

Mission School house 2531 Prentiss Ave.

The Mission School house was built between 1836 and 1839 as one of the residences affiliated with a Mission Institute. Dr. David Nelson founded the self-supporting school, located just outside the then-existing city limits on about 11 acres between 24th and 26th streets, Maine to Broadway.

Nelson, a surgeon in Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson's army, hunted in Missouri for his anti-slavery sentiments, escaped to Quincy where he found protection and later established the underground railway in connection with the Mission Institute.

The home apparently was built as a residence for the school's teachers and also served as slave depots. The home's basement was connected with the underground railroad which passed slaves to freedom into northern states and Canada.

Much of the original structure remains, but a kitchen and bathroom have been updated.

The home long has been known as the Anderson place. Four Anderson families, all unrelated, have owned the property at various times. The house now is home to Alma Winans.