CAPITOL HILL
HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR
SUNDAY, MAY 10, 1970
TOUR—2:00 P.M. • TEA—4:30 P.M.

art show at starting point:
7th and North Carolina Ave., N.E.

benefit children's hospital
The Capitol Hill Restoration Society, a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, was founded in 1955. It is now one of the largest active groups in Washington, D. C., with a membership of over 600 persons, many of whom do not reside on Capitol Hill, but who are interested in the cultural and social development of this area.

The purpose of the Society, as set out in its by-laws, is to preserve, support, and encourage the preservation of historic sites and buildings on Capitol Hill; to foster, support, disseminate, and encourage good practices in the preservation and restoration of buildings and grounds; and to support the preservation of Capitol Hill as a model urban residential area.

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society believes that Capitol Hill must be a place to live, as well as a place to work, and that its fine old houses can be restored for the benefit of those who are willing to commit themselves to its future, rather than be demolished for highways, office buildings, and parking lots for those whose faith in the city vanishes with the setting of each day’s sun. The Society will do whatever is possible to preserve the traditional heritage of Capitol Hill in history as a place for graceful, comfortable and convenient living.

The Society’s activities include participation in community affairs in an effort to help solve problems involving schools, transportation, reduction in crime, beautification and cleanliness of Capitol Hill’s streets and parks, and other civic activities.

The Society conducts research to document historic Capitol Hill sites, and seeks to identify and foster the restoration of historic landmarks on Capitol Hill. Notable examples of this activity are the Sherman House, the birthplace of John Philip Sousa; and the Frederick Douglass Museum. Its most recent identification is Christ Church, Washington Parish, established in 1794.

It cooperates with government agencies and commissions with a view to meeting their objectives, while preserving the community interests of the Hill’s varied residents. It conducts research into all requests for changes in zoning on Capitol Hill, making responsible recommendations to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia. Finally, it maintains close and active liaison with the Congress to support legislation which will benefit both Capitol Hill residents and the entire city of Washington.

The Society sponsors the now famous Capitol Hill House and Garden Tour, presently in its thirteenth year, when its residents open their homes and gardens to show visitors the best examples of old house restoration, versatility, originality and variety, as well as the adaptability of these old houses to today’s life. Proceeds of this year’s tour will go to benefit Children’s Hospital.

Meetings of the Society are held on the second Monday of each month, beginning in September and ending in June, at the Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, 4th and Independence Avenue, N. E. Those interested in the Society’s objectives and goals are invited to become members.

The Speaker’s Room
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

March 31, 1970

Lawrence A. Monaco, Jr., President
Capitol Hill Restoration Society
P. O. Box 9064
South East Station
Washington, D. C. 20003

Dear Mr. Monaco:

I extend my best wishes to the Capitol Hill Restoration Society on the occasion of its Thirteenth Annual House and Garden Tour. The Tour this year, I am sure, will be the most successful ever held.

The Tour serves as a means of informing people throughout the Washington metropolitan area that Capitol Hill is a fine residential community, as well as a place where the Congress meets. In addition, by donating half of your Tour profits to Children’s Hospital of the District of Columbia, the Restoration Society is assisting one of the finest charitable organizations I know in achieving its goal of providing medical services to children regardless of need.

May I again express my best wishes for an outstanding Tour.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Speaker
U. S. House of Representatives
Although the exterior facade was left in its original state so as not to disrupt the informal atmosphere of the street, the interior has been altered radically. Restoration by the Fucikans was carried out under the direction of architect Paul-Thurich Schareinberg, also of Capitol Hill.

The original living room is now the kitchen, whose features include vast cabinet space, a 10-foot solid maple counter top, a play area, and a trash chute leading into the basement. The kitchen, ball, dining room, front stairs and upstairs floors are of the original yellow pine.

To form the present living room, the original floor was cut away, the rear of the house extended ten feet, and a new floor built at ground level. Concealed within the columns next to the window are wires, fuses, and heating ducts in the second floor. The sculpture near the window is by Isorcon Kahn and was exhibited at the 1966 Corcoran Area Show. From the living room, stairs lead down to a study-reading room which contains a space of books and a fireplace, as well as an oil painting by Odalis Philbrick, Mrs. Fucikan's granddaughter.

