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SHANNON M. HALL

ASSOCIATE BROKER



QUEEN ANNE VICTORIAN

744 THAYER BOULEVARD

NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN 48167

Mike Miller built this house in 2005 as his own home in downtown Northville – just west of the center, and an easy walk from it – and a builder who builds for himself builds differently: slower, with better materials, and no compromises made to hit a price. What he built is a Queen Anne Victorian with all the romance of the old painted ladies and none of their headaches – more than 7,000 square feet on a rare, oversized deep lot, turrets out front, and the mechanical systems of a modern home. The front porch is deep and generous in the true Queen Anne tradition, made for anyone who loves to dress a porch for the seasons.

The care shows before you're even inside. The front door is curved, set into an arch of stained glass with a matching transom above. Just inside, a water fountain is built into the foyer wall, and the staircase rises beneath a hand-painted ceiling mural – figures and cherubs moving through painted clouds and columns, the kind of work that keeps an artist on a scaffold for weeks.



The materials are real throughout. The floors are hand-scraped teak; the kitchen and library have coffered ceilings, and the dining room is finished in pressed tin. The living room is the showpiece – wrapped in stone, opening to the kitchen through stone arches, and rising into a triple barrel ceiling that mirrors the great barrel vault over the front porch. Touches like that aren't accidents. Even the interior doors are solid wood with curved tops, the kind you find in a custom home and never in a spec build. The house reads warm and rich rather than washed-out, and that warmth is deliberate. This is a home with soul, not a flip.

The kitchen sits at the center of the main floor under a coffered ceiling, with a large island, and the living room opens onto it through the stone arches. The butler's pantry – bar sink and wine cooler – isn't put on display off the kitchen the way they tend to be now; it's tucked behind the kitchen and living

room, exactly where a working butler's pantry should be. A breakfast room and a separate eating area both look out over the deck, the gardens, and the pool. The living room and the library each have a fireplace, and two powder rooms serve the floor.



Upstairs, the primary suite is really its own wing. The bedroom has a fireplace, and a round, glass-wrapped sitting room opens off it at the top of the back tower, directly above the breakfast nook – a quiet place for morning coffee or an evening book. The walk-through closet is large enough for a treadmill or a small home gym, and just off it sits a private office, easily set up as a study or command center, with its own full bath. The suite's main bath was clearly the builder's favorite room: two vanities and a makeup area, a private water closet with a bidet, a step-down garden tub, and a spa shower with multiple heads and jets. Two more bedrooms each have a full bath of their own.



A small winding staircase climbs to the third level – a little space all its own, the kind of secret hideaway a Queen Anne does better than any other house. It could be a painting studio, a writing room, a place to roll out a yoga mat, or simply the hideout the kids never quite forget. It's pure whimsy, and exactly the sort of thing these houses were built to have.

Downstairs, the walkout level works as a second living space entirely. It opens straight out to the gardens and pool and includes another bedroom and full bath, an open living area, a whimsical theater room styled after a 1940s movie house, and a wine cellar lined with real oak barrels, plus a deep shelved storage room and a second laundry. It's even plumbed for a full kitchen – hidden so well you'd never know it's there, and shown on request – which means the whole level could stand on its own as a guest or in-law suite.



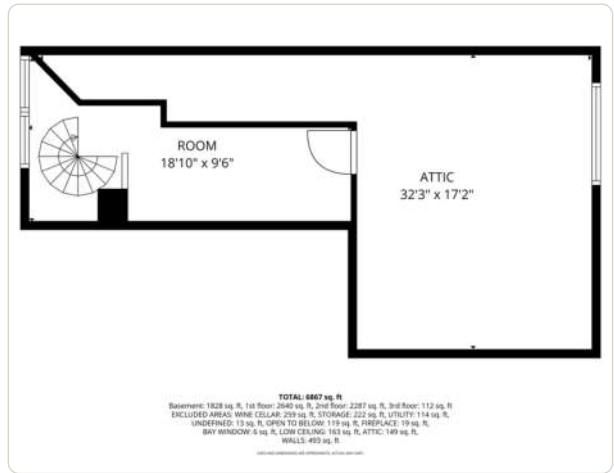
Out back, a two-story tower and a full-width deck overlook a saltwater pool, a pizza oven set up alongside it, and gardens that have had years to mature – all of it fenced and private, on a lot deeper than you'd expect to find this close to downtown. The three-car garage is heated, with built-in storage.





# FLOOR PLANS

## FOUR LEVELS



Four bedrooms, five full and two half baths, 7,335 finished square feet, a heated three-car garage, and a saltwater pool. If it's still with you tomorrow, it's worth coming back for. Much of the home's furniture is available for purchase as well, and can be shown on request.

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A S S O C I A T E B R O K E R

Shannon M. Hall runs a focused, deliberate real estate practice across southeast Michigan, working primarily in Plymouth, Northville, and the Irish Hills Lakefront market.

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