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Don't paint it white

Part of a continuing series on article submitted by the Marietta Restoration Associates.

One of the most important choices the owner of an old house can make is his choice of paint colors. Quite often people will select white paint for their 19th Century Victorian house. This was almost never done back then because, according to an architect of that time, "White paint glares in the sun, clashes with the foliage and the landscape, and, most important, hides

the architectural embellishments."

The wood ornaments, gable trim, finials, elaborate porch trim, moldings, and other construction details give houses of this period their distinctive character and should be highlighted.

With the single exception of the Greek Revival house common in the South, houses built between 1850 and 1900 were never painted white. Instead, their bodies were painted in colors harmonizing with nature and their trim was painted in at least two or

three complimentary colors.

Cottages were usually painted gray, drab, or fawn. Smaller houses were painted in more mellow and cheerful shades: large mansions were painted in grayer shades to express their greater dignity and size. The most common color for general use was something between a cream and a dust color, usually called fawn.

When selecting colors for the trim, the rule was simple. If a light shade was used for the house, a darker shade of the same color or a harmonizing

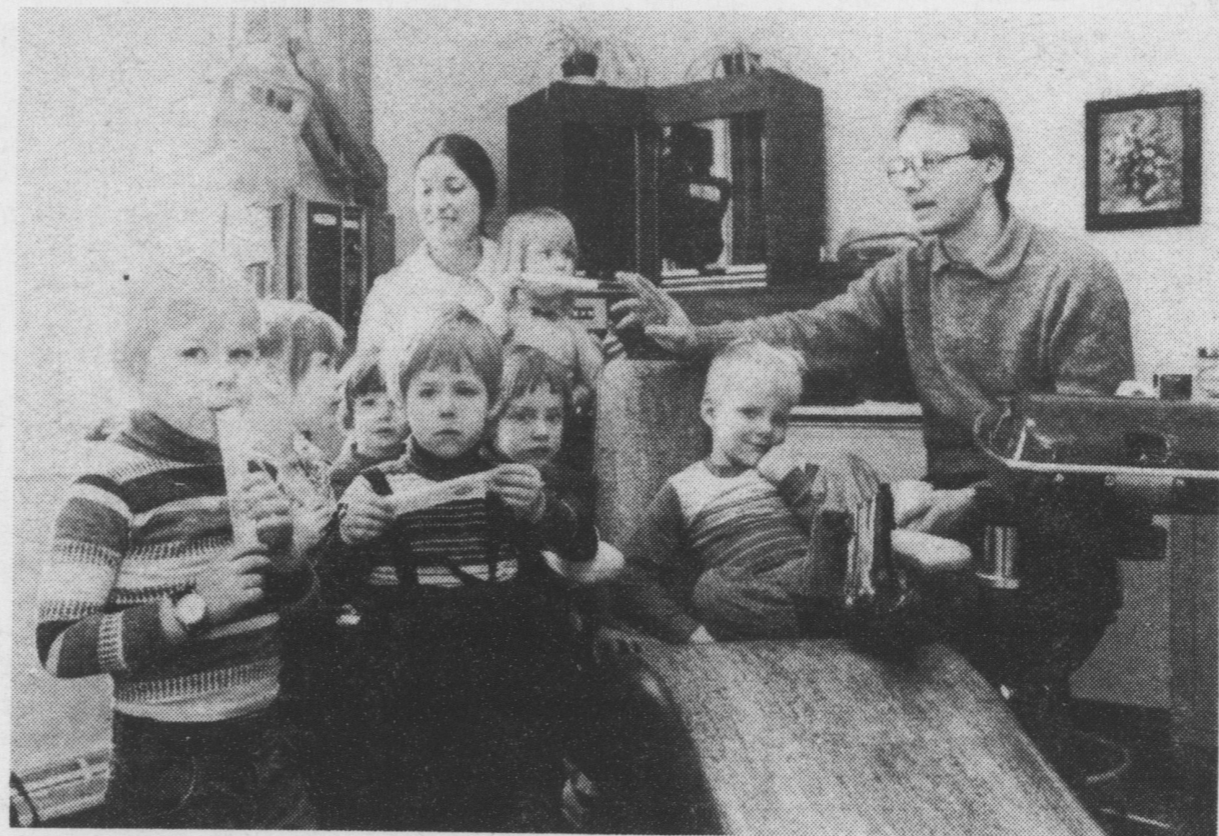
color was used for the features of the house. If a dark shade was used, then a much lighter shade of the same color or a harmonizing color was used for the features. The shutters were painted in the darkest shade, dark green or brown, or stained an oak finish.

Typical color schemes included warm gray with dark grayish-blue and dark blue, drab with light brown and dark brown, sage green with straw and dark brown, and fawn with medium brown and dark green.

Other combinations were maroon with green and gray, beige with light chocolate and dark brown, light grayish-green with dark olive green and reddish-brown, peachy tan with cream and medium brown, and maroon with terra cotta red, peachy tan, dark green, and chrome yellow.

To enhance your 19th century home you should consider the earth, stone, clay and wood of nature. You should then take a long look at your house to discover the trim and decorative features that make your house distinctive. These features should then be painted one of more complimentary colors to call attention to them. The result will be a pleasant experience and a more authentic appearance.

Zion Nursery kids visit dentist



Tony Myers tries out the dentist's chair while Dr. Keith Stewart talks to the other kids. Dental assistant Pat McKee stands in the rear.

The children of Zion Lutheran Nursery School of Marietta have been learning about nutrition and good physical and dental health. They have visited the Donegal-Conoy Family Health Center in Marietta.

Mrs. Marilyn Estell, Health Center nurse, weighed each of the children, checked their eyes, and showed them the equipment and rooms used by the doctors.

She also let the kids listen to their own heartbeats and checked the blood pressure of several. All of this helped reassure the children that they have nothing to fear from doctors.

The kids then visited the center's dentist, Dr. Keith Stewart. He explained his equipment and gave each boy and girl a ride in the dentist's chair.

Each child was given a bag containing a plastic glove, tongue depressor, and medicine cup. Doctor Stewart gave them toothbrushes.

Applications are still being accepted for the 1979-80 school year. If you are interested in enrolling your child, call Mrs. Cheryl Ronan at 684-5689 or Mrs. Jennifer Douglas at 426-1482.

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