



GLOBE PHOTO / KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The nine-room Queen Anne Victorian in Roxbury suffered years of neglect.

Home: *of the Week*

Falling in love with restoration

By Kathleen Howley
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Domenic Calautti said he bought this nine-room Queen Anne Victorian in Roxbury a year ago as an investment.

It was empty, neglected, and water-damaged. The windows were covered with sheets of plywood. The front yard was overgrown with out-of-control trees and shrubs.

But Calautti said the house, built in the 1880s on the edge of Franklin Park, was structurally sound. And he said he believes the area, a neighborhood filled with Victorian-era homes, is "on

its way up."

Calautti said he had every intention of renovating the house into two condominiums — a seven-room unit priced at \$269,000 and a five-room unit priced at \$129,000.

But, he couldn't do it. The reasons were purely sentimental, he said.

"When I realized that we would have to tear up the incredible staircase in the front hall, I said no. Then, as we started working on the house, I fell in love with it and wanted to keep it for myself," said Calautti, 44, owner of Residential Interiors, a company that restores old

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