Capitol Hill Restoration Society
24th Annual House & Garden Tour
Sunday, May 10, 1981
Capitol Hill Restoration Society

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society, a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, was founded in 1955. It is one of the largest active civic and cultural organizations in the Washington, D.C. area. Its paid membership numbers over 1,800 and includes many people who do not reside on Capitol Hill, but who are intensely interested in the cultural and social development of this fine residential area.

The purposes of the Society, as contained in its bylaws, are to support and encourage the preservation of historic sites and buildings on Capitol Hill, good practices in preservation and restoration of buildings and grounds, and the preservation of Capitol Hill as a model urban residential area.

The Society believes that Capitol Hill should be a good place to live, as well as a place to work, and that its fine old houses can be restored more properly for the benefit of those who are willing to commit themselves to its future, rather than be demolished for office buildings, highways and parking lots. The Society works to preserve and promote the ideal of the non-commuting life, to defend the residential character of Capitol Hill and to oppose those whose commitment to the city is partial, particularly those who would exploit its economic capacity, while ignoring and weakening its cultural resources. The Society strives to preserve the traditional heritage of Capitol Hill in history as a place for tasteful, comfortable and rational living.

Annual dues are $10 for an individual or $12 for a household. Your check to the address below will bring a membership acknowledgment by return mail. The Society’s meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month between September and June, starting with coffee at 7:30 p.m. and the first order of business at 8:15.

Capitol Hill Restoration Society
P. O. Box 9064
Washington, D.C. 20003
Phone: 543-0425

One

Alan and Lynne Greenwald
258 Eighth Street, S. E.
Head Hostess:
Eve Eggers

John Noel built this house for $5,000 in 1905 and until 1976, when the Greenwalds purchased it, a member of the Noel family had resided here. Carefully restored by its owners, the living room arch, window frames and baseboards are oak; the original floor is red pine. The walls and pillars reflect the warm pastels of the durrie rug before the fireplace of marbleized slate. The oval English oak dining room table is 19th Century Queen Anne, set with European china and pewter on linen place mats. The oak chairs have hand needle-pointed seats. The built-in cabinet is from the original house.

Many utensils in the tomato-red kitchen attest to Alan’s love of Chinese cooking. Belgian ceramic canisters are atop the counter. Adjacent to the powder room is an old servant call board with corresponding mother-of-pearl buttons in each upstairs room. Cross-ventilation is provided by the original skylight over the stairway and glass transoms throughout. The old bathroom is decorated with English tile wainscoting in contrast with the modern one at the other end of the hall.

In Lynne’s delicately colored study with its deep blue-green rug are a panel of French stained glass and a whimsical pastel soft sculpture. New England quilts adorn the wall and the brass-and-iron bed in the guest bedroom. In the adjoining study, the clock is from an old schoolroom. A romantic tropical tone is set in the master bedroom by the use of bamboo in the bed and blinds, and the ceiling fan in the alcove. A subterranean garage has been remodeled into an attractive and efficient apartment.
Two
Larry Feathers and
John Humphrey
1230 D Street, S. E.

Head Hosts:
William and Ann DuRoss

A surprisingly spacious home, designed and built by its owners, lies behind the plain facade of this former blacksmith shop, built in 1895 and operated as an auto repair garage from 1916-1950 and again from 1960-1967. The contemporary house opens into a skylighted atrium garden with a cedar ceiling to resist moisture from an inviting swimming pool.

A marble-floored hall leads to the dining room of the 102-foot-deep residence. Furnishings include a cherry-and-pine double closet and a dry sink, both circa 1840. In the corner cupboard is a treasured 200-year-old milk glass tankard. The Art Deco three-tier crown molding is repeated in the living room. Making excellent use of limited space, the gleaming white kitchen belies its 9x10-foot measurements.

In the small study at the top of the stairs are well-worn antique chairs from the Humphrey family. The antique washstand in the back bedroom belonged to Larry Feather's great-grandmother.

