



195 Longfellow St.

Letter from the Owners

We hope you will love this house every bit as much as we have for the past 25 years. And it really has been a love affair with this graceful, stately, warm, embracing home. It was the outside which first left us feeling awe as we approached it driving by. It sits up from the street, so it seems to rise quietly and serenely above, with a green canopy of trees in front of and along the entire street. We took in the gracefully-curved, enclosed porch and the wide welcoming front steps leading to the French doors, and then gaped even more as we swept our gaze to the arresting and grand carriage house right beside it. It was a joy to behold and was no less awesome once we entered and feasted our eyes on the magnificent woodwork, both on the floors and on the walls and the archways and windows. A tour of the home only enriched the reverence we already felt as we went from room to room and around corners and discovered built-in dresser drawers in closets and wide deep built in closets for linens and a 'hidden' back stairway to the third floor.

Someone had once envisioned an impeccable house filled with beautiful woodwork, perfectly placed rooms, closets galore, surprise cubby holes and an expansive third floor. And we wanted to care for all that planned elegance so, once we moved in we wanted to bring the kitchen back to one which reflected the grandeur of the era in which the house was built. So we had custom, quarter-sawn oak cabinets made to match the style and the natural color of the original built-ins in the dining room. We settled in and never looked back, deepening our fondness for and comfort in this quiet sentinel of beauty and calmness.

And the grandeur of the house is only enhanced by the pleasant, quiet neighborhood in which it sits. The wide double lot gave the children plenty of room to play badminton and croquet and whiffle ball. It provided a great sledding hill (albeit small), and a majestic giant maple made a beautiful shaded place to set up a small pool and sand box. The street is short and is not a through street to anywhere, so there is almost no traffic except for the neighbors coming and going from their homes. And our children walked to school from home as the elementary, middle, and high schools are all very close by. In fact the three schools sit almost side by side on Stevens Avenue, a brief walk from our front door.

As quiet as it is, one of the things we liked best about the location of this house is its proximity to everything - grocery stores (multiple), a library, the University of Southern Maine, hospitals, restaurants, theaters, AA Baseball, American League Hockey, D League Basketball, symphony performances at Merrill Auditorium, etc. All of these are only minutes from this cozy neighborhood. We are surely spoiled going forward, as we will have to learn to plan for longer times getting anywhere in the future.

We have had countless celebrations here, as this house is loved by everyone in our family and among our friends. The large open rooms accommodate large numbers of people without effort and we often sat up to 13-14 at the dining room table with ease. Others in the family would even call and ask if we could celebrate a birthday or a Thanksgiving at our house as they loved the space and the atmosphere of the warm woods and the spacious rooms.

We were smitten and we remain smitten to this day. We leave this grand old house and tranquil neighborhood only because the kids have grown and moved away and don't appear to be returning, and we have reached that retirement age when we want something smaller. It is a house that wants to be appreciated and lived in for years and years to come!

Enjoy!

- Tom & Renee



Childhood Memories

When we moved into 195 Longfellow, in my six year old mind it was a magical place, like a castle. My favorite part of the house quickly became the front porch, which my younger brother and I took over as our toy room. We would zoom around on our tricycles and roller blades, or set up sprawling villages of Playmobile castles and Barbie houses and chugging train sets, bathed in the light coming through the 25 windows. (We learned, years later, that the kids in the neighborhood called our house "the Window House" because of all of the windows on the front porch.) We played epic games of hide and seek with our friends - with all of the nooks and crannies on the main floors, and then the basement, countless closets, and the secrecy of the third floor, there were endless places to conceal ourselves. In the summer I would chase butterflies, running a loop off of the deck, through the back yard past Mom's garden, around the front of the house, and back to the deck again. In the winter, we would sled down the hill in the side yard and see if we could reach the fence, or even (with a lookout at the bottom, of course) sled straight down the driveway into the street!

