

SPRING ~~FALL~~ 2014



1668 Maine

Greek Revival – antebellum • Architect: Unknown
The Wesley D. and Susan McCann House

This Greek Revival house sits on part of what was a 160 acre parcel of land originally patented by James Charleston as bounty land for the War of 1812. The same year, Charleston sold the parcel to John Boyle for a consideration of \$100. In 1829 Robert Tillson and Charles R. Holmes Jr. bought the property for \$300, and in 1836 Tillson, now sole owner, sold 120 of the acres to Walter Mead and David H. Nevins, for a consideration of \$30,000 dollars. In 1859, Wesley McCann purchased the lot on which the house at 1668 Maine now sits.

Wesley McCann was an early dealer in Quincy properties and real estate. His home, at 1668 Maine, is one of the oldest remaining domestic structures in the East End Historic District. In addition to his interest in property dealings, McCann was also a superintendent on the Hannibal and St. Joe Railroad. Susan Faaet McCann was born in New York City in 1822, the daughter of a sea captain, and came to Adams County as an orphan in 1832, where she lived with her sister until her marriage to Wesley D. McCann, who was then a citizen of Columbus, in 1844. They were the parents of five children, four sons and one daughter. Two of their sons, Franklin M. and Wallace became practicing attorneys in Quincy in the 1880s.

The residence is a simple rectangular structure, with rearward projections. It has a clapboard exterior, pedimented front gable and window hoods and a heavy cornice line, all typical Greek revival features. The front porch or portico, which stretches the length of the front façade, features octagonal support columns leading to an off center entry with narrow, multipaned side lights and a sunburst pattern panlight above the transom.

The sunburst pattern above the front entry is repeated in the carved wood trim above the interior doors of the home. The dining room, to the west, has a fireplace with glazed red tiles, a curved east wall and patterned wood floor. A simple walnut handrail on the main staircase leads to upstairs bedrooms and storage spaces, and many of the first and second story windows retain their original wavy and uneven poured glass panes. The family room at the southwest corner of the house was originally a summer kitchen which was later enclosed.