

Westside Traditions

14TH ANNUAL WESTSIDE HOME TOUR

A fundraiser to benefit Advent House Ministries
and the Westside Neighborhood Association.

Sunday, October 5, 2008, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

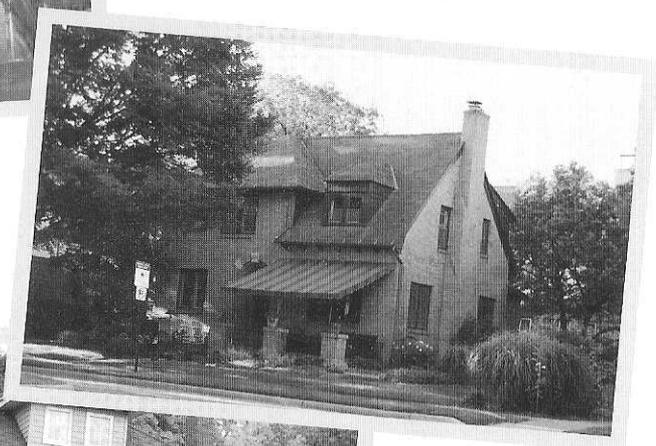
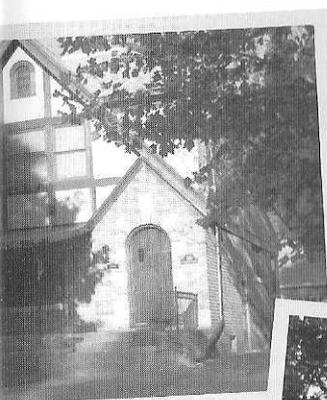


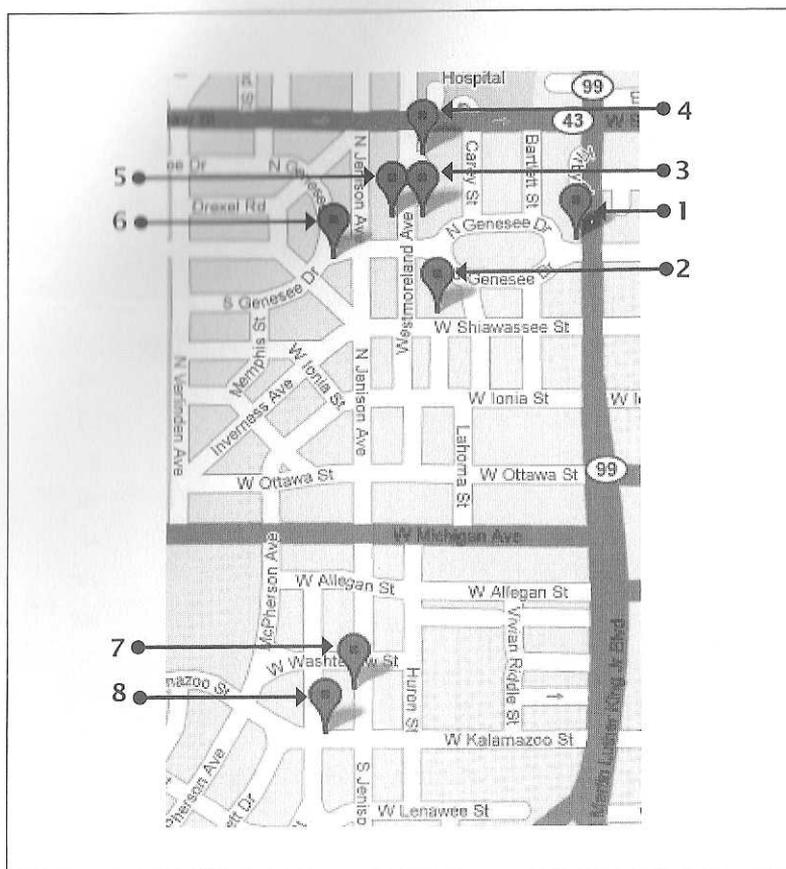
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ON THE COVER:

A sampling of the 2008 featured homes.