After my most recent trip home to clean out what was left of my childhood memorabilia there, I posted a picture of the house on Facebook, saying goodbye, and friends and family's comments speak to how truly special the house is, and what an impression it makes on anyone who has spent time there. My cousins made comments such as "One of my favorite houses EVER," "So many great memories in the house... especially playing on the porch," "Always loved that home," and "I'm so sad you're moving, I'll miss that house so much!" Friends, many of whom have not even been to the house in years, made comments like "One of my favorite houses in all of Portland! I want to live in the carriage house!" and "I've always remembered that this is such a great home."

Even as a child, I appreciated the history of the house and knew that it was special. I would daydream about the house back in its heyday around the turn of the century, picturing the servants coming up the back stairs off of the kitchen instead of using the main staircase, the stable groom sleeping in the carriage house to take care of the horse and buggy, or the romanticism of a young wife on the roof pacing the widow's walk, watching for her husband's ship in the harbor. I had also always pictured getting married there, with Dad escorting me down the main staircase, and then holding the reception in the large side yard under a big white tent.

If my family's life were made into a movie, the house would play its own role because it has so much charm and character, from the built-in woodwork inside, to the horse-and-buggy silhouette number plate outside on a lamp post. I will forever appreciate how wonderful it was to grow up there and how lucky I am to have called the house home for 25 years.

- Elyse

“Best Towns.”
Outside

“Foodiest Small
Town in America.”
bon appétit

“Healthiest Cities
for Women.”
Women’sHealth

“Best Places to
Raise Your Kids.”
Parents



PORTLAND

It shows up on many lists, confirming what we locals already know: Portland is a great city where people of all ages can afford an active, healthy lifestyle and enjoy a wide range of cultural and outdoor activities in a scenic environment.

Portland is a beautiful city situated on Casco Bay. Its many distinct neighborhoods have unique personalities. Commercial Street and the Old Port are the historic waterfront and commercial heart of the City. Their many warehouses attest to a trading past. The West End is full of large, historic brick and stone homes on quiet, tree-lined streets. Congress Street and the arts districts were once the retail downtown and today offer a mix of shopping, art and cultural destinations, professional space, and many restaurants. In Portland, beautiful outdoor spaces and parks are never far.

Portland’s high-quality dining destinations have been featured in many publications including the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, and the *Boston Globe*. From the gourmet offerings of our numerous James Beard Award nominees and winners to fresh lobsters and clams at an ocean front shack, you’ll love discovering the full range of dining opportunities. For those who prefer to do their own cooking, twice-weekly farmer’s markets and a wide range of ethnic food stores provide both the supplies and the inspiration.

