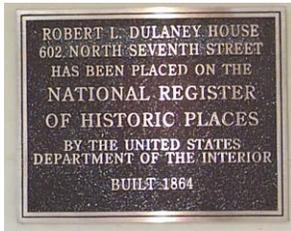


## Historic Homes

By Jennifer Bowling, Brian Macke, Penny Morecraft

There are many historical homes in Marshall. Among them is the home of Eleanor and Damian Macey, which is called the Dulaney House. Another house on the National Registry of Historic Homes is the house of former State Representative John Lewis, which was recently repurchased by his daughter. The Doll House is also on the National Registry. The home of Charlotte and Fred Morecraft is another unique home built in the early days of Marshall.



An historical home is a home that is of significance to the time in which it was built. Age does not necessarily matter; the house does not have to be 100 years old. The house must retain the characteristics of the time in which it was built. The Illinois Registry of Historic Homes first approves the application. After this approval, the owners must attend a hearing, and a program of slides must be presented that describes the house. Some modernization and interior changes are acceptable, but the exterior of the home needs to be original. Vinyl windows and vinyl siding are not acceptable.

Many of the historical homes have unique qualities that cannot be put in homes today. Some of the historical homes have ceramic tile and beautiful marble fireplaces that are not found in most houses today. They also have beautiful woodwork and stained glass windows that are not easy to acquire. Some of the houses had large ballrooms or even basketball courts in them.

The Dulaney House is located at 602 North Sixth Street. It was the house of Robert L. Dulaney. He was a prominent lawyer, banker, and public figure of Clark County, and also in Illinois. He was an active lawyer that was also a good friend of Abraham Lincoln, and his family. He retired from law in 1879 and started the Dulaney National Bank that is still operating in Marshall today. He also owned a horse farm in Kentucky and subdivisions in several other towns. Robert Dulaney purchased the land for his home, for 40 dollars on May 18, 1850. The Dulaney house is the oldest house in Marshall. The construction began in 1862 and was completed in 1864. It was the only house on the block at that time.

This was one of the first buildings in Marshall made out of brick. Originally, the house was bare brick, but for most of this century, it has been painted pale yellow. There are three flue chimneys that are painted a soft green-gray to match the slate-like color of the roof. The entrance of the house has stone steps with curved edges that lead to the spacious front porch. The side steps at the south entrance to the porch used to lead to a conventional garden. The garden contained benches, urns, and many beautiful statues. The garden that was once there has been replaced with newer ranch style houses on separate lots.

The interior of the Dulaney home consists of three stories, an attic, and a basement. The ceilings on the first floor are 13.5 feet high, on the second floor the ceilings are 12 feet high, and on the third floor the ceilings are 10 feet high. A bathroom is located on the second floor where originally stairs lead up to the third floor. The stairs were moved to add an additional bathroom to the house. The steps were moved into the sewing room, which is located off the library.

A ballroom takes up the majority of the third floor. At the top of the stairs is a sitting room. One wall of the sitting room has a chimney and wood mantle, which is against an unfinished wall of brick. The ballroom extends across the entire front of the house. It has arched windows on three of the walls. The west wall has two chimneys. One of the chimneys has an original black painted mantle.

In the northwest corner of the ballroom is a large metal tank that is supported by a heavy wooden frame. Enclosed guttering ran from the roof to the tank. This was the water system for the Dulaney house. The north side of the tank had charcoal and sand in it to filter the water. The pipes that ran from the gutter to the tank are still in place. This is most likely the only water system like this left in Clark County.

The basement is located under the back kitchen wing of the house. The only way to reach the basement is by a door located outside. The steps that lead to the basement are made of large limestone blocks. The walls of the basement are made of limestone also, and the stones vary greatly in size. Some of the walls have been covered with concrete. There is a brick wall that separates the south portion of the basement from the rest of the room. This room was said to be the wine room, or the fruit room. The remainder of the basement is used for the furnace and storage. Mr. and Mrs. Macey have removed the original coal bin, though the original coal chute is still located through the west wall.

The original boiler heating system was used until 1978. Since that time it has been converted from hand fired wood and coal, to an electric stoker, to oil, and finally to gas. The current boiler still makes use of the original piping and early radiators. The house now has three central air conditioning systems.

The Doll House is one of the oldest homes in Marshall. Mrs. Louise Doll purchased the land in 1874. The house was built in 1879 for Mrs. Doll's father-in-law. The house is 46 feet high, one of the highest buildings in Marshall. The Doll House is a Victorian style home. Victorian homes are tall because many people believed it would bring them closer to heaven.



The house of Charlotte and Fred Morecraft was built in 1908. It is not on the National Registry of Historic Homes, but it is of the same style as many of the homes in Marshall that are on the National Registry. It is a small cottage that was owned by a brick mason who built it for his mother. When the house was first constructed, it had four rooms. They consisted of a living room, kitchen, and two bedrooms, one of which is now a dining room. Later, at some point, a bathroom was added. A small breakfast nook was then added in 1947, along with a family room and another bedroom.



The house of former State Representative John Lewis is another unique home in Marshall. The top floor of this home has a basketball court in it. The room with the basketball court was also used as a ballroom. This room also contained a large stained glass window.

Many homes in Marshall are on the National Registry of Historic Homes. Among them are the Robert L. Dulaney home, the Doll house, and State Representative John Lewis's house. There are other homes in Marshall that are unique examples of the style in which they were built. One such example is the home of Charlotte and Fred Morecraft. Historic homes are part of what make Marshall beautiful today. The style and construction of these homes is an important part of the history of Marshall. They not only add beauty to our community; they preserve a part of history for future generations.