In the hall bathroom is one of the house's five skylights, and the end of the hall serves as a bookwall.

The front bedroom, opening onto a spacious deck, houses more Humphrey antiques—a rocking chair, tool chest and secretary. In contrast, the modern bathroom features a large soaking tub.

Returning to the first level, the step-down 16x20-foot living room has red oak flooring and displays art by June Carluccia and Ingrid Leeds. The exit is to a garden with a brick patio on the deep 170-foot lot.

Three
Mr. and Mrs. Stewart B. McKinney
526 Sixth St., S. E.

Head Hosts:
John and Jenny Leitch

Approaching through a small walled courtyard, a charming and most unusual entryway will delight the visitor to this Federal period house which was built by Martha H. Mckinney in 1863 and valued for tax purposes at $600.

The noted Washington architect, William Da C. Morrison, chose to put the "outside inside" by erecting an exterior wall at the property line and leaving the original facade of the house indoors. The outdoors effect he sought is achieved through the use of large skylights and ceiling fans hanging some 22 feet from the floor.

On the walls at either side of the entrance to the dining room, which is the beginning of the original part of the house, are portraits of Mrs. McKinney's great-grandparents. The hutch in the dining room and the tigerwood dropleaf table near the entry to the house are family heirlooms from Mr. McKinney's great-aunt.

The kitchen, which is floored with Mexican tile, and the den also are a part of the original dwelling. Mr. McKinney's collection of more than a dozen 19th Century clocks is displayed in the den, which has floors of Georgia yellow pine.

The spacious windows of the living room, a new addition to the house, open to the swimming pool and patio. The draperies operate electrically to open and close at the touch of a button.

(The owners graciously consented to inclusion of their home on the Tour even though they have not yet completed it or its furnishings.)
Four

Hugh J. Kelly
524 Sixth Street, S. E.

Head Hostesses:
Judith Lemons and
Karol Thompson

John R. Adams, a young rigger at the Washington Navy Yard, would not recognize the modest frame house he built around 1865, one of the last of the Civil War style. It has been transformed into a sparkling contemporary dwelling by Washington architect William Da C. Morrison.

The midnight blue carpeting in the living room and dining room were chosen to complement the 200-year-old six-paneled Japanese screen. The simple lattice design around the fireplace covers duct work which recirculates heat.

On the cupboard between the living room and dining room is an acrylic mobile sculpture by the architect. The two rooms are the newest additions to the house which over the years underwent extensions and modernizations although its basic architectural integrity remained intact.

Because of the owner’s love of cooking and entertaining, the kitchen has been outfitted with both gas and electric ranges. They and the kitchen counters have been elevated to accommodate Mr. Kelly’s 6’3” height. The rounded wall reflects the architect’s sculptural approach to the house.

For larger parties, Mr. Kelly also uses the den as a dining area.

Going up the skylighted stairway, one enters an open study. Above it is a 10x16-foot loft which is accessible by a ladder on rails.

The guest bedroom is dominated by a pair of brass and rosewood beds which are 1915 French Art Nouveau.

Storage islands provide ample space and define the master bedroom. The large bed has been placed on a diagonal to catch a glimpse of Christ Church beyond the balcony.

Five

Maurice Rosenblatt
421 New Jersey Avenue, S. E.

Head Hosts:
Robert and Barbara Reich

Entrance to this elegant five-story Victorian mansion, built in 1870, is on its third level. The walls of the staircase are covered with 119 Piranesi prints.

A rare Charles X Aubusson rug depicting the “pelican of piety” is on the drawing room floor. The chandelier and its twin in the library are early 18th Century argon lamps acquired by the former owners, Mr. and Mrs. Howe P. Cochran, who rebuilt the structure in 1954 with the help of Curley Boswell.

The library displays the owner’s eclectic taste. Symbols of the French Revolution adorn the fireplace mantel. Above it is “Six Thirty O’Clock” by Trinidad artist Geoffrey Holder.

