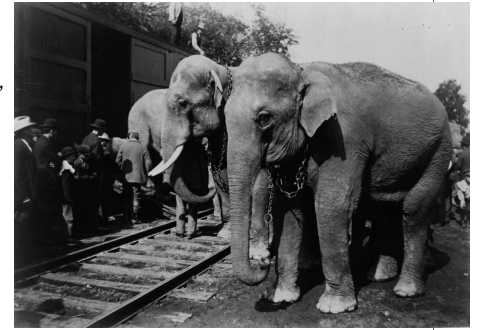




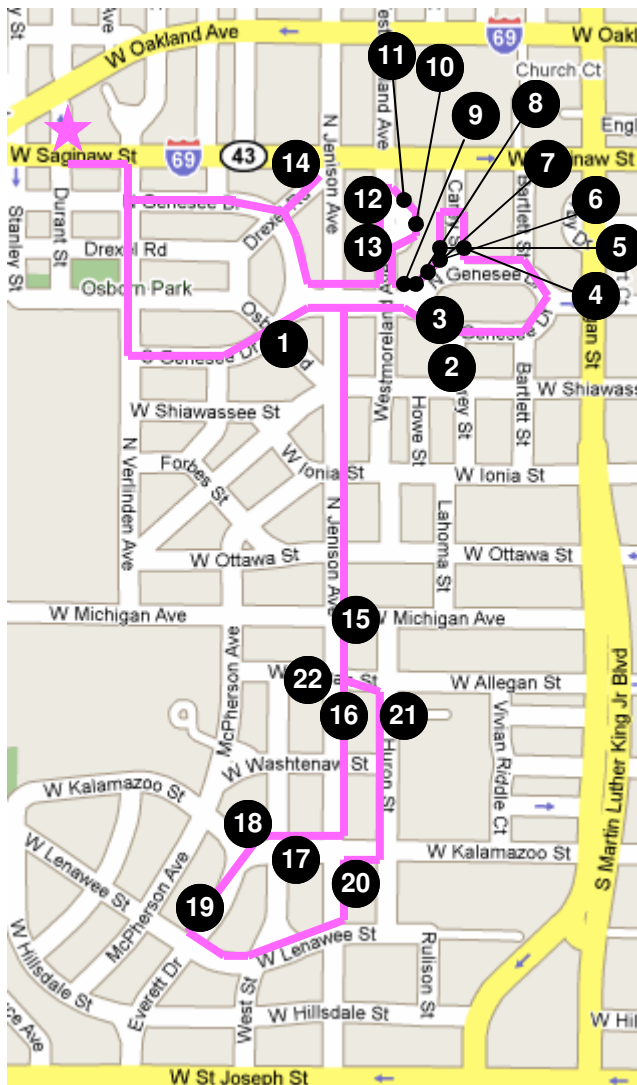
Lansing's Westside Neighborhood Historic Tour

Since the beginning of its settlement, the Westside Neighborhood has served as a place of wonder within the City of Lansing's boundaries. It began as a swampland on the western outskirts of the original Lansing plat. Referred to as "Bogus Swamp" by Lansing's early settlers, the dry land in the center served as a headquarters for counterfeiters to store their dyes and tools and manufacture "bogus coin". It was also utilized as a base by a horse thievery operation spanning from New York to Iowa. By 1870 the swamp had been converted to productive farmland which came under the ownership of the McPherson family out of Howell, Michigan.



The McPherson's were responsible for selling off the land necessary to plat the subdivisions of the Westside Neighborhood. Before these sales were made however, the land served as the winter housing grounds for the elephants of a circus owned by former Lansing mayor, Joseph E. Warner. On August 23, 1916 Orion Jenison of the Dyer Jenison Barry Land Company signed the Espanore Subdivision plat into effect. Later that year on December 20, 1916 Standard Real Estate Company's president F.B. McKibben and secretary-treasurer Leon B. Ayres signed the agreement with the City of Lansing to develop the Westmoreland Subdivision.

