

A PIECE OF HISTORY



Staff photo by CATHERINE SELF

Brothers David and Mike Canada stand outside the Isaac Conroe home at 202 Avenue A recently after months of remodeling of one of the town's oldest landmarks.

Historic Conroe house gets new life

By Catherine Self
Courier staff

After months of cleaning, repairing and painting, one of Conroe's oldest landmarks has gotten a second lease on life.

Although the Isaac Conroe House, built in 1885, has undergone many changes inside and out, David and Mike Canada have poured their hearts into bringing the home as close to original as possible.

"We just wanted to save it because it was in such bad shape," Mike said.

The brothers, who are lifelong residents of Conroe, purchased the home about six months ago.

The 3,200-square-foot home is rich with history, Mike said.

In 1887 the home was used as the Conroe Post Office. Mail was

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originally sorted in Willis but as the population grew the sorting was moved to Conroe. Isaac Conroe served as postmaster.

The home also served as the first courthouse when the county seat was moved in 1899 from Montgomery to Conroe.

Court was held upstairs while the family lived downstairs. A separate staircase was built for access to the courthouse.

The home is also said to be the first in the city with electricity.

"Members of the Conroe family occupied the home for more than



ISAAC CONROE

100 years," Mike said. "So many of Conroe's old homes and buildings are gone forever, we hated to see this disappear due to neglect or indifference."

David said the home was originally finished with wood but over the years was redone with brick.

"We had major brick problems all over the house," David said. "We have redone all the brick."

Inside, the walls had been painted many different colors. The brothers have redone the walls and refinished the hardwood floors.

The brothers agree the location of the home is an asset because it is close to downtown. But both are unsure of the home's future.

"It will have lots of uses, it is a big house," Mike said. "We want to sell it to someone else, or rent it to someone who will appreciate the history of it."