Westside Home Tour Map



1 1100 N. GENESEE

Owners: Peter Davidson and
Yu-Wen Chung Davidson

2 1314 S. SHIAWASSEE

Owners: Carol Mills and Traci Ritter

3 512 WESTMORELAND

Owner: Cathy Cavanaugh

4 612 DINSMORE

Owners: Ann and Mark Harvey

5 515 WESTMORELAND

Owners: Tisch Heath and Nancy Tucker

6 1507 S. GENESEE

Owners: George and Denise Smith

7 324 S. JENISON

Owners: Paul and Mary Ann Mink

8 1519 KALAMAZOO

Owners: Lisa DeStefano and
Keith Owen

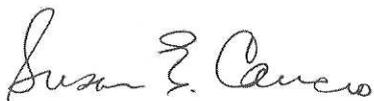
Welcome to the 14th Annual Westside Home Tour

The Westside Neighborhood Association and Advent House Ministries welcome you to the 14th Annual Westside Home Tour. This year's tour features eight homes reflecting a range of architectural styles. Each of these stops on our tour is an open door into the life of the Westside Neighborhood. The story of this vital community is one of energetic community involvement and real neighborliness.

For fourteen years, the home tour has honored the unique historical architecture that defines our homes and community buildings. Each year, as we welcome visitors, we are reminded our care for one another and our community. Thank you for supporting Advent House Ministries and the Westside Neighborhood Association, organizations that care about, serve and work to improve life in our community.

We are also grateful to all those who have supported Advent House Ministries and the Westside neighborhood Association through their advertisements in our Home Tour booklet. We urge you to support these advertisers and tell them where you saw their ads; many of them are Westside residents and/or businesses. We acknowledge all of our advertisers for seeing the Home Tour as an exciting event for Lansing and believing in our work in the community.

Beyond all other support and commitment, this 14th Westside Home Tour is possible because of the gracious willingness of the homeowners. We salute and thank them for opening their home today. Enjoy your afternoon!



*Susan Cancro, Executive Director
Advent House Ministries*



*Carol Skillings, President
Westside Neighborhood Association*

Welcome to the 14th Annual Westside Home Tour

WHILE YOU ARE ENJOYING THE TOUR, PLEASE:

- Do not smoke in the tour homes.
- Place paper shoe protectors (available at all tour homes) over your shoes and keep them with you throughout the tour. *Please do not wear shoe protectors while walking from house to house.*
- Do not photograph the tour homes.
- No children under 12 years of age.

Thank you for your cooperation!

PARKING:

Parking is available at Letts Community Center, 1220 W. Kalamazoo.

FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE:

Our transportation for the Westside Home Tour is being provided by Dean Transportation. Shuttle stops will be designated by signs throughout the neighborhood.

REFRESHMENTS:

Refreshments will be offered along the tour route.

RESTROOMS:

Restroom facilities are available Fire Station No. 7 located at North Jenison and Saginaw Streets.

Thanks to Our Supporters & Volunteers

We are deeply indebted to the following corporations, businesses and individuals who are the sponsors of our Home Tour:

■ UNDERWRITING SPONSORS

Michigan State Housing Development Authority

■ CORPORATE SPONSORS:

Lansing Board of Water & Light

Lyman & Sheets

O'Leary Interiors

Public Sector Consultants

Huggler/Bashore

■ THANKS ALSO TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES THAT SOLD TICKETS:

Westside Biggby's

The Mole Hole (Okemos)

Roberts Wallpaper & Paint Co.

Jenison #7 Fire Station

■ SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Redhead Design Studio, booklet design and production

About Advent House Ministries

Advent House Ministries has been providing service in the Greater Lansing community since 1987. We bring together people of many faiths to create a community of hope for those who struggle with poverty and homelessness in the Lansing area. Through our programs we provide respite from life's struggles and create opportunities for children and adults to fulfill their potential. Successful implementation of this kind of service requires the cooperation and support of many others who volunteer their time and resources.

