

Dashwood House

Apparently arranged with entertaining in mind, the Dashwood House open floor plan introduces the guest to a formal atmosphere at the foyer arch to the living room, which is flanked by Ionic columns, echoing those found on the front porch. The same columns introduce the library area at the rear of the living room. First floor wood-trim is quarter-sawn oak, painted for the most part, and punctuated with transition stained glass inserts in a peach tree base motif relating the entry sidelights, library inserts, and dining room feature window.

The original mantel in the living room has been replaced by one of a contemporary style balancing the original storage checker wall in the den opposite the living room. Pocket doors from the foyer into the den and dining room have been sealed off; they probably matched the library doors to the rear porch. The screen porch itself was enlarged in the early 1920's. Upstairs rooms are spacious, richly appointed, and include a servant's room atop the rear stairway.

The history of the northeast corner of Maine & 18th Sts. is most interesting. In 1848, Lucius Kingman paid A.K. Harris \$5 for the land..June 2! This was followed in July, 1882 when Mr. & Mrs. Kingman sold the property to Lucia Roland for \$4000 indicating some sort of building had been erected on the property during the years which had elapsed. In 1889, John W. and Lucia Roland sold the property to William H. Govert who in 1892 sold the land to Levin H. A. Nickerson. Mr. & Mrs. Nickerson sold the land in 1907 to Mr. & Mrs. George H. Dashwood who built the present home. The house has been occupied by only three families. Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Schmitt purchased the home from the Dashwood estate in 1949 and it was sold to the present owners in 1964.

The house directly north of the Dashwood House once stood on this corner and was moved to its present location to make way for a new house on the corner. A carriage house was built and then plans were abandoned. It may be assumed that the house that was originally planned for the corner would be in the same style as the carriage house...quite different from the house that now stands on the property!

When entering the Dashwood House, it is interesting to note the large central hallway with its impressive staircase. Rooms all open off this area and are most spacious. The east room, which serves as a den is quite oriental in flavor and includes a variety of objects acquired in Tibet. All of the rooms contain mementoes of an interesting life of travel of the present owners, making the home a treasury of valuable souvenirs collected from all parts of the world. No ornament or appointment is without some special historical meaning or personal reminder of foreign travel.

Placing the Kingman house behind the Maine Street lot and building the large carriage house east of it, left a smaller than expected corner lot for such a major architectural gem.

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