

**APPLICATION FOR LANDMARK OR HISTORIC DISTRICT
QUINCY PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**706 Maine Street, City Hall Annex, Third Floor
Quincy, Illinois 62301 Telephone (217) 228-4514**

Applicant's Name: Douglas Kaarre
Preservation Intern, City of Quincy
Mailing Address: Quincy Preservation Commission
706 Maine Street
City Hall Annex, 3rd Floor
Telephone Number: (217) 221-3663

Original name (if known) and address of proposed Landmark or boundaries of proposed Historic District:
Otho C. Poling House
2150 Maine Street

Name, Address, and Telephone Number of Property Owner(s):
John and Josephine Fick
2150 Maine Street
Quincy, Illinois 62301
(217) 222-1236

Style: Queen Anne/Shingle with Gothic Revival detailing
Date of Construction: 1897
Architect or Builder: Ernest M. Wood

List the significant exterior architectural features of the building(s). Include photographs of building facade for proposed Landmark or photographs of groups of structures for proposed Historic District (include map of Historic District):

This two-1/2 story Queen Anne structure contains brick on the first floor and wood shingles on the upper floors. The roof is gabled with an open gable with recessed arch at the east end and a curved roof at the west end. A brick chimney rises from the upper east side of the roof. The east elevation of the second floor is a large shingled dormer which is blind arched with double brackets above a double window. Also on the east elevation is a second floor circular trefoil window. Above the enclosed front porch, which is rounded on the west end, is an octagonal dormer with a pitched roof and trefoil windows. The west elevation includes a second floor shingled, recessed arch above a group of four windows - one lancet window with pointed arched header and a decorative balconet underneath, one circular trefoil window, one rectangular window with four lites, and a set of three short, narrow vertical panes with a single wood sill, with a small square pane above each window. The south elevation includes two partial gables on

the roofline, one with a brick chimney through it, a one-story covered porch with hipped roof, and a second story bay with three windows. Caps, quoins and the watertable are limestone.

Provide a statement of the historical and architectural significance of the proposed Landmark or proposed District. Note classification of building(s) included in any historic district or survey, or listed on the National Register of Historic Places:

The Otho C. Poling House, which is listed as a contributing structure in the East End National Register Historic District, was constructed in 1897 for the Polings. Otho Poling was born June 20, 1871 into a prominent Quincy family. His father, Theodore Poling, was a prominent businessman in Quincy, partnering a law firm until 1885, when he founded T. C. Poling Company, a mortgage banking and investment firm. Otho began working as a clerk at T. C. Poling Company in 1891, where he stayed until about 1899. In 1900 he began as a cashier at the Quincy Savings & Loan office, where he stayed through 1906.¹ He married Mary and is the father of two children, Frances E. and Howard O. Poling. Poling lived at 2150 Maine Street until 1910, and he left Quincy after 1917.²

The house was designed by the prominent local architect Ernest M. Wood. Wood was born and raised in Quincy and at the age of 23 became interested in architectural drafting. As was customary at the time, he trained under a prominent local architect, Harvey Chatten, who provided Wood's only apparent education in architecture.³ By 1891 Wood had left Chatten's firm and begun working for himself. Wood designed many prominent buildings in Quincy, including the Newcomb House at 16th and Maine, Washington School, the Stone Arch Bridge, and several Prairie Style buildings. He was the prominent local architect in the Prairie Style and is widely attributed to spreading the influence of Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie Style throughout western Illinois.⁴

¹ Quincy City Directories, 1891/1892 through 1914. Historical Society of Quincy and Adams County.

² Ibid.

³ "Ernest M. Wood: A Provincial Testament," *The Prairie School Review*, Second Quarter, 1974, p. 6.

⁴ "Famous Quincyans in the Arts," Quincy Society of Fine Arts, p. 2.

The Otho C. Poling House is an architecturally significant building in Quincy due to its combination of architectural styles. The house is a mixture of Queen Anne and Shingle styles, with detailing influenced by the Gothic Revival style. Some examples of the Queen Anne elements of the house include the asymmetrical plan and massing, the use of bays, overhangs, the octagonal dormer, recessed arches under gables, and the covered front porch with turret at the west end.⁵ Elements of the Shingle Style, which incorporates wood shingle siding on the upper floors, are more restrained. Wood experimented in the Shingle Style in the late 1890's and his interest seems to derive from the William Bull House at 222 South 16th Street, designed by Chicago architect Joseph L. Silsbee in 1887, who was also a mentor of Frank Lloyd Wright.⁶ Wood utilized the movements of the roof outward to include the wide verandahs as a means to providing for a sense of inter-relation between interior and exterior.⁷ This single expanse of roof to incorporate the porch provides a continuous eave line across the front facade. The front porch, originally open, has since been enclosed. The house also have several details which were influenced by the Gothic Revival style. These include trefoil arched windows and lancet windows.

