

The William and Mary Bull House
222 South 16th Street
Construction date: 1887
Queen Anne/Shingle Style
Architect/builder: Joseph Silsbee

This house was a wedding gift from William's father Lorenzo. When William and Mary left on their honeymoon the house was still only a project; on their return two years later, the house was finished.

The first story of the house is brick; wood is used for the upper stories. The wall surface of the upper stories is wood shingle, some laid in a wave pattern. Four tall chimneys interrupt the roofline on the south, west and north elevations. A full facade porch wraps around the north side. A false balcony with iron balustrade is placed above the porch on the second story. An octagonal tower springs from the south corner of the porch and is topped by a bell-shaped dome roof. A two-story semi-circular tower on the south elevation becomes a balcony with an octagonal balustrade at the third level.

The entry hall is coffered and lined in quarter-sawn oak, consecutive living rooms, now joined into one, are trimmed in walnut and butternut. The dining room is finished in cherry. Wonderful ornament abounds from the Romanesque motifs of the main fireplace to the modern patterning of the staircase window.

Most of the windows in the house have their original glass. One especially noteworthy feature is the immense casement window on the grand stairway landing. The window may have been designed by Frank Lloyd Wright who was an apprentice to Silsbee. Another original feature is the leaded glass bookcase doors that flank the right side of the fireplace, the only remaining bookcase from the original library.

The current owners are Dr. Michael and Terry Moulton

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