During the twenty years following the platting of the neighborhood, the Westside Neighborhood would be carefully developed by many of the movers and shakers that helped build Lansing's houses and its industries. And while it may not have began that way nor been easy to create, under the influence and leadership of residents concerned about social justice, the Westside Neighborhood was one of the first neighborhoods to integrate racially in Lansing and come out successful.



Just as the Westside Neighborhood is composed of unique homes by architectural standards, the residents that make up its community, both past and present, have been equally unique and diverse. This tour aims to explore the history of some of the Westside's first residents, however it only touches the surface of the rich history that can be found here. The Westside Neighborhood is one of Lansing's brightest gems rich in community, diversity, and history.

Featured Homes

- #1: 1507 S. Genesee Dr.
- #2: 411 Carey
- #3: 1307 S. Genesee Dr.
- #4: 516 Carey
- #5: 511 Carey
- #6: 505 Carey
- #7: 1306 N. Genesee Dr.
- #8: 1316 N. Genesee Dr.
- #9: 1326 N. Genesee Dr.
- #10: 536 Dinsmore Dr.
- #11: 600 Dinsmore Dr.
- #12: 605 Westmoreland
- #13: 525 Westmoreland
- #14: Fire House No. 7
- #15: 105 S. Jenison
- #16: 311 S. Jenison
- #17: 1515 Kalamazoo
- #18: 1600 Kalzmazoo
- #19: 446 Everett
- #20: 405 S. Jenison
- #21: 216 Huron
- #22: 1515 Allegan



1507 South Genesee Drive



1507 S. Genesee circa 2009

This Dutch Colonial home was built in 1919 on a double lot. The first to call 1507 S. Genesee Dr. their home was Charles Todd, a worker at Oldsmobile, and his wife Mae. By 1934 it served as the home of George Newman Fuller, the State Historian, and his wife Helen. Immediately following the Great Depression in 1935, Dr. Fuller's daughter Florence Fuller took up residence there. Florence Fuller was a long-time Sexton High School teacher. She lived in the home until her death in 1986. The house stayed in the Fuller family for the next 12 years but was uninhabited. In 1998 George and Denise LaFave Smith purchased the home from the surviving daughter and sister, Margaret Fuller Smith. They began an extensive restoration and addition project, finally moving into the home in 1999. The dominant feature of the home is its gambrel roof, alluding to its Dutch Colonial heritage. Dutch farmers living in rural, upstate New York are responsible for this look. They utilized less expensive, shorter timbers while still looking to create additional loft space. Colonial style elements include the centrally-located front door with windows placed symmetrically on both sides of the house. A Greek temple portico with Tuscan columns accentuate the entrance.

1307 South Genesee Drive

William L. and Carrie W. Brown, for the sum of one dollar and other valuable considerations, originally purchased the lot for this home February 5, 1919. William was president of the Brown Gordon Company, providing general contracting, road building, and sand and gravel services. William also served as treasurer of Republic Motor Sales Company. This company was an agent of Republic Motor Trucks and Cleveland Tractors. Both businesses operated out of 104 S. Larch. Being a restricted development, the lot had a minimum building cost of at least \$3,500. The home itself is of Four Square styling, the dominant, early 20th century urban house style. Identifiable by its configuration, Four Squares typically have four rooms on each floor in all four corners. They have a square shaped exterior complete with four roof corners of equal pitch that meet, forming a hipped-style roof. All four sides of the house have four sets of openings made up of a combination of windows and doors. Like many Four Square homes, this house is not completely true to form. As the style most commonly built in large quantities in new subdivisions of the late 1920s and early 1930s, characteristics of other architecture styles were used to distinguish these homes from one another. 1307 S. Genesee Dr. sports Arts and Crafts influences seen in the six-over-one windows and open soffits with exposed rafter ends, hinting of the Craftsman touches emphasized within the house including exposed ceiling beams and box windows that allow for built-ins.