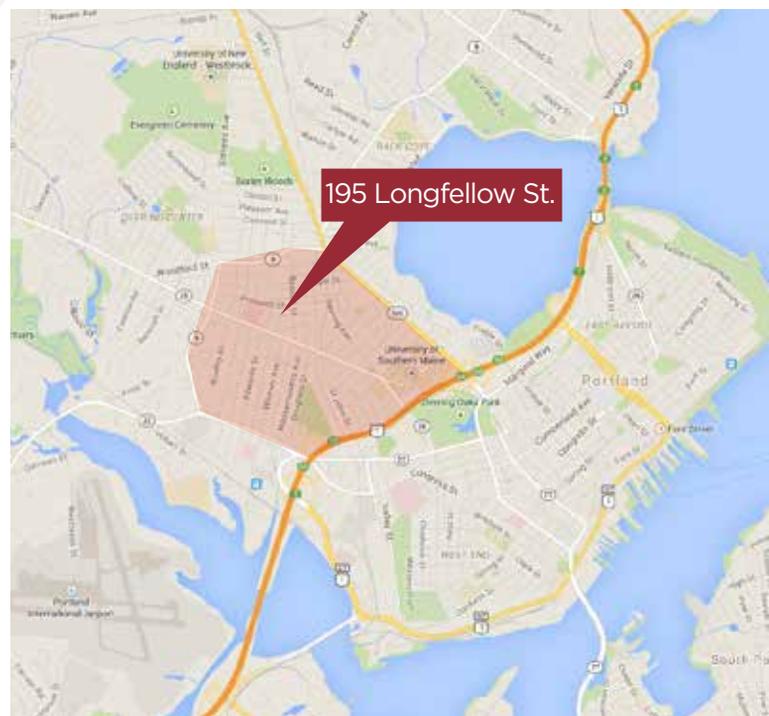
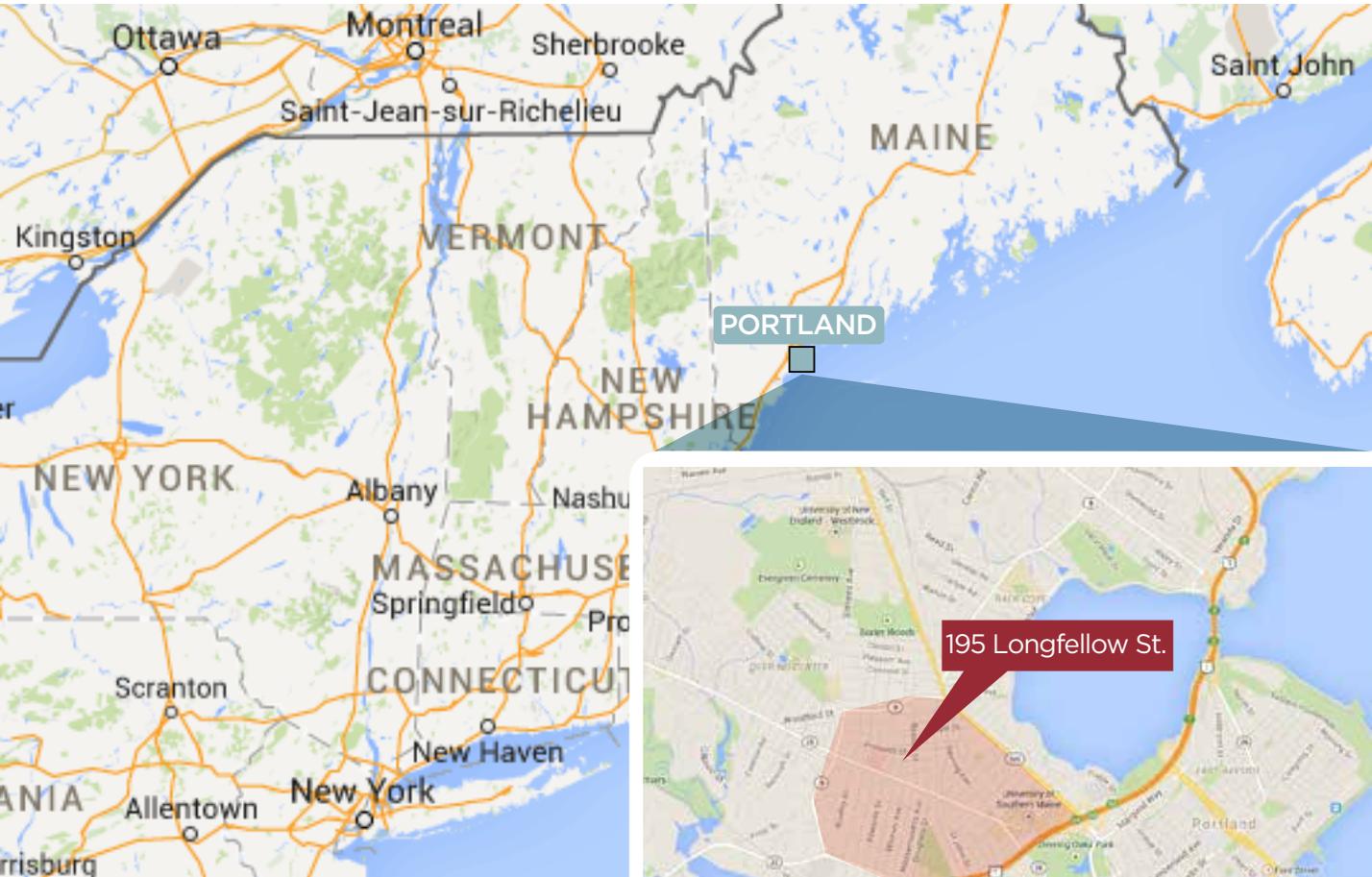


