



City of Geneva, Illinois

Local Historic District & Landmarks
Property Inventory Survey

GENERAL PROPERTY INFORMATION:

HISTORIC NAME: Dow-Miller-Lennartz House

COMMON NAME: n/a

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1887

SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION DATES: 1909, Circa 1947-1950

ARCHITECT: n/a

BUILDER: n/a

WILSON BROTHERS: ☐ AUGUST ☐ OSCAR ☐ BOTH

ARCHITECTURAL DATA:

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Gable Front

OVERALL PLAN SHAPE: Rectangular

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1.5

FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Parged

PRIMARY WALL MATERIAL(S): Synthetic Siding over Clapboard

FRONT PORCH:

VISIBLE SIDE PORCH: No

ENTRY DOOR(S): Unknown

WINDOW MATERIAL: Composite (replacement); Wood (casement)

WINDOW STYLE: Double-hung (1/1); Casement (8 lite)

PRIMARY ROOF FORM: Gable

PRIMARY ROOF MATERIAL: Asphalt

VISIBLE CHIMNEY: Yes

CHIMNEY MATERIAL: Brick

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES:

n/a

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

212 South First Street

PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN):

12-03-457-009



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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PROPERTY ADDRESS:

212 South First Street

ADDITIONAL PROPERTY INFORMATION:

BRIEF HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION:

The small "wood house" at 212 S. First Street was built in 1887 according to some records. When constructed the house was identical to its neighbor to the south (218 S. First Street). It is unclear who built the "twin houses."

One of the early occupants of the 212 S. First Street house was Allan Roy "A. R." Dow, who came to Geneva in 1894 to open a jewelry store. In 1900, Dow was renting the property at 212 S. First Street. Dow closed the jewelry store to accept the responsibilities as one of the original directors of the First National Bank of Geneva, established in 1907. His father, Harvey Dow, was the vice president of the bank, and A. R. Dow served as the cashier. Although trained as a jeweler, Dow had gained financial expertise while living in Fort Dodge, Iowa. A. R. Dow acquired the property between 1900 and 1909.

Benjamin A. and Lottie Miller purchased the home of A. R. Dow in 1909 (26 August 1909 The Patrol). The Miller family owned the property for 32 years. Between 1923 and 1930, the Miller family remodeled the house, adding the brick front porch; the exposed chimney breast at the south elevation; and the Craftsman-style, casement windows at the south elevation.

In 1941, the property was sold to Lawrence (1897-1979) and Mabel (1897-1975) Lennartz who erected the single-story addition at the rear of the house and, later, constructed the present garage. Upon the death of Lawrence Lennartz in 1979, the property passed on to his unmarried daughter, Barbara J. Lennartz (1932-2018), a physical education teacher who lived in the house for the next 38 years.

After more than 75 years and upon the death of Miss Lennartz, the property was sold out of the Lennartz family. In 132 years, the 212 S. First Street property had been occupied by only three families.

The property is notable as a "twin house" in Geneva and for its association with one or more significant persons and architecture—specifically the Queen Anne style.

SOURCES:

GHPC Case Studies; GHM Archives; 2016 Central Geneva NRHP Update; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; Kane County Recorder's Office Land Records



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212 South First Street

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:

1.20.98 Demo Garage, Add'n 2 car Garage; 2.15.00 Siding; 10.18.16 Windows; 3.26.19 Shingles



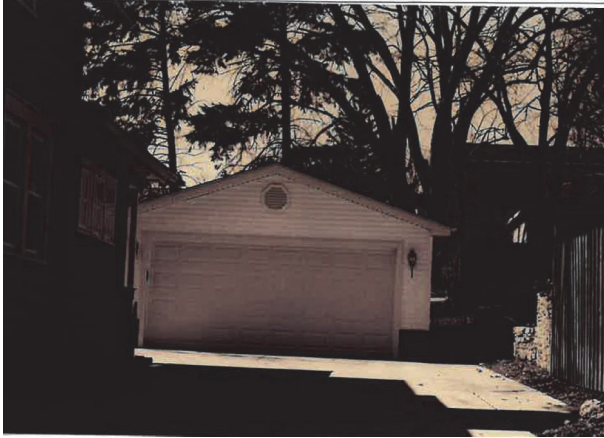


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PROPERTY ADDRESS:

212 South First Street



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