

## MEMORANDUM

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### COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**SUBJECT:** Appeal of the Historic Preservation Commission's Landmark Designation of the former Audubon School, located at 2617 – 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**DATE:** May 8, 2013

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On November 13, 2012, the Rock Island School Board approved a purchase agreement with Fareway, Inc. for the former Audubon School property, entering into a due diligence period, which will expire on August 1, 2013. Fareway is proposing to demolish the structure and build a grocery store at the site, but has not yet submitted an application to rezone the property. On February 15, 2013, the Planning & Redevelopment Division received a landmark designation application package from Alexandra Elias, a former resident of Rock Island now living in San Diego, for the former Audubon School site. The application package was placed on the March 27, 2013 agenda of the City's Preservation Commission for what is called a "preliminary determination of significance for landmark designation" by the Preservation Ordinance. The Commission found the application to be complete and eligible for a public hearing.

The public hearing was held on April 24, 2013. Per Ordinance requirements, an "owner consent form" was sent to the School Board. The School Board unanimously voted to disapprove of the proposed designation and this form was included in the meeting packet, which is attached to this report. There were many residents in attendance from the neighborhood surrounding the Audubon School and several spoke in favor of the landmark designation. School Board Superintendent Mike Oberhaus was also in attendance and spoke in opposition to the landmark designation. After a lengthy public hearing, the Preservation Commission voted unanimously (8—0) to designate the former Audubon School site as a historic landmark.

The Preservation Ordinance allows an appeal of the designation by the property owner to the City Council within 30 days of the decision. The written appeal must be submitted to the City Clerk and scheduled at the earliest possible meeting of the City Council. Dr. Oberhaus has submitted an appeal letter dated May 7, 2013, which is also attached to this report. The ordinance also states that City Council may consider other relevant factors, including economic considerations, not considered by the Preservation Commission. Dr. Oberhaus' letter cites "continuing maintenance of the property is an ongoing expense that could be better used for our core mission – Educating Children." Rejection of Commission's decision requires a 2/3 vote of the entire City Council.

**Recommendation:** Planning Staff suggests that the City Council reject and overturn the historic landmark designation for the former Audubon School property.

**Submitted by:** Ben Griffith, AICP, Planning & Redevelopment Administrator  
Jeffery Eder, Community & Economic Development Director

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**Approved:** Thomas Thomas, City Manager



# Rock Island-Milan School District #41

Superintendent Michael J. Oberhaus, Ed. D.

Excellence Every Day

**Administration Center**  
2101 6th Avenue  
Rock Island, IL 61201  
309-793-5900 x 210  
309-793-5905 fax  
[www.rockislandschools.org](http://www.rockislandschools.org)

May 7, 2013

Ms. Aleisha Patchin  
City Clerk  
City of Rock Island  
1528 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

**RE: Appeal to Rock Island Preservation Commission Adoption of Landmark Designation for Audubon School Property (Case #2013-1)**

Dear Ms. Patchin,

The Rock Island-Milan School District No. 41 wishes to appeal the designation of Landmark Status at Audubon School (Case #2013-1), as approved by the Rock Island Preservation Commission at its meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Audubon School currently has a purchase agreement in place with Fareway, Inc. The agreement allows Fareway, Inc. to satisfy all of its conditions for its proposed use of the site prior to closing on the property. The Landmark Designation may place conditions on the property that would preclude Fareway, Inc. from choosing to complete the transaction.

Prior to the Fareway, Inc. offer, the property had been on the market for two years and had no other offers made. If Fareway, Inc. does not complete the transaction, the School will again be placed on the market for sale. The additional requirements of the Landmark Designation will diminish the types of purchasers reducing the opportunity for a sale. Having a vacant school on a high traffic street will not be in anyone's best interest. Also, the District's continuing maintenance of the property is an ongoing expense that could be better used for our core mission – Educating Children.

The District requests the City Council to not approve the Landmark Designation for Audubon School. Thank you in advance for the consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Oberhaus".

Michael Oberhaus  
Superintendent

# Rock Island Preservation Commission

**April 24, 2013**

5:15 p.m.  
Council Chambers  
Third Floor, Rock Island City Hall  
1528 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Rock Island

## **MEETING AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the written agenda
4. Approval of the Minutes of the March 27, 2013 Regular Meeting
5. Procedural explanation
6. Case #2013-1– Public hearing for landmark designation of 2617 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, which is known as the former Audubon School.
7. Case #2013-3 – Public hearing for landmark designation of 917 19<sup>th</sup> Street, which is known as the K.T. & Netta [Bartholomew] Anderson House.
8. Review and provide comments to the Planning Commission on a rezoning request of 520 18<sup>th</sup> Street, which is adjacent to 602 18<sup>th</sup> Street, which is known as the Kohn-Bradford House.
9. Consideration of 2012-13 Certified Local Government Annual Report
10. Selection of and Procedures for Predetermination Subcommittee
11. Other business
12. Adjournment

## REPORT

TO: Preservation Commission

FROM: Brandy Howe, Urban Planner II  
Ben Griffith, Planning & Redevelopment Administrator

CC: Alexandra Elias, Applicant  
Rock Island Milan School District #41, Property Owner

RE: Case #2013-1 – Public Hearing for Proposed Landmark Designation of 2617 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue,  
which is known as the former Audubon School

DATE: April 15, 2013

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The Preservation Commission determined at its March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting that the subject property met the ordinance criteria pertaining to landmark designation. The Commission scheduled a public hearing on April 24<sup>th</sup> to gather public input on the proposed nomination. Staff mailed notification letters of the proposed landmark designation to the property owner of the subject site and 25 notification letters to all adjacent property owners. Staff received one phone call from an adjacent property owner. A signed owner notification letter was returned to the City which indicates owner disapproval of the proposed nomination for the Audubon School.

## REPORT

TO: Rock Island Preservation Commission

FROM: Brandy Howe, Urban Planner II  
Ben Griffith, Planning & Redevelopment Administrator

CC: Alexandra Elias, Applicant  
Rock Island Milan School District #41, Property Owner

DATE: March 20, 2013

SUBJECT: Case #2013-1 – Preliminary Determination of Significance for Landmark Designation of 2617 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, which is known as the former Audubon School.

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### General Information

An application for landmark designation was submitted on Friday, February 15, 2013 for the structure located at 2617 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, which is known as the former Audubon School. The applicant is Alexandra Elias of San Diego, California. The property is owned by the Rock Island Milan School District #41. The School District is currently considering sale of the property to Fareway Stores, Inc. for a future grocery store.

