

Home tour house description notes

Background Information

Owner name(s): Stacey and Jim Wickware

Description

This historic Sutter Creek Victorian bungalow was the former home of Azalea Cuneo, whose father built the original structure in 1901. With its traditional siding, shingle detail and “gingerbread” trim it is an example of what was called a “payday” home – living structures that were built room by room as enough money became available.

After entering the home through the original front door (note the vintage door ringer), there’s a comfortable sitting room/parlor. At some point, the wall between this room and the adjacent sitting room was removed, to create a more open floor plan. Many of the larger wood pieces in these rooms were purchased at Water Street Antiques in Sutter Creek.

Across the hallway is a cozy guest bedroom, which was likely originally the primary bedroom in the house. The new primary bedroom remains the original size, and the current owners created the “ensuite” by reconfiguring the space to create a light-filled ensuite master bathroom and closet. The sunny bathroom features distressed ceramic wood floor tiles, a double vanity, soaking tub, and separate shower.

Off the dining room, past old-fashioned built-in cabinets is another guest bedroom and guest bath. This room would have been where the original (and first) indoor bathroom was located when it was added on in the 1930s.

The current dining area is located where the original kitchen once stood. Now a family gathering place, the room is filled with interesting family heirlooms and the owner’s collection of colorful pottery from Orvieto, Italy. The new kitchen is in what was formerly the home’s back porch. Significant upgrades included re-arranging the flow and expanding the footprint. Now it is a cook’s kitchen, featuring custom built-in cabinetry, a farmhouse sink, coffee nook and a large center island. The backsplash and flooring were sourced locally from Barron’s Flooring and Design. Completing the rooms is what the owners refer to as the “world’s smallest laundry room”, a clever and stylish way to make a tiny space very functional.

Stepping outside you will find a backyard oasis, which features several different “rooms” where the owners have created inviting areas where they can relax and entertain guests. Once a driveway in disrepair, after major grading, hardscaping and planting, the area now invites you to linger and wander toward a detached cottage that serves as an office.