



City of Geneva, Illinois

Local Historic District & Landmarks
Property Inventory Survey

GENERAL PROPERTY INFORMATION:

HISTORIC NAME: Grace and Etta Mayborne House

COMMON NAME: William and Minnie Johnson House

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: Circa 1892

SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION DATES: 1914, 1920, 1921, 1940

ARCHITECT: n/a

BUILDER: n/a

WILSON BROTHERS: ☐ AUGUST ☐ OSCAR ☐ BOTH

ARCHITECTURAL DATA:

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Dutch Colonial Revival, Shingle

OVERALL PLAN SHAPE: Rectangular

NUMBER OF STORIES: 2

FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Rock-faced Limestone

PRIMARY WALL MATERIAL(S): Clapboard, Wood Shingle

FRONT PORCH: Full Facade

VISIBLE SIDE PORCH: No

ENTRY DOOR(S): Historic

WINDOW MATERIAL: Wood

WINDOW STYLE: Double-hung (1/1, decorative), Casement, Fixed

PRIMARY ROOF FORM: Cross Gambrel

PRIMARY ROOF MATERIAL: Asphalt

VISIBLE CHIMNEY: Yes

CHIMNEY MATERIAL: Brick

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES:

Main floor exterior is narrow clapboard with second floor exterior wood shingle; wood, Tuscan columns at front porch; non-historic balustrade and apron screen; decorative bay windows at second floor (north and south elevations); diamond muntins at some window sash; shingled arch above Palladian window at east facade; squinch support at north projected bay.

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

218 North Fifth Street

PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN):

12-03-257-005



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:

Built for the two youngest daughters of Joseph H. and Teresa (Johnson) Mayborne, who were married in Kane County in December 1846. Their daughters were Teresa (1848-1882); Clara (1849-1900), who married Andrew P. Johnson in 1883; Grace (1852-1915); and Etta Irene (1857-1936), who was also known as "Minnie."

Joseph Hayward Mayborne (1820-1892) was born in England and arrived in Chicago in 1843 before settling in 1848 in Geneva, where he was a prominent, early attorney. His wife, Teresa Johnson (1827-1888), was the daughter of early Blackberry Township pioneer, Peter H. Johnson.

J. H. Mayborne built his family home in 1855 at 228 North Second Street. He served one term on the Kane County Board of Supervisors in 1848; one term as Geneva Village President (Mayor) in 1872; and four years as a state senator (1876-1880).

Grace and Etta, who never married, received the Fifth Street property in 1891 and moved to California around 1906 when Charles William (William C.) Johnson (1880-1959) and his wife, Minnie (Hanson), purchased the property. Grace Mayborne died in California, and Etta Mayborne returned to Geneva a few years later, occupying the family home at 228 North Second Street for the remainder of her life.

William and Minnie Johnson occupied the home with their sons Howard (b. 1909) and Floyd (b. 1916). William Johnson was the son of Swedish immigrants but had no apparent relation to the family of Grace and Etta's mother.

Married in 1904, William C. Johnson (1880-1959) worked 50 years as a freight claim agent for the C&NW Railroad (1906-1956); served as a City alderman in the early 20th century; was appointed City Treasurer (1913-1915); and was serving as First Ward Alderman (1949-1959) when he died.

William and Minnie Johnson obtained mortgages for improvements to the property in 1914, 1920, 1921, 1925, 1928, and 1940. The two-story addition at the southwest corner of the home was erected between 1912 and 1923. The Johnson family occupied the Fifth Street home until 1954.

The property is significant for its association with one or more significant persons and architecture—specifically the Colonial Revival style.

SOURCES:

GHM Archives; 2016 North Geneva NRHP Update; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; Kane County Recorder's Office Land Records; Geneva Republican; Biographical Record of Kane County, Illinois (S. J. Clarke, 1898)



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CONTRIBUTING ACCESSORY STRUCTURES:

AS1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Detached, non-historic garage

AS2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

n/a

CONTRIBUTING LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Non-historic wooden, picket fence.

HPC ACTION:

☐

Demolition Approved: n/a

Other HPC Action:

5.31.13 Shed; 5.8.19 Shingles





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