

Castle Park Cottage Tour

Wednesday August 3, 2022

6:30-8:30 pm

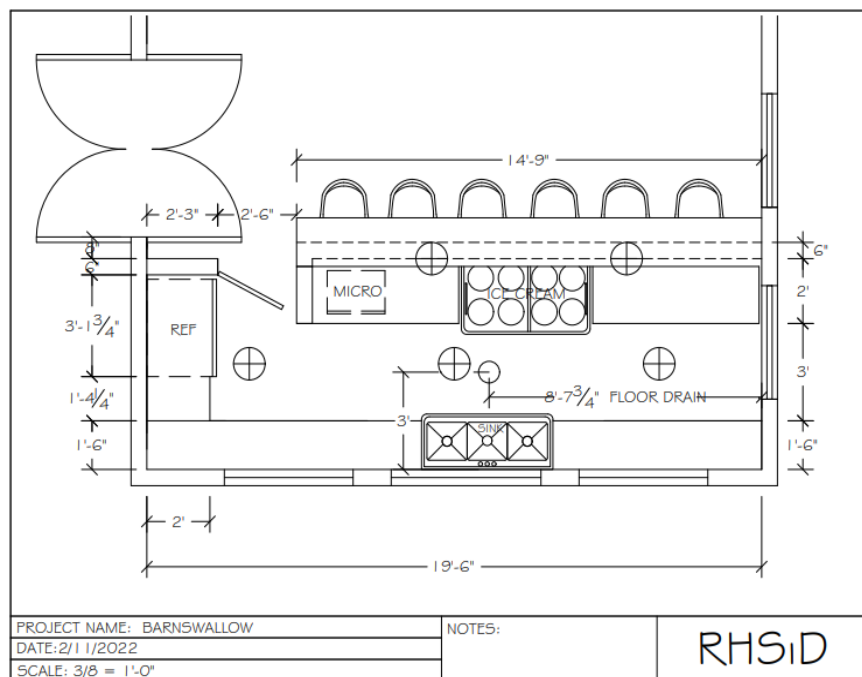


Benefiting the Barnswallow Renovation

***We thank our generous cottage hosts, volunteers,
and all who are supporting the restoration
of our iconic and beloved Barnswallow!***

Welcome to the 2022 Castle Park Cottage Tour! The participating cottages (**Bustle**, **Hedblom**, **Keehn**, **Muzzy Jr.**, and **Nix**) are shown in bold on the map on the back cover. Visit them in any order but please be flexible to help prevent bottlenecks. NOTE: there are two ways to access **Hedblom**: pedestrians can take the path by the Meeting House and those in golf carts can take the driveway to the left of the Manglitz cottage.

We strongly encourage you to walk, but if you use a golf cart, please park in Castle Park designated parking areas, as some cottages do not have any parking. Drop off and pick up is fine, but *please do not block driveways and roads*. **When you finish the tour, please join us at the Dance Dune and Eb's Barn for free refreshments (including a scoop of ice cream)!** There will also be a sale of the remaining necklaces made by Carey Lennox (proceeds to help finish the Barnswallow project). Last but not least, be sure to stop in the Barnswallow and see the improvements that have been made possible with your assistance.

