

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Planning Division

memorandum

TO: The Urbana Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Kevin Garcia, AICP, Planner II

DATE: April 29, 2016

SUBJECT: 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue (Hieronymus House):

Historic Landmark Application, Case No. HP 2016-L-01

Introduction

Historic Preservation Case No. HP 2016-L-01 is an application submitted on April 11, 2016, by Brian Adams and Alice Novak to designate the house at 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue (referred to as the Hieronymus House) as a local historic landmark. John Peterson and Joanne Chester are the property owners and consent to the landmark nomination.

The Historic Preservation Ordinance requires that the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) hold a public hearing on the application within 60 days of receiving a complete application. At the public hearing, the HPC should take comments from the nominators, the owners, and any other parties who wish to be heard on the application. In addition, the HPC should consider all written comments received prior to or during the hearing. It is the responsibility of the nominators to provide evidence of the suitability for historic landmark status as well as documentation of such evidence.

Following the public hearing, the HPC should review all information presented to it that is pertinent to the nomination. Since the property owner has consented in writing to landmark designation of the property, the HPC may designate the property as a historic landmark if the HPC finds that the property meets one or more of the criteria set forth in Section XII-5.C.1.

Should the application be approved, the owner would be required to obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic Preservation Commission for future exterior changes to the property, including any proposed demolition, as per the requirements of Section XII-6 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Background

The house at 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, the "Hieronymus House," was built in 1919 for Robert E. and Lois C. Hieronymus. It is located in the "University Heights Addition" in West Urbana, and was

City of Urbana, Historic Resources Survey Form for 702 West Pennsylvania Avenue

designed by the prominent Urbana architect Joseph W. Royer in the Dutch Colonial Revival style. Robert Hieronymus was an English professor and prominent figure in education and art groups both locally and statewide.

The Hieronymus House exhibits many characteristics of the Dutch Colonial Revival architectural style. The house has a side gambrel roof, which is typical of Dutch Colonial Revival houses built after 1915.² The wide second-story shed dormer, which runs nearly the length of the house, is common for the style, as are the casement windows with multi-pane upper sashes and the use of flared eaves. In the design of the Hieronymus House, however, most of these elements exhibit atypical features, making the house a unique (and interesting) local example of the style.³

Unlike many older buildings, 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue has been minimally altered over the years and retains most of its original architectural features. The application notes very few instances in which elements of the house are not original. The most immediately apparent style-defining features – the gambrel roof, varied rooflines, brick first-story, shingle cladding and dormers on the upper-story, and casement sash windows – are all original and intact.

Discussion

Under Section XII-5.C of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance, the proposed landmark must meet one or more of seven possible criteria in order to qualify for landmark designation. The application states that 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue meets five of the seven criteria:

- a) Significant value as part of the architectural, artistic, civic, cultural, economic, educational, ethnic, political or social heritage of the nation, state, or community;
- b) Associated with an important person or event in national, state or local history;
- c) Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, craftsmanship, method of construction or use of indigenous materials, while retaining a high degree of integrity;
- d) Notable work of a master builder, designer, architect or artist whose individual genius has influenced an area;
- e) Identifiable as an established and familiar visual feature in the community owing to its unique location or physical characteristics.

Each of these criteria is explained in the next section, followed by a staff analysis of each criterion.

² McAlester, V. & L. (2005). A Field Guide to American Houses (p. 322). New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf.

³ For more on these elements, see the second full paragraph on page 9 of the application (Exhibit A).

Designation Criteria

a) Significant value as part of the architectural, artistic, civic, cultural, economic, educational, ethnic, political or social heritage of the nation, state, or community.

The application provides a thorough summary of the development and significance of the University Heights Addition, which was platted in 1911 and as the name suggests, was an expansion of the West Urbana neighborhood that coincided with growth of the University. The neighborhood was, and is, home to many University faculty members, including Robert Hieronymus and his family.

The Hieronymus House is one of the finest examples of the Dutch Colonial Revival architectural style in Urbana, was designed by Urbana's most important architect (Joseph Royer), and is representative of an important period of expansion in the West Urbana neighborhood. In addition, the house was named one of Urbana's 100 Most Important Buildings in 2012, indicating that it is valued by Urbana citizens and that it has local architectural significance.

For these reasons, City staff recommends a finding that 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue qualifies under criterion a) as it has significant value as part of the architectural heritage of Urbana.

b) Associated with an important person or event in national, state or local history.

As detailed in the application, Robert E. Hieronymus was a prominent figure in educational and arts organizations locally and statewide. He and his wife Lois lived at 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue from 1919 until 1935, which represents the majority of their time in Urbana, and represents the period of Robert Hieronymus' prominence and significance.

City staff recommends a finding that 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue qualifies under criterion b) as the house is closely associated with Robert E. Hieronymus, an important person in Urbana's history.

c) Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, craftsmanship, method of construction or use of indigenous materials, while retaining a high degree of integrity.

Criterion c) is a two-part test. For a property to qualify under this criterion, it must represent the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type and retain a high degree of integrity.

The application states that 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue is an "outstanding example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, designed by Joseph W. Royer, and retains a very high degree of integrity." Staff concurs with this statement. The house is an outstanding example of the style, and it remains remarkably intact, with very few non-original features.

City staff recommends a finding that the Hieronymus House qualifies under criterion c) as it is representative of the distinguishing characteristics of the Dutch Colonial Revival architectural style and retains a very high degree of integrity.

d) Notable work of a master builder, designer, architect or artist whose individual genius has influenced an area.

702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue was designed by Joseph W. Royer, Urbana's most prolific architect of the early 20th Century. Royer was a master of period revival architectural styles. His design of 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue exhibits Royer's ability to work within a given architectural style, while at the same time adding stylistic elements to make the design his own.⁴

City staff recommends a finding that 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue qualifies under criterion d) as a notable work of Master Architect Joseph W. Royer.

e) Identifiable as an established and familiar visual feature in the community owing to its unique location or physical characteristics.

This criterion refers to a property having a visually distinctive location such as at the terminus of a street, located on a public square or in a park, on a hill, or with a unique and identifiable roofline.

The Hieronymus House is located in the middle of a block in the West Urbana neighborhood. The same can be said for many other homes in the area. The location is not visually distinctive as required by this criterion.

City staff recommends a finding that 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue does not qualify under criterion e) as it is not identifiable as an established and familiar visual feature in the community owing to its unique location or physical characteristics.

f) Character as a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian structure, including, but not limited to, farmhouses, gas stations or other commercial structures with a high level or integrity or architectural significance.

City staff recommends a finding that 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue does not qualify under criterion f) as it is not a utilitarian structure as described by the criterion.

g) Located in an area that has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

City staff recommends a finding that 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue does not qualify under criterion g) as the area around 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue site has not yielded, and does not appear likely to yield, any archaeologically-significant information.

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⁴ See pages 6-9 of the application for details of the house's design elements (Exhibit A).

Summary of Findings

Recommended statements of findings based on the application and the completed analysis are below. The Historic Preservation Commission may revise these findings based on their review and consideration of the case, including any evidence that may be submitted at the public hearing.