From the living room one gains an enchanting view of the multi-level garden, complete with vista, flowering plants and sun-warmed brick.

Up the original stairs — save for one odd ring — at the head is the master bedroom, with an unusual color-changing lighted glass wall. The bed rug is a Kim, of uncertain origin. Between the bedroom and the bath is a well-appointed dressing room. Note the unusual shower skyline and the immense tile tub.

The large front room on the second floor is a nursery-daycare-playroom, with the original brick walls scraped free of plaster to provide an interesting, textured "child-proof" room. Of considerable appeal is the framed proof of a poster by Alphonse Mucha in 1912, in honor of the Czech School Sponsors.

Throughout the house are exceptionally tall doors, custom-built from lengths of leaded glass, which provide a refreshing architectural note.
TO HOUSE NUMBER 4

678 A Street, Southeast
The home of Messrs. Michael Belque and Donald Johnson

This turn-of-the-century house owes its present elegant appearance to the extensive modifications undertaken by its owners. Extensive structural changes undertaken in the interior provide its present spaciousness. A wide hall, used as a foyer and display gallery for many of the owners' oils, water colors, lithographs and etchings, leads to the living room, now relocated at the rear, overlooking a charming garden. French doors, built-in bookcases and cabinets, and a fireplace were added to give the room its present comfortable aura.

To the left of the foyer is a formal dining room, occupying the front half of the former double parlour. Of particular interest is the unusual silver and brass German chandelier, and the ceiling and wall moldings, which reappear throughout the house.

The kitchen, located in the rear half of the original parlour, is a good example of the use of equipment found in the house at the time of restoration. Combined with new appliances and a ceramic tile floor, and a cedar-covered wall in which had been an arched double doorway, a warm and rustic feeling is achieved. The original window was retained, and is put to full advantage as a "green area", where dillenita plants, carried by hand from Florida, flourish. An elegant, marble-floored powder room and a practical pantry complete the first floor.

The same wall treatment which gives the first floor hall its feeling of spaciousness and elegance continues along the stairs and throughout the upstairs hall area.

The master suite, occupying the rear of the house, opens onto a porch which is planned as a summer extension of the room. The late 19th century "Victorian revival" bed captures one's attention, but the wall covering in this room, as well as the adjacent bath, should not be overlooked.

The second bedroom emphasizes the treasured, much-traveled bed made for Mr. Johnson's great grandfather in Alsace-Lorraine in the early 1800's, and which has followed the family to England, Louisiana, Philadelphia, and finally Washington. An antique blue and brown oriental rug should be noted, as well as the circa 1950 oil painting.

At the front of the house, in the vibrant blue and red room, serving as an office/study, and in the library, convertible into a guest bedroom, hang many fine works by young American artists.

TO HOUSE NUMBER 5

638 A Street, Northeast
The home of Messrs. William L. McIntosh and Carmel L. Noncon

Construction details of this house indicate that it was built about 1850, although the interior brick wall in the kitchen would seem to suggest either construction or replacement at a later date. The early history of the house is unknown, although prior to the present owners' purchase of the home, it was occupied continuously by one owner for nearly forty years.

The spacious living room was formerly two smaller rooms and a hall, but have been combined into one large room for facility of entertainment, etc. The original random width floors are set off by two oriental rugs. The portrait of Charles 1 is of the period by an unknown artist. The oil of the young woman, over the piano, is painted after the Scottish school, and dates from the first half of the 17th century. The large portrait at the rear of the room is an early 17th century Flemish work.

The eclectic tastes of the owners are reflected in the antique and modern pieces of furniture in the living room. Of special interest is the provincial walnut chest of doors, of Louis XV influence, possibly as early as 1730. The lovely Pembroke table is circa 1750.

All draperies and curtains throughout the home were made by Sarah Johnson, of Silver Spring.

Through the kitchen, or by the side entrance, one can step into what is surely one of the loveliest gardens on the Hill. The tall columns at the end are reminiscent of a Roman villa garden, as are the stately, gold-foil filled pool, and fountain. The garden is dominated by a giant cherry tree, more than fifty years old. The sturdy bare tree near the fence is a crepe myrtle, which leaf early in the summer, and breaks into masses of pimple-shave blooms when most other trees have long passed their prime. All the shrubs and flowering plants, including a dogwood tree, magnolias grandiflora, a deciduous magnolia, azaleas, rhododendron, boxwood, clematis, and many perennials were planted by the owners. The moss-green velvety grass reflects the hours spent by the owners tending it.
TOUR MAP

NUMBER 1
10 NINTH STREET, S.E.

