

## 🐾 10 Hamilton

No. 10 Hamilton Avenue is the original home of Dr. Salem E. Weld, who was born in Elgin township in 1841. He grew up on a farm just west of town, and lived with his parents until he enlisted in the U.S. Army for the Union in 1862. As a member of the Company I, 127th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, he served as hospital steward in the field hospital during the Civil War. He managed to survive more than 100 battles, and returned to Elgin after the war to complete his medical studies, although he did not practice medicine.

Rather, he opened a drug store in partnership with his cousin, and operated it for 23 years. He married Miss M. Elizabeth Hoag and together they adopted one daughter, Mildred.

This is the centennial anniversary of the home at 10 Hamilton, and it is being celebrated by the Bud & Marilyn Wilson family, who have lived in it since 1970.

When the Wilsons moved into the house, it was supposed to be short-lived, their plans being to build a new house and live in it

forever. But the more time they spent at 10 Hamilton, the more the house turned out to be just what they needed



to raise their 6 children. While keeping their beautiful old house historic, the Wilsons have done sensitive remodeling and updating to make the best of new and modern conveniences in an old home. The house has strong Colonial Revival influence, as well as Queen Anne features. Overlooking Hamilton is wonderful parade balcony while another sleeping porch faces south. A large kitchen and family room lead out to a spacious yard. The addition is on the back, and well-done, since it maintains the lines and materials of the original house.