Antique stores yield unique gifts

By Jennifer O'Cilka Senior Reporter

There are several antique shops in the Haymarket area with unique selections of memorable Christmas gift possibilities.

Conner's Architectural Antiques, 247 N. 8th St., carries a full-line of antique items, but specializes in items for restoring homes.

Sid Conner, owner of the an-tique store with his wife Cheryl, said the store carries French doors, fireplace mantles, brass and crystal light fixtures and carved wood

materials for restoring homes—
"all the things that would go to
different period homes."

In addition to the main store,
Conner said he has a warehouse
for larger items like staircases and

He travels all over the Midwest to find antiques for restoration. The process includes bidding on buildings that will be demolished and removing items from them.

The demand for antiques for restoring houses has increased in

the past 8 or 9 years, Conner said.
"Previously, there was a lot of demand on the East and West Coast and larger metropolitan areas," he said. "But now people here in Lincoln are interested in preserving historical elements of homes . . . "

Also, Conner said, fewer homes are being demolished. When the major thoroughfares went through

Lincoln several years ago, many homes were demolished, Conner said

More older homes now are being renovated for single-family use,

rather than apartments, he said. Costs of restoration items de-

Conner's Architectural Antiques, 247 N. 8th St.
Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Costs of restoration items depend on their age and the condition they are in, Conner said.
Restoration of a Victorian-period home is the most expensive because these items are costly to acquire. Items from this time, commonly are made from bronze and mahogany, oak and teakwood, Conner said. Additional costs can be charged

for polished articles, but homeowners can save money by polishing items themselves, Conner said.

"We try to pride ourselves on the fact that we can deal in about anybody's budget range," he said. Conner said his wife sells old

and new Christmas ornaments and decorations. Her part of the business is called Always Christmas, Conner said.

Antiques and Flowers by Rod

and Suzi, 819 O St.

Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday through Saturday

1 to 5 p.m. Sundays

Suzi Phelps, owner of Antiques and Flowers with her husband, said her store deals with a wide variety of antiques. The store spe-cializes in fine furniture and jew-

elry, she said.

A unique feature of the store is the florist service. Phelps said her staff will research flowers from a certain period and create a bouquet to fit into the decor.

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Jeff Willett/Daily Nebraskar

Hal Kennedy of Lincoln looks at some of the antique treasures in the Burlington Arcade, 210 N. 7th St.