REGIONAL ATTRACTIONS

- Sebago Lake, Maine: 30 minutes
- Kennebunk, Maine: 40 minutes
- Portsmouth, New Hampshire: 50 minutes
- Newburyport, Massachusetts: 1 hour 10 minutes
- North Conway, New Hampshire: 1 hour 30 minutes
- Sunday River Ski Area, Maine: 1 hour 40 minutes
- Camden, Maine: 1 hour 40 minutes
- Boston, Massachusetts: 1 hour 50 minutes
- Sugarloaf Ski Area, Maine: 2 hours 30 minutes
- Burlington, Vermont: 4 hours
- Montreal, Quebec: 5 hours
- New York City: 5 hours 20 minutes

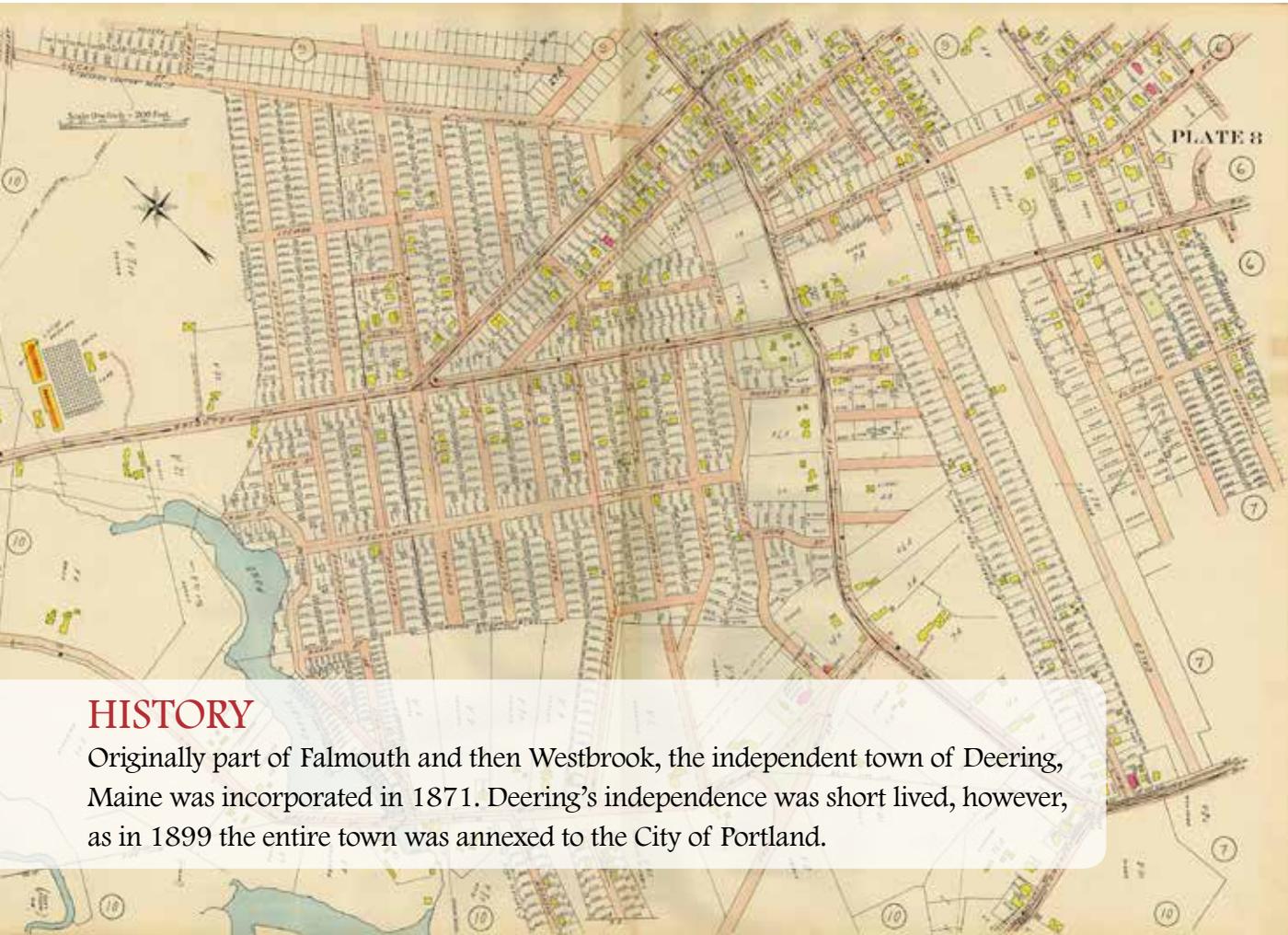


Portland's arts and cultural offerings are high quality and wide ranging. The Portland Symphony Orchestra and Maine State Ballet perform at the city-owned Merrill Auditorium. The Portland Museum of Art offers a wide range of shows, from hyper-local to international. First Friday Art Walks are a popular way to explore galleries, find local craftspeople, and watch street performers. Live music ranges from rock concerts at large venues like the historic State Theater to acoustic shows at the more intimate Longfellow Square. And you never know what you'll find at the Space Gallery.



Portland is also a great city for sports lovers. Whether you want to watch the pros or jump in the game yourself, Portland is the place to do it. Locals love cheering for our professional sports teams, the Sea Dogs, the Pirates, and Red Claws. If you'd rather participate than spectate, there are numerous walking, running and biking trails throughout the city and public launches for rowing and kayaking. In the winter, ice-skating in Deering Oaks, snowshoeing in the Fore River preserve, and cross-country skiing at Riverside are convenient, in-town workouts. Hiking, climbing and skiing in the mountains of Maine and New Hampshire are just a short drive away.