The Preservation Commission has created a list of suggested details for landmark nomination reports. While it is not expected that all of the information can be located, most of the details listed below were provided in the report submitted by the applicant.

#### **Architecture**

- Architectural style
- Description of unique architectural elements
- Construction materials
- Date of construction
- Name of architect
- Name of contractor

#### **Description of building elements**

- Alterations or additions
- Missing or removed architectural features
- Important accessory structures or landscapes

#### **History**

- Important people associated with the property
- Important events associated with the property
- Property as it relates to the development of the community
- Relationship to significant period of history

#### **Context**

- Placement or location of property within Rock Island
- Relationship to other properties of similar architectural style and time in history
- If it is a unique or unusual structure for Rock Island
- Identifiable visual feature in the community

#### **Executive Summary**

- State how each criterion is met in a qualitative, but factual way. Provide justification, pulled from the nomination on significance.

### Nomination Criteria

The application is being nominated under the following criteria outlined in Section 11-111: Landmark Designations of the Preservation Ordinance.

- Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural and/or landscape type inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, craftsmanship, method of construction or use of indigenous materials and which retains a high degree of integrity.
- Identifiable as an established and familiar visual feature in the community owing to its unique location or physical characteristics.
- Its character as a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian structure, including, but not limited to farmhouses, gas stations, or other commercial structures with a high level of integrity or architectural significance.

The enclosed nomination application includes a summary report providing evidence that the structure meets these criteria.

### Nomination Procedure

Preliminary determination of significance must be made within 60 days of the filing of the nomination. Once determination has been made, a \$40.00 application fee shall be paid by the applicant. If the Commission makes a determination of significance, the Commission shall notify the property owner of that decision by certified mail within 10 days. The notice shall be accompanied by an owner consent form requesting the property owner to provide written approval or disapproval of the proposed designation.

The Commission shall schedule a public hearing within 45 days following preliminary determination. Notice of public hearing shall be sent by mail to the property owner, applicant, adjoining property owners, and advertised in the local newspaper.

### Staff Comments

Staff believes that a complete application for nomination has been submitted and that the nomination be scheduled for a public hearing as early as April 24, 2013.

# Location Map

## LOCATION MAP

2617 18th Avenue

### Legend

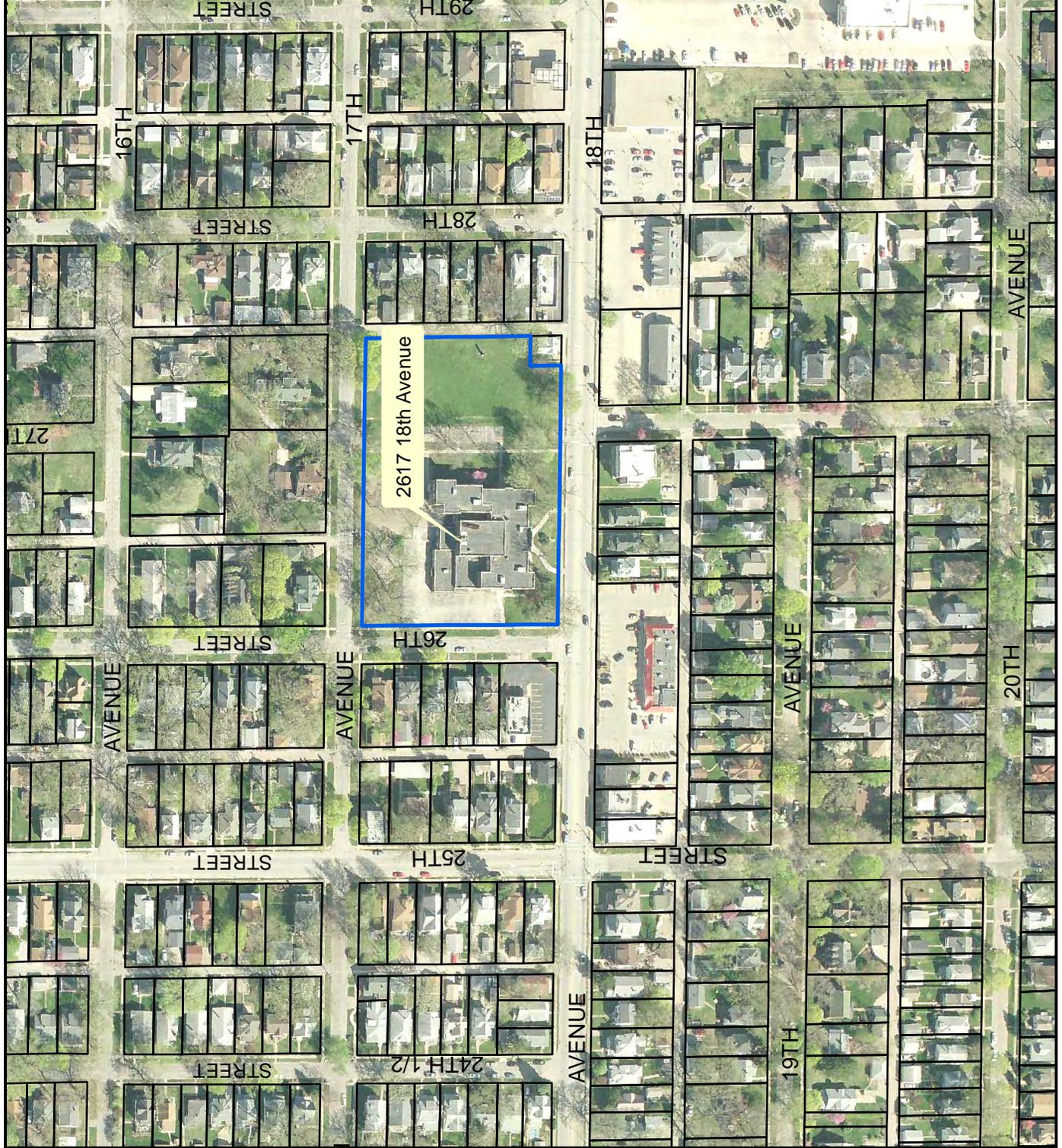
-  Subject Property
-  Rock Island Parcels



