

Becker House
540 NW 14th St
Style: Classic Box
Builder: Gustav Thews
Local Ranking: Significant
Circa 1922

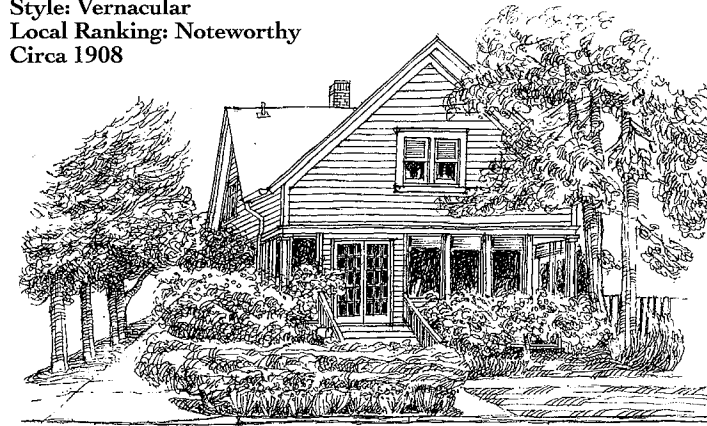
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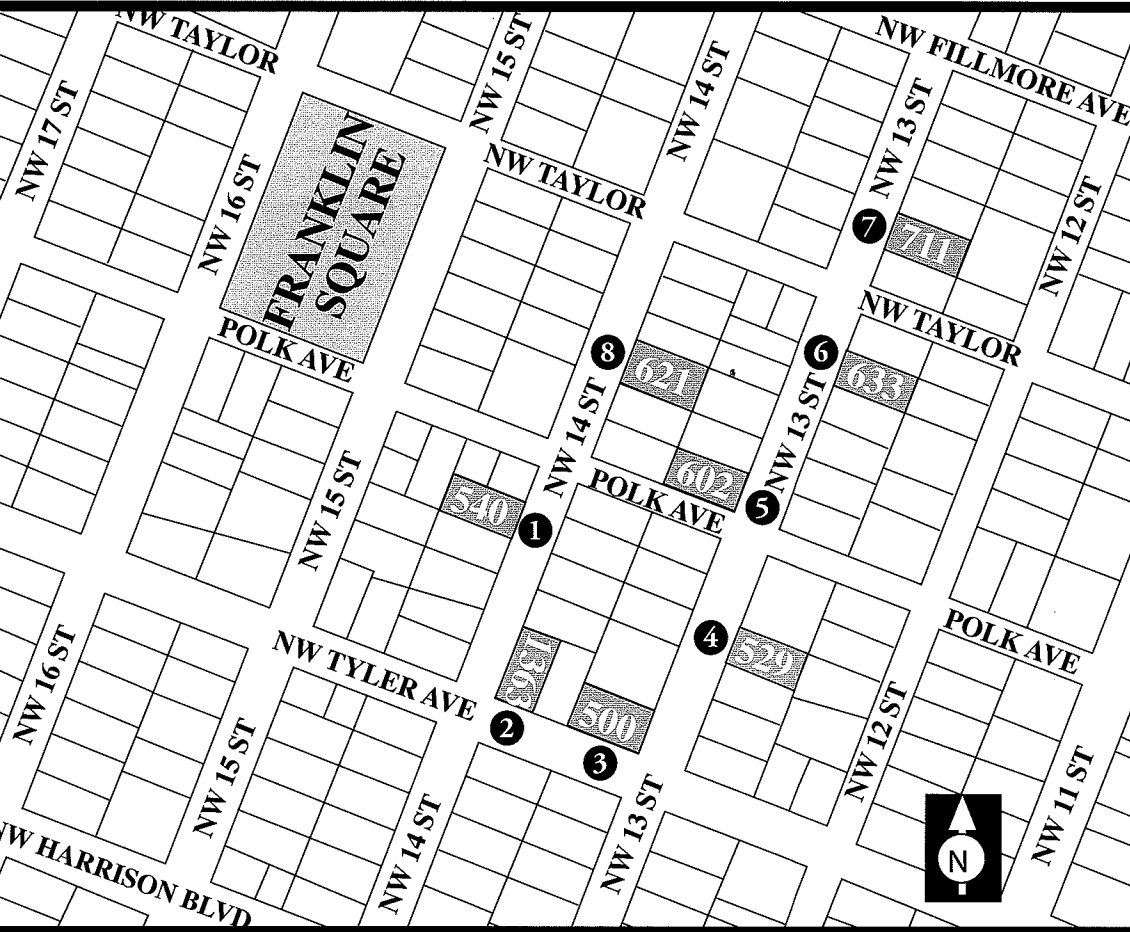
Prior to the construction of this dwelling, the Corvallis Street Railway Company's barn was located on this lot in 1895. This previous building was removed between 1896 and 1912. In 1921 the lot was sold to Gustav and Clara Thews. Mr. Thews is listed as a carpenter in city directories, and he may have been responsible for the construction of the house, which was built by 1922. Charles E. and Hazel Becker took up residence in the house after they bought it from the Thews family in 1924. Mr. Becker was a laborer and painter employed at the college. The Beckers rented rooms to Oregon Agricultural College employees during the mid-1920s through the 1930s. The Becker family owned the house and lived here through the early 1950s. The house is a very well-maintained and architecturally intact version of the American Foursquare, a vernacular type found throughout Corvallis, as well as in this neighborhood, and an excellent example of multi-family housing in the college residential district.

