

Laurelhurst Historic District

Intensive Level Survey

Fifteen Laurelhurst houses were researched during spring 2018 for this Intensive Level Survey.

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Context Statement

The Laurelhurst Historic District is located on the east side of Portland, Oregon, in Multnomah County. Its distinctive combination of a pastoral, curving street plan with a radial layout illustrates both historic City Beautiful-era planning principles. The residential neighborhood was platted in four successive quadrants, separated by straight roadways meeting at a central roundabout with a streetcar stop. The Period of Significance for the Laurelhurst Historic District is from 1910-1948. All site developments, including roads, sidewalks, gas and sewer lines, decorative arches (“gates”) and regularly-spaced tree plantings at every block front were installed by a single planning and development entity, the Laurelhurst Corporation, to evoke the “Country in the City.” The first residences were being constructed starting in 1910 as well. The period ends in 1948 with the removal of the last streetcar line from the neighborhood. The Laurelhurst Historic District includes 1752 surveyed resources, 75% of which retain sufficient integrity to be contributing to the district. Most resources date from the 1910s and 1920s, with a full 86% of surveyed resources constructed before 1930. Prevalent styles include Craftsman, Colonial Revival, and English Cottage.

3367 NE Holladay St

Dale and Edna Howard House (1926)



Description

This Dutch Colonial in the NW quad, one block from the Word of Life Church, is stylistically denoted by its gambrel end gables and retains a high level of integrity. The house displays narrow eaves and soffits as well as an entry gable hood that features scrolled brackets and curved bargeboards. The enclosed sunroom on the east end of the house and the attached garage on the west end, apart from recent re-roofing, are original. The exterior windows and siding are original as well, apart from shutters and double-paned inserts that were placed in two ground-floor windows. Other alterations include a screen door, a garage access door, a metal roof that was installed in 1948, railings, an exterior door in the sunroom to a new patio outside. The interior of the house is almost entirely original, save for



1926 Edna Marquis at 1031 Holladay (now 3367 NE Holladay)

A two-story house to cost \$6500 will be erected at 1031 Holladay avenue by E. J. Perkins.

May 2, 1926 Oregonian

plumbing, electrical, and heating upgrades.

History

Constructed in 1926 by builder E. J. Perkins and costing \$6,500, this house's first owner-occupants were H. Dale Howard with his wife Edna M. Marquis.

Aged 29, Mr. Howard had emigrated from

Nebraska and Edna M. had come to Portland from Wisconsin. By 1926 Dale Howard was managing the Western Cream Company on Taylor and 4th St in downtown Portland, and the proud owner of a brand new Dutch Colonial house in Laurelhurst.

A veteran of the First World War, he surely knew that, in the center of his new neighborhood and installed just the previous year, the magnificent gilded statue of Joan of Arc now honored him and his fellow Doughboys. He may not have been aware that he and Edna were now neighbors with the famous Dr. Henry Waldo Coe, the leading citizen of Portland who lived at 412 NE Royal Ct. and donated the statue. Thus did Laurelhurst, with its mix of large and small houses, welcome both prominent Portlanders and middle class families to its curving, tree-lined streets.

Two years later, in 1929, Dale and Edna were blessed with a daughter, Shirley. By 1930, Dale was the proprietor of Western Cream. Their son Lyle was born in 1931. Edna's mother lived with them from 1938 until her passing in 1972, aged 101. Shirley has lived in this house all her life, as did Lyle until his passing in 2016. For over four decades, until Edna passed in 1992, two or three generations lived under this roof.

Shirley graduated from Oregon State College and received a Masters degree from the University of Michigan. In 1959 she became director of women's programming at KOAC, later to become Oregon Public Broadcasting. During 36 years in radio, Shirley was a OPB reporter, producer, and anchor. From 1975 she hosted a long-running daily radio show from the Benson Hotel, with nationally-known guests ranging from James Beard to Dr. Spock as well as innumerable Portland personalities.

Lyle received a mechanical engineering degree from Oregon State College and joined the research and development division of Edward Hines Lumber. After earning an electrical engineering degree from Ohio State University, in 1967 Lyle joined the Bonneville Power Administration where he worked for the remainder of his career.

In addition to their long professional careers, both siblings had a second lifelong avocation, the



1926 Newly built Howard House 1031 Holladay (now 3367 NE Holladay)

Laurelhurst neighborhood. They became active during the 1970s Portland “freeway wars”, joining grassroots opposition to the Moses Plan for dozens of freeways slicing through the city. Ultimately, the Banfield Freeway obliterated the northeast corner of Laurelhurst, but through efforts of residents and neighborhoods, the proposed freeway along 39th St (Cesar Chavez Blvd) was relocated and other freeway projects stopped.

In over four decades of volunteer service to the LNA, Lyle and Shirley served on the board and worked on many projects, including the early 1990s historic district effort. In 2017, 88 year-old Shirley Howard was among the hundreds of neighbors who canvassed the neighborhood for Laurelhurst’s second historic district effort, culminating in the neighborhood’s 84% vote to pursue national register listing.

The builder, E. J. Perkins of 1220 E. Broadway (later 4226 NE Broadway, since demolished) is known to have built one other house in Laurelhurst, 3346 NE Peerless Pl, a 1927 English Cottage/Tudor Revival on the neighboring lot to the north of this house.

Sources

Portland City permit archives and historic plumbing cards; Polk City Directories; US Census 1930, 1940; interviews of Shirley Howard; personal photographs of Shirley Howard; *Oregonian* May 2, 1926.

4105 SE Oak Street

William and Faye Holden House (1922)



Description

This resource in the SE quad is a unique example of an Asian-inspired Craftsman bungalow. It exhibits a low-pitched roof with multiple gables, triangular knee brackets, exposed rafter tails. Its wide overhanging eaves are suggestive of an “airplane” bungalow without the second floor pop-up level, or “cockpit”. The house displays a full-width porch with broad steps and two large rectangular columns. The western facade displays a large stucco chimney and basement-level garage below the house.

This property has been extensively rehabilitated. The removal of later-added plastic siding exposed original cedar shake shingles which were retained. The front windows facing the porch were replaced with operable sash windows, and others have been replaced in accordance with the size and patterning of the original windows. The front door was also replaced with custom-beveled glass door. In 2013, the basement was converted to a spacious two-bedroom accessory dwelling unit (ADU) with a private entrance on SE 41st that is sheltered by an extension of the original knee-braced garage roof. The ADU is now being rented long-term.

History

Called “the Flying Nun” by its current owners, this one-story Laurelhurst bungalow was ushered into the world with a birth announcement in the April 23, 1922 edition of the Oregonian: “A new Laurelhurst acquisition will be the residence to be erected at 1221 East Oak Street for Dr. W. (B.) Holden on plans prepared by F. Manson White, architect.”

Both the doctor and the architect left lasting legacies in Portland. Dr. William B. Holden joined the staff of the Seventh Day Adventist Sanitarium on Mount Tabor in 1903 and served as its Medical Director until his death in 1955. Under his direction, the hospital transitioned from a long-term care facility to a surgical/medical facility. Construction on Dr. Holden’s Laurelhurst bungalow started the same month that new surgical facilities were being completed for the sanitarium. Just two days before his bunga-

low's 1922 announcement in the *Oregonian*, Dr. Holden performed the first surgery in the new operating room (an emergency apendectomy) while painters and plasterers were still working on the interior. It's likely that Dr. Holden and his new wife, Faye Beggs Holden, appreciated the Laurelhurst bungalow's comfort, as well as its proximity to the sanitarium. An ad appearing in the December 18, 1922 issue of the *Oregonian* features an endorsement of a Gasco oil furnace from a doctor who "*recently finished and moved into his Laurelhurst bungalow ... designed by F. Manson White, Architect.*" In 1929, the Holdens moved closer to the sanitarium. Dr. Holden later gained distinction as Oregon's oldest practicing surgeon.

F. Manson White (1863–1952) arrived in Portland in 1888 or 1889. He joined McCaw & Martin, eventually becoming a partner. In the early 1890's, he established his own firm and continued to design until he retired in 1935. White was best-known for his churches, schools, public, and commercial buildings. Published sources make little mention of his design work for private residences other than this house and White's own Irvington home. A small bungalow seems incongruous in White's portfolio. Perhaps he was eager to take a job for a prominent doctor who was busy expanding sanitarium facilities with building projects in the offing.

White's work with McCaw & Martin included: The First Presbyterian Church (1889), Skidmore Block (1889), Dekum Building (1892), West Hall at what is now Portland University (1891), The Armory (1891). After establishing his own practice, White designed many notable buildings, including: The Sherlock Building (1893), The Imperial Hotel (1894), The Auditorium Building (1895), City Hall in Seaside (1914), The Flatiron Building (1917), Central Presbyterian Church in Portland (1924), First Baptist Church in McMinnville (1927), First Presbyterian Church in Medford (1927).

In 1929, the house became home to John R. and Nettie E. Straight. John Straight was President and Manager of the Edwin Clapp Stores of Portland. In 1932, Howard G. and Mary M. Sellman moved in.

In 1936, this became the home of Arnold L. Henny, his wife Jean L. Henny and their son. Arnold Henry, a civil engineer, had been transferred to Portland to design the Bonneville Dam's main spillway. Assistant engineer on the powerhouse and a grouting expert, Henny was the son of a prominent Portland engineer who had worked on the Hoover Dam.

The house was later home to Willard F. and Mildred A. McLeod. Willard was a salesman for The Master Engravers. Subsequent owners were M.C. Montoya, Dave Hill, Sally E. and Pat M. Campbell, John V. and Denise M. Costanti, Sandra B. St. Pierre, and the current owners since 2009.

Today this bungalow is an example of a historic house, elegantly and sensitively converted to a two unit dwelling, with no harm to the historic character of either the house or the neighborhood. It is home to two households, the current owners and the family leasing the basement ADU. At last count, Laurelhurst is home to at least 25 permitted ADUs, and assorted "unofficial" ADUs.