0 50 100 200 300 400 Feet

## City of Rock Island

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
Planning and Redevelopment





Case #: 2013 - 1

Date: 3/28/13

OWNER CONSENT FORM  
ROCK ISLAND PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
LANDMARK DESIGNATION

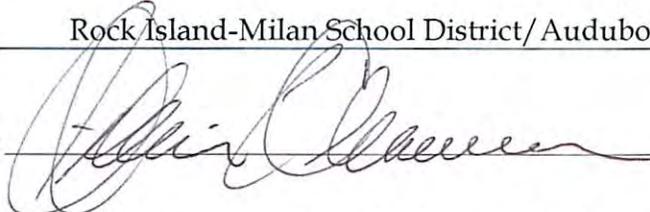
Common Street Address of Property 2601 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Audubon School)

I/We certify that I/We are the owner(s) of the property proposed for Landmark Designation and that I/We (check appropriate answer):

*APPROVE OF PROPOSED DESIGNATION* \_\_\_\_\_

*DISAPPROVE OF PROPOSED DESIGNATION* \_\_\_\_\_ *X*

Name: Rock Island-Milan School District/ Audubon School

Signature: 

Address: 2601 - 18th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201

Date: April 9, 2013

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**Audubon School  
2601 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

**Name of Property Proposed for Designation**

Audubon School, Rock Island, IL. Legal description: Wallace Grove W 80 ft, Lot 8, all Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 Block 4. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 Block 5

**Reason(s) for Designation**

Architectural significance; quality of design and significant value as part of the heritage of Rock Island: "The architectural flagship of Rock Island's remaining historical schools" according to its listing on the Rock Island Preservation Commission's "100 Most Significant Unprotected Structures."<sup>1</sup> It is identifiable as an important visual feature and highly valued community resource.

**Executive Summary**

The Audubon School and its associated landscape is an excellent example of the Georgian Revival style of architecture prevalent in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and an important example of the early school designs in Rock Island County. Further, its presence on 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue is an anchor of the community, a visually pleasing break from the existing surface parking lots and irregular setbacks of commercial structures that currently line the street, and an important link to the residential neighborhood that surrounds it. The park-like setting in which mature oak and elm trees reside is an amenity to residents and visitors alike from a historic, cultural and aesthetic perspective.

**Construction Date**

1922-23; 1947 and 1957 additions.

**Architect/Builder**

Benjamin A. Horn; William Stuhr: Cervin & Horn

**Design & Construction**

Construction for Audubon school began in 1922 and was not completed until 1923. The opening celebration had to wait until the old frame school could be

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<sup>1</sup> Much of the information in this application was adapted from the City of Rock Island's Historic Structures Inventory.

removed from the grounds and some other landscaping completed. The building was designed by Benjamin A. Horn, of the Rock Island firm Cervin & Horn. The *Rock Island Argus* reported: "In the tour of the building, two rooms stood out as worthy of notice above all the others, one the library and the other the combination auditorium and gymnasium. The library is a large room and many windows on the east side furnish plenty of light. Something new has been worked out in the combination auditorium and gymnasium. The auditorium with the balcony will easily seat 500 people. When the auditorium is needed for a gymnasium, the front seats of the auditorium directly below the balcony to the stage are rolled under the stage out of the way with the result that part of the auditorium has been converted into a good sized gymnasium."



**Audubon School – Front (South side)**

### **Architecture:**

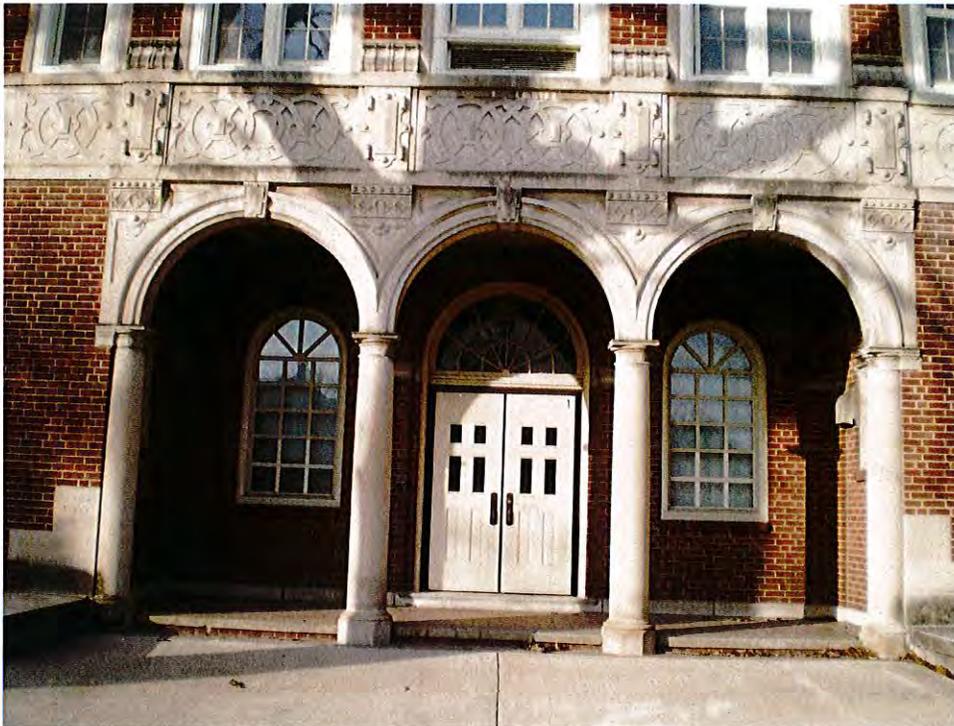
Audubon is similar to Edison Jr. High (1930) and Longfellow (1935) and Frances Willard (1937) schools. These schools were built by Cervin & Stuhr. An addition to Audubon was made in 1947 (Cervin & Stuhr) and a two-room addition was made in 1957, designed by William Stuhr.

The building is a primarily two-story structure occupying the approximate midpoint of a large urban site that is marked by its spacious lawns and mature trees. Rear portions of the building are one story in height.

Audubon is an excellent example of the Georgian Revival style, a subtype of Classical Revival or Colonial Revival, with its symmetrical composition and classical detailing. Its well-preserved details also feature a number of intact decorative features that contribute to its overall aesthetic. There appear to be few features removed over time, and a 1957 addition to the building was integrated into the original structure.