Holstrom House
1363 NW Tyler Ave
Style: Vernacular
Local Ranking: Noteworthy
Circa 1908

2



This house was likely erected by P.L. Cate in 1908. The house was used as a rental property for Oregon Agricultural College faculty. Agronomy professor E.L. Potter lived in the house during 1912, while during the next year C.F. Duggar of the Military Science Department resided at this address. Andrew and Anna [Alma] Holstrom bought the property in 1920 and made this their home for the following 30 years. Andrew Holstrom was a Corvallis bricklayer. The Holstrom house is a derivative of the basic gable-front vernacular house found throughout Corvallis. Illustrating no one particular architectural style, the gable-front plan was a common design that often borrowed design elements from a number of styles, primarily Queen Anne, Bungalow, and Craftsman. The cross-gable roof system of the Holstrom house is reminiscent of the Bungalow style, as is the front porch (now enclosed), but the overall effect of the house is vernacular. Although the front porch has been enclosed with windows, such an alteration was often done historically and is compatible with the design of the house and does not detract from the building's integrity.



FUN FACTS:

- In 1909 a 3-story school building was cut in two for its move to 18th and Polk streets, where it served as a grade school first known as North School and later known as Franklin School.
- Corvallis High School was built in 1909-1910 in what is now Central Park. It housed Corvallis Junior High School after the newer CHS was constructed in 1935. The original CHS building was destroyed by fire in 1946.
- The Army Corps of Engineers, still stationed at Camp Adair, set up headquarters at the junior high to help with rescue operations during the New Year's Day flood of 1943. *A Pictorial History of Benton County*, Corvallis Gazette-Times (publisher) and Benton County Historical Society and Museum, 2000.

Ryder Rental House
602 NW 13th St
Style: Vernacular
Local Ranking: Significant
Circa 1902

5



William W. and Alice Ryder purchased this property in 1902 and had this house constructed but never lived here. The Ryders probably used this house solely as income-producing property. The Ryders were natives of Alsea where Alice was a school teacher prior to coming to Corvallis. The Ryder rental is a side-gabled vernacular house characteristic of the time period in which it was constructed. Many houses of this form can be found in Corvallis. The house is essentially as originally constructed except the porch and enclosure were added (prior to 1927).

Taylor House
500 NW 13th St
Style: English Cottage
Local Ranking: Noteworthy
Circa 1928