Sources

Portland City permit archives and historic plumbing cards; Portland City directories; US Census 1930; *Daily Journal* 6/1/1913, 6/2/1915, 10/25/1916, 12/13/1921, 3/29/1921, 3/30/1921, 6/25/1922, 11/22/1922; *The Oregonian* 12/4/1921, 6/23/1929, 3/23/1934, 5/1/1942, 4/27/1946; Ancestry.com, birth, death, marriage, and burial records; Adventist Medical Center, official history; *Architects of Oregon* by Richard Ellison Ritz; interview of Sharon Hanna.

412 NE Royal Ct

Henry Waldo and Elsie Coe House (1913)



Description

This house in the NW quad exhibits an example of a Craftsman foursquare that retains a high level of integrity while having been lightly altered. It is highly stylized, featuring a corbel band course, carved brackets below its roof eaves, scrolled rafter tails, and decorative planters below its window sills. Its wrap-around porch contains large battered piers and an ornately-carved bannister. All windows of the house, many of which feature wood framing and stained glass, are original.

Inconsistency in the type of lap board siding on the exterior of the house may indicate a slight change in cladding. The garage, built in 1917, has since been altered from an original pass-through design with a semi-circular driveway to NE Flanders, yet retains some integrity. It is a separate structure that has been connected to the house by two porte cocheres. Part of the original driveway is now a deck, and a playhouse graces a corner of the property. A roof hatch from the Second World War has been removed.

History

This house was constructed in 1913 by builder H. M. Fanchen for Mr Edward G. Hill, a salesman, and his wife Hallene C, recently from Houston Texas, who had moved into on July 26, 1914. Its most notable owner, Dr. Henry Waldo Coe, took possession in May 1919, from the estate of Julia Blinn. He was living here in 1925, when he donated the gilded Joan of Arc statue to Laurelhurst's central round-about which was renamed Coe Circle.

After receiving his medical degree in 1880 and a decade as a frontier physician in the Dakota Territories, Dr. Coe moved to Portland in 1890 with his wife Viola May Boley and son George. While living on West 25th, the couple had two more sons, Wayne and Earle.

In the late 1800s, Dr. Coe founded Morningside Hospital hospital for nervous and mental disorders. In 1905 he purchased and moved a building from the former Lewis & Clark Exposition site to the hospital location. He served in the Oregon State Senate in 1906 and 1907, was president of the American Medical Editors Association in 1906, editor of the Medical Sentinel journal in 1910, professor of medicine at Willamette University, and advised his close friend President Theodore Roosevelt on matters relating to Oregon. In addition to his medical activities, Dr. Coe was president or vice-president of various Portland banking institutions, owned a number of businesses, held extensive mining interests, and after Viola's passing, married Elsie Ara Waggoner in 1915.

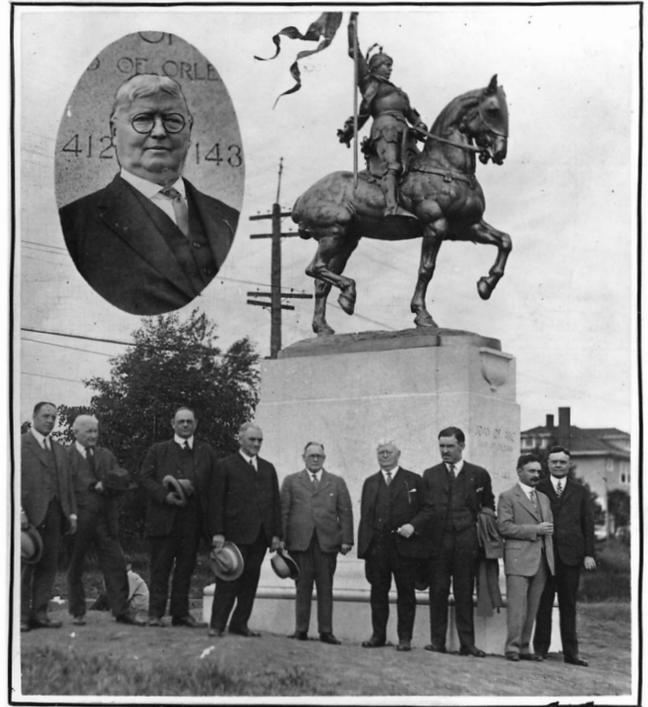
After this distinguished career, Dr. Coe moved to this house in Laurelhurst and retired the next year, in 1920. He and Elsie then traveled extensively around the world. During this retirement Dr. Coe gifted several statues to the city of Portland, among them statues of Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln in the South Park Blocks, George Washington in the Rose City Park neighborhood, and in 1925, Laurelhurst's own Joan of Arc. Portland almost lost Joan, when the city refused to pay for the granite base on the grounds that tax dollars should not support public art. Dr. Coe's wife and mother broke the impasse by paying for the base.

Dr. Coe's sons enlisted in the military during World War One. George, educated at Harvard and Stanford, joined the U. S. Signal Corps. Wayne studied at Oregon Agricultural College and Cornell, then served in the Air Service, flying missions until Armistice Day. Earle also went to the Oregon Agricultural College and then served in the Artillery Corps in France. Dr. Coe dedicated Laurelhurst's Joan of Arc to American veterans of the First World War, the Doughboys, which included his sons among countless other Portlanders.

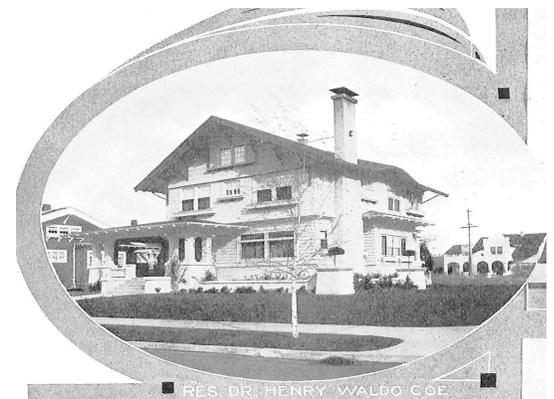
After Dr. Coe passed away in 1927, his widow Elsie lived in the house until the early 1930s. In 1934 the house was vacant. By 1937 it was owned by another doctor, Alan W. Smith, and his wife Pauline A. then by the widow Pauline A. Smith who lived here until 1968. The next owner was Robert Buckley, a city firefighter, followed by a succession of lessees changing each year, then Scott and Linda Farnsworth from 1978 to 2001, when the current owners assumed stewardship.

Sources

Portland City permit archives; Portland City directories; US Census 1940; *Oregon Biographies* by Charles Carney; Ancestry.com, birth, death, marriage, and burial records; abstract of title and trust, Coe House; will of Dr. H. W. Coe; Mandan Historical Society; Oregon Historical Society; interview with Arnold and Lisa Craig.



1925: Dr. Henry Coe and dedication of Joan of Arc statue in Laurelhurst.



1916: Photograph Dr. Coe house

939 NE Hazelfern Pl

All-Oregon Products House or Elwyn and Mildred Marston House (1931)



Description

This resource in the NW quad is a distinctive example of an intact English storybook cottage. The house exhibits a predominantly stucco exterior with a cast stone base. Two front-facing, A-shaped facades with closed gable peaks protrude from the body of the house. They frame a private central entry courtyard that contains a staggered stucco chimney. The house retains its original windows, including a large window with diamond-pane sidelights on the larger A-frame structure and a diamond-pane window in the courtyard against the inner wall of this facade.

This property exhibits a minimal number of changes that include the in-kind replacement of the garage carriage doors and the white picket fence that was added on the front facade.

History

This picturesque, charming cottage was built in 1931 by builder A. R. Johnson as a demonstration of Oregon products and building materials.

“Except for plumbing fixtures, glass and hardwood floors, the building is 100 per cent Oregon, declared A. R. Johnson. “Where we couldn’t get a local product we went to the nearest outside point,” he explained. “Our plumbing fixtures, for instance, are made in California - we held to the Pacific Coast.” Electric fixtures are hand-made in Portland. English in design, the exterior is finished in stone, shakes and stucco. Inside the house is finished in fir. It is heated by a Portland-made hot-air furnace.”

A. R. Johnson took over the construction business of his father, A. H. Johnson. Father and son built multiple houses in Laurelhurst, purchasing lots from Ladd directly.

The house was sold to Elwyn M. Marston in 1933. Marston, manager of the Hillcrest 5 & 10 Cent Store, lived here with his wife, Mildred G., their son Jack, and his mother Fanny M. Marston. Fanny passed in 1944, followed by Elwyn in 1958. Mildred left this world in 1986, in the living room of her Laurelhurst storybook cottage. After 53 years, the Marston family's stewardship of the All-Oregon Products house was over.

Their son Jack Marston went on to own a school equipment business and, in June 1960, took his wife Diana and 10-year old daughter on a two year sailing journey to Hawaii, the South Seas, and New Zealand on the 40-foot cutter "Yankee Doodle" which was enthusiastically reported in the sailing press.

The current owners, residents since 1986, report the house is known in the area as "The Hobbit House".

Sources

Portland City permit archives; Portland City directories US Census 1930, 1940; *The Oregonian* archives; Architectural Heritage Center, interview of historian; Ancestry.com, birth, death, marriage, and burial records; interview with Larry and Deborah Hodson.

ALL-OREGON HOME READY

LANDSCAPING FINISHED AT EAST SIDE ENTERPRISE.

Everything Used in Construction Bought in Oregon as Far as Possible.

Landscaping at the All-Oregon Products home just completed at 261 Hazelfern place, between East Thirti-ninth street North and Imperial avenue, by the A. R. Johnson company, builders, has been finished by Theodore Knapp, landscape gardener, and the house will be ready for public inspection today, according to announcement.