1307 S. Genesee
Top: 2009
Bottom: 1948





411 Carey Street

This two-story home utilizes a Dutch Colonial style gambrel roof structure to upgrade the second story space. Henry J. and Pauline Dietz had this house built in 1922. Henry was working as an assistant cashier at the City National Bank, located at 101-103 N. Washington, in 1923 when he and Pauline moved into 411 Carey. They were still living at 411 Carey when the stock market crash during the fall of 1929 caused approximately 9,000 banks across the United States over the following four years to suspend operations. The result was the loss of \$1.3 billion for depositors and the closure of 4,000 banks nationwide during the first few months of 1933. The panic generated from the public in response to these closures led President Franklin D. Roosevelt to declare March 6, 1933 a bank holiday. At this time, the financial system was on the verge of collapse and both the manufacturing and agricultural sectors were operating a fraction of capacity. A demand for deposit insurance by the majority of the public led Congress to pass the Banking Act of 1933, which called for the creation of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Henry was responsible for establishing the first Michigan office of the FDIC in 1933 after the act was signed into law by FDR on June 16, 1933. Later he became the president of the East Lansing State Bank, located at 100 W. Grand River.



411 Carey:
Top left: 1958, Bottom right: 2009

516 Carey Street



516 Carey:
Left: 1942, Right: 2009

This home was built in 1929 for the sum of \$25,000 for J. Frederic and Annabel Bissinger on the site of the gardens for the family flower shop, Bissinger's Flowers. The main proprietor of the flower shop was Emma Bissinger, J. Frederic's widowed sister-in-law. The shop was located at 624 N. Capitol where J. Frederic and Annabel resided prior to their move to the Westside. The shop offered cut flowers for weddings, funerals, and house parties as well as a variety of house plants. The home was only openly marketed once in 1942 when the Bissinger's were unable to sell it for \$12,900 and lost it to foreclosure. They would later purchase another home in the Westside Neighborhood at 1516 N. Genesee Dr. Despite its inability to sell in 1942, this is one of the Westside's more beautifully sited homes. This English Cottage structure has an irregular hipped roof and is asymmetrical in presentation with a side entrance. Styling details on the home include the jerkinhead over top the side bay window, premium shingles, and a slate decoration on the front chimney shelf.



511 Carey Street



511 Carey circa 2009

This house was completed in 1922 for Harry Chamberlain and his family. Having been an engineer for the mining industry in Houghton, Michigan, Chamberlain went on to become the comptroller, or chief financial officer of the Lansing School District after he made his move to Lansing. The current owners, Patrick and Patricia St. George purchased the home in 1979 from Harry's only daughter, Elizabeth Chamberlain, who had remained in the home for her entire life before she needed assisted living. Having resided on the Westside for 30 years now, they are only the second family to own and occupy 511 Carey since it was completed. When they made the move to Carey Street, their oldest child was entering the first grade and their youngest was entering kindergarten at Verlinden School. Patricia, a lifelong Lansing resident, was a long time teacher at Sexton High School. During an interview, Patrick noted that many teachers, both retired and working, live on Carey. He mentioned that since moving into the neighborhood they have seen periods where there seem to be more families with children and have loved the new influx of children riding bikes and playing in the neighborhood. They were impressed with the Westside and chose to raise their family here because of the great diversity and the neighborly atmosphere. According to Patrick, Verlinden was one of the only schools that didn't have a bussing program. They had no need since the neighborhood was already integrated. As for being neighborly, the boy that Patrick watched grow up in the house next door is now his physician. Designed in part by Harry, this house was built for a UP winter. The first floor has plate glass windows and no door from the outside opens directly into the house. When the St. George's moved in they found that all the sinks had three faucets marked hot, cold, and city water. The cistern located in the basement that all gutters on the house ran to was pumped to the various sinks in the house.



