

Forest Grove Historic Resource



1719 CEDAR STREET - Seventh Day Adventist Church

Description:

This is a one story, wood-framed, wood-clad church with a composition shingle covered gable roof. The gable end on the primary facade having bold trusses bisecting the gable from which three evenly spaced beams rise to merge with the bargeboard distinguishes its architecture. Gable end of gable roof over enclosed porch mimic this ornamentation. Front stoop is accessed from one side by steps, from the other by an inclined plane; balustrades accent both. The church has a secondary building, or dependency that is a one-story modular classroom accented by a balustrade identical to that in front of the church. The classroom balustrade aesthetically unifies the classroom and the church.

History:

The Seventh Day Adventist Church at 1719 Cedar Street was probably constructed in 1912. The church congregation bought this lot in December 1911 from George W. Pettit. (J.W. Thornburgh, prominent Forest Grove banker, owned this property until around 1910.) The November 1912 Sanborn Company map of Forest Grove shows this diminutive church, with a small porch projecting from the main facade, at its present location. The Seventh Day Adventist Church apparently bought the lot adjoining on the south in 1915 from George W. Pettit.

The Seventh Day Adventist Church was one of several churches in Forest Grove in the early 1900s. In the mid-1930s, it shared its building with the Mt. Olive Lutheran Church congregation, which built its own church at the northwest corner of 17th Avenue and Douglas Street in 1936. By the mid-1950s, the Seventh Day Adventist was one of fifteen churches in the community. At that time, it had a membership of around sixty. In 1957 the congregation planned to construct a new church building that may be the building just to the south of the church. The Four Square Church acquired this property in recent years.