

## Forest Grove Historic Resource



### 2120 17TH AVENUE - Charles Roe House

#### Description:

This is a two-story, gable roofed vernacular farmhouse with stickwork adorning the gable end of the primary facade. Wood-framed, wood-clad. Windows are one-over-one double-hung sash. Full-width porch with shed roof supported by five round columns. Mature cedar in front flanking front porch. Footprint is irregular.

#### History:

The Charles O. Roe House at 2120 17th Avenue built this house around 1897-98. Charles O. Roe was born to Thomas and May Ann Ostrander Roe. Thomas Roe, family patriarch and native of Cayuga County, New York, born in 1826 (or 1827), arrived in Forest Grove with his wife, Mary Ann, in 1871. He purchased a sizeable parcel of land that year from Marie L. Clarke. The Roe family built a vernacular farmhouse at 2136 17th Avenue in the early 1870s that remains standing in 2000 (Washington County News Times, August 13, 1903). Charles O. Roe left Forest Grove and became a merchant in Tacoma, Washington, in the early 1890s when that city experienced a boom from the arrival of a transcontinental railroad. After returning to Forest Grove, he built a vernacular style farmhouse, somewhat similar in design to his parents on land adjoining theirs. Charles O. Roe joined Jacob S. Buxton, a neighbor on 17th Avenue, in a furniture and undertaking business in Forest Grove in the 1910s. Gertrude Roe, a daughter of Charles O. Roe and his wife, continued to live in the house after her marriage to Richard E. Bolling. The property still remained in the Roe-Bolling family in the 1980s.