- 1. Article XII of the *Urbana Zoning Ordinance* provides the City of Urbana the authority to designate local landmarks and historic districts with the stated purpose of promoting the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the community.
- 2. The City of Urbana on April 11, 2016, received a landmark application to designate the property located at 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue ("The Hieronymus House") as a local landmark. The application was deemed complete by staff on April 12, 2016.
- 3. The property owners, John Peterson and Joanne Chester, consent to the landmark nomination.
- 4. The Urbana Historic Preservation Commission opened a public hearing on May 5, 2016, to consider the landmark designation of the subject property.
- 5. The Hieronymus House was constructed in 1919 in the Dutch Colonial Revival architectural style.
- 6. The Hieronymus House qualifies under criterion a) as it has significant value as part of the architectural heritage of Urbana.
- 7. The Hieronymus House qualifies under criterion b) as the house is closely associated with Robert E. Hieronymus, an important person in Urbana's history.
- 8. The Hieronymus House qualifies under criterion c) as it is representative of the distinguishing characteristics of the Dutch Colonial Revival architectural style and retains a very high degree of integrity.
- 9. The Hieronymus House qualifies under criterion d) as a notable work of Master Architect Joseph W. Royer.
- 10. The house located at 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue does not qualify under criterion e) as it is not identifiable as an established and familiar visual feature in the community.
- 11. The house located at 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue does not qualify under criterion f) as it is not a utilitarian structure as described by the criterion.
- 12. The house located at 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue does not qualify under criterion g) as the area around 702 W. Pennsylvania Avenue site has not yielded, and does not appear likely to yield, any archaeologically-significant information.

Options

In Case No. HP 2016-L-01, the Historic Preservation Commission may:

- 1) Find that the nomination meets one or more of the criteria for designation as a local landmark and approve the application to designate the property as a local landmark; or
- 2) Find that the nomination does not meet any of the criteria for designation and deny the application.

In either case, the Historic Preservation Commission should include Findings of Fact in their motion. The Findings of Fact should summarize the Commission's justification for finding that the nomination either meets or does not meet the relevant criteria. The vote required is a majority vote of those members present and voting, but with not less than three affirmative votes.

Staff Recommendation

Since the property owners have provided written consent and support the application, the Historic Preservation Commission has decision-making authority in this case. In addition, since one of the applicants is a member of the Historic Preservation Commission, she cannot participate in this case as a commission member, per Section XII-5.A.1 of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance.

Based on the application and staff analysis provided above, staff recommends the Historic Preservation Commission find that the landmark nomination for 702 West Pennsylvania Avenue conforms with criteria a), b), c), and d) in Section XII-5.C of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance and APPROVE the application.

cc: John Peterson and Joanne Chester, Owners

Brian Adams and Alice Novak, Applicants

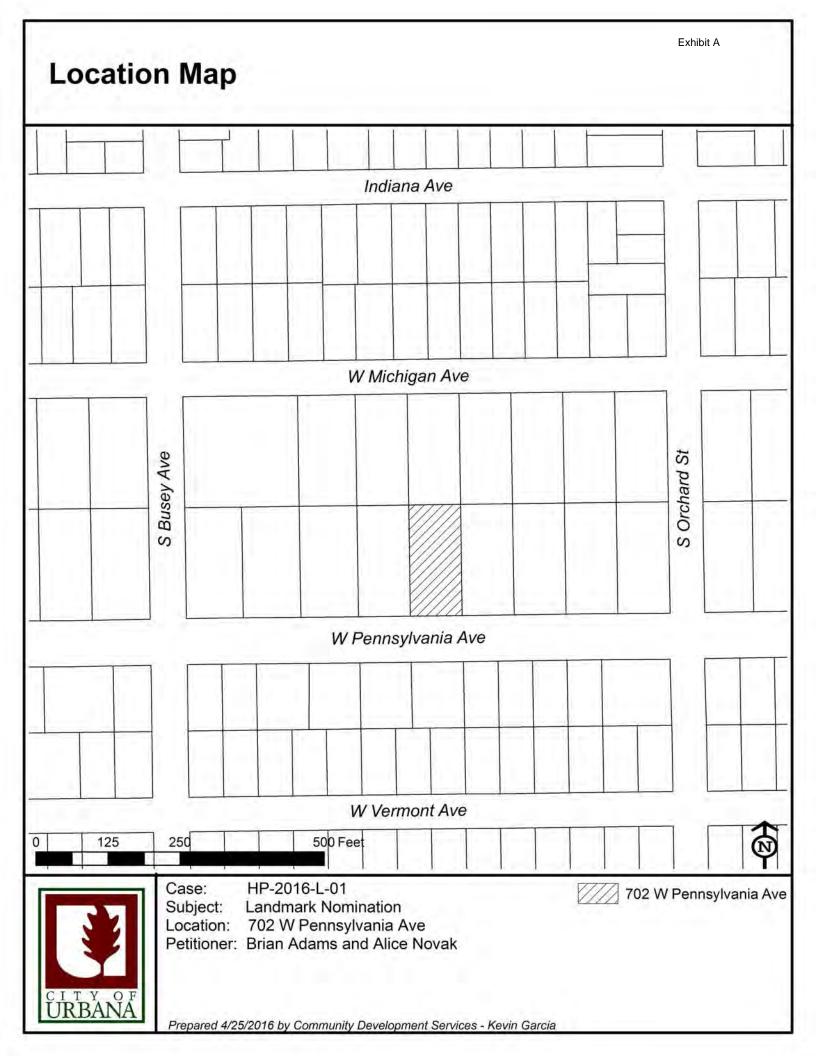
Elizabeth Tyler, FAICP, Community Development Director

Lorrie Pearson, AICP, Planning Manager

Attachments: Exhibit A: Location Map

Exhibit B: Application & Photos

Exhibit C: Historic Resources Survey Form





Application for Historic Landmark Designation

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

APPLICATION AND REVIEW FEE - NO CHARGE

Although there is no fee to file an application for Historic Landmark Designation, the Applicants are responsible for paying the cost of legal publication fees. Estimated costs for these fees usually run between \$75.00 to \$225.00. The applicant is billed separately by the News-Gazette.

		IS SPACE - FOR OFFICE USE ONLY Case No.				
PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION						
1.	APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION					
	Name of Applicant(s):	Phone:				
	Address (street/city/state/zip code):					
	Email Address:					
	Property interest of Applicant(s) (Owner, Contract Buyer, etc.):					
2.	OWNER INFORMATION					
	Name of Owner(s):	Phone:				
	Address (street/city/state/zip code):					
	Email Address:					
3.	PROPERTY INFORMATION					
	Location of Subject Site:					
	PIN # of Location:					
	Lot Size:					
	Current Zoning Designation:					
	Current Land Use (vacant, residence, grocery, factory, etc:					
	Present Comprehensive Plan Designation:					
	Legal Description (If additional space is needed, please submit on separate sheet of paper):					

Date of Construction of Structure:

Attac	ch a map showing the boundaries and location of the property proposed for nomination.			
Attac	ch photographs showing the important structures or features or the property or structure			
apply signi	cate which of the following criteria apply to the property or structure (check all that y). Additionally, attach a statement that describes the proposed landmark and its historic ificance; list reasons why it is eligible for nomination; and show how the proposed mark conforms to the criteria for designation (see attached Suggested Format).			
√	Significant value as part of the architectural, artistic, civic, cultural, economic, educational, ethnic, political, or social heritage of the nation, state or community;			
1	Associated with an important person or event in national state or local history;			
√	Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, craftsmanship, method of construction or use of indigenous materials and which retains a high degree of integrity;			
V	Notable work of a master builder, designers, architect or artist whose individual genius has influenced an area;			
1	Identifiable as an established and familiar visual location or physical characteristics;			
	Character is a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian structure, including, but not limited to, farmhouses, gas stations or other commercial structures with a high level of integrity or architectural significance;			
	Yields, or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory			
	If additional space is needed to accurately answer any question, please attach extra the application.			
	nitting this application, you are granting permission for City staff to post on the a temporary yard sign announcing the public hearing to be held for your request.			
CERTIE	FICATION BY THE APPLICANT			
	all the information contained in this application form or any attachment(s), document(s) submitted herewith are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.			
Applican	nt's Signature Date			
PLEASE	E RETURN THIS FORM ONCE COMPLETED TO:			
City				

PL

City of Urbana Community Development Department Services Planning Division 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

Phone: (217) 384-2440 Fax: (217) 384-2367

Hieronymus House, 702 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Urbana, Illinois Application for Historic Landmark Designation

The Robert E. and Lois Campbell Hieronymus House at 702 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Urbana, Illinois, was constructed in 1919 in the Dutch Colonial Revival style, the design of prominent local architect Joseph W. Royer. Part of the University Heights Addition, the property was platted in 1911 and the tract was expanded in 1923 by Joseph C. Blair, a professor of horticulture and a practicing landscape architect, as an intended show place of the city. Robert Hieronymus, former English professor and President of Eureka College, and "Community Adviser" at the University of Illinois, is especially notable for his leadership in the Better Community movement and the formation of the Art Extension Committee. An outstanding local example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, the house is set on a double-long block, with a deep lot unique to the north side of West Pennsylvania and the south side of West Michigan. As a secondary arterial street from the University of Illinois campus to the West Urbana neighborhood and beyond, West Pennsylvania Avenue is a commonly used street. The Hieronymus House is spotlighted with sun on a lot otherwise framed with mature trees on the city right-of-way and to the rear and side of the house. As such, it contributes significantly on one of the neighborhood's and city's main corridors.

