

# 114 E. Broad Street

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In 1854, William Fenstermacher purchased a lot at the corner of Broad and Pine Streets and built the home next door. Around 1905, he subdivided his lot and sold the western half to Ezra O. Dech who built the house you're touring today.

Ezra and his wife, Millie, had several children including daughters Emilie and Lotta who were first alto and first soprano, respectively, of the Bach Choir. Emilie married Dr. Harry Solt, a dentist, and moved across the street to 133 E. Broad Street. Lotta married into a prominent Bethlehem family who were partners in a dry goods store on Main Street.



For decades, business offices hid some of this home's original charm. A recent conversion back to a residential property uncovered wonderful details such as the gaslight connections in the dining room, a cistern in the basement and a beautiful hand-carved newel post in the front entryway.

The exterior teal paint, added by the previous owner, makes the home stand out from others on the block but can't hide the detailed brickwork, elongated windows, tall ceilings, bay windows, wrought iron balustrade, and covered porch.

The current owners have brought this lovely home back to its former glory by restoring features such as the original yellow pine floors and impressive American chestnut woodwork. Updates to the kitchen and bathrooms pay homage to the charm and materials of the past, while incorporating modern amenities. To really appreciate the owners' labor of love and professional expertise, be sure to notice the "before" photographs of each room.