Portraits of famous lady writers line the staircase to the dining room, furnished with a Renaissance table and chairs and a Jacobean dresser. Drawings and paintings abound by Renoir, Cezanne, Elshemius, Luki, George Grosz, Guillerm, Mario Russo, Nino Ciffo and Laura Barone. The paneled early 17th century Japanese screen is from Sumner Welles’ estate and the wheeled Japanese warrior’s chest is rare.

The powder room has a working wash basin made from a baptismal font. A painting of two cupids by Duboulez covers one wall.

Past the dumb waiter are stairs to the cellar where the 18-inch stone foundation forms the walls. The mantel and cupboard in the old-fashioned kitchen were reclaimed by Mr. Boswell. The fireplace is one of five working ones.

The fence enclosing the house and its charming patio and garden was cast in 1856 and taken from the old gas works.
Six

Lawrence and Grace Monaco
David, Stephen and Peter
123 C Street, S. E.

Head Hostess:
Bonnie Bell

Fine rugs and tapestries mingled with wall hangings by Larry Monaco and many antiques from Grace Ann Monaco’s family adorn this post-Civil War structure.

Emphasizing the family connection, the wooden gargoyles over the front door were carved by Mrs. Monaco’s great grandfather for the cornice of his house in New Jersey, and “transplanted” for good luck when the Monacos bought the residence in 1972.

The floor of the main hall has a fine Pakistani Eokhara rug, a Saruk, a Romanian Tabriz and a Kashan. Featured on the wall is the hallway is a fine old silk and-wool Gourn over the marble-top Italian antique table, a gift of Mrs. Monaco’s father.

The living room floor is covered with an old 9x18-foot Hamadan rug and a smaller 4x6 Malayer Saruk. At the far end of the room is a portrait of Mrs. Monaco’s own grandmother, Kathleen Rea Powers, whose many gifts and bequests include the 19th Century tapestry in back of the piano. She also bequeathed the large epergne of nickel and the glassware displayed in the room, as well as the credenza, purchased in Brazil after World War II.

The first floor study and law library is Mrs. Monaco’s, and has a 5x8-foot Kirman on the floor. The table and chest were antiques acquired by the Monacos. Tiles on the floor of the lower-level dining room were laid by Mr. Monaco, who made the rug at the foot of the stairs. A small silk-and-wool Kashmir of Joshgar design hangs over the radiator. In the corner is an antique cabinet used by Mrs. Monaco’s grandfather for dental supplies.

An 18th century table setting has been arranged by Mrs. Monaco and the couple’s three young sons for viewing during the Tour.

Seven

Theo Logan
6 Brown’s Court, S. E.

Head Hostess:
Linda Barnes

Memories of childhood will be evoked by this meticulously kept “doll house,” about 11 feet wide and 24 feet deep. The dwelling is one of twelve built “on these ten lots . . . at $500 each, of 11 feet 8½ inches front each,” according to the D. C. Assessors Book of 1878.

The tiny, 5x7-foot step-down kitchen is fully equipped, including dishwasher. Its distressed maple cabinets were built by the owner’s brother, Jackson Logan. He renovated the house, built its white wainscoting and rebuilt the living room fireplace, made of handmade bricks.

The basic color scheme is set by the Dresden blue carpeting and is accentuated by the Williamsburg wallpaper with its tiny blue flowers. The theme is carried out in the blue miniature wingback chair and the blue-and-rust love seats in the living room.

Four leaves can be added to the dining table to allow as many as eight to dine here comfortably.

Up the blue-carpeted stairs are two bedrooms and a modern bath. Above the quilt-covered 100-year-old brass bed in the larger room is part of a collection of Hummel figurines.

In the front room is a small washer and dryer, and an antique sleigh bed. The room serves as sleeping quarters for Maxie, the resident Dauchshund—a miniature, of course—and her feline companion, Busy, a white Manx. The wee dollbed on the floor, with a wee picture above it, is Maxie’s sleeping place.

