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"The Genealogy of a House" **1677 Maine Street, Quincy, Illinois**

The Queen Anne residence we know as 1677 Maine Street is situated on the southeast quadrant of Lot 41 of Quincy's Nevins Addition. This structure, in addition to its architectural significance and pleasing aesthetic qualities, is also important historically because of its direct connections to some of Quincy's most influential and prominent citizens of the late 19th and early 20th centuries—citizens bearing names such as Baldwin, Dayton, and Emery, as well as Newcomb, Parker, Bull, Channon, Gardner, Stillwell; citizens who played important roles in shaping Quincy's future.

The information presented in this writing is based solely on our research of Adams County deed records, our review of Quincy city directories and U. S. Census records, and our research of historical writings and other documents found in the Quincy Public Library, on various Internet sites, and elsewhere. (See Attachment 1) Our research is ongoing; therefore, this draft may be considered a work in progress.

Based on the research evidence presented in Attachment 2, it is clear that planning and building of the structure at 1677 Maine can be attributed to Eaton Littlefield, early and long-time master carpenter and builder in Quincy.

There are some architectural aspects to note:

- It is obvious that the magnificent rounded, wrap-around front porch is not the original porch. Footings for a much smaller front porch are still in place, and vertical markings on the bricks of the front wall indicate where the east and west extremities of the original porch were located. Both the footings and the vertical markings are in alignment with a gap in the cap of the stone foundation, further evidence of a small front porch. Nevertheless, considering the style of the existing front porch, it seems clear that it was added many years ago—most likely in the very early 1900s, or perhaps somewhat earlier.

- On the north side of the structure, with a wraparound on the west side, a rear, glazed-in porch (summer kitchen) with entry to the original kitchen was removed in the early 1990s and replaced with a contemporary deck. Some of the footings are still in place, and markings on the brick walls show the roofline of the porch. These markings are consistent with the Eastlake style of the small rear porch and sled roof that still exist. The present owners expect to remove the deck and, with an architect, are developing plans for building a closed rear porch following the rooflines of the original glazed-in porch, and in keeping with the original style of that porch to the extent that it can be determined.
- There is evidence of a small porch on the east side of the structure at the northeast corner. Markings on the brick wall show the original roofline of this porch, indicating that it was in the same style as the existing small porch leading to the rear door of the house. The purpose of the east porch is unknown, but it may well have provided access for the delivery of ice and perishable foods to a small room (probably a "cold room") just off the kitchen. The porch was likely removed many years ago when there was no longer a need for it. (The small room formerly off the kitchen now serves as a bathroom.)

An outline of the ownership history of the subject property from 1847 to 2004 is provided at Attachment 3. The remainder of this paper will focus on individuals who either resided at 1677 Maine or had family or business connections to those who lived at this address during the first 50 or so years of its existence. (It is interesting to note that, according to deed records, the first five owners of 1677 Maine were all women.)

BALDWIN OWNERSHIP AND RESIDENCY (1880—1883)

Ebenezer G. and Agnes Wright Baldwin are the first persons known to have resided at the northwest corner of 18th and Maine; i.e., at 1677 Maine. In all likelihood it was they who commissioned the building of the home. Deed records show that in 1870 Agnes W. Baldwin purchased Lot 41 from Lucius Kingman, a land agent, and his wife Lucy M. Kingman. City directories for 1880-1881 and 1882-1883 show Ebenezer G. Baldwin's residence as "res. nw cor. 18th and Maine". The 1878-1879 and earlier city directories show Baldwin's residence as "833 Vermont". Thus, it seems clear that the residence at 1677 Maine was built for Ebenezer G. and Agnes W. Baldwin and that construction was completed at some point between 1879 and 1881; i.e., ca. 1880.

Ebenezer G. (Gurnsey) Baldwin, son of Timothy Ward Baldwin and Anna Bates Baldwin, was born in 1825 and died on August 1, 1882. His sister, Anna Baldwin, was the wife of Charles H. Bull. Ebenezer was a partner in Pope and Baldwin, a firm doing business at 315, 317, and 319 Maine (later on the northeast corner of

5th and Jersey in a building that had been used as an army hospital during the Civil War) in the manufacture of the National Hand Corn Planter, and as dealers in agricultural machines and grass seeds. Pope and Baldwin established the firm in 1861, and a prosperous business was conducted up to the time of Ebenezer G. Baldwin's death.