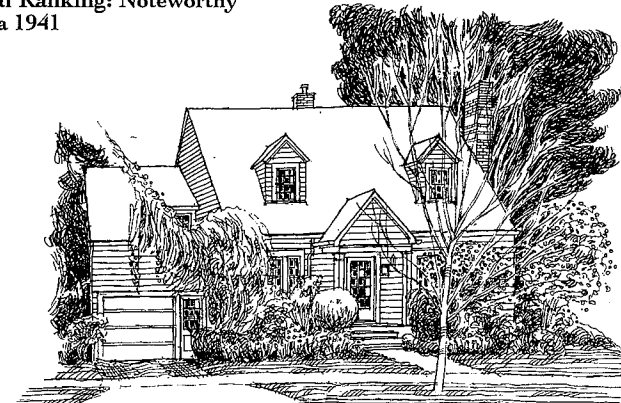
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Charles E. (Chester) and Meta Taylor purchased this property in 1925. Chester Taylor was the proprietor-manager of the Irish & Taylor Cash & Carry Grocery located on S. 2nd St. in downtown Corvallis. The business included a bakery as well. The family owned and lived in the house until they sold it in 1949. The Taylor house is a fine representation of the English Cottage/Tudor style. The combined use of brick and wood exterior materials, sweeping and steeply pitched roof lines, choice of roofing material, multi-light metal casement windows, and half-timbering details (as well as the house's historical intactness) unite to make this house a model of its style. During the 1920s and 1930s, a revival of historical precedents in architecture took place in residential neighborhoods. Inspired by country cottages in England and France, veterans of the first World War brought these images back with them to the U.S. where architects and builders could replicate and elaborate on the Old World styles. The style of the Taylor house is a result of this expansive architectural movement during the late historic period.

Mavis Barklow House
529 NW 13th St
Style: Cape Cod - Colonial Revival
Local Ranking: Noteworthy
Circa 1941

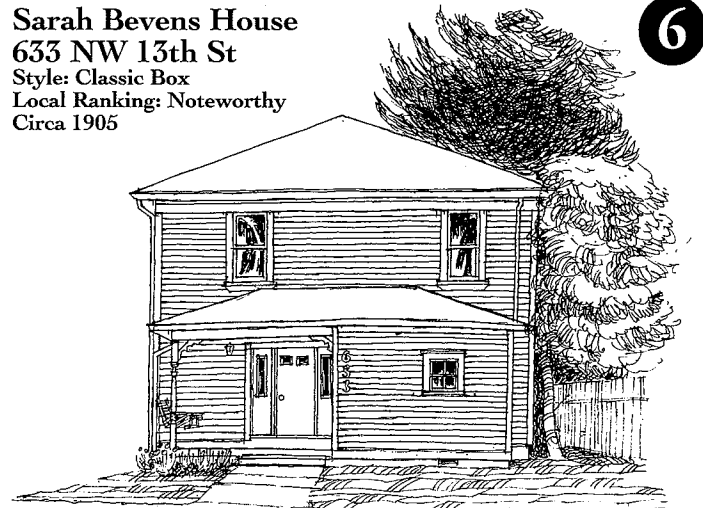
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This house is a good example of the style most often referred to as "Cape Cod," and is a subcategory of Colonial Revival architecture popular in the United States in the first and middle parts of the 20th century. A Cape Cod is a style of housing that originated in the New England area. It is characterized by a small footprint, symmetrical layout, and dormer windows. A cape-style house also commonly has a master bedroom on the first floor, although it usually has two floors. This house was probably built in 1941 for Mavis Barklow, who had lived in the neighborhood possibly as a boarder at 430 NW 13th St. As she owned the house only 2 years, it is not clear if she lived in the house or had it built speculatively to rent or sell later. Dr. C.W. Wiprud, who was a dentist, bought the house in 1944 and lived there with his wife Alma and children until selling the house in 1954 to the Bentsen family. The Bentsens lived in the house for about 15 years, possibly the longest of any residents. Ervin Bentsen worked as a postal clerk and at B & H Hardware, while Gladys Bentsen worked at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Sarah Bevens House
633 NW 13th St
Style: Classic Box
Local Ranking: Noteworthy
Circa 1905

