



MOORE – PLATTNER HOME
GRAND PRAIRIE SIGNIFICANT LANDMARK
Site Medallion No. 27
214 Moore Avenue

In 1912, J.A. Moore built this house where his youngest child, Catherine (Mrs. Frank Cornelius) was born. The north side of the house burned in the “twenties” which gave Mr. Moore the opportunity to enlarge the kitchen and add indoor plumbing. The eleven-foot ceilings may have been lowered to nine feet during the same period of reconstruction. The extra two feet in the attic were converted into a nine hundred square-foot apartment with bath and storage area. Oscar’s son Stanley, an interior designer, turned the home into a beautiful backdrop for an extensive collection of Victorian furnishings which was featured in the February 12, 1970 issue of the Grand Prairie Daily News. The house was sold not long after the article appeared.

Unfortunately, when the home was bought in 1976 by Mr. and Mrs. Arden Plattner, it had fallen into grave disrepair from neglect. Its condition had frightened away many prospective buyers, but Mr. Plattner saw in it an opportunity to use his talents as a do-it-yourselfer to turn the old home into a viable portfolio of his skills. Working daily after his regular job for one year eventually produced a structurally sound building. He claims to have come face to face with every inch of the attic and foundation!

The interior renovations were more fun and, reflect the personal tastes and preferences of the family. The kitchen has been completely remodeled but blends together antiques and old-fashioned memorabilia. An avid interest in antiques and knack for restoration had allowed owners to use a few period furnishings in each room.

When the owner’s daughter was three, she told her father “an antique is old and you can fix it”...and she was right. In addition to “fixing” houses and furniture, he has restored a 1931 vintage Chevrolet truck. The truck was purchased and was brought home in boxes, disassembled by its previous owner and had to rebuild it without a blueprint. It carried the family and friends in several “Western Days” and other parades as a representative of the Grand Prairie Historical Organization.

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A love for the old, a link to the past, a kinship with earlier lives and a preference for a home built with the quality to endure the years has inspired each of these family members to see their renovations through.