


HISTORIC HOME PROGRAM APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Applicant(s): Omar Odland & Jennifer Mackenzie

Phone Number: 630-917-2133 Email: JMNICEBIKE@GMAIL

Signature of Applicant 1:  Date: 1.4.25

Signature of Applicant 1: Jennifer Mackenzie Date: 12/26/24

Name(s) of Research Assistant(s): _____

Note: By signing this application, you acknowledge that your application and supporting materials may be used in future promotions and educational materials.

HOUSE INFORMATION

Address: 4703 SARATOGA AVE 60515
Street Zip Code

PIN: 09-08-100-001

Property Description:

Lot 24 in Block 14 in E.H. Prince and Co's
Addition to Downers Grove in Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8,
Township 38 North, Range 11 East of the
Third Principal Meridian, according to the
Plat thereof recorded September 30, 1890
as Document 43600, in DuPage County,
Illinois.

HOUSE HISTORY

(Use "Property Deed Research," "Property Tax Assessments Research," and "Mortgage Transaction Research" starting on page 12 to complete the rest of the application)

Year Built: 1927

Original Owner(s): John P. Murphy

Preferred Name for House*: F.M. Wilson Family House

*Usually the name of the first, or most important, owner(s). Example: "The Charles Blodgett House"

PHOTOGRAPH

Please attach a non-returnable current photograph of your home and if you have any old photographs, please attach a copy of those as well.

DESCRIPTION OF HOME

Foundation:

☐ Limestone ☐ Field Stone ☐ Brick ☐ Concrete ☒ Concrete Block

___ Other: _____

Exterior Walls:

☐ Wood siding ☒ Vinyl Siding ☐ Stucco ☐ Stone ☐ Brick

☐ Other: _____

Roof:

☒ Asphalt ☐ Wood ☐ Metal ☐ Other: _____

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION

Architectural Style(s):

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greek Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Gothic Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Italianate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queen Anne | <input type="checkbox"/> Colonial Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Neoclassical Revival |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tudor Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Dutch Colonial | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Craftsman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prairie | <input type="checkbox"/> French Eclectic | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish Revival |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Style | <input type="checkbox"/> Minimal Traditional | <input type="checkbox"/> Neo Revival |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mid-century Modern | <input type="checkbox"/> Late Modern Eclectic | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Vernacular Building Form/Type(s):

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gable-Front and Gabled Ell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foursquare | <input type="checkbox"/> Ranch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Split Level | <input type="checkbox"/> Bungalow | |

Explain (if necessary):

ALTERATIONS:

Has your house been significantly altered beyond its original character?

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
|------------------------------|--|

Please list any known alterations to the exterior of your house:

Enclosed rear porch.

CRITERIA

A home must be at least fifty years old to apply for recognition. Additionally, the following criteria will be used to determine if a home qualifies. Your home only needs to meet one of the criteria, but please check all that apply.

- ☒ Architectural Significance
- ☐ Historic Significance
- ☒ Significant Person
- ☐ Significant Architect or Builder

See details about each category on the following pages. Attach additional pages if the space provided is too small.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

If you believe your home possesses typical characteristics of an architectural style or vernacular form, please explain below.

Architectural Classification:

Craftsman Foursquare

Typical features: Simple square, pyramidal hipped roof, center dormer.

Features your home possesses:

Large interior rooms, wide simple wood trim, wooden handrail with simple elegant newel post on staircase. Roughly 4 equal rooms on each floor. Two evenly placed windows at front of second floor.

Home is listed on Downers Grove architectural survey as potentially contributing.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

If you believe your home has significant historical or cultural value, please explain in the space below. Please attach research sources as well.

SIGNIFICANT PERSON

If you believe your home was owned or occupied by a person (or people) of historic significance, use the table below to explain. Please attach research sources as well.

Person's (s') Name(s): _____

Years the person(s) resided in the home:

Person's(s') Significance:

see attachment

SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECT

If you believe your home was designed or constructed by a notable architect, please explain below. Please attach research sources as well.

Architect's Name: _____

Architect's Significance:

SIGNIFICANT BUILDER

If you believe your home was designed or constructed by a notable builder, please explain below. Please attach research sources as well.

Builder's Name: _____

Builder's Significance:

PIN 09-08-100-001
Address 4703 Saratoga Ave 60515
PLAT 1890 AD

DOC # Grantee **Buyer**
105026 Charles J. Randall
119644 Adelia C. Lorscheider
126917 Frank Stein
William Vaughan
Peter Halkier
John. P Murphy
349553 Metropolitan Life Insurance
Frederick M. Wilson
C.E. Hacklander
1943-454802 Herbert Edson
George Ward
545588 James and Ethel Parker
John and Arlene Kellogg
Joseph and Elaine O'Shaughnessy
Brendan and Sarah Scholz
R2018-00349 Omar Odland

House Built
Grantor **Seller**
Earl and Minnie Prince
Charles J. Randall
Adelia C. Lorscheider
Frank Stein
William Vaughan
Peter Halkier
John. P Murphy
Metropolitan Life Insurance
Frederick M. Wilson
C.E. Hacklander
Herbert Edson
George Ward
James and Ethel Parker
John and Arlene Kellogg
Joseph and Elaine O'Shaughnessy

Year	Inst.	Inst File Date	Consideration	Book/Page
1911				106/518
1915				119-398
1916	QD		\$1,000	112/340
1922				
1924				Lot 24 separated from Lot 23 at this time
1924				297-169 House is built 1927
1934				
1937				Staff at DuPage say this was a foreclosure
1941				
1943				
1945				
1947				
1977				
1983				
2013				
2017			\$424,100	

Significant Person

We believe 4703 Saratoga should be recognized in the significant person category.

In 2021, we discovered about 600 cancelled checks hidden in the basement dated from 1936-1939 drawn on the account of FM and Lillian Wilson.

The checks are in good physical condition, so we created a spreadsheet of them showing the dates, payee, amounts and various notes.

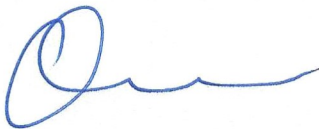
FM (Frederic Malcom) was a railway executive, He frequently shopped at Marshall Fields, Carson Pirie Scott & Co., Maurice L Rothschild Inc. and The Fair, along with other downtown shops. He purchased cigars in Florida and he occasionally travelled to places as far as San Francisco. Lillian shopped at JLLehman and paid the Downers Grove Cloverleaf Dairy. They made automobile payments, had insurance and used the Triangle Service Station and Dicke Motor Sales.

We learned that FM and Lillian had 3 children, daughters Helen Kathleen (Kay) and Mary Francis along with son George. The girls graduated from Downers North High School. We have not verified that George graduated. He was enlisted in Army Company E , 335th Infantry. George's 1946 draft card reveals that he was missing 2 limbs at the time.

The family moved from Brookfield, Illinois to Downers Grove where they rented on Forest Avenue until purchasing 4703 Saratoga in 1934. They purchased the home from Metropolitan Life Insurance, likely the previous owner John P. Murphy had been foreclosed on that year. They moved to 1120 Prairie in 1941. Sometime after,

Lillian and the daughters appear in Prescott, Arizona where the girls attended university, met their husbands and settled in Iowa and Arizona. George died at the young age of 43 in Florida.

Although the Wilsons only lived in the house for a few years the checks have allowed us to have a glimpse into 1930's life. We would think it would be fitting to acknowledge that the house be known as the F.M. Wilson Family Home.



Omar Odland



Jennifer MacKenzie