

And for good measure, they also liked:

- The huge family room addition, whose tapestry brick matches perfectly with the original house.

- The house's solid construction, which makes it nearly soundproof.

- The large park-like backyard.

- And the sun porch, just off the living room.

Dutch Colonial Revival architecture was popular in the 1920s and 1930s. However, an architectural expert says Dutch Colonial was neither Dutch nor Colonial. It was really an American form built by the Dutch who were in America.

Original Dutch Colonial houses had a central hall, parlor and kitchen. The family cooked and slept in

claves; they did not appear until after 1750. The Meades were drawn to the house because of its homey, comfortable and inviting feeling. The house has large rooms that are flooded with light from large paired windows.

The big central hall and open staircase create a spacious feeling and the rooms flow into each other. The bedrooms are spacious and sunny and there is a master suite and huge walk-in closet that the previous owners made by removing a wall between two bedrooms.

"Our house was always a gathering place for our sons' friends," Judy said. "It was always busy with boys and girls coming and going. They always came

One Meade and her mother-in-law, Judy (June) Cleaver's home," Judy said of the old "Leave It To Beaver" television series.

The Meades had previously renovated a three-story Second Empire home in Keokuk, Iowa, so this house built in 1934 by Richard Allens was not as an imposing of a job.

"We work on it continuously," Judy said. "We're not ones to sit. We like to be busy. We always work together on whatever we are doing."

Jon is handy and keeps the house perfectly maintained himself. An example of his talent is the rich parquet floor he installed in the vestibule, central entry hall and upstairs hall.

