

WHAT WE LOVED ABOUT 3107 N SHEPARD

FROM QUINN:

- The very agreeable, soothing manner in which the spaces connect and flow. It is comfortable to be in these spaces
- The construction is substantial, sturdy, and executed with extraordinary craftsmanship. There's not a crack to be found in the foundation or walls. Even at the second-floor level, the walls are ~20in thick, made out of extruded tile
- Fitzhugh Scott Sr. was a notable architect who had an exemplary history and family. He clearly worked closely with the Johnson family to make such an agreeable building for them (there are many edits in pencil on the original blueprints showing changes even at that point...)
- There is an abundance of light everywhere. The breakfast room and sleeping porch above it are like a greenhouse. The windows throughout the building are huge. Even the basement has plentiful sunlight due to the enormous window wells
- The extruded tile masonry structure has natural insulation since each tile unit has a hollow central cavity. We stay cool in the summer and warm in the winter. We did not turn on the heat in the third floor even in winter.
- Being on a hill above the street is nice. You get a breeze, you get light, you can see far away from the upper stories.
- It was very reassuring knowing we were in a fire-proof building, especially when we had large family get-togethers.
- The home's history is remarkable –
 - family home until ~1943;
 - then as a teaching facility for the Milwaukee State Teacher's College (they used it for teaching home economics majors cooking/cleaning/sewing/entertaining);
 - then as a women's collaborative dormitory for UWM. As an example of what was going on here, I found the following in the Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle 10/24/1952 as follows: "The Milwaukee section, National Council of Jewish Women, announces the arrival in Milwaukee of Perla Zagury, the scholarship student from Rabat, Morocco, who is attending Wisconsin State college.

Miss Zagury comes from a community of 200,000 inhabitants about 90 miles from Casablanca. She is the youngest of a family of seven and is 23 years old. She speaks English, French and Arabic fluently. She is interested in sports and was an enthusiastic scout leader in her native land. Her Milwaukee home is at Shepard House, 3107 N. Shepard ave. She has been entertained by Council families on the Sabbath and High Holy days. At the college, her course includes kindergarten and nursery training which she will teach upon her return to Morocco. Miss Zagury is the third scholarship student from abroad to study in Milwaukee under the sponsorship of the National Council of Jewish Women.”

- After being a dormitory, it was the offices for the Peace Corp of UWM, which is why there are an unusually high number of deactivated phone lines in the basement and numbered doors. UWM’s first chancellor, **J. Martin Klotsche**, aggressively lobbied the federal government to involve the university in the Peace Corp and in 1963 set up a program for training Peace Corp volunteers heading to South America, using the house as a training center.

FROM PAULA:

- Like Quinn, I enjoyed the sunlight throughout this house. You could start each in the breakfast room and follow the sun all the way around the first floor to the sunroom.
- The location appealed to me:
 - There is a strong local network on our block and the Shepard block immediately to the north of our block: There is a neighborhood What's App chat where neighbors share news, ask for and offer help, share what's going on or seen in our neighborhood and there is an annual fall block party.
 - I enjoyed the mix of homeowners and renters, old and young, families with kids and singles/couples with no kids all watching out for each other, as needed or welcomed but never in an intrusive manner, and also the diversity of "roots", e.g. including the St Robert's folks and the Orthodox Jews walking to services, the families who have lived in this area forever and the newcomers from Chicago, all in a friendly, welcoming culture.
 - It is wonderful to be within walking distance of Downer Ave (Sendiks, Stone Creek, CVS, a fabulous bookstore and more), the beautiful historical park and lighthouse each with a vibrant volunteer culture and sporadic community events.
 - Easy commuting to downtown and/or to the highway system
- It felt like a happy house to me: the obvious thoughtful craftsmanship by the original builder and owner which becomes a current joyful part of your daily life when you live there, and the wonderful ways UWM put the building to use over many years. And for our family, the way the house figuratively swelled or contracted depending on how many people were there. For example, we had years of cooking for just the two of us in the kitchen—and also enjoyed cooking with multiple family chefs/cooks cooking at once during holidays with grandkids coloring etc in the "maid's dayroom with non-cooking adults sipping wine and coloring with them.
- It was easier than I thought to get enough furniture, e.g. for the third floor, when we first moved in. We found high-quality, suitable for the house furniture with no wait time and with Ikea or lower-level pricing at higher end consignment shops.