DEERING HIGHLANDS



HISTORY

Originally part of Falmouth and then Westbrook, the independent town of Deering, Maine was incorporated in 1871. Deering's independence was short lived, however, as in 1899 the entire town was annexed to the City of Portland.

Today, the Deering section of Portland remains one of Portland's most convenient and desirable residential areas. Its many neighborhoods -- Deering Center, the Highlands, Woodfords Corner -- offer tree-lined streets of historic homes for those who want to be convenient to all that Portland offers, while living in a quiet, more residential setting. Evergreen Cemetery and Baxter Woods offer trails for walking. Busy Stevens Avenue hosts restaurants - local favorites include the Press Room and the Café at Pat's - schools, houses of worship, and retail suppliers for life's necessities. Adjacent side streets are typically residential and quieter.



“The Highlands” is one of the more private and picturesque of Deering’s neighborhoods. The site was once “Highfield,” the estate of Alexander W. Longfellow, brother of the famous poet and a successful artist, surveyor and cartographer in his own right. The land was divided in 1880 and the streets, including Longfellow Street, were laid out. The hilly terrain and rocky ledges made for poor farming but offer a dramatic setting for the many large-scale residences built here after 1900. Curved roads and sloping sites add to the charm.



195 Longfellow was built by Frederick C. Dudley in or shortly before 1901. Dudley worked in a family lumber business that dealt in pine and spruce. Dudley and his family lived here only a few years before selling the house to Orrin P. Weymouth in 1909. The Dudley family moved around the corner to 22 Deblois Street, where they would live for many years.

