



J. Henry Wemhoener
1630 Kentucky
c. 1884
Queen Anne
architect unknown

owners - Steve and Lisa Helkey

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT TOUR
DECEMBER 11, 1997

Mr. J. Henry Wemhoener and his wife Anna Mary resided at 1630 Kentucky. There they raised their two children, Lillian and Edwin, who preceded their parents in death. Lillian was a talented musician who played piano with the Quincy Symphony Orchestra Association. Mr. Wemhoener was a printer and was employed by various shops. He handled type until the age of 85. He passed away in 1943. At the time of the construction of this home, he worked for Cadogan and Gardner who were printers and bookbinders. The shop was located at 426-428 Maine.

This two and a half story Queen Anne frame house has a front facing gable roof with steeply pitched cross gables. The first story has a full facade porch with a main entry that is emphasized by a gable roof line and has an ornately carved wood decoration. There is a palladian type window arrangement under the main gable with a set of three windows. The center window has a higher head that is rounded or arched. On the east side of the house there is a two story octagonal bay. Stone detailing can be seen on the brick chimney on the east exterior wall.

The entry foyer has quarter sawn oak floors as well as oak woodwork with crown casing and dentil molding. There are pocket doors that lead to the parlor and the dining room. Campus leaf carving with beading and turns is featured on the quarter sawn oak fireplace mantel. The glass above the parlor window is clear leaded glass and creates interesting patterns as the light shines through. An interesting feature is the pocket doors. They have cypress wood on the dining room side and oak on the parlor side. Cypress wood was used exclusively in the dining room. The built in china cabinet is original to the home. An unusual feature to this house is the ornate decoration on the register return in the foyer. It is not only ornate, but functional, because when it is in use it is pulled down and then pushed up when not in use. The woodwork in the upstairs has basket weave carving on the corner blocks. The floors in the upstairs are pine. This was common in that time period. Another feature that you see from this period is the sleeping porch on the second story. This one is enclosed. The present owners have taken great care to restore the floors back to their original finish.