### **Unique Design Features:**

The main entrance features a three-bay recessed entry framed by a series of four columns, as well as fanlight windows flanking the doors and a decorative entablature above.<sup>2</sup> The entry features stone Tuscan columns and keystones in the arch above. Above the arches are sections of classical motifs in relief consisting of a series of linked circles and half circles that have the visual effect of creating the letter “A” in the design.



**Main Building Entrance – Facing South**

Other elements of the façade include scroll-shaped details at the top of each arch joining the columns, as well as individual scrolls separating the windows at the base of each. Larger scrolls appear on raised panels on the east and west

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<sup>2</sup> The fanlight above the doors is original. The fanlight windows flanking are not. They are aluminum clad with applied muntins.

facades of the building. Additionally, end sections of the building have stone quoins.



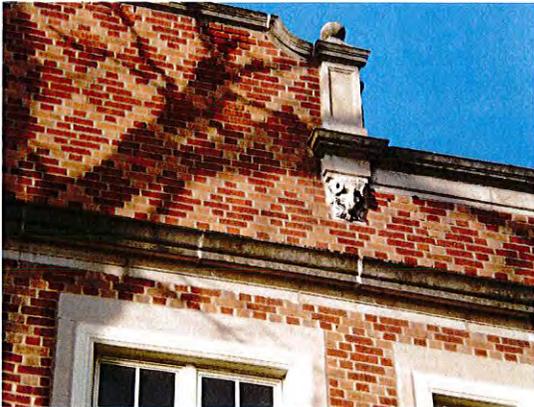
**Main Building Entrance – Facing South**

One of Audubon's most distinctive features is its patterned brick, which appears on the front facing pediment as well as on large sections of the façade flanking the main entrance. The main ochre color of the brick is highlighted by a buff-colored brick laid in a trellis pattern on the front second story to the pediment, as well as on two large sidewalls on the east and west sides of the building.



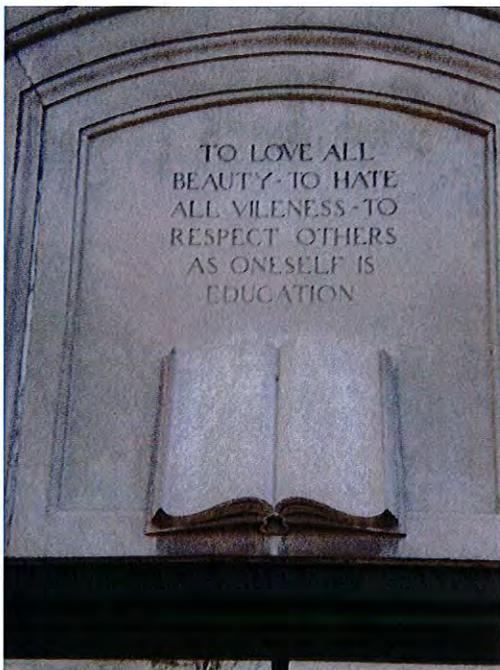
**Brick pattern on pediment at main entrance (facing south)**

Additionally, a decorative cornice is highlighted by two stone rams head features at the base of each of the columned edges of the pediment.



**Brick pattern and rams head design on pediment (left) and scroll detail atop pediment (right). Both at main entrance facing south.**

Decorative scrolls are found in other locations on the building. The eastern façade features a scroll with the words: "To love all beauty, to hate all vileness, to respect others as oneself is education" and an open book underneath. The cornice on the western side of the building entrance is marked with a decorative panel that includes a border of scrolls surrounding an urn.



**Panel detail over entrance on eastern façade (left) and scroll detail atop western facade (right).**

The windows in the building are a mix of double hung, fanlight and what appear to be triple hung windows but are actually double hung with a solid pane of glass with three over three muntins at the top. A narrower, two over two pattern appears in the windows above the main entrance of the building.



Two over two patterns in the muntins appear over the main entrance (facing south).



Three over three window design on west side of building.

## History

The first Audubon school was built on this site in 1912. It was a frame structure and soon proved to be inadequately sized. It is now an apartment building located at the southwest intersection of 18th Avenue and 27th Street. That early Audubon School is believed to have been designed by [George P. Stauduhar](#). He is most known for designing Roman Catholic churches (more than 200 in the Upper Mississippi Valley) and high-style residences.



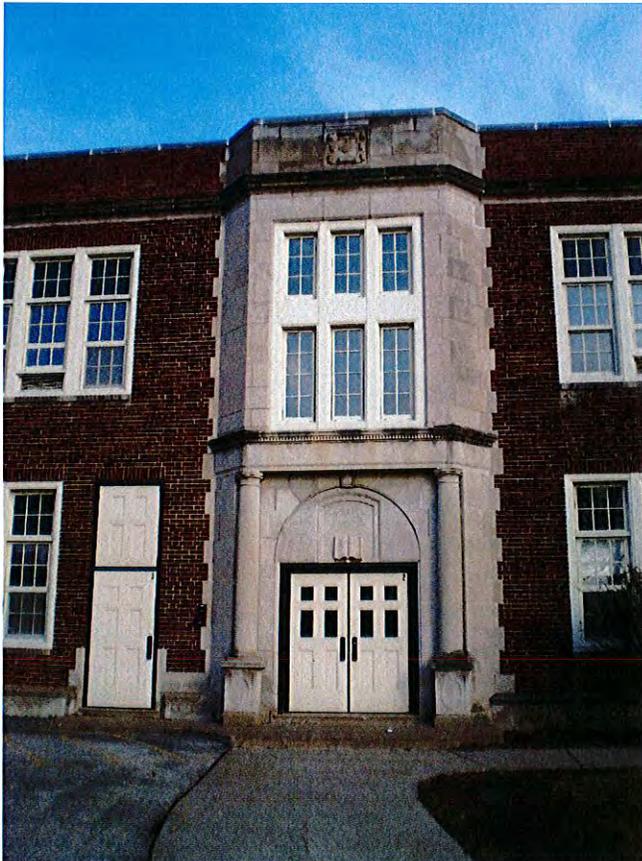
**North Side of Audubon School**



**Uniform window pattern on east elevation with stone quoins also visible at left.**



**Uniform window spacing and symmetrical design at west side of building.**



**A stone entryway carries the pillars and the stone quoin design to the west façade.**

## Events of Importance

Opening Celebration: Three hundred and twenty-four students began the fall term in the new building, but the dedication for the new Audubon school took place on November 27, 1923. It was attended by over 1,500 people during a formal opening, ceremonies and inspection. Addresses were made by [Mayor Walter A. Rosenfield](#); J.F. Witter, president of the Rock Island Board of Education; R.W. Bardwell, Superintendent of the Rock Island Public Schools; and Benj A. Horn of the Cervin & Horn architectural firm. "Trip Around the World" was the theme for the celebration, with each school room decorated in the manner of a different country and offering food from that region.

