

W. A. GLASNER HOUSE

Glencoe, Illinois

As part of the role as Retainer Historic Preservation Architects for the University of Illinois at Urbana, JLA completed a Feasibility Study reviewing the acquisition, moving and restoration of Frank Lloyd Wright's W.A. Glasner House in Glencoe, IL to the University of Illinois campus in Urbana.

Services

- House Relocation Feasibility Investigation
- Condition Assessment
- Relocation Design
- Cost Estimates

Issues

The W.A. Glasner House was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1905 as a small, one bedroom cottage on the edge of a deep ravine in Glencoe, Illinois. Market conditions threatened the future existence of the home. As an alternative to demolition, the University of Illinois, Urbana (UIUC) explored the possibility of relocating the structure to its downstate campus.

Solutions

The UIUC staff and JLA reviewed six separate sites for relocation to the grounds of the University of Illinois. Primary criteria were that the house be oriented as it was originally designed; the site was to have an elevation change approximately fifteen feet away; and be sufficiently wooded with an expansive view to the north. Significant architectural components were identified, and an assessment of existing conditions was undertaken, with associated recommendations. Various disassembly and moving strategies were explored, and required structural and MEP engineering services identified. A cost estimate was developed for the most feasible recommendation. Ultimately, the structure was sold to a private entity who agreed to retain and restore the home in its original location.

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Client

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