

STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY
OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
State Historic Preservation Office
Oregon State Parks, Salem, OR 97310

County Marion
Theme 8d, 8f
Name
(Common) William H. Byrd House
(Historic) _____
Address 296 14th Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
Present Owner Martha Blau
Address 296 14th Street NE
Original Use Residence
Date of Construction 1887



Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

This Queen Anne Style house at 296 14th Street (corner of Chemeketa) was built in 1887 and has remained in the same family ever since. It is cream color with grey trim, one and one-half stories, has a hipped or gable roof with 2 chimneys and gables facing west and north. The house at its original location on the northwest corner of Court and Church had roof cresting on all roof lines but now only has it over a three-bay front porch facing west on the corner. It originally had a balustraded deck over the metal-roofed oriel windows on the south and west sides to match that on the porch and steps. The porch has a lower roof line; the house has a brick foundation replacing the original wooden one; windows all show very strong Italianate influence, are high and narrow 1/1 double-hung sash. The single ones have triangular pediments; the double ones are oriel (as opposed to bay windows which technically should extend to the ground) and have extensive fine detailing. The house has a shiplap exterior with a vertical design closest to the roof on all sides, and a vertical design of wood over the windows too. There are intricately carved designs in the peaks of both gables. There is no garage.

continue on back if necessary

Recorded by Toni Salzmann Date 12/16/80

Sources consulted (continue on back if necessary): See attached page

Please enclose map. Township 7 ^N/_S ^E/_W Section 26

The house was built by George Collins and was bought a few years later by Dr. William H. Byrd. Its earliest listing in the Salem City Directory was in 1891 at 197 Court Street. Dr. Byrd had returned to Salem the previous year from New York City. It was moved to the present address in 1905. Dr. Byrd was born in 1854 at Fairfield, Marion County, the eldest of eight children of Lorenzo A. Byrd of Arkansas who had crossed the plains in 1846 and Martha C. Savage of Missouri. He trained in San Francisco, graduated from Willamette University in 1881, and did postgraduate work in New York City. He practiced in Salem for 46 years. He married Teresa Holderness of Washington in Salem in 1882, and following her death, Margaret Macrum in 1890. Dr. Byrd married again in 1918 - to Inez Cramer. There were three children: Winifred, Clarence & Donald. The house was given to Clarence as a wedding gift in 1921 and his daughter Martha (Blau) still lives there. A larger house which Dr. Byrd also built at 585 Court Street was moved to make way for a service station and is believed to have been demolished. Daughter Minifred was a singer of international renown.

Sources:

Oregon Statesman Daily Illustrated Annual, p. 33, publ. 1893.

Capital Journal, 2/4/29, p. 1 & 11

Oregon Statesman, 2/6/29, p. 5.

History of the Willamette Valley, by S.J. Clarke, Vol. 2, pp 200-201

Portraits and Biographies of the Willamette Valley, by _____, p. 297, publ. 1903.

"Old House of the Willamette Valley," Marion County History, Vol. 12, 1977-78.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM

NAME: _____

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: _____

132 William H. Byrd House (1887)

296 14th Street, NE; Assessor's Map 26BA 7-3W; Tax Lot 86010-100

Owner: Martha Byrd Blau, 296 14th Street, NE, Salem, OR 97301

Primary

NO.: _____ TAX LOT: _____ STYLE: _____
ADDITION: _____ BLDG. STRUC. DIST. SITE OBJ. (CIRCLE) _____
BLOCK: _____ LOT: _____ QUAD: _____ THEME: _____

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: _____ NO. OF STORIES: _____

FOUNDATION MATERIAL: _____ BASEMENT (Y/N): _____

ROOF FORM & MATERIALS: _____

WALL CONSTRUCTION: _____ STRUCTURAL FRAME: _____

PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: _____

EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: _____

DECORATIVE OTHER: _____

Description: This Queen Anne/Eastlake style house was built in 1887 at 197 Court (northwest corner of Court and Church) and moved to its present site, the southwest corner of 14th and Chemeketa Streets, in 1906 (Oregon Statesman, Jan. 1, 1907, p. 7). The cost of moving and "enlarging" the residence was \$750, according to the Statesman. It is a one-and-one-half-story structure with most of its Queen Anne/Eastlake details and patterns intact. The complex roof line incorporates a flat-topped, hipped roof that rises to a hipped peak toward the south and gives way to a front-facing (west) gabled bay and side-facing gables on the north and south. The south gable is capped by a hip. Two elaborate brick interior chimneys add to the variety of roof forms. In addition, the house originally had extensive roof cresting, now limited to the porch roof. Elaborate decorative woodwork ornaments the gables, windows (capped by finely carved pediments), and indeed most of the wall surfaces: the horizontal shiplap is varied with vertical boarding along the upper walls above the windows. An attached three-bay porch with a dropped roof faces west at the north corner. It is balustraded and columned with turned supports, with the columns bracketed at the top. The oriel windows on the south and west originally were crowned with balustraded second-story porches, now removed. There is a one-story shed addition at the rear.

Cultural Data: The house was built by George Collins and bought a few years later by Dr. William H. Byrd. He had been born in Marion County in 1854, the oldest of the eight children of Lorenzo A. and Martha (Savage) Byrd. Lorenzo Byrd crossed the plains in 1846 and settled on a donation land claim in the Waldo Hills. The homestead was purchased in 1850 by Dr. John Savage, who came to Oregon in 1850. His daughter Martha married Lorenzo Byrd in 1854.

SOURCES: _____

NEGATIVE NO.: _____

SLIDE NO.: _____

RECORDED BY: _____

DATE: _____

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: 525

ORIGINAL
COMMON NAME
ADDRESS
OWNER
TYPE
DATE

Their son William attended local schools, read medicine under the supervision of Salem doctors, studied medicine in San Francisco, and earned his M. D. at the Willamette University medical school in 1881. He practiced in Salem for nearly 50 years. He married Teresa Holderness of Salem in 1882, and they had a daughter, Winnifred, who became a prominent musician. After Mrs. Byrd's death, Dr. Byrd married Margaret Marcum in 1890 and had two sons, Clarence and Donald (Clarke, vol. 2, pp. 200-201; Hines, pp. 528-529, and Lockley, Oregon Journal, Aug. 11, 1926). Dr. Byrd purchased the lot on which this house stands in Watts Addition in 1905 (cf. commentary on #131) and moved the house to this site the next year. He bought adjoining lots to the south in the next few years and built the three Craftsman Bungalows now located there in about 1910 (cf. commentary on Nos. 133-135). He seems not to have lived in #132 after he moved it. It was given as a wedding gift to Clarence in 1921 and still is lived in by Clarence's daughter, Martha Byrd Blau. Dr. Byrd died in 1929 (obituaries, Capital Journal, Feb. 4, 1929, pp. 1 and 11, and Oregon Statesman, Feb. 5, 1929).



6 14th St NE, Salem, OR 97301

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44°56'17.89" N 123°01'23.28" W elev 181 ft

IN
St NE Salem



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Eye alt 184 ft