



City of Geneva, Illinois

Local Historic District & Landmarks
Property Inventory Survey

GENERAL PROPERTY INFORMATION:

HISTORIC NAME:

COMMON NAME:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION:

SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION DATES:

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

WILSON BROTHERS: AUGUST OSCAR BOTH

ARCHITECTURAL DATA:

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

OVERALL PLAN SHAPE:

NUMBER OF STORIES:

FOUNDATION MATERIAL:

PRIMARY WALL MATERIAL(S):

FRONT PORCH:

VISIBLE SIDE PORCH:

ENTRY DOOR(S):

WINDOW MATERIAL:

WINDOW STYLE:

PRIMARY ROOF FORM:

PRIMARY ROOF MATERIAL:

VISIBLE CHIMNEY:

CHIMNEY MATERIAL:

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES:

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN):

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

HPC ACTION:

- ☐ Demolition Approved:

Other HPC Action:



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ADDITIONAL PROPERTY INFORMATION:

BRIEF HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION:

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SOURCES:

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CONTRIBUTING ACCESSORY STRUCTURES:

AS1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

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AS2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

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CONTRIBUTING LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

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One of Geneva's oldest buildings receives plaque

The Geneva Republican
Thursday, October 8, 1998

The Geneva Historical Society recently awarded a historic structure plaque to the old Harkins-Patten house at 28 E. James St.

Currently home to The Country Store, the building is one of the oldest structures still standing in Geneva. The heavy-cast bronze plaque bears the date of 1838, the year the original part of the structure was believed to have been built.

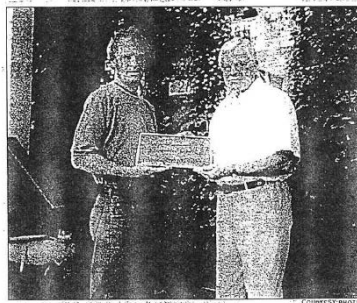
Not much is known about the builder, Jacob Harkins, except that he and his brother were contractors and builders, also involved in the building of many of Geneva's early commercial buildings. The Harkins-Patten house is notable for its bark-dimbered, hand-hewn and hand-fitted beams, which still are visible in the basement of the house.

The Historical Society possesses a copy of the original deed indicating that Harkins sold the house to Charles

Patten in September, 1838. Patten, who was one of the early "Boston Colony" settlers, lived in the house for 13 years and went on to become Geneva's premier merchant and proprietor of "The Old Corner" at the northwest corner of State and First streets, later named the Waste Building.

In more recent times, the house was known as the Ekdahl house, being occupied by George Ekdahl and his family for 70 years. Ekdahl also was a Geneva merchant from the turn of the century through the 1930s. The original 1838 structure was expanded around 1905 when Ekdahl purchased it. A two-bedroom addition was constructed with lumber taken from the old Ekdahl Garage on First Street.

The building's current owner, David Dudley, has operated a retail antique business in the house for more than 20 years.



Bart Nelson (right) of the Geneva Historical Society presents a bronze historic structure plaque dated 1838 to David Dudley, the owner of The Country Store, 28 James Street.