


**NOW  
&  
AND THEN**


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Comparing this postcard from 1907 or 1908 with today, the familiar yellow-brick Buhl Community Recreation Center still fills the northeast corner of East State Street and Pine Avenue, while all but one of the mansions on the south side still stand. What is now the Harold W. Stevenson Funeral Home is in the right foreground.

## Some things (almost) never change

By John Zavinski

**A**N ELAPSED CENTURY has generally been good to the 300 block of East State Street on the edge of downtown Sharon, leaving it quite recognizable from its past.

These two views looking up the East Hill at Pine Avenue show the Buhl Community Recreation Center at left and a stately block of mansions across the street. Since it opened in 1903 as the F.H. Buhl Club, the classic structure has expanded eastward twice, and the wood-frame house beyond it was replaced about 50 years ago with the brick Forker Apartments.

On the south side of the street,

the view of the 300 block was completely unchanged until just a few years ago. Since then, the Elliott house with its signature Victorian turret has vanished. It and the house beyond it were the residence and hospital, respectively, of Dr. Thomas Elliott.

The stone and wood-frame Elliott residence fell into disrepair and is no longer there. But it's still part of the neighborhood. Dr. Barry and Kimberly Marchetto bought it and painstakingly had it disassembled for architectural salvage as they restored and expanded a Queen Anne mansion a few houses up the street in the next block. Among the materials saved were the old-world craftsmanship of fire-

place mantels, woodwork and cut stone.

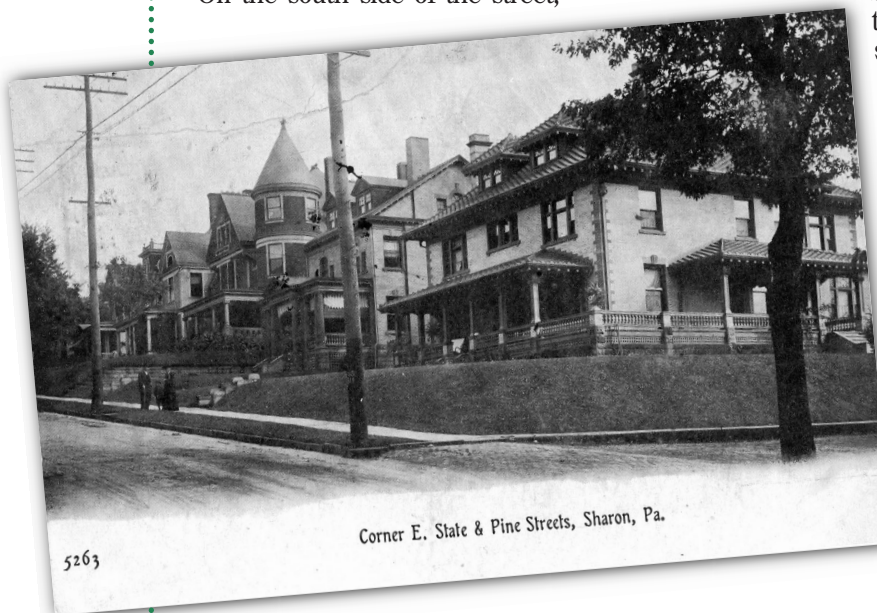
Other brick and wood-frame houses on the block – all built around the turn of the last century – still stand, and are in great condition.

If Sharonites from the early 20th century were to stroll up that street (on the widened sidewalk), other than seeing the grassy Elliott lot, they'd feel right at home with the view.

And if they miss the turret, not to worry. It and some of the house's stone are part of a one-of-a-kind gazebo in the Marchettos' back yard. ♦



John Zavinski/Life & Times



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**A closer view of the southeast corner of East State Street at Pine Avenue in Sharon in 1907, left, and today.**