505 Carey Street



505 Carey circa 2009

Howard and Elizabeth Rowe built this home in 1925. The stucco over brick designates this house as one of the Westside's classic Tudor-style English Cottages. The tiny, narrow dormers over the second story windows and well as at the small front entrance further emphasize the Tudor styling. Howard Rowe was the vice president and general manager of the Jury-Rowe Furniture Company which offered discount furniture at locations in Lansing, Jackson and Battle Creek. According to an advertisement in the 1919 Lansing City Directory, "At Jury-Rowe's you can Always Buy 20-40% Below any Singly Operated Store". His partner and president of the company, William J.S. Jury, lived close by at 112 W. Michigan. Howard was heavily involved in the furniture business, becoming the president of the Retail Furniture Club of Michigan in 1920 during their February 18th convention held at the Tuller Hotel in Detroit. The Lansing Jury-Rowe Furniture Company location used to be at 112-114 W. Michigan. The tin ceiling that once decorated the Jury-Rowe at this location can now be found in the dining room of the Summers-Kelly House at 520 E. Jefferson Street in Grand Ledge. The ceiling was removed before the building was demolished and acquired by Duane and Sandra Cory from an antique dealer.

1306 North Genesee Drive

This English Cottage home is constructed with a cut stone exterior, as seen in the Cotswolds, a range of hills in England's countryside. The pseudo-thatched roof and multiple pots located along the top of the chimney also emphasize this style. The rows of European casement windows located on the front gable only assist 1306 N. Genesee Dr. in turning heads. This home once belonged to Ernest I. Dail, owner of Lansing's long-standing company Dail Steel Products. The company was founded in 1911 by Ernest I. Dail, B.S. Gier, F. N. Arbaugh, Ray Potter, A.C. Stebbins, and A. Westwater of Ohio. Originally the Dail-Gier stamping plant, its first location was on the corner of Grand Avenue and Ionia. Gier eventually split off in 1913 and started the Gier Pressed Steel Company. At this time, Dail Steel Products made its move to 750 E. Main Street. It eventually went from manufacturing metal card racks and breadboxes to a diversified stamping plant, making stampings for the automotive, agricultural, and home appliance industries.



1306 N. Genesee circa 2009

According to an article in a 1948 edition of the Lansing State Journal, the company grew from a staff of 10 men in 1911 to a staff of 187 by 1948. At the time this article was written, the company was doing seven times the business that it was 25 years prior. During World War I and II, Dail Steel Products converted its facility to the production of 100% war material. According to the Michigan Historical Museum, Dail Steel Products produced Wolverine Chemical Closets (out houses) during WWI. In Benedict Crowell and Robert Forrest Warren's book *How America Went to War*, the company is acknowledged for its role in manufacturing rear cap stabilizer assemblies needed for making fragmentation bombs used in aircraft battle. This form of warfare was only just developing at the time of WWI, as well as the machinery and artillery needed to make it possible. Like so many manufacturing plants in Michigan, Lansing residents and other Michigan residents alike can be proud of this facility for the role it played in fueling the effort overseas. The dedication of Michigan's manufacturing industry, our workers, and of course those that served were fundamental in settling conflict overseas and securing our victory during both World War I and II.

1316 North Genesee Drive



1316 N. Genesee:
Above: 1948, Right: 2009

In 1924, Clarence and Edna Triphagen became the first to call 1316 N. Genesee Dr. their home. At the time Clarence was the assistant sales manager at Reo Motor Car Company. He later became a manager at Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner, and Bane working with the New York Stock Exchange. This home has seen three more sets of owners since the Triphagen's. Dr. Arnold J. Labbe and his wife Hester moved from their home at 931 N. Walnut to N. Genesee by 1941. Dr. Labbe worked as an orthodontist/dentist in 1110 Bank of Lansing Building at 103 N. Washington. His children Colleen, John, Richard, and Mary resided at the Labbe home with their parents while attending one college or another. Dr. James Neering and Joanne moved from their home at 517 Carey in 1957 in order to call N. Genesee their home. Dr. Neering worked at the Westside's



own St. Lawrence Hospital as a radiologist. The current owners, Bill Shipley and David Becker, became the fourth to own 1316 N. Genesee in 1990. This house is Tudor in style although not entirely pure in form. The half-timbered second story is accentuated by the double arched front dormer. The front entrance is composed of an exposed timber structure with timber seating inside. Herringbone brick accentuates the first floor masonry.



