

20TH STREET

PARKER

CITY OF
ROCK ISLAND

BILLARREAL

HOUSE

COOK

NORTON

LARSON

DILLEY

LEGEND

— SUBJECT PROPERTY

**LANDMARK
NOMINATION**



CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
PLANNING AND REDEVELOPMENT DIVISION

SCALE: 0 25 50 100 FEET

 **NORTH**

DRAWN BY: L.R.O.
APPROV. BY: JD/AMC

92-9

ROCK ISLAND PRESERVATION COMMISSION
NOMINATION FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION

Common Street Address of Property:

715 20th Street

Name and Address of Property Owner(s):

Rock Island Economic Growth Corp. 1819 Third Avenue, Rock Island

Is Owner Aware of Proposed Designation: Yes No

Please attach a short report setting forth the reasons for requesting designation. Please refer to the criteria listed on the reverse side. (These are excerpted from the Rock Island Preservation Ordinance.) A list of other details you should attempt to provide in the nomination report is attached.

Please also attach the following:

1. Legal description of property (available from abstract or County Recorder of Deeds office).
2. One photograph of each elevation (side) of the property being nominated. Copies of old photographs or drawings may also be included.
3. Sources used to write the report.

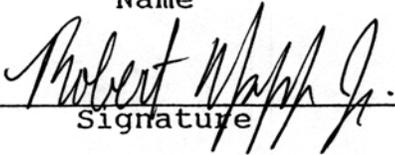
Name(s) and Address(es) of Applicant(s):

Robert Yapp, Jr.

Name

1819 Third Avenue, Rock Island

Address


Signature

788-6311

Phone Number

Return Nomination Form To:

City of Rock Island
Planning and Redevelopment Division
1528 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

OFFICE Case # 92-9 Date 6/1/92 Time 4:20 P.M.
USE
ONLY

715 20th Street

John W. Spencer's 3rd Addition to the city of Rock Island

Lot 2, Block 2

except 55 feet

The Dr. William T. Magill house is located at 715 20th Street. The Italianate structure is believed to have been built in 1867. This house belongs to the Simple Hipped Roof subtype because of its square or box-shape, uninterrupted hipped roof, and the three-ranked facade opening. This house is a classic example of this subtype which makes up about one-third of all Italianate houses.¹

This house is composed of many unique architectural features with many of the original building elements still intact. A highly ornamented wooden lattice front porch seen today is also present in early photographs. Brick window lintels with decorative limestone keystones cap the front and side windows. The roof profile extends out into an extra wide fascia molding. Two original shutters remain on the second-story center window. The original double-doors remain on the front of the house and an original bay window and one added bay window flank the sides of the structure. The roof turban is another early feature still intact.

The property was originally purchased by Dr. William T. Magill on November 26, 1866, as a part of John W. Spencer's Third Addition to the city.² The Address, (originally Madison Street) first appears under Dr. Magill's name in the 1868 city directory.³ Therefore, we have determined the date of construction to have been during the year of 1867.

The two-story brick structure has a two-brick thick construction. The roof line is hipped and was constructed early enough in the Italianate Period to be absent of brackets. The windows are rectangular and one-over-one except for the added, South bay window sash which are four-over-four. The full width, front porch is most likely original or a very early change.

Several alterations and additions took place since the house was built in the 1860's. One of the two bay windows was added after the original construction. The rear, one and one-half story gabled addition became a two story mansard after 1898.⁴

The second floor ^{oriel} ~~Oriole~~ bay window on the North was added well after the turn of the century.

Few of the original features have been removed from this structure despite the fact that it was built 125 years ago. However, a north side, open porch and a rear open porch are no longer present on the house.

