

2160 Maine Street (c1913)



2160 Maine Street
American Foursquare Style
c.1913

- The Thomas and Anna Johnson House was built circa 1913 in the American Foursquare Style, [popular from the mid-1890s to the late 1930s. This style incorporates elements of the Prairie Style.
- The style is usually marked by horizontal lines, flat or hipped roofs with broad overhanging eaves, windows grouped in horizontal bands, integration with the landscape, solid construction, craftsmanship, and discipline in the use of ornament.
- The hallmarks of the American Foursquare Style are the square design, two and one-half stories high, a large front porch with wide stairs and a hipped roof. The interior generally has four large rooms per floor, arched entries between common rooms, built-in cabinets and Craftsman-style woodwork.
- Foursquare houses may be built from a variety of materials, including the brick and frame combination of this house.
- Thomas C. Johnson was a manufacturer who traveled throughout the United States and Canada for his business. His son Merle aspired to be in the motion picture business and went to Hollywood after serving in the Tank Corps in 1918. There he became the youngest movie producer in 1920 at the age of 21. Merle returned to Quincy with his actress wife, and later purportedly became the manager of the motion picture department of General Motors.
- In 1936 the Johnsons became the parents of Merle Johnson, Jr., who became Troy Donahue, American film and television actor and singer.
- In 1974, Francis Ford Coppola, with whom Donahue had attended military school, cast him in a small part in "The Godfather, Part II" as the fiancé of Connie Corleone, for which he was paid \$10,000.