

**APPLICATION FOR LANDMARK OR HISTORIC DISTRICT  
QUINCY PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**706 Maine Street, City Hall Annex, Third Floor  
Quincy, Illinois 62301 Telephone (217) 228-4514**

**Applicant's Name:** Douglas Kaarre  
Preservation Intern, City of Quincy  
**Mailing Address:** Quincy Preservation Commission  
706 Maine Street  
City Hall Annex, 3rd Floor  
**Telephone Number:** (217) 221-3663

**Original name (if known) and address of proposed Landmark or boundaries of proposed Historic District:**

Ray M. and Kate Oakley House  
230 South 24th Street

**Name, Address, and Telephone Number of Property Owner(s):**

Greg S. and Stephanie Brumitt  
230 South 24th Street  
Quincy, Illinois 62301  
228-2167

**Style:** Prairie

**Date of Construction:** 1913

**Architect or Builder:** Attributed to Martin Geise

**List the significant exterior architectural features of the building(s). Include photographs of building facade for proposed Landmark or photographs of groups of structures for proposed Historic District (include map of Historic District):**

This two-1/2 story wood frame and stucco house has a low-pitched hipped roof with gables, overhanging eaves, and a full front porch that wraps to the north. The porch is constructed with stucco piers, a porch wall and a hardwood floor. Other significant elements of the house include side bays, double-hung windows that are 9/1, a large center dormer on the front facade, a limestone foundation, and half timber gables with supporting brackets.

**Provide a statement of the historical and architectural significance of the proposed Landmark or proposed District. Note classification of building(s) included in any historic district or survey, or listed on the National Register of Historic Places:**

This fine example of the Prairie Style was constructed in 1913 for the Oakley family, owners of the The Quincy Herald (later merging with the Quincy Whig-Journal to become the Quincy Herald-Whig) and later WGEM television station. Ray Miller Oakley was born in 1876 in Iowa. He came to Quincy in 1891 to work as an office boy at the Quincy Herald, which was

partially owned by his uncle, C. L. Miller.<sup>1</sup> Oakley eventually became General Manager and part owner. This management continued after the merger.

Oakley married Kate Cameron Burks in 1897 which resulted in five children. Ray Oakley died May 12, 1948, followed by his wife Kate on January 19, 1953. Their youngest son, Thomas Crawford (T.C.) Oakley, eventually took over as General Manager of the newspaper and also became President of the Quincy Broadcasting Company, which managed the television station.<sup>2</sup> T.C. and his wife, Mary, also lived at 230 South 24th Street. T. C. died in 1969. The house remained in the Oakley family until after Mary's death in 1993.<sup>3</sup>

The house is attributed to prominent Quincy architect Martin Geise. Geise, who was born and raised in Quincy, attended St. Francis College (now Quincy University) and at the age of 15 began employment under Ernest Wood, where he remained for seven years.<sup>4</sup> He then spent a number of years in the office of Harvey Chatten. Geise designed many commercial structures in Quincy, including the Illinois State Bank Building, the Block & Kuhl Building, Jefferson and Irving Schools and the Elk Hotel.<sup>5</sup>

The Oakley House is an outstanding example of the Prairie Style, constructed of stucco with a low-pitched hipped roof with gables and overhanging eaves typical of Prairie Style architecture. The house contains a rusticated limestone foundation wall with interrupting basement windows. The prominent front porch wraps around the east and part of the south facade. The porch includes a stucco porch wall and stucco piers. The front entrance way includes side lites and a transom. A dormer on the front facade roof includes double-hung

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<sup>1</sup> "Ray Miller Oakley, 72, Manager of the Herald-Whig, Dies; Had Been Newspaper Executive Half Century," The Quincy Herald-Whig, May 12, 1948.

<sup>2</sup> "T. C. Oakley, Civic Leader, Radio-TV, Newspaper Head, Dies," The Quincy Herald-Whig, July 28, 1969.

<sup>3</sup> "Mary S. Oakley Dies and 85," The Quincy Herald-Whig, December 30, 1993.

<sup>4</sup> "Martin J. Geise, Architect, Dies: Illness is Sudden," The Quincy Herald-Whig, February 13, 1947.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

windows with patterned glazing on the top lite. First and second floor windows have large 9/1 windows with 6/6 side lites on the second floor front facade.

The south facade includes a two-1/2 storied bay with gabled dormer, double windows in the gable with patterned glazing, and four single-paned continuous windows along first floor facade.