Except for plumbing fixtures, glass and hardwood floors, the building is 100 per cent Oregon, declared A. R. Johnson. "Where we couldn't get a local product we went to the nearest outside point," he explained. "Our plumbing fixtures, for instance, are made in California—we held to the Pacific coast."

Electric fixtures are hand-made in Portland.

English in design, the exterior is finished in stone, shakes and stucco. Inside the house is finished in fir. It is heated by a Portland-made hot-air furnace.

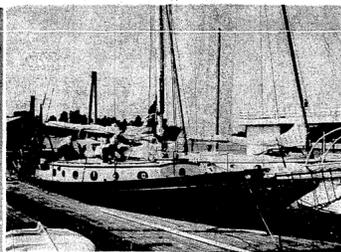
Pyramidal arbor vitae, barberry, spireas and zinnias tie the house to the ground. The lawn has already been seeded.

Sept 20, 1931 Oregonian - All-Oregon Products House

Area Family, Pet Take Off On Cruise In Pacific Ocean With Hawaii As One Port O



FROM THE PILPIT of their 40-foot sail-boat, the Marston family, Jack, Diana, Dale and mascot, Thistle, take last look at their Vancouver, Wash. home.



CUTTER-RIGGED Yankee Doodle receives Jack and Diana Marston preparatory to finishing touches from her new owners taking off for indefinite ocean voyage.

will vary Jack's ma them in the Calvert Corcoran School from which they spot themselves during the scheduled morning classroom hours. They will emerge full-fledged, accredited graduates of grades 4 and 5.

This and Julie will enjoy the only non-musical concert, the last of the year. Jack and Diana will check the pink and white checked steamer and ruffed out Yacht Club up this or visiting so a pretty violent deviation from the Yankee Doodle's pa-triotic red, white and blue color scheme.

Among the gear aboard are four identical (interchange-able) bicycles for shore-side trips at ports of call, an accordion for entertainment, and a vital 35 mm camera to record their adventures.

Sun of the Yankee's crewer and se-

AWAY GO C
Zino-pads Speedily Prevent, Relieve, Remove Corns

Instant-acting Dr. Scholl's Zino-pads to relieve for you. Stop now! In-stant relief for corns. Stop pain in a jiffy now! One of the best of the best. Who knows to medical science. Widespread use over all in South.

Dr. Scholl's Zino-pads

Jumble
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

WHEEL ARMY
WHEEL ARMY
WHEEL ARMY
WHEEL ARMY

WHEEL ARMY
WHEEL ARMY
WHEEL ARMY
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WHEEL ARMY
WHEEL ARMY
WHEEL ARMY
WHEEL ARMY

IMMEDIATE
Dental Plates

May be worn immediately

after extraction if

Sept 20, 1960 Oregonian - Marston voyage

4064 SE Ash St

H. H. Harper House (1916)



Description

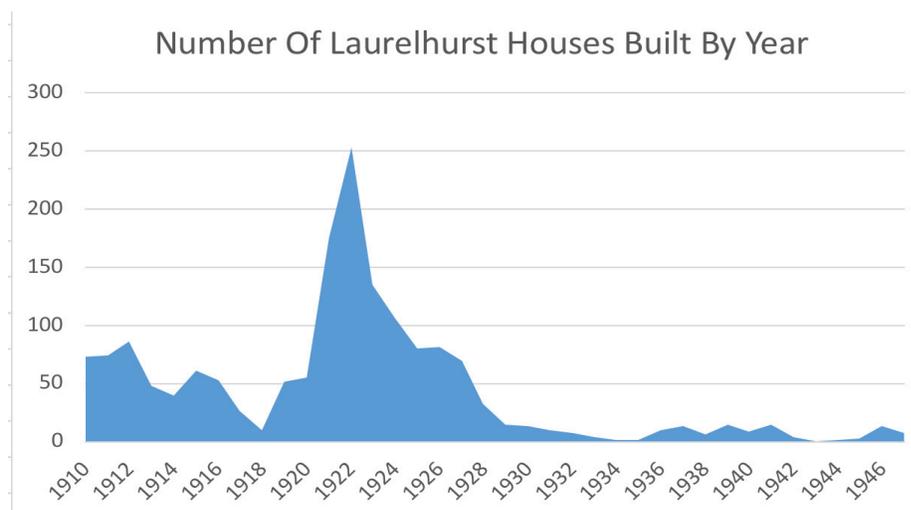
This Japanese-influenced Craftsman bungalow on a corner lot in the SE quad retains a high level of integrity. It exhibits multiple roof planes, exposed pointed rafter tails, and notched triangular knee brackets. The house is clad primarily in wood clapboard with some board-and-batten siding on the upper “look-out” level. The wrap-around front porch exhibits full-height, curved clinker brick piers with a simple wood beam railing between them. Existing multi-pane casement windows are original and protected by storms. The garage also retains its original doors and hardware. No visible exterior changes have been made to this resource.

History

This house was completed in November 1916 by one H. H. Harper. The builder’s timing was inauspicious. Real estate in Laurelhurst was slowing into the 1918-19 slump.

The first for-sale advertisements for 1212 E. Ash St (the pre-1930 address of this house) began running on February 11, 1917, confidently proclaiming:

“ALL I HAVE TO DO is to get you into this Laurelhurst house. After you’ve been in it, no one could sell you anything else”.



By May 20, 1917, the ads for this bungalow sounded less confident but not less urgent:

"MUST sell my Laurelhurst bungalow. See it today. 1212 E. Ash. Open 2 to 5; \$800 cash, balance terms".

ALL I HAVE TO DO
is to get you into this Laurelhurst house. After you've been in it, no one could sell you anything else. Sunshine penetrates into every nook and corner. Hope and good cheer are instantly infused into every visitor. It has more windows than any house of its size you ever saw. Seven large rooms and garage. Come and see it today. 1212 E. Ash st., corner E. 41st st. During week phone W. T. Downing, Main 1700.

Feb 11, 1917 Oregonian

MUST sell my Laurelhurst bungalow. See it today. 1212 E. Ash. Open 2 to 5; \$800 cash, balance terms; evenings, Taber 5702.

May 20, 1917 Oregonian

rental \$35. EAST 3153.
EAST. 1212 E. Ash., cor. lot.
1 bedrms., gar.; rent \$55.
EA 3153.
piano and draperies; 2

Aug 28, 1927 Oregonian

The surrounding advertisements were equally glum. Houses in Laurelhurst were advertised for less than they had cost to build just a few years previous, other houses were offered at a loss. An unbuilt Laurelhurst lot, originally sold for \$1500, was available for \$250. Autos were being accepted as part payment for houses, and the word "foreclosure" appears, including on Laurelhurst properties.

During much of the bungalow's history, it has been a leased house. From 1918 to 1944, at least nine different households lived here. The rent, on August 28, 1927, was \$55 per month. Occupants over the decades have included William and Margaret Joslin; Mary I Stewart; E. Newton Bates, a USDA grain researcher, and his wife Cora; Boyd K. Graybill, an office manager for Pacific Telephone & Telegraph, and his wife Gayle E; and at least three salesmen's families in three successive years.

In this regard, the house is not unusual. From its earliest years, Laurelhurst had an active rental market. The 1916 sales brochure "Laurelhurst and its Park" urged those wishing to rent a house to look in Laurelhurst and advertised leasing as a steppingstone to owning a house in the neighborhood.

Today Laurelhurst remains a mixed community of owned and leased houses. About 11 percent of the neighborhood's homes are rented.

Ownership passed in the late 1920s to Nellie Viggers to Sherl N Smith, owner and president of a wholesale hardware, lumber and veneer business. In 1949 the bungalow was purchased by Margaret A. Swift, the widow of a teacher, who lived here as an owner-occupant until 1982. After a year vacant, the house was sold to the current owners who have resided here ever since.

Sources

Portland City permit archives and historic plumbing cards; Portland City directories; Portland Realty Atlas 1914, 1928; 1916 Laurelhurst brochure; *The Oregonian* archives.

Houses for Rent in Laurelhurst

The desirability of Laurelhurst as an ideal place in which to live is evidenced by the fact that in this immense tract one mile long and nearly a mile wide, in which five hundred houses have been erected during the past five years, it is now practically impossible to secure a house for rent.

We are extremely anxious to locate desirable families in Laurelhurst, even though they only wish to rent, and would be glad if you would let us know your requirements and we will endeavor to secure a satisfactory house for you at the earliest moment possible.

Many of the most enthusiastic home-owners in Laurelhurst originally came into the tract as renters and, becoming enamored with the district as a homeland, and on ascertaining the easy terms upon which these attractive well-constructed homes were sold, purchased homes of their own.

Before renting elsewhere, it would certainly be to your interest to call and let us know your requirements.

1916 Laurelhurst sales brochure

3641 NE Couch St

John Dodson House (1927)



Description

This Tudor Revival house in the SW quad retains a high level of integrity from its date of construction in 1927. It exhibits jerkinhead clipped gable roofs with narrow eaves, hip-roofed dormers, and mock half-timbering. Two chimney pots cap each of the two stucco chimneys in the house. The front-facing elevation exhibits half-timbering, a feature that is common in this style of architecture. The entryway is accentuated with a decorative bargeboard with a pendant at the gable peak and a matching lintel over the front door. The original garage is located at rear of house. The house retains its original windows, many of which include wood multi-light hung sashes and leaded glass panes. The windows in the entry hall and dining room contain stained glass. The only major alteration to the house was the addition of a bedroom on the second floor in 1951. No exterior alterations are apparent. The origins of the brick garden wall are unknown.

