



2101 Prairie

Loren C. and Emma Cox House

Dutch Colonial • Built 1909

Current owners: Jeremy and Jennifer Dyer

Loren and Emma Cox built this homey Dutch Colonial home when Cox was a United States Revenue Service collector. Later he was involved in real estate/insurance. Mr. Cox is best known as the man who, in 1939, invented a radio device that he used to find a buried 2000-pound meteorite that landed near 48th and Payson Road in 1888. He displayed the chunk of solar system debris in his yard. It was later moved to the southeast lawn of the John Wood Mansion where it is today.

The Dutch Colonial Revival is a sub-type of Colonial Revival and this particular form was a popular pattern-book style. In the early 1990s, previous owners rescued it from a girdle of aluminum siding, exposing its original brick and clapboard construction. They found an old photo of the house and used it as a guide to rebuild its missing front porch. They added the back porch and creatively made the one car garage into a two-car garage with entrances from both Division and Prairie.

The roomy entry has mixed red and white quarter sawn oak flooring and a red oak stairway banister. The newel post has profiled caps, dentils and applied molding. The staircase has a skirt board and a radiused starter step.

With the exception of the modern fireplace, the living room has been unchanged over the years, with beautiful leaded glass transoms gracing the windows. Note the wooden piece in the corner that is holding photos. It is a theodolite, a surveying tool that belonged to the owner's grandfather. The rocking chair is a family heirloom, which has rocked generations of relatives.

The dining room has cypress trim and has new built-in cabinets and window seat. The owners' extensive geode collection sparkles in the corner. The inviting kitchen was created by combining the original kitchen, back entry and pantry. The new floors are fir and the custom-made cabinets are white pine. The exposed chimney is a nostalgic touch to the large family space. The beadboard in the powder room is of the period.

The gambrel roof affords marvelous space on the second floor, allowing for large bedrooms, but closets of the period were small. The owners remedied the situation by adding closets. Can you figure out from which bedrooms the owners borrowed space in order to create larger closets?

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT TOUR