

Louisville Holiday Home Tour 2008

1145 Main Street Home to the Madsen and Caranci Families

The current owners are the first owners of the home since members of the Caranci family had it for sixty-six years from 1927 to 1993. They have retained the original size and much of the original look and layout of the home, which was built in approximately 1908.

Early Owners; Madsen Family, Owners 1910-1927

The subdivision in which this house is located, Barclay Place, was platted in 1897. Early owners of the property were members of the Carveth family and Joseph and Mary Meunier. Unfortunately, no information could be found about the Meunier family. The next owner was John Madsen (sometimes spelled as Madson), who owned the house from 1910 to 1927.

John Madsen and his wife, Pauline, were from Denmark. This is unusual in that although Louisville drew immigrants from many countries, there were very few Danish residents in Louisville's earlier years. John had emigrated to the U.S. in 1874 and Pauline in 1869.

In 1910, when John Madsen purchased the house, he was 54 and Pauline was 55. According to census records and old directories, he worked at a livery stable and then as a teamster.

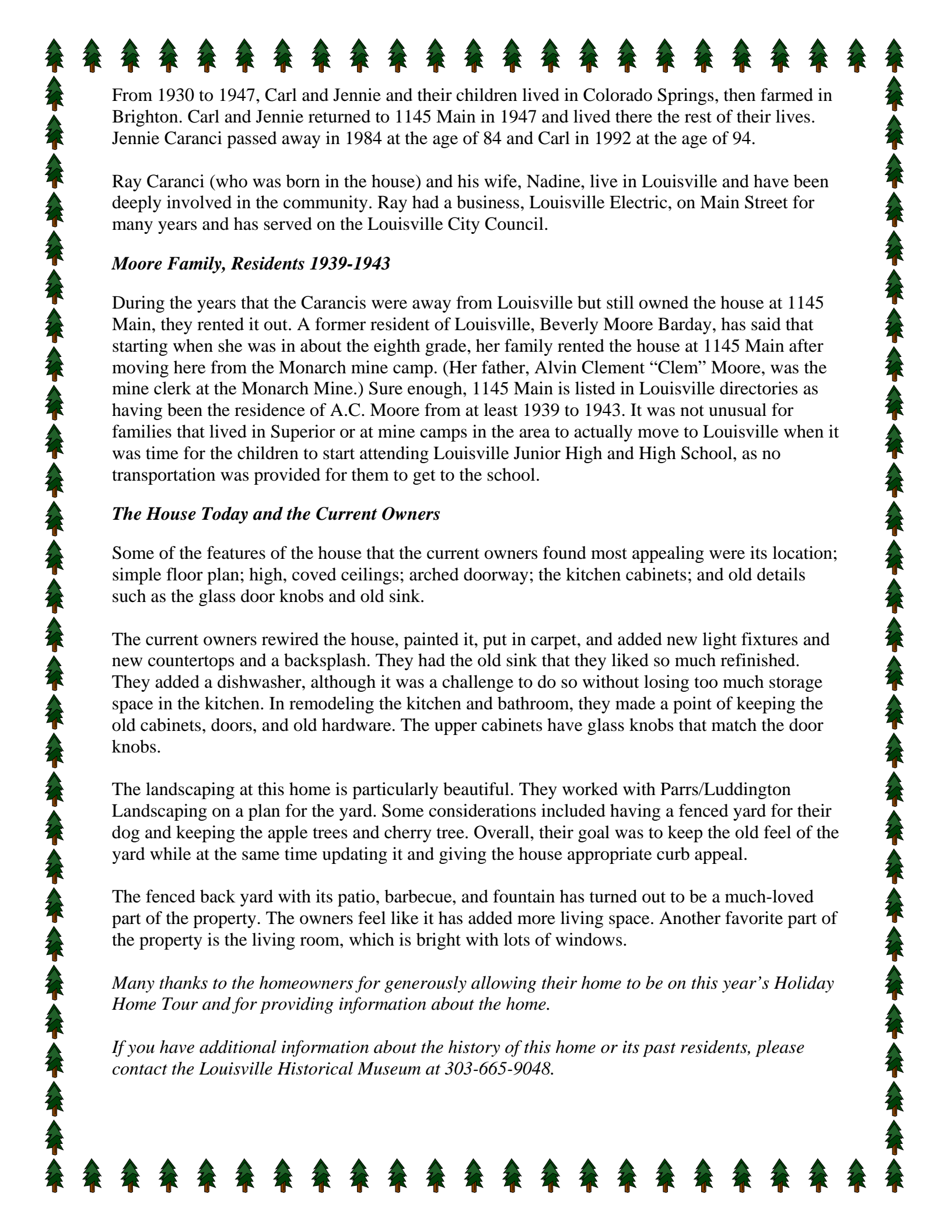
Caranci Family, Owners, 1927-1993

Carlo Caranci and Jennie Scrano Caranci were longtime owners of this home.

Carlo, or Carl, came to the United States with his family in 1913 from the small town of Castelpizzuto in the region of Molise in Italy. According to family members, Carl began working in coal mines in Marshall when he was 15, soon after arriving in this area. Jennie Scrano had been born in Louisville of Italian parents (the name was originally Scarano). Carl and Jennie married in 1917 in Louisville. According to information from the Caranci family, because of U.S. laws in 1917, Jennie lost her U.S. citizenship by marrying a "foreigner" such as Carl and she had to go through immigration procedures to regain her citizenship,

Carl and Jennie purchased the home at 1145 Main Street in 1927 after they had already had three children, Victor, Elaine, and Lillian. Their fourth child, Ray, was born in the house. (All of Jennie's children were delivered by an Italian midwife who worked in Louisville, Flora Perrella.) Jennie's sister, Rose DelPizzo, lived right next door with her family.

Census records from 1930 show Carlo (age 32) and Jennie (age 29) "Carranzi" living at this location with Victor, age 11; Elaine, 9; Lillian, 5; and Raymond, 3.



From 1930 to 1947, Carl and Jennie and their children lived in Colorado Springs, then farmed in Brighton. Carl and Jennie returned to 1145 Main in 1947 and lived there the rest of their lives. Jennie Caranci passed away in 1984 at the age of 84 and Carl in 1992 at the age of 94.

