

Forest Grove Historic Resource



2338 17TH AVENUE - Harris/Atkins House

Description:

This is a one-story wood-framed, hip roofed Bungalow with a square footprint. The full front porch is adorned with four wide, boxed shingle-clad pillars; an arch joins the center two columns. The front porch also has an elaborate balustrade that incorporates diagonal elements. Windows primarily are one-over-one double-hung sash, front window is multipaned. West side yard has been dedicated to a detached multicar carport.

History:

The Harris/Atkins House at 2338 17th Avenue was probably built between 1906 and 1911. In March 1906, William R. Harris and his wife bought the lot on which this house now stands from William H. McEldowney and his wife for \$500. They owned the property until September 1911 when Joseph J. Atkins and his wife purchased it. The Atkins owned it until 1914. The footprint of the present house is depicted on the 1912 Sanborn Company map of Forest Grove. (At that time, the front porch wrapped around both sides of the house a short distance.

Little is known at present about the William Harris and Joseph Atkins families. Joseph Atkins and his wife sold this house in 1924 to J.T. Lowry and his wife. The Lowrys sold the house in 1920 for \$3,500 to W.S. Moreland. Eula Moreland, apparently, lost the property, during the Great Depression, to the county. By the early 1950s, P.W. Swartz, a widower, owned and occupied the Harris/Atkins House.

Over the next decade, the property changed hands several times. Owners included: Ben T. and Hattie Klosner (1953-1955); R.J. and Rosa Bates (1955-1957); and Jim H. and Betty L. Crowthers (1957-1961). Frank and Audrey Huggett bought the Harris/Atkins House in 1961 and owned it until 1966 when they sold it for \$7,500.