NUMBER 2
18 NINTH ST., S.E.

NUMBER 3
314-316 NINTH ST., S.E.

NUMBER 4
704 A STREET, S.E.

NUMBER 5
638 A STREET, N.E.

NUMBER 6
512 CONSTITUTION AVE., N.E.

NUMBER 7
120 FOURTH ST., S.E.

NUMBER 8
319 D STREET, S.E.

NUMBER 9
316 S. CAROLINA AVE., S.E.

NUMBER 10
520 FIFTH STREET, S.E.

- EASTERN MARKET, NORTH SIDE — STARTING POINT
- FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY — TEA
TOUR HOUSE NUMBER 6

512 Constitution Avenue, Northeast

The home of Messrs. Jerry Wilkening and Charles A. Nickells

Originally built in 1880 as a one-family dwelling, the present structure contains a one-bedroom apartment on the first floor, while the main residence occupies the upper two floors. Very few structural changes were necessary in the restoration of this house, since the size of the rooms and the ceiling heights were the prime assets of this Victorian house.

The owners have done most of the work themselves, subcontracting only the electrical and plumbing work.

The Sarouk oriental rug in the living room has been in Mr. Nickells' family for several generations. The landscape painting above the slate mantelpiece is American, and dates from about the time the house was built. A sixteenth century manuscript hangs near the desk. Many of the accessories, which give this residence its particular charm and warmth, have been purchased in Europe during the past several years. The seasons painting in the dining room is English, and dates from the 1860's. The large oak and walnut grandfather's clock was brought originally from Scotland, and dates from approximately 1799.

The gallery wall, as seen going upstairs, contains several paintings by Penelope Nickells, a well-known artist in the Chicago area. The "eclectic" room over the stairway is used as a study. While small in size, it incorporates everything that would not fit elsewhere in the house.

The garden has been completely redesigned and planted within the past year.

The carriage house has not yet been restored -- but is another project planned for the future.

TOUR HOUSE NUMBER 7

120 Fourth Street, Southeast

The house of Mrs. Ruth C. Spangler and her nephew, Mr. C. Daley Brown, A.I.D.

This grand, 4-story, 14-room house in the high Victorian style, was built approximately 100 years ago according to legend by Phillippe Costaggin, who worked with Constantino Bruniad. The facade has been meticulously restored to include duplication of all missing scroll-sawn ornaments on the cornice, overdoor and replacement of contemporary cast iron brackets under the arched window lintels. Mr. Brown and Mrs. Spangler occupy the English basement and parlor floors. The second and third floors have been converted from nine bedrooms into two, floor-through apartments.

The immense drawing room features an unique, ornamental plaster ceiling. The matched Carrara marble mantelpieces are original and are surrounded by matched, walnut-framed pier mirrors. A painting by the noted Capitol Hill artist, Agnes Alinian, hangs over the antique pump organ, and depicts the alley complex behind the main house and Mr. Brown's studio. The grand piano was the Chickering Company's "presentation piece" at the Chicago Exposition of 1893. A number of etchings by the Czechoslovakian engraver, T. Francois Sinou, represent a portion of the largest house collection in private hands. The romantic painting over the sofa is the work of Etrote Zampighi. Mrs. Spangler's extensive travels are reflected in the collection of ornaments and paintings in the drawing room, her adjacent bedroom and sitting room. The silk damask for the drawing room draperies was brought by her from Hong Kong in 1955.

Mr. Brown's profession as an interior and restoration designer is demonstrated in his studio on the second floor of the carriage house. His travels abroad are recalled by his many contributions to the accessories of the house. There are found in profusion in the kitchen and dining room.

All the antique country furniture in the kitchen belonged originally to Mrs. Spangler's grandparents. The secretary in the dining room is a superb example of American cabinet work in the Empire style of the 1860's. The cornice and panelling were removed from a Victorian building which stood adjacent to the New York Avenue office of the National Savings and Trust Company. The glazing and hand finishing of this woodwork demonstrate the painstaking labor which Mrs. Spangler and Mr. Brown have lavished throughout the restoration of their home during the past twelve years.
315 5 Street, southeast
The home of William F. Creager

This early frame home, with its side entry porch and large, grassy yard, boasts four working fireplaces, random-width floors, and the simplicity and warmth typical of an early Victorian farmhouse.

