



# Heritage HILL

Heritage Hill Association 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
1968-2018

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Heritage Hill Association  
126 College SE; Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503  
(616) 459-8950; Website: [www.heritagehillweb.org](http://www.heritagehillweb.org)

## The Heritage Hill Annual Weekend Tour of Homes - May 19 and 20, 2018

Tour one of the country's largest urban historic districts and join us in the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Heritage Hill Association. The Annual Weekend Tour of Homes welcomes you inside 7 lovingly restored private houses as well as a rare opportunity to see the Voigt House, a Chateaux mansion complete with the Voigt family furnishings and heirlooms. Also open is the Frank Lloyd Wright designed Meyer May home and the Art Deco Museum School. We've come a long way since 1968 when the Association organized to stop the demolition of 75% of the neighborhood.

**Tour is Saturday, May 19 from 11 am - 5 pm and Sunday, May 20 from 12 pm - 6 pm.** It's a celebration of the grandeur and craftsmanship of the past fused with present-day livability. Each house is uniquely styled by its current owners. An elegant Greek revival, amazingly modern Queen Annes, a Craftsman beauty, a creatively converted 1900 carriage house, and more await you.

**Advance tickets** are \$18.00 and are available at the Heritage Hill Association office or at [www.heritagehillweb.org](http://www.heritagehillweb.org). To obtain tickets by check, send to the **Heritage Hill Association, 126 College SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503**. Tickets the weekend of the tour are \$25.00. It is a walkable tour but free shuttle busses also stop at each of the open houses.

**Heritage Hill dates back to 1843 and was named by *This Old House* as one of the "Best Old House Neighborhoods"** in the country. Its 1,300 homes represent Michigan's finest collection of 19th and 20th century American architecture.

*Proceeds benefit the Heritage Hill Association which supports the historic preservation of this unique neighborhood and assists with land use planning, engaging community, and safety. Please call 616-459-8950 for more information.*



**Heritage Hill Weekend Tour of Homes  
May 19 and 20 Line-up:**



**115 College SE – the Voigt House**

What would a birthday tour be without a castle? The Voigt House, a virtual time-capsule of the Victorian Era, hosts the furniture, artwork, clothes and even the toothbrushes of the Voigt family. The craftsmanship of this 1895 Chateaux mansion is perfection, especially in the extensive oak woodwork. Many of the light fixtures are meant for both gas and electricity and are still functional. You will not only learn about a bygone age, but will get to know one of Grand Rapids most prominent families through the memories they have left behind. This rare opening by the Grand Rapids Public Museum is in celebration of the Association's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



**703 Madison SE**

Madison Street has some stunning homes, but none more magnificent than the Dennis family Greek Revival mansion. Built in 1903 by a lumber baron, this home has some of the most beautiful oak woodwork in the city. The ornate fireplace mantle fills an entire wall and the sweeping and carved double stairway takes your breath away. The oak continues into the tin-ceiling of the kitchen where columns from an old piano were used as decorative cupboard trim. Going past six bedrooms and four baths on the second floor, you will head up to an attic that has been creatively transformed into a fantastic entertainment space.



**447 College SE**

The current owner's love of all things Victorian found a perfect showcase in a lovely 1894 Queen Anne Style home. The glowing oak woodwork in the huge bay windows, the carved mantle, the staircase and the generous trim makes a fitting backdrop for the family heirlooms and antique shop finds that fill the house. The owner is a designer, and her combinations of lush, intricate fabrics give each room a richness and a character all its own.



**512 College SE**

Once covered in metal siding and almost lost in a fire, this phoenix has risen from the ashes in spectacular fashion. This circa 1900 Shingle Style home with a huge two-story, curved bay window and an unusual arched opening to the entry porch, has many delightful surprises waiting inside. An open-concept living space has been created on the first floor ending in a modern kitchen with soapstone counters and an orange stove. The basement has been transformed into an entertainment hub and upstairs, two rooms have been combined to create an outstanding master bath with a chimney in the shower and a fireplace and TV next to the two-person freestanding tub. A bold use of color throughout punctuates the interior.

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**216-18 College SE**

The second Queen Anne on tour has all of the ornate exterior detailing characteristic of its 1884 style, but the interior could be from a high-rise in NYC. It was recently featured in the *Grand Rapids Magazine*. The owners have masterfully blended the classic original interior appointments with a creative mix of estate and garage sale treasures, repurposed curb-side finds and eclectic artwork, all with a dash of panache. The home has been divided into two condos, and all four floors will be part of the tour.



**216 Antisdel NE**

This turn of the century house has a quaint beauty all its own. Built in the Vernacular Style, it is part of the Hill's first "housing development" with four other houses on this alley-like street having different trim, but the exact same floor plan! Restoring this home - stripping woodwork, replastering walls, sanding floors, replacing mechanicals, etc.- has been part of the 25 year love affair that the owners have had with this charming house. The furnishings and artwork make it warm, cozy and entirely unique.



**216 Prospect N.E.**

This stately 1920 brick home's architecture draws heavily from the Prairie Style. It has a welcoming front porch and a serene ambiance as you enter the foyer, where you will be greeted by a simple, but elegant fireplace. An extensive collection of Mission furniture and family heirlooms mixed with more modern, artistic pieces made by a local craftsman, fit in perfectly with the clean lines of the oak woodwork. The dining room is a highlight, with tall oak wainscoting, leaded-glass windows and a custom Amish-made table. Many works by local artists grace the walls throughout the home.



**508 College SE**

One of the most unusual homes to ever be on tour is a two room converted carriage house. Wanting to downsize after their children had grown, the owners have created a simple, energy efficient, very livable and fun living space in what was once a rather fancy hay barn for the home next door. The 17' high ceilings, the old beams, and a few remnants of the building's history remain and blend nicely with the contemporary furnishings and artwork.

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**455 Madison SE** Among the jewels of Heritage Hill is the Frank Lloyd Wright designed Meyer May House. Completely restored by Steelcase, this 1908 Prairie Style home is a national treasure, with an interior furnished with much of the original furniture, rugs and fixtures. The earth-toned stained-glass windows flood the main rooms with light, where the fireplace tile reflects the glow. The oak woodwork in every room emphasizes the horizontal feel that is characteristic of both the exterior and interior of Wright's architecture. By May, the charming gardens should be coming into their own.



**Grand Rapids Public Schools - Museum School / 50 Jefferson SE**

If you have been wondering just what is happening to the old museum on Jefferson Street, now is your chance to get a first look at the new Museum School that will begin classes in the fall of 2018. Those spooky old stuffed animals are gone, and in their place is a modern, exciting educational opportunity for the children of our City.

This Art Deco building was constructed in 1938 as part of the Depression era WPA (Works Progress Administration) projects. It was the first museum in the country to be built at street level as opposed to a grand staircase gracing the entrance.