

Forest Grove Historic Resource



2038-2040 Main St - Wagner Building

The Wagner Building is one of several commercial buildings in the downtown commercial core that are partially intact. The second story facade is largely intact, with original 1/1 double hung sash windows and surrounds in place. The first floor has been compromised, with alterations on the street (or front) elevation. Large fixed windows and an aluminum/glass door have replaced earlier versions.

Wagner, whose name is on the exterior cornice of the building, cannot be identified precisely. Three Wagner families show up on the 1900 census for the area. Wagner's association with the building ended in 1892. Local informants have placed Dr. Ward, a local physician, in this building in the 1890s, where he operated a drugstore. In addition, Dr. Hinman, a local dentist, occupied the second floor at one time.

Ernie French housed his business, Tualatin Valley Plumbing Contractors, in the building starting in 1931. He bought the building in 1942 and opened a clothing store with his son Duane in 1957. Substantial alterations were made at this time.

Sources:

US Bureau of the Census, 1900.

Forest Grove Inventory of Historic and Cultural Places, 1985.