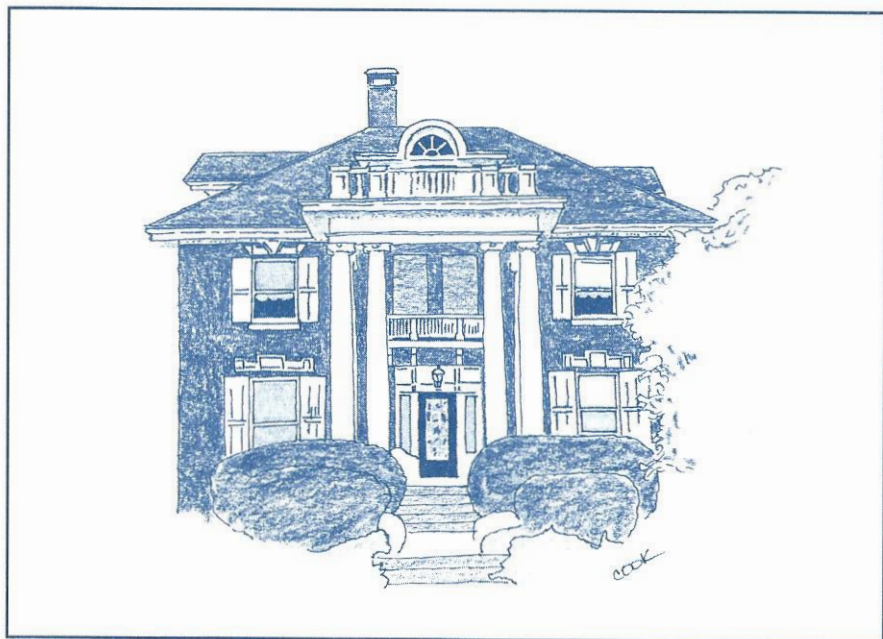




Philip and Emma Dickhut House
1837 Jersey • 1907
attributed to Harvey Chatten, architect

The grandeur of Chatten's neo-Georgian facade for the Dickhuts recalls the pomp if not the forms of his great Queen Anne houses of the 1880s and 1890s. A giant Ionic order portico rises to a massive entablature and balcony. The portico is flanked by windows with large geometric stone lintels. The remainder of the exterior displays the almost scholarly restraint that marked much of Chatten's twentieth century work. This opens the possibility that the imposing street elevation may have been the result of considerable prodding and perhaps some actual design input from Dickhut himself.

In contrast to the facade, the interiors are of simpler taste. The rooms are arranged in a fashion common to Craftsman houses with the living room spanning one side of the hall and the dining room and kitchen the other. The living room fireplace is faced in Roman brick. One suspects that for the Dickhuts, as for many of their contemporaries, the main point of the interior was comfort and utility. Rather than architectural splendor, fine furnishings were more important.

An early remodeling of the kitchen pantry converted it into a half bath opening to the central hall. More recent remodelings of the first floor have opened up a small library at the rear of the living room into a sitting room and restored the passage from kitchen to dining room to a modern equivalent of the butler's pantry.

Downstairs woodwork and flooring is oak and upstairs is pine and fir, both for the most part painted over or carpeted for many years. All of the bathrooms are recently refurbished, with a sprinkling of original fittings and many new touches recreating an older look.

Born in Quincy of German immigrants, Philip Dickhut was one of Quincy's leading citizens at the turn of the century. As secretary of the Boulevard and Park Association for sixteen years, he also worked in a voluntary capacity as acting superintendent of parks. This and other civic involvements were supported by a very successful career in real estate.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
OCTOBER 16, 1993
 current owners: John and Tanya Filla