## People of Note:

Principal Jane Wilcox: In her February 8, 1924, obituary, Principal Jane L. Wilcox was credited for coordinating the effort behind the construction of the new Audubon school. She had been a teacher in the Rock Island school district for 35 years, arriving at Audubon in 1912 with the construction of the first school and receiving a promotion to principal to oversee the construction of the new school. John Hauberg, Sr. was one of Jane Wilcox's pallbearers, and it is her friendship with [Susanne Denkmann Hauberg](#) and John Hauberg that resulted in the gift of 21 valuable Audubon engravings to the school. According to a 1994 letter explaining the history of the Audubon engravings, John Hauberg, Jr. said his "Aunt Jane" promised Susanne Hauberg she would stay as principal at Audubon – which was their neighborhood school – until he and his older sister Catherine were through the sixth grade. Unfortunately, Jane died suddenly of a heart attack just five months after the school opened. It is unknown if the engravings were donated by the Haubergs in appreciation of Jane Wilcox or in memory to her. Regardless, the valuable John James Audubon engravings included 13 of the original "double elephant" sized series and seven of second, smaller series. Both of these series of steel engravings were authorized and overseen by John James Audubon before his death in 1851. The engravings were rediscovered in 1987 by a parent looking for a storage box who recognized the value of the collection. The valuable prints were ultimately sold to a Chicago art house for \$15,289, except for one of a whippoorwill, which was donated to [Augustana College](#) in Rock Island, and restored.

Succeeding Jane Wilcox as principal was Ellen Freed (or Fried) from 1924 to 1942. Edna Barwick was principal in 1947 and 1957, at which time additions were made to the building. By 1966-67, Frank Brooks was the principal and the enrollment stood at 560 students.

**Summary**

For reasons stated above, and for its significant value to the Rock Island Community, it is requested that the Preservation Commission and the City Council of the City of Rock Island grant Landmark Status to this important historic resource.

147512

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantor George E. Bailey, a widowed  
and unmarried  
on the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois  
for and in consideration of the sum of Six Hundred (\$600.00) DOLLARS  
in hand paid CONVEY and WARRANT to the Board of Education of  
Rock Island School District of the City of Rock Island  
County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lot No. One (1) and the North Two (2) feet of Lot  
No. Two (2) in Block No. Five (5) in that part of  
the City of Rock Island known as and called  
Wallace Grove Addition,

situated in \_\_\_\_\_ the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all  
rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of this State.

This deed is made subject to the payment by grantor  
of all taxes and special assessments becoming due  
subsequent to the date of this deed.

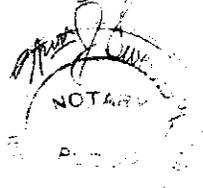
Dated this Thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) day of March A. D. 1912

George E. Bailey SEAL.  
SEAL.  
SEAL.  
SEAL.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, SS.

I, William J. Sweeney — a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid,  
DO HEREBY CERTIFY that

George E. Bailey, widowed and unmarried  
personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in  
person and acknowledged that he signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as his free and  
voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.



Given under my hand and Notary Seal, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May 1912  
William J. Sweeney Notary Public.

Filed for Record on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May A. D. 1912, at 11 o'clock A. m.

147513

This Indenture Witnesseth, that the grantor Lennart S. Hasselquist  
a bachelor  
of the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois  
for and in consideration of the sum of Five Hundred and Seventy Four DOLLARS  
in hand paid CONVEY and WARRANT to  
The Board of Education of Rock Island School District  
in the City of Rock Island  
County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

The South Forty (40) feet of Lot No. Two (2) in  
Block No. Five (5) in that part of the City of  
Rock Island known as and called Wallace  
Grove Addition.

located in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all  
rights under, and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of this State.  
This deed is made subject to the payment by grantee of  
all taxes and special assessments due its best opening date  
subsequent to the date of this deed.

Dated this March day of Thirtieth (30th) A. D. 1912.

Lennart S. Hasselquist  
SEAL  
SEAL  
SEAL  
SEAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, SS.

Grace L. Holmes a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid,  
HEREBY CERTIFY that  
Lennart S. Hasselquist a bachelor  
personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in  
person and acknowledged that he signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as his free and  
voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.  
Given under my hand and Notarial Seal, this 14th day of May 1912.  
Grace L. Holmes Notary Public.

Record on the 22nd day of May A.D. 1912 at 10 o'clock P.m.

47514.

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantors William E. Bailey and Alice M. Bailey, his wife in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois for and in consideration of the sum of Five Hundred and Four (\$504.00) DOLLARS in hand paid, CONVEY WARRANT to Board of Education of Rock Island School District of the City of Rock Island County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lot Three (3) in Block Five (5) in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Wallace Grove Addition to said City.

situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of this State.

Subject to all general taxes assessed for the year 1912 and all special assessments due and payable after Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> 1912.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May A. D. 1912

William E. Bailey SEAL  
Alice M. Bailey SEAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, SS.  
Hugh E. Curtis a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid.  
 DO HEREBY CERTIFY that William E. Bailey and Alice M. Bailey his wife personally known to me to be the same persons whose names subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that They signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as their free and voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.  
 Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 1912  
Hugh E. Curtis Notary Public.

Filed for Record on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May A. D. 1912 at 11 o'clock am.

147515.

his Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantor Victoria Zimmerman Anderson (nee Victoria Zimmerman) and Louis Anderson her husband of Rock Island County in the City of Moline in the County of Warren and State of Illinois and in consideration of the sum of Six hundred and twenty five (\$625.00) DOLLARS and paid, CONVEY and WARRANT, to the Board of Education of Rock Island School District of the City of Rock Island County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lot No. Four (4) in Block No. Five (5) in Wallace Grove Addition to the City of Rock Island  
The intention of this deed is to convey the interest conveyed to said grantor Victoria Zimmerman Anderson by her then name Victoria Zimmerman by Warranty deed from William C. Bailey and Wife dated June 26, 1911 and recorded in Recorder's Office of said Rock Island County in Bk. 150 of Deeds at page 588.

dated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of this State.

Subject to all taxes, which become due after the date of this deed.