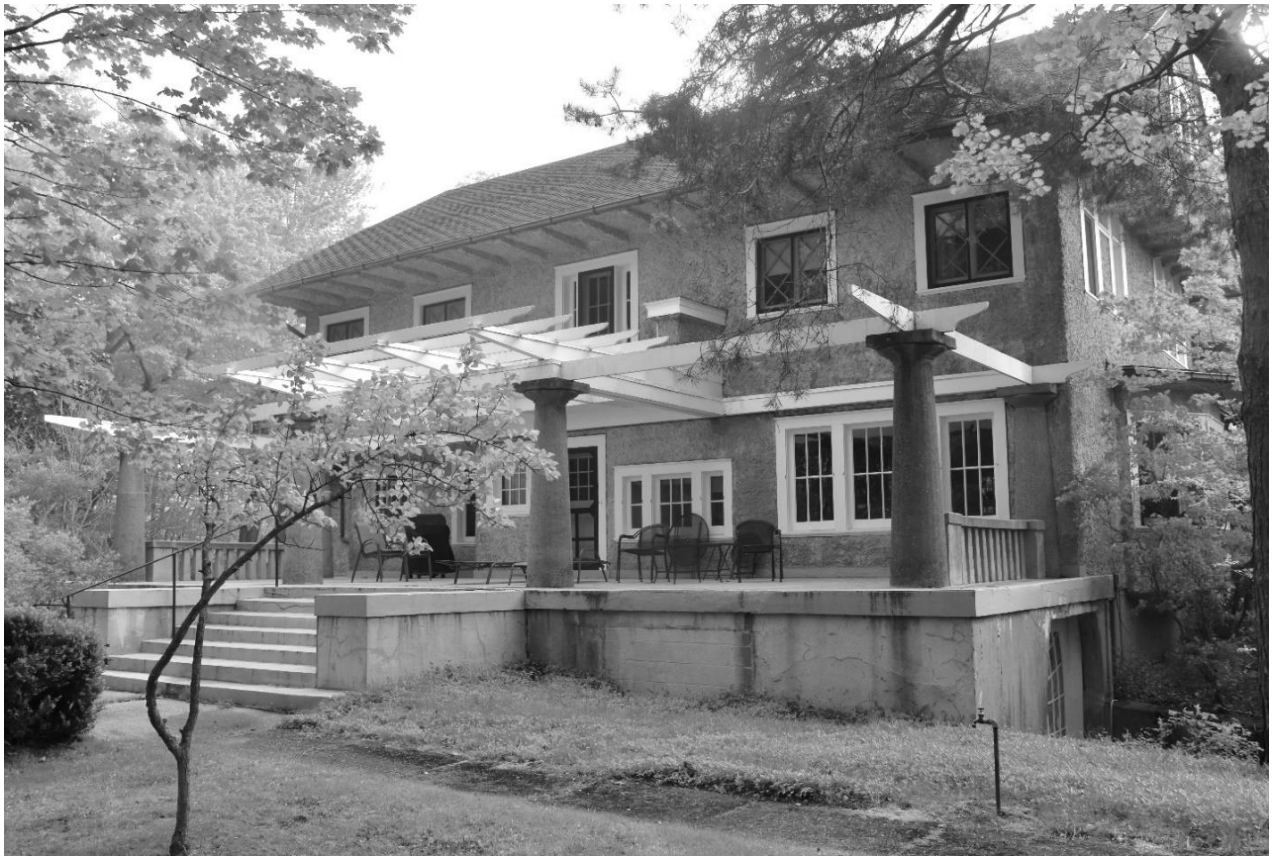


Barnswallow design plans by Ruthie Stebbins



Bustle

This cottage was constructed by Scott Christopher Homes in 2019 after Laurie and Howard Bustle made the difficult decision to sell their lakefront cottage (built by Laurie's grandparents in 1922). The Bustles needed a better floor plan, including a first-floor bedroom, stairs that weren't so steep, and a loft space with guest rooms for their children and grandchildren. Howard drew the design by hand and made it more accessible with an open layout, attached porch, and walkout deck. The Bustles find they can easily accommodate 30 people for a casual dinner party (they might regret sharing that information!). When touring this home be sure to note the antique furniture that belonged to Laurie's grandmother and great-grandmother, and the curio cabinet featuring cut glass pieces from both the Treis and McLean families. Also do not miss the faucet in the powder room that turns color with hot water!



Hedblom

The Hedblom cottage was built in 1911 by Grand Rapids-based Mae Godfrey, an eccentric spinster and cement heiress, and is an example of Prairie School/Arts and Crafts Movement architecture. It has been in the Hedblom family since Carl and Betty Hedblom of Chicago bought it in 1953. The house has a large outdoor porch framed by columns, a screened-in porch for dining, and an upstairs sleeping porch. Above the living room mantle, note a photo of the house on the bluff. Visitors are welcome to explore the whole house, including the large basement and steamy attic. The pièce de résistance is the kitchen, which was fully renovated last winter by David Tatlock and his team. It is a significant upgrade replacing cabinets dating back to the 1940s and counters from the 1950s, and installed baseboard heat – very welcome in the colder months. The newly refurbished butler’s pantry also includes the original ice box.



Keehn

"Tanglewood" was built in 1921 by the Rea family. The original cottage had one floor and the lower level was added several decades later. The Keehns bought the cottage in 2006. Since then, they've remodeled two bathrooms (Tatlocks), renovated the exterior and entry porch (Rob Sears and Insignia Builders), replaced the roof, added the cupola, and relocated the stairway access into the cottage (remember the staircase on the front of the house, with the little door at the landing, that led to a closet?). The family's favorite addition has been the back deck and patio, where they like to dine. The interior remains largely the same, including much of the furniture, several light fixtures, and the corner sinks in two bedrooms. The beadboard, main bedroom, living room, and kitchen have all been repainted. The Keehns love hearing Castle Parkers' fond (and funny) memories of being in the cottage over the years it's been standing!



Muzzy Jr.

