

STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY
HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS
State Historic Preservation Office
Oregon State Parks, Salem 97310

County Klamath
Theme 10-B
Name
(Common) Goeller (Fred) House
(Historic) (same)
Address 234 South Riverside Street
Klamath Falls, Oregon
Present Owner _____
Address _____
Original Use Residence
Date of Construction 1905



Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The Fred Goeller house is a two and one-half story, wood frame dwelling which stands on the west side of south Riverside Street in Klamath Falls, Oregon. This dwelling has a hip roof with dormers and a major gable on its east (front) elevation. The building is set on a brick foundation; many of the piers under the front verandah are enclosed with wood lattice. A verandah extends across the front elevation and has a balcony above with a small, five-sided balcony on the upper half story; there are thus three levels of front porches. The verandah and balconies are decorated with turned spindles and balls. The building's exterior is shiplap with imbricated shingling on the gable ends. The windows are one-over-one, double hung sash. The main entry has stained, leaded glass sidelights and transom.

Wallace Kay Huntington has referred to this house as having "the maximum conceivable decoration." He concluded that "the lightness of the web-like screens turn the house into a weightless fantasy--a Moorish confection."

Fred Goeller and his wife came to Klamath Falls in 1891 and Goeller purchased a half interest in a planing mill. The mill also manufactured sash, door, and furniture lines. Goeller constructed this house in 1905 and did most of the carpenter work.

continue on back if necessary

(over)

Recorded by Stephen Dow Beckham Date 7 Sept. 1976

For Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

Sources Consulted:

Please enclose map Township 38 N 9 W Section 32
Drain, Ore.: Oregon Society

Borgman, Isabelle. "The Goeller House,"
Oregon Historic Landmarks: Southern Oregon.
Daughters of the American Revolution, 1974,
pp. 59-60.

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The furnishings for this house was purchased in San Francisco in 1905. The fixtures and hardwood were hauled by mule team freight lines from Ager, California. Harry Goeller has given details about this house in his manuscript: "Harry Goeller's Recollections of the Building of the Goeller Mansion on Riverside Street in Klamath Falls, Oregon," in the files of the Klamath County Museum.

Sources:

Huntington, Wallace Kay. "Victorian Architecture." Vaughan, Thomas and Virginia Guest Ferriday, eds. Space, Style and Structure. Portland, Ore.: Oregon Historical Society, 1974, vol. 1, 296-297, photo.

"John Fred Goeller." An Illustrated History of Central Oregon. Spokane, Wash.: Western Historical Publishing Co., 1905, no. 1038-1039.

John F. Goeller was born in Winesburg, Ohio, on January 22, 1860. He was the son of John M. Goeller. In 1890 Goeller moved to California. An account of Goeller's house in 1905 noted:

"It is a ten room structure of modern architectural design, supplied with all the conveniences of the day. He has the house heated by a fine furnace, lighted by electricity and acetalene gas and everything bespeaks a man of ability and culture."

Goeller married Alice Sawyer in 1887.