmost section of the present structure).

Geneva History Museum Plaque - 1976

The property is notable for its association with one or more significant persons, architecture, and methods of construction—specifically locally-quarried limestone construction. The property is also notable for its association with community development—specifically the Early Settlement Period of Geneva (1837-1857)—and the establishment of the Disciples of Christ Community at Geneva.

SOURCES:

GHPC Case History; GHM Archives; 2016 Central Geneva NRHP Update; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; Kane County Recorder's Office Land Records; Geneva, Illinois: 150 Reminders of 150 Years; Geneva Republican; Geneva City Council Minutes.



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CONTRIBUTING ACCESSORY STRUCTURES:

AS1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

n/a

AS2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

n/a

CONTRIBUTING LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

n/a

HPC ACTION:

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Demolition Approved: n/a

Other HPC Action:

n/a