The ministry at Advent House takes people full circle: from addressing basic material needs to providing employment training and other services to build stability. Our operations include:

The Good Work! Employment Training Program providing basic life skills and employment readiness training, as well as job placement and follow-up services to chronically homeless adults.

Weekend Day Shelter offering shelter meals and a gather place for homeless people and others in need.

Three Shelter Homes providing transitional housing for four to six homeless families each year.

Children's Activities offering recreation and education opportunities for at-risk children and youth at our Weekend Day Shelter.

The need for these services is obvious. Each year the number of people who participate in our Weekend Day Shelter increases. Our shelter homes are constantly filled; we receive an average of seven calls a week from people in need of emergency shelter and many more from those experiencing hardships related to housing.

Advent House Ministries has been blessed with the consistent support of our community – both financial and volunteer – which has enabled our programs to effectively address a multitude of needs.

The Home Tour, in which you are participating today, is part of that support. Those who open their homes for your viewing represent the opening of the heart of our community: to care, to encourage and to build hope in a troubled world. You have our thanks and our blessing as you participate in this wonderful event.

About the Westside Neighborhood Association

The Westside Neighborhood Association is the oldest and one of the most active neighborhood associations in Lansing. Residents can participate in a number of activities, such as picnics, potlucks, community gardens, and youth services. The Association prints a quarterly newsletter, *The Westsider*, to inform and educate residents about neighborhood events, activities, recent issues, local opportunities, and the people and organizations located in the Westside Neighborhood.

The Association has established committees to work on issues and projects important to Westside residents; participation from residents is essential to the success of the Association. Several committees are active throughout the year, including:

Housing and Home Tour – One of this committee's major activities is the Home Tour, which brings people into the homes of Westside residents. This tour is a fund-raising event for the Association and for Advent House Ministries, a day shelter and assistance center for the homeless and underprivileged. For current information on the annual home tour, please visit us at www.westsidehometour.org.

Crime and Safety – This committee works throughout the year with the Lansing Police Department to organize neighborhood watches, run a monthly forum, and work toward solving problems of illegal operations in the neighborhood. The committee also works on Code Compliance issues.

Special Events – Planning picnics, potlucks and fund-raising events such as the Fabulous Friday in February dance to benefit a local scholarship program keeps this committee busy. Members volunteer for neighborhood cleanups and other activities to assist lower income households, seniors, and other neighbors in need of an extra hand.

Grants – The focus of this committee is seeking grants and overseeing the management of funds for special projects in the neighborhood. The committee is open to suggestions from any association member or resident for special needs that a grant will assist.

Kids, Schools and Scouts – This committee works on kids' programming and with the local Boy Scout troop.

Other committees can be formed for special events or programs as needs arise.

Membership in the Westside Neighborhood Association is open to anyone living in the neighborhood who attends a general membership meeting. Everyone is encouraged to participate. The Association meets monthly on the 3rd Wednesday at the Letts Center at 1220 West Kalamazoo Street just west of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

1100 N. Genesee



SNAPSHOT:

Homeowners: Peter Davidson
and Yu Wen Chung-Davidson

Year Built: 1921

Architectural Style: Craftsman Bungalow

ABOUT THIS HOME

The horizontal massing of this two-story Craftsman Bungalow, and the long, steep-to-low pitched sloping roof lines and deep eaves make the house appear to nestle into the landscape. This tie to the earth is exaggerated by the substantial porch with heavy pillars and, a wide, sheltering overhang that create the feeling of an outside room. The interior layout of the bungalow usually focused on efficient and functional space, often incorporating “built-ins”, and the fireplace or the hearth became the symbolic family center. This home features more elaborate Craftsman elements such as leaded glass windows flanking the chimney and the large decorative knee brackets along the eaves.

HOMEOWNER HIGHLIGHTS

This is our first home and we moved in during early October, 2004. We had been actively house-hunting for several months but never found the right house. Our first inspiration to pursue this house was the photograph provided by our real estate agent, showing the lovely brick front porch and trees. Upon touring the house we knew we had to make an offer. This is our home's 81st year, and the oak woodwork and flooring throughout the house remain in lovely condition and continue to captivate us. We refinished the floors of two bedrooms, but this has been the only significant work upon the house during our ownership. As first-time home owners we've had our share of learning experiences from an 80-year old house, but no regrets.