Dated this thirtieth day of March A. D. 1912

Victoria Zimmerman Anderson SEAL  
Mrs Louis Anderson SEAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS, Rock Island County, SS.

Mabel A. Sykes a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid,

HEREBY CERTIFY that Victoria Zimmerman Anderson & Louis Anderson, her husband personally known to me to be the same person whose names subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that They signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as free and voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.

Given under my hand and Notary Seal, this 20th day of May 1912  
Mabel A. Sykes Notary Public.

Filed for Record on the 22nd day of May A. D. 1912 at 10 o'clock P. m.

147516

This Indenture Witnesseth, that the grantors Hoyt W. Platt and Sarah B. Platt, his wife in the County of Rock and State of Illinois for and in consideration of the sum of Six Hundred (\$600) DOLLARS

in hand paid, CONVEY and WARRANT to The Board of Education of Rock Island School District of the city of Rock Island County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lot number Five (5) in Block number Five (5) in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Mallace Grove Addition

situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of this State.

Subject to taxes for the year 1912.

Dated this Thirtieth day of March A. D. 1912  
Hoyt W. Platt SEAL  
Sarah B. Platt SEAL

Rock  
STATE OF ILLINOIS, Rock Island COUNTY, SS.  
I, Charles L. Gray a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that Hoyt W. Platt and Sarah B. Platt, his wife personally known to me to be the same persons whose names subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as theirs free and voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.  
Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 15th day of May 1912  
Charles L. Gray Notary Public.

Filed for Record on the 22nd day of May A. D. 1912 at 6 o'clock P. m.

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantor Helen C. Platt a spinster  
of the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois  
and in consideration of the sum of Five Hundred and Fifty (\$550) DOLLARS  
has granted, CONVEYED and WARRANTED to the Board of Education of Rock Island School District of the City  
of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lot number Six (6) in Block number Five  
in that part of the City of Rock Island known  
as and called Hallard Grove Addition

dated in \_\_\_\_\_ the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all  
rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of this State.

Subject to taxes assessed against said premises for the  
year 1912 also to the unpaid installments due for  
sewer and water main assessments levied against  
said premises;

Dated this Thirtieth (30th) day of March A. D. 1912

Helen C. Platt SEAL  
SEAL  
SEAL  
SEAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, SS.

Geo. J. Ingram a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid,  
DO HEREBY CERTIFY that

Helen C. Platt a spinster  
personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in  
person and acknowledged that she signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as her free and  
voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.  
Given under my hand and Notarial Seal, this 15th day of May 1912

Geo. J. Ingram

Geo. J. Ingram Notary Public.

Recorded for Record on the 22nd day of May A. D. 1912 at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ m.

1475.8

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantor S. J. Ferguson and Annie L. Ferguson his wife of the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois for and in consideration of the sum of Five hundred and Sixty Five (565) DOLLARS in hand paid cash and WARRANT to the Board of Education of Rock Island School District of the City of Rock Island County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lot number Seven (7) in Block number Five (5) in Hallace Grove Addition to the City of Rock Island

situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of this State. Subject to the taxes assessed against said premises for the year 1912 also to the unpaid installments due for sewer & watermain assessments levied against said premises

Dated this 30th day of March A. D. 1912

Samuel J. Ferguson SEAL  
Annie L. Ferguson SEAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, SS.  
I, Wm. Ingram a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that S. J. Ferguson and Annie L. Ferguson his wife personally known to me to be the same persons whose names subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as their free and voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.  
Given under my hand and Notarial Seal, this 1st day of May 1912  
Wm. Ingram Notary Public.

Filed for Record on the 2nd day of May A.D. 1912 at 10 o'clock A.M.

141129.

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantor Anna K. Keisel a divorced woman of the City of Rock Island, the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois for and in consideration of the sum of four hundred and twenty five Dollars in hand paid, CONVEYS and WARRANTS to the Board of Education of Rock Island School District and their successors in Office in

County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit: Lot Eight (8) in Block Five (5) in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Wallace Grove Add to said City.

situated in \_\_\_\_\_ the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of this State.

Dated this 5th day of August A. D. 1908

Anna K. Keisel

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, SS.

H. J. Hemenway a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid DO HEREBY CERTIFY that Anna K. Keisel a divorced woman personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1908 and acknowledged that she signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as her free and voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead. Given under my hand and Notarial Seal, this 5th day of August 1908.  
H. J. Hemenway Notary Public

Filed for Record on the 5th day of June A. D. 1911 at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock

141128

Revised Printing Co., Moline, Ill. 1895

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantor Herman J. Kain, an unmarried man of the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois or and in consideration of the sum of Seven Hundred DOLLARS in hand paid, CONVEY and WARRANTS to the Board of Education of Rock Island School District and their successors in Office in County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lots Nine (9) and Ten (10) in Block Five (5) in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Wallace Grove Addition.

situated in \_\_\_\_\_ the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of this State.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August A. D. 1908

Herman J. Kain SEAL  
 \_\_\_\_\_ SEAL  
 \_\_\_\_\_ SEAL  
 \_\_\_\_\_ SEAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, SS.  
Hugh E. Curtis a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid,  
 DO HEREBY CERTIFY that Herman J. Kain, an unmarried man personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that he signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as his free and voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.  
 Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 1908  
Hugh E. Curtis Notary Public.



Filed for Record on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June A. D. 1911 at 1 o'clock P.m.

141130

Evans Printing Co., Moline, Ill. 1903

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantors Charles Ullemeyer and Caroline Ullemeyer his wife of the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois for and in consideration of the sum of fourteen hundred and forty (\$440) DOLLARS and paid, CONVEY and WARRANT to The Board of Education of Rock Island School District County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lots numbered Eleven (1) Twelve (2) Thirteen (3) and Fourteen (4) in Block number Five (5) in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Wallace Home Addition.

situated in \_\_\_\_\_ the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of this State.

Dated this Nineteenth day of August A. D. 1908

Charles Ullemeyer SEAL  
Caroline Ullemeyer SEAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, SS.

William L. Ludolph a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that Charles Ullemeyer and Caroline Ullemeyer his wife personally known to me to be the same persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that They signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as their free and voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead. Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this Nineteenth day of August 1908 William L. Ludolph Notary Public.

Filed for Record on the 15th day of June A. D. 1911 at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock P. m.

QUIT-CLAIM DEED RECORD No. 208

Document No. 221788.