Agnes W. Baldwin, whose family name was Wright, was born in 1831 and died on August 23, 1883. She apparently had no living children, since a brother, four sisters, and several nieces and nephews were named as heirs in her will. One of the nephews, Herbert Mills, was also named as executor of her estate. (It is noted that Herbert Mills was an employee of Pope, Lockwood & Co, and presumably of Pope and Baldwin prior to Ebenezer G. Baldwin's death.) Little else is known about Agnes W. Baldwin, except that she was affiliated with the women's group, Friends in Council. We have a copy of Mrs. Baldwin's will, along with a very interesting and enlightening inventory of her household furnishings and other personal effects prepared in connection with the settlement of her estate.

Ebenezer G. and Agnes Wright Baldwin, Ebenezer's parents, Charles H. and Anna Baldwin Bull, and other family members are buried in Quincy's Woodland Cemetery, Block 14, Lot 108.

MILLS OWNERSHIP (1883)

Mrs. Hannah W. Mills, a widow, was the next owner of 1677 Maine, but only from May 1883 to December 1883. We have found no evidence that she ever took up residence in the house. Based on residence addresses shown in city directories, it may be concluded that Hannah W. (for Wright) Mills was Herbert Mills' mother, and that she was Agnes W. Baldwin's sister. One might speculate that this particular real estate transaction was to benefit Hannah W. Mills in some way in lieu of her being named as an heir in Agnes W. Baldwin's will.

DAYTON OWNERSHIP AND RESIDENCY (1883—1901)

Frank C. and Georgianna K. Dayton were the next persons known to have resided at 1677 Maine. Deed records show that Georgianna K. Dayton purchased the property in December 1883, and the 1884-1885 city directory shows F. C. Dayton's residence as "18th nw cor Maine".

Frank C. Dayton was Treasurer of the business variously known through the years as the Dayton Book and Paper Company, J. R. Dayton and Company, and Dayton and Arthur. This was a family business, and Frank C. Dayton worked himself up through the ranks from salesman to Treasurer. Frank C. Dayton (whose actual name was Francis Catlin Dayton) was born about 1856, having

been 4 years of age when the 1860 census was enumerated. He is buried in Woodland Cemetery, Block 9, Lot 156. His name is shown on the stone as "Francis Catlin Dayton"; however, dates of birth and death are not shown. It is unknown why he was buried alone in this particular location, rather than in the Dayton-Catlin family plot.

The family name of Georgianna K. Dayton is not known to us at this time. We have no further information about her, except that she was a widow when she sold 1677 Maine in 1901.

James R. Dayton (Frank C. Dayton's father) was a prominent businessman who resided for many years at 818 Maine. It was written of his business in 1879, "Dayton and Arthur, 426 and 428 Maine street [sic], have the oldest, and the only wholesale book and stationary house in Quincy. It was established in 1837, by W. D. Skillman, and after having passed through several hands as a retail store, it was purchased in 1850 by J. R. Dayton, the senior partner of the present firm. It continued constantly to increase its business until 1868, when I. H. Arthur was admitted as a member of the firm, since which time the business has steadily increased. An extensive jobbing trade from Illinois and adjoining States, has made this house prominent among the business interest of the city." In its early years, Mr. Dayton operated his business at 106 Maine and resided at 222 Maine. The firm conducted the final years of its business in the 600 block of Maine. J. R. Dayton is believed to have been a schoolteacher before he purchased the business.

Mrs. J. R. (Sarah Catlin) Dayton (Frank C. Dayton's mother) was prominent in civic activities. She was a part of a group of women who envisioned, then provided, a "free reading room for the City of Quincy". It was written of this matter in 1879, "In the latter part of March, 1879, it [the reading room] was removed to the large, airy and cozy room on the first floor of the new block on the corner of Sixth and Vermont Streets.... The room is open for at least twelve hours in every day of the year, and the growing appreciation of the benefits is evidenced in the fact that more than 1, 200 readers visited it during the month of May, 1879." Mrs. J. R. Dayton served as both 1st vice-president and director of this important women's group.

James R. Dayton (1812—1899) and Sarah Belinda Catlin (1829—1911) were married in Adams County, Illinois on March 23, 1854, and are buried in Woodland Cemetery, Block 14, Lot 113.

EMERY OWNERSHIP AND RESIDENCY (1901—1942)

Joseph W. and May Newcomb Emery were the next residents to inhabit 1677 Maine. Mrs. May N. Emery purchased it from Georgianna K. Dayton in 1901, and

it remained the Emery home until Mrs. Emery's death on April 12, 1942. Mr. Emery preceded her in death, having died at home on February 7, 1936.

