



Photo from Old Houses USA

This is a traditional house from 1913 in the Kansas City, Missouri area, located on one of the oldest boulevards in our city. It features a very classic design that can be seen throughout our city, with symmetrical lines and a combination of half pavers and half siding, reminiscent of our one-of-a-kind shirt waist homes.

The house boasts several classical architectural features. The prominent gable roof, with its triangular shape, is a common feature in traditional architecture. The dormer windows help add light to the attic area in times when electricity wasn't readily available.

The facade is very symmetrical, and all elements in this house are characteristic of a traditional home from the early 20th century. The symmetrical fronts of homes originated during the Federal period of 1780-1820, and were seen in many other time periods, such as the Georgian period.

There is decorative trim around the home, including the window frames. During the 20th century, there was an emphasis on simple lines, natural materials, and craftsmanship. Many of the rocks used in these homes came from a local quarry in our area.

The lions that greet you at both steps harken back to ancient times. Lions were a symbol of power, guarding entrances during Greek and Roman times, and becoming associated with royalty in medieval times. These nods to historical styles are a beautiful example of preservation.

Older homes in the Kansas City area vary depending on the neighborhood you are in. This diversity is something I love about our city. This home reminds me of the days when I used to visit the Kansas City Museum as a little girl. These homes are breathtaking yet simple when you look at them. They remind you that craftsmanship was important and that beauty is in the details. The hand-done stonework just takes my breath away every time I see it in the area.