



City of Geneva, Illinois

Local Historic District & Landmarks
Property Inventory Survey

GENERAL PROPERTY INFORMATION:

HISTORIC NAME: Clancy House

COMMON NAME: n/a

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1866

SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION DATES: 1989, 1991

ARCHITECT: n/a

BUILDER: n/a

WILSON BROTHERS: ☐ AUGUST ☐ OSCAR ☐ BOTH

ARCHITECTURAL DATA:

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Upright and Wing, Greek Revival

OVERALL PLAN SHAPE: Irregular

NUMBER OF STORIES: 2

FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Limestone, Concrete

PRIMARY WALL MATERIAL(S): Limestone, Clapboard

FRONT PORCH: Yes

VISIBLE SIDE PORCH: No

ENTRY DOOR(S): Unknown

WINDOW MATERIAL: Wood

WINDOW STYLE: Double-hung (6/6)

PRIMARY ROOF FORM: Gable

PRIMARY ROOF MATERIAL: Asphalt

VISIBLE CHIMNEY: Yes (2)

CHIMNEY MATERIAL: Limestone

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES:

Locally-quarried limestone

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

503 South First Street

PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN):

12-10-228-004



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



City of Geneva, Illinois

Local Historic District & Landmarks
Property Inventory Survey

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

503 South First Street

ADDITIONAL PROPERTY INFORMATION:

BRIEF HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION:

Thomas (Elizabeth [Allan]) Clancy purchased the property from Charity Herrington in 1855.

Mr. Clancy's brother, Patrick, was a stone mason and, likely constructed (or assisted with the construction) of the Clancy House. The two brothers were early settlers of Geneva, arriving around 1853. Patrick may have assisted in the purchase of the First Street property at Geneva. Apparently, Patrick Clancy lived on the south side of State Street, two buildings east of the bridge (approximately 8 East State Street in 2020). In 1873, Patrick died as a result of a tragic bridge-building accident at St. Charles, Illinois.

Thomas Clancy, Sr. was one of the pioneer railroad builders in Geneva. Mr. Clancy and his sons, John and Dan, worked for the Chicago & North Western Railroad. The Clancy family included daughters, Ellen "Nellie" and Elizabeth "Lizzie," and the youngest son, Thomas, Jr. In 1902, Thomas Clancy, Sr. died in Geneva; his wife died in 1888.

Their daughter, Elizabeth (Clancy) Newman, inherited the property and raised four children in the house after her husband deserted the family. Elizabeth died in the family home in February 1936. The last family member to live in the house was Thomas "Bud" Newman, a grandson of the original builder. In April 1977, "Bud" Newman died in the house. The Clancy line occupied the house for 111 years.

The house was renovated in 1989 (including rear additions and a detached, accessory garage) and 1991 (a south addition).

Geneva History Museum Plaque - 1976

The property is notable for its association with one or more significant persons, architecture, methods of construction—specifically locally-quarried limestone construction—and community development—specifically the establishment of the Chicago & North Western Railroad.

SOURCES:

GHPC Case Studies; GHM Archives; 2016 Central Geneva NRHP Update; 1869 Bird's Eye View of Geneva; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; Kane County Recorder's Office Land Records; Geneva, Illinois: A History of Its Times and Places; Geneva, Illinois: 150 Reminders of 150 Years



City of Geneva, Illinois

Local Historic District & Landmarks Property Inventory Survey

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

503 South First Street

CONTRIBUTING ACCESSORY STRUCTURES:

AS1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Accessory garage is newer construction, completed outside of the Period of Significance.

AS2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

n/a

CONTRIBUTING LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

n/a

HPC ACTION:

☐

Demolition Approved: n/a

Other HPC Action:

5.19.98 Windows





City of Geneva, Illinois

Local Historic District & Landmarks
Property Inventory Survey

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

503 South First Street



1999

