



Jeremy and Jennifer Dyer's home at 2101 Prairie, top, was part of the Quincy Preserves' Christmas Candlelight Tour. The home's dining room, above, holds many of the family's treasured memories, including Jeremy's extensive geode collection, a hobby he has become enamored with and shares with the family.

to call home.

It's very rarely the basement. But Jennifer Dyer believes that cellars are the ugly ducklings of real estate, and the one she toured six and a half years ago at 2101 Prairie has turned out to be a true swan.

"I went down to the basement because that's the first place I always look. Then my husband and I looked at the rest of the house, and we put in an offer the next day."

Dyer's degrees in civil engineering and her love of historic Quincy explain her unusual interest. "I like to see the structural bones of a house, and I just think basements are so fascinating in older homes."

Both she and her husband, Jeremy, are Quincy natives who knew what they were looking for on their return to their hometown.

"We wanted the opposite of what we had in Peoria — a new home with a big yard," she said. "We restricted our search only to this general vicinity."

Jeremy had grown up nearby, and Jennifer had admired the historic character of central Quincy while being raised in a ranch home on the edge of town that had been built by her parents.

"I remember as a child I always wanted to live in this neighborhood," she says. "It's exactly as I thought it would be, and for me it's a dream come true."



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The home's entranceway is decorated in a more Victorian style, with the tree garland accenting the home's original wood. Light-colored wood accents can be seen throughout the home whether it is the floors, stairway or molding.

See HOME, Page 2C