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Vintage American Foursquare

339 Seneca Parkway

Seneca Parkway is one of the Maplewood neighborhood's loveliest streets. Beautiful houses of various architectural styles line this picturesque boulevard. While stately Tudors and beautiful Victorians abound on Seneca Parkway, the American Foursquare appears to be the street's architectural style of choice. With its sloping hipped roof, third floor dormer, and overhanging eaves, the home at 339 Seneca Parkway is a fine example of this truly American style.

The exterior features of this 1912 house are striking. The roofline has a unique bell shape, unusual for a Foursquare, and the black semicircular roof canopy atop the front door and the shutters contrast nicely with the cedar siding. A colorful garden parallels the front walk, and a climbing wisteria welcomes you in.

Inside you notice the hallmarks of the Foursquare form—four rooms downstairs, four rooms upstairs, and an open top floor. Arts and Crafts style details such as a pocket French door in the vestibule, Craftsman staircase, and the built-in bookcase beside the tiled fireplace in the living room are all original to the house as are the chestnut moldings, oak floors, and the many leaded glass windows. Another pocket door separates the spacious living and dining rooms. And from the dining room, French doors open to a sun porch that overlooks the backyard. The kitchen area—a large space for a 1912 house—pantry, and bath complete the first floor.

Three generous-sized bedrooms are on the second floor, and each has its own closet. The larger master overlooks the front yard garden. French doors in one of the smaller bedrooms to the back of the house open to a screened sleeping porch. A tiled bath and built-in linen closet in the hall complete the second floor.

While the first and second floors of the house maintain their 1912 period details, the top floor is now a modern space containing a bedroom, full bath, kitchenette, and a loft with exposed brick detail. The laundry and mechanics are in the basement, and outside the backyard is a lush garden. A two-car garage now serves as storage space.

The Maplewood neighborhood is alive with community spirit. The active neighborhood association sponsors an annual festival in the Maplewood Rose Garden with arts and crafts, and, of course, roses. The neighborhood is close to the High Falls area of downtown and the Seneca Park Zoo to the north. It is served by the Rochester City School District, and Nazareth Academy and Aquinas Institute are nearby.

The 2,999 square foot house is listed at \$139,900 with taxes of \$5,435. Call Heather Affronti of Re/Max Realty Group at 585-756-7401 for a tour.

by Bonnie DeHollander.

Bonnie is a Landmark Society volunteer.

