



125 East Avenue
Queen Anne Style • 1897 • James G. Neilson House
Current Owners: Blaine and Cindy Strock

This Queen Anne Style house was built in 1897 for James G. Neilson, the son-in-law of Theodore Polling who built the Richardsonian Romanesque house on tour at 2016 Jersey. Neilson opted for the Queen Anne style, one of the most popular late Victorian styles. He obtained the services of architect Earnest M. Wood to design the house.

The Queen Anne Style is what most people think of when they think of Victorian architecture. It was first developed in England in the 1860s by English architect Richard Norman Shaw and quickly caught on in the United States after the 1876 Centennial Exhibition which featured buildings in the style. Queen Anne houses are frequently referred to as picturesque—a fancy way of saying pretty.

The Neilson House is no exception. The exterior presents a delightful array of features that though apparently incongruous unite together in a pleasing manner. Notice the use of the different roof forms, dormers, and porches. You can also appreciate the use of different construction materials—stone, shingles and decorative wood trim.

The columns on the front porch are a good example of the architectural decoration frequently seen on Queen Anne Style houses. They are classically inspired, but are unobtrusive. The dormer on the roof of the house facing East Avenue is divided with muntins recalling patterns of Gothic tracery and the pattern is repeated in the leaded glass of the bay window on the north side of the house.

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT TOUR
DECEMBER 13, 2009