1326 North Genesee Drive

Completed in 1925, this home once belonged to a member of an influential and long-time Lansing family, the Stebbins. Francis Burgoyne Stebbins originally made 1326 N. Genesee his home with his first wife Jamie. He was born the third of five sons in 1898 to Arthur C. and Anna Burgoyne Stebbins. Arthur, Anna, and their five boys resided at 109 N. Walnut Street. A family of proprietors, Arthur was the owner of the Lansing Wheelbarrow Company. France owned and operated Riker's Dry Cleaning Company located at 326 N. Capitol. France's younger brother C. Rowland (Rolly) Stebbins, the fourth son of Arthur and Anna, was the owner of Advance Realty Company, and lived at 1710 Moores River Drive from 1945-1983. The historic photographs used in this tour are thanks to Rolly's work as a realtor. His expansive photo collection, which included nearly every house on every street in Lansing, was kindly donated to the



Capital Area District Library by surviving members of the Stebbins Family.

France had a daughter Anne (now age 91, living in Alabama) by his first wife Jamie who then passed away. He later was remarried to Annette who would also come to live at 1326 N. Genesee. Their son Stowell James (Jim) resided in Lansing with his wife Jackie until he passed away in 2007 at 74 years of age. Jim's wife/widow Jackie continues to live in Lansing today. They had two daughters, Cathy Rhaesa and Karen Stebbins. In the late 1950's France purchased the very large bell from atop the old Lansing City Hall when it was being demolished and moved the bell to his Old Presque Isle Lighthouse between Alpena and Rogers City, where it remains to this day for visitors to ring. The detailed information about France and other members of the Stebbins' Family was kindly provided by Win Stebbins, France's nephew and the son of Rolly. Win now resides in Okemos. 1306 N. Genesee Dr. resembles a Colonial Revival home with its centered entryway and symmetrical layout but is Tudor in style evidenced in the stucco exterior and half-timbered second story. Notice the small entry canopy and casement windows with divided lights.



1326 N. Genesee:
Right: 1938, Above: 2009

536 Dinsmore Drive

This house once belonged to one of the Westside's longest staying businessmen, however the first to call 536 Dinsmore their home in 1921 was Carl C. and Amelia B. Jaeger. Carl was the proprietor of the Lansing Oil Company, located at 1700 Turner. In 1925 the Jaegers' made a short move down the street to 612 Dinsmore Dr. and when they did, Ernest W. Toolan and his wife Ada became the new residents. At the time of their 1926 move, Ernest was still a manager at Larry's Auto Supplies. By 1932 however, Ernest had put his entrepreneurship to the test and opened Toolan Radio and Electric at 1837 S. Washington. He moved his business closer to home in 1933 when he purchased the store front at 918 W. Saginaw. His product changed from radios to groceries by 1935. Today his business is managed under different owners but the name hasn't changed—"Toolan's Delicatessen" still lights up at 918 W. Saginaw as the Westside's longest staying business. This Arts and Crafts house is complete with brackets supporting the eave, double hung windows, and two different types of siding-clapboards and shingles. Heavy brackets support the canopy.



536 Dinsmore Dr.:
Top: 1936, Right: 2009



600 Dinsmore Drive



This house is of Arts and Crafts Revival in style. The bracketed eaves and six-over-one windows are part of the characteristic features. The brackets however are not pure and look to have been added. The massive Southwestern-inspired low sweeping porch is certainly the dominant feature of this home, with arched side entries and three large bay arched openings on the southern exposure. John and Delia Watkins were the first to call 600 Dinsmore Drive their home in 1927. John was the proprietor of a business called Coffee Ranch but he also served as president of the Lansing Paint and Color Company; vice president and treasurer of the Deepdale Burial Park Association; and vice president of Lansing Storage Company. Watkins also served as the vice president of the Wolverine Mutual Insurance Company. Headquartered in Dowagiac, Michigan, the company still exists today. It has been providing insurance to residents of Michigan, Indiana, and Wisconsin since 1917.