History

This is one of three homes in Laurelhurst associated with the Portland Knitting Company, founded by Carl C. Jantzen and John A. Zehntbauer in 1910. Jantzen and Zehntbauer, members of the Portland Rowing Club, were asked in 1913 to produce a pair of rowing trunks. Soon many rowers were wearing the rib-stitch woolen garments that were warm and elastic. In 1915 the company developed its bathing suit of a similar construction. In 1921, in a stroke of marketing genius credited by Zehntbauer to company manager John Dodson, it renamed the Jantzen bathing suit as a “swimming suit”

“In 1919 and 1920, we advertised Jantzen bathing suits. It was not until 1921 that Mr. Dodson first conceived the idea of using the name “Swimming Suit” instead of bathing suit. Up to this time we had never heard the name “swimming suit” used, and we had been selling bathing suits for years and had come in contact with all kinds of advertising of these garments, which consisted then entirely of newspaper advertising by retailers, or trade paper advertising by manufac-

turers. So we are certain the name “swimming suit” was never used in advertising. Mr. Dodson was manager of the Broadway retail store at the time, and I remember distinctly the twinkle in his eye as he suggested the use of the name in our advertising. So from 1921 we discontinued the use of the name bathing suits and used swimming suits in all our copy. Since then many manufacturers throughout the world have advertised swimming suits in place of bathing suits.”

The first owner of the house was the same John R. Dodson, he of the “swimming suit” inspiration.

Other Laurelhurst houses associated with Jantzen are 3627 NE Couch, a 1918 English Cottage whose original owner was John A. Zehntbauer, and 132 NE Laurelhurst Place, a 1918 Arts and Crafts whose original owner was Carl C. Jantzen.

John Dodson lived in this house until 1948, and his half-timbered Tudor home then became associated with another notable Portland institution, the Franz Family Bakery. Founded in 1906 by Engelbert and Joseph Franz, the Franz Bakery (officially the United States Bakery) has been producing enticing smells from its bakery at NE 11th and NE Flanders for over a century. This house was owned by members of the Franz family from 1948 until 1967. Other houses in Laurelhurst associated with the Franz family include 3652 SE Oak St, once owned by Joseph Franz, and 3512 SE Oak, once owned by Englebert Franz.

In 1967 the house was purchased by Robert Cassidy, funeral director at the Hennessey Goetsch and McGee Mortuary, whose elegant 1930 Colonial building at 20 NE 14th St was sadly demolished in 2017. Mr. Cassidy owned the house until 1999, and it was then home to Douglas E. and Jennifer L. Lackey, Matthew J. Reid, and David L. Brown, before the current owners arrived in 2015.

The architects of this house were Knud A. Roald and James W. DeYoung, a partnership which designed many significant Portland buildings in the 1920s, including commercial buildings as well as homes in Laurelhurst and other neighborhoods. Several Roald and DeYoung buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places. A sample of their work includes:

- Bader house at 3604 SE Oak, built in 1922; on National Register.
- A. H. Tasker house, 1924
- The Heathman Hotel, built in 1927; on National Register.
- Hamilton Arms Apartments, built in 1928
- The Douglas Building at 3525-45 SE Hawthorne, built in 1929; on National Register.
- The Rex Manor Apartments, built in 1929
- Seventh Church of Christ, Scientist, built in 1919; on City of Portland Historic Resource Inventory
- St Johns Methodist Church, built in 1921
- Home of R.C. Diebenkorn at 1470 Crystal Springs Blvd, built in 1924; R.C. Diebenkorn, Sr, was a Pacific coast hotel supply company executive and father of artist Richard Diebenkorn

The partnership was dissolved in 1929 and both architects joined other firms. In 1931 DeYoung founded his own firm.

Sources

Portland City permit archives and historic plumbing cards; Portland City directories; *The Oregonian* 9/9/1948, 4/26/1965, 4/20/1968; Oregon Historical Society; *American Lumberman* Feb 11, 1922; St. Croix Architecture online history; Bader House National Register nomination; interviews with Keith Comess, Jan Casetta, and Bob Elston.

110 SE 41st Ave

Gilbert and Ethel Joyce House (1919)

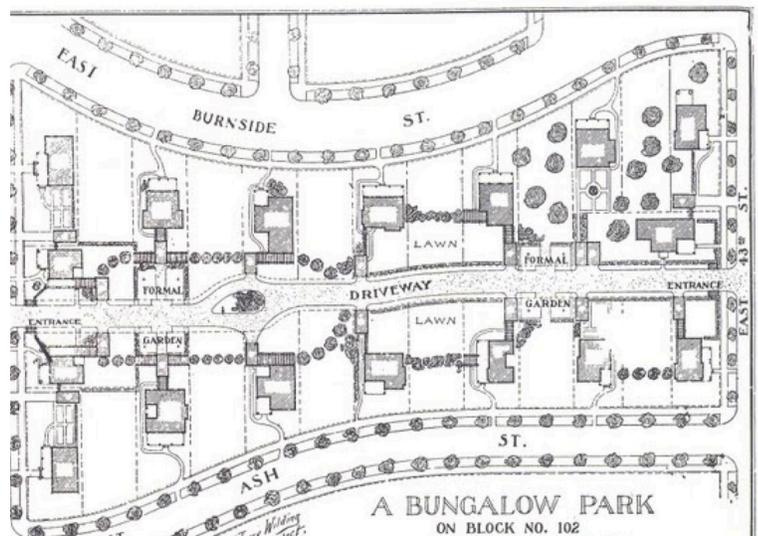


Description

This Craftsman bungalow retains a moderate level of integrity with few changes. It exhibits a cross-gable roof with wide boxed eaves, eave returns, and paired gabled dormers on the southern facade. The main (western) elevation is symmetrical in design. The porch is centered between two multi-pane windows on this facade and features full-height battered posts in clusters of three below a gable roof. The rug-face brick chimney on the northern side of the house exhibits a decorative tile pattern. The rear porch has been enclosed. The interior has been significantly renovated.

History

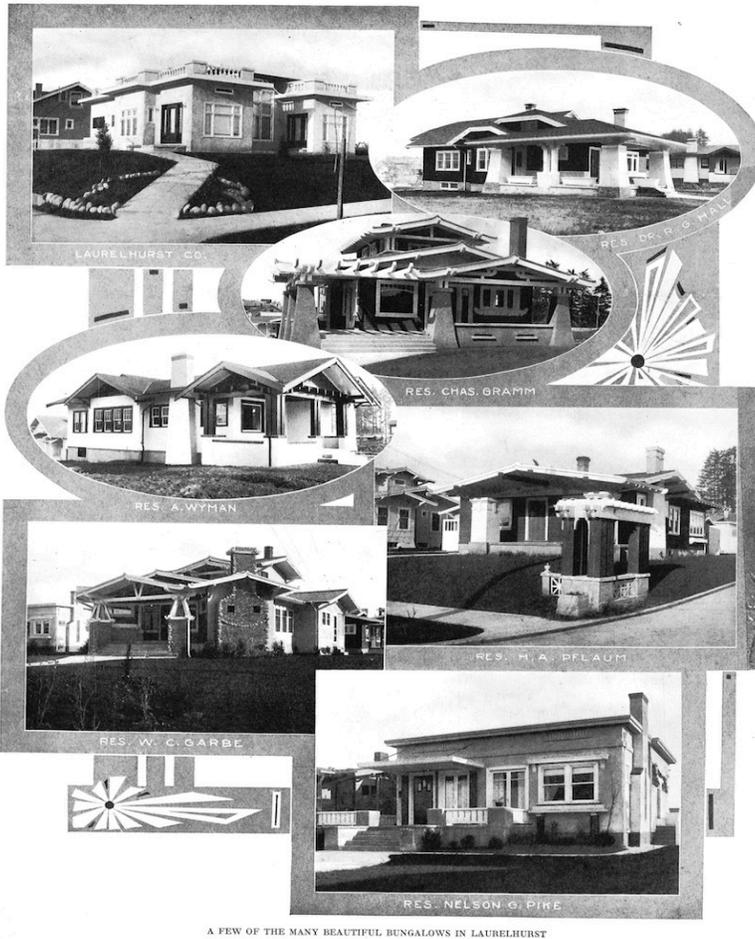
This is one of the bungalow houses built in “Fernhaven Court”, an area in Laurelhurst; SE quad specially designed as a “bungalow fairyland”. Laurelhurst was envisioned as a mix of larger and smaller homes. The 1916 sales brochure devoted multiple pages to celebrating the neighborhood’s smaller bungalows and Fernhaven Court was intended as a showcase of the style. To encourage construction of beautifully designed bungalows, the Laurelhurst Company offered free use of pattern book plans and included an alley driveway (today, SE Ankeny) for rear-access garages, a design reminiscent of the Ladd’s Addition neighborhood with which the Ladd



1916 Laurelhurst Sales Brochure, Fernhaven Park

Laurelhurst and Its Park

Page Eighteen



1916 Laurelhurst Sales Brochure, page of small bungalows

structures at the 1905 Lewis & Clark Exposition. Alfred Teller was later also President of the Builders' Exchange, on the board of a vocational school, and an accomplished mountain climber.

From 1950 to 1980, Thomas J. Lowe owned the bungalow. Known the neighbors as "the Colonel" for his 37 year Army career, including service in the Second World War, he and his wife were active entertainers in the community, energetic travelers, and active at All Saints Parish in Laurelhurst.

The next owner, Frank Comer from 1981, raised six children in the house. The current owners, master gardeners, have raised flowers and plants here since 1994.

Sources

Portland City permit archives; Portland City directories; *The Oregonian* archives; US Census 1930, 1940; Ancestry.com; www.pdxhistory.com; Oregon Historical Society; Architectural Heritage Center; interview with Donaleen Kohn.

family was also involved. Today, about half of Laurelhurst's houses are smaller bungalows. This house is at the west entry to "Fernhaven Court".

Builder J. F. Shea constructed this house in 1919. Starting in 1881 from John Francis Shea's plumbing business, the J. F. Shea Co has grown to a major diversified construction company.

