

**APPLICATION FOR LOCAL LANDMARK or LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
QUINCY PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**706 Maine Street, City Hall Annex, Third Floor
Quincy, Illinois 62301 Telephone (217) 228-4515**

Original name (if known) and address of proposed Landmark:

Robert and Leila Turner Christie House
234 South 16th Street
Quincy, IL 62301

Name, Address, and Telephone Number of Property Owner:

Nathaniel and Kerry Brooks
234 South 16th Street
Quincy, IL 62301

Style: Colonial Revival

Date of Construction: 1909

Architect or Builder: Unknown

Provide a statement of the historical and architectural significance of the proposed Landmark or Local Historic District. Note if building is included in any historic district or survey, or listed in the National Register of Historic Places:

The Robert and Leila Turner Christie House is significant for its architecture and for its association with important persons.

E. E. (Leila) Turner Christie was related to Rev. Asa Turner. Asa Turner was a "graduate of Yale Seminary and a member of the Yale Band, seven young men from Yale who pledged themselves to come to the wild, untamed country of Illinois to convert and serve the people as ministers." Rev. Turner came to Quincy in 1830 with his young bride, Martha Bull, and after only one month "organized a church consisting of four Presbyterians, four Congregationalists, three Baptists, and four who simply made a profession of faith." These twelve people and Rev. Turner built "the Lord's Barn ... which became a community center known as a place for freedom of thought and the first church building in the city." Avery and Jonathan Turner followed their brother, Asa, to Quincy and all three brothers, and their families, became part of the dangerous abolitionist movement. Avery Turner built a farm, called "Maple Lane," also "Maple Land," on North Twenty-Fourth Street, and the property was a station on the Underground Railroad. Leila Turner Christie was a granddaughter of Avery Turner and the daughter of Otis and Mary Turner.

Dr. Robert Christie, Jr. was a prominent physician in Quincy for many years and a medical officer during World War I. His father, Dr. Robert Christie, Sr., was born in Virginia in 1831, and served as a surgeon during the Civil War for the confederacy in Virginia. During the war he moved to Monticello, Missouri, and served as a surgeon for the confederacy in Missouri. Following the war, he moved his family to Quincy and set up his medical practice. A few years later he was named head of surgery for Blessing Hospital. Robert Christie Jr. was born in 1864, read and studied medicine with his father, attended and graduated from Chaddock College of Medicine in Quincy in 1888, and did additional study and training on the east coast. Father and son practiced medicine together in Quincy for a number of years.

The two-and-a-half story house was built by the Christie family in 1909 and remained in the Christie estate until 2003. Christie is documented as buying Lots 2 and 3 in the Lorenzo Bull Addition from Mary B. Bull in 1907.

The house harmonizes features of traditional Colonial Revival designs borrowed from the Adam and Georgian styles, such as prominent dormers, wide sash windows, and a one-story, full-width porch with grand Tuscan columns. All elements of the front façade are symmetrically balanced, drawing the viewer to the centered entry

with its elegant sidelights and transom. A geometrical balustrade follows the porch roof and a set of three-dormers highlight the roofline. Three additional roof dormers face to the rear. A typical Adam style cornice is emphasized with a band of offset dentils. An additional semi-enclosed porch projects from the west façade.

List the significant exterior architectural features of the building. Include photographs of building facade for proposed Landmark or Local Historic District:

1. Two-and-a-half story frame Colonial Revival house on a limestone foundation.
2. All original wood siding.
3. Gabled roof with cornice line emphasized by a band of offset dentil trim.
4. Three front roof dormers with broken pediments.
5. Three rear roof dormers.
6. Classical front porch including wood beaded board ceiling, Tuscan columns (coupled columns on each side of entry), short balusters supporting porch railing, and a geometrical balustrade above the porch roofline.
7. Front entry surrounded by decorative sidelights and transom light.
8. Windows, including three semi-circular windows in front dormers, six-over-one double-hung windows, bay window on the first floor at southwest corner, and window in second story projection on north façade.
9. Brick chimneys, including chimney shaft at south end of gable roof and chimney located in the offset gable at the rear of the house.

