



FRESNO HIGH
NEIGHBORHOOD
HOLIDAY HOME TOUR

— 2025 Holiday Tour Homes —

The map for the homes on this year's tour is displayed below. On the following pages you will find the home descriptions describing unique details and features of this years' homes.

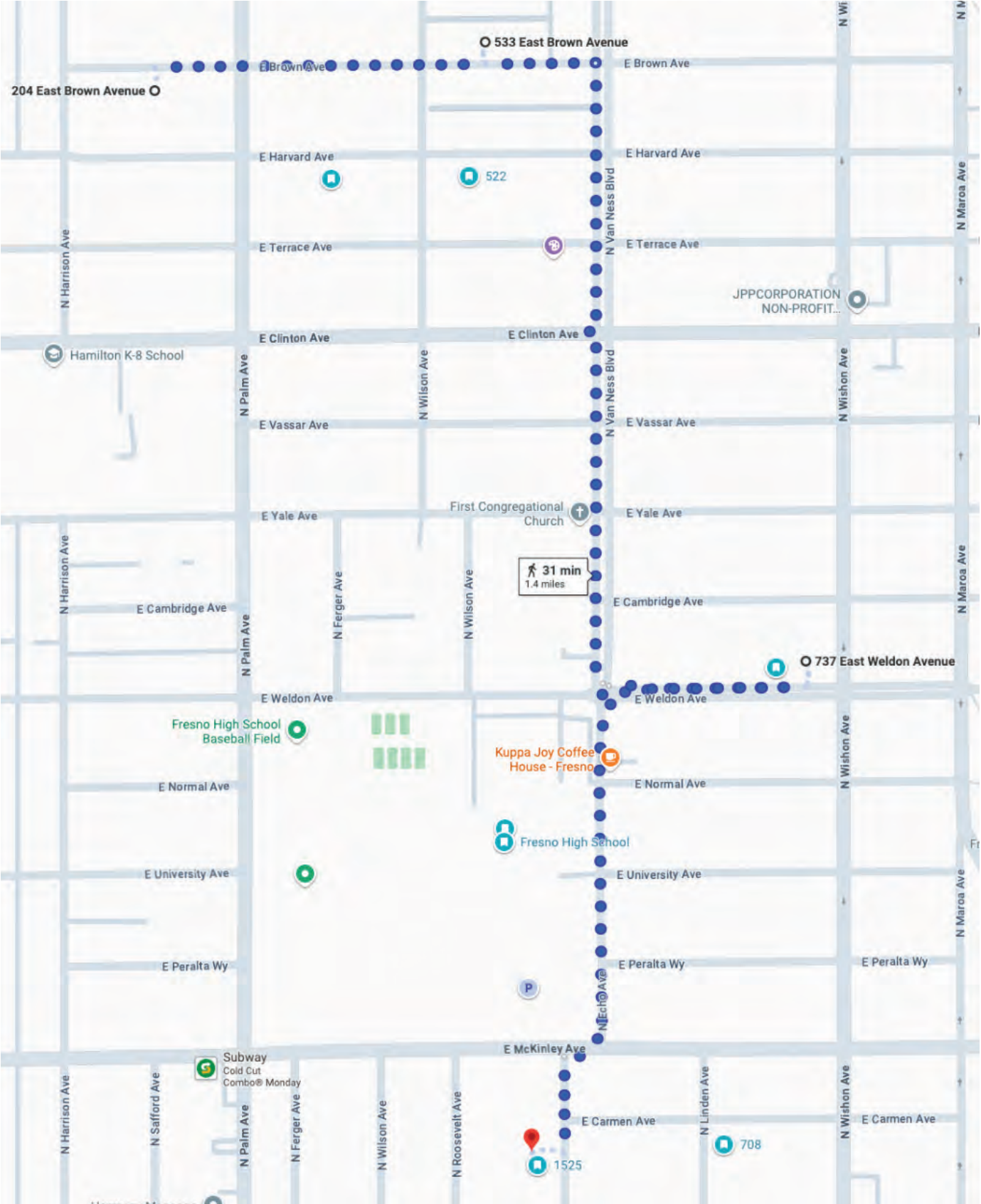
This document has been formatted to be printed out and carried with you on the tour for easy reference.