The Hieronymus House is being nominated for historic landmark designation under the following five criteria:

- A: Significant value as part of the architectural, artistic, civic, cultural, economic, educational, ethnic, political, or social heritage of the nation, state, or community;
- B: Associated with an important person or event in national, state, or local history;
- C: Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, craftsmanship, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials and which retains a high degree of integrity;
- D: Notable work of a master builder, designers, architect or artist whose individual genius has influenced an area; and
- E. Identifiable as an established and familiar visual location or physical characteristics.

Significant value as a part of the architectural heritage of the community

The University Heights Addition, in which the Hieronymus House is located, developed significantly after the earliest part of the city—the downtown and related areas to the immediate west and southwest of the downtown. Situated at the south end of Big Grove, near the confluence of the Boneyard and Saline creeks, the City of Urbana was surveyed and platted

in September 1833. The original city plan consisted of four north-south streets intersected by four east-west streets. Today this area constitutes the city's downtown. Population growth and economic development remained slow during the 1830's and 1840's due to poor transportation systems. Urbanization intensified when the railroad arrived in the 1850's. The Illinois Central Railroad connected the area with Chicago in 1854, resulting in an economic and population explosion in Champaign County. Between 1850 and 1860, population in the county increased from 2,645 to 14,629. Pioneer farmers were replaced by land speculators, merchants, intellectuals (lawyers, doctors, teachers), tradesmen of all types, and masses of laborers employed by the railroad and the numerous factories that had been established. The early population derived primarily from the south (e.g. Kentucky) was augmented by immigrants from the northeast (New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Ohio, etc.). Foreignborn immigrants, primarily of Irish and German origin, also began to arrive, and with their presence the religious composition of the county changed. The former exclusive dominance of Protestant and Baptist denominations was balanced by the formation of Catholic and Jewish congregations. A variety of factories sprung up overnight, many of them associated with the burgeoning construction industry and agricultural production. These included brick and tile factories, sawmills, a sash and door factory, foundry and machine shop, plow and wagon factory, as well as a woolen factory and flouring mills, among others. Between about 1850-60 the Main Street of the Original Town of Urbana became a hub of activity, lined with a variety of retail stores, saloons, law and real estate offices, banks, and other places of business and recreation. The City of Urbana was incorporated on February 14, 1855, and in 1867 was chosen as the site of for the Illinois Industrial University (University of Illinois) through the efforts of Clark Robinson Griggs. Also in 1867, the first railroad to actually pass through Urbana, the Danville-Urbana-Bloomington-Pekin Railroad (later the I.B. & W), was chartered, again by C.R. Griggs. Economic development slowed in the 1870's. Major developments in the latter half of the 19th century and early 20th century included: the large-scale draining of swampy prairies surrounding the city, resulting in the dominance of grain production at the expense of cattle breeding; the establishment of a gas lighting system; paving of streets; establishment of an electric rail line; construction of hospitals; and the continued expansion of retail businesses.

The property including the Hieronymus House was not developed until around 1911 as part of the University Heights Addition. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the residential part of Urbana expanded southward and westward through a series of additions platted by various individuals over time. Prior to this, the area was primarily agricultural land at and beyond the city's corporate limits. The growing significance of the University of Illinois and its proximity to the developing neighborhood to the near east of campus has much to do with the development of the West Urbana neighborhood.

The house at 702 West Pennsylvania is on a lot in the "University Heights Addition" to Urbana, platted in 1911 and expanded in 1923. The current boundaries of the addition are: Lincoln Avenue (west), Michigan Avenue (north), Florida Avenue (south), and Orchard Street (on the east.) At this time, the city corporation line was located between Michigan and Pennsylvania avenues; Orchard Street ended at Pennsylvania Avenue, where the two streets created a right

angle. South of this was a large tract of ca. 66 acres owned by Fred C. Hubbard. The second platting dates to 1923 when the southern boundary was extended south to the newly created Florida Avenue; by this time, Florida Avenue marked the city corporation line. The second platting also included the establishment of Delaware and Vermont streets south of Pennsylvania Avenue.

The University Heights addition was developed by Joseph C. Blair of the University of Illinois, a professor of horticulture, and practicing landscape architect. An article in the *Daily Illini* from 1923 states:

To carry out concretely one of the principles which he advocates as a landscape architect, and build a better and more beautiful Urbana, Prof. Blair has developed in the southwestern part of the city an ideal and parklike subdivision which is the show place of the city, and the home places of many University faculty members.

The University Heights Addition was developed by prominent University of Illinois horticulture professor Joseph Cullin Blair (1871-1960). Blair was born in Nova Scotia on 26 April 1871, and attended Cornell between 1892 and 1896, receiving a B.S. in Agriculture in 1896 (The Cultural Landscape Foundation 2016). In 1898, Blair joined the horticultural staff at the University of Illinois with Professor Thomas J. Burrill. He was a Professor by 1901. He pursued research in pomology--the study and science of fruit cultivation. In addition, Blair was involved in community development and park planning, and led the effort to establish the field of landscape architecture at the University of Illinois. To this end, he established an extensive library for the study of landscape architecture, and recommended the appointment of Charles Mulford Robinson in 1913 as professor of civic design, the first such appointment in the country. This appointment is considered the origin of the current Department of Urban and Regional Planning. While Blair was not formally trained in landscape design, he did participate in the planning of many parks in Urbana and elsewhere. Among his many projects were the layout of Carle Park; location of plantings and structures at Crystal Lake Park; and planting trees along the streets in the University Heights Addition. He also campaigned across the state to create Massac State Park in 1908, the first state park in Illinois. For this, he is known as the "Father of the Illinois Park System." Blair founded the Urbana Park District in 1907 and served as commissioner for over 40 years. He was elected president of the Illinois Association of Park Districts in 1928. Joseph C. Blair died in 1960.

The new University Heights tract came at an especially significant period of growth on campus. Campus planning was rich and active, with the White-Hubbard plan of 1909, the Sketch for General Block Plan by Clarence Blackall in 1911 and his Sketch for the Extension of the University of Illinois, one of three plans he produced in 1912, and the Plan for the Development of the Campus of the University of Illinois produced by long-time campus architect James White in 1919. Charles A. Platt, an architect from upstate New York, was hired by the university around 1920 to create the campus plan of 1922, but perhaps more significant was Platt's

architectural work. It was Platt who determined the Georgian Revival style would be the style of choice for campus and during the 1920s – early 1930s. Platt designed eleven campus buildings including McKinley Hospital, the Main Library, the Architecture Building, the Women's Gymnasium, and the President's House. The building campaign was significant enough to launch Danville's Western Brick Company to be the world's largest manufacturer of bricks in the 1920s.

As the university expanded, so, too, did the faculty neighborhood of choice. The city's limits edged further south toward Florida Avenue and with each expansion, lots toward the south filled with houses largely in the period revival styles. The October 1923 Sanborn map shows the 600/700 double block of the north side of West Pennsylvania to be filled except for 710 West Pennsylvania. The Hieronymus House reflects both the planning and architectural heritage of the city as this significant faculty neighborhood grew in companion with the expansion of campus.