The first owners of this bungalow were Gilbert G. and Ethel Joyce, who lived here with their two young daughters Jeanne and Betty. Gilbert Joyce was manager and part owner of Hazelwood Creamery. In 1928, he sold his interest in Hazelwood Creamery, the Morgan building and associated premises, for a considerable sum. He rented the bungalow from 1930 to 1932, to a succession of short-term tenants, then resumed occupying the house from 1933 to 1936.

In 1938, the house became home to Alfred Teller, formerly draftsman for architect A. E. Doyle, now President of the Teller Construction Company and son of Anton Teller, the builder of certain

419 NE Hazelfern Pl

Byron and Elizabeth Morris House (1912)



Description

This house is a highly stylized Craftsman with many distinct, ornate features. The house is capped with a cross-gable roof with projecting eaves, curved bargeboards, and decorative curved knee brackets. Rear (west) porch has been enclosed on upper story. The wrap-around porch is constructed with square tapered columns on brick piers with decorative carved lintels under a dentilated entablature supporting a low-pitch roof with boxed eaves and modillions. All original windows and beveled/lead-glass retained, wood sashes with stained glass panes. Oval glass front door panel, stained glass. Narrow bevel siding. The basement has been converted to an secondary dwelling unit. This house is on a corner lot in the SW quad.

A designated Portland Heritage Tree, a 70 foot Monkey Puzzle (*Araucaria araucana*) is in the front yard of the property. Native to the Chilean mountains, this is a primitive conifer with distinctive features distinguishing males from females. This tree is a male.

History

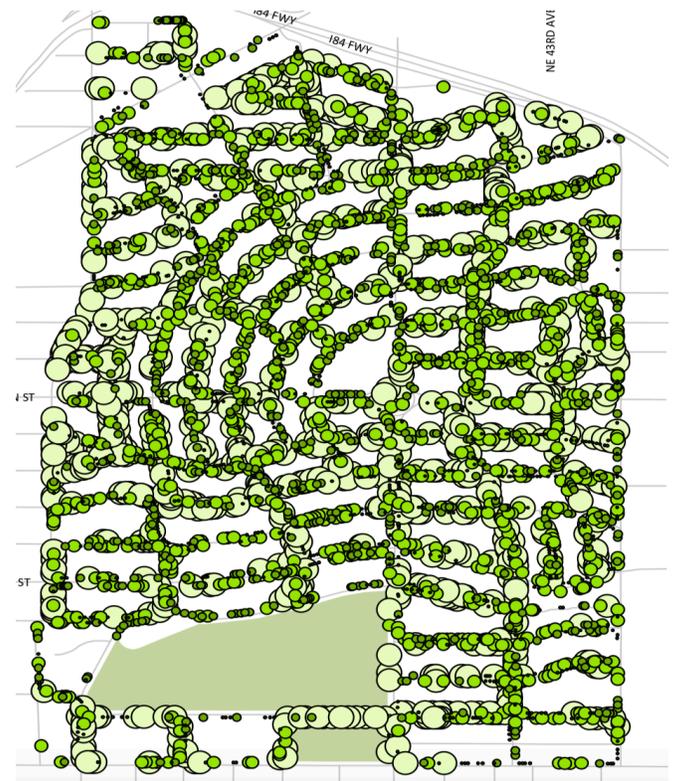
This house was constructed in 1912 by builder John Fremont Wilson. Born in Vermont, John Wilson came to Albina in 1887 and built many houses in Albina and Portland, many in partnership with Elliot Lee Sanborn. He later formed a real estate company with Leslie T. Perry. At least one of his other built houses, a Dutch Colonial at 2118 N. Vancouver, was listed in the Historic Resource Inventory.

The first owners from 1912 to 1915 were Fred H. and Velva Brown. From 1915 to at least 1944, the house was owned by Byron and Elizabeth C. Morris. Byron Morris was a dentist in Portland. Before buying the house, the Morris's lived at 630 E. Ankeny. Mr. Morris was an Officer of the North Pacific Evangelistic Institute, an interdenominational school opened in 1918 to train young men and wom-

en for Christian service at home and abroad. He passed away in 1953 at age 99 in Oregon City.

The Monkey Puzzle tree likely came from the 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition, where Monkey Puzzle seedlings were given away as door prizes. In Laurelhurst, the exotic sapling would have joined over two thousand street trees planted by the Laurelhurst Company.

Laurelhurst's urban forest was planned in conjunction with Laurelhurst Park. As early as 1903, the Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural firm and its horticulturist Emanuel Mische, retained to develop Portland's first parks plan, identified the low-lying area of what was then Ladd's Hazel Fern Farm as a future park location. John Charles Olmsted subsequently began consulting with William C. Ladd on preliminary designs for Laurelhurst's curving, tree-lined streets. By 1909, with Mische as Portland's first parks superintendent, the city purchased that area for the contemplated park and named it "Laurelhurst Park".



Nov 2014, Laurelhurst street tree inventory

While the city rejected Olmsted's 1903 recommendation that the parks board control all street trees in order to create tree-lined greenways connecting the city's parks to its neighborhoods, in Laurelhurst the shared vision of Olmsted, Mische and the Laurelhurst Company allowed Olmsted's aims to be realized. Designing Laurelhurst Park for the "spirit of the trees," Mische laid out the park's walkways to flow through stands of native timber, transitioning to imported exotic tree species, and then into Laurelhurst's tree-lined streets to extend the feeling of the park into the neighborhood.

Today Laurelhurst's urban forest covers 34% of the neighborhood and includes 3,694 street trees. Many of the stately trees and their towering canopies are from 100-year old plantings when the area was first developed. Laurelhurst contains eight Portland heritage trees, including the Monkey Puzzle tree at 419 NE Hazelfern Pl and another 75 foot Monkey Puzzle tree at 415 NE Laurelhurst Pl. Volunteers from the Laurelhurst neighborhood devote several hundred hours annually to caring for the urban forest and the park, preserving the vision of Olmsted and Mische.

The next known owner, arriving during the Second World War, was Maude Nichols. By now the Monkey Puzzle tree was an adolescent. Mrs. Nichols' son, Private John J. Nichols Jr, served in the Pacific Theatre and was taken as a prisoner of war during the fall of Corregidor. In 1945, Mrs. Nichols learned that her son was among Army personnel liberated from Camp Hoten, Mukden, Manchuria. Christmas 1945 was indeed a thankful time in this house as in countless others.

LAURELHURST—Vacant. Open 2-5, 419 Hazelfern place, one block south of NE 43rd. 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths. Not a new home but of such excellent construction and such immaculate condition; very elaborate and beautiful entrance hall with interesting open stairway, exceptionally large living and dining room, mahogany finish; very complete and modern kitchen, attractive breakfast room, 4 bedrooms and 2 complete baths up; full basement, oil heat; corner lot; at a conservative estimate \$2000 worth of expensive draperies and carpets included. Not a thing to do but move right in. This home being sold at a sacrifice.

July 23, 1944 Oregonian

From 1952 to 1972, the house was owned by Paul M. and Mary O. Sanders. Paul Sanders, born in Yokohama, Japan, graduated from the University of Washington in 1939 with a bachelor's degree in forestry. Manager of Willamette Valley Tree Farms from 1942 to 1951, he moved to Portland where he was a consulting forester. In 1955, he began managing a tree farm at Grand Ronde for the Miami Corp. and became chairman of the Warm Springs Forest Products Industries. His distinguished career in forestry continued after he left Laurelhurst, as senior partner of the forestry management firm Sanders, Larson, Cronk and Holmes, as founder of the Minikahda Hydropower Co. at Mount Hood, and as founder of the Widow Creek Tree Farm in the Coast Range. Among his accomplishments was assisting the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs in correcting a survey error in the 1800s known as the McQuinn Strip, thus returning 65,000 acres to the tribes. He later helped establish forest protective associations along the Oregon coast, which became the West Oregon Forest Protective Association. Paul Sanders would have seen the Monkey Puzzle tree maturing and, as a tree expert, appreciated its significance.

From 1973 to 1994, the house was owned by John and Virginia Robertson and occupied by lessees Daniel K. Jackson, Gail W. and Dennis A. Johnson, and Kay Johnson. Siblings Kathryn and Kevin Robertson then leased the house from their parents.

In 1994, the current owners, one being the daughter of John and Virginia Robertson, were married in the house and purchased it during the same year, becoming stewards of both the house and its now mature and magnificent Monkey Puzzle tree. The house and tree have now been in the same family for 46 years.

Sources

Portland City permit archives; Portland City directories; *The Oregonian* archives; *The Daily Journal* archives; Ancestry.com; 2014 Laurelhurst Tree Survey report; Heritage Trees of Portland, portland-parks.org, 2003-present; *Historical Outline for the F.H. Brown / B. Morris House*, Roy E. Roos c/o Residential Historical Research, 1997; Research of David-Paul B. Hedberg, Outdoor History Consulting, 2018; interview of Kathryn Pozarycki.

107 NE 41st Ave

Harry and Tillie Meyer House (1918)



Description

This house is an example of the Japanese-influenced Craftsman bungalow in Laurelhurst. The house takes advantage of its prominent siting on a SE quad corner lot situated on a small rise by orienting the entrance at the corner of the porch, placing the porch stairs at a 45 degree angle to the house, and having the walkway lead to the corner of the lot. The lot is oversize (6,560 sq.ft.) with the widest part at the front corner. The Japanese influence can be seen in multiple low-pitch roof surfaces (four roofs in the front elevation), two nested porch roofs, exposed support beams, and massive porch columns. At the rear of the house on the street side, the second story overhangs the first story by a few feet at an indented corner, also evoking Japanese architectural styles.

The exterior of this house is unaltered, retaining the original window, trim, and clapboard siding. The exposed rafters end with Japanese curves. Three doorways lead onto the porch at the corner focal point, including a set of French doors. A brick chimney, exposed on the side of the house, widens toward the top. The house is of modest size, about 2,000 square feet, but unlike many bungalows, all of the bedrooms and the main bathroom are on the second floor, allowing for spacious common rooms on the first floor.