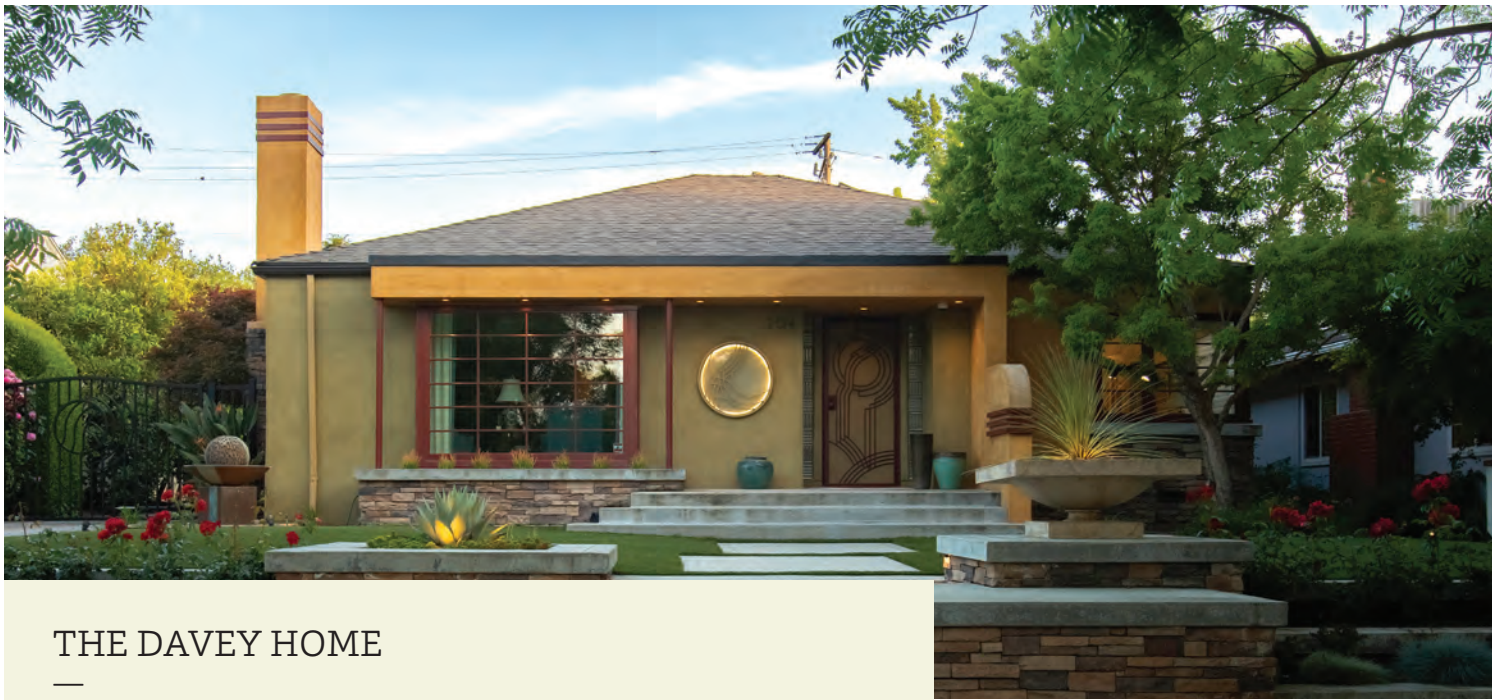
Enjoy the tour!

Tour Etiquette

- Getting started: A pre-tour party at Moto across from the high school will start at 4:00pm and end at 6:00pm. Food and drinks can be purchased there. The home tour will begin promptly at 5:30.
- Please have either your paper ticket or your online receipt/ticket ready to show at each home.
- Be sure to wear comfortable shoes. You will be given paper booties at the first home you enter. Please carry them with you from one home to another.
- Please be careful with steps and stairs.
- No photos are allowed inside the homes.
- No food, drinks or smoking allowed.
- Restroom facilities are only available at the Fresno High Gymnasium.
- Please make sure to end your tour by 8:30.
- Masks are not required this year but you may want to wear one when in close quarters in the houses.
- Parking is available in the Fresno High parking lot on the corner of McKinley and Echo.
- Tickets can be purchased at Moto the night of the tour.
- Donations can be made online to help fund the tour and other related activities by the tour committee, including supporting various student groups such as the music department, the art department, the drama department, sports teams and other student activities. Sponsors may donate \$500 to fund a FHS student scholarship given in May.
- We hope you enjoy the tour. Thanks so much for supporting us. Happy Holidays!

