

(Report given by Janet Conover, 9/20/93, to Quincy City Council, in support of 319 Spruce, one of 6 Landmark Applications being considered that evening by the Council for designation).

"Because this is one of the properties that has been questioned, I asked Tom Newman, Chief Geologist, J.M. Huber Corporation, to look at the house, particularly the stone, and report back to me. He called me at 5:30 this evening and this is his report.

"The house is a wonderful example of earlier mining activities in Adams County and the work of local craftsmen. It would be too expensive and labor intensive to build a stone house of this sort today.

Adams County has a unique history of mining starting in the 1800's. There are several state and Federal publications that discuss the Dimension Stone of Quincy and Adams County to the extent that the stone is so unique that it has its own name: "Quincy Bed" or "Quincy Stone". This is the type of stone that was used exclusively to build the house at 319 Spruce.

There was a quarry east of the old Gardner Denver factory, now filled in, where the Quincy Dimension Stone was quarried. Orders were received there from Chicago, New York, and many other cities for this special stone. The stone is Mississippian-age limestone that contains a certain roughness and it is that roughness that gives it the wonderful appearance that made it in such demand throughout the country.

Today, if you wanted to build a stone house or a fireplace or a patio, for example, you could not acquire Quincy Stone, or any hand-cut stone in Quincy or Adams County because there are no longer the master stone cutters available to do this. You would have to go to a quarry in Carthage, MO, or to the quarries south of Indianapolis where a few of the master stonecutters are still at work; however, they are all in their 60's now. This is truly a lost art.

Most of the old stonecutters in Adams County were German.

The house at 319 Spruce is unique in that the rock in the lower half of the house is straight dimension hand-cut blocks; the rock in the upper part of the house is free-style blocks that are much more difficult to cut. These free-style blocks could only be cut by the Master Craftsmen or the Master Cutters. There is evidence of great craftsmanship in the stone; e.g., hand drilled holes in the rock. The stone cutter would hand-drill the rock to break the stone out of the ground. The Master Cutter developed the skill to be able to walk around the quarry, select an area of stone, hit the stone with his hammer, and by the sound made, tell if the stone was solid. Then he would hand drill the stone out of the rock, or ground, and cut it in a freestyle manner to make the stone and house aesthetically pleasing.

'Today, the only way to obtain stone of this type is from a house or building, with a stone foundation, that is being demolished.'"

Mr. Newman concluded by saying, "This house is irreplaceable."

[It is also worth noting that this same type of stone is found in the very high foundation wall of the Dorkenwald House at 1224 Park Place.]

8/16/69

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

FOR Rob at 740-3260

DATE Markert TIME A.M. P.M.

M. Great Central Lumber

OF at St. Louis.

PHONE ask for Charlie

☐ FAX AREA CODE NUMBER EXTENSION

☐ MOBILE AREA CODE NUMBER TIME TO CALL

TELEPHONED		PLEASE CALL	
CAME TO SEE YOU		WILL CALL AGAIN	
WANTS TO SEE YOU		RUSH	
RETURNED YOUR CALL		SPECIAL ATTENTION	

MESSAGE said he's got

good service.

from Charlie

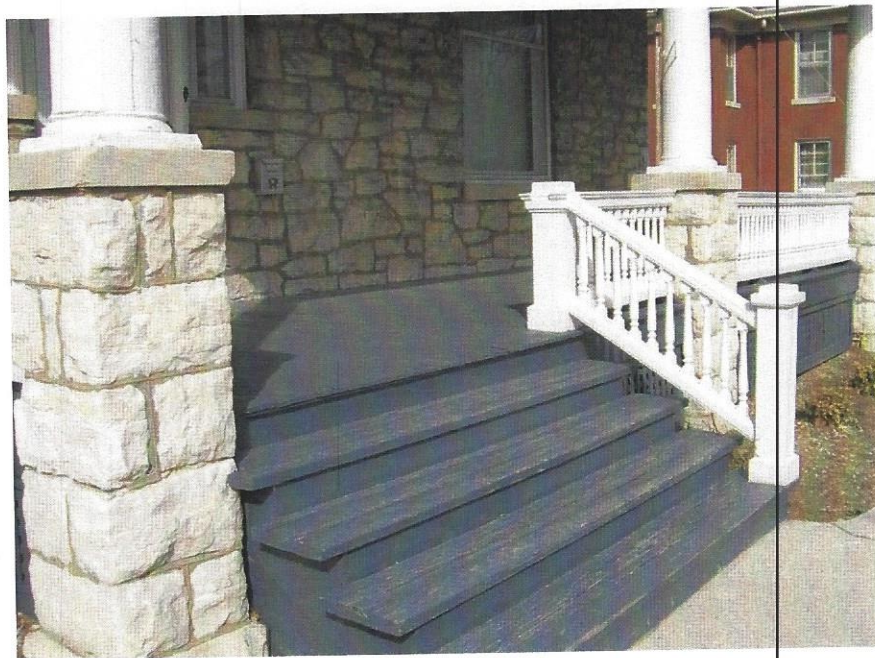
SIGNED



FORM 3002P
MADE IN U.S.A.



319 Spruce St. 3-12-08



Please expedite -
Contractor wants to do this
in a week. Thank you.
I just ~~sent~~ out yesterday.



QUINCY PRESERVATION COMMISSION
706 MAINE STREET, 3RD FLOOR, CITY HALL ANNEX
QUINCY, ILLINOIS 62301
217-228-4515

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION

Please read Section 29.1011 of the Quincy Municipal Code, "Protection Provided
Landmarks and Historic Districts"

Date of Application 3/9/08

Name and Street Address of Property R.M. WALTER & LILLIAN HEIDERICH House,
319 SPRUCE, QUINCY, IL 62301

Applicant's Name, Address, and Phone PAMELA MARKERT, 319 SPRUCE,
QUINCY, IL 62301

Property Owner's Name, Address, and Phone if different from above _____

Describe the alteration(s) and/or construction being requested. Please explain each alteration separately,
showing what you wish to accomplish. Use additional sheets if necessary.

FRONT PORCH DECKING + FRONT STEPS DECKING NEEDS TO BE
REPLACED. IT IS CURRENTLY TONGUE & GROOVE FIR. I WANT
TO REPLACE THE DECKING ONLY WITH COMPOSITE WOOD BECAUSE IT
WOULDN'T ROT LIKE THE FIR. I AM LEAVING THE RAILINGS, BALUSTRADE, PILARS +
EVERYTHING ELSE EXCEPT THE TOP DECKING AS IT IS NOW.

Describe why you want to make these changes. Use additional sheets if necessary.

I WANT THE DECKING TO BE COMPOSITE WOOD BECAUSE IT WOULDN'T
ROT LIKE THE FIR. ALSO IT WILL BE VIRTUALLY MAINTENANCE FREE.

CURRENTLY, THE FIR BOARDS ARE ROTTED AND A MESS.
As appropriate, please attach the following in support of your application:

- Photos showing existing conditions
- For new additions only: elevations, drawn to scale and dimensioned
- For alterations to the site only: a site plan drawn to scale, including landscaping, parking, utilities, and other elements

Name, Address, and Phone of Architect, Contractor or Builder:

CHARLES HARRISON II, 1307 N 3RD ST, QUINCY, IL 62301
217-740-3260

Please note that the Quincy Preservation Commission may request additional information with respect to
more complex projects.

Information regarding this application is available from the Secretary, Chairman, or any member of the
Quincy Preservation Commission. In an emergency with due cause, the applicant can request a speedy
decision (see Section 29.1011(1)(k) of the City Code).

Decision of the Quincy Preservation Commission:

Date _____