Associated with an important person in local history

Robert E. Hieronymus

Robert Enoch Hieronymus was an English professor and later President of Eureka College. He was hired in 1914 as "Community Adviser" at the University of Illinois, and his active involvement and leadership in the municipal arts movement made him especially significant locally.

Graduating from Illinois State University in 1886, Hieronymus began his teaching career at Carrolton High School. He studied at the University of Michigan and afterwards moved on to Eureka College in 1889, where he received his A.B., A.M. and LLD degrees by 1914. He married Minnie Frantz of Wellington, Sumner County, Kansas on June 26, 1890. Between 1890 and 1897, he began teaching English at Eureka College and also served as Vice President of the college during this time. In 1897, Hieronymus went to the State Normal School in Los Angeles, California to teach English and history for a year. After this, he became superintendent of university extension work at Southern California. Minnie died on October 27, 1898 in Pasadena. The couple had had three children by this time: Faith Helene (born 1892), Frantz Mountjoy (born 1893), and Rexford Eugene (born 1895). By 1899, Hieronymus returned to Eureka College where he assumed the position of Professor of English and college President (1900-1909). Robert married Lois Campbell in LaHarp, Illinois in 1900; the couple had one daughter, Grace, born in 1902. Between 1900 and 1909 he was president of Eureka College, and during this period also became secretary of the Educational Commission of the State of Illinois.

Hieronymus began his career at the University of Illinois in 1914 (*Daily Illini*, November 30, 1938). During his tenure at the University of Illinois, Hieronymus was active in educational organizations. He became president of the Federation of Illinois Colleges (1906-1908), the

Illinois Schoolmasters' Club (1907-1908), and the Illinois Chautauqua Alliance (1911-1913) (ibid). Beginning in 1920, six years after his arrival at the University of Illinois, Hieronymus began his association with noted Urbana sculptor Lorado Taft (Daily Illini, July 25, 1920). In July 1920, the University of Illinois created an Art Extension Committee affiliated with the Better Community movement (Daily Illini, July 25, 1920). Among the 21 members of this committee were R.E. Hieronymus (community adviser), Lorado Taft (chairman), and Mary W. Wetmore (art and design instructor). The creation of this committee initiated a long period of association between Hieronymus and Taft. According to Hieronymus: "The general purpose of the Art Extension committee is to assist in making art a more potent elevating force in the lives of the people of Illinois. It aims to help the people discover beauty in nature and enjoy it, and to stimulate the production of beautiful things" (Daily Illini, June 22, 1924). The committee made plans to plant public and private grounds and organized lectures on art and community improvement. According to Chairman Taft, an important goal of the committee was the beautification of town squares and school yards as well as landscape gardening. Taft stated in his first address to the committee that ". . . artistic awakening is coming in Illinois. . ." By 1923, 150 communities in the state were represented on the committee, as were such organizations as the Art Institute of Chicago, the Audubon Society, the Illinois State Historical Society, the Illinois Forestry Association, the Wildflower Preservation Society, and the League of Women Voters, among others (Daily Illini, July 1, 1923). According to the Daily Illini (August 6, 1921)

". . . R.E. Hieronymous [sic.] is vitally interested in the development of the better community movement throughout the state. It was largely through his efforts that the art extension committee has been organized and its work developed. Dr. Hieronymus outlined the purpose of the movement making definite the fact that it is not an organization but a means to band together all organized groups, clubs, chambers of commerce, and other institutions and organizations, already existing and to combine them all into a related unit working for community health and betterment".

One of the earliest undertakings of the Art Extension Committee was a three day tour of "scenic wonders" of the Rock River country between Dixon and Rockford (*Daily Illini*, August 6, 1921). The group was welcomed by citizens in the area, including residents of the Eagles' Nest Art Colony. On the first day, an informal reception was held in Dixon, Illinois, followed by dinner at former governor Frank Lowden's residence. On the next day, the group met in Oregon, Illinois and discussed future exhibitions and activities of the Art Extension Committee. In 1924, Hieronymus led ". . . 200 artists and lovers of beauty . . ." on a tour of central and northern Illinois (*Daily Illini*, June 22, 1924). Among those on the trip were Lorado Taft, Dr. J.C. Blair (Department of Horticulture head), ". . . and a number of other prominent artists, landscape gardeners, and road experts. . ." In October 1929, Taft and Hieronymus represented the Art Extension committee in Herrin, Illinois at the unveiling of a marker honoring George Roger Clark's march through Williamson County in 1778 (*Daily Illini*, October 9, 1928). A year later, Hieronymus invited members of the Art Extension Committee to the dedication of Taft's "Alma Mater" statue at the University of Illinois (*Daily Illini*, June 6, 1929). Hieronymus led the campaign to raise funds to establish the Taft lectureship (*News-Gazette* December 19, 1941).

Hieronymus retired from the University of Illinois in September 1932, ". . . but continued active in his work, conducting many programs and appearing in various communities regarding his particular field of endeavor (*News-Gazette* December 18, 1941). According to city directories, Robert and his wife Lois lived in 702 W. Pennsylvania until 1935 or 1936; the 1935 directory lists them in the house, but the 1936 directory lists them both at 804 South Michigan in Urbana. In 1938, Hieronymus presided over the unveiling of a bronze bust of Lorado Taft during a two day commemoration of the late artist's life (*Daily Illini*, January 12, 1938).

R. E. Hieronymus died 18 December 1941. By this time, he and his wife resided at 1605 South Orchard Street in Urbana. Dean Rexford Newcomb, of the College of Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Illinois, spoke at the funeral services (News-Gazette December 21, 1941). Dr. David Kinley, good friend of Robert Hieronymus, spoke these words at his funeral: Quiet in manner, with a genial personality, Doctor Hieronymus was well and widely liked and had a host of friends throughout the state who mourn his loss (News-Gazette December 19, 1941).

Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type inherently valuable for the study of a period and style, and which retains a high degree of integrity

Architectural Description

Built in 1919, the Hieronymus House is an outstanding example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, designed by local architect Joseph W. Royer. The house is midway on this double-long block framed by South Orchard Street on the east and South Busey Street on the west. Lots are unusually deep, accommodating both a deep front setback and ample rear yards for elegantly sited houses. A concrete sidewalk near the southwest corner of the property gently curves to lead to the front porch. (Perhaps not coincidentally, the sidewalk is on the side of the property closest to the university.) The sidewalk now continues to from the front porch to the driveway near the house, but this is not an original feature. Without exception, garages on this block are located on the rear lots behind or partially behind the houses, accessed by single car driveways. The houses are mostly period revival, including Colonial Revival, Georgian Revival, and Craftsman.

The Hieronymus House is 2-1/2 stories with a symmetrical core block. Overall, the house is only slightly asymmetrical due to side porches of slightly differing sizes, though Royer's plan called for identical porches, including the sleeping porches, on each side. As is typical with the expression of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, the house chiefly displays the style through its side gambrel roof (which is now covered with architectural asphalt shaped shingles. The original roof was wood shingle.) The roof has a slight belcast on all sides. On the east and west sides, the full return is belcast, largely interrupted on both sides with porches. An extended eave on the first story is clad with beadboard on its underside. The house is generally without ornament, with a few exceptions. Multi-light windows and a very complex detailed roof provide the house with its character-defining features. The size, materials, design, and setback of the house give a very notable impression.

