



**Walter and Dorothy Stevenson House**  
**709 S. 24th Street • c. 1927 • architect unknown • Elizabethan Cottage**

Designed by a Milwaukee architect, this house is one of Quincy's few ventures into the Country Club suburban architecture of larger cities. A profusion of gables, decorative "half-wood" insertions into the stucco, Tudor arches at the entry, and the use of flashed brick all recall the picturesque cottages of Shakespeare's time. In the 1920s, these architectural quotations from history, some of them quite literal, were regarded as the height of style.

But the plan is entirely American and, for its day, quite modern. The first floor rooms branch like spokes from a small central hall. As a result, living room, dining room, and kitchen are all directly accessed from the entry. A spiral staircase leads upward to the bedrooms. Multiple levels off the staircase create a sense of privacy for the multiplicity of bedroom areas and hallways. The family's rooms and servants' quarters are clearly demarcated by a transition from dark-stained to natural maple flooring as one crosses from the area above the living room to the area above the kitchen.

The detailing of the interior is quite simple but in keeping with the exterior. Entries off the hallways are arched, and rough plaster walls reiterate the rough cast of the exterior stucco. The north end of the house has been sensitively remodeled in order to expand the kitchen and convert the original patio into an enclosed porch. The dining room windows to the east have also been modified into a single picture window overlooking the golf course.

Walter Stevenson was an early ENT specialist with an office at the WCU building.

Current resident: Jane Daniels

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS  
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