

ELGIN HISTORIC BUILDING PLAQUE PROGRAM
BUILDING PLAQUE APPLICATION FORMS
ELGIN HERITAGE COMMISSION

Building Location :

Street: 417 ALGONA STREET

Number: 417

Present Owner :

Name: DANNY H. and PATRICIA A. MILLER

Street: 417 ALGONA

City: ELGIN

State: ILLINOIS Zip Code: 60120

Original Owner : MARCELLUS E. KING

Building Name : _____

Date of Construction : 1891

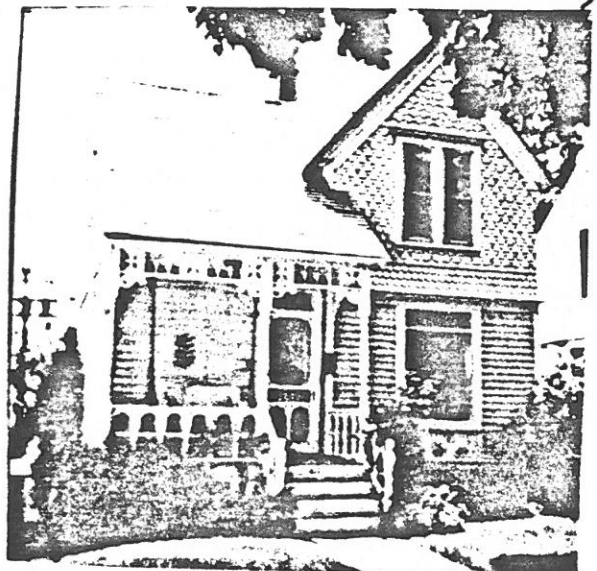
Builder : FRANK FRANZEN

Architect : _____

Architectural Style : QUEEN ANNE (of modest appointments and moderate scale)

SOURCE :

See attached.



Ill. Watch Case Co) and Myrtle (an employee
of the Elgin Shirt Factory). They were followed
by the C. S. Bartlett family in 1903. In
1923, Frank Miller bought the property
and resided here until 1975, when Don
Miller (not related) purchased the property.
Frank Miller was ~~also~~ also employed
by the Illinois Watch Case Co.

Description of Present and Original (if known) Physical Appearance :
(identify information sources)

The exterior is entirely of frame construction. Details include 1st floor clapboards, second floor shingles applied in various textures, 2 projecting porches with decorative railings, eave brackets on front face, Queen anne window with colored lites,

Statement of Significance :

☒ architecture, ☐ commerce, ☐ community planning, ☐ education, ☐ industry, ☐ government, ☐ religion, ☐ social, ☐ local, ☐ history. Please check appropriate categories and describe the importance of the building being considered for a plaque including information sources.

417 Algona was built for Marcellus E. King along with 413 Algona for \$3,200 by Frank Franzen. Marcellus King was employed by the ~~Illinois~~ Watch Case Co., located just to the north on Glades + Dundee Ave. Prior to 1894, this property was 377 Algona. Marcellus King had both matching cottages 417 + 413 built in 1891. He appears to have lived at 413 and rented out 417. ^{He was a frame} In 1894, this was the residence of Walter Van Wamsley, a foreman at the Watch Case Co. In 1900, The Kunyan family resided here: Effie (an employee of D.C. Cook) Ora (an employee of

Chas. B. ...
Boards ...
H. H. ...

Other Pertinent Data :

Representation in Existing Surveys:

☐ National Register of Historic Places
☐ Illinois Register of Historic Places
☐ Illinois State Survey of Historic Structures
☐ Other Surveys or Studies (please list)

Building Condition:

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair
☐ deteriorated
☐ unaltered
☐ altered, *partially*

Application Submitted By :

Name: *Denny H. and Patricia A. Miller*
Address: *414 Algona*
City: *Elgin*
State: *Illinois*

Date of Application Submission :

The subdivision of the two block section of Algona Avenue west of Dundee Avenue was approved on May 14, 1888. The subdivision is recorded on page 97, Book B, Elgin City Maps (these are located in the Planning Department). When submitted the lot that 417 Algona is located on represented 50% of lot 8 in Block I (417 Algona is a re-subdivision of the original lot which was 66 feet wide).

In tracing the occupancy of 417 Algona the following was found:

1903 - B.S. and Martha Bartlett resided at 417 Algona. B.S. Bartlett was a traveling salesman. (Source: Elgin City Directory)

1900 - The Runyan family lived at 417 Algona: Mrs. Kate Runyan, Miss Efflyn Runyan (an employee of the D.C. Cook Publishing Company), Miss Iva Runyan (an employee of the Illinois Watch Case Company), and Miss Myrtle Runyan (an employee of the Elgin Shirt Factory). (Source: Elgin City Directory)

1897 - 417 Algona was the residence of Walter V. and Etta Wamsley. Walter was listed as an employee of the Illinois Watch Case Company. (Source: Elgin City Directory)

1894 - 417 Algona was listed as the residence of Walter Van Wamsley, a foreman at the Illinois Watch Case Company. (Source: Elgin City Directory)

The year 1894 marked the last comprehensive address change in Elgin. Thus old addresses were reviewed to assist in dating 417 Algona. The following is an example of the process:

ADDRESS	RESIDENT
1892 1894	
384 424	Beals, Ferris
378 418	Rider, Frank
377 (417)	King, Dell - employed by the watch co.

The brackets represent the derived address since Dell King did not reside on Algona Avenue in 1894. (Source: Elgin City Directory)

After tracing occupancy through the various city directories the building reports published by the Courier News in the 1880's and 1890's were reviewed. The following was found in the December, 1891 Courier building report:

"Frank Franzen has built for M.E. King, Algona, two cottages \$3,200."

By linking the address change, the ownership of the property as recorded in Geneva, the date the area was subdivided, and the fact that 417 and 413 Algona are matching "cottages" as well as the architectural style of these two houses, it would appear that these two were constructed in 1891. Also, knowing that matching houses were often built when constructed for a family or single property owner only lends further reason to expect that the building report referred to

417 and 413 Algona. Examples of other matching buildings include:

110 and 158 S. Channing - built for the Allen brothers in 1891

16 and 20 North Gifford - built for Charles Kohn for his daughters

120 and 126 Hill Avenue - matching houses

305 and 309 North Street - built for Rueben Tuck in 1887

277 and 283 North Street - built in 1887

Algona
5/11/84

BUILDING PLAQUE PROGRAM
PLAQUE CRITERIA RANKING WORK SHEET

Applicant Name: DAN & PAT MILLER

Address of Building Under Consideration: 417 ALGONA

Average Scores

1. Architectural Significance	<u>18</u>
2. Maintenance of Building	<u>19</u>
3. Conservation of Details	<u>19</u>
4. Historical Significance	<u>16</u>
5. Age of Building	<u>12</u>
Average Total Score	<u>83</u> *

M.E. King
1891

*Note: To qualify for a plaque a building must receive at least 65 points for a total average score.

Voting Record

Members

	<u>Criteria</u>				
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
1. Bruce Dahlquist	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>15</u>	<u> </u>
2. Heather Hunt	<u>17</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>	<u> </u>
3. Richard Clossman	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>	<u> </u>
4. Patricia Miller	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
5. Art Seyller	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
6. John Walters	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
7. David Campbell	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
8. Mark Herzog	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>15</u>	<u> </u>
9. Karen Schock	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>16</u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL SCORES	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>

Note: Voting can only take place if 5 or more members of the Elgin Heritage Commission are present. The high and low scores in each category will be dropped prior to determining the average scores by category and total average score.