The house is constructed of red brick laid in English bond, alternating rows of headers and stretchers. Like the main body of the house, the east first story porch is also brick. The second and upper half stories are wood shingle (unpainted), accommodated with a broad central shed roof dormer for the second story and a jerkinhead central dormer for the upper half story. On the first story, triple sets of 9/1 double-hung sash flank the central entrance. These windows retain the original storm windows as do most windows on the house. They have stone lug sills, but no header detailing whatsoever. The original 18-light door is framed by 4/1 double-hung sash tightly fitted within the flat roof entrance porch which is supported by knee braces. The porch has a two-tiered cornice and the recessed ceiling is clad in beadboard. A new porch light in period design has been added. Brick cheekpieces with concrete caps frame the broad four concrete stairs to the concrete porch stoop. Two basement windows are located beneath each of the triple window sets. A molded wood cornice tops the first story.

On the second story, a 9/1 double-hung sash is flanked by single 9-light casement sash in the middle bay. Single 9/1 double-hung sash are at the shed roof dormer ends. In the upper half story are three replacement awning sash in a "9-light" appearance, though single light sash. Windows on the wood shingled second and upper stories have simple wood surrounds (painted blue.) A brick chimney is off-set to the east above the jerkinhead roof dormer.

A one story flat roof brick side porch occupies much of the east elevation. The porch is setback approximately 2' or so from the façade; a single basement window faces east on the main block of the house. Screens, the width of two full-size double-hung sash face front/south and back/north. Two paired screens frame the screen door and transom on the east façade of the porch. The sides of the frames which are next to the screen door are treated as pilasters with simple wood caps, as are those on the front and rear frames. Wood stairs with a south-side wood rail are not original. Inside the porch, the multi-light door and storm door in the middle bay are framed by single 9/1 double-hung sash covered with "4/1" storm sash in the end bays. The porch walls on either side of the screened opening are treated as piers and have concrete caps. The second story of the east elevation is chiefly occupied by a wood shingle sleeping porch atop and set back on all sides from the brick screened-in porch below. Two 9-light casement sash face front/south and rear/north, and a set of five 9-light sash face the side/east. Paired 6/1 double-hung sash are in the upper story level above the sleeping porch. On the main block of the house, single 6/1 double-hung sash are set adjacent to the porch. The window to the south is fitted just under the gutter of the sleeping porch to the south and north of the porch. A 4/1 double-hung sash with a "4/4" storm sash is on the first story east elevation, just past the screened-in porch.

The rear elevation has a central rectangular bay which includes an at-grade entrance with a 9-light original door and a shed hood supported by knee braces; a 6-light casement now fixed is set high to the left of the door hood; a 4/1 double-hung sash faces east in the narrow bay side, but the west side of the bay is blind. The left/east section of the rear façade has paired 6-light casement sash set high; a single basement sash is at grade here and on the bay. To the west of the rectangular bay, a pair of 6/1 double-hung windows set high is covered by two 12-light

storm sash, original to the house; paired basement sash are at grade below.

The roofline of the house become especially complex on the rear elevation. Here, the belcast is more pronounced. A second story shed roof dormer extends over the bay and paired multilight windows cut into the belcast; a small 4-light sash is set high to the left; east. A tiny 4/1 double-hung sash faces east from the shed dormer extension; the west side is blind. To the left/east of the bay is an 8-light storm sash (original) over a 6/1 double-hung sash; the same is on the west side of the shed roof dormer. On the upper story, the flat roof dormer is more pronounced as well, extending to the shed roof dormer on the second story. Two replacement awning sash mimicking 6-light sash face the rear/north; a small square replacement sash faces east, but the west side is blind.

A flat roof porch occupies much of the first story of the west elevation and like the porch to the east, it is setback from both the front and back of the main and rear facades. This porch is frame and accessed from the rear only on the exterior. Oversized 9-light storm sash enclose the porch, one to the rear adjacent to the door with a two-light transom; six windows are to the west side and three are to the front. A short wood paneled wall is beneath the storm sash, with wood trim and lattice between short brick foundation piers. The porch is trimmed with a wide plain wood cornice. Inside the porch, two multi-light doors are in the end bays and lead to the kitchen and dining room inside; a 4/1 double-hung sash is between the doors. To the rear/north of the porch within the setback, a 6-light storm sash is set high on the main block of the house; to the front is a 9-1 double-hung sash. The west side of the second story gambrel has two 6/1 double-hung sash set far apart toward the edges of the roof. Between them is a multi-light door with a multi-light storm door covered by a flared door "hood" of only a few inches, supported by small end brackets. Paired 6/1 double-hung sash are in the upper most story.

The driveway for the property is on the east lot line and leads to the rear garage. The 3-bay brick garage was designed by local architect Kim Smith of Smith/Burgett in 1995 and reflects the material and style of the house, with a brick first story and wood shingle broad jerkinhead dormer. While the garage is highly compatible with the house in style and materials, it is non-contributing in this landmark application due to its date of construction. The property formerly had a single car garage in approximately this same area, adjacent to the east property line. The garage, part of the plans by Royer, had a gable front roof with returns, and single light garage doors. The 9-light side windows were the only key element incorporated from the house.

The Dutch Colonial Revival Style

The Dutch Colonial Revival Style occurs from around the turn of the century through at least the 1930s and sometimes later, depending on location. One of many "period revival" styles of the early twentieth century, the Dutch Colonial Revival style is a sub-type of the Colonial Revival style, set among Neo-Classical Revival, Late Gothic Revival, Tudor/English Revival, French Revival, Mediterranean, and lesser used exotic revivals such as Egyptian, Moorish, and Swiss Chalet. Many style guides do not even mention the Dutch Colonial Revival style. The National

Park Service's Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form notes only Colonial Revival style and Georgian Revival as a sub-set.

Like the other period revival styles, Dutch Colonial attempted to recreate an earlier historic house style, in this case based on Hudson River antecedents (Gordon, 104). The style became popular in pattern books and catalogue companies such as Sears and Montgomery Ward. Sears, Roebuck and Company manufactured twenty-seven different Dutch Colonial Revival homes from 1911 to 1940 (Gordon, 104). The Architects' Small House Service Bureau of the American Institute of Architects (and endorsed by the University States Department of Commerce), also produced a number of Dutch Colonial Revival designs, including through "Authentic Small Houses of the Twenties: Illustrations and Floor Plans of 254 Characteristic Homes," edited by Robert T. Jones, Technical Director of the Bureau (and reprinted by Dover Publications, Inc. New York.) The style was especially popular in middle-class urban and suburban neighborhoods (Gordon, 104). Elements of the style include the characteristic gambrel roof, multi-pane upper sash, large roof dormers (commonly shed roof dormers), lunette windows in gambrel ends, and Colonial style elements such as door hoods, porch details, and cornice treatment (Gordon, 104). Occasionally examples of the style feature gambrel front facades or belcast eaves. Even less common is the cross-gambrel roof, which reflects the Flemish eaves of many Dutch Colonial originals (McAlester, 424).

In the design of the Hieronymus House, Royer used the most common form, the side gambrel roof, along with the less common belcast eaves, including the unsual use of a belcast eave as a full cornice return on the side elevations. The use of a front shed roof dormer was also common, but despite the large scale of the house, the dormer does not extend as widely as it could. The upper story jerkinhead, or hipped gable, roof dormer adds complexity not commonly found on Dutch Colonial Revival houses, in addition to the side jerkinhead gambrel ends, and the rear elevation rectangular bay and resulting dormers. The multi-light upper sash are characteristic of the style, as are side porches, however, the use of both brick and frame for the side porches, as well as the east elevation sleeping porch are stylistic attributes which are unmatched locally.

In the staff report for case HP-2015-L-01, a landmark nomination for 611 W. Elm Street, Kevin Garcia, Planner II in Community Development Services included a map of thirty-six Dutch Colonial Revival houses in the West Urbana Neighborhood, based on surveyed properties. Twenty houses were included in photographs because they featured gambrel front roofs like 611 W. Elm. A number of the houses are very good local examples of the style, and many continue to retain a good degree of integrity. The Hieronymus House is an outstanding example of the Dutch Colonia Revival style, designed by Joseph W. Royer, and retains a very high degree of integrity. The Hieronymus House appears to be the only example of the style executed in brick. The exterior materials are completely intact except for a few upper story windows as indicated above.