Why do you think this property merits designation? Check appropriate item(s):

☒ Architecture ☐ Persons ☐ Event(s) ☐ Prominent Landmark

☐ Historical ☐ Unusual Use ☐ Other _____

Is owner aware of this application? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Does owner consent to this designation? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

Signature of Applicant

Date

OFFICE USE ONLY:

⁵ Gardner Museum House Tour brochure.

⁶ "Ernest M. Wood: A Provincial Testament," The Prairie School Review, Second Quarter, 1974, p. 8.

⁷ Ibid., p. 8.

Filed at Quincy Preservation Commission Office

Date _____

Preservation Commission Preliminary Review

Approved X Disapproved _____ Date 8/5/97

Meeting with Property Owner

Date _____

Public Hearing

Date _____

Preservation Commission Decision
on Recommendation to Designate
City Council Decision
on Designation by Ordinance

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Date _____

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Date _____

Legal Description:

Lawndale E 20ft of N 100ft of Lot 2 and Beg. NW corner of Lot 3, E 80ft of S 195ft, W 26.67ft of N 14.1ft, W 53.33ft N to Beginning Point of Lot 3.

Ownership:
(incomplete)

1897	Otho C. Poling
c. 1914	Rudolph & Anna Tenk
3/81	Josephine Fick
2/18/92	John R. & Josephine Fick

Bibliography:

"Ernest M. Wood: A Provincial Testament," The Prairie School Review, Second Quarter, 1974, p. 6.

"Ernest M. Wood, Retired Architect Dies at the Age of 92." The Quincy Herald-Whig. 11 March 1956.

Gardner Museum House Tour Brochure.

Quincy City Directories, 1887/1888 through 1914. Historical Society of Quincy and Adams County.

Quincy Society of Fine Arts. Famous Quincyans in the Arts, April 1977, p. 2.

Wilcox, David. Quincy and Adams County, 1919, p. 743-745.

**2150 Maine Street
The Otho C. Poling House**



north elevation

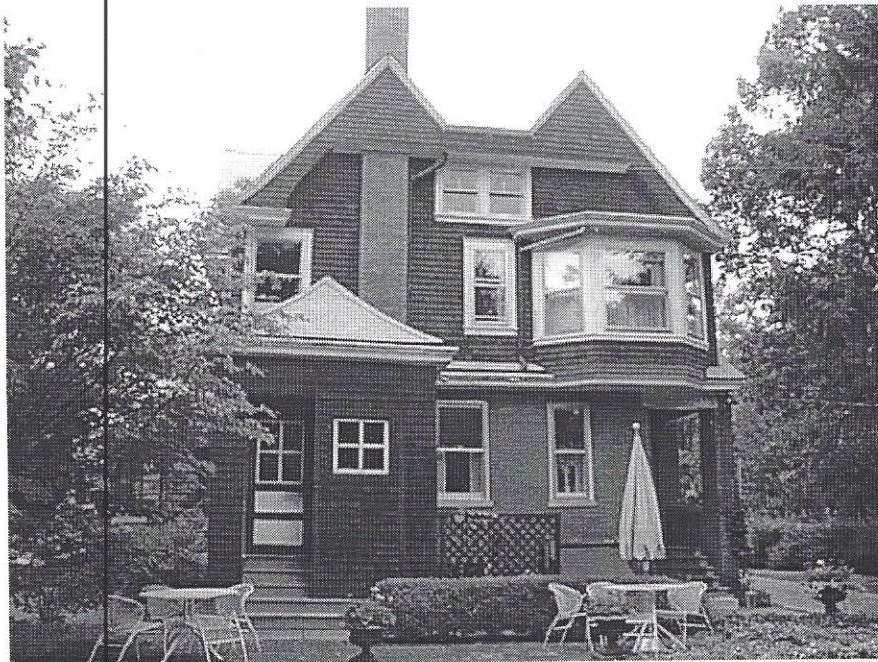


northwest view

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northeast view



south elevation

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west elevation (upper)



east view