

MARKET WATCH: SPLENDOR IN THE GROVE

By Racquel Russell



When Michael and Kristi Larue discovered the deserted “diamond in the rough” at 3810 Humphrey Street, they decided to take on the challenge of restoring the Tower Grove home’s beauty and allure. In 2006, they called on architect Paul Adams to head the massive rehabilitation project. “This neighborhood has so much life,” said Michael Larue. “The residents of Tower Grove have taken so much care and effort to bring it back; I really wanted to be a part of it.” Demolition was extensive, with run-down walls, bathrooms and kitchens removed to make room for a contemporary floor plan befitting a chic city-dwelling couple.

Elevated ceilings and polished hardwood floors command instant attention upon entering the arched foyer of this three-bedroom, two-and-a-half bath dwelling. Designed to easily transition between dining and entertainment, the main level consists of a primary living and social area (the dining, family and living rooms), which flows into an up-to-date kitchen quarters—grand pillars and sleek granite countertops help demonstrate the home’s modern style. Offering a spacious walk-in pantry and up-to-the-minute stainless-steel kitchen appliances, novices and skilled chefs will easily be enticed to spend more time in the kitchen.

Highlighting the right side of the stairway that leads to the upper level is an exposed portion of the original brick wall, a reminder of the home’s historical integrity. “The brick of the home is so beautiful that I really fought to keep it visible. It was too beautiful to cover up,” said Larue. Soft, natural colors emit a sense of serenity and comfort in the master bedroom, from which there is a second staircase leading to the home’s rear entry. The master bath is a masterpiece of low-key luxury, including lustrous porcelain tiling and a Jacuzzi tub ideal for hours of self-pampering.

DETAILS:

Address: 3810 Humphrey St., Tower Grove

Square Feet: 2,660

Additional Features: Stained glass windows, fireplace in second bedroom

Asking: \$400,000

Listing Contact: Cheryl Johnson, Johnson Realty, Inc., 314.726.3174

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