Notable work of a master architect whose individual genius has influenced an area Joseph William Royer

Joseph William Royer, Urbana's most prominent architect, designed the residence at 702 West Pennsylvania Avenue in 1919 for University of Illinois professor Robert E. Hieronymus, his wife Lois, and their children (Adams 2011). Royer was born in Urbana in 1873, the son of John D. and Mary Royer. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1895 with a degree in civil engineering and worked as Urbana's city engineer from 1898 to 1906 during which time he designed the 1901 Champaign County Courthouse; he also was responsible for the Sheriff's Residence and County Jail, constructed in 1905. The firm of Royer and Brown was formed about 1905. At other times the firm was known as Royer and Smith; Royer, Danely, and Smith; and Royer and Davis. Well-known local buildings designed by Royer include: Urbana High School (1914), Urbana Christian Church (1910), Urbana Free Library (1918), Alpha Rho Chi Chapter House (1927), Champaign Country Club (circa 1895), Urbana Flat Iron Building (1906), Urbana Country Club (1922), and the campus Baptist Church (1915).

Royer was a master of period revival architectural styles for both public and residential buildings. The Hieronymus House is an excellent example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style. His own home (1905) was built in a Mission Style with Arts and Crafts influence, while his neighboring mother-in-law house was built in a picturesque rendition of the English Revival architectural style in 1923. Tudor Revival was used for the Snyder House (1916) in Arcola, but a Mediterranean style was chosen for the Charles Bailey House (1926) in Champaign. The Universalist Church (1913) in Urbana shows Royer's mastery of the Gothic Revival style. The Freeman House (1902-1903) at 504 West Elm Street, is an excellent example of the Classical Revival style, and is the only residential building in this style in the City of Urbana. Royer also designed a number of local fraternities: Alpha Rho Chi (1928), Arts and Crafts and French Eclectic; Alpha Xi Delta (Busey House, 1914), Tudor Revival; Sigma Pi (1920), Georgian Revival; and Chi Psi (1921), French Revival.

The Hieronymus House contributes significantly to our understanding of Joseph Royer's work, especially his particular skill level with a wide variety of late-nineteenth and early twentieth century period revival styles.

Identifiable as an established and familiar visual location or physical characteristics

An outstanding local example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, the house is set on a double-long block, with a deep lot unique to the north side of West Pennsylvania and the south side of West Michigan. As a secondary arterial street from the University of Illinois campus to the West Urbana neighborhood and beyond, West Pennsylvania Avenue is a commonly used street. The Hieronymus House is spotlighted with sun on a lot otherwise framed with mature trees on the city right-of-way and to the rear and side of the house. As such, it contributes significantly on one of the neighborhood's and city's main corridors.

Selected Sources

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McAlester, Virginia Savage. A Field Guide to American Houses: The Definitive Guide to Identifying and Understanding America's Domestic Architecture. New York: Knopf, 2015.

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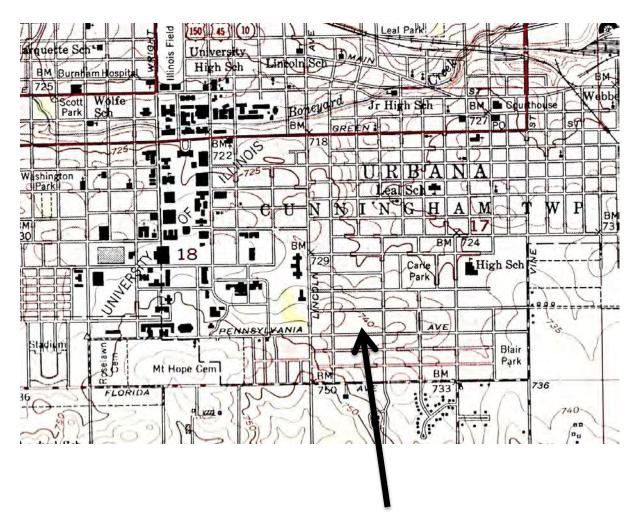
Hucker, Anita

1923 Blair is Builder of Hort Department. Daily Illini 20 June 1923.

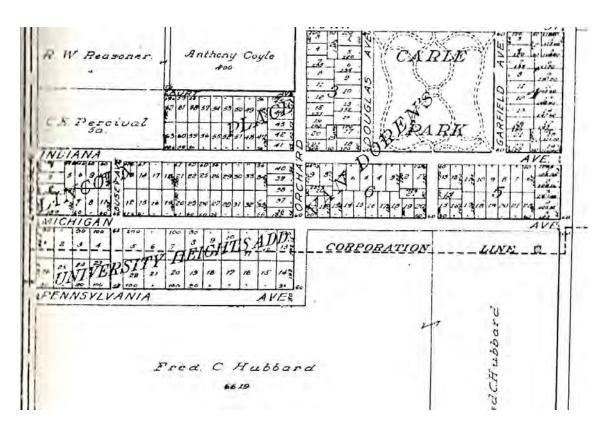
Joseph C. Blair Papers, 1905-1954. University of Illinois Archives. Record Series No. 8/12/20.

The Cultural Landscape Foundation

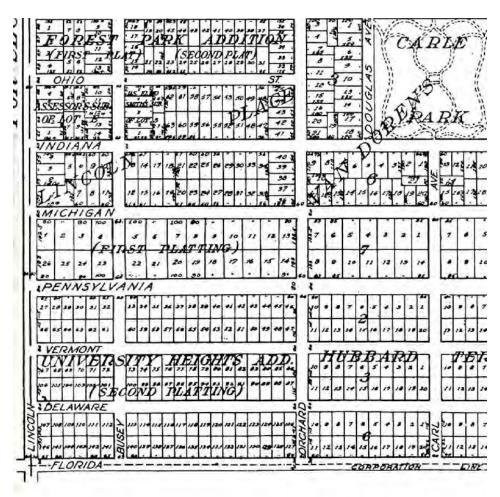
2016 *Biography of Joseph C. Blair.* Tclf.org/pioneer/joseph-c-blair/biography. Accessed 23 March 2016.



Location of 702 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Urbana, Illinois.

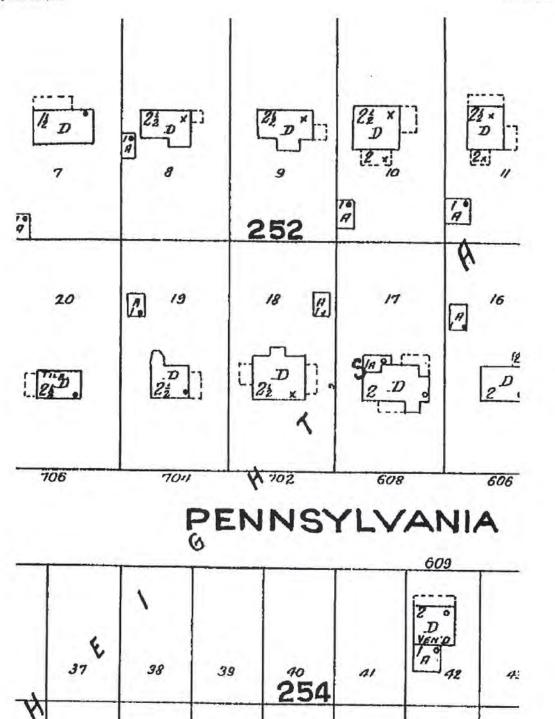


University Heights Addition to Urbana First Platting 1913 Champaign County Atlas

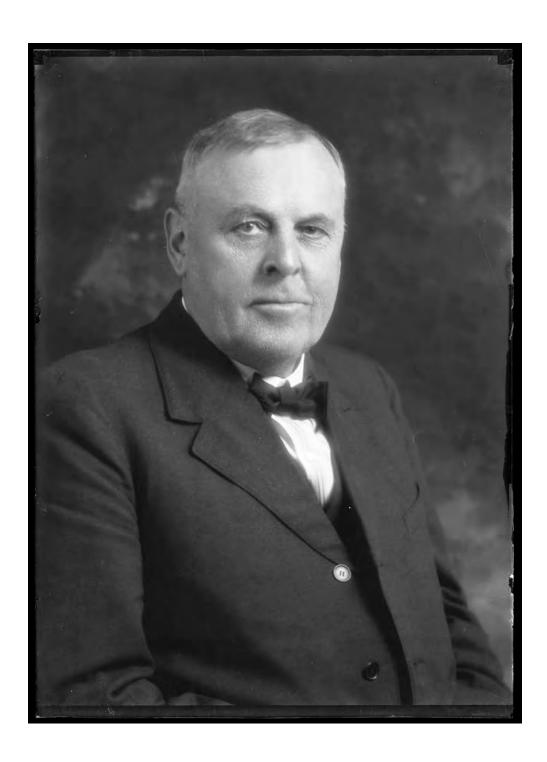


University Heights Addition to Urbana First and Second Platting 1929 Champaign County Atlas