Orrin Weymouth was also in the lumber business. A native of Hollis, he attended business school and in 1896 he began working as a bookkeeper at the Rufus Deering Company, a popular supplier that remains in business in Portland to this day. He worked there for over 60 years, serving as treasurer and president before purchasing the company in 1925.



The Weymouth family would live at 195 Longfellow for more than 50 years. Although Orrin and his wife, Emma, had no children of their own at various times their household included Orrin’s two sisters, a brother-in-law, and in later years live-in servants.



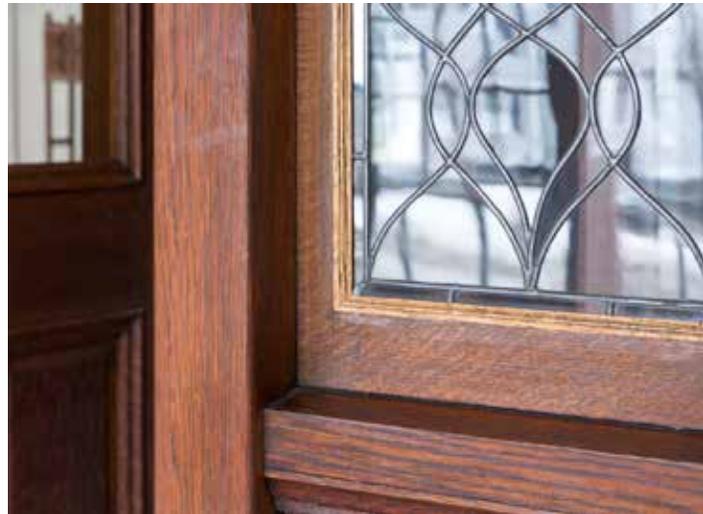
EXTERIOR

The exterior of 195 Longfellow is a classic example of a grandly scaled, Queen Anne/Colonial Revival home. Built ca. 1901, the house retains nearly all of its original exterior details. A large round turret embellishes one corner and a two-story high bay window adorns another facade. A deep, wrap-around porch, enclosed sometime after 1924, extends along two sides of the house and even curves to follow the footprint of the turret. Nearly all of the original one-over-one windows remain. The high, hipped roof is finished with an elaborate wood cornice at the eave and capped with balustrade.



At the front of the house, a wide flight of steps ascends to the front door in the enclosed porch. The entrance doors are flanked by sidelights and above is a pediment on scrolled brackets. The porch has three distinct rooms and is enclosed with double-hung wood windows.





Enclosed porch (first section: 26'-8" by a little under 9'-0") Enclosed with double-hung windows. Paneled ceiling. Older pendant light fixture with opaque glass shade. Hardwood floors. French doors each have 15 lights of glass.



The second section of the enclosed porch is 9'-0" deep (typical). This section is rounded, and follows the curve of the turret. Hardwood floors. Heated by three sections of radiators. Paneled ceilings. Three vintage pendant lights with iridescent Art Deco shades. Pair of 15 light French doors leads to third section of enclosed porch. The third section of the enclosed porch is adjacent to the dining room.

FIRST FLOOR

Throughout the first floor, original millwork including baseboards, door and window casings, and five-panel doors remain. The original hardwood (typically oak) floors have a border and a basket weave detail at the corners. Most doors retain their original hardware including glass doorknobs. Ceilings throughout the first floor are typically 9'-7" +/- high.



