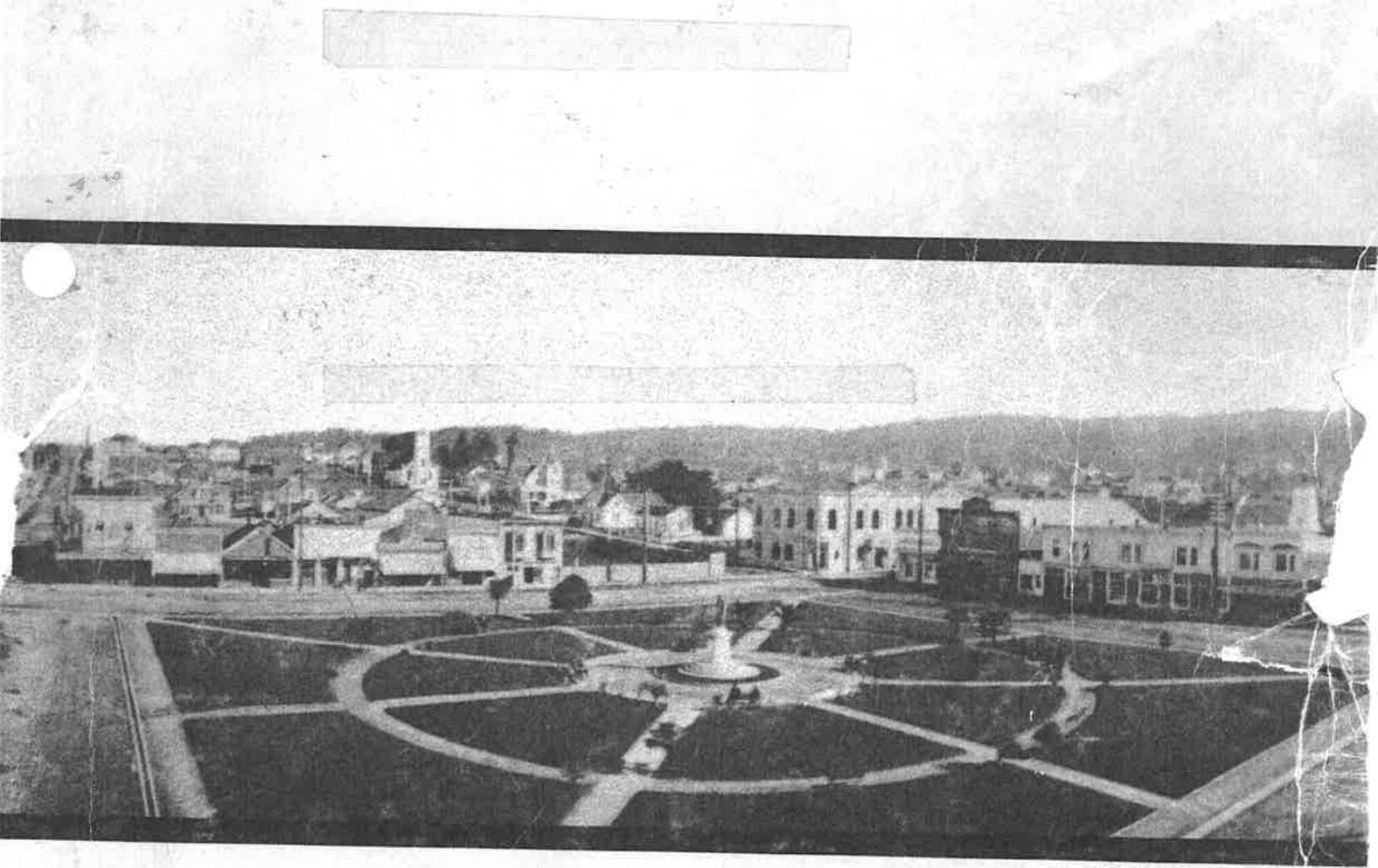


Reflections of Arcata's History: eighty years of architecture

Susie Van Kirk



Front cover: The Plaza, 1913. From Fifty Years of Progress, A. Brizard, Inc.

Designed and printed by Bug Press, Arcata, California.

Reflections of Arcata's History: eighty years of architecture

Susie Van Kirk
January 1979



The east side of the Plaza showing the Union Building, the Bull/Hunt-Taylor Building, and the Levy-Seidell/Park House. Circa 1920.

In the study of an architectural frontier there is no satisfactory substitute for the buildings themselves.

Harold Kirker, 1960



The Minor-Canclini Shop, Circa 1920's.

To Joe and Frances Fleming

Photographs by David Van de Mark.

Historic photographs prepared by Peter Palmquist.

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Preface

The reuse of the built environment has become not only desirable, but necessary. Preservation, in this context, has evolved as a viable approach to revitalizing our towns and cities.

The presence of the past can expand our understanding of who we are, where we have been, and where we might be going. The tangible presence of buildings and sites that speak of other people and other times are a form of history and enables us to chart some of the paths to the present and future. The styles, materials, and tastes of past inhabitants continue to supply alternatives to present choices and challenge the imagination to stimulate improvement.

Familiar landmarks establish a sense of permanence and well being. The psychological benefits of "feeling at home" are as real and as important as the educational or aesthetic values of historic preservation. Surviving cultural resources establishes that a town has had a life of its own. We think of our place as something important to us, as part of our meaning. A major cultural benefit is attachment to place.

