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Jill Wollaston

An
attractive
tiled entry
from the

cochere on the west opens into a
us formal reception area.

ar the entry is an oval music
featuring a wide decorative
at the top of the wall.

imagines that this design was
ed by the home's original owner,
sell Wells, who studied architect-
Boston and enjoyed European
with his wife, Henrietta.

grand piano at the center of the
is a special source of pride.

ve found it in St. Louis, and it
om the same year as the house,"

ys.

k floors add to the rich character
interior, especially in the living
where an alcove contains a
hearth and a fireplace flanked
ide bookcases. Western light
s through the bottle glass win-
above the bookcases.

e main floor includes a formal
g room and an inviting sun
, as well as a breakfast nook,
Jill believes a previous owner
d by enclosing a back porch. The
kitchen provides ample storage
convenient work space for Jill,
enjoys cooking.

e home's second floor features a
r bedroom and large rooms for



ABOVE: The spacious attic is one of the main attractions in the Wollaston's Dutch Colonial house. **BELOW:** The main living room is complete with a fireplace and built-in shelves. (H-W Photos/Steve Bohnstedt)

each of the children. Abundant win-
dows, many with colorful leaded glass,
add to the sense of openness, as does a
wide hallway that is often converted to
a gymnastics area by the Wollastons'
twin daughters.

But it's the third-floor attic that is
truly a children's paradise.

Partitioned by the artful placement
of bookcases, shelving and furniture, it
contains a library, a reading nook and
a game room.

One section is decorated like a
classroom, complete with chalkboard,
and built-in storage benches below
each window make cleanup time a
breeze.

"There's plenty of space for their
arts and crafts," Jill said. "They can go
ahead and be messy up here."

There's also plenty of elbow room
to compete at foosball, pool or pinball,
or to decorate the handsome full-size
dollhouse.

Jill and her husband finished the
play area, which was an open attic
when they moved in.

"It was basically unused for 100
years," she says. "We had to redo this
area and our son's bathroom," but
otherwise the home has needed little
attention.

Like the Wollastons' previous resi-
dence, it had been carefully maintained
by owners who recognized the quality
of its construction.



That's part of the attraction of liv-
ing in the historic district, where the
Wollastons have found a welcome
diversity in the ages of their neighbors

and a spirit that's family-friendly.

"I think it's important for children
to be around both older and younger
people," she says.

"I like it that they can v
school and my husband can v
work."