

City of Madison Landmarks Commission  
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (1)

**Name of Building or Site**

**Common**

Kendall House

**Historic (if applicable)**

Charles F. Smith/Frederick A. Ogg House

**Location**

**Street Address**

1711 Kendall Avenue

**Aldermanic District**

Tenth

**Classification**

**Type of Property (building, monument, park, etc.)**

Building

**Zoning District**

R2HIS-UH

**Present Use**

Single-family residence

**Current Owner of Property (available at City Assessor's office)**

**Name(s)**

Laurits R. and Dianne C. Christensen

**Street Address**

1711 Kendall Avenue  
Madison, WI 53705

**Telephone Number**

Home 238-1658  
Office 231-2266

**Legal Description (available at City Assessor's office)**

**Parcel Number**

0709-222-1201-7

**Legal Description**

University Heights  
Block 11  
Lots 3 and 4

**Condition of Property**

**Physical Condition (excellent, good, fair, deteriorated, ruins)**

Excellent

**Altered or Unaltered?**

Various additions

**Moved or Original Site?**

Original site

**Wall Construction**

Plaster interiors, exterior: wide aluminum siding over original narrow clapboards

City of Madison Landmarks Commission  
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (2)

***Describe Present and Original Physical Construction and Appearance.***

The house is Queen Anne, with Georgian Revival elements. It is 2 1/2 stories with a Bellcast hipped roof. The north-facing facade is asymmetrical, with a large open entrance porch. The porch has a basket handle arched roof surmounting a broken entablature with denticulated cornice supported by two 2-column groups (Tuscan).

Special features include two 2-story shallow triangular bay windows, one on each side of the entrance, terminating under the eaves. The windows on the first floor of each bay have Tuscan columns (raised) acting as surrounds and carved swags above the lintel. There is a three window group above the entrance door with swan's neck pediment. There is also a large gambrel roof dormer in the center of the main roof. This dormer has a three window group with Ionic pilasters as surrounds and simple entablature. In addition, there are eight gable roofed dormers with simple pediments.

City of Madison Landmarks Commission  
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (3)

<b>Original Owner</b> Charles Forster Smith	<b>Original Use</b> Single-family house
<b>Architect or Builder</b> Not known	<b>Architectural Style</b> Queen Anne with Georgian Revival elements
<b>Date of Construction</b> 1896	<b>Indigenous Materials Used</b>

**List of Bibliographical References Used**

1. City Directories
2. Tax Records
3. Building Permit
4. Memorial Resolution of the UW Faculty
5. Dictionary of Wisconsin Biography
6. American Political Science Review

**Form Prepared By:** Laurits R. Christensen

**Name and Title**

Current owner with Dianne C. Christensen

**Organization Represented (if any)**

**Address**

1711 Kendall Avenue  
Madison, Wi 53705

**Telephone Number**

608/238-1658

**Date Nomination Form Was Prepared**

November 20, 1994

City of Madison Landmarks Commission  
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (4)

***Significance of Nominated Property and Conformance to Designation  
Criteria:***

1711 Kendall Avenue is deemed pivotal by virtue of both its historic and architectural merit. It is a large house occupying a dominant position on its hillside site. 1711 is one of the original six houses in University Heights built before 1898, whose design and University associations legitimized the fledgling development. The generous size of the house, coupled with dignified and well-executed architectural details, have made this house a University Heights landmark since its erection. The architectural significance of the house lies in the fact that it and the nearby Ely house are the two most important examples of the early Georgian revival in Madison. Although clearly Georgian Revival in inspiration, both houses have oversized and fancifully handled classical details that clearly demonstrate their Victorian vintage. On the Smith house, these include the huge broken segmentally arched pediment of the main porch, the tall gambrel roofed central dormer, the bellcast main roofline, and the two-story triangular bays to either side of the main door.

In addition, the house was built and occupied by men who have done much to contribute to the University and the intellectual life of the country. Professor Ogg, in particular, is generally considered one of the founders of the study of political science.

Professor Charles Forster Smith was recruited to the University of Wisconsin faculty from Vanderbilt University by President Charles Kendall Adams. He accepted the Chair of Greek and Classical Philology in 1894. The coming of Professor Smith to the University of Wisconsin marked a new era in the study of Greek. He was an enthusiastic admirer of all that ancient Greece had given to the world in its literature, art, science of government, and view of life; and he brought this enthusiasm into the classroom. His standing as a scholar was recognized by his election to the presidency of the American Philological Association in 1903. Professor Smith's wife had died in 1893. He and his five children lived in a rental house on Lake Street for two years, during which time their home at 1711 Kendall Avenue was built. Professor Smith lived at 1711 Kendall until he became Professor Emeritus in 1917. In the literary and social life of Madison Professor Smith held a prominent place as a member of the Town and Gown Club, the Madison Literary Club, and the University Heights Poetry Club, of which he was the organizer and for years the leading spirit.

Upon his retirement in 1917 Professor Smith sold 1711 Kendall Avenue to Professor Frederick Austin Ogg. Professor Ogg had joined the UW faculty as associate professor of political science in 1914, and served as professor of political science from 1917 until his death in 1951.

Professor Ogg's teaching career was outstanding for the breadth and range of courses he taught. He was also author or co-author of 17 major books, and several of these, such as the Introduction to American Government (eight editions by 1945), became standard texts in colleges throughout the country. He was an editor of the "Century Political Science Series" and for many years of the American Political Science

**City of Madison Landmarks Commission**  
**LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (5)**

Review, a director of the American Council of Learned Societies, and president of the American Political Science Association (1941).

Professor Ogg lived at 1711 Kendall from 1917 until his death in 1951. The house was filled with bookcases and books, and most of the rooms of this large house were furnished as studies - each with its own set of projects in progress. Upon his death, the assistant professors, associate professors, and professors (in that order) of his department were invited to come into the house to select books for their libraries.