Filed for Record on this 8th day of June,

A. D. 19 23, at 3.00 o'clock P. M.

The Grantor, s, William E. Bailey and Alice M. Bailey, his wife,

of the City of Rock Island, in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois for the consideration of One Dollar - - - - - DOLLARS. Convey and Quit-Claim to Board Of Education Of Rock Island School District Number Forty-One

of the City of Rock Island, County of Rock Island, and State of Illinois, all interest in the following described Real Estate:

A strip of land eighteen (18) feet wide running north and south through the center of Block Five (5) Wallace Grove Addition to the City of Rock Island, otherwise described as the "alley" in said Block Five (5).

Situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of Illinois.

Dated this 1st day of June,

A. D. 19 23.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Presence of

William E. Bailey. [SEAL.]
Alice M. Bailey. [SEAL.]
[SEAL.]
[SEAL.]

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, SS.

I, James Franklin Witter,

Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid.

DO HEREBY CERTIFY that William E. Bailey & Alice M. Bailey his wife,

personally known to me to be the same persons whose name s are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that t hey signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as their free and voluntary act for the use and purpose therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal, this 1st day of June,

(Notarial Seal)

A. D. 19 25. James Franklin Witter. Notary Public.

DEED RECORD No. 237

Document No. 242229

Filed for record on the 4th day of August

, A. D. 19 26, at 10:30 o'clock A. M.

The Grantor, Annette Heiman, a Widow,

of the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois

for the consideration of One Dollar and other good and valuable consideration

Conveys and Quit-Claims to Board of Education of Rock Island School District Number 41

of the City of Rock Island County of Rock Island and State of Illinois,

all interest in the following described Real Estate:

The West Eighty (80) feet of Lot Number Eight (8) in Block Number Four (4) in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Wallace Grove Addition to said City.

(U. S. Revenue Stamp 50¢ cancelled)

situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of Illinois.

The grantee herein assumes and agrees to pay the assessment for paving of 27th Street and its pro-rata share of the 18th Avenue assessment for paving.

Dated this 2nd day of January A. D. 19 24.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Presence of

Annette Heiman

[SEAL

[SEAL

[SEAL

[SEAL

Colorado, City & County of Denver STATE OF ILLINOIS, Rock Island County, ss.

I, Charles W. Jones

, a Notary Public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid

DO HEREBY CERTIFY that Annette Heiman, a Widow

(Notarial Seal) personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that she signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as her free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal, this 4th day of February A. D. 1924

Charles W. Jones Notary Public.

My Commission Expires May 12, 1926

# DEED RECORD No. 222

Document No. 223317. Filed for record on the 7th day of September, A. D. 19 23, at 3.00 o'clock P.M.  
STANDARD-ST. LOUIS J. P. DODDINGER, Union Printer

**This Indenture Witnesseth,** That the grantors, **John J. Gruske and Ella C. Gruska, his wife,**

of the **City of Rock Island,** in the County of **Rock Island,** and State of **Illinois,**  
for and in consideration of the sum of **Twelve Hundred Twenty-Five** ----- DOLLARS  
in hand paid, CONVEY and WARRANT to Board of Education of Rock Island School District Number  
**Forty-One (41) of the City of Rock Island, Illinois,**

of the **City of Rock Island,** County of **Rock Island,** and State of **Illinois,**  
the following described real estate, to-wit:

**Lot Number Nine (9) in Block Number Four (4) in that part of the City of Rock Island  
known as and called Wallace Grove Addition.**

(U. S. Revenue stamp \$1.00 cancelled)

situated in \_\_\_\_\_ the County of **Rock Island,** in the State of **Illinois,** hereby releasing and waiving  
all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of **Illinois.**  
Subject to a mortgage of \$400.00 to **J. F. Witter, Conservator of Nels Swanson, Insane,**  
dated **July 1st, 1918,** recorded in the Recorder's office of **Rock Island County** in Book  
**150 of Mortgages** at page **375.**  
Subject to taxes for the year **1923.**

Dated this **7th** day of **September,** A. D. 19 **23.**

**John J. Gruske.** [SEAL]  
**Ella C. Gruske.** [SEAL]  
[SEAL]  
[SEAL]

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ss.

**I, the undersigned,** \_\_\_\_\_ a Notary Public in and for said County and State aforesaid,  
DO HEREBY CERTIFY that **John J. Gruske and Ella C. Gruske, his wife.**

personally known to me to be the same person **as** whose name **is** are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me  
this day in person and acknowledged that **they** signed, sealed and delivered said instrument as **their** free and voluntary act for  
the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal, this **7th**  
day of **September,** A. D. 19 **23,**  
**James Franklin Witter.** Notary Public.

# Deed Record No. 239

Chicago, Union Printers

326-Illinois Office Supply Co., Chicago

Document No. 242228. Filed for record on the 4th day of August, A. D. 1926, at 10:30 o'clock A. M.

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantors, Ernest G. Richtman and Frances Richtman, each in his and her own right and as husband and wife

of the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois for and in consideration of the sum of One - - - - - DOLLAR in hand paid, CONVEY and WARRANT to Board of Education, School District Number Forty-one of the

of the City of Rock Island County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lot Number Ten (10) in Block Number Four (4), in that part of the City of Rock Island, known as and called Wallace Grove Addition,

situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of Illinois.

Subject to the taxes for 1926 and unpaid installments of special assessments.

Dated this first day of June A. D. 19 26.

Ernest G. Richtman [SE]  
Frances Richtman [SE]

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ss.

I, the undersigned, Notary Public in and for said County and State aforesaid DO HEREBY CERTIFY that Ernest G. Richtman and Frances Richtman husband and wife

personally known to me to be the same persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered said instrument as their free and voluntary act and for the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.

[Notarial Seal]

Given under my hand and official Seal, this first day of June A. D. 19 26.

George C. Wenger Notary Public

DEED RECORD No. 222

Document No. 223434. Filed for record on the 13th day of September, A. D. 19 23, at 2.00 o'clock P.M.  
J. P. Dindinger, Union Printer

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantor s, William B. Garrison and Ellen Garrison, husbands and wife,

of the City of Rock Island, in the County of Rock Island, and State of Illinois, for and in consideration of the sum of Twelve Hundred (\$1200.00) - - - - - DOLLAR in hand paid, CONVEY and WARRANT to Board of Education of Rock Island School District Number 41,

of the City of Rock Island, County of Rock Island, and State of Illinois, the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lot Eleven (11) in Block Four (4) in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Wallace Grove, an addition to said City.

