

Forest Grove Historic Resource



1717 ASH STREET - Sanford/Armentrout House

Description:

This is a one story single-family residence with a composition shingle covered hip roof. It is wood-framed, wood-clad Bungalow style. A prominent two-window, hip-roofed dormer architecturally distinguishes the structure, its windows are each twelve pane. The front porch on the primary facade is inset at the corner of the house protected by the house's principal roof and embellished with round columns and a wrought iron balustrade. A pair of one-over-one double-hung sash windows offsets the asymmetry created by the corner porch. Small, immature maple tree in the front; appears to be large deciduous tree in the rear.

History:

The Sanford/Armentrout House at 1717 Ash Street was probably built in 1908-1909 for O.M. Sanford. Sanford bought this property from Sarah Shoemaker in August 1907 and owned it until January 1909. Around this time, O.M. Sanford sold second-hand goods in Forest Grove. By the mid-1910s, he was no longer listed in the Forest Grove city directories.

George and Melissa Armentrout bought this house in July 1909 from James Knox (who owned the property for only six months, from January to July 1909). The Armentrout couple owned this house until 1915. (George and Melissa Armentrout also owned the much larger house across the street at 1724 Ash Street, probably built in the 1910s, perhaps around the time that the Armentrouths sold the house at 1717 Ash Street.) Armentrout, born in Ohio in 1833, moved to Indiana at age fifteen. Five years later, he moved to Iowa, where he stayed until 1858. In 1865 he came to Oregon where he married Melissa Walker. Together they had seven children. Armentrout died in Forest Grove in 1921 (Obituary scrapbook, No. 903, Hillsboro Public Library).

In 1915 Mary D. Logan Semones and her husband bought this house and owned it until 1921. That year C. and Isabelle Johnson bought the Sanford/Armentrout House. Buchanan Johnson sold this house in 1936 to R.G. and Katherine Simon, who remained the owners until 1953.