

Breuer House

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structure

Breuer House - 2229 Maine - c. 1878 - Queen Anne /Stick

The bright and shining house at 2229 Maine was once two houses. In the beginning a father and son had separate addresses each on one side of a common wall, under a common roof, but with separate front and rear porches, separate basements, and no connecting doors. Until only three years ago, it was operated as a duplex house; and then a man with a family and a business found a better use for one of the most liveable of Maine Street homes.

Bill Breuer operates a floral and gift business from the east side of the house. To accomplish a one-building operation, he created an arch between the foyer of the larger portion of the house and the parlor of the east side. In addition, he created a doorway connecting the two basements.

Originally a vernacular Queen Anne House, it has undergone a number of changes which give it a mixed-style individuality. At one time a basic wrap-around Queen Anne porch served both sides of the duplex. This was replaced in the twenties with a porch resembling Western Stick in construction. The interior, however, has remained unchanged except for the opening in the foyer wall.

All interior woodwork on the first floor of the 17-room house is butternut, simply ornamented, matching on both sides of the duplex. Presently the trim is painted, but the sliding doors from the foyer into the west parlor have the original varnish.

Contrasting mantels in the two parlors add more variety to a house with an already interesting variety of features. The west parlor mantel is of Colonial design, while the west is Eastlake in character. Both are butternut. There are six bedrooms on the second floor, four finished rooms (believed to have been servants' quarters) on the third floor.

The first floor plan affords a most hospitable and comfortable family living situation as well as business atmosphere for Mr. Breuer's type of business. The dining-kitchen-family room arrangement is convenient; and the family room overlooks the back yard swimming pool.

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