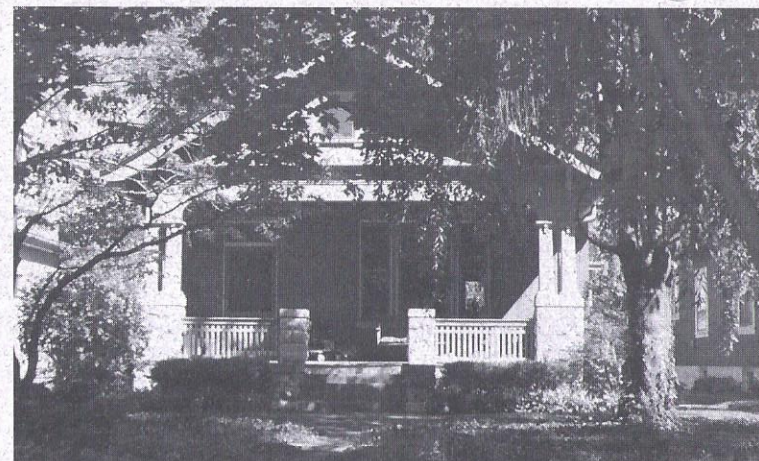




900 Madison
Queen Anne • 1887
Herman and Mary Wilke House

Herman Wilke built this house for his family, and five generations subsequently lived there. The unique front porch, with intricate carving and a wainscoted ceiling, was added with another room not long after the original building was completed, forming an L shape. A later owner converted the original single bedroom upstairs into 4 bedrooms and a bath. That remodeling contains no historical architectural features.

The roomy first floor, however, including the ornate porch, reflects the fancy woodwork of the times. Carefully restored, the house provides ample room for a family. The original pantry was long ago converted to a downstairs bathroom. The kitchen has convenient built-in storage and opens into a large, enclosed back porch, now used as a family room. The present owners' antique furniture complements this historical home.



1501 Kentucky
Craftsman Bungalow • Circa 1912

The Arnold Bertschinger House at 1501 Kentucky was built around 1912 and is one of three contiguous bungalows on Kentucky Street that comprise the new South Side Bungalow District. Bertschinger was a shipping clerk with the Dick Brothers Brewery. Before building this modest bungalow, he and his wife lived in a double house at 1027 Kentucky Street. When Bertschinger passed away in the 1920s, his widow Lizetta continued to live in this bungalow until 1949.

This redbrick bungalow has a true cross-gabled design. The front gable projects over a full-width front porch. Groups of three square columns with Craftsman details, resting on coursed limestone piers, frame the porch and support the front gable projection. The cross walls are raised slightly above the main sidewalls. Each of the four gable ends are sided with painted wood shingles. Craftsman elements include triangular braces under the gable eaves, bell-cast roof, with a slight outward flare near the eaves, wood cornices with widely spaced dentils, and a set of two windows with distinctive diamond panes that punctuate the front gable. The first floor windows are at various heights, have limestone windowsills and- except for kitchen windows- retain their original wavy glass.

Sheltered by the bungalow's homey front porch is an off-centered door below a new stained glass transom and a large window with detailed mullions, similar to foyer and dining room windows. A chimney, with decorative brick courses, is tucked into the east facade. The attic space was transformed into living space the 1980s when the first family with children bought the Bertschinger home. Significant remodeling of the kitchen, hallway, pantry and former back porch was undeftaken before the present owner bought the house.

The present owner removed vinyl kitchen flooring and installed the current, period-appropriate yellow pine floor which the house originally paces. The owner also removed modern door and window trim—replacing it with the current three-piece trim similar to original trim found throughout the first floor.