

“time payments” it cost about \$40.00: he paid \$5.00 a month until it was paid for. Before he bought the vacuum, we had to sweep the floors and that was a dusty and dirty job.

We entered the back door of the house on the east side. The door opened into a small area with stairs that led to the basement and another set of four steps that entered into the kitchen. As I mentioned, the floors of the houses were all hardwood and very beautiful. We were furnished with a waxing machine, and several times a year we had to remove the old wax, apply a new coat of Johnson’s floor wax, and polish the floors. The United States Government was very protective of their floors and several times a year made an unannounced inspection to be sure the floors were being properly treated. And since all three houses had government issued stoves, refrigerators, and furnaces, these too were inspected. We had to make sure we used enough Johnson Floor Wax and Polish to pass the inspection!

Edwin worked at the airport when the country was in the worst of the great depression. The dust storms of the early 1930’s started soon after we moved into our home. Mom had white criss-crossed curtains at the windows in the front room and dining room areas. Even though we had storm windows on all the windows, the fine black dust filtered through and the windowsills and curtains were covered with the awful dust that blew for weeks at a time.

The grounds around the buildings had to be kept in meticulous condition at all times. The entire area around all the buildings was covered with two-inch gravel. One can tell from the pictures in Photos 13 and 15 that the grounds were very beautiful. Much attention was given to the landscaping. The yards had thick grass and there were curbs around the house as

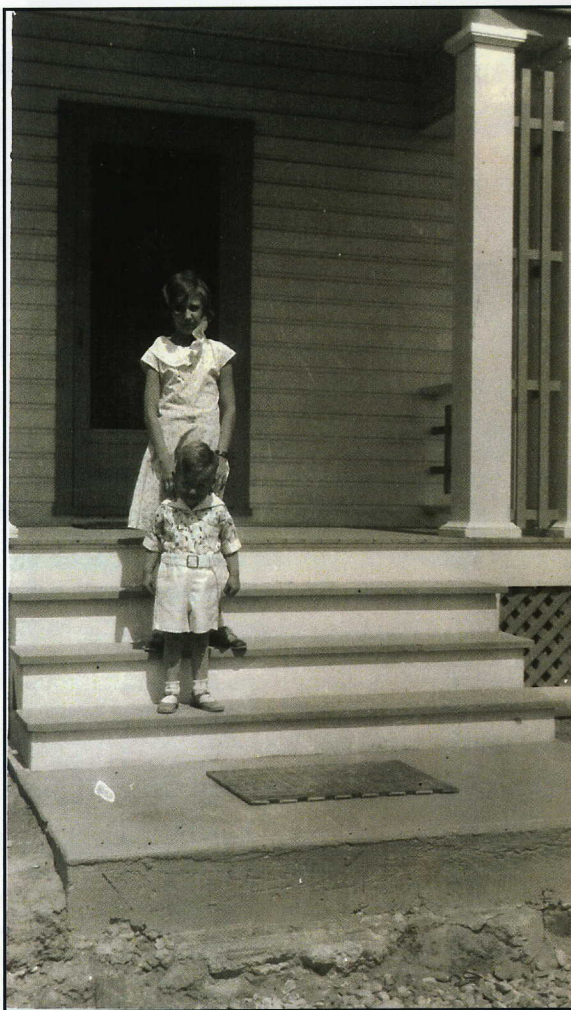


Photo 14: Betty and Jim on the front steps of the “Wyoming” house; c.a. 1932.