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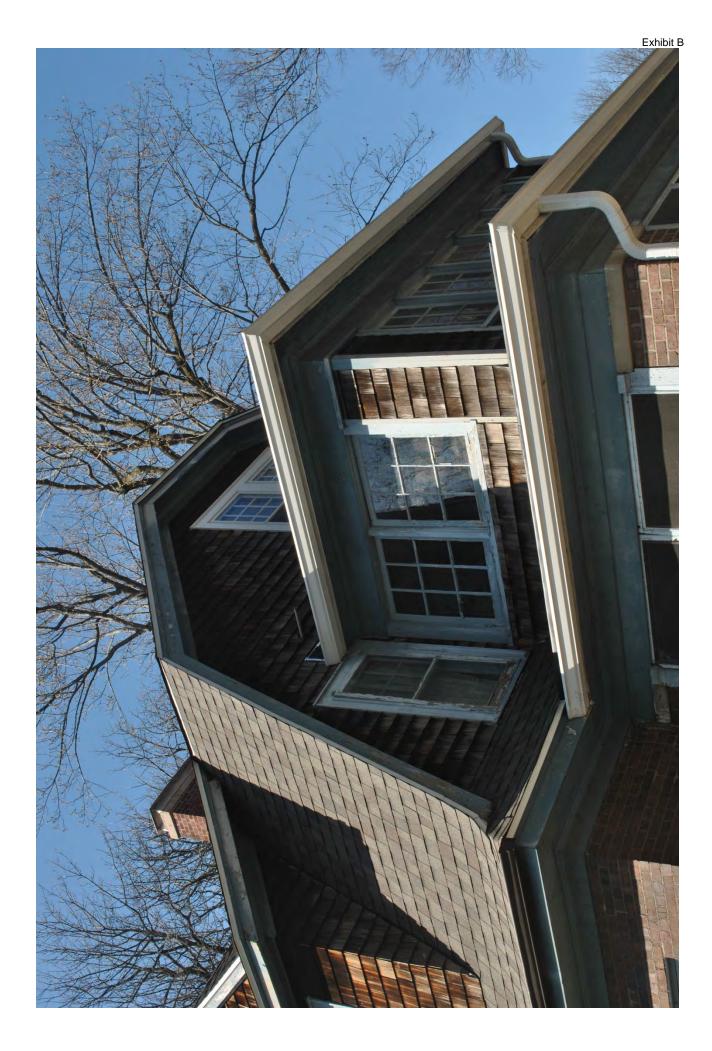
Page 1 of 1



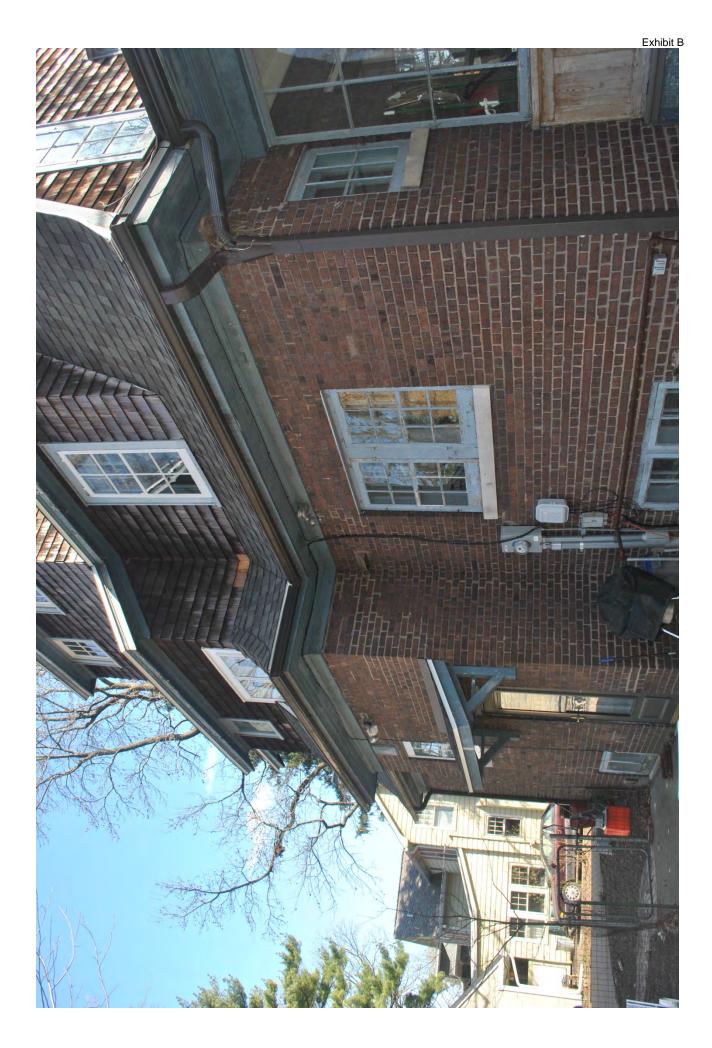
Robert E. Hieronymus University of Illinois Archives





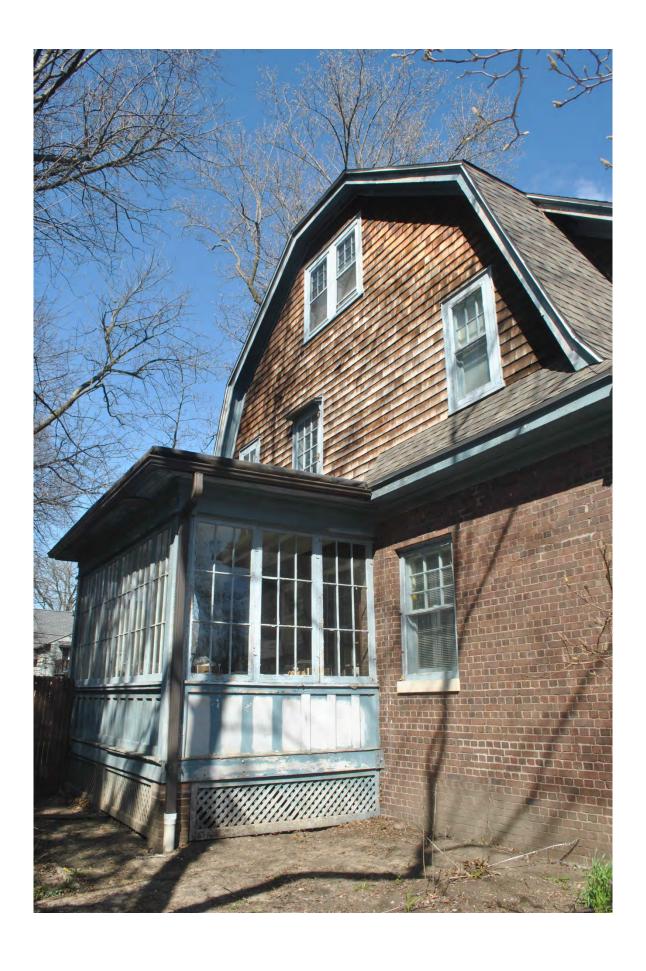














HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC PROPERTY NAME

Hieronymus House

COMMON/CURRENT PROPERTY NAME

PROPERTY ADDRESS

702 West Pennsylvania

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER

21-17-355-013

OWNER/OCCUPANT

Joanne Chester and John Peterson

OWNER'S ADDRESS

702 West Pennsylvania

PROPERTY'S HISTORIC USE

Single Family Residential

PROPERTY'S CURRENT USE

Single Family Residential

ARCHITECT'S NAME

J. W. Royer

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR

Unknown

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION

Ca. 1919

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE OR VERNACULAR BLDG TYPE

Dutch Colonial Revival

FORM PREPARED BY

Mara Braspenninx

DATE 3-14-02 VIEW OF PHOTO

Front façade

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION (GEOGRAPHICAL DATA: LOT SHAPE, LOT DIMENSIONS)