Azaleas bloom in a brick planter on the small patio, enclosed with bamboo fencing for privacy and furnished with comfortable wrought iron garden furniture and hanging plants.
TOUR MAP

1. 258 Eighth St., SE
2. 1230 D Street, SE
3. 526 Sixth Street, SE
4. 524 Sixth Street, SE
5. 421 New Jersey Ave., SE
6. 123 C Street, SE
7. 6 Browns Court, SE
8. 814 A Street, SE
9. #3 Walter Houp Court, NE
10. 1116 East Capitol Street, NE
11. 235 Second Street, NE

Low-heeled shoes only, please

Please use our jitney service. It helps prevent traffic congestion and pollution.
Eight

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Arnett
814 A Street, S. E.

Head Hosts:
John and Lucinda Janke

A love of the Victorian era by its owners is evident in this residence, built in 1887 by Mr. A. Thomas and restored by the Arnetts under the guidance of C. Dudley Brown.

Exceptional cornice molding, restored by Mrs. Arnett’s meticulous removal of multiple layers of paint, is being reproduced under commission from the Victorian Society.

The living room’s painted slate fireplace and its companion in the dining room are among the finest of their kind. The sisa nearest the fireplace is Empire, circa 1840, and the one facing is English, c. 1870.

The gasoliers in the two rooms were operated by the unique tool lying atop the coal-burning fireplace in the dining room. The table is set in Victorian fashion. With typical Victorian frugality, the red pine floors beneath the rugs were left unfinished, so the rugs covering them were left behind by subsequent owners.

The spacious kitchen’s cherrywood cabinets glow under an old railroad lamp chandelier. At the rear of the property is an unrestored carriage house. The kitchen’s cast iron stove provides warmth while heating the kettle, and the oak ice box has been converted to wine storage. An unusual Spanish shaving bowl is displayed over the powder room basin.

Atop the narrow servants’ stairs is the library with yet another fireplace, one of seven in the house, and gas jets on the wall. The sink in the hall bathroom is a converted oak dresser.

Off the wide hallway with its gas lamp, the guest room is furnished with Mrs. Arnett’s parents’ bedroom set in an Art Deco “Waterfall” pattern. At the front are the master bedroom and a small hall room.

Nine

Phillip N. Truluck and Ann Wroblewski
3 Walter Houp Court, N. E.

Head Hosts:
Mack and Libby Fleming

This 36x51-foot warehouse was built in 1912 by William Greer as part of his bakery operation around the corner on 12th Street. Subsequent owners were the Cannon Ball Transit Co. in 1946 and the Kidd Fuel Co. which used it for truck repair in the 1960’s.

Designed by its owners, the contemporary home was erected by Capitol Hill builders Scallan and Donovan who removed the roof and added two floors.

Mexican tile covers the family room floor. Its bar is made from an old mantlepiece; the stand-up desk is an antique plantation or hunt desk. The room opens onto a courtyard within the original brick walls.

The second-floor living room is a sunny lemon yellow. The Centennial Chippendale chairs are the remainder of a set of 20 which belonged to Ann Wroblewski’s great-grandmother as did the love seat against the wall. The signed Oriental rug is a Tabriz. Prints on the wall are by South Carolina artist Anne Worsham Richardson.

A deck overlooks the courtyard, and the kitchen is handsomely finished with deep blue tiles on the counters. A wall of cupboards provides ample storage. The gas stove and hood are from a Stanton Park house; alongside is a modern charcoal grillbroiler.

The bathroom has an old footed bathtub and a sink which came from a barbershop. In the guestroom is the nuptial bed of Ann’s great-grandparents.

The chill red master suite on the third floor has a bathroom area of open design with exposed double sinks. At the far end is a completely tiled Japanese-style room with double shower heads and a spacious soaking tub.
Ten
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Mantel
1116 East Capitol Street, N. E.

