

THE WILM' GARDNER'S 2137 Jersey -- Georgian Revival Style -- 1903
HOUSE AND COACH HOUSE

This charming Georgian Revival Coach House was built in 1903 by Fred Wilms when he erected his home at 2084 Maine. A native of Quincy, Mr. Wilms moved to Springfield in 1870 and was made cashier and general manager of the Western Coal and Mining Co. In 1877 he was made President and General Manager of the Riverton coal Co. In 1880 he organized the Wabash Coal Co. and later organized the Quincy Sawmill Co. and acquired the Quincy Lumber Co. near the Railroad Bridge, maintaining his offices in the old Wells Building at Fifth and Maine Streets. A.W.D. Weis purchased the property at 2084 Maine which included the coach house in 1916. The Weis family retained possession of the coach house until 1960 when it was sold to George Herman who extensively remodeled the inside. He added a family room, full bath, patio, new kitchen and finished the west side of the basement and put up chair rails and mouldings. The two large upstairs bedrooms were altered when Mr. Herman divided the east room to create three bedrooms. The lovely tiles in the downstairs powder room came from the Dayton House which was demolished to make way for the Adams Place apartments. The property was sold in 1964 to Joe Holloway who in turn sold it to Harold W. Knapheide III in 1974. Jeffrey Mays, a great grandson of Sam Eldred, treasurer of the Wabash Coal Co. and a personal friend of Fred Wilms, obtained the house in February, 1983 and now resides in this unique and attractive home with his family.