

Forest Grove Historic Resource



1632 MAIN STREET - Abbott House

Description:

This is a two-story single-family residence with a cross-gable roof. It is a wood-framed, wood sided vernacular farmhouse with Queen Anne details. Primary facade windows are predominately one-over-one double-hung sash. The structure is architecturally distinguished by a dominating primary facade gable roofed dormer having twin one-over-one double-hung sash windows embellished by a cornice lintel and fishscale shingling above. The front porch spans half the width of the primary facade and is protected by the house's principal roof supported by boxed columns. The south elevation has a protruding bay with a shed roof.

History:

The Abbott House at 1632 Main Street, built around 1890, is significant as a good representative example of the vernacular farmhouse form and for its association with the Abbott family that contributed to the commercial up-building of Forest Grove.

John Abbott, born in Illinois in 1850, married Eva, born in New York in 1853. The Abbot couple lived in Minnesota for a time, where their one son, Mayne, was born in 1876. By 1900, the Abbott family resided in Forest Grove at 1632 Main Street. Both John and Mayne Abbott worked as jewelers. Mayne Abbott was a partner in the Abbott/Thornburgh/Bailey Building at 1930-1936 Pacific Building. He conducted his jewelry business from a store in that building after its construction in 1909. His partners in the venture included John Thornburgh, a local Forest Grove banker.