

included in the home's 20 pages of specifications.

Bennie and Ellie Hines are the current owners of the elaborate home. Ellie Hines fell in love with the mansion as a child. So when the house went up for auction in 1986, she bid on it even though she had never been inside.

She remembers seeing the interior for the first time. "I thought it was gorgeous. I didn't find anything wrong with it," she said.

The house did need a lot of work. "But we knew we'd get the money back that we put into it," she said.

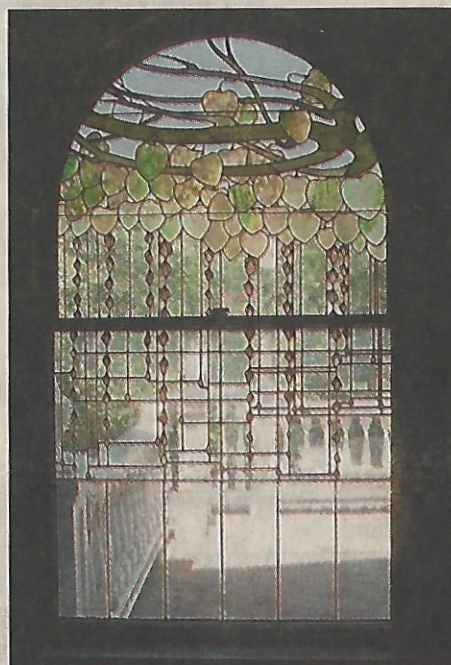
Since they moved in, there has never been a time when the Hineses have not been involved in some phase of restoration. In spite of all the work, Ellie Hines still loves the home.

The couple's first undertaking was restoring the outside, and the job was monumental.

First they burned layers and layers of paint off the huge home and painted it yellow. They removed the ionic columns and had them stripped and replaced one fourth of the balusters and detailed wooden ornamentation. The custom work was expensive, but the couple wanted the renovation to be accurate.

The bead board ceilings on the huge porch had to be stripped and stained. The porch's metal roof leaked, so it

The Hines home, at 2020 Maine, was originally built for the John S. Anna Crutten-den family. At upper right, an undated photo shows how the house looked in an earlier time, when the trees around the house were still young. Below is an art glass window in the stairwell.



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Another outside project was digging up and relaying the brick sidewalks and the large curved driveway. Bennie Hines also added a stone-look sidewalk around the side of the house.

The inside of the magnificent house also has kept the Hineses busy.

The couple immediately made a studio in the attic/ballroom for Ellie Hines' aerobics classes. They then gutted and redid the upstairs bathroom.

Over the years, one room at a time, they completely gutted all the bedrooms and renovated walls, floors and ceilings. Each room took weeks of hard, messy work.

On the main floor, several ceilings needed to be replaced. The dining room

ceiling demanded immediate attention when it fell onto the table in the middle of the night.

Redoing the high ceilings was a major task, because

first the elaborate, five-piece crown molding had to be delicately removed.

The home's unusual wood trim and paneling is impressive. Luckily for the Hineses, only two upstairs rooms needed stripping. In those rooms the couple discovered birds-eye maple under the paint. Other upstairs rooms were trimmed in butternut.

Downstairs, the foyer, back hall, staircase and dining room have trim and paneling of select white oak. The sitting room's trim and unique fireplace is red birch and the parlor's trim is butternut.

The couple replaced the heating system, added air conditioning, rewired the home and replaced windows.

Future plans include repainting the house and making some changes in the kitchen. The original butler's pantry cabinets are stored in the basement and Ellie Hines would like to return the pantry to its original state.

"There is always something that needs to be done," Ellie Hines said. "But I love to stay at home and take care of it."

■ Porch: circular wrap porch and side veranda with ionic columns and turned, vase-shaped balusters, finials, bead board ceiling.

■ Windows: multiple Palladian windows, arched dormer windows with tracery or interlacing lines, Art Nouveau stained glass window on north.

■ Other ornamentation: ionic pilasters, or fixed half-columns, oak door with side lights and beveled glass, original iron fence.

Two views of the foyer of the house at 2020 Maine show off the woodwork in the house. The photograph at near right shows the door and decorative windows. At far right, an archway at the far end of the foyer leads to other parts of the building