605 Westmoreland

Early photos indicate that this home was one of the first four established in the Westmoreland Subdivision. It was built in 1919 by Andrew and Melinda Neller who were living at 601 Westmoreland until they moved slightly down the street in 1923. The 1923 Lansing City Directory listed Andrew as a general contractor and co-proprietor of the Neller Brothers Realty Company along with his brother Louis. At this time he also served as the secretary of the Ingham County Land Company and the treasurer of the Lansing Realty Company, all of which were operated out of the American State Savings Bank Building. Andrew and Melinda lived at 605 Westmoreland until 1936. It seems that Walter Neller and his wife Frances, who were residing at 316 W. Genesee, moved into 605 Westmoreland in 1937—the same year that Andrew and Melinda moved into 316 W. Genesee. Walter had his own real estate development company called Walter Neller Company, which managed the Mid-Way Subdivision. The house sports Craftsman features seen in the four-over-one second story windows and eight-over-one first story windows. The central entryway and symmetry however show its true colors as a Colonial Revival.



605 Westmoreland circa 2009

525 Westmoreland



525 Westmoreland:
Above: 1956, Right: 2009

Situated on three city lots, the central entryway and symmetrical windows and columns leave no doubt that the structure is Colonial Revival in form. The false eaves scooped at the eave line create a cottage appearance however the roofline parallel to the sidewalk further evidences Colonial Revival style. Arts and Crafts styling is present through the six-over-one and eight-over-one windows. The massive porch, partially backed into the house structure, is dominated by four prominent Tuscan columns that continue the symmetry of the house. Completed in 1918 by the Ayres' family, 525 Westmoreland was one of the first two houses built on Westmoreland. The original owner of this home, Leon B. Ayres, was heavily involved with Lansing real estate. He served as the secretary-treasurer of the Standard Real Estate Company, a company that offered real estate, insurance, and loans. Standard Real Estate Company was the owner of none other but the Westmoreland Subdivision, among others, where 525 Westmoreland is located. Besides his position at Standard Real Estate Company, Leon served as president

of the Lansing Real Estate Board; secretary-treasurer of the South Gardens Company; secretary-treasurer of the Northdale Farm Company; secretary treasurer of the Farmington Development Company; secretary-treasurer of the Adson Heights Company; secretary-treasurer of the Homewood Development Company; and he was a real estate agent for McPherson Real Estate. One should take note that all of the various development companies that Leon worked for operated out of 118 W. Allegan and had the same pool of gentleman operating each company under different positions. The home was sold to Fred and Elizabeth Stallings in 1952-53 and then to the Kavanaugh family on April 18, 1956.



Fire House No. 7



Fire House #7 was built in 1925 as part of an effort to decentralize the city's fire protection and bring it closer to the areas it was meant to serve. It was opened with a staff of 10 men, five on each shift, under the leadership of Hugo R. Delfs. The first year it was open the station responded to 20 alarms with an open-cab, right-hand-drive Seagraves pumper. The siren was cranked by hand. This Arts and Crafts structure is called a semi-bungalow due to its attempts at having the advantages of a two-story structure while having a one-story profile. Its low bungalow-style porches that were later made popular at the Chicago World's Fair.

Fire House No. 7 circa 2009



105 South Jenison

This Tudor home located on one of the more prominent corners in the Westside Neighborhood has come a long way toward being restored to its original grandeur. The house was built in 1928 for Dr. Cecil and Mrs. Bethel Mull. Dr. Mull, who practiced dentistry, and a doctor who later resided at 105 S. Jenison most likely utilized the two front doors, common on a home built for doctors during that time. One door

served as an entryway for family and guests while the other was reserved for patients. This home sports a third story which, according to the current owner, is rumored to have been a patient recovery room. The Mull's put this house on the market during the Depression; however, it wasn't sold to its next owner until the 1940s. The half-timbered second story from the original exterior has been restored after removing aluminum siding attached during the 1960s. Casement windows are present on the first story. Note the projecting second story gable typical of this style. It originated in England's early urban centers as method of keeping a structure to lot line code while extending extra needed space over the street. This home still has its original manufactured mineral shingle roof, which has lasted for almost 80 years.



