



129 East Ave  
Prairie Style • 1912 • Mrs. Fredricka Halbach House  
Architect: E.M. Wood

On Aug 8, 1912, the Quincy Whig reported, “the excavating for the residence of Mrs. F.W. Halbach, in Lawndale, was started yesterday... It is to be of stone and brick construction, two stories in height, the estimated cost being \$10,000. Architect Ernest M. Wood drafted the specifications, while Buerkin & Kaempfen are the contractors.” The original architectural drawings done by Wood for Mrs. Halbach remain in the possession of the current home owners.

Unfortunately, Mrs. Halbach, the widow of prominent Quincy merchant Frederick W. Halbach, and her daughter Florence would live together in the home for less than two years before Mrs. Halbach passed away in December 1914. When the estate of Mrs. Halbach was settled later that month, it was noted in the Quincy Whig that, “Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster [Mrs. Halbach’s daughter and son-in-law] will move into the new home within the next thirty or sixty days and Miss Florence Halbach will make her future home with them.”

The Halbach house is a two-story, red brick and stucco structure, with a low-pitched, hipped roof above overhanging eaves. A single-story porch with massive brick pillar supports leads to the front entry doors. At the far side of the large entry hall, the central brick hearth forms the heart of the house. This hall is flanked on the left by a dining room, with a pass-through door to the butler’s pantry and kitchen to the rear. To the right of the central hall is the living or sitting room, and then the former dining porch, converted into a living room in 1914. In the front sitting room, a built-in bench was originally flanked by two glass-front bookcases and stained glass windows. However, when the current owners purchased the house, over 40 years ago, the bookcases were gone, and the small side windows had been covered over completely.

Some years later, a neighbor offered to return the original bookcases, bought at sale, to the house, and they are once again in their original position. In addition, the flanking stained glass windows have recently been re-exposed on the interior, and trimmed with woodwork to match that in the rest of the house. An additional decorative motif, a chevron design of varying size was utilized by Wood throughout the house in features such as the wood trim and door frames, the central hearth, and the stair railing.



210 South 18th Street  
Victorian Gothic Revival Style • 1883  
Johanna (Rice) Wallace House • Architect: Unknown

Mrs. Joanna Wallace was born in Quincy, the daughter of Quincy pioneers Joel and Eliza Rice, on September 17, 1829. The Rice family had relocated from Kentucky in 1836, and in subsequent years Joel Rice built an extensive pork-packing business in Quincy based in a stone-walled packing house he had constructed on Commercial Alley. Born in the Rice family home at 18th and Maine, Joanna apparently left Quincy when she married in the 1850s, but little is known of her married life. At some point, Mrs. Wallace returned to Quincy alone, and had her own home built at 210 South 18th, in which she lived until 1892, when she left it to live with her sister, Mrs. Eleana Walker of 206 S. 18th. This house, which no longer exists, may have been the “double residence” which local papers reported was being built for Mrs. Wallace in 1886 at 18th and Jersey, based on plans drawn for her by Quincy architect Harvey Chatten.

The simple cottage style house at 210 S. 18th, exhibits a number of finishing treatments on the exterior, including simple drop siding on the first floor, wood shingles on the second floor, and board and batten siding on the rear addition. Former owners in the 1980s worked to restore the exterior of the house with a wraparound front entry porch, and a muted historic paint scheme of gray/green exterior walls, with cream trim, and dark red roof shingles. The eaves of the house, painted in the accent color, are decorated with quatre-foil cutouts. On the northeast corner of the house, a small second story porch features an asymmetric keyhole opening on the east and a round opening on the north.

Opening off the north half of the entry porch, the impressive foyer is paneled in butternut with a bead board paneled ceiling. This foyer also contains an elaborate wood mantled fireplace, with an exposed brick chimney featuring a unique stained glass and jeweled window inserted into the chimney between divided flues. A complimentary transom graces the front window of the entry. Off the foyer is an east facing front parlor decorated with reed molding and a large three window bay. Adjoining the parlor, and entered through pocket doors from the foyer, is a dining room with square south facing bay window and paneling similar to that of the entry foyer. The kitchen to the rear of the house has been gradually modernized by former and current residents, while retaining some original woodwork and an exterior side door, and the period feel of the house.