This house is located on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue between Busey Street and Orchard Street. The lot is rectangular, 90' street frontage by 193' deep.



Continuation Sheet for 702 West Pennsylvania

Photographs



Photo by: Mara Braspenninx View: South west corner

Date: 3-3-02



Photo by: Mara Braspenninx View: Detail of east porch and garage Date: 3-3-02

History of Structure

CHAIN OF OWNERSHIP OR OCCUPATION	DATE OF OUR PROPERTY	tron					
	DATE(S) OF OWNERSHIP	USE					
Robert E and Lois C Hieronymus (o)	1919 to	Single Family Residential					
Elmer H and Mary F Williams (o)	9-5-1935 to	Single Family Residential					
Edward W and Margaret G Cleary (o)	6-5-1948 to	Single Family Residential					
Ralph G and Claire E Connor (r)	1959 to	Single Family-Rental					
Edward W Cleary (o)	1960 to	Single Family Residential					
Kimball C and Barbara F Atwood (o)	11-10-1960 to	Single Family Residential					
Nicholas M Temperley (r)	1967 to	Single Family-Rental					
William W and Eileen H Boone (o)	3-28-1969 to 1984	Single Family Residential					
No Information	1985	Unknown					
(continued on attached sheet)		Attach additional pages, if necessary					
CURRENT DESIGNATIONS							
Is property National Register listed?	YES 🗆	NO 🔯					
If yes, is it a		strict					
If no, it is	· ·	igible					
Is property an Urbana local landmark?	YES 📋	NO 🛛					
STATEMENT OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE	and the second s						
This property was part of the University Heights addition to Urbana. Restrictions placed on site							
when it was sold to Hieronymus by Jos	seph and Sada Blair include:	lot is never to be subdivided					
or reduced in size, no residence worth	less than \$4000 contract val	lue is to be built, only new and					
· ·	modern construction is allowed, the house must be set back at least 75' from the property line,						
and poultry are not allowed to run at large.							
min poning me not mio nea to im at im get							
Hieronymus purchased the property in 1914, according to the abstract. He lived just down the							
street at 610 West Pennsylvania while the house was being built. The construction was							
completed before 1919, which is the first date that this property appears in the city directories. It							
appears on the 1923 Sanborn map.							
appears on the 1923 State of the map.							
All of the historical occupants from H	All of the historical occupants, from Hieronymus to Temperley, were professors at the University						
of Illinois.							
or minors.	OI IIIIIOIS.						
The house is a high style example of D	outch Colonial Revival Style	. Prominent local architect					
The house is a high style example of Dutch Colonial Revival Style. Prominent local architect JW Royer designed it.							
	The state of the s						
INFORMATION SOURCES							
	Champaign County Historical Archives						
Abstract File #1160							
Champaign Urbana City Directories 1890-1984							
Construction Documents, Property of Joanne Chester							
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps 1887, 1892, 1897, 1902, 1909, 1915, 1923, 1945, 1951, 1969							
Tax Assessment Property File							
Urbana City Documents Index							

Structure Survey

INTEGRITY	CONDITIO	ON							
☐ Unaltered (All or most architectural details present) ☐ Slight modifications (Largely intact, but lacking sor ☐ Major alterations (All or most architectural details m	ne details) 🔲 Good	Excellent (Roof, walls and foundation in good repair) Good (Same as "Excellent," but in need of some maintenance work) Poor (Major overhaul work required)							
ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS (Include dates and architects/contractors, if known)									
After 1969 Original garage demolished									
1996 New garage erected 1996 HVAC/AC work done									
1996 HVAC/AC work done 1996 Paved driveway									
CURRENT AND HISTORIC USES	EXTERIOR WALL M	ATERIAL ROOF	MATERIAL						
Current Historic Single-Family Residence Multi-Family Residence Apartment Building Commercial Industrial Public Building Educational Building Religious Building Vacant Other	Brick Stone Woxd siding Wood shingles Stucco (historic Asphalt siding Concrete block Artificial siding Other	or modern)	Asphalt shingles Wood shingles Slate shingles Tile shingles Metal Tar Other						
ORNAMENTAL/ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS	ROOF FEATURES	ROOF	TYPE						
Check all that apply Arcading	Dormer Um/Finial Bargeboard Betvedere Gablet Parapet Skylight Other	M	Hip Hat Mansard Gable Shed Hippod Gable Pyramidal Gambrel Other						
DESCRIBE ABOVE ORNAMENTAL DETAILS The massing of the house is symmetrical, two and a half stories tall, two bays deep and three bays across with a centrally placed door. It has a footprint of 1389 square feet. The roof is a side facing gambrel with small jerkin head ends. The eaves wrap around to the gambrel ends similar to cornice return. There is a continuous shed dormer at the second floor and a central eyebrow dormer at the attic level. A chimney penetrates the roof through the ridge, although it is off center. (continued on attached sheet) OUTBUILDINGS Garage Carport Coach House Gazebo Greenhouse Storage Shed Other Describe location, construction, and date of detached structures. The detached three-stall masonry garage (912 sq ft) is new, but consists of elements and materials similar to the house. It is covered by a gambrel roof with large dormer. It is located									
at the northeast corner of the lot, and partially hidden by the house. King Switt, swittest									
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/FEATURES									

Continuation Sheet for 702 West Pennsylvania

Chain of Ownership or Occupation (continued)

Wool (o)

هم خان دوج

6-1986 to

Single Family Residential

John Peterson and Joanne Chester (o)

7.-1995 to present

Single Family Residential

Description of Ornamental Details (continued)

The foundation is masonry. The first floor is brick laid in English bond while the wood framed upper stories are clad in plain wood shingles. There is a full size, fully finished attic and full basement.

On the east side there is a second story wood frame sleeping porch, clad in wood shingles and covered by a shed roof. Below this is an open masonry porch, which has been screened in. The one story porch on the west side is wood framed and fully enclosed with windows. It also has a shed roof.

The front door is glazed with 18 lights. Preceding this is a small brick and concrete stoop. Covering the door is a shed roof hood with a simple cornice supported by brackets.

There are many different windows in this house. All of the windows are framed with plain lug sills beneath. The majority are 9/1 double hung windows, some of which are paired or in ribbons of three with mullions between. On either side of the door are 4/1 double hung windows. The central 9/1 window on the second floor is flanked by smaller 6 paned windows. The eyebrow dormer has a band of threes small windows of 6 lights each.

The windows in the west porch are tall in proportion, and have 9 panes. They continuously wrap the porch. The lower east porch has no glazing, only screens. The upper east porch has ribbons of squarish 9 paned windows that continuously wrap around all facades.

On the gambrel ends, the second floor windows are 4/4 and arranged symmetrically about a door. The third floor windows are 9/1, and paired. The basement windows are horizontal sliding windows.