In a 1905 publication, it was written of Joseph W. Emery that he "was born in Taunton, Massachusetts, November 10, 1850, and was in his fifth year when brought to Quincy by his parents, Rev. Dr. S. H. and Julia R. Emery.... Mr. Emery entered upon his business career as an employee in the banking house of L. & C. H. Bull, and was afterward a member of the banking firm of E. J. Parker & Company, who succeeded to the commercial department of their business. Later the commercial and savings departments were consolidated and Mr. Emery was made cashier. This was one of the largest private banking institutions in the west outside of Chicago and the greater cities and the duties which devolved upon Mr. Emery in this connection were of a multiform and responsible character. In 1881 he joined William V. Channon in organizing the stove manufacturing business of which he is now the head. The firm name of Channon, Emery & Company was assumed and upon the incorporation under the name Channon-Emery Stove Company, Mr. Emery was chosen vice president. Later he became president and Treasurer of the company and with these official titles he has since directed the large and important business of the house, making it one of the leading productive industries of the state, furnishing employment to a large force of workmen. [The company occupied nearly a block on Ohio, between 4th and 5th.]

"He is a director of the State Savings, Loan and Trust Company and has been president of the Western Association of Stove Manufacturers. He has likewise been president of the Chamber of Commerce of Quincy and in this connection has put forth effective effort in advancing the business interests of the city. He is a trustee of Blessing Hospital, a trustee of 'Funds and property of the diocese of Quincy' and a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd. Socially he is connected with the Quincy Country Club and has been honored with its presidency....

"In 1879 Mr. Emery was first married to Miss Effie [Esther] B. Stillwell, of Hannibal, Missouri.... [Of this marriage were born two children, neither of which survived infancy: Ralph Hopkins Emery (January 29, 1881—April 29, 1881) and Margaret Duncan Emery (September 13, 1882—November 25, 1882).] Miss Stillwell was born on June 24, 1857 and died on July 13, 1887. Census records show that Esther B. Stillwell was a sister of John A. Stillwell, who married Elizabeth Maria Newcomb, daughter of Richard Newcomb (discussed later in this writing) and Mr. Newcomb's second wife [Anna Marie Ritchie]. [Esther B. and John A. Stillwell were children of Bryson Stillwell and Margaret Duncan Stillwell. Bryson was a brother of Amos J. Stillwell, victim of what was referred to as a 'society murder' in Hannibal, Missouri in 1889. The Stillwell brothers were important pork packers in Hannibal during the latter half of the 19th century. Margaret Duncan Stillwell, as a widow, relocated to Quincy as did several of her children.]

"In 1893 Mr. Emery was married to Miss May F. Newcomb, a daughter of the late R. Newcomb, of Quincy [by his first wife] and they have two children, Katharine [sic] and Joseph W." May F. Newcomb was born in 1861 and died on April 12, 1942. As will be discussed later in this writing, both children from Joseph W. Emery's second marriage died as young adults. It is notable that a stained glass memorial window, the "Katherine Emery Gardner/Joseph Welch Emery, Jr. window", was installed in Quincy's St. John's Episcopal Church.

Joseph W. Emery, his first wife Effie B. Stillwell Emery, their two infant children, and Mr. Emery's second wife May Newcomb Emery are all buried in Woodland Cemetery, Block 9, Lot 15.]

During World War I the Channon-Emery Stove Company was engaged in war manufacturing. As an aside, it is interesting to note that a World War I metal hat manufactured by Channon-Emery was recently advertised on the Internet with bidding starting at \$350.

May F. Newcomb Emery (Joseph W. Emery's wife) was the only child of Richard Newcomb and his first wife, Eliza Ann Bowman. May F. Emery was socially prominent in Quincy, and was an active member of Friends in Council, the oldest continuous women's study club in the United States. Another interesting aside: When Mark Twain made his last visit to Hannibal in 1902, he was received by Hannibal's society in a setting of grandeur and elegance. Twain addressed 300 select guests from the magnificent stairway in Rockcliffe, John J. Cruikshank's mansion then celebrated as one of the finest river estates in America. Included among the 300 guests were only three couples from Quincy—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Emery, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Stillwell, and Mr. and Mrs. George Cottrell.

