

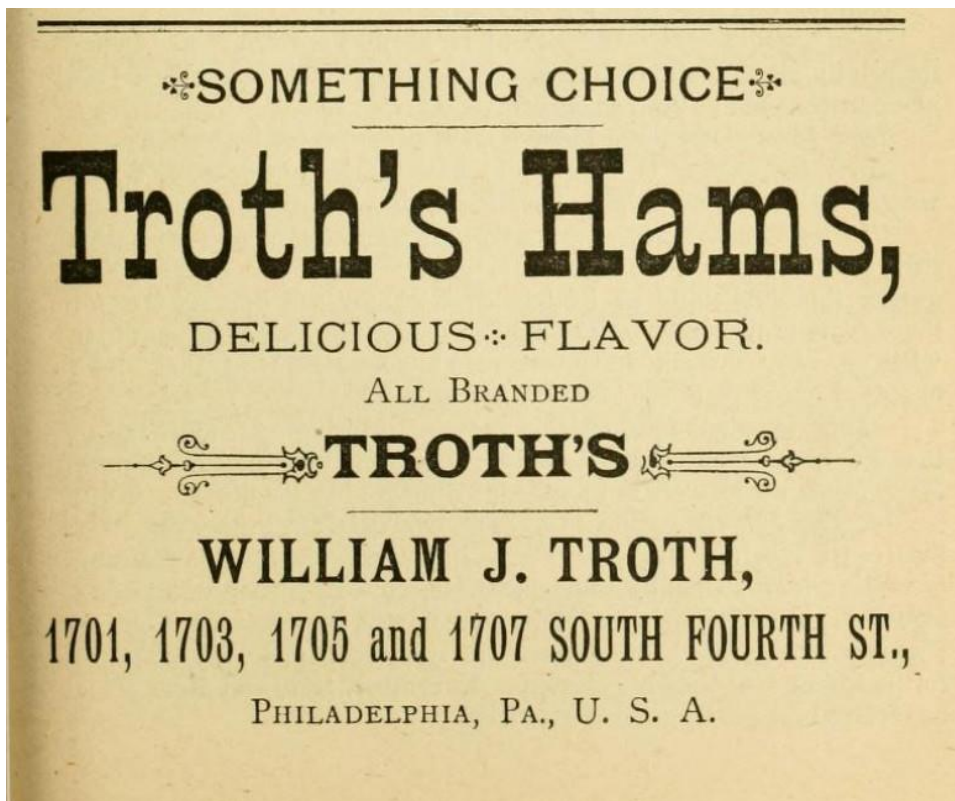
Draft Brief History Summary for 2022 House Tour Brochure  
719 Main St.

Prepared by Roger Prichard, rev. November 13, 2022 [addendum by Jennifer Brandt]

This is one side of a double house in the Queen Anne style which was cleverly designed to look like a larger, single home. Sarah Thompson Baker purchased this 100 foot wide corner lot that ran all the way back to Cinnaminson Street on June 6, 1892. The house was probably not yet here, considering that the deed reports a value of \$1,500. The style suggests that it wouldn't have been built much later, however.

For decades, beginning as early as 1895, both sides were occupied by members of the same family. Sarah was the widow of a Camden druggist and lived in this house (as did daughter and granddaughter after her until 1946).

Sarah was apparently not well-to-do, but her son William had married Alice Troth, the daughter of a wealthy Philadelphia meatpacker less than a year before the purchase of this property. William and Alice lived and raised their family in the other house (at 717), so it seems likely that the Troth family money (from "Troth's Hams and Famous Mince Meat") paid for this beautiful, stylish pair of homes, possibly as a wedding present, even though the deed was written in Sarah's name.



1885 ad on p. 27 of *Things you ought to Know* (appended to *A Complete Guide to Atlantic City*, (Philadelphia, Burk & McFetridge, 1885), Archive.org, accessed November 11, 2022, <https://archive.org/details/forthingsyouough00phil/page/26/> Collection of Library of Congress

[addition by Jennifer Brandt:] The current owners, Kerry and Jennifer Brandt, were enamored with this home's Victorian style and unique architectural details, and purchased it in September of 1991. With much sweat equity, and the hard work of talented local contractor Elmer Adams for the larger projects such as the kitchen, bath and porch, they preserved much of the original style of the home while updating it to current living standards. Riverton artist, Donna Van Hoy, was commissioned to paint the beautiful garden mural on the upper stairwell. The Brandt's raised their two children, Caleb and Sara, in this home. Caleb and his wife, Rachel, bought their first home in Riverton as well; and Sara lives nearby in Mount Laurel.