Why do you think this property merits designation? Check appropriate item(s):

Architecture Persons Event(s) Prominent Landmark
 Historical Unusual Use Other (list)

Is owner aware of this application? Yes No

Does owner consent to this designation? Yes No Don't know

Legal Description:

Bibliography:

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1992.

Quincy City Directories, 1987-1988. Illinois Room, Quincy Public Library, Quincy Illinois. pp. 76, 102.

Quincy City Directories, 1900-1901. Illinois Room, Quincy Public Library, Quincy Illinois. pp. 71, 34, 418.

Quincy City Directories, 1906. Illinois Room, Quincy Public Library, Quincy Illinois. pp. 86, 123, 502.

Quincy Herald-Whig and Daily Herald. "Death Called R. J. Christie," 27 July 1909.

Quincy Herald-Whig. "Real Estate Transfers," 16 January 1907.

Quincy Daily Herald, "Obituaries: Robert J. Christie, Sr.," 14 July 1985.

Past and Present Adams County History, 1909.

People's History of Quincy and Adams County, Illinois: A Sesquicentennial History. 1973.
pp. 98, 101, 150, 159, 398, 424, 499, 666, 770.

Pothorn, Herbert. *Architectural Styles*. New York: Viking Press, 1971.

Whiffen, Marcus. *American Architecture Since 1780*, Boston and London: MIT Press, 1992.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Applicant: Local Landmark Committee, Quincy Preservation Commission

Mailing Address:

Quincy Preservation Commission
City Hall Annex
706 Maine Street, 3rd Floor

Telephone Number: (217) 228-4515

E-mail: [c/o tfentem@quincyl.gov](mailto:c/o_tfentem@quincyl.gov)

Research by: Veronica Gallardo, Quincy Preservation Commission Summer Intern

Attach photos with identifying captions of significant exterior features.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Filed at Quincy Preservation Commission Office **Date** 8/10/06

Preservation Commission Preliminary Review **Approved** **Disapproved** **Date** 12/5/06

Meeting with Property Owner **Date**

Public Hearing **Date** 1/2/07

Preservation Commission Decision on Recommendation to Designate **Approved** **Disapproved** **Date** 2/6/07

City Council Decision on Designation by Ordinance **Approved** **Disapproved** **Date**

234 South 16th Street
Local Landmark



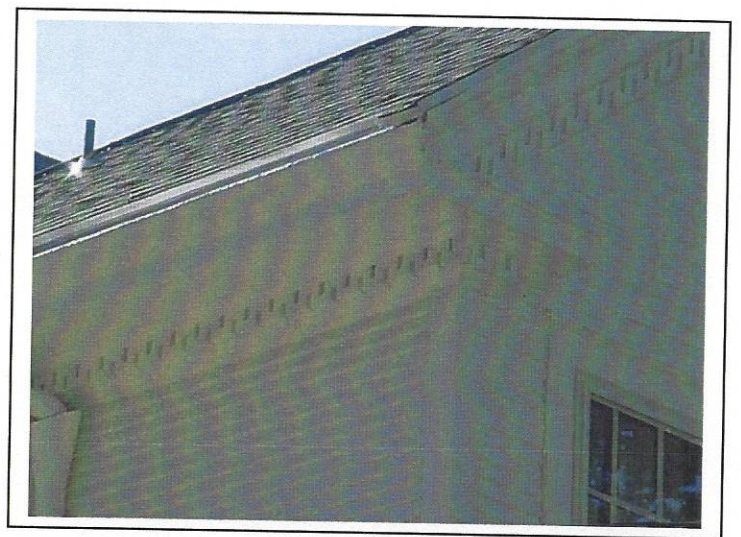
Two-and-a-half story Colonial Revival style house on a limestone foundation