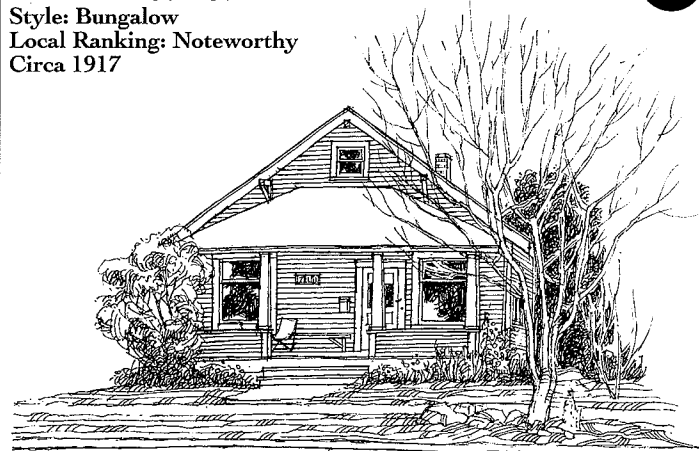
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Sarah Bevans lived in this house by 1909, but the house may have been constructed earlier. Ms. Bevans resided here for 12 years. As early as 1912, while still living here, she occasionally rented out rooms to Oregon Agricultural College students. An example of the vernacular type "American Foursquare," the design of the Bevans house was very popular around the turn of the century, especially in Corvallis. A number of these houses can be found in the immediate neighborhood. The Foursquare evolved during the post-Victorian period as an American form keenly suited to suburban development and the necessities of the family. The form was often embellished with Victorian, Classical, or Craftsman details. The Bevans house shows some of this detailing at the front entry in sidelights and turned porch post with jigsaw cutout trim. The integrity of the house has been compromised somewhat with the replacement of the front door and the enclosure of the south half of the front porch.

Tillie Read (Boatman) House
 711 NW 13th St
 Style: Bungalow
 Local Ranking: Noteworthy
 Circa 1917

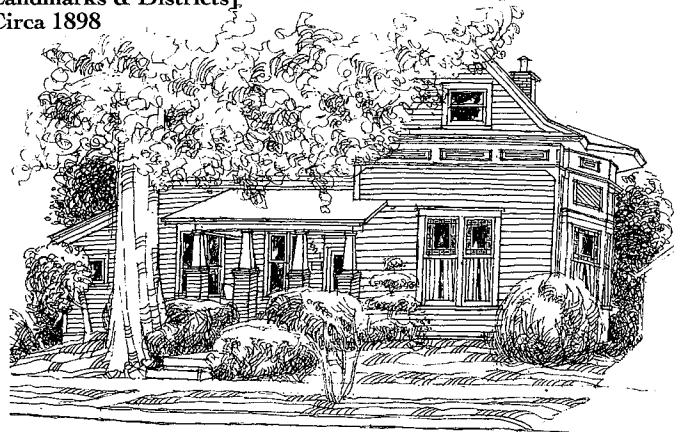
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In 1913, Tillie Read (Boatman) purchased two lots as an investment. The present house, however, was not erected on the property until 1917. Mrs. Read used the house as a rental. Tillie Dudley Read Boatman was the wife of Columbia Read, a notable Benton Co. farmer engaged in grain and stock raising. Columbia Read began farming with his father, Thomas M. Read, soon took over operations, and by 1892, was one of the more well-to-do individuals of Benton Co. Columbia married Tillie Dudley, and the family moved to Corvallis in 1892. The house was sold many times throughout the historic period. Not one person owned the house for more than two years. It is likely that the house was rented out (a typical situation for the neighborhood historically). The house is a very good and architecturally intact example of the Bungalow style in its most rudimentary form. Often coined the "simple Bungalow," these small houses were constructed near mills and factories to lodge workers and were a preferred model for income-producing property.

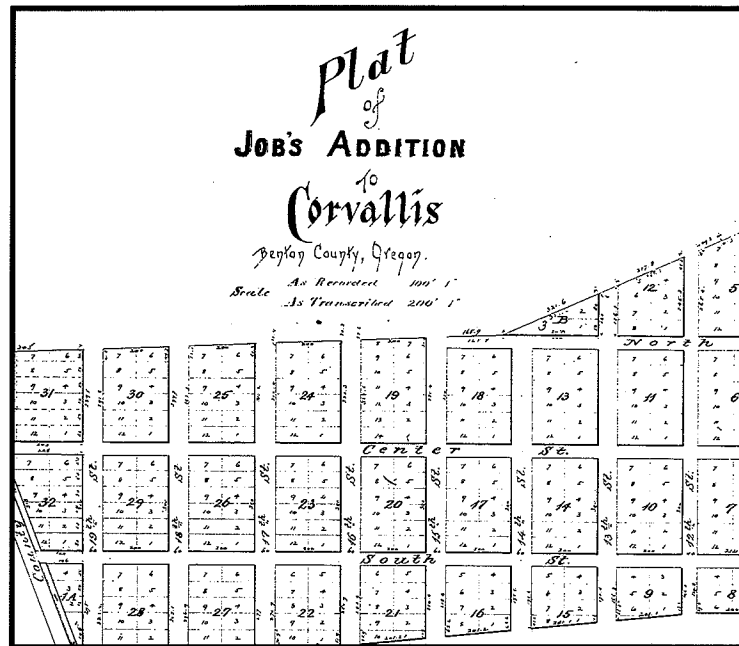
W.W. & Alice Ryder House
 621 NW 14th St
 Style: Queen Anne Cottage
 Local Ranking: Significant [on Corvallis Register of Historic Landmarks & Districts]
 Circa 1898