History

The house was built by A. J. Cartwright, builder of other Laurelhurst homes including 3926 and 3936 NE Davis, 3925 NE Hassalo, in 1917-18. The house's style emerged from brothers Charles and Henry Greene of Pasadena, California. Educated in architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the brothers had access to the Japanese collection at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and to the vogue of Japanese art that had begun with Admiral Perry's opening of Japanese ports to American and European trade. They adapted the architecture of Japanese temples and houses to the indigenous American Shingle Style. Between 1893 and 1922, they expressed this style in their houses

with the grandest displays being the Robert R. Blacker house and the David B. Gamble house, both in Pasadena.

The first owner was Harry J. and Tillie May Meyer, both second generation immigrants. Harry Meyer was a salesman for the Oregon Woolen Mills who later rose to the position of Western Sales Manager. Their two sons and Tillie's mother also resided in the household. Tillie died in 1928 at age 49. Harry remarried and lived with Barbara, his second wife, in this house.

In 1946 the house was sold to the second son, Alan J. and Louise M. Meyer. The younger Meyers lived here until 1961, making 43 years that this house was in the Meyer family.

Roland R. and Marilyn Jo Premo owned the house from 1961 to 1965. Ted L. and Shirley J. Anspach purchased the house in 1965. They and later their daughter Christy Ackerman owned the house for 44 years until 2009 when it was sold to the current owners.

The current owners are bungalow restoration enthusiasts. The husband works as a writer and has published articles in *American Bungalow* magazine. After ascertaining the house had not suffered major structural remodeling, they began restoring the house to its original condition. After discovering the footprint of a missing built-in cabinet in the dining room, they located a neighboring house with an identical built-in cabinet that was used as a model for recreating the original. Their restoration work is being documented on thecraftsmanbungalow.com.

Bungalows such as this one made Laurelhurst a neighborhood of diverse house sizes, accessible to middle class families. This modest house exhibits a distinct architectural style, thoughtful design, and well-crafted, carefully selected building elements. As graceful and appealing today as a century ago, Laurelhurst's historic houses arouse



Oct 4, 1934 Oregonian



Front of house facing NE Couch Street.

a passion for preservation in their owners.

Sources

Portland City permit archives; Portland City directories; *The Oregonian* 10/25/1945, 9/6/1946, 9/27/1946, 3/4/1947, ; *The Oregon Daily Journal* archives; interview with David Kramer

21 SE Floral Pl

J. P. Tamiesie House (1916)



Description

This large Craftsman house exhibits excellent integrity. It sits below a cross-gable roof with projecting eaves and large bargeboards. The first story and two chimneys are clad in blonde brick veneer and the second story in ribbon-coursed shingle siding. Most original wood multi-light windows are retained and some have been replaced in-kind. The porch wraps around the side of the house and is only covered on the southern elevation. The garage and carport are attached to the northern side of the house. The house is on a triple lot bordering both E Burnside and SE Ankeny, overlooking the north side of Laurelhurst Park in the SW quad.

No changes appear to have been made to the exterior of the house.

History

Designed by architect Newton P. Gauntt for Dr. and Mrs. J. P. Tamiesie, this house was built in 1916 on three lots at the north-west corner of Laurelhurst Park.

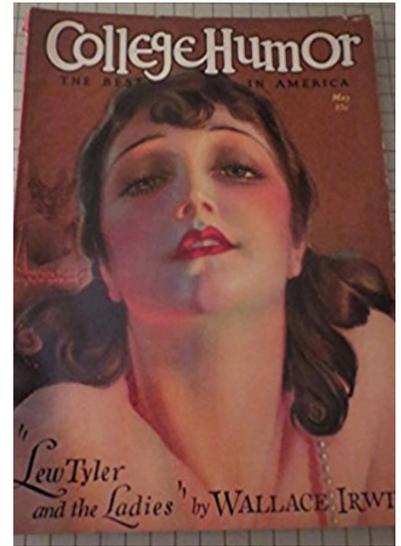
Dr. Taimiese graduated from the University of Oregon Medical School in 1889/90. By 1902 he was an elected officer of the Oregon State Medical Society. In 1914 he was head of the Oregon University Medican Alumni Association. A prominent Portland physician, he appeared often in the newspapers and professional journals such as the Medical Sentinel and Northwest Medicine, in connection with his medical practice focusing on nervous disorders. He was also no stranger to the society pages. In 1916, shortly after moving to Laurelhurst, J. P. Tamisie was standing for election to the board of the Laurelhurst Club, and in the following decades, Dr. and Mrs. Tamisie were active in Club events.

His daughter, Lura Tamiesie, after attending the University of Oregon and graduating from Stanford,



met and married John M. Lansinger of Chicago who was teaching in Portland. The wedding was on July 16, 1922 in this house.

John Lansinger was a Chicago publisher of an entrepreneurial bent. In 1920, Lansinger and Jacob Clarke Henneberger started the publication *College Humor*. In 1922, the pair founded Rural Publications, a "pulp fiction" publisher, and began publishing the celebrated and influential magazine *Weird Tales*. Focusing on speculative fiction, fantasy and horror, *Weird Tales* launched writers as diverse as H. P.



Lovecraft and Tennessee Williams. The magazine was at first not financially successful, and in 1924 Henneberger sold his interest in *College Humor* and Rural Publication's other magazine, *Detective Tales*, to Lansinger and used the proceeds to relaunch *Weird Tales*. Generations of lovers of science fiction, fantasy, horror and other speculative fiction genres were to be thankful.

Meanwhile, John Lansinger, with Lura at his side, continued publishing *College Humor* in Chicago, with notable humor writers such as Groucho Marx, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Heywood Broun, Robert Benchley as well as noted cartoonists. The couple had two children, Joan in 1928 and John Marcus

Jr in 1932. Lura Lansinger and her young children returned often to Portland to see Dr. and Mrs. Tamiesie, visits faithfully reported in the Oregonian's society column.

Dr. Tamiesie passed away in 1938. The next year, John Lansinger retired from *College Humor*. He and Lura moved to Portland and into the house, where they lived until 1955, when they moved to a retirement duplex on NE Sandy Terrace, thus ending the family's 40 year tenure in the grand house that Dr. Tamiesie built. John Lansinger passed away in 1963. Lura passed in 1984.

Lansinger Joins State Mutual Life

John M. Lansinger, founder and publisher for 13 years of *College Humor*, has permanently located in Portland and has joined the underwriting staff of the State Mutual Life Assurance company, in the American Bank building.



Mr. Lansinger has had previous life insurance experience in Chicago, and has looked forward to making Port-

land his home for some time. Here some years ago, he taught in the old Bishop Scott academy and, also, for a time at Hillsboro high school. When here he met and later married Lura Tamiesie, daughter of the late Dr. J. P. Tamiesie. The Lansingers, with their children, Joan and Jack, reside at the former Tamiesie home in Laurelhurst.

May 3, 1939 Oregonian

The next occupants were, we surmise, readers of a book other

* * *

"IT'S A FINE NOTE," snorted John M. Lansinger, "to have to pay two bucks to get into your own house!" So he went on in to the tea, and consumed cookies. His wife, Lura, was pouring, and sweetened him up with sugar in his tea, too.

This was in the Tamiesie house, Laurelhurst landmark. House was inherited by Mrs. Lansinger and her brother, K. L. Tamiesie; the L.'s lived in it. But, their young people married and gone, they rattled around in 15-room house of more spacious era.

House at 21 S. E. Floral place has been bought by Catholic religious order, Sisters of Social Service. Group's auxiliary gave madonna festival Tuesday as open house for order's new home.

And after event, Mr. and Mrs. L. went happily off to their own new home, a nice, little duplex in Sandy Crest terrace. "Second honeymoon," said they.

* * *

May 22, 1955 Oregonian

than *Weird Tales* or *College Humor*. The Catholic religious order, Sisters of Social Services, purchased the house, divided the original four bedrooms to create nine, and operated the house as a home for the order's nuns. Neighborhood old-timers remember the house as later being a "home for wayward girls", suggestive of a change in usage over the decades.

In 1999 the house was purchased by Park Bailey and Richard Kroll, who lived in the Mayor's Mansion on the other side of SE Ankeny St. At some point, the original four bedrooms were restored. The current owners moved here from another Laurelhurst house in 2006.

Architect Newton C. Gauntt left a broad mark on the built environment of Oregon as well as central and western Washington. Born in Indiana, he developed a reputation for designing school buildings, with his Northwest work including high schools in La Grande, Hillsboro, and the Portland area. He designed many courthouses, including in Yakima County, Douglas County, and Washington County. His other work includes the North Yakima Baptist Church and the Yakima YMCA. Gauntt prepared plans for various houses that were published in *National Builder* magazine in 1902-1905, and after he moved his office to Portland in 1913, designed the Tamiesie house. Gauntt died in 1938, the same year as Dr. Tamisie.

Sources

Portland City permit archives; Portland City directories; *The Oregonian* archives; *The Daily Journal* archives; University of Oregon Medical Department archives; Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation; Pacific Coast Architect; interview with former resident of house; <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/features/troubled-history-weird-tales-magazine/>; <https://www.revolv.com/main/index.php?s=Weird+Tales>



829 NE 41st Ave

First Birkemeier House or Chris Horsfeldt House (1932)



Description

This spacious English cottage lies on a triangular corner lot northwest of the Laurelhurst School in the NE quad. Exterior walls are clad primarily in cedar rake shingle siding and many still contain original sash windows. The exterior of the east wall consists of rustic stone and rough clinker brick in radial pattern emanating around an arched picture window that peers into the living room. The three chimneys of the house are also clad in clinker brick. The steeped gable roof of the house exhibits rolled eaves that nearly extend to the ground on the south side. A semi-circular cut-out is centered on the rolled eave above the primary clinker brick wall. This feature is mimicked in the rolled eave over a small dormer on the house and over the garage door.