Tour Map





THE DAVEY HOME

—
204 E. Brown Avenue

This classic 1939 post-war house was designed by the famed Fresno Taylor-Wheeler Builders. It lies in the Terrace Gardens District. Orville Taylor and Dennis Wheeler founded their company in 1927 and produced some of the finest and most unique homes in Fresno. The homeowner is the fourth owner and has lived in the home for 30 years. She loves the house, the neighborhood and the history of the Fresno High area.

In 2005, a simple art deco yellow house was renovated into a Frank Lloyd Wright art deco inspired front yard with cascading stairs, brick facades and succulent plantings. This yard has been a frequent winner on the home tour's front yard contest each Spring.

The French blue color emanates in the living room with the four-chair seating prominent and the two pictures from Charish taking center stage. The cove ceiling above is typical of a Taylor Wheeler House. Of interest, is the traditional mailbox of the 1940's.

When the floor was refinished in the dining room, the homeowner found that the back area had an original back porch. The wainscoting was added. The dining table is an 1800's hall table bought from Chesterfields. The plates and pictures above the settee are from the homeowner's mother's home. In the built-in China

cabinet are her grandmother's crystal pieces, and figurines pieces she has collected. The side kitchen cabinet allowed more room for her travel books. The picture to the right of the dining opening is by Maurice Cohen. Dr. Cohen is an internationally known artist who has won coveted awards in France for his Expressionist paintings.

The headboard in the master bedroom is covered in fabric with custom bed cover. Pictures of the homeowner's maternal family are on the side table. The built-in closet saves space and has family pictures atop the cupboard.

The main bathroom is pink. And as such, the room was decorated to work with this historic feature. A custom medicine cabinet was installed

This back bedroom is an add-on from the 1960s. The windows and French door were updated to reflect the history of the house.

This European style bathroom was established to make room for the Martha Stewart cupboards to the right.

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In the old porch and hidden away from view is the laundry station. The door opening to the kitchen was increased.

The homeowner wanted an island in the kitchen, but the space could not accommodate it. So, they made an "L" shaped countertop with a pull-out bread board for the look of an island. The kitchen was made ready to cook in whatever way desired. And though much of the room was renovated, they kept the Taylor-Wheeler top cabinets and a piece of the original tile in the middle of the stove tile decoration. The knick-knacks throughout the room are from travels of the world and presents from friends and family.

The homeowner is not a chess player. But she is an avid reader. The built-in cabinet has books, art objects and family heirlooms. When the floors were refinished, we found that there had been a wall between the living room and the library.

Though this room was used previously as the third bedroom, it is now an office. The homeowner watches people walking, and birds and squirrels playing in the tree outside the window. The chairs and round table were the first things purchased for the house for \$250 at the Terrace Street Sale. The homeowner works from the desk and relaxes and watches TV from the chair.



THE GINGERBREAD HOUSE

—
533 E. Brown Avenue

This 2 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow is on a beautiful tree-lined street of the historic residential area known as "Terrace Gardens." Recorded as built in 1930, Fresno library records have names associated with this house dating back to 1928. Neighborhood rumors also say that the house was ordered as a pre-fab kit from Sears during the late 1920's. Nevertheless, this one story charming house has a welcoming front porch with two red metal vintage chairs surrounded by potted plants, Christmas lights and garland and a Santa's mailbox ready to welcome those who enter. Because of its small size and limitations, the owner has put a lot of thought into creating a welcoming living space.

It is also important to note that much of the home's decor was purchased by the current owner from yard sales, giving it a uniquely eclectic charm. Some of the colors and accents throughout the house reflect the owner's time spent in Kenya, adding warmth, personality, and a worldly-inspired touch to the home.

As you enter, the front living area has original wood floors, wooden door frames and a beautiful stained glass window above the faux "fake" fireplace. The original wood pane windows in the living room

and throughout the house are covered with wood blinds and add to the coziness of the rooms. The Christmas tree to the left of the 'fake' fireplace is decorated in pink and white with six named gingerbread children. Below the tree, sit multiple gingerbread paper wrapped gifts. This tree is one of five Christmas trees throughout the house.