Ray Caranci (who was born in the house) and his wife, Nadine, live in Louisville and have been deeply involved in the community. Ray had a business, Louisville Electric, on Main Street for many years and has served on the Louisville City Council.

Moore Family, Residents 1939-1943

During the years that the Carancis were away from Louisville but still owned the house at 1145 Main, they rented it out. A former resident of Louisville, Beverly Moore Barday, has said that starting when she was in about the eighth grade, her family rented the house at 1145 Main after moving here from the Monarch mine camp. (Her father, Alvin Clement “Clem” Moore, was the mine clerk at the Monarch Mine.) Sure enough, 1145 Main is listed in Louisville directories as having been the residence of A.C. Moore from at least 1939 to 1943. It was not unusual for families that lived in Superior or at mine camps in the area to actually move to Louisville when it was time for the children to start attending Louisville Junior High and High School, as no transportation was provided for them to get to the school.

The House Today and the Current Owners

Some of the features of the house that the current owners found most appealing were its location; simple floor plan; high, coved ceilings; arched doorway; the kitchen cabinets; and old details such as the glass door knobs and old sink.

The current owners rewired the house, painted it, put in carpet, and added new light fixtures and new countertops and a backsplash. They had the old sink that they liked so much refinished. They added a dishwasher, although it was a challenge to do so without losing too much storage space in the kitchen. In remodeling the kitchen and bathroom, they made a point of keeping the old cabinets, doors, and old hardware. The upper cabinets have glass knobs that match the door knobs.

The landscaping at this home is particularly beautiful. They worked with Parrs/Luddington Landscaping on a plan for the yard. Some considerations included having a fenced yard for their dog and keeping the apple trees and cherry tree. Overall, their goal was to keep the old feel of the yard while at the same time updating it and giving the house appropriate curb appeal.

The fenced back yard with its patio, barbecue, and fountain has turned out to be a much-loved part of the property. The owners feel like it has added more living space. Another favorite part of the property is the living room, which is bright with lots of windows.

Many thanks to the homeowners for generously allowing their home to be on this year’s Holiday Home Tour and for providing information about the home.

If you have additional information about the history of this home or its past residents, please contact the Louisville Historical Museum at 303-665-9048.