The house is nearly original. On the exterior, a third masonry chimney has been added at the rear of the house. Inside, the kitchen and one fireplace are modified. If the builder were to return and visit this house, it would look just as he left it over 80 years ago. As we shall see, that is in fact what he did.

History

One of the most important residential builders in Portland's history, Kenneth "Kenny" Birkemeier (1905-1996) is today known primarily for his Mid-Century Modern houses. He is known to have built at least 700 dwellings, including 180 houses and many multifamily dwellings, in Portland. Birkemeier and his houses have been celebrated in tours, exhibits, and histories.

Born on October 21, 1905 into a family of craftsmen, Birkemeier learned woodworking from his father Fred Birkemeier, a fine carpenter and casket maker. Ken Birkemeier studied architecture at the University of Oregon and worked as a draftsman for furniture maker Bruno P. Johns. When he began building houses, Birkemeier did it all - drew the plans, built the forms, poured the foundation, did the framing, and built the custom cabinetry. He worked with family members, including his brother Ed

and later his son Brent, and his small crew including mason Fred Snelling. After completing many homes in and around the Alameda neighborhood, Birkemeier built in many Portland neighborhoods, from Eastmoreland to the West side. His houses gradually transitioned from then-traditional English cottage and Colonial revival styles to the new Modern style, with transitional examples combining traditional and modern elements.

Kenneth Birkemeier built this house in Laurelhurst, his very first house, in 1932. He was just 27 years old and living on E 13th St. The house is in the English cottage style that characterized his early work. The rough stone and clinker brickwork remained a characteristic of many Birkemeier houses into his mid-century Modern period. This house, on a triangular lot, displays Birkemeier's talent, evident even at the start of his career, of harmoniously flowing a house plan into an irregular lot. He would use this gift often in his later career, building on oddly shaped hillside lots in the southwest hills of Portland.

Birkemeier purchased this odd-shaped lot from the city, which was selling surplus publicly-owned lots in the early 1930s. An article in the October 16, 1932 *Oregonian* with the headline "*Taxpayers Urged To Buy City Lots; Return of Property to Assessment Rolls Held Need; 9000 Parcels on Hand*" shows a photograph of this house with the caption "*Here are two fine small-type homes recently erected on lots purchased from the city of Portland*".

In 1994, the 89 year old Birkemeier brought his second wife, Ramona, to see the first house he ever built. They were invited in by the current owners, who listened raptly as Birkemeier reminisced about building the house and how, wanting his first house to be the best it could be, he used the best materials he could find. After first erecting the garage, he carved the ceiling beams with a bandsaw in that garage, while a family member worked on the stone and radiant brick. Birkemeier later brought the current owner to his own home to search, unsuccessfully alas, for the original plans for this house.

Kenneth Birkemeier passed away two years later. He left hundreds of beautifully designed and crafted houses, including one other house in Laurelhurst (3340 NE Peerless, built 1941) and his own final home on NW Rio Vista Terrace in the West Hills near the Pittock Mansion. The Rio Vista house was sold after his widow, Ramona, died in 2017 and for the first time since 1965, the last Birkemeier house will not be inhabited by a Birkemeier.

This cottage, the first Birkemeier house, was first owned by Chris N. Horsfeldt, a real estate salesman, and his wife May. Their children Alva and Graham also became salespersons. Subsequent owners or occupants included Arthur W. Lee during World War 2, Samuel and Constance Olds from about 1950 to at least 1967, Robert A. Kingsley starting 1968, Albert F. Sorg starting 1972, and Mark Gardner starting 1980. The current owners have lived here since 1986.

Sources

Portland City permit archives; Portland City directories; *The Oregonian* archives; Architectural Heritage Center photo archives; *alamedahistory.org*; interview with Gerald Groce



1932 photo of 207 E 41st Ave (now 829 NE 41st Ave)

535 NE Hazelfern Pl

First Laurelhurst House or Walter and Carrie Everett House (1910)



Description

A Portland four-square with Prairie style elements. This house is distinguished from other Laurelhurst four-squares by not being of a Craftsman style, by paired small windows between the primary windows on front and side facades of the second floor, and by its status as Laurelhurst's very first house (see history below). The house is on the NW quad, close to NE Glisan. Many of Laurelhurst's earliest houses were clustered near the streetcar lines on NE Glisan and NE Sandy.

A small porch rear den on the northwest corner of the house was enclosed between 1928 and 1933. During that period, the porch was altered from its original full house width to its current dimensions covering half of the front facade. The sash windows have been replaced with wood frame windows matching the original style. The house is otherwise in original exterior condition.

History

This was the very first house built in the Laurelhurst development. On September 25, 1909, the Oregon Daily Journal reported

"W. N. Everett, a local contractor, is the first lot buyer in Laurelhurst to begin the erection of a residence in that addition. Mr. Everett purchased lot 17 in block 13, on Hazel Fern Place, near East Glisan Street, and is having built on the site a two story wood frame house to cost about \$4,000."

Shortly afterwards, another house began on Royal Court, to be the house of P. S. Easterday. Separated by only two blocks, in a new addition with only newly-planted sapling trees to block the view, the two men could have watched each others' houses being erected. Did they start competing for the honor of being Laurelhurst's first?

For Easterday, President of the Columbia Bridge Company, the distinction would presumably have been of only personal interest. For Walter Nevers Everett - a local contractor, aged just 34 years, immigrated from Canada in 1902 with his wife Carrie F. (Fitzgerald), the couple still living with Carrie's mother - the publicity of completing the first house in the glamorous new addition would perhaps have had commercial value. After all, the house was still in progress, it was mere weeks after the first plumbing inspection, and his name was already in the newspaper.

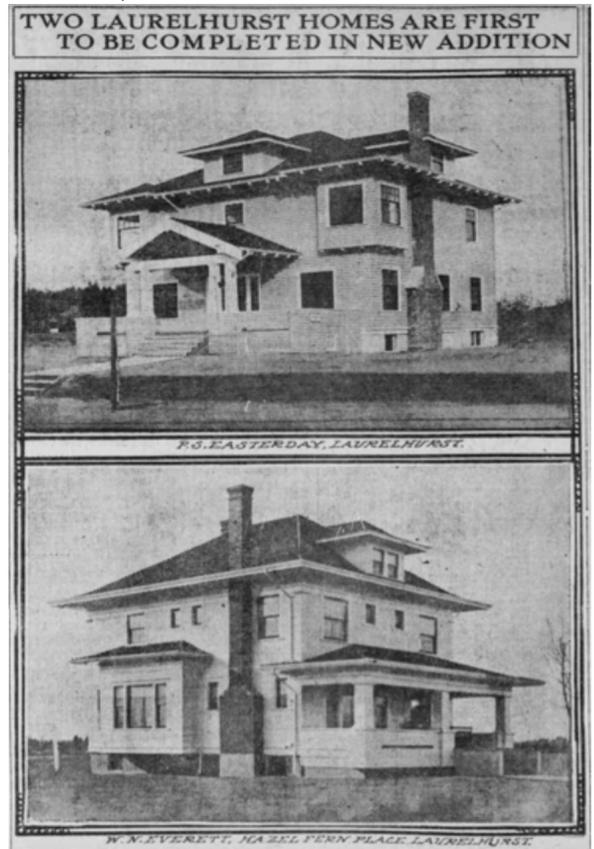
The two projects raced on, and by April 24, 1910 the Daily Journal announced "*W. N. Everett has completed his new home on Hazel Fern Place, and is now living in it. This is a very handsome two story wood frame house containing seven large rooms, bath and hall, and cost \$4500.*" Mr. Easterday, it seemed, had been breathing down our local contractor's neck, as the same article noted "*P. S. Easterday, President of the Columbia Bridge Company, expects to move into his new home in Laurelhurst within a few days.*"

Or perhaps not. On May 1, 1910, in an article leading with "*Two fine homes have already been completed in Laurelhurst, the new house addition on the East Side which has been on the market but a few months. [I]t is P. S. Easterday, president of the Columbia Bridge Company, and W. N. Everett, a contractor, who have finished the first homes in the great new addition . . .*", the Oregonian revealed that the race, if there was one, had not been so close as all that. While Walter and Carrie had already lived in their house for at least a week, "*[t]he home of Mr. Easterday, which has just been completed . . . will be occupied within the next few days*". The company president had been beaten by the humble contractor. Perhaps well beaten, as the final plumbing inspection for Mr. Everett's house had taken place almost four months prior, on January 10, 1910.

W. N. Everett lived in this house for only 3 years. He went on to build four more houses in Laurelhurst and moved with Carrie F. to two of them. In 1914 they were living at 605 NE Laurelhurst (old address 151 Laurelhurst Ave, completed November 1913, Colonial Revival) and in 1915 at 537 NE Royal Ct (old address 141 Royal Ct, completed March 1914, also a Colonial Revival). He also built 527 NE Royal Ct (old address 139 Royal Ct) in 1915 and 439 NE Royal Ct (old address 109 Royal Ct) in 1916, but Carrie doesn't appear to have moved her household there. In 1916 they were living on 14th St, and in 1917 at 467 E 46th St. By 1920 they had moved again to Johnson St.

In 1924 his occupation was recorded in the census as "architect" and their peripatetic existence may have finally proven too much for the undoubtedly long-suffering Carrie. In 1926 they moved to 6240 SE 31st (old address 1286 E 31st) in Eastmoreland, built by Mr. Everett and completed in October 31, 1925. They were still living there in 1930, and in 1940 when Walter was 64 and Carrie 66.

Walter and Carrie never moved again. He passed away on August 14, 1940, on a visit to his native Canada, and she followed him on October 3, 1946 in Portland. They left no issue. All of their Laurel-



April 24, 1910 photograph in Oregonian

hurst houses still stand.

