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William and Alice's house

31 Ravenwood Avenue

It's 1915. As war rages in Europe, the Boston Red Sox's starting pitcher, an affable southpaw, hits his first major league homerun. His name is Babe Ruth. In San Francisco, a phone rings and Dr. Thomas Watson receives the very first transcontinental call. In Rochester, Kodak's 16-story headquarters on State Street is open for business—and a few blocks away, in the city's 19th Ward, William and Alice Morrison move into their brand-new, 1,500 square foot home on Ravenwood Avenue.

With its gleaming hardwood floors, beautiful wood trim, and detailed windows, William and Alice Morrison must have been proud of their new home. Though not indulgent, classic architectural stylings like pocket doors and a coffered ceiling in the dining room embody an attention to detail that is often missing in modern homes. Alongside those classic elements, the current owner has updated the home with a bright new kitchen that features white cabinets, a fresh tile floor, and adjacent pantry space.

At the top of the carefully refinished staircase that leads to the second floor, sit three bedrooms, each with closet space and ample windows that allow sunlight to filter in. One bedroom boasts a small sleeping porch and all three have easy access to a bathroom featuring a full bath/shower and enough square footage for a new owner to update. The third-floor attic is spacious and partially refinished, with the potential to house an additional bedroom or a home office.

The backyard of 31 Ravenwood is fenced-in on three sides and provides access to a freestanding one-car garage. The home comes with kitchen appliances and a washer/dryer in the basement, which offers additional storage space and a functional full bath that could be updated.

William and Alice Morrison lived in their home at 31 Ravenwood Avenue for nearly 30 years. It seems they lived quietly, and unlike Babe Ruth, Alexander Graham Bell, or George Eastman, William and Alice weren't celebrities or tycoons. In fact, William was a machine operator who worked at the Non-Smut Carbon Manufacturing Company, making typewriter parts on Tremont Street in Corn Hill.

William and Alice Morrison's names will probably never be mentioned in history books—but their house, the home they built on Ravenwood Avenue, in a quiet neighborhood in Rochester's 19th Ward, still stands as a testimony to William and Alice's pride, hard work, and good taste.

To learn more about 31 Ravenwood Avenue, currently listed at \$114,900, please contact Danny Sirianni of Sirianni Realty at 585-302-4745.

by Lisa Feinstein

Lisa is Vice President for Institutional Advancement at The Strong and an avid fan of historic architecture and neighborhoods.