1314 S. Shiarwassee



SNAPSHOT:

Homeowners: Carol Mills and Traci Ritter

Year Built: 1926

Architectural Style: Tudor / English Cottage

ABOUT THIS HOME

A variation on Tudor Revival which was very popular the mid 1920s and late 1930s, was referred to as the English Cottage. It differed from the classic Tudor Revival in that it was smaller and more modest built for middle-income families. This example displays staggered a pseudo-steep roof with cruck story, shingle siding with half-timbering used decoratively in the front gable and above gabled entry extension. The prominent brick chimney and six-over-six double-hung windows are typical of the style, but the side bay window is more of a Craftsman element. The English Cottage is another common style found throughout the Westside Neighborhood.

HOMEOWNER HIGHLIGHTS

When we decided to move to the Lansing area from Marshall, we were disappointed to be moving away from our small town with tree-lined streets and so many beautiful older homes. When a friend drove us through the Westside neighborhood, we were surprised to see an area full of those same beautiful homes. And, we immediately knew where we would buy our next home. The fabulous mix of friendly neighbors has been an unexpected bonus.

One of our first projects was landscaping the outside of our house. We spent the first two years working on our lawn and plantings, and we were delighted to welcome visitors through our yard during the 2004 Westside Garden Tour. We are equally delighted to greet visitors today for the 2008 Westside Home Tour.

We instantly fell in love with the woodwork and crown moldings in our house. Our biggest renovation has been the kitchen and downstairs bathroom. We tore out all the cabinets and flooring during the transformation. We also took down a large hood, and reinstalled a smaller updated hood over the oven. We did most of the work ourselves, including hanging the cabinets and installing the tile floor. Other than the kitchen, fresh coats of paint in all the rooms and a few minor renovations, we've enjoyed our home just as it was when we bought it 8 years ago. Welcome!

512 Westmoreland



SNAPSHOT:

Homeowner: Cathy Cavanaugh

Year Built: 1921

Architectural Style: Foursquare

ABOUT THIS HOME

The American Foursquare or “Prairie Box” takes its name from its simple, cubic shape and floor plan, which is typically divided into quarters on each floor. The horizontal influence of the Prairie and Craftsman styles is illustrated on this two-story home in the low-pitched, pyramidal, hipped roof with wide overhanging eaves, and the full-width front porch. The structure appears firmly grounded by the porch, which features slightly tapered pillars. An offset doorway and window configuration break with the overall symmetry of the façade, which is more evident in the paired windows on the second story and the large, centrally located attic dormer. The Foursquare was simple and inexpensive to build, and was one of the most popular house styles in both rural settings and on small city lots from the 1890s through the 1930s. Many examples may be found throughout the Westside Neighborhood.

HOMEOWNER HIGHLIGHTS

I began looking for a home in the Westside neighborhood shortly after I moved to Lansing and I purchased this home in early 1989. A friend lived in the neighborhood and I loved the old homes, gardens, and the fact that I could walk to work. I contacted a local realtor and said I was looking for a home with wood floors and a fireplace. A couple of months later, the Brenzel's, the former owners of my house, contacted the same realtor seeking information on how to best price their home for sale. He not only suggested a price, but told them he had a buyer. He was right. I loved the woodwork, fireplace and remodeled kitchen.

Over the last 17 years I slowly turned the lawn into a garden, added a deck and brick patio, and added sliding glass doors off the dining room. I recently remodeled the bathroom. I've enjoined adding color and art throughout the house. The art work is from both my travels and local Michigan artists, including a painting of my garden by Barbara McCleary that was created during the Westside Garden Tour.

I'm currently looking into plans to add a first floor bathroom and update the kitchen.