Reflected in a well-used gilt mirror, the front parlor with its horsehair sofa and Chippendale rectangular rosewood piano (1914) is the home's only room with delusions of grandeur. Also of note are an elaborate Indian rug, bamboo furniture, and a large acrylic "staining".

The back sitting room, with its oak bar and Empire sofa in blue denim, leads to a small dining room with putty-colored wainscoting, farm furniture, and a rare double "White Angel" oil-burning ceiling fixture.

Up the front stair, Mr. Creager's "winter bedroom" sports an impressive brass bed and an unusual bamboo wardrobe. Bamboo also decorates the hall, the "summer bedroom" with its small iron and brass bed, and the study beyond.

The winding back stair leads to a small butler's pantry--complete with an array of ironstone displayed in a china cupboard which was in the house when restoration began last summer.

Beyond...a mammoth kitchen with its own sitting room. Once the coal shed, this daylit area retains a rustic feeling, with its brick floor, cabinets made from old door panels, and maple chopping-block counters. Past the French baker's stand, now holding schubfläden instead of bread, doors lead to an arched outdoor breakfast area and a "promising" yard with fig tree and wild strawberries. The yard, like this imaginative restoration, seems to say "a simple life"---three blocks from the Capitol.

316 South Carolina Avenue, Southeast
Home of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Rightover

This house, restored in 1967, owes its particular charm to its owners' Southwestern heritage and to their love of Mexico. All furnishings were handcrafted in Mexico, in the same manner and style of the 19th and 19th centuries.

In the living room, the charming bay window treatment conceals heating and air conditioning equipment. Beneath the rustic bookcases is a mammoth woodburn, conveniently located next to the fireplace, which has been faced with hand-made Mexican tiles. The rug, on which Liberty Blue, the Rightover's Weimaraner and Britons, their silver Persian cat, compete for comfort, is made from alternating strips of alpaca and llama fur. The wrought-iron chandelier is noteworthy in that it is not electrified, but uses only candles---some of the many throughout the house. The painting above the chair is an example of centuries-old Mexican art, using a powdered medium on pressed bark.

In the dining room, the Mexican theme is continued, again with tiles, Mexican pottery, and the hand-made furniture. A huge, walk-in closet beneath the stairs provides commodious storage. Conveniently arranged for movement from the concealed patio to the dining room is a door at the right of the fireplace.

On the left, as one enters the kitchen, is the marble-floored powder room. Of particular note is the African grass wallpaper and the delicate chandelier.

The kitchen's brick floor, a working fireplace, spacious cabinets, and Portuguese tile wallpaper provide the rustic charm to complement the Mexican dinner which Cynthia Rightover prepares with a deft touch.

Candle holders light the original stairway to the second floor, where the huge master bedroom once again repeats the Spanish theme. Complimentary closets echo the basic, well-planned restoration of the house. The second bedroom's casual comfort belies its usefulness as a library-guest room.

The third bedroom, with its lantern light fixture and the old, roll-top desk purchased from the Southeast Furniture Exchange when it closed, is used as Jim's study, but can be quickly converted into a guest bedroom.

The bathroom, with its pink marble, flocked wallpaper, and small chandeliers, complements the over-all Mexican motif.
TOUR HOUSE NUMBER 10

520 Fifth Street, Southeast
The home of Miss Nina Radin

This house, built circa 1850 and one of the earliest houses on the square, bears little resemblance to its former role as a boarding house, housing some 27 persons. It was totally remodeled in 1960, with the entrance moved to the side, the front hall and two "parlors" converted into one large living room, the kitchen and side porch into a spacious dining room, and a back laundry-cum-bedroom into the southeast family kitchen. Seven rooms upstairs were converted into three spacious bedrooms, each with a private bath, and a walk of closest space.

Miss Radin's early San Francisco childhood is reflected in the Oriental furniture seen throughout the house. Combined with a sure touch are Victorian, early American and contemporary furniture to provide its elegant ambience.