This “cottage” was built in 1903 on the site of Castle Park’s first cottage, built by Grandma Parr. Over the years it has seen many changes and was made into a year-round home where Dick and Susan raised their two children. The first floor was remodeled to let more light into the kitchen and breakfast room. A sunroom addition also lightened the terrace room where the family spends the most time. The pine-paneled dining room has an open Franklin fireplace that adds warmth during chilly months. Upstairs, a living room was redone to incorporate an unheated porch, and a special source was found to match the original butternut paneling. In the third-floor hallway, beadboard was found under the 1960s-era sheet paneling and refurbished. Legend has it that the house has ghosts and secret panels upstairs, but after 45 years the family has discovered neither! Outside, the north side landscape and hardscape were renovated, adding bluestone walkways, a gazebo and fencing.



Nix

The cottage of Mindy Nix, Christina Saar, and Jessica and Paul McLaughlin celebrates its centennial this year! The family has made several changes during their time here, such as removing walls to create an open floorplan and replacing the flooring. In addition, David Tatlock replaced the carport with a screened-in porch. It's the heart of the cottage where the family has most of its meals, including signature hamburgers at sunset. The thick fireplace mantle in the living room was Carter Brown's gift to the original cottage owner, who located and secured the same wood that was used to build Ebenezer's Barn. It's now the perfect spot to display the miniature cottages that Mindy has collected over the years. In 2021, with the family growing, an internal staircase was added to connect the upper and lower levels. The additional bedrooms and bath have made everyone much more comfortable!

History of the Barnswallow

The first Barnswallow was on the Dance Dune in a rustic structure built in 1936 by Carter Brown. Like its descendant, it had a fireplace and a soda counter for ordering ice cream. A contest was held in 1938 to come up with a name and it has been our beloved Barnswallow ever since. In 1967 it was converted into a cottage (the Sandpiper) and Castle Park did not have a Barnswallow! In 1969 a new location was secured: the building that was formerly a nature center for Play Class. It was enlarged and refurbished to house the space we all know well today.



[Photo: Carter Brown at a Labor Day picnic on the south side of the Barnswallow.]

Background on the Barnswallow Renovation

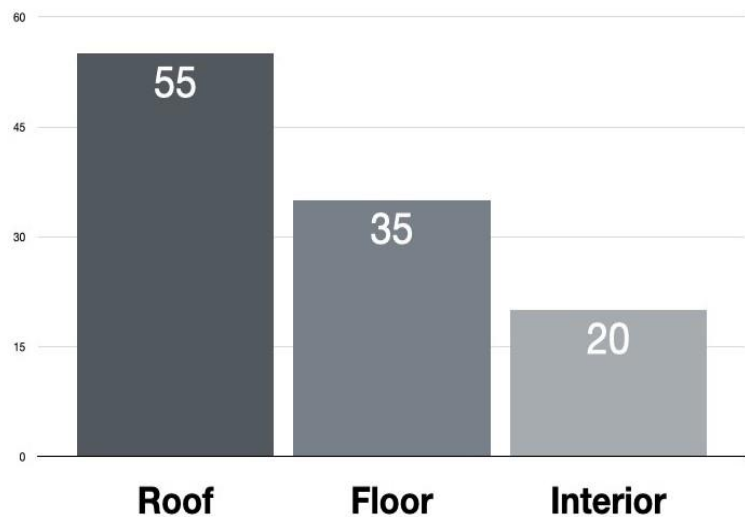
The Barnswallow has been in dire need of work in recent years. With the generous assistance of CPA and the Carter P. Brown Legacy Preservation Fund, it was possible to replace the floor and plumbing and install a new roof. Interior renovations have been covered by private fundraising efforts and include new cabinets, counters, and shelving; new appliances (refurbished sink, new faucets, microwave, donated refrigerator); new lighting; and a new ping pong table. None of this would have happened without the efforts of a wonderful crew of people including **Ted Parker, Bill Steketee, Martha Jannotta, Ben Watson, Ruthie Stebbins, Tinker Judson, Martha Gregg,** and the **CPA Board**. Finally, we thank **David and Daniel Tatlock**, who were our dedicated contractors!

A Breakdown of the Numbers

Fundraisers from the past two years have generated:

- \$3,200 -- Sam Helmrick quilts
- \$5,000 -- Castle Park history books
- \$4,100 -- Carey Lennox necklaces
- \$700 -- Gina Jannotta furniture

2022 Barnswallow Renovations (\$000's)



The total raised to date is \$13K. The 2022

interior renovations came to \$20K, so the goal of this cottage tour is to cover the \$7K deficit. Any additional donations will be used for future renovations which may include replacing interior wall paneling, reinstallation of graffiti beams on the east, fireplace renovations, lighting, acquisition of arcade and pinball games, and bathroom updates.