The master bedroom, located to the immediate left of the living room entry, has original hard wood floors. Despite its size, it features a walk-in closet and access to a Jack-and-Jill bathroom which connects to the second bedroom room currently used as the kitchen nook. Despite its limited space, the owner added another Christmas tree to add the spirit of Christmas to the room.

The kitchen has been completely renovated and thoughtfully reconfigured into an L-shaped layout for much needed counter space. The floor had multiple layers creating an almost 4 inch rise from the living room to the kitchen. During the remodel, it was speculated that the house at one time shifted and settled causing the flooring to lift. Once the multiple layers were removed, the floor was leveled

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and the current linoleum flooring was added. Pine beams were added to the ceiling, creating a rustic feeling to the space. Cabinetry was replaced and added. The overall renovated design offers a fresh and functional feel. The owner did leave the original brick behind the stove and added some shelving where you will find another Christmas tree and the owner's yard-sale cookie jar collection.

Originally considered a two-bedroom, the current owner believes that a previous owner considered the second room too small to function as a bedroom and knocked out the kitchen wall to add a breakfast nook still keeping the bedroom closet as well as the door to the Jack and Jill bathroom. The kitchen nook has the Santa and cocoa table with a collection of vintage yard-sale purchased Christmas cups and another decorated Christmas tree.

The den, converted from a covered patio, is a welcoming, open, unique and "fun" extra space. The beamed ceilings are from the original outside patio. Features also include the original arched brick steps and the PGE meter to the left of the stepdown entrance. The floor also has the original broken concrete pieces which the owner kept to add rustic character to the room. The windows and French doors added to the openness of the room making it a welcoming room for everyone to relax. In the corner of the room, is the last of the five Christmas trees, with its colorful ornaments, wrapped presents and basket filled with various Christmas wrapping paper.

Outside is a fully renovated backyard. Every detail was planned. "Plants and grass were removed and started from the ground up," according to the owner. A tree was removed to redesign the yard into an ideal space for entertaining and family gatherings. A patio was specifically added complete with a gazebo, yard-sale-find furniture, and electricity for convenience. In the center of the yard is a hexagonal brick shaped area that was unearthed and cleaned and filled with a flower garden. To the west of the patio, sits a 20-foot sea train container. This container took four hours to navigate up the driveway and is used as a much

needed storage space. Originally intended as a bar area it is perfect for all of the owner's holiday storage. Every detail on the patio reflects the owner's care and creativity.

There is no doubt that the house is truly a unique part of the history of the Fresno High neighborhood. We hope you enjoy this tiny bungalow with an enormous heart.



THE WELDON HOME

—
727 E. Weldon Avenue

This two bed, one bath house was built in 1918 and is an excellent example of a California craftsman bungalow, which was a popular style during the early 20th century. Each room in the house was painted a different color by the previous homeowner, who is the current homeowner's cousin. This house is full of family connections. The three agaves planted in the front yard are the three varieties that are grown on the homeowner's family farm.

The living room features a functional fireplace. Above the fireplace is an old gun, which is not functional. The homeowner has been told that the gun belonged to someone in his family a few generations back, but the full story has been lost. All furniture in the living room was given to the homeowner by members of his family. The front door and built ins are original to the house. You will notice several art pieces throughout the house that are high end reproduction of famous works of modern art using a 3-D printer that gives them texture to look like the real painting. These works came from a company in Los Angeles where another one of the homeowner's cousins worked as an accountant rescued them from the dumpster when a printing error made them unframeable.

The office is one of two bedrooms in the house. It features a large closet. Above the desk is a photo of the Marine's barracks at Officer's Training Camp in Quantico, Virginia. This photo was taken in August 1917, about 18 months before the end of World War I and features Samuel Hollins, the homeowner's great-grandfather and his namesake. It is interesting to think that this house would have likely been under construction at the same time the photo was taken on the other side of the country. The homeowner is still working on making this room his own.

The bathroom is the only room in the house not painted by the previous owner and was partially remodeled in early 2025 to include a new shower. It has retained its original built ins which provide ample storage space. The artwork over the toilet was painted by Alice Hollins, the great grandmother of the homeowner and the widow of Samuel Hollins, whose photo was featured in the office.

The Master bedroom is the second bedroom in the house. Much like the office, it features a large closet. The dresser is from ABC Carpet & Home in New York

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City and was sourced from Indonesia. It is made from brass and walnut.

