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Walkable in North Winton

131 Merwin Avenue

Developed from farmland in the 1910s and 1920s, the section of the city today known as the North Winton Village represents all that is great about urban living—walkability, affordability, quality historic housing stock, and a well-organized and active neighborhood association that works to improve the character and quality of the neighborhood. Winton Rd. serves as the commercial spine of this in-demand neighborhood, lined by local shops and restaurants to which residents can bike or walk. Early 20th century homes, like the lovely American Foursquare at 131 Merwin Avenue, line the blocks north of Merchants and east of Winton. Built in 1925, the house is located on a quiet tree-lined street just a short walk from the Browncroft Rose Garden. With its hipped roof, dormers, and overhanging eaves, the exterior is classic American Foursquare architecture.

The exceedingly well-maintained house has been painted a stately blue color with refreshing white trim and a welcoming red front door with the original mail slot in place. Inside the foyer, you notice the house's striking period details—gumwood trim, hardwood floors, leaded glass windows, original wood doors with glass knobs, and built-ins. A wall of windows in the enclosed, three-season front porch overlooks a tidy front yard. Beautiful crown molding abounds throughout the home, including in the light-

filled living room. The kitchen includes wainscoting and period-cabinets with glass panels and original handle pulls. A spacious dining room completes the first floor.

An archway and wood door separate the staircase from the living room, providing a nice buffer between downstairs activity and little ones who may be sleeping upstairs. A beautiful wooden staircase leads to the second floor hallway, which includes built-in drawers and a linen cabinet. The master bedroom has a leaded-glass window and more built-ins including a charming bench seat. One additional bedroom and an updated full bath complete the upstairs. An unfinished third floor provides expansion space while the basement below houses the laundry, the home's mechanics, and additional finished living space that could be used as home office and/or play room. The backyard offers privacy and a detached two-car garage.

This historic home is located within walking distance of several shops and restaurants along Winton Road as well as several nearby parks. This 1,222 square foot house is listed at \$129,900 with taxes of \$1,400. Contact Dawn Marie Kane of Hunt Real Estate ERA/Columbus at 585-394-8888 for a tour.

by Scott Brace

Scott is a Landmark Society volunteer.