234 South 16th Street
Local Landmark

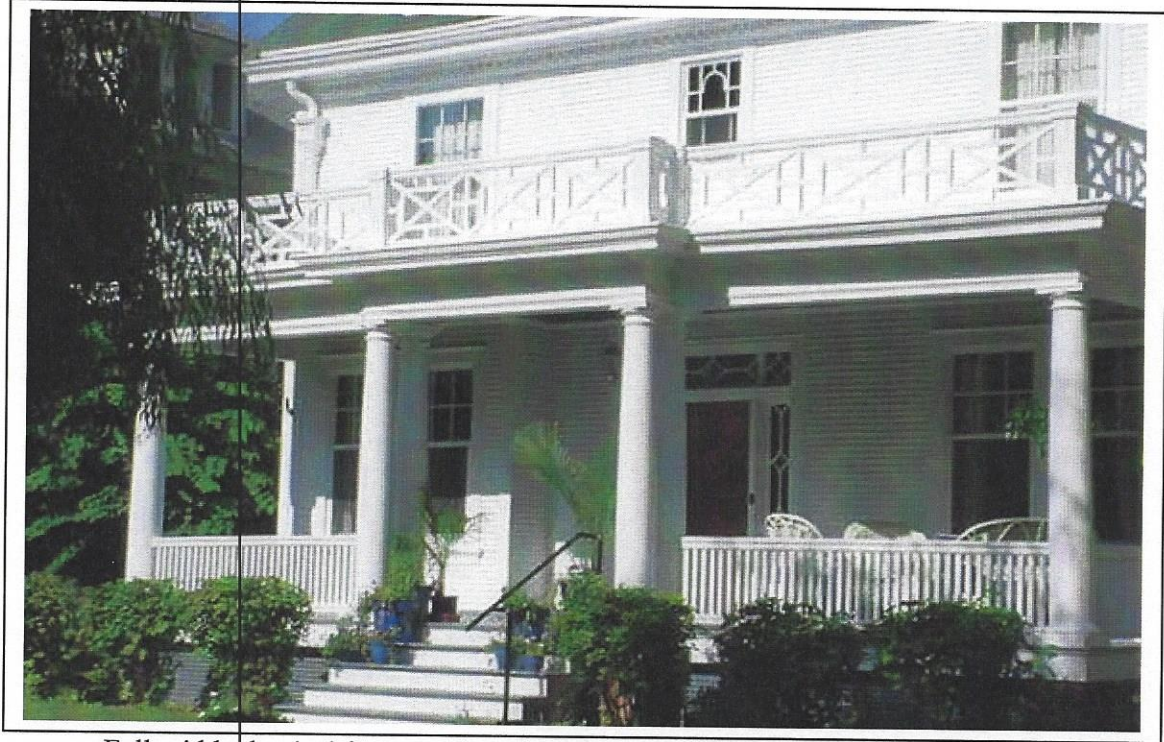


Gable roof with three front dormers

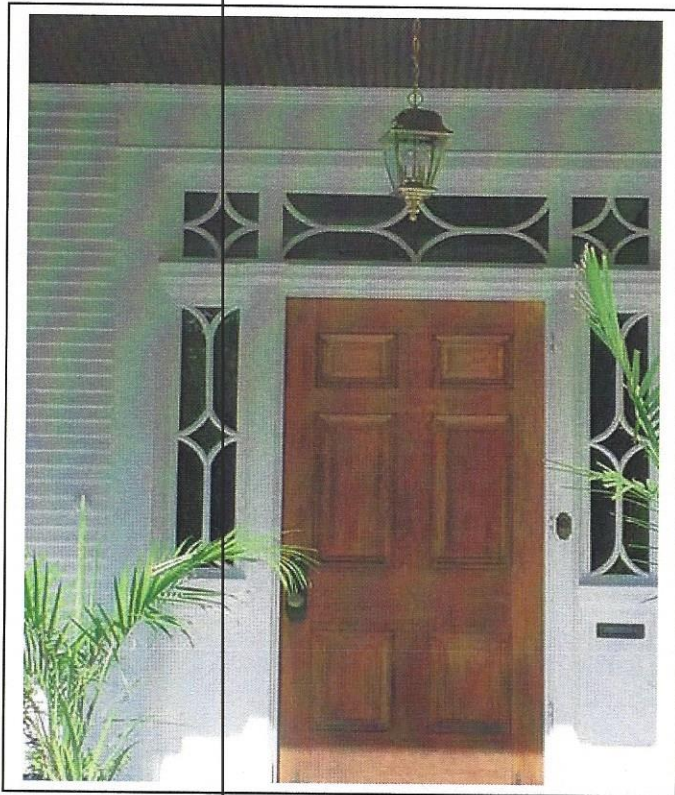
Decorative detailing at cornice



234 South 16th Street
Local Landmark



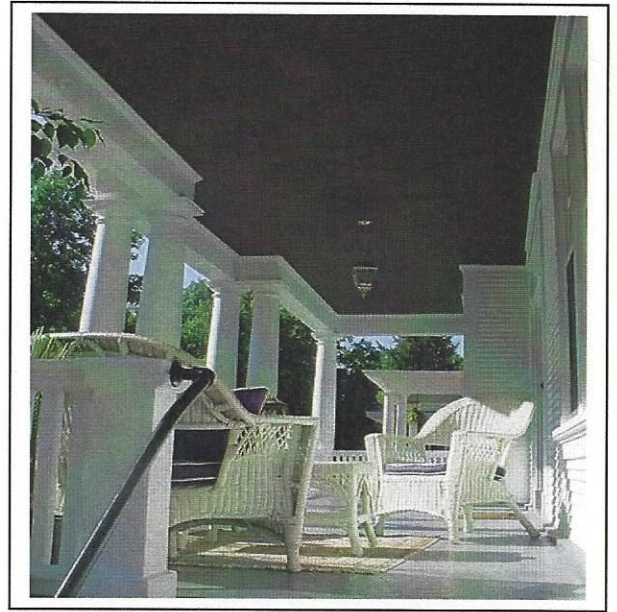
Full-width classical front porch with Tuscan columns and geometrical balustrade



Front entry

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Local Landmark

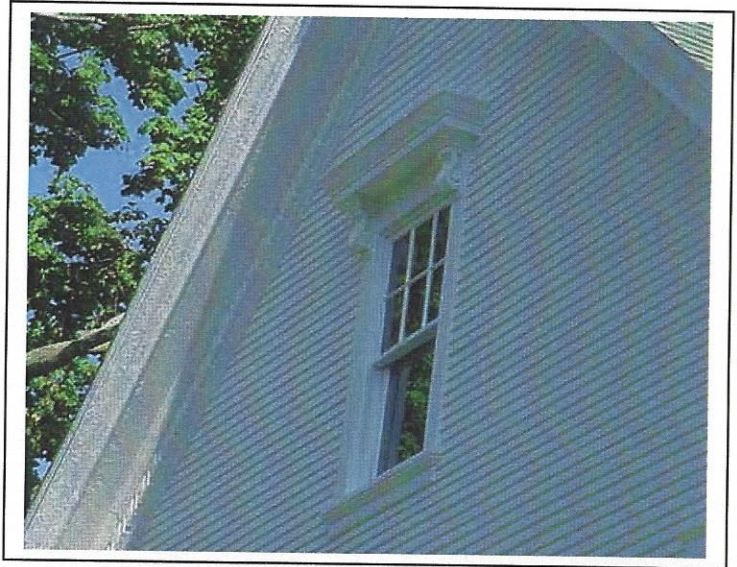
Finished wood porch ceiling



Southeast corner showing chimney, stone foundation,
and projecting window on the first-story

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All windows are six-over-one double-hung. Windows in both gable ends have an entablature with a simple frieze design (Adam influence).



West façade with projecting brick chimney



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Enclosed second-story porch, west façade



North façade with cross-gable and second-story bay (oriel) window