The dining room features the dining table that belonged to the homeowner's father before he got married. He then gave it to his brother, the homeowner's uncle, who had it for almost 40 years. The uncle recently gave the table to the homeowner. On the wall is an airplane propeller that is from an airplane the homeowner's great-grandfather, Samuel Hollins, crashed in 1933 or 1934. It had been sitting in the homeowner's parent's garage as long as the homeowner can remember, but he decided to take it with him when he moved and now prominently displays it on the wall. Other art in the dining room was given to the homeowner by family. This room also has its original picture rail molding, another common feature in homes from the early 20th century.

The kitchen was previously remodeled to include a large walk-in pantry. The kitchen island was added a few years ago by the previous homeowner. The built in ironing board has been converted into a spice rack. The hallway leading off the kitchen was added in 2014. Originally, the back door would have been in line with the wall the stove is located on. The water heater and furnace located in the cellar, which is accessible through the backyard.

The back yard also features a recently constructed concrete patio and a mature Chinese hackberry tree. The backyard used to have a detached garage, but it was removed in 2014.



FRESNO HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

1839 N. Echo Avenue

The new gym at Fresno High is a wonderful addition to the campus. It was designed by Lionakis Architectural Firm from Sacramento and constructed by Davis Moreno Construction, Inc. The gym reflects the same architectural features as those used with Royce Hall and the buildings on Echo.

The exterior utilizes faux brick like those of Royce Hall and the Echo buildings. Purple accents and the dramatic gold Warriors sign above the gym entrance reflect the colors of the school.

The inside of the gym uses the same elements—faux brick and gold and purple accents. The exposed ceiling and the glowing wooden floor create a beautiful place for students to play and relax.

The gym is 122,900 square feet space, including a 16,645 square-foot auxiliary gym. The \$11.9 million project (funded by Measure M) includes:

- Main gymnasium: Features retractable bleachers with a seating capacity of 980 spectators.
- Support areas: Includes team rooms, restrooms, and a snack bar.
- Classrooms: Two classrooms
- New courts: Eight tennis courts and two basketball half-courts



THE FRANCO HOME

—
1525 N. Echo Avenue

This beautiful home is a Taylor-Wheeler built in 1934 for Burton and Lena Todd who were relatives of Rosanna Wilson, the developer of the historic Wilson Island. The stucco walls, red clay tile roof, arched openings, wrought-iron details, coved/plaster interiors and pegged hardwood floors are all features commonly associated with Taylor-Wheeler's work in the 1930's. It is a four bedroom, three bath on .37 acres and approximately 3,434 square feet.

The arched doorway welcomes visitors to the living room. Original refurbished pegged hardwood floors and arched walkways and tile work also lead up to the second story master bedroom which is a full cedar room that features a Batchelder tiled bathroom. Batchelder was a renowned art tile maker originally based in Pasadena whose pieces often appear in Spanish revival homes in California. There is also a secret "Safe room" that has been converted into a closet.

The living room features a curved ceiling with plaster walls and built-ins. There are also original woodwork beams and a stunning Batchelder tile fireplace. The artwork is from local artist Dominique James.

The first bedroom is soft and airy and feels like a little sanctuary with gentle tones and whimsical details. Sunlight dances across the custom-made window treatments. The bedroom has plaster walls with crown molding accents and crank windows.

The bathroom has handcrafted Batchelder tilework and a sunken cast iron enamel tub.

The second bedroom is bright and cheerful. It also has plaster walls with crown molding and cranks windows much like the first bedroom.

The sunroom is the true highlight of the home. There is original tilework along the trim and it is surrounded by windows that look out into the backyard. The two original doors open to the backyard.

An arched entry leads into a dining space that feels intimate and inviting. Artwork includes local artist Bebe Long and as well as Pacific Grove thrift store finds. The walls are plaster with built-in light fixtures original to the home.

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With hand-painted tiles and open shelving built-ins, the cozy nook invites long breakfasts beneath sunlit windows. The room also features crown moldings. The kitchen is completely tiled in yellow. Unfortunately, it was update with makeshift counter tops and cabinets that will be removed when the kitchen is remodeled.

Tucked away at the rear of the home is the casita. It's ideal as a creative studio, reading room or office. It is a full mother-in-law suite with a remodeled bathroom, kitchen and working fireplace. Remodeling will be completed in early 2026.