(U. S. Revenue stamp \$1.50 cancelled)

Situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of Illinois.

Dated this 8th day of September, A. D. 19 23.

his  
William B. X Garrison. (SE.)  
mark  
Ellen Garrison. (SE.)  
(SE.)

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ss.

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State aforesaid DO HEREBY CERTIFY that William B. Garrison, and Ellen Garrison, husband and wife,

personally known to me to be the same persons whose names subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before this day in person and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered said instrument as their free and voluntary act the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal, this 8th day of September, A. D. 19 23.  
[Notarial Seal] Win. N. Ralston. Notary Pub

DEED RECORD No. 222

Document No. 225927 Filed for record on the 15th day of October, A. D. 19 23, at 9.00 o'clock A. M.

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantor S. Owen J. Brien and Clara Brien husband and wife each in their own right and as spouse of the other

of the City of Rock Island, in the County of Rock Island, and State of Illinois, for and in consideration of the sum of Thirty-five Hundred (\$3500.00) - - - - - DOLLAR in-hand paid, CONVEY and WARRANT to Board of Education of Rock Island School District Number Forty-One

of the City of Rock Island, County of Rock Island, and State of Illinois, the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lots Twelve (12) and Thirteen (13) in Block Four (4) Wallace Grove Addition to the City of Rock Island,

(U. S. Revenue stamp \$3.50 cancelled)

situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of Illinois

Grantee herein assumes and agrees to pay all unpaid taxes and Special assessments.

Dated this 12th day of October, A. D. 19 23.

Owen J. Brien. [SEA]
Clara Brien. [SEA]
[SEA]
[SEA]

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ss. I, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State aforesaid DO HEREBY CERTIFY that Owen J. Brien and Clara Brien, husband and wife,

personally known to me to be the same persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered said instrument as their free and voluntary act in the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.

[Notarial Seal] Given under my hand and Official Seal, this 12th day of October, A. D. 19 23. E. W. Schoede. Notary Public

Deed Record No. 256

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1917

Document No. 270141. Filed for record on the 20th day of June, A. D. 1930, at 1.30 o'clock P. M.

This Indenture Witnesseth, That the grantor Herman Schubert, a widower,

of the City of Rock Island in the County of Rock Island and State of Illinois for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar and other good and valuable considerations in hand paid, CONVEYS and WARRANTS to Board of Education of Rock Island School District No. 41

of the City of Rock Island County of Rock Island and State of Illinois the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lot Number Fourteen (14) in Block Number Four (4) in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Wallace Grove Addition to said City.

situated in the County of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the Homestead Exemption Laws of the State of Illinois.

Dated this 14th day of May A. D. 1930. Herman Schubert

[SEAL]
[SEAL]
[SEAL]
[SEAL]

STATE OF ILLINOIS, Rock Island County, ss.

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that Herman Schubert, a widower,

personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that he signed, sealed and delivered said instrument as his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.

[Notarial Seal] Given under my hand and official Seal, this 14th day of May A. D. 1930.

I. M. Ruhser Notary Public.

**RESOLUTION**  
**Rock Island Preservation Commission**  
**Landmark Designation**  
**Case #2013-1**

- WHEREAS, the Rock Island Preservation Commission received an application from Alexandria Elias to designate the property located at 2617 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue as a local landmark; and
- WHEREAS, the legal description for the property is: Lot Number Fourteen (14) in Block Number Four (4) in that part of the City of Rock Island known as and called Wallace Grove Addition; and
- WHEREAS, the Preservation Commission considered the application and made a preliminary determination that the property meets one or more criteria for landmark designation at its March 27, 2013 meeting; and
- WHEREAS, the Preservation Commission held a public hearing on April 24, 2013 to hear public testimony regarding the proposed landmark designation; and
- WHEREAS, after considering the facts and statements presented to the Preservation Commission, the Commission determined that the property meets the nominating criteria of Section 11-111 of the Rock Island Code of Ordinances: Landmark Designation; and
- WHEREAS, designation will serve to preserve and protect, through binding review of exterior alterations through the review and issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness by the Rock Island Preservation Commission (applications submitted to the City of Rock Island Planning & Redevelopment Division) for future exterior alterations to the structure and site, accessory structures and grounds, for what has been determined to be a unique and valuable part of Rock Island's history and architecture.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock Island Preservation Commission designates 2617 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, known as the Audubon School, a local landmark.

Adopted this 24th day of April, 2013 by a vote of \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ of the Rock Island Preservation Commission.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
G. Kent Cornish, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Griffith, Secretary

ALEXANDRA S. ELIAS, AICP  
2203 MADISON AVENUE • SAN DIEGO, CA 92116

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April 19, 2013

Dear Ms. Iffer:

Next Wednesday, the Rock Island Preservation Commission will consider landmark designation for the Audubon School. I know you have received notice of hearing as an adjacent property owner. I nominated the property for designation. I grew up in the Quad Cities. I am a city planner by training and own a small house in the Broadway District.

When I learned of the proposal to demolish Audubon School, I despaired at the thought of losing it. The park-like setting of Audubon with its many mature trees and expansive lawns is an attractive break from the asphalt and concrete condition of the street. It is a community resource for gathering, for play and for simply appreciating the beauty of a building that could not—and would not—be built today. City planners today spend a great deal of time trying to design such sites. To lose it, in my view, would be tragic.

In the process of getting to know some of your neighbors and learning about this issue, I have heard multiple times that the process to consider designation is a waste of time because the city would "just overturn the designation anyway." While I certainly understand that view, silence will only ensure that outcome. The hearing by the Preservation Commission to evaluate the Audubon School as a historic resource is an opportunity to tell your government that this place has value to you. To your community. To us.

If you need inspiration to participate in this process, go visit the nearby Hy-Vee store and walk or drive around the back. Then for comparison, walk around the back of Audubon. Does this community resource have value to you?

**Whatever your opinion, be heard.** Please come to the meeting at Rock Island City Council Chambers on Wednesday, April 24 at 5:15 p.m. to support this important community resource. If I can answer any questions before then, don't hesitate to call me at 619.709.2016.

There are no guaranteed outcomes if you participate, but there are if you don't. Thank you for your consideration, I appreciate your time and look forward to meeting you next week.

Sincerely,  
Alexandra Elias