Head Hosts:
James and Rebecca Welch

Seventy-eight years of loving care and respect from its original family and subsequent owners is apparent in this beautifully preserved brownstone house which typifies the high-quality residence of its time.

Built by builder John Buchler in 1903 for $5,500, it was bought by builder William Barah in 1975 and refurbished before sale to the Mantels a year later.

Outstanding is the chestnut woodwork throughout, never painted, only waxed down and refinished to its natural hue. The shutters downstairs and upstairs are originals.

In the bayfront living room, carved griffins adorn the oak mantel over the black marble fireplace. On the dining room mantel is a Black Forest clock; opposite is a watercolor by Ellis Stewart, Capitol Hill artist.

Working transoms aid air circulation through the nearly 11-foot-high rooms.

On the right in the large kitchen is an original built-in china dresser, and an oak bow-front china cabinet. The powder room was a pantry.

On the second floor much of the space is occupied by the master bedroom and its bay window with areca palm. A third bedroom was converted into an adjoining dressing room and master bath.

In a delightful departure from conventional Victorian design, the Mantels removed the entire third floor to create a contemporary living area that quickly converts from work space to entertainment area.

The birch cabinets and room divider, designed by C. Dudley Brown, hide a desk, bar, stereo equipment, closets and book shelves. Their natural finish echoes the rich texture of the wood downstairs.

The Franklin stove contributes a traditional touch and the raised floor enhances the view of Lincoln Park and beyond.

Eleven
THOMPSON-MARKWARD MEMORIAL
235 Second Street, N. E.

Head Hosts:
Douglas and Melissa Hester

The Young Women's Christian Home had its origin in 1887 when it was incorporated by Act of Congress, dedicated to "providing temporary home for young women coming to ... the District of Columbia, who shall, from any cause, be in want of and willing to accept temporary home, care, and assistance."

From its beginnings, "with two girls and two rented rooms," location unknown, the YWCH moved to a rented house at 404 Sixth Street, N. W., in 1890. By 1893 it occupied a stately mansion at 311 C Street, N. W., and its capacity increased from 18 to 42 rooms. In 1911 an adjoining mansion was acquired, making it possible to accept as many as 75 young women residents.

In 1931 the trustees of the YWCH decided to build, settling on the present location where the cornerstone was laid in November, 1931.

Soon thereafter Mrs. Flore Markward Thompson bequeathed $250,000 for a memorial to her husband and her mother, enabling the Home to be expanded to its present size. It was formally dedicated as the Thompson- Markward Memorial on April 27, 1933.

Today the YWCH offers shelter at reasonable rates to 120 young women, 16 years of age or older. Many are employed in Congressional offices, and some 28 female Senate and House pages are among today's residents.

The Hall provides comfortable individual sleeping accommodations, recreational and social facilities, kitchen and dining room, library, music room and garden.

Tour visitors will enjoy the public rooms on the first floor where many sofas and easy chairs will offer a respite.

Musical entertainment will be furnished between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. by the RSVP String Trio and piano.
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Our deepest appreciation goes to the hundreds of people who have worked so diligently to make this year's Tour a success. Special thanks are due the following organizations which donated a bus, vans and some drivers for Jinney service: PEPCO, C&P Telephone, Shelton's Market Basket, Sasha Bruce House, Friendship House, Capitol Hill Day School, Super Tots Nursery and the Church of the Reformation. Also greatly appreciated are the services of the ticket sales outlets: Capitol Hill Wine and Cheese, Veerhoff Galleries, Dale Denton Real Estate, Pamela Barkley's, American Cafe Market, Kramer Books and Ademas Tile. The pro bono public relations counsel and services of the Washington office of Underwood, Jordan Associates were invaluable. Finally, the Society is grateful to the owners of our ten Tour residences and to the Trustees of the Young Women's Christian Home for making Thompson-Markward Memorial Hall available.

Rosalie A. Stroube
1981 Tour Chairman

Illustrator Jeffrey K. Jacobson © 1981
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