

Forest Grove Historic Resource



2138 17TH AVENUE - Goff House

Description:

This is a two-story gable roofed vernacular farmhouse with full-width porch. Wood sheathing over wood frame; one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Hip front porch roof supported by four tapered boxed columns. Overhanging eaves; brackets on gable ends; exposed rafters. Exposed fireplace back and chimney on east side.

History:

The Goff House at 2138 17th Avenue stands on property once owned by the Thomas Roe family. Thomas Roe and his wife, Mary Ann, bought this property in the early 1870s. They immigrated to Oregon in 1852 and to Forest Grove in 1871. Prominent in government and civic affairs, Thomas Roe was a member of the Oregon Legislature and served as a probate judge for several years. The Roe family built a large vernacular farmhouse at 2134 17th Avenue in the early 1870s that still stands in 2000 (Washington County News Times, August 13, 1908).

In 1907, a year before Thomas Roe's death, one of the Roe daughters, Anna Roe Goff, bought this corner parcel from the larger Roe homestead property. The Goff House was probably built around 1908. The Goff brothers (H.J. and W.W. Goff) operated a hardware and implement store in Forest Grove for many years in the 1910s and 1920s. Anna Roe Goff and her husband sold this house in 1929 to Harriet J. Cheaddle. She, in turn, sold it the following year to Maude E. and L.P. Rockwood, who resided in the house into the 1950s (Polk, Oregon and Washington Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1907-08, 1911-12, 1915-16, and 1919-20; Hillsboro, Forest Grove, West Washington County Directory, 1952).