

BOOMER



Marriage of Old and New

Maury Place at Monument B&B enhances its 94-year-old charm

Many boomers are working from home these days, but Jeff Wells and Mac Pence have taken this trend to a completely new level. Their home is their work. The former attorney and the current president of Pence Automotive Group own, operate and live in the grand 4,600-square-foot bed-and-breakfast inn at 3101 W. Franklin St. in Richmond's Museum District. The B&B opened in October 2008.

From the striking 12-foot decorative plaster ceilings to the pool out back, Maury Place at Monument is a tasteful marriage of old and new. The previous owners made sure of that when they included 12 pages of historical easements



with the sale of the 1916 home. “Anything we did to the interior had to be approved by the Department of Historic Resources,” says Wells.

A grand entrance

The expansive foyer leads into a chocolate brown parlor, where stately leather-and-fabric-upholstered sofas face off in front of the fireplace. All six fireplaces at the inn have been converted to gas, but they have original mantels and marble surrounds. The parlor and library even boast the ornate gilt mirrors that hung there almost a century ago.

Room with a view

The palatial 600-square-foot Pathfinder Suite, one of four suites, has a large sitting area with a 42-inch flat-screen TV over the fireplace and includes a private balcony overlooking the inn’s namesake, the Maury monument. The original claw-foot soaker tub in the bath shares center stage with a new multi-nozzle rain shower.

Private retreat

By creating a distinctly different living space for themselves in the 950-square-foot attic, these partners have managed to separate work from home. They raised the ceiling 18 inches, left the space open and loft-like, and decorated using their own clean, contemporary style. According to Wells, “When you’re up here, you feel like you’re in a totally different house.”

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For more information, visit www.mauryplace.com.