The west facade includes a first floor bay with overhang, matching roofline and a two-story wood porch with the second floor enclosed. The three porch windows on the west facade are double windows with nine lites. A single story entrance way includes a transom.

The north facade includes a three-window bay with 9/1 lites, and the bay has an overhang at the one-1/2 story level.

The house is listed as a contributing structure in the East End National Register Historic District.

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

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

**Is owner aware of this application?**  Yes  No

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

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**Signature of Applicant**

**Date**

**OFFICE USE ONLY:**

**Filed at Quincy Preservation Commission Office**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preservation Commission Preliminary Review**

**Approved**  **Disapproved**  **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting with Property Owner**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Public Hearing**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preservation Commission Decision  
on Recommendation to Designate**

**Approved**  **Disapproved**  **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Ray M. and Kate Oakley House  
230 South 24th Street  
Page 4

City Council Decision  
on Designation by Ordinance

Approved \_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Description: Lawrence and Flachs - Ex W 28.43ft M/L - S 80ft Lot 17 and S 80ft Lots 18, 19 & 20.

Ownership:

_____	Mary Oakley
5/3/94	J. William and Susan Holliday
7/15/94	David P. and Carri L. Bellis
5/31/96	Greg S. and Stephanie J. Brumitt

**Bibliography:**

Gardner Museum of Architecture and Design, Architect File on Martin Geise.

"Martin J. Geise, Architect, Dies: Illness is Sudden," The Quincy Herald-Whig, February 13, 1947.

"Mary S. Oakley Dies and 85," The Quincy Herald-Whig, December 30, 1993.

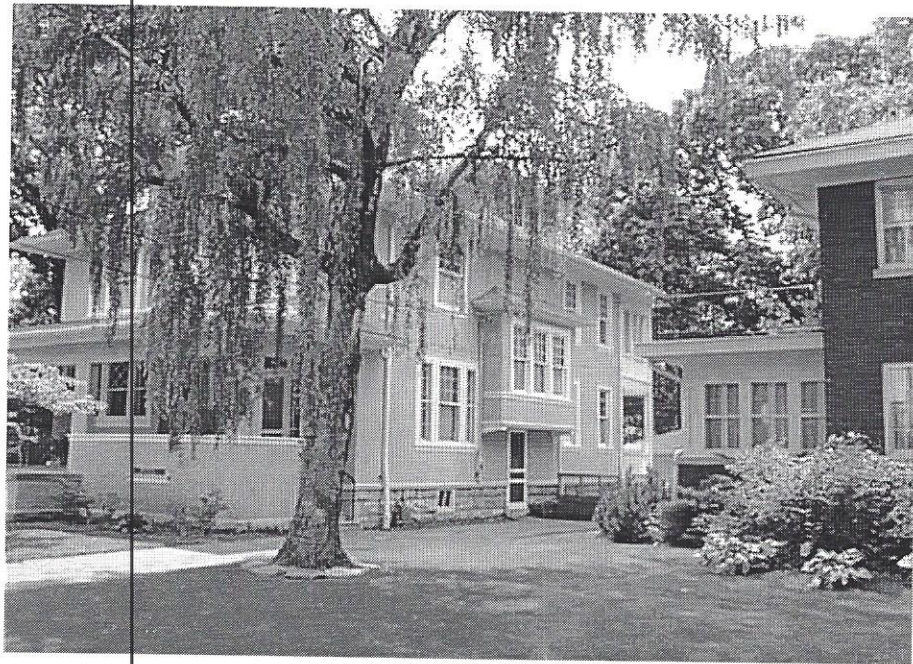
"Ray Miller Oakley, 72, Manager of the Herald-Whig, Dies; Had Been Newspaper Executive Half Century," The Quincy Herald-Whig, May 12, 1948.