612 Dinsmore



SNAPSHOT:

Homeowners: Ann and Mark Harvey

Year Built: 1923

Architectural Style: Craftsman

ABOUT THIS HOME

The Craftsman architectural style encouraged originality, simplicity of form, and the visibility of handicraft, and was concerned with ennobling the more modest home of the rapidly expanding American middle class. Those ideas can be found in this handsome 1 1/2 story brick home. In contrast to previous Victorian architecture, it is the simplicity of form and lack of unnecessary ornamentation that makes this house so attractive. The broad, low-pitched roof with shed dormers and exposed rafters are quintessential elements in the Craftsman style. In place of a front porch, this home features three large sets of south-facing french doors with a sidelights and arched transom, which create a more formal appearance, while at the same time allow the occupants to take full advantage of the natural sunlight.

HOMEOWNER HIGHLIGHTS

Ann tried for at least a year to get me to come look at this unique house on Dinsmore Ave. Considering we had just wrapped up our second “fixer upper” I had no interest. The realtor images of wall-to-wall mauve carpeting and pink walls kept my interest at bay. Somehow she managed to get me to look at the house and we soon had our third “fixer upper.”

We have been in the neighborhood four years now. “Camelia House” has received a new roof, a re-plumb of the entire house, paint, refinished floors, and vintage side-sliding garage doors. Ann has done wonders with the landscaping. Many of the plants came from our wonderful neighbors. We are currently working on reinstalling a main floor bathroom among other projects. So, welcome to our “in progress” home, mind the walls, the paint may be still wet!

515 Westmoreland



SNAPSHOT:

Homeowners: Nancy Tucker and Tisch Heath
Year Built: 1919
Architectural Style: Craftsman

ABOUT THIS HOME

This front-gabled, two-story home is a common form found in the Craftsman style. It features a low-pitched roof with deep eaves, which often would have included exposed rafters at the eaves and knee brackets along the gable. The house retains the original, Craftsman double-hung windows with 4 vertical panes over a single-paned lower sash. A large, covered front porch extends the full width of the façade, and may have originally featured tapered columns. The lack of exterior ornamentation expresses the spirit of the Arts and Crafts movement that a that a return to a simpler, less pretentious style would lead to a healthier, more comfortable and productive life.

HOMEOWNER HIGHLIGHTS

I grew up in this neighborhood and have always liked all the character and uniqueness of the houses. In 1992 I was in the process of looking for a house when my father told me that the parsonage from the church I attended while growing up was going to be sold. I stopped by and peeked in the window and knew this was the house I was looking for. I was able to make an offer that was accepted without so much as a for-sale sign being put up.

It was a plain white house with beige carpet and white walls throughout when I moved in. It's been through quite a lot of changes over the years, but the most dramatic changes have occurred in the past several years, since my partner Tish moved in. We've had the siding replaced and rebuilt the front porch adding the brick knee-rail. Around the same time we put an addition on the back that includes a bath and laundry room. We also had doors with leaded glass panels constructed for the bookcases in the living room. The kitchen remodel is our favorite recent update—including the discovery of the original pine floor. We have prided ourselves on maintaining and expanding on the original feel of the house.

1507 S. Genesee



SNAPSHOT:

