

Parkhurst House

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OF THE MS. FILE Quincy - arch -
structure

Parkhurst House — 1461 Maine — c. 1868 — Italianate

Jonathan Parkhurst moved to Quincy in 1860 from New Hampshire where he was a state legislator and had also held local offices. He engaged in the clothing business on 5th Street and quickly involved himself in local politics in Quincy.

He served as an alderman, member of the Board of Supervisors, and was on the building committee for the Adams County Courthouse which is sorely missed on the Quincy scene today. The magnificent Beaux Arts building was demolished after having had its dome toppled by the 1945 tornado. Parkhurst was twice elected mayor of Quincy and will be remembered for having brought electric street lights to Quincy, as well as extensive brickstreets, and many other innovative public improvements.

His home at 1461 Maine was built about 1870 as a frame Italianate structure with unusual arched door and window lintels, a double door entry, eight-window cupola, and east and north wings. An 1880 drawing of the house shows also a wrap-around front porch, a porch for the east wing and pedimented gables over the entry of the front porch and a second floor balcony over the entry topped by another pedimented roof. Today all porches have been removed. It is believed that the porches were not original to the house.

The present leaded bevelled glass surrounded entry appears to be a much later change. Heavy deep-molded pine trim surrounds doors and windows on the interior in all rooms but the dining room and a den which have lower dimensions and are butternut. The front stairway is also butternut, as are all the first floor doors. The parlor mantel is carved Italian marble, and the extremely ornate family room mantel is butternut. Wall panels in the parlor were a 1950's addition by a previous owner, as were the cove moldings in the parlor and dining room.

The massive folding doors between the parlor and family sitting room attest to the energy conservation astuteness of Parkhurst's contemporaries.

Having purchased a house nearer the country, the present owners, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Inghram, are selling the historic structure, hoping it's significance will be appreciated by future owners.

Historical Society of
Quincy & Adams County
Quincy, Illinois 62301

Quincy Preserves!

An independent community organization working to preserve Quincy's architectural and historic inheritance.