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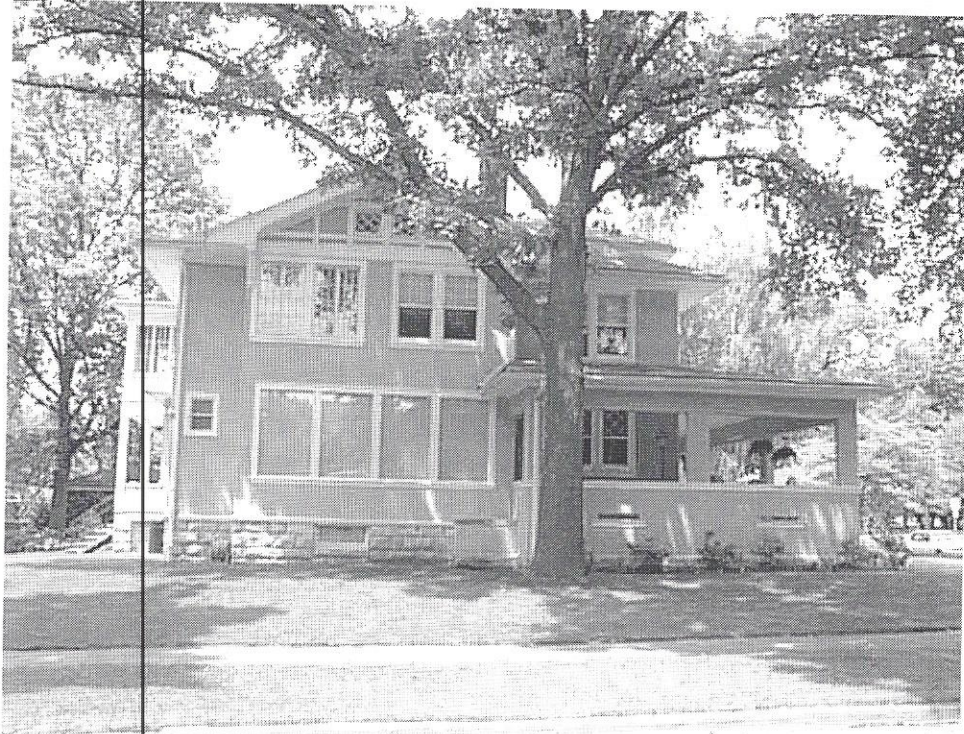


**east elevation**



**northeast view**

**230 South 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Ray & Kate Oakley House  
Page 2**

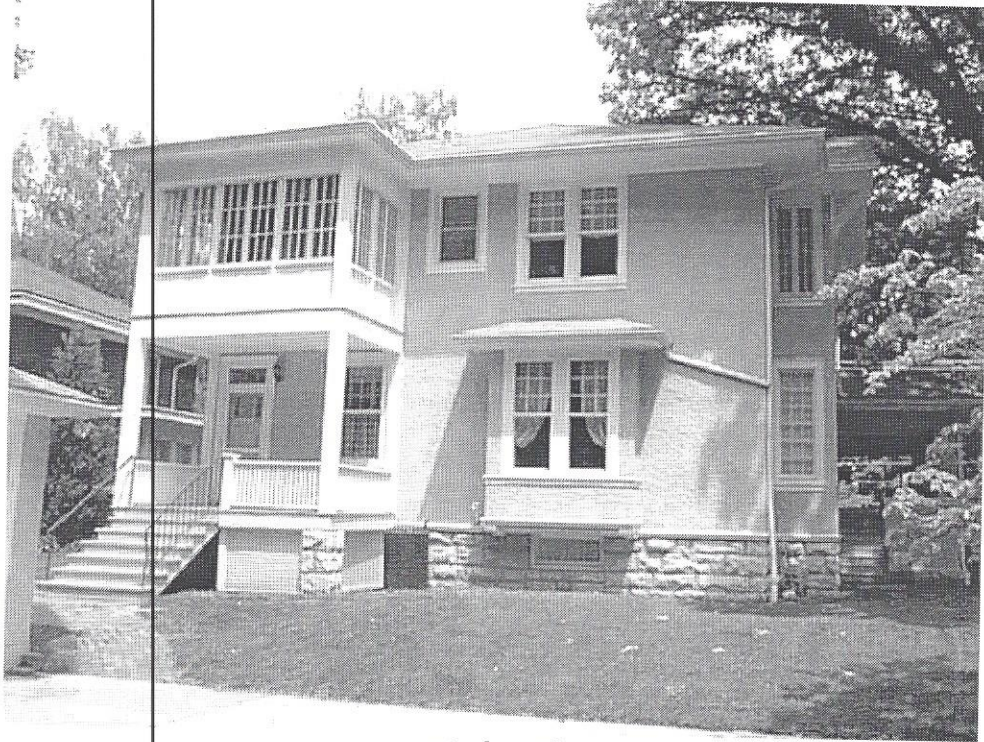


**south elevation**



**southeast view**

**230 South 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Ray & Kate Oakley House  
Page 3**



**west elevation**