Dr. William T. Magill was the original owner of the house and lived there for forty-two years. Magill was a local dentist with a practice in downtown Rock Island at 204 Eighteenth Street established in 1857.⁵ He was a well-known early physician in the community and his name and picture appeared often in books and albums of Rock Island County and in local newspapers. The Rock Island County Historical Society has organized a file on Dr. Magill in the Pioneers and Early Settlers section of their library. One local news item on Dr. Magill read:

"Dr. Magill's office was burglarized Saturday evening.

Gold plate and some morphine were stolen."⁶

The area in which the house is situated was one of the first developed residential areas off of downtown. The block of homes contains many of Rock Island's early prominent businessmen including the well-known banker, Philip Mitchell. This development was spawned in part by the end of the Civil War and the return of professionals and merchants to the area who had been soldiers fighting in the war.

The house lies just off of Seventh Avenue on 20th Street in what has been established as the Broadway Historic Area. It holds a prominent neighborhood location and is clearly visible from the well-traveled Seventh Avenue. The house also lies in close proximity to other Italianate structures on 20th Street such as the Mitchell house located across the street.

We believe the Magill house is a significant home in the Broadway area because of Dr. William T. Magill's prominence in the community as an early pioneer of

dentistry, the structures well-preserved architectural style, prominent neighborhood location, and its age. We are therefore applying for landmark status under criteria 2, 3, and 5.

Footnotes

1. McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. p. 211.
2. Rock Island County Recorder. Deed Record: Book 39, Page 450.
3. Stone's Rock Island City Directory. 1868.
4. Sanborn–Ferris Map Co. Insurance Maps for Rock Island, Ill.
5. The Daily Dispatch. 1885.
6. The Rock Island Argus. May 31, 1878.

Bibliography

The Daily Dispatch. Moline, IL: 1885.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1984.

Portrait and Biographical Album of Rock Island County Illinois. Chicago, IL: 1885.

Quayle, W. P. Illustrated Souvenir of Rock Island County. Rock Island, IL: 1895.

The Rock Island Argus. Rock Island, IL: May 31, 1878.

Rock Island County Recorder. Deed Record: Book 39, Page 450. Rock Island, IL: 1866.

Sanborn–Ferris Map Co. Insurance Maps for Rock Island, Ill. New York: 1892, 1898, 1906.

Stone's Rock Island City Directory. 1868 through 1921.

William T. Magill

from The Rock Island Argus

May 31, 1878

Dr. Magill's office was burglarized Saturday evening. Gold plate and some morphine were stolen.

May 23, 1892

Dr. W. T. Magill and A. H. McCandless returned from Springfield where they attended a state dental society convention.

July 30, 1895

Mrs. W. T. Magill returned home this morning from Watsonville, Colo., where she was visiting a sister, Mrs. George Pardee, for the past four months.

Dr. William T. Magill

taken from Illustrated Souvenir of Rock Island County, 1895

W. T. Magill

The pioneer dentist, has rooms in the Masonic Temple. He is up to date in his profession and has worked up a large practice by his skill and workmanship.



DR. W. T. MAGILL

DR. W. T. MAGILL
Will continue the practice of
DENTISTRY
At the old rooms formerly occupied by Dr. A. J.
Harris.
Illinois Street - Webber's Block,
Where he will be happy to wait on the old pa-
trons and as many new ones as may need (Good
Dental services. [132816m] W. T. MAGILL.

ESTABLISHED 1857.
W. T. MAGILL,
DENTIST.
Office, Cor. Second Ave. and Eighteenth St., En-
trance 204 Eighteenth St., over R. I. National
Bank. Residence 715 Twentieth St.
Office Hours - 8:30 to 12 a. m.; 1:30 to 5 p. m.
ROCK ISLAND, ILL. 29-17

J. W. STARK,
DENTIST,
1724 Second Avenue. Three doors west of Rock
Island National Bank.
ROCK ISLAND, - ILLINOIS.
11-6m

HARKLIER,
LEADING PHOTOGRAPHER
VIENNA
STUDIO
SUPERIOR FINISH
NOOK ISLAND
I.T.B.