Homeowners: George and Denise Smith

Year Built: 1919

Architectural Style: Dutch Colonial Revival

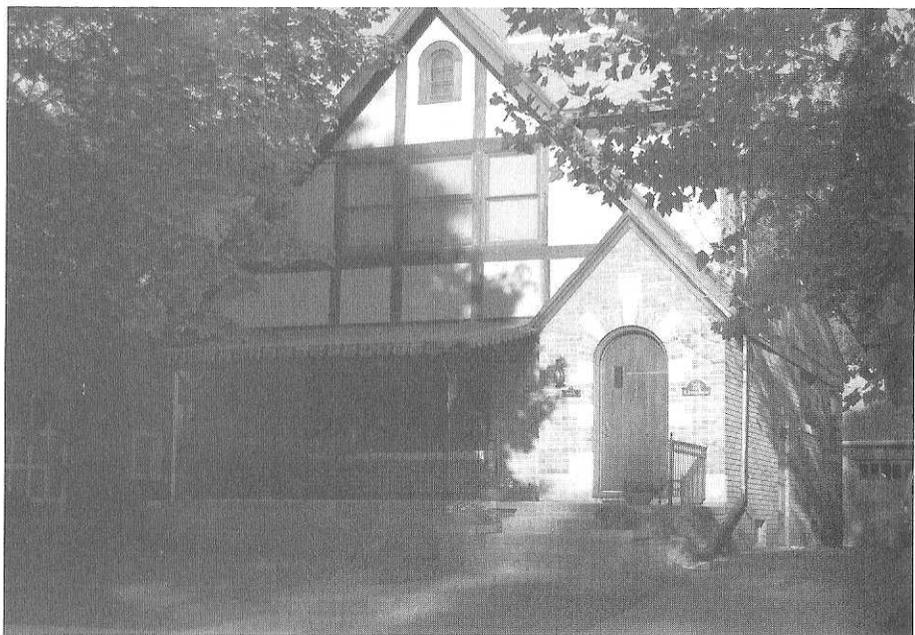
ABOUT THIS HOME

This house is easily identified as Dutch Colonial Revival by the distinctive gambrel roof with flared eaves, which are sometimes referred to as a “Dutch Kickers”. The style takes its name from the homes originally built by Dutch Colonists who settled in parts of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania in the 1600s. Ironically, these “barn houses” are generally quite elegant in appearance. This shingle sided example features many elements of the Colonial Revival style. A large shed dormer penetrates the roof to create light and living space on the second floor. The overhanging eaves, along with the decorative portico with pediment supported by classical Tuscan columns shelter a slightly recessed formal entrance framed with pilasters and sidelights. The façade is symmetrical with paired six-over-six and four-over-four, double-hung windows. A one story screened porch is located on one gable end, and garage on the opposite with a complementary gambrel roof is a more recent addition.

HOMEOWNER HIGHLIGHTS

Our home has family ties dating back 65 years. Built in 191 on a double lot, it later became the residence of George Newman Fuller, State Historian, and his wife Helen. Immediately after the Great Depression, in 1935, Dr. Fuller's daughter, Florence Fuller, a long time Sexton High School teacher also took up residence at the home, and continued living there until her death in 1986. Uninhabited for the next 12 years, we purchased the home from the surviving daughter and sister, Margaret Fuller Smith, and began an extensive restoration and addition project in mid-summer 1998. Except for the kitchen, which was completely rebuilt and modernized, all major attributes of the original house are in tact. This includes refinished hardwood floors, solid oak woodwork downstairs and a reglazed clawfoot tub in the old (now guest) upstairs bathroom. The architecturally consistent “carriage house” addition includes an office a library and a master suite above and a two car garage below. We officially made “1507” our home on July 24th 1999. We continue to marvel how a positive vision and perseverance has brought us a “little slice of heaven” in the Westside neighborhood.

324 S. Fenison



SNAPSHOT:

Homeowners: Paul and Mary Ann Mink

Year Built: 1927

Architectural Style: Tudor / English Cottage

ABOUT THIS HOME

A prominent, steep gable front almost masks the hipped roof and cubic shape of this large two-story Tudor style home. The upper story façade utilizes ornamental half-timbering, mimicking a medieval English building tradition, over a brick lower exterior. The double-hung windows arranged in ribbons across the façade is common to the Tudor style, as is the arched form of the front doorway, which is outlined with decorative brick and stone voussiors, and attic gable window.

HOMEOWNER HIGHLIGHTS

We used to love riding around on our motorcycle looking at houses and this is how we came upon the old Westside Neighborhood. We knew we were home when we saw the charming old houses, tree-lined boulevards, and “peace” signs in the yards. We wanted to be part of a community where people would socialize on their porches and under their awnings, waving at passersby such as ourselves. It felt so friendly.

Expecting a lengthy process, we asked our realtor what it would take to sell both of our houses and buy one in the neighborhood after we got married. Within three weeks, we put an offer on our home and had one of our other houses already sold.