Entry vestibule

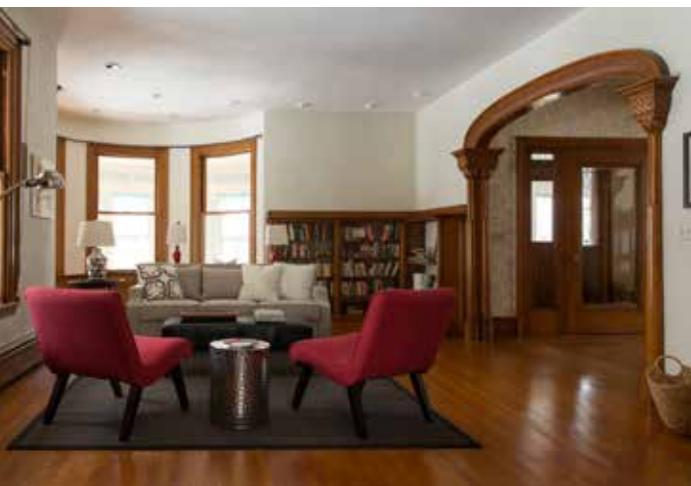
(4'-2" by 10'-7"). Early, likely original Anaglypta (pressed paper) wall covering. Original, built-in bench seat at one side; lid lifts and items can be stored inside.

Doors to porch have leaded glass sidelights and transom. Door itself has a pane of heavy, beveled-edge glass. Door to hall has sidelights, and a door with a beveled glass light.



Front Hall

(10'-5" wide by 21'-3" long) Wide, grand stair with an elaborate balustrade that curves elegantly around the newel post. The opening to the parlor is especially elaborate, with paired columns, capitals with a basket-weave detail, and a carved arch above.



Front Parlor

(14'-8" by 21'-3", plus the space in the round turret) Built-in bookcases w/ adjustable shelves line the walls. Original mantelpiece. Round alcove with four, original windows with curved glass panes. Large arched opening to front hall, and a second large opening to the dining room. Recessed lighting.



Dining Room

(15'-9" by 14'-7") True paneled wainscot, two original built-in cabinets. First built-in has Ionic columns and a beveled mirror set into it. The second has a glass-doored cabinet above a set of drawers. Glazed doors in a floor-to-ceiling bay lead to the porch. Wide door opening to front parlor.



Kitchen

(main area: 12'-2" by 14'-0"; breakfast nook/work area: 9'-3" by 11'-4") The custom, quarter-sawn oak cabinets were made by Kennebec Cabinets and inspired by woodwork elsewhere in the home and have a classic, timeless appeal. Durable solid surface counters and ceramic tile floors.

Main area has refrigerator, electric range and range hood. Deep, double bowl sink with disposal. Custom pantry closet behind fridge has notched shelves for storage of tall items like brooms or an upright vac. Recessed lighting. One ceiling light fixture. A door leads to the deck.

Breakfast nook / sunroom has many windows looking out over back yard. Custom cabinetry here includes a large pantry, a built-in desk with open shelving above, and a second storage cabinet.



Second Parlor

(20'-1" by 13'-0"; bay adds an additional 1'-10" to length) Three windows in the bay look out over porch. Short flight of steps leads to a landing; steps continue up to the second floor or down to the kitchen.

Half bath

Tucked under the main stair, near the kitchen, is a half bath with a toilet and wall-mounted lavatory.

SECOND FLOOR

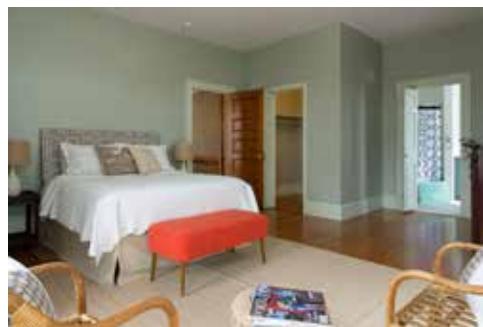
Like the first floor, the second floor retains original hardwood floors, baseboards, windows, five-panel doors, casings, and hardware throughout. Closets and storage are ample. The two bathrooms retain a mid-century exuberance with colorful tiles and fixtures.

Hall

(9'-7" wide by 30+ feet long). Wood columns at stair opening match those downstairs. Oak balustrade. Room at end for desk, work area, or a reading nook with chairs.

