

michigan HOUSE ENVY



PHOTOS BY SALWAN GEORGES/DETROIT FREE PRESS

The 1800s home sits on a block of Victorian homes on West Canfield. The street in the area is brick. BELOW: In the kitchen and throughout, floors are oak; woodwork is extensive, and the lighting is original.

VICTORIAN BEAUTY PRESERVED



Restored Detroit home sits in a historic area

By Judy Rose
Special to the Detroit Free Press

This is surely the most photographed block in Detroit — 18 restored Victorian buildings that fill West Canfield between Second and Third Avenue. Residents joke that they have to shoo wedding parties off their porches when they show up to stage photos.

Even the street underfoot has reclaimed its 1870s beauty, paved with granite bricks under mature trees and vintage streetlights. It evokes the days when the only vehicles on it were drawn by horses.
It is rare for any of West Canfield's restored houses to come up for sale, said Realtor Jason Hill, who specializes in historic Detroit. It's just a handful of houses, and the owners stay put.

"Families stay in those houses 20 or 30 years," Hill said. "When they do sell, it's to someone already connected to the neighborhood."
This house has special cachet. It was the home of the late Beulah Croxford, the founding mother of historic preservation in Detroit. It's for sale now, with a carriage house that can have a separate use, at \$750,000.
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DETAILS FROM TOP: An artful, original sconce; a nook with tall windows offering a different view of city life, and a welcoming entrance.



Various tasteful colors of paint enhance architectural details. The fountain in front of the house is a perfect stop for police horses.

RESTORED VICTORIAN

Where: 627 W. Canfield, Detroit
How much: \$750,000
Bedrooms: 5
Baths: 3 full
Square feet: 2,800, plus 3,000 in the carriage house

Key features: Beautifully restored Victorian house in a full Victorian neighborhood; location near Wayne State, the Detroit Medical Center and a burgeoning commercial district
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