Two of Adams County's greatest heroes of World War I were killed in the actions that merited them Distinguished Service Crosses. One of them was Joseph W. Emery, Jr., the only son of Joseph W. and May N. Emery. Joseph, Jr. grew up in the house at 1677 Maine. Upon completion of high school he attended Dartmouth College, where he was a star halfback on the football team. Immediately after graduation from Dartmouth in 1917, Joseph, Jr. enlisted in the Regular Army. Shortly afterward, he wrote to his parents, "this is the greatest thing that has ever happened in the world and a man can't afford to be out of it." About a year later (on July 18, 1918), as a member of the 9th Infantry, 2nd Division, he met his death near Vierzy, France. He was cited for the following:

"While attached to the regimental post of command in the rear, Lieut. Emery voluntarily joined the assaulting battalion as a platoon leader in a company, which was short of officers. When desperate hostile resistance was encountered at the outset of the attack and all the other officers of the company became casualties, he took command of the company and courageously led his men in

overcoming enemy machine-gun nests. While rushing an enemy position at the head of his men, this gallant officer was killed."

The other hero mentioned above was General Henry R. Hill. The Quincy American Legion Post was named after these two heroes. In Woodland Cemetery, Block 18, Lots 43 through 46, there is situated a memorial bandstand on which is inscribed the following: "IN MEMORY OF ALL EX-SERVICE MEN - ERECTED BY HY. R. HILL—JOS. W. EMERY, JR. POST 37 AMERICAN LEGION THRU THE GENEROSITY OF CECELIA ROOT HILL 1934"

In the late 1920s the War Department of the United States compiled a list of mothers and widows of deceased soldiers killed in World War I and offered to send them to their loved one's final resting place in Europe. It is known that Mrs. May N. Emery expressed an interest in taking a pilgrimage at a later date to her son's burial place at Oise-Aisne Cemetery in France. It is not known whether she ever made the trip.

Katherine Emery, daughter of Joseph H. and May N. Emery, married Ralph Gifford Gardner (son of John Willis Gardner and grandson of Robert W. Gardner). The couple had three children, Katherine G. Gardner, John W. Gardner II, and Joseph Emery Gardner. Katherine Emery Gardner was born in 1894 and died in childbirth in 1919. The infant, Marion, lived from November 25 to 29, 1919. Katherine Emery Gardner was interred in Woodland Cemetery, Block 18, Lot 71 on November 26, 1919. Ralph Gifford Gardner (July 22, 1890—November 14, 1964) and the infant child, Marion are buried at the same location.

May N. Emery's grandchildren, Katherine Gardner Stevenson, John W. Gardner, and Joseph Emery Gardner, were (along with their respective spouses) Mrs. Emery's only heirs when 1677 Maine was sold in 1942 as part of her estate. It is noted that one of the galleries at the Quincy Art Center is named for Katherine Gardner Stevenson.

Rev. Samuel Hopkins Emery (Joseph W. Emery's father) was born in Massachusetts, descended from an important, old New England family. He began his studies early, including the study of Latin and Greek, and at age 13 was prepared to enter Amherst College. Because of his young age, however, he pursued advanced studies elsewhere for a time, and then entered Amherst as a sophomore. He graduated as the youngest member of his class, and with second highest honors. He then attended Andover Theological Seminary, where in his last year he delivered the master's oration. The first Sunday after leaving Andover, Rev. Emery preached for the Spring Street Church in Taunton, Massachusetts, and the church extended him a unanimous call. He accepted and became pastor at about the time he reached age 22. This sets the stage for his remarkable life.

After serving as pastor, writing, and publishing for some years, Rev. Emery accepted a call from the First Congregational Church in Quincy. It was while

serving in Quincy that the Civil War broke out, and President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton furnished him a pass to go anywhere within the Union lines and to take others with him. With the consent of his congregation he made several trips to the south, taking with him nurses, food, supplies, and various hospital stores. Rev. Emery and six Quincy women were reported to have nursed the wounded on board the steamer Black Hawk on one of these trips. Hospitals were afterward established in Quincy and Rev. Emery and Rev. Foote, also of Quincy, were appointed chaplains and served until the close of the war. Rev. Emery is credited with beginning the use of ministers as chaplains in the armed services. There had been no official chaplains before this.

Some members of the First Congregational Church had withdrawn before the Civil War over differences that arose over questions of the day, slavery, interpretation of the Bible, and theology. The pastor, Rev. Foote, went with them and they were called the Center Congregational Church. Rev. Emery had always urged them to reunite and felt they might do it more readily under a new minister and so he resigned. The re-united church was called The First Union Congregational Church, using elements from the names of both churches.

Thus, after a pastorate extending from 1855 until 1869, Rev. Emery left Quincy and returned to the east, ultimately ending up in his old home of Taunton. Rev. Emery was always deeply interested in historical matters, and it was through his efforts that the Old Colony Historical Society of Massachusetts came into existence, and for more than a quarter century until his death, Rev. Emery was its president. During one of his return trips to Quincy to visit his two sons who had remained here—Joseph W. Emery and Samuel Hopkins Emery, Jr.—Rev. Emery was instrumental in the organization of the Quincy Historical Society. Rev. Emery certainly left his mark on Quincy, including his two sons and their many accomplishments.