We wanted a home with character and that’s exactly what we got. The house has great architectural features such as coved ceilings, arched walkways, and original 1920 tile work. With a good amount of dusting and sanding, we refinished the hardwood floors and with 30 bags of DuraBond plaster, got the walls smooth and ready for specialized faux finishes. The front door is a faux mahogany wood grain; the coved ceiling of the foyer is a metallic plaster blending into another color on the walls. Living room walls and coved ceiling were treated in a bicolor Venetian plaster, with the trim in a bronze crackle patina. The stairwell and upstairs hallway were treated in a blond Veniciano with a glazed fine line crackle on the trim. New ceilings, crown molding, and wainscoting were installed in the master bedroom. Its walls were treated in an antique parchment lace and the ceilings finished in a polished metallic plaster. Helping us to finish the look, we found several antique chandeliers to match the ones original to the house.

As you will see on the tour, the front half of the house is now complete and our attention has turned to the back half. For the rooms we have yet to refinish, we have design boards and blueprints displayed. Just as soon as time, energy, and money is available, our attention will turn to the exterior of the house and the landscaping.

We hope you enjoy the tour and thank you for coming.

-Mary Ann and Paul Mink

1519 Kalamazoo



SNAPSHOT:

Homeowners: Lisa DeStefano and
Keith Owen

Year Built: 1928

Architectural Style: Tudor / Craftsman
(Eclectic)

ABOUT THIS HOME

This impressive house features an eclectic mix of Tudor and Craftsman influences. It has a formal presence in its mass, roof, brick construction and almost-centered entry, yet it is asymmetrical. The pyramidal hipped roof is intersected by a somewhat steep side gable. Both the pent roof dormer on the front and the rear shed dormer feature rustic wood siding that contrasts with the primarily brick exterior. Front porch with heavy brick piers, but not supporting roof, suggesting that it was designed to with the intent that awning would be used or drawn up as the owner so chose. The entrance has an arched doorway with brick and stone voussiors that create a stylized “sunburst” motif.

The fenestration includes both Prairie style double-hung windows and decorative leaded glass casement windows with no wide trim boards to define them, but small corbelled brickwork under the sills, in parallel with the corbels found along the eaves under the gabled roofline.

HOMEOWNER HIGHLIGHTS

Lot 243 of the McPherson's Heatherwood Subdivision; 1928. The original land was purchased by Frederick Bushnell from the General Land Office of the United States of America in 1839. Partitioned and sold to William McPhearson, Jr. in 1886. Annexed “McPherson's Heatherwood Subdivision No. 4: in July 1926. Lots 230-284 sold to Francis J. Shields in October 1926. The home was apparently built by Sadie and Samuel Schnabel in 1928. The mortgage was \$10,500.

The house is a gem. Built just before the great depression it features some of the finest examples of interior plaster work of the time. The Tudor revival design is seen in the exterior and interior features. In particular we love the front doorway with its gothic porch light. The leaded glass windows are well maintained and striking. The living and dining rooms are incredible with the original bronze Tudor style sconces, beautiful original chandeliers, tiled fireplace and mantel. Don't miss the wonderful plaster fresco above the fireplace. The library is lovely, originally designed as an office with a private exterior door. Classic to the design, the lower level is the showcase of the house while the upper level is simple. The upper level features include the period “orchid” and black tile bathroom, original wood doors and elegant plaster boarder in the master hall. There is even a cedar lined closet in the front bedroom.

Likely built in part by European Artisans who immigrated to America to become some of Michigan's proud heritage; we fell in love with the old world charm of the house.

Westside Home Tour Committee

Mark & Ann Harvey—Westside Home Tour Co-Chairpersons, Westside residents

Carolyn Callen—1999 Westside Home Tour homeowner, Home Tour Founder

Susan Cancro—Executive Director, Advent House Ministries

Mary Clark—Board member, Advent House Ministries

Jennifer Estill—Westside resident

Brian Grennell—2007 Westside Home Tour homeowner, Westside resident

Whitney Hodgman—Advent House Staff

Derek Kastner—Westside resident

Ami Van Antwerp—Westside resident

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