

Forest Grove Southside Intensive Survey

Address: 1504 Elm Street
Historic Name: Ivan Marble House
Date of Construction: 1890
Owner: Donald E and D O'nion
Owner Address: 1504 Elm, Forest Grove
Legal Description: South Park Addition,
Block 10 lot 14-16
Classification: Local Resource #107,
Historic Contributing,
individually eligible NR



Description:

This house is a fine example of the Queen Anne style which was popular in this region in the late 19th Century. The house sits on the northwest corner of 15th Avenue and Elm Street and faces Elm. The primary (east) façade is marked by a small columned porch and entry with decorative columns, trim and detailing. The front door has a decoratively trimmed window on the top half. There is a front bay with three one over one windows. Its most prominent feature is the tower, which is typical of this style of architecture. The tower is marked by a row of four small one over one windows, some of which are stained glass. The main "L" plan is covered by a high gabled roof with two straddle ridge chimneys. Windows are primarily one over one of various sizes. There is an addition to the rear.

Significance:

While the house is locally known as the Barnes House, no evidence has been found that anyone by that name owned or constructed this property. It is possible that it was constructed by Miles Hendricks in 1896. Lavina Lyon Watt owned the house for five years (from 1901-1906). It appears as if she lived at this house while a new house was constructed for her across the street in 1905, now known as the "Watts House". Agnette Staehr purchased the property from Lavina Watt in 1906. Kirsten Staehr sold it in 1915. Kirsten Staehr had a music store in Forest Grove from 1907-1924. Her sisters Anna and Emma were photographers. Reverend Ivan Marble and his wife lived at the house from 1961 until his death in 1995. In 1952 Reverend Marble founded and served as Pastor of the Gales Creek Church of God, where he continued to serve for 43 years. He also was the chaplain for the Forest Grove Fire Department for years and gave comfort and help to those who lost their homes or loved ones. In 1964 Ivan opened Marble's Cabinet Shop in Forest Grove located on Main and 19th. In 1975 he turned the Cabinet Shop over to his two sons and became a full time pastor. His wife Muriel continued to live at the residence until 1999 when it was sold to the current owner.