105 S. Jenison
Right: 2009, Left: 1942

311 South Jenison

This home was completed in 1928 by local builder and contractor, Milton P. Saxton. After moving from their first Westside Neighborhood home at 219 S. Jenison, Milton and his wife Zola resided at 311 S. Jenison until they sold it to Carl and Marguerite Beebe in 1934. Carl worked for the S.S. Kresge Company, a Downtown 5 and 10 cent store located at 112 S. Washington. The company also had a Downtown store location boasting goods priced between 25 cents and one dollar. A series of owners lived in this house during the 40s, 50s, and 60s. The house eventually fell into disrepair until several recent owners restored and modernized it. French Norman influences are present in this stucco house artfully trimmed in brick. The rounded tower of English Cottage styling at the corner of the ell provides a stylish entry and a second floor bath, resulting in a delightful variation on the usual two-story floor plan alternatives. The use of a premium shingles instead of the usual three-in-one tab shingles emphasizes the artfulness of this impressive home. Take time to note the styling of the garage with the jerkin head gable ends and the steep medieval roof line.



311 S. Jenison
Right: 1939, Left: 2009



405 South Jenison

This house was built in 1928 for fruit and vegetable market owners Harry and Mary Herndon. The Herndon Fruit Company was located at 630-36 Park Place. According to the 1931 Lansing City Directory, Harry eventually balanced the role of president of Bannasch Incorporated while continuing to be president and manager of his fruit and vegetable market. Located at 130 N. Larch, Bannasch Inc. provided building services for ornamental fencing, blacksmithing, and welding. It survives today as Bannasch Welding, although it is now located on Lake Lansing Road. Oddly enough, upon the Herndon's move from 405 S. Jenison between 1935-36, Dr. Arnold J. Labbe and his wife Hester made this house their home. They would make a move to Walnut Street before relocating to 1316 N. Genesee Dr. This house can only be described as unique in style. With the organizational plan of a Colonial Revival, it features many architectural styles. Craftsman double hung windows are featured under eyebrow dormers. The central bay window as well as the brick are of Tudor origin. The brickwork however is more so derived from English Cottage style. The wrought iron fence completes the landscaping of this breathtaking home. A more recent addition to the property, the fence was acquired from the St. Lawrence Hospital Campus located on West Saginaw.



405 S. Jenison circa 2009



1600 West Kalamazoo

S.R. Shuabel built this house in 1928 for Alton and Nelle Hager. This English Cottage gives emphasis to its Northern European heritage with its faux thatch rolled eaves on the gable ends that sweep downward, anchoring the cottage to the ground. The arched windows and entrance door as well as the casement leaded-glass windows add elegance. The total cost for the residential dwelling and garage was \$8,000. When Alton and Nelle moved in, Hager was



the president and general manager of the Hager-Cove Lumber Company. He had business partnerships with J.W. Knapp, R.E. Olds, F.N. Arbaugh, Bruce Anderson and others. This is not surprising considering his other roles as of 1929 including president and general manager of the Hager Wall Tile Corporation; president of Holt Farms Company; president of the Lansing Chamber of Commerce; vice president of the Industrial Bank; vice president of Standard Real Estate Company; and his position of vice president of the Lansing Community Hotel Corporation.



