



# 1913 McGrath House Built As A Bungalow Style

**By: Michael Stein**

The house at 115 Fourth Street SE, first owned by Theodore Halvorson, is today known as the Paul McGrath house. At the time of its construction, the street was known as Madison Avenue.

The home, decorated under the direction of C. Wood, is a classic example of a bungalow, with its

expansive three-season porches, dormers and shinglework in the gables.

By definition, a bungalow is a small house or cottage that is either single-story or has a second story built into a sloping roof, as can be seen in the photo of the exterior of the McGrath House.

The style is derived from the

house sat empty for several years. I understand it got to be kind of scary looking for awhile when it was vacant."

Kimberly said John Hough purchased the home and did a lot of work on it before the Mark Huesman family bought it and did more extensive restoration work. The Shervas bought the house in October 2011, and have continued to make improvements and add complementary touches, aided by their work with antiques and collectibles.

"The home was built for Theodore Halvorson in 1913," Kimberly said. "He owned a furniture store and was an undertaker. As was often done in those days, it's likely he ran the business out of the house."

Kimberly noted that a support post in the basement has the date November 1913 etched on it, so that is the presumed completion date.

Halvorson owned the home for only three years. There were numerous owners after that, including John H. Eldridge from 1923 until 1934, the year of his

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Although it's been refurbished over the years, the claw-foot bathtub in the upper level bathroom is original.



Several years ago, the kitchen ceiling was refurbished. The styling was likely done to match the original.



The Fankhanel House at 115 Fourth Street. At the time of its construction in 1913, Fourth Street was known as Madison Avenue.

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