

DRAFT; June 2004
Charles Rollins &
Riddell Noble

1677 Maine Street

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 such names as Dayton, Emery, Newcomb, Parker, Bull, Channon, Thadver^{Stellwell}, citizens who played ^{important} a part 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 our research of historical writings found in the Quincy Public Library and on various Internet sites. ^(see attachment 1) Our research

For Ben Coggeshall

Attached are pages to replace
page 2 of the material I
gave you a few days
ago, as well as a
new Attachment 3.

Please call if you have
questions or observations-

Charles Rollins

228-0054

is ongoing; therefore, this draft may be considered a work in progress.

An abbreviated outline of the ownership history of the subject property from 1847 to date is provided as Attachment 2. The remainder of this paper will focus on individuals who either resided at 1677 Maine or otherwise had connections to those who lived at this address during the first fifty or so years of its existence.

BALDWIN OWNERSHIP AND RESIDENCY (1880-1883)

Ebenezer H. and Agnes W. Baldwin are the first persons known to have resided 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 both 1880-1881 and 1882-1883 show Ebenezer H. Baldwin's residence

as "res nw cor 18th and Maine." The 1878-1879 and earlier directories show Baldwin's residence as "833 Vermont." Thus, one might conclude that the residence at 1677 Maine was built for Ebenezer H. and Agnes W. Baldwin, and that its construction was completed c. 1879. (The name of the architect is not known ^{to us} at this time. However, it is noteworthy that the structure bears remarkable architectural similarities to the home at 1231 Maine, built in 1881. One source indicates that Harvey Chatter was the architect for 1231 Maine, ^{was the} but further research ~~was~~ needed to determine whether Chatter had a part in designing 1677 Maine.)

Ebenezer H. Baldwin was a partner in Pope & Baldwin, a firm doing business at 315, 317, and 319 Maine in the manufacture of the National Hand Corn Planter, and as dealers in agricultural machines and grass seed. Pope and Baldwin established the firm in 1861, and a prosperous business was conducted ~~for over~~ ~~a quarter of a century~~ up to the time of Baldwin's death. He

apparently died in 1882 or 1883, since Agnes W. Baldwin is shown to have been a widow when she sold 1677 Maine in May 1883.

At this time, little is known about Agnes W. Baldwin (Ebenezzer H. Baldwin's wife), except that she was affiliated with the women's group, Friends in Council.

MILLS OWNERSHIP (1883)

Mrs. Hannah W. Mills, a widow, was the next owner of 1677 Maine, but she held the property for only a short time - from May 1883 to December 1883 - ~~and~~ and we have found no evidence that she ever took up residence at 1677 Maine. Mrs. Mills resided at 510/512 Vermont, operating a boarding house, for a number of years. She later lived at 610 Jersey and 135 N. 5th. (It is noted that her son, Herbert Mills, a clerk at Pope, Lockwood & Co. - successor to Pope ~~& Land~~ and Baldwin - owned adjoining quadrants of Lot 41 at the time Hannah W. Mills owned 1677 Maine.)

DAYTON OWNERSHIP AND RESIDENCY (1883-1901)

Frank C. and Georgianna K. Dayton are 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". There has been some speculation that the Daytons may have razed a home that existed on the property when they purchased it in order to build the structure that stands on the site as of this writing. A rationale for believing this not to be the case is presented as Attachment 3.

Frank C. Dayton was Treasurer of the business variously known through the years as the Dayton Book and Paper Company, J. R. Dayton & Company, and Dayton and Arthur. This was a family

is ongoing; therefore, this Draft may be considered a work in progress.

An abbreviated outline of the ownership history of the subject property from 1847 to date is attached, ^(See Attachment 2)
 1 The remainder of this paper will focus on individuals who either resided at 1677 Maine Street or otherwise had connections to ^{those who resided at} this address during the first fifty or so years of its existence.

DAYTON (1883-1901)

Frank C. and Georgianna K. Dayton were the first persons known to have resided at 1677 Maine Street. Deed records show that Georgianna purchased the property in 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 worked himself up through the ranks to become Treasurer.

Georgianna K. Dayton's family name is unknown 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's father) was a prominent businessman who resided for many years at 818 Maine Street. It was written of his business in 1879, "Dayton and Arthur, 426 and 428 Maine Street, have the oldest, and the only wholesale book and stationery 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 S.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 days, Mr. Dayton operated his business at 106 Maine and resided at 222 Maine. He is believed to have been a school teacher before he purchased the business.

Mrs. J. R. Dayton was prominent in civic activities. She was a part of a group of women who envisioned, they 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,

EMERY (1901-1942)

Joseph W. and May Newcomb Emery were the next residents to inhabit 1677 Maine Street; Mrs. Emery purchased it from Georgianna K. Dayton in 1901. It remained the Emery home until Mrs. Emery's death around 1941 or 1942. Mr. Emery had preceded her in death around 1935 or 1936.

It has been 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. G. 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