

60 Victoria Ave.
Empey - Pinkston - Bernard Interiors

This home has interesting tales

If walls could talk, the house at 60 Victoria Ave., would be able to tell some of the history of Belleville since 1875 when it was constructed.

Originally built by the Empey Family. It remained the family home until the turn of the century when it was bought by a doctor who lived and practised in the house.

In 1928, the building became a funeral parlour and remained so until the spring of 1984 when Paul and Gail Bernard purchased the house.

The Bernards of Bernards Interiors Ltd. found the ideal setting for the many pieces of furniture they have on display on the main level.

Mr. and Mrs. Orland Pinkston, who bought the house in 1938, have lived in the upstairs apartment for

the past 30 years. During their ownership, most of the changes to the dwelling occurred. In the 1940's they replastered most of the ceilings on the main level, except for the entrance hall which retains the original decorative plaster. The Bernards have accented the ceiling with an elegant crystal chandelier.

The entrance hall is also where the original staircase can be seen.

In 1968, Mr. Pinkston added a chapel to the side of the house. When the Barnards moved their business in, they added partitions to the large room to accommodate their furniture groupings. The Bernards also installed three windows along the side in a style compatible with the windows in the rest of the house.

The many large windows and converted french doors dominate the outside of the brick structure.

The bay windows, a predominant feature of the era, allow a profusion of light to enter the rooms creating an atmosphere of air and space.

Curved arches separate each large room lending an air of sophistication and reinforcing the element of space.

The Bernards use the carriage house only as a garage.

This Belleville landmark is on view as part of the Canadian Federation of University Women's 1986 house tour on May 10 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Tickets for the tour may be purchased for \$8 at McKnight's Variety, Briar Patch, Panache, W.R. Greenley's, R. McIntosh China at Quinte Mall, J.M. Seven Seas Travel, Smokers' World, Bruinix Jewellers in Trenton and the Village Shoppe in Stirling.



Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bernard sit in front of one of the many large bay windows that are such an attrac-

tive feature of 60 Victoria Ave. The Bernards operate their business

from the stately home.

(Staff Photo)

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