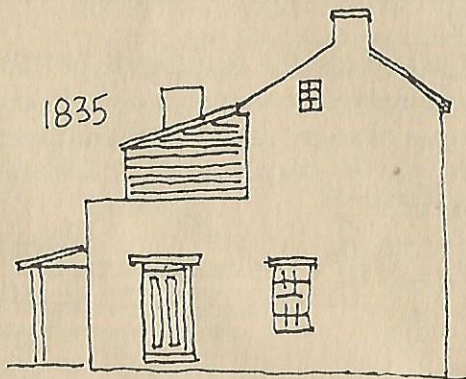


Eells was arrested as Charley's wet clothes were found in the buggy. Because of Mrs. Eells' illness, the case did not come up until April 1843 before Circuit Court Judge Stephen A. Douglas, who fined him \$400 for harboring a slave. An appeal to the Illinois Supreme Court in February 1844 failed. In mid-April 1845 he went to the West Indies for his health, but subsequently returned to Quincy and only a few weeks before his death sold a lot out on Maine Street near the Mission Institute.

Finally, in December 1853 his case was appealed by his executor and famous lawyers Salmon P. Chase and William Seward to the United States Supreme Court where the case lost again. This is one of only two cases from Quincy to have been heard before the U.S. Supreme Court.



The Friends' goal is to give the property to the state of Illinois as an Illinois Historic Site. The state would finish any necessary restoration, interpret the site and open it for public viewing. The Historic Preservation Agency in Springfield is interested and is being kept informed.

FDREH

The Friends of the Dr. Richard Eells House was formed in May 1990 as an Illinois non-profit corporation after a series of informal committee meetings. It was recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt not-for-profit organization as of March 1992.

On May 20, 1991, the group entered into a lease with an option to buy the historic property. After a series of legal knots were untied by attorney Jack Adams, the property was purchased on June 18, 1992, from the Klene Trust for \$43,250.

In June 1991 the FDREH, with assistance from the Gardner Museum of Architecture and Design, launched its first fund drive with a \$150,000 goal. Thirty-five Founders have responded with pledges totaling \$157,650 - each contributing from \$500 to \$10,000 plus.

Starting in 1994, the FDREH has established a restricted Restoration Fund, the income from which can be used for operating costs, but the principal must be spent on restoration only. Already pledges or payments of \$40,000 each have been received from the CFM Foundation and the Quincy Foundation and the first individual gift of \$100. Ongoing fund-raising plans are being developed. It will take several hundred thousand dollars more to complete the restoration.

Recently elected officers and an expanded board of directors include George M. Irwin, president; Tony Oakley, vice-president; Jane Brooks, secretary; Joseph I. Conover, treasurer; John W. Cornell, J. Willis Gardner III, Steven M. Krivacek, Carol Mason, Conrad McNay, Martin Meyer, Joel Scarborough, Honorable Charles W. Scholz, Jeff Smith, and Mary VanNess. (1994)

FDREH

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