After his first wife's death in 1864, Richard Newcomb (May N. Emery's father) became interested in exploring opportunities in the Mississippi Valley. He became involved in paper companies, first in Beloit, Wisconsin, then Chicago, and finally in Quincy where, with a brother, he purchased the Gem City Paper Mill and renamed it Newcomb Brothers. Richard Newcomb and his second wife, Anna Marie Ritchie, had four children who, along with their descendants, became very prominent figures in various areas of manufacturing, as well as in supporting projects and charities through the Stillwell Foundation, created in 1959.

In 1874 Richard Newcomb became sole owner of the Quincy plant and in 1880 was instrumental in organizing the Quincy Paper Company, of which he became president. It rapidly became the second largest strawboard mill in the country. In 1890 he began construction of the home at 16th and Maine in Quincy—just down the block from 1677 Maine, the subject of this writing. The Newcomb home, which had 33 rooms and 13 fireplaces, is now the Quincy Museum.

Richard Newcomb retired from the strawboard business in 1889 and became president of the company organized to build the Quincy, Beardstown and Havana Railroad. He also was a member of the planning committee for the Park and Boulevard Association of Quincy, owned majority stock in the Newcomb Hotel named after him, and owned the building across from it. He owned other properties at the northeast corner of 8th and Maine, a 500-foot frontage on State Street east of 16th and, of course, his mansion on Maine which was the largest in Quincy. Additionally, he held title to considerable properties on Michigan Avenue and elsewhere in Chicago. At the time of his death in 1904, he was one of four millionaires in Quincy.

[Note: Owners of 1677 Maine after 1942 are identified in Attachment 3.]

Attachment 1: Sources
Attachment 2: Builder
Attachment 3: Ownership History

ADDENDUM

In the year 2005, 1677 Maine was recognized by three distinct actions, each of which included a bronze plaque to be displayed on the property:

- Quincy Preserves selected 1677 Maine to receive an historical plaque, the intent of which is to recognize architecturally and historically significant buildings in Quincy and Adams County that are being maintained with a high level of preservation integrity.
- The Quincy Preservation Commission nominated 1677 Maine as a Quincy Local Landmark, and the Mayor and City Council of Quincy approved this nomination. Such Landmarks are recognized for their architectural, historical, or aesthetic significance.
- The current owners had a bronze plaque prepared to commemorate 1677 Maine as the boyhood home of World War I hero and Distinguished Service Cross recipient, Lt. Joseph W. Emery, Jr., who was killed in action in France on July 18, 1918.

**ATTACHMENT 1: SOURCES
1677 Maine**

- Adams County Recorder's Deed Records, Adams County Courthouse, Quincy
- Quincy City Directories, Quincy Public Library and Quincy University's Brennan Library
- The History of Adams County, Illinois—1879, Murray, Williamson & Phelps, Chicago, 1879
- Past and Present of the City of Quincy and Adams County, Illinois, William H. Perry, S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1905
- Quincy Illustrated 1889, www.rootsweb.com/~iladams/qil1889/52.htm
- People's History of Quincy and Adams County, Illinois—Sesquicentennial, Jost & Kiefer Printing Company, 631 Vermont St., 1974
- Record of Adams County, Illinois, Chapman Bros., Chicago, 1892
- Representative Men and Homes, Quincy, Illinois, 1899
- Quincy Museum/Newcomb-Stillwell History, www.thequincymuseum.com/exhibit.html
- Marks Collectibles, www.addisoncreek.com/marks/advertising.nmm
- The Hannibal Courier-Post, Good-bye to Mark Twain, 6-3-1902, www.Hannibal.net/twain/stories/good-bye
- U. S. World War I Mothers' Pilgrimage, 1930, search.ancestry.com
- Amherst College Biographical Record: Class of 1834, www.Amherst.edu/~rjyanco/genealogy/acbiorecord/1834.html
- Files and Records, Gardner Museum of Architecture and Design, Quincy, Illinois
- Adams County Records of Circuit Clerk, Adams County Courthouse, Quincy, Illinois
- Illinois-Quincy, Landrum Series, Quincy Public Library
- Adams County Index of Deaths, Quincy Public Library
- The Genosky Collection, Internet
- Four-volume Index of Burials in Woodland Cemetery, Quincy, Illinois