The living room combines Oriental and traditional furniture. Of particular interest is a Chinese three-legged frog, dating from the Bronze Age (approximately 2000 B.C.), on the coffee table; a Han dynasty horse and horseman, dating from 200 B.C.-200 A.D., on the shelves; a set of Ming dynasty porcelain goblets; several pieces of Chinese pewter; and some Canton ware. To complete the Oriental mood there is an 18th century Japanese Tanzei (wedding chest) of camphor wood, a Chinese "ancestors", and a group of old Japanese theatrical prints. Over the twin marble fireplaces in the livingroom are a gouache of a cabbage by Yehelichov and a contemporary oil of a Belgian marshland by the noted Flemish artist, Dujants.

The dining room combines Swedish contemporary and Victorians, with two 18th century Japanese flower paintings.

The kitchen, primarily early American, houses a collection of blue Canton ware in the cupboard, old Dutch wooden cookie molds, handmade wallpaper composed of wine labels, on one wall, and a set of blue Bohemian glasses.

The library has an interesting Sheraton desk and some old English prints grace the walls.

The master bedroom is pure Victorian, complete with family photographs and some primitives, while the front bedroom is frankly contemporary.

Throughout the house several pictures and sculptures of cats may be found.

FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY -- Tea

As a part of the Tour, participants are invited to a tea, to be held from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Folger Shakespeare Library, 201 East Capitol Street.

The Library's suggestion of an Elizabethan hall will provide a fitting setting for the conclusion of the tour.

The Folger Shakespeare Library is one of the great research institutions in the United States, serving both the general public and advanced scholars in the fields of Shakespeare studies and the history and culture of the Renaissance. Its Xhibit Hall and Theatre are visited annually by tens of thousands of tourists and school groups, and its Reading Room and rich collections of rare books and manuscripts of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries are a center for hundreds of scholars.

The Library is the bequest of Henry Clay Folger and his wife, Emily Jordan Folger. Mr. Folger's interest in literature, particularly in Shakespeare, developed during his student days at Amherst College and continued throughout his lifetime. He and his wife collected books, manuscripts, paintings, and other materials related to Shakespeare, Shakespeare's contemporaries, and the history of the Elizabethan theatre. The Folger collection forms the basis of the Library's holdings. Subsequent acquisitions have expanded the collection so that it reflects all aspects of civilization of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.
The Folger Library Guest House represents the return of an old Capitol Hill tradition. Built in the 1850's and the 1860's, 20 Third Street, Southeast and its companions, numbers 22 and 16, were among the original "boarding houses" referred to in history books where the 19th century legislators lived when they came to Washington. For this reason they have no grand rooms, only a series of large, square rooms.

Number 20 has now been renovated to serve the community as a kind of "boarding house" for scholars working at the Folger Library. Its original architectural integrity has been preserved, but the color scheme established by panels of vivid Japanese prints carried out in contemporary furniture and fixtures gives the house the stamp of the 20th century.

At the conclusion of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society's thirteenth annual house and garden tour, the members and officers of the Society, and particularly all those who have worked so many weeks to make this tour successful, invite the friends, guests, visitors, and neighbors of Capitol Hill to enjoy the tea which has been prepared as a climax to this year's tour.

CAPITOL HILL RESTORATION SOCIETY TOYA COMMITTEE

Tour Chairman: Mrs. Constance M. Wieman
Publicity: Mrs. Jessie Shears Rascher
Tickets: Mr. Jack Sechon
House Selection: Mr. Jerry F. Fischer
Tour Booklets: Mrs. James Evans Morcom
Poster and Booklet Production: Mr. Philip A. Ridgely
Hostesses: Mrs. Byron Schumaker
Tomi: Mrs. Robert Carstie and Mrs. Gerald Goldinger
Jitney: Mr. Jay Graham
Treasurer: Mrs. Robert Kreinheder
Patrons: Mr. Philip Bush, III
Poster and Booklet Art: Mr. William Aldrich
Poster Distribution: Miss Josephine Turner
Decorative Art Exhibits: Mr. Robert Van Kuyve

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society wishes to express its deep appreciation for all the kindnesses and assistance rendered by the Lutheran Church of the Reformation, without which the tea would have been the poorer.

In connection with the tea, Miss Gloria Ryan has given unstintingly of her time and efforts to insure that refreshments for the tea were prepared in good time. To her, the Society gives its heartfelt thanks.