1600 W. Kalamazoo
Left: 2009, Right: 1937

446 Everett

This house was first occupied in 1929 by Henry and Mabel Winfield. Henry worked as a division superintendent at Olds Motor Works. The Winfield family sold it in 1937 to Murray D. and Helen J. Van Wagoner who owned the home until 1944. When the Van Wagoner's moved into 446 Everett, Murray was working as the commissioner of the Michigan Highway Department, as position he held from 1933-1941. He also sat



on the Michigan Stream Control Commission. Before his move to Lansing, Murray served as the drain commissioner in Oakland County, Michigan from 1930-1933. Murray successfully ran for governor in 1940 and served from 1941 until 1943. He and his family lived at 446 Everett his entire term, foregoing the traditional governor's mansion. While he was in office, a \$27 million deficit was eliminated; he reinstated the state's mental hospital; both an auto and electrical power strike were dealt with; and measures were taken to support the effort overseas during WWII. This home is of English Cottage styling. It features medieval, diamond pane windows as well as a swooping winged arcade on the left and an arched breezeway on the right.



446 Everett
Right: 2009, Left: 1943

1515 West Kalamazoo

Alfred Kraft and his wife Pearl built this home in 1927. Alfred owned and operated Kraft Drug Stores, sellers of drugs, cigars, toilet articles, and patent medicines. A luncheonette service was available as well. As of 1928 when Alfred and Pearl moved to the Westside Neighborhood, Alfred had two store locations at 108 and 129 W. Michigan. During the 1930s the Kraft's downsized the business to include only one location. While living at 1515 W. Kalamazoo, Alfred and Pearl raised two children: Robert and Corintha.



At separate times, both Robert and Corintha were listed as students, indicating that they pursued higher education. Robert eventually took over the remaining pharmacy after he finished school. Unfortunately, as of now it is not clear what Corintha went on to become as she probably was married and her name changed. After Alfred passed, Pearl continued to live in the home until 1950 when she made the move to East Lansing, most likely to be closer to Robert and his wife. This English Cottage 2-story home is of Tudor styling, evidenced by the stucco above brick. The front porch however is not historically accurate. While it functions as an airlock for Michigan's harsh winters, the English version would have been remained open.



1515 W. Kalamazoo
Right: 1950, Left: 2009



216 Huron Street

Turn-of-the-century Lansing architect, Darius Moon designed and built this home for his family in 1893. This "Moon House" is a "stick-style" late Victorian home, a version of Queen Anne. Ornate on the outside, it is a functional family home on the inside. The abundant and elaborate wood detailing on the outside reflects a time period when wood was readily available. Stick homes are characterized by their absence of curves and use of straight lines. The home was originally located at 116 Logan St. and was scheduled for demolition after it was damaged by an apartment fire. A community-wide effort saved the home and it was moved to its present location in 1978. At this time it was placed on a new foundation, completely renovated, and added to the National Register of Historic Places. If one pays attention to the height of the current foundation it is easy to notice that this house was moved. The structure most likely had an original foundation of 30 inches in height. The recently selected colors were popular in the late 1800s. The signature porch is complete with stamped metal post capitals and a tin ceiling.



216 Huron circa 2009

1515 West Allegan Street



This English Cottage style home is complete with Cotswold-style sweeps at the gable ends and Tudor-influenced diamond paned casement windows. Built for Dorr Shotwell and his wife Lulu, the Shotwell's moved into 1515 W. Allegan in 1929. When they first moved in, Dorr was serving as the vice president of J.W. Knapp's Department Store in Downtown Lansing located at 220-226 S. Washington. By 1940 however, Dorr had become the president, and Knapp's was at a new location at 300-306 S. Washington. He was simultaneously working as the director of the Lansing National Bank.

We would like to give a special thanks to David Votta, the Local History Reference Librarian at the Capital Area District Library for his help in gathering interesting information, scanning all historic photos, and being a source of guidance since the onset of this project.

*This tour would not have been possible without the remarkable help from:
Bob Morris and Linda Peckham for their help in writing the architecture notes
Susan Cancro for gathering the past Westside Home Tour booklets for us
Gordon and Sherry Carr
Win Stebbins
Pat and Pat St. George
Donna Hobart
Bill Shipley
Residents of the Westside Neighborhood whose homes are featured here*

Sources

*The Archives of Michigan
The Library of Michigan Lansing City Directory Collection
Westside Home Tour Booklets*

This tour was compiled, written, and designed by Nicole Schippel