Master bedroom

(L-shaped; 12'-10" by 6'-10" and 7'-9" by 10'-8", plus the round area in the turret). Round seating area in turret with curved windows. Painted wood trim (original). Two sconces. Ceiling fan. Master closet: 6'-5" by 5'-0" deep. Two poles/shelves on either side. Built-in drawers at end.



Master bath

(9'-8" by 6'-5") Matching vintage corner tub, sink, toilet. Long sink counter with vanity below, built-in closet for linens, toiletries.

Rear hall

Built-in shelving with drop front doors for linen storage. Built-in cabinet has shelves behind doors above, drawers below. Closet is 4'-10" wide.

Second bedroom

(14'-0" by 14'-10") Large bay with three windows. Fourth window in side wall. Original trim, painted. Ceiling fan. Closet is 4'-10" wide and 1'-10" deep and has clothes pole/rod and shelf.



Third bedroom

(12'-11" by 14'-7") Two windows. Ceiling fan. Closet is 4'-4" wide, has built-in drawers at back of it.



Fourth bedroom

(11'-10" by 14'-0") Angled door to hall. Two windows. Closet is 5'-6" wide.



Bathroom

purple, blues, pink fixtures (7'-5" by 9'-4") Long counter with two sinks on a floating vanity. Two, built-in storage cabinets on counter in addition to the generous storage underneath. Matching suite of corner tub, twin sinks, and toilet. Colorful tiles on walls, floors. Built-in, tiled planter next to tub. Two sconces.

THIRD FLOOR

The third floor has two large rooms with charming sloped walls that follow the hip roof. Dormers provide ample daylight. There is plenty of space to add a bathroom.

Hall

(4'-11" by 9'-10") Sheet vinyl floor. Attic hatch in ceiling. Narrow door leads to a cedar-lined closet (4'-10" by 8'-4" long).

Very large room

(13'-10" by 31'-4") Oversized room with two windows in dormers. Awesome views. Space for a pool table or Ping-Pong table. Sheet vinyl flooring. 7'-9" high ceilings. Full-height closet is a little over 9'-0" long. Additional storage built into eaves.

Large room

(19'-7" long). Two windows with diamond-paned sash in a dormer. Adjacent is a large room (14'-7" by 15'-3") finished in wood siding. Has a cistern in it.



YARD

The large yard is a double lot. Front yard has a grassy slope up to the house. Mature shade trees in front yard. Deck at side of house. Good sized, mature evergreens in back yard. Fenced back yard.

Basement

Basement is unfinished. A quirky feature is a large, antique safe left by a former owner. Toilet, shower. Large slate sink, washing machine, dryer. Stairs provide direct access to yard.



CARRIAGE HOUSE

In addition to the house, there is a large carriage house on the property. The carriage house was built a few years after the main house by the second owner, Orrin P. Weymouth.



The exterior retains its original hipped roof, cornice, corner pilasters, and original, casement sash windows. The main entrance has been fitted with roll-up doors with an electric garage door opener for convenience. Over this door, an overhang with scrolled brackets provides shelter. A man door retains historic glass in door and transom above and offers quick access.



First Floor

Spacious first floor (28'-0" wide by 26'-9" deep) easily accommodates two cars plus lawnmowers and snow blowers. Concrete floor. Plaster walls. Exposed beams at ceiling. Wall-mounted radiators remain, although presently non-functioning. Likely original, three-armed pendant light fixture with glass shades.

Work room

(10'-7" by 14'-4"). Long workbench. Monson slate sink on wall, cold water tap. Early pendant light fixture. Storage closet. Wall-mounted radiators (non-functioning).

Rear hall

leads to a toilet room & two storage closets. Each closet is 3'-0" deep and has a large a drawer underneath.

The second floor

Large, open, unfinished space. Dormer with window in each of the four slopes of the hipped roof. Unfinished wood floor.



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