

Forest Grove Historic Resource



2027 17TH AVENUE - Barber House #1

Description:

This is a 1-1/2 story, wood-framed, wood-sheathed Bungalow with full front porch. Gable roof as well as gable dormer are composition covered. One-over-one double-hung sash windows; broad overhanging eaves with exposed rafters and knee braces. Porch has composition-covered hip roof supported by four round columns originating in a balustrade. East wall dominated by an exterior fireplace back and chimney as well as a protruding bay with four one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Two-car detached carport. Large, mature deciduous and evergreen trees in back yard.

History:

The Barber House at 2027 17th Avenue, built around 1920, is significant because it is a good representative example of a Craftsman Bungalow style built on a cruciform floor plan, rare in Craftsman homes, and for its association with the Barber and Langley families, who contributed to the development of Forest Grove. In 1920 J.M. and Dora (Read) Barber bought the property on which the house now stands. The 1920 census listed Jerome M. and Dora (Read) Barber as residents of the house at 2027 17th Ave. Jerome was a minister, as was his wife; both are recorded performing marriage ceremonies in Washington County.

Manche Irene Langley owned the Barber House from the early 1920s to 1925. Manche Irene Langley was a lawyer in Forest Grove, practicing civil law with her brother, Lotus, and her father, William. The firm was named Langley and Son. Manche Irene Langley graduated from Pacific University (1906-07) and was admitted to the bar on October 12th 1909. Manche was also a democratic candidate for the state legislature. (It is unknown whether she won or lost).

Charles C. Follette and Bertha (Kappel) owned the Barber House from 1932-1938. Charles Follette was chief criminal deputy for Washington County from 1929-1932. From 1838 to 1963, Follette farmed in the Gales Creek area. Charles Follette sold this house in 1938 to J.E. (or E.J.; both spellings are recorded) and Lea D. May, who owned it until 1956. Eldon M. and Marion E. May owned the Barber House after 1956.