8



William "Will" W. and Alice Ryder purchased this property in 1902, and this house was probably constructed shortly thereafter. The Ryders lived in this house for over 40 years before selling it in 1945. Will Ryder came to Benton Co. from Iowa in 1872 and settled in the Alsea Valley. There he met and married Alice Christina Hayden, a native of the Alsea Valley and daughter of Thomas and Mary Ann Hayden, in 1882. The couple resided in Alsea where Alice taught school before the family moved to Corvallis in 1902. The house is a good representation of a Queen Anne cottage, a single-story version of the larger Queen Anne style so popular during the late 19th century. In Corvallis, Queen Anne style dwellings were constructed through 1900 before architectural tastes changed to the Craftsman and Bungalow styles and other post-Victorian designs. Most of the Queen Anne details are intact in the Ryder house, although the front porch was reconstructed using the Bungalow style. The house shows the craftsmanship of the period in Corvallis and illustrates change through time in its display of two different architectural styles.

JOB'S ADDITION HISTORY



From the Benton County web site: www.ci.corvallis.or.us/

In 1885, the Benton County Board of Immigration was founded to promote Benton County to the Midwest. Real estate boomed as a result of this and other promotional efforts, aided by the platting of the first land for town lots in Corvallis since 1872. By the late 1880s, platted additions extended the town considerably to the west to the current vicinity of King's Blvd. By far, the most ambitious of these plats was Job's Addition, which consisted of 32 blocks, several of which were fractional. Job's was the first plat to include a park block. Central Park (block 20), as drawn on the plat, is the current Franklin Square.

When Job's Addition was platted, a promotional map was distributed. The map included several details that were more a wish list than reality, including a bridge over the Willamette River and a map that suggested the Oregon & Pacific Railroad extended to Chicago and that the Southern Pacific Line (former O. & C. Westside) extended to San Francisco. The map also showed the route of a proposed streetcar line that was to serve the Addition and other points in town. Although the streetcar line did become a reality, the motorized line indicated on the map was actually horse-drawn.

From the City's History Narrative Website:

Chief author Mary Gallagher, Benton Co. Historical Society and Museum

DID YOU KNOW ?

In 1905, Corvallis adopted a local option law and became a "dry" town. (Corvallis Gazette-Times, July 24, 1957).

Houses that represent almost every decade for the last century have been built in Corvallis!

FRANKLIN SQUARE

Corvallis's first city park was established in 1889. The deed to the park was given to the City by B.R. and Addie Job. The park was located in the newly platted Job's Addition to the City of Corvallis. The park is a full block (1.4 acres) bounded by 15th and 16th streets and Polk and Taylor streets. The name "Franklin Square" was designated by the City Council.

"...Franklin Square was graded and seeded, drinking fountain built, children's slide and teeters installed, additional trees and softball field was torn down, reconstructed, and painted under park direction. Two country toilets were removed because of bad condition."

- Area graded, leveled and seeded
- 350 cu. yds. dirt moved.
- One children's slide built and installed.
- One concrete drinking fountain built complete.
- One two-board teeter installed.
- Entire area watered and maintained during the year.
- Three seven-foot Port Orford Cedars planted.
- Two nine-foot Deodar Cedars planted.
- Two four-foot Goldon Arbor Vitae planted.
- One six-foot Red Leaf Prune planted.
- Three 18" Sequoia Washingtonians planted.
- Three four-foot Spruce planted.

From the Park Superintendent's Report, May 6, 1938 to January 1, 1941

FRANKLIN SQUARE WALKING TOUR

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