



City of Geneva, Illinois

Local Historic District & Landmarks
Property Inventory Survey

GENERAL PROPERTY INFORMATION:

HISTORIC NAME: Geneva City Hall

COMMON NAME: Geneva City Hall

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1912

SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION DATES: Ca. 1948, 1985-87, 2006-2008

ARCHITECT: Eugene Malmer

BUILDER: Wilson Brothers

WILSON BROTHERS: ☐ AUGUST ☐ OSCAR ☒ BOTH

ARCHITECTURAL DATA:

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Classical Revival

OVERALL PLAN SHAPE: Rectangular

NUMBER OF STORIES: 2

FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Poured Concrete

PRIMARY WALL MATERIAL(S): Brick

FRONT PORCH: No

VISIBLE SIDE PORCH: Yes

ENTRY DOOR(S): Non-Historic (First St.); Historic (James St.)

WINDOW MATERIAL: Aluminum clad (replacement)

WINDOW STYLE: Double-hung (1/1)

PRIMARY ROOF FORM: Hipped

PRIMARY ROOF MATERIAL: Asphalt

VISIBLE CHIMNEY: Yes

CHIMNEY MATERIAL: Brick

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES:

n/a

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

22 South First Street

PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN):

12-03-476-015, 12-03-477-013, 12-03-477-005



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:

Following a fire that destroyed the previous City Hall (former courthouse), construction of the City Hall building began 1912 and completed June 5, 1913.

The Wilson Bros were the General Contractor; George Welch was the mason; Carl Nors did the plaster; Nelson P. Eck was the painter, and; Fred Smith & Co. was the plumber.

When constructed, the city offices and council chambers were located on the lower level; the fire department was located at the northeast corner of the building in a single bay, and; the police department, which included a vagrant's room that could be accessed from the north side of the building, was located at the northwest corner of the lower level. The upper level served as a community room complete with a stage and balcony.

The fire bay was removed and the doorway was replaced with a window circa 1948; the interior was renovated between 1985-1987, when windows were replaced, and; a second renovation of the interior was completed between 2005 and 2008, when the James Street stairs were reconstructed.

The property is notable for its association with one or more significant persons (primarily mayors and council members), architecture, and community development—specifically as the site of municipal government in Geneva since 1887.

SOURCES:

GHPC Case Studies; GHM Archives; 2016 Central Geneva NRHP Update; Geneva City Council Minutes; Wilson Brothers - Contractors & Builders, 1905-1931 by Donald Wilson (2002)



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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:

☐

Demolition Approved: n/a

Other HPC Action:

4.21.09 Gazebo; 5.18.15 Seat Wall, Patio





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1999

