
Manhattan / Riley County Preservation Alliance Newsletter

January, 2001



529 PIERRE **THE SHEROWS ARE FINALLY MOVING IN**

Jim Sherow (perched on the balcony), his wife Bonnie Lynn, and their daughters, will be moving into their renovated home on Sunday, January 15. If anyone wants to help them make the move from 2821 Arbor Dr., call 539-3162 to volunteer your services—or just show up.

The Sherows purchased their 130-year-old house in August, 1999. After seven kitchens and bathrooms were ripped out, reminders of its apartment-building past, the southern-style former mansion built by one of Manhattan's early settlers was featured on the House Tour in December of that year.

Much has happened since that time. All the rooms have been reconfigured back to the

original footprint of the house, including the placement of doors, windows and walls. Three major floods during the lifetime of the house had played havoc with the plaster, which all had to be removed. Plasterboard was placed over the old lathing.

The Sherows are recycling as many parts of the old house as they can. The wainscoting in the kitchen, for instance, was formerly the ceiling of the now demolished porch. They are also reusing old light fixtures, but draw the line at old plumbing. The house has been completely replumbed, and the Sherows are proud to report that all the new plumbing works perfectly. Bonnie is extremely pleased with the new kitchen cabinets and appliances, which were especially designed for the house.

The wide pine kitchen floor is the only one which will be coated with polyurethane. The pine floors in the dining room, living room and library will be stained and waxed. The oak floors in the upstairs bedrooms have already been stripped and resurfaced, and the upstairs is ready for occupancy.

There are over 27 windows in the house, all of which will undergo renovation. Each one of the 3 x 6 ft. windows has to be pulled out, taken apart, old lead-based paint carefully removed, weights and pulleys restored, glass reset, the frame sealed and/or repainted before it can be reinstalled. Bonnie estimates that it will take at least two years to complete window renovations. The cellar windows, however, are finished.

The house is heated through radiators by the new boiler in the cellar. Anticipating high heating bills, the Sherows are already looking into ways to utilize solar energy to heat their "new" old house—a terrific use of cutting edge technology to help preserve a part of the past.

Congratulations to the Sherows for restoring and helping preserve another part of Manhattan's history.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, January 11, 7:30 p.m., First Congregational Church, 12th and Poyntz, Manhattan, KS. After our business meeting we will tour the **Morning Star Bed and Breakfast**, located at 617 Houston, and owned by Laurie Pieper and Bill Kaszer. This and other planned tours are invitational, for members of M/RCPA only.

Upcoming Tours:

January: Morning Star Bed and Breakfast

February: Pat O'Brien's apartment building located at 501 Houston, undergoing renovation.

March: Marolyn Caldwell and Mary Westfall's late-40s cement block and brick home located at 1115 Colorado (wine and cheese included).

Other surprises down the road.

If anyone has news to put in future M/RCPA newsletters, please contact the Editor, Marolyn Caldwell, at 776-4862, or email marolync@flinthills.com.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FOR MANHATTAN/RILEY COUNTY PRESERVATION ALLIANCE, INC.

Dues date from the Annual Meeting in September. Dues paid mid-year confer membership status until the next Annual Meeting. Dues are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family. Checks should be made out to the Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance, Inc. c/o P.O. Box 1893, Manhattan, Kansas 66505. Questions? Call Linda Glasgow at 785-565-6490.

M/RCPA
The Riley Co. Historical Society
2309 Claflin Road
Manhattan, KS 66502