

When Doug and Debbie Tenhouse started looking for a house in Quincy, they never thought they'd find one that could compare to their 100-year-old house in Camp Point.

AT A GLANCE

Original

Owners: Theodore C. and Eleanor Poling. Theodore Poling was a Payson school teacher and later a Quincy lawyer with the firm of Davis and Poling. In 1855, he dissolved the law firm and became involved in banking and real estate.

Style of Architecture: Free Classic Queen Anne.

Date of Construction: 1894.

Architectural Features: Hip roof with side gable, flared roofline and hip dormers, full facade porch with Ionic columns and heavy-turned balusters, side porch, double hung windows with diamond-patterned upper sashes, side porch door incorporated within the east bay area.

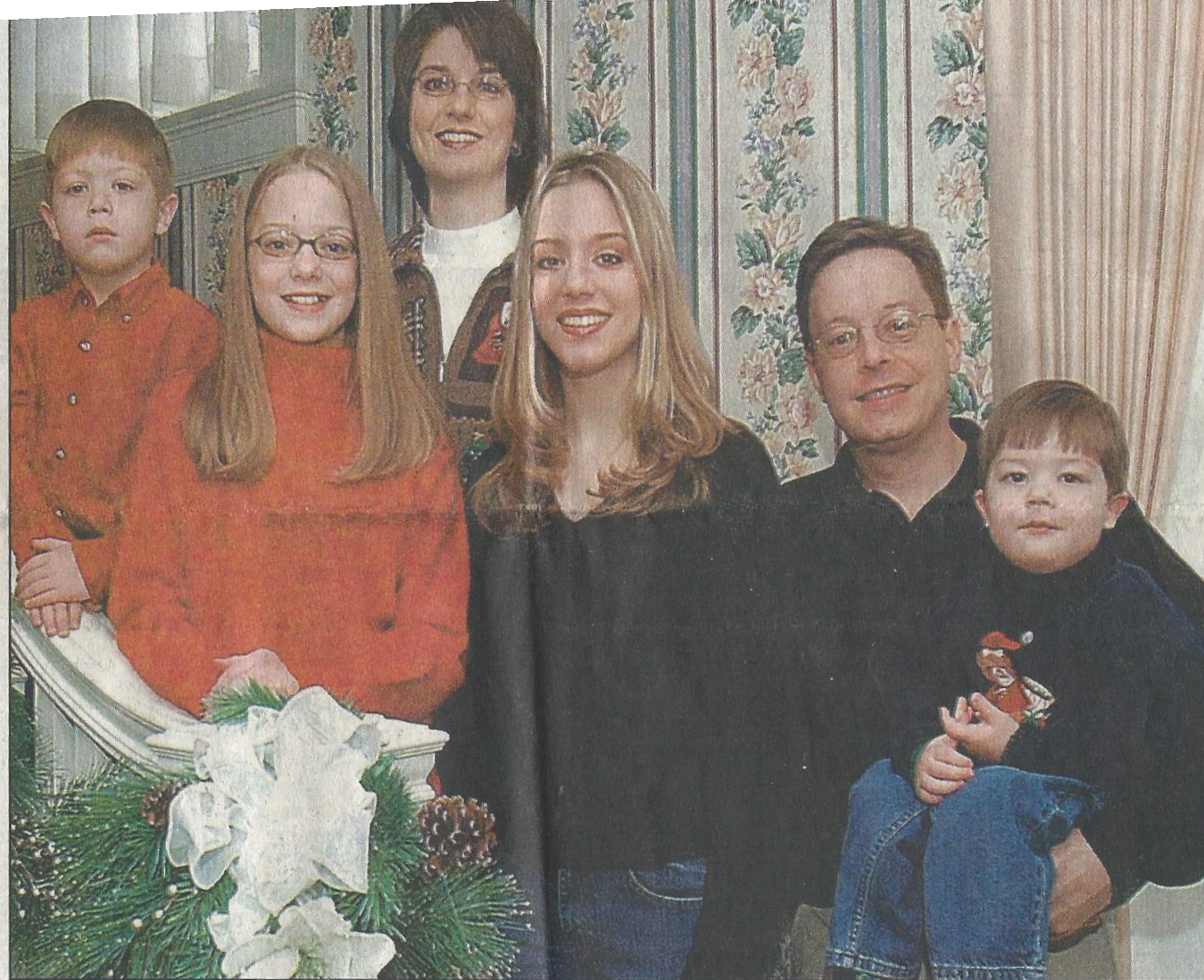
They searched for two years before locating the Theodore C. and Eleanor Poling house at 2030 Jersey, a house that is both formal and friendly.

"It felt like home," Debbie said. "It has so many similarities to our old house. And I had always wanted a front porch. I loved the neighborhood."

"We walked in and knew this was it," Doug

said. "Everything clicked."

The Tenhouses needed a sizable house for their large family and for entertaining. The Poling house fit those



The house at 2030 Jersey is large enough for the Tenhouse family, from left, Regan, Lauren, Debbie, Jesslyn, Doug and Collin.

needs and the flexible Queen Anne floor plan is perfect for their lifestyle.

The supreme attic bedroom suite is great for their teenage daughter, Jesslyn. The basement is nice enough for a playroom for the little children and the music room addition tops off the house's list of attributes. The 4 1/2 bathrooms and central air also added to its appeal.

The cheery remodeled kitchen, with hand-painted 'Cheri Blum' flowers on the walls, was designed for a large family and the side porch gives the children

another place to play.

When the Tenhouses bought the house, it was in tip-top shape and that was important because the Tenhouses had restored their previous house and they just wanted to enjoy this one.

The former owners had renovated the house while maintaining all the Queen Anne features.

The Tenhouses put their personality into the house by making a few decorative changes.

They redid the rooms for children Lauren, Regan and Collin, with Doug

and his mother stripping and wallpapering and Debbie painting the rooms. They changed the attic bedroom suite's nautical theme to a more feminine one with the addition of flowery borders and quilts.

Doug and Debbie know they made a good decision buying a house in the Historic District.

"We thought maybe we'd get a new house, but we just kept on coming back to look at older houses — they have so much personality," Doug said.