

6 1402 Main Street
Foursquare — 1908



Three years after their marriage in 1905, pharmacist Ray Rust and his wife Josephine, a physician and surgeon, built this large Foursquare-style home at 1402 Main Street. From the very beginning, they envisioned renting the eight second-floor rooms to college students. In fact, Rust House, as it was called, flourished as a college residence for a time. In addition, Dr. Rust likely saw patients in rooms on the first floor, which had an entrance off the south porch.

Today, the house has six bedrooms on the second floor and an apartment on the third.

The home's most striking exterior feature is the wide porch that wraps around the south and west sides of the dwelling. At one time it was partially screened.

Inside there is a corner fireplace in the front parlor and a central staircase off the foyer.

The current owners, Sig and Judi Barber, have renovated the kitchen and first-floor bathroom, and in the living room added period light obtained as architectural salvage from Des Moines houses of the same vintage.

The Barbers bought the house in 1989 from Phyllis and Ken Christiansen, who lived there for 30 years. The late Dick Cervene, an art professor, rented the third-floor apartment for many years.

The Barbers say they were attracted to the house by its size and "homey" feel. During the winter holidays, they festoon the porch with wreaths, evergreen boughs and lights.

7 1414 Broad Street
Shingle — 1910



Surrounded by stately Victorian homes that make up the bulk of the North Broad Street neighborhood are two picturesque Shingle-style residences (1414 Broad and 1415 Park) designed by the same architects, Hallett and Rawson. (The firm also drew up the plans for other buildings in town, including 1103 Main and several on the Grinnell College campus.)

Both 1414 Broad and 1415 Park are excellent examples of a design that is far more common in the seaside resorts of the East Coast than on the Midwestern prairie.

The home at 1414 Broad illustrates the style's asymmetrical lines unified by continuous shingles without corner boards. The front is dominated by a single gable and a turret that blends beautifully into the main section of the house.

Inside, significant features include natural woodwork, beamed ceilings, wainscoting, French doors and built-in seating and storage. A handsome leaded lamp over the dining room table was part of the original furnishings.

The charming interior area created by the turret is used as a den (first floor) and as an extension of the master bedroom (second floor).

The house was built in 1910 for attorney H.L. Beyer. Later owners enclosed the porch and added a family room and deck on the rear.

The current owners, Scott Wiley and Laura Ferguson, bought the house in 2001. They plan in the next few months to remodel the kitchen, incorporating the family room into the design.

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