



Patrick and Margaret Hoyer House
211 S. 14th • 1896
builder unknown

From the outside, this vernacular brick house appears today much as it was when it was built for Patrick Hoyer, a foreman at A. J. Flynn and Company. Wooden shutters flare outward at the top, dramatizing the shallow arches above each window. A small porch is tucked into the entry corner, where it carries most of the house's style, a simplified and classicized Queen Anne.

The simple classical lines of the interior woodwork show how far American tastes were shifting in the mid 1890s. Much of the other interior detailing remains in the grasp of Victorian ideals. Two charming original fireplaces, one in each parlor, are stock items whose simplicity is probably more a matter of economics than of taste. Three art glass transom lights and a staircase window are carefully matched in style and palette, each combining dappled and semi-opaque glass with clear beveled glass in imaginative ways. The door hardware is amazingly florid. The most ornately modeled hardware is in the kitchen.

In plan the Hoyer House is similar to W. F. Berghofer's house next door, though its relatively narrow shape keeps it from achieving quite the same sense of openness. The floor and balustrade over the main stairs curves inward rather than outward, taking some space from the small room above but creating the effect of a spiral staircase.

The most spectacular remodeling of the house occurred in the kitchen around 1960, when it acquired all-metal St. Charles cabinetry, a bank of Toastmaster warming drawers, and an industrial quality built-in Chambers stove and oven.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
OCTOBER 16, 1993

current owners: Mike and Vickie Mullen