

Samuel and Mary Brown conspired with architect Harvey Chatten to build an amazing Queen Anne home. Chatten is known for his exuberant eclectic creations and he designed a magnificent house on the north side of Quincy.

The exterior of the Victorian home has an unusual display of decorative trim. Pressed tin panels with festoons and rosettes, chip-carved stone on limestone lintels and machine carved woodwork dramatically dress the front of the home. The porch is a symphony of decorative ornamentation which leads to the elaborate double doors.

A magnificent carved walnut newel and curved staircase grace the reception hall. Off the reception hall are the current owner's parlor and sitting room. The current sitting room may have been the original dining room, with its square bay area which further enlarges the grand room. Note the magnificent mantle piece which sports bead board like that under the windows in the bay area.

The current dining room may have been a den or library. The owners discovered the china cabinet under dry wall and they found the trim in the garage. It may have been a bookcase when the house was built. The room off the dining room appears to be a porch that was enlarged.

The trim throughout the house is the result of furniture designer, Charles Eastlake's influence on American architecture in the 1870s and 1880s. Although Eastlake believed in simplicity in his designs, Americans took his ideas and used them all at once, much to his dismay.

The trim on the first floor is cypress and upstairs is butternut, the reverse of the usual practice of putting the more expensive wood on the main floor. The cypress is stained to resemble the walnut staircase.

The upstairs features a breathtaking master suite with a dream laundry room that has a porch off it. A small bedroom and grand upstairs bath finish off the second floor, which at one time was an apartment.

The current owners have dedicated the last 11 years to restoring the house to its present splendor. They have added a number of features, all in keeping with the style of the house, such as the iron fence, the back porch and the art glass windows that the owner made himself.



822 North 6th Street



Year Built: 1886

Name of House: Samuel and Mary Brown House

Style: High Queen Anne

*Behind Closed Doors Tour
October 19, 2002*