Work Still to be Done

MUCH progress has been made to ensure the preservation of the Barnswallow. With your generosity we can cross the finish line and enjoy ice cream and candy and hanging out for years to come! Please consider underwriting one of the items on the following pages (checks payable to Castle Park Association, and please give to Cindy Fuller). *And many thanks to the following families who made it possible to pay for our lighting, faucets, ping pong table, paddles, and balls: **Stroburgs, Nelsons, Fords, Parkers, and Cazers!** And a shout-out to **Ben Watson** for donating the Gardner refrigerator!*

Items already purchased (on credit; need to pay off):

- four pine cabinets at \$500 each (\$1,400)
- ice cream freezer (\$1,200)
- refurbished sink (\$300)
- microwave (\$300)
- candy shelf (\$250)
- cost of pick up/delivery of refrigerator (\$200)



Light Commercial Microwave



Ice Cream Dipping Cabinet
Displays up to 8 ice cream tubs;
space beneath display to store 6 back-up tubs

Barnswallow - Appliances



3 Bowl Sink and Wall Mounted Faucet



Fridge donated by Ben Watson



RHSiD

Items still needed:

- Floor coloring: \$2,000
- Wall painting: \$250
- New fans: \$140 each; need 2
- Molekule (for ventilation): \$500
- Graffiti beam relocation: \$500
- Outdoor lighting: \$150 each; need 2



Items still needed (continued):

- Music Speakers: \$150
- Mop & Squeezing Bucket: \$100



- Pinball and arcade machines: \$100 donations accepted



- Bathroom updates: \$100 donations accepted to go towards paneling, molding, cabinet, lighting

Cottage Trivia Quiz

Test your knowledge of Castle Park cottages!

QUESTIONS

1. Which is the oldest original cottage in Castle Park?
2. What did the Butler family pay for the Bellis cottage when purchased in 1937?
3. How many cottages are 100 years old or older?
4. Which cottages were destroyed by fire and rebuilt?
5. What were the names of nine cottages owned by The Castle Hotel?
6. What year did the Castle cottages get electricity?
7. Which eight cottages have stayed in the same family since being built (not counting new cottages)?
8. Which was the first cottage on South Hill?
9. In 1973 there were 77 cottages; how many are there today?
10. Which cottage was built, sold, and rebought by the original owner?
11. Which two families feud over the cottage name "Sunnyside"?
12. Which cottage sleeps the most people?
13. Which extended family owns the most cottages in Castle Park?
14. How many cottages have a funicular?
15. Which cottage has a working elevator?
16. Who was the first person to live in Castle Park year-round?

Turn the page for the answers!

COTTAGE TRIVIA QUIZ ANSWERS

1. The oldest original cottage is the Blossoms, built in 1898.
2. The Bellis cottage was sold for \$3,000 in 1937; the property was purchased in 1902 for \$75!
3. 39 cottages are 100 years or older. Other notable older cottages which have been torn down and rebuilt include Weiss/Platt Nobel (1916), Parker/Earle (1900), and Palmer (Bob)/Hibbard (1920).
4. Five cottages have been rebuilt after a fire: Allen, the former Gardner cottage, Kernahan, McLeod, and Pruyn.
5. The Castle guest cottages were Bandbox (torn down; Bronsink), Ebenezer's Barn, Hasty House (Sepp Jannotta), Hillside (Moyer), Pinecliff (Burns) Ravine (torn down; Conant property), Sandpiper (torn down; was on Dance Dune), Wilkie (torn down; site of new Conant cottage) and Windover (Summers).
6. Electricity was installed in the Castle cottages in 1927-1928.
7. The eight cottages that have stayed in the same family as the original owner are: Burton (on Ridge), George, Muzzy Sr., Nicholson, Pyott (Parr), Steve Steketee, Vedovell, and Watling.
8. The first South Hill cottage was McLean/Treis, built in 1946.
9. Today there are 99 cottages in Castle Park.
10. Kathy Stebbins built, sold, and repurchased her cottage.
11. The Blossom and Muzzy Jr. families both claim "Sunnyside" as their cottage name.
12. Katie and John Palmer's cottage can sleep at least 20 people.
13. The Jannotta clan owns the most cottages in Castle Park, seven.
14. Seven cottages have a funicular: Conant (Top of Pine), Hall/Mason, Littlejohn, Parker, Steketee (Steve and Nancy) and Wade.
15. The Nelson cottage has an elevator.
16. Nick Carter, former owner of the Muzzy Jr. cottage, was Castle Park's only year-round resident for many years.

