

Forest Grove Historic Resource



2114 17TH AVENUE - Nicholson House

Description:

This is a 1-1/2 story, Bungalow. Gable roof has shed roof dormer on primary facade with three square windows. Full-width porch; porch roof supported by four round columns. Lower primary facade has two large, fixed picture windows. Exterior fireplace back and chimney dominate West facade. Period garage in rear.

History:

The Nicholson House at 2114 17th Avenue was probably built around 1911 for Anna M. Nicholson and her husband. The November 1912 Sanborn Company map of Forest Grove depicts this house at its present location. (Dr. Charles E. Hawke, who has been previously credited with having this house constructed around 1914-15, did not buy this property until 1920). Rulof E. and Carlton E. Nicholson operated Nicholson & Son Grocers in Forest Grove for many years in the early 1900s (Polk, Oregon State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1903-04, 1905-06, 1907-08, 1911-12, and 1915-16.)

The Nicholsons sold this property in 1912 to E.J. Taylor, who, in turn, sold the house to Laura M. Griffin in 1920. Griffin immediately sold the house in 1920 to Charles E. Hawke, Forest Grove physician for many years. A native of Missouri, Charles Hawke married Olive V., a native of Kansas. The couple raised three children who lived to adulthood: Kenneth, Malcolm, and Helen (U.S. Census, 1920; Oregon and Washington State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1921-22, 1923-24, 1925-26, and 1931-32). The State of Oregon acquired this property from Hawke in 1933 during the height of the Great Depression. Blanche M. Fuller bought the Nicholson House in 1939 and owned it until 1948.