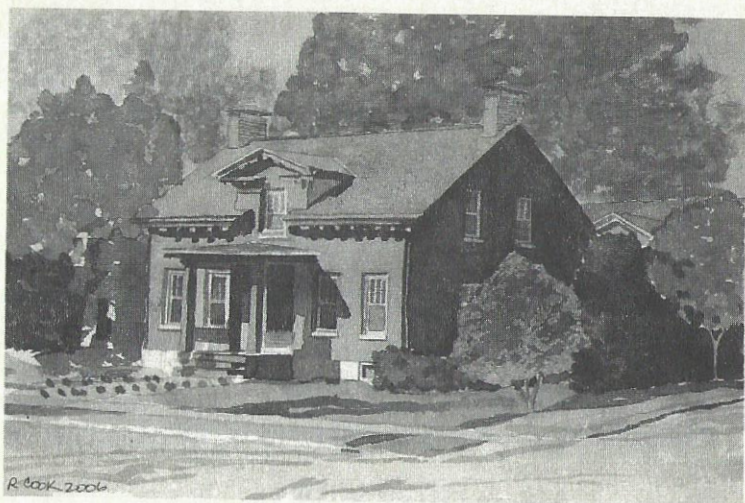




2137 Jersey
 Frederick and Anna Wilms Caretaker's House
 Colonial Revival/Neo Classical Cottage • Built 1909
 Current owners: Stephen and Belinda Cullo

This house was built in 1909 as the coachman/caretaker home for the Frederick and Anna Wilms estate at 2084 Maine. Wilms was the manager of the Springfield Coal Company before he moved to Quincy and became President of Quincy's Wabash Coal Company. The home's first residents were Henry and Katherine Meise, coachman and caretaker for the estate. When the Wilms's estate was subdivided, the Wilms's carriage house became part of the 2137 Jersey property. It is reported that Meise was a volunteer firefighter and was called to help with the Chicago fire in 1871.

As with many Neoclassical cottages, the symmetrical house has a side gabled roof with a prominent central dormer and a partial-width front porch with a flat roof. The cornice of the cottage matches the cornice on the Wilms's house on Maine Street. The overhanging eaves have simple wood-brackets and the front has classical supports. The windows are six-over-one with stone sills.

The cypress front door is a surprising 42 inches wide and has sidelights and transom. The spacious foyer houses the staircase and leads to the living room on the left and the dining room on the right. The dining room has its original three-inch yellow heart pine flooring. The wainscoting in the living room and dining room was added in the 1960s. The current owners added the living room fireplace as part of their two-year redecoration of the house. Their decoration goal was to infuse their personal taste into their home, while maintaining its historic character.

The family room behind the living room was added in the 1960s, as was the full bathroom, which has a tub and sink from the Lincoln Douglas Hotel. The passage between the living room and dining room was originally the pantry.

The current owners made a clever change when they removed a closet between the foyer and kitchen to improve traffic flow. They added small pantries on each side of the new passageway. They gutted the old kitchen and created one to their liking.

The second floor of this cozy home is family friendly, with its three ample bedrooms. Previous owners divided the original east bedroom into two rooms and the current owners added the wood floors and built-in desks and shelves.

**CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT TOUR
 DECEMBER 10, 2006**