After its builder, this house in Laurelhurst was then owned by A. J. Hilton in 1914, and by Albert L. Malden (or Maeder) from at least 1920 to 1930. Subsequent owners and/or inhabitants included Robert A. Law in 1935, Ray Humphrey during World War 2, E. Raisch in 1945, and George J. Dellis from at least 1947 through 1950. By 1955, this house was occupied by Walter J. Stott and it so remained through 1981. Marvin "Mark" Bube owned the house from 1981 to 1991. In 1992 it was bought by Paul Graef. The current owners have lived here since 1997.

History does not record whether any of this house's inhabitants, after Walter and Carrie, were aware they were living in the very first home built in Laurelhurst. Now the current owners know.

Sources

Portland City permit archives; Portland City directories; *The Oregonian* 9/25/1909, 5/1/1910; *The Daily Journal* 4/24/1910; Ancestry.org death records; interview with Nancy Tindle

3925 NE Hazelfern Pl

Emma Enevoldsen House (1940)



Description

Minimalist Colonial Revival in the northern part of the NE quad. Cross gable roof, narrow eaves, symmetrical front facade with unadorned entry.

The house remains entirely original on the front facade and very close to original condition on other facades. The porch railings are original. The wood hung windows are retained on front, other exterior windows were replaced in 2005 with wood multi-light custom windows matching the originals. A basement level window has been replaced with a vinyl slider window. The concrete front entry porch was clad with new tiles in 2003. Rear covered patio added, believed to be in the 1950s. A security front door was added prior to 1995. The chimney was rebuilt in 1999, the driveway with inset stairs rebuilt in 2013. The interior has been renovated, with two additional bathrooms and a partially finished basement.

History

This house was built in 1940 for Mrs. Emma Enevoldsen, aged 56, a widow living with her 33 year-old daughter, Marcella Enevoldsen. As was common for houses constructed during the war, it is of traditional form - in this case, a Colonial Revival - but smaller and relatively unadorned. The shock of Pearl Harbor and America's shift to a wartime economy was still to come, but after a decade of economic depression, fewer Portlanders were building the elaborate, stylized houses of the 1910s and 1920s.

Chris and Emma Enevoldsen moved from Minnesota to Oregon in 1925 and lived at 915 Pine St in Salem. Chris was a millworker for the Silver Falls Timber Company. He and Emma moved to Portland in 1937, telling the *Statesman Journal* it was to be near their daughter Marcella who was working in Portland. Unbeknownst to the reporter, the move was due to Chris' long illness. In February 1938,

he was reported to be “*somewhat improved*”, but he died in June 1939 and his obituary reveals that the Enevoldsens had moved to Portland for his medical treatment.

Widow and daughter lived in this house for the next few years. Marcella was the office manager for the California Conserving Co. In 1945 Marcella was married to James Stopp of Silverton. By then Emma had left the Laurelhurst house. She lived at addresses on SE 29th and NE 56th, then moved to Corvallis in 1957. She joined her late husband in 1962.

For much of this house’s history, it was occupied by a widow or single woman, starting with its initial owner. In 1952, the house was occupied by Albert D. King from Minnesota, variously employed as a bank teller and at the Yeon Building Cigar Store, and his wife, Abbie F. By 1962, widow Mrs. Abbie F. King was the occupant. In 1968, the house was home to Mrs Honora Curtin. By 1972, the house had passed to Edward G. Maloney and his wife, Jean C. In 1978, Edward had passed on and Mrs. Jean C. Maloney lived here well into the 1980s. A Mr. Tiess appears in the records, but appears to be the person handling Mrs. Maloney’s estate in 1989 rather than an occupant of the house. Maureen Flanagan purchased the house in 1989 and lived here with her two children. In 1995, the current owners purchased the house. They report still occasionally receiving mail for the Maloneys.

Today this house has the rueful distinction of being one of the few houses on this block of Hazelfern Place that have survived in original condition. On both sides of the street, smaller original houses such as this have been demolished, or altered beyond recognition, to build large expensive houses - on average, more than twice as large, twice as tall, and two-and-a-half times more expensive than the original. In the past decade, about thirty of Laurelhurst’s smaller houses have been replaced in this manner. Most recently, the adjacent parcel to the west was purchased, split, and a 4,300 sq ft, \$1,300,000 house constructed where a 100 foot Sequoia previously stood.

Sources

Portland City permit archives and historic plumbing cards; Portland city directories; *The Oregonian* 6/10/1937; *Corvallis Gazette-Times* 4/17/1962; *Stateman Journal* 1/31/1937, 2/20/1937, 2/8/1938, 6/8/1939, 11/22/1939; *Capital Journal*, 5/28/1940; Salem and Corvallis city directories; US Census 1940; savetheportlandredwoods.wordpress.com/ ; interview of John Deodato; Deodato personal photos.



Excerpt from survey map for Hazelfern Pl



Purchased by Edelweiss Construction in 2013 (\$345,000)

Sold after partial demo-rebuild in 2014 (\$770,000)

Example of demolitions on block; 3904 NE Hazelfern



2016 photo of house and sequoia, later cut down

3904 NE Hassalo St

Burt Whiting House (1928)



Description

This is a English cottage house, built in 1928. The house has a stucco exterior, capped with a cross-gable roof featuring a bellcast over the entry with narrow eaves. On a corner lot in the northern part of the NE quad, an exterior path and stairs lead from the house entry diagonally down to the sidewalk on the corner, a common pattern in Laurelhurst (see 107 NE 41st for another example).

Some windows have been replaced, including the picture window in the front room, and a shed dormer has been added.

History

Burt A. Whiting, a clerk with the city water bureau, and his wife Dela C. Whiting, were the first owners of this house. They lived with their daughter, Margaret Whiting. The builder was E. A. Bohren, who is not known to have built other homes in Laurelhurst.

By 1943, the little cottage was owned by Lloyd M. Janz and his wife. The couple lived here until at least 1968. Lloyd appears to have initially been a teacher before a long career with the Portland General Electric company. They were active in the Sunnyside Masonic Lodge and as officers of the Sunnyside chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, having been named worthy patron and matron in 1957. Mrs. Lloyd Janz was also active in Hellenic sorority organizations in the 1950s and 1960s.

In the early 1970s, the home was purchased by Jack Crawford, a supervisor, and his wife, Cella M. The house may have been a rental, as its occupants in the 1970s were other than the Crawfords. Matthew B. Mayberry lived here in 1972 and Robert Gossman in 1978. In 1980 the house was vacant and in 1985 the occupant was Robert G. Fale. The current owners purchased the house in 1997.

Sources

Portland City permit archives; Portland City directories, US Census 1930, 1940; *The Oregonian*, 8/19/1951, 3/29/1957, 11/18/1960, 9/12/1983.

4305 NE Glisan St

Robert Williams House (1947)



Description

This house was built 1947 in the minimal traditional style. It is brick, a less common material in Laurelhurst. The location is in the SE quad, close to the eastern edge of Laurelhurst.

The original horizontal two-over-two wood sash windows are retained. The cross gable roof features no eaves and a simple band course. Wrought iron bars have been attached to several first story windows, without significant alteration of the windows or openings.

History

The house was constructed for Robert Williams, an engineer, by builder Healy & Merserve. He lived here until 1951, with Elsie F. Bradt also living here in 1949. In 1952 the house was vacant. By 1953, it was occupied by Forest A. Jones, who owned a hearing aid business known as Oregon Hearing Center. In 1955, John Lang, a salesman, lived here with his wife Isabella.

In 1959, the house was purchased by Peter C. Leinweber, a Portland city firefighter. Mr. Leinweber attended the University of Portland where he was a college football player of some reputation. In 1965 he was named a Distinguished Alumni of the school. After his football days, Mr. Leinweber had a long and distinguished career with Portland Fire & Rescue. In June 1936, he was a hoseman of engine #3. By the 1940s, he was president of the Oregon Firefighters Association. From 1949 to 1954, he was president of the Portland Firefighters Association, and often quoted in the local newspapers. By 1954 he had risen to battalion chief and by 1964, he was the city's assistant fire chief. During this period several newspaper reports describe his participation in fighting city fires, as well as

the annual Beer Barrel Polo Match during the Rose Festival, in which Portland firefighters, with their ex-footballer assistant chief on the field, competed with the Canadian Navy to drive a barrel across the Lincoln High School field using high pressure fire hoses and more than a little body contact, as this was apparently a rough and tumble event.

In 1964, Rose Festival attendees were disappointed to find the match was cancelled. Either the visiting Canadian Navy ship was unable to muster enough players (according to Chief Leinweber) or, perhaps, *“the boys were getting too rough, too many black eyes, sprains and bruises”* (according to the Commissioner’s office). The 1971 photograph below shows him in uniform, inspecting new fire equipment.



RESCUE NO. 1 UNDER CONSTRUCTION, 1971. The Stevens was in service until 1971, when it was replaced by this 1972 Dodge. This unit was outfitted and equipped by Lt. Frank Oliverio and was affectionately dubbed “Oli’s Folly” and the “Motor Home.” At the rear of the rescue are Assistant Chief Peter Leinweber (left) and firefighter James Havelhurst.

Photo from Portland Fire and Rescue (2007)

Mr. Leinweber lived here until 1975, then retirees Jewell and Esther Likes moved in. After Mr. Likes passed, his widow Esther remained in the house until about 1987. The current owners bought the house in 1989.

Sources

Portland City permit archives; Portland City directories; *The Oregonian* 6/20/1936, 10/23/1951, 10/22/1954, 6/1/1961, 6/13/1964, 7/7/1964, 7/17/1964, 9/24/1965; *Statesman Journal*, 6/2/1950; *Portland Fire and Rescue (2007)*, by Brian K. Johnson.

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