Historic preservation is a reinvestment in neighborhoods often considered by many to be of little worth. A neighborhood perceived as having a limited future may attract blight and crime. The residents' interest in upkeep declines and their own sense of worth suffers. By stressing the positive aspects of the neighborhood rather than the negative, historic preservation becomes an agent of human renewal, building esteem instead of undermining pride. The social benefits are easy to see. People and districts considered to be problems become community resources instead.

Historic preservation planning makes for a better community by stressing positive community attributes. By providing assurance that the special sense of place will survive, the people are given reasons to commit their own future to the community.

Historic preservation awareness first grew in Arcata as a result of the 1972 City Council elections. Shortly thereafter the Historic Sites Society was formed. It was during this time that some of the basic data contained in this publication was first collected. After the Council elections of 1974, historic preservation planning was set as a community priority. In 1978, the City received a grant from the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, to compile this survey. The information contained herein will provide a data base for Arcata's historic preservation program.

Mark A. Leonard
City Planner

Abstracted from "Historic Preservation Element Guidelines," Office of Planning and Research, September, 1976.

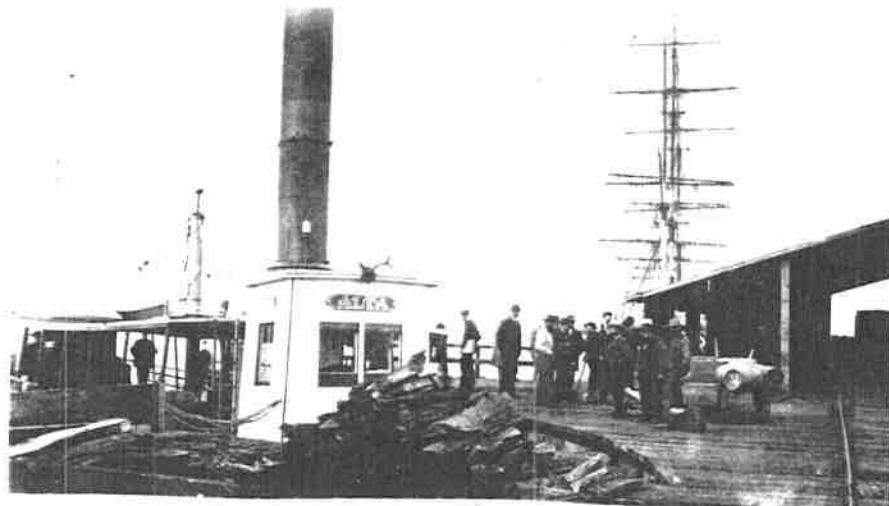
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The Brizard Store, from *History of Humboldt County California*, W.W. Elliott and Co., San Francisco, 1882.



The Arcata Wharf, Circa 1884.
Courtesy California State Library.

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The Humboldt Bay region belonged first to Algonquian people known as the Wiyot. Closely associated with the resources of the marine and freshwater environment where every settlement lay on a stream or bay, the Wiyot harvested the abundance that nature offered. And nature was abundant.

I must now tell you that the land is so beautiful and the soil so rich that I was almost fascinated with the scene, and if I could have you and Ginney and Rachel and our family with some of our valued friends, I could almost give up Erie. In addition to the good qualities of the land, the waters produce clams in abundance as well as fish; and geese, ducks, snipe, plover, etc. are about as numerous as wild pigeons at Erie in the spring. The wood is not less productive than the waters and droves of elk and deer, with a goodly number of bears, are always to be found.

(Daily Humboldt Standard, 21 April 1893)

So Captain Douglas Ottinger wrote his wife from the schooner *Laura Virginia* anchored in Humboldt Bay on April 20, 1850. Untouched by white civilization until that time, California's north coast remained a frontier of resource exploitation and settlement far into the twentieth century.

Like many other California communities, Arcata owes its birth to the discovery of gold whose seekers required settlements to serve their commercial needs. Mining camps on the Trinity river near Weaverville provided the initial impetus for settlement, when in 1850 the town of Union (renamed Arcata in 1860) began its life as a supplier of goods for hungry miners along the Trinity, Klamath and Salmon rivers. Built around a plaza, it was a settlement of frame buildings, stock corrals, and, depending on the season, mud or dust streets. A wharf with California's first railroad was constructed in 1855 to allow ocean-going ships to call at Union, where supplies were loaded on pack mules for transport to the mining districts.

Far more precious than the illusory wealth of gold, however, was the primeval forest of giant redwoods that covered alluvial flats and mountain ridges. By the 1870's immigrants were drawn to the region by timber, not gold, and the demographic profile took on a new dimension as the logging woods of New Brunswick and Maine gave up their workers to Humboldt's logging woods.

Arcata's first sawmill, built in 1853 in the gulch east of the Plaza, supplied early residents with materials for construction of dwellings and stores, but the big operations came later with lumber camps, mills, railroads, and a whole retinue of specialized workers. The resource was generous, providing a livelihood for many and great wealth for a few.

Agriculture also played a role in Arcata's development. Grains and potatoes were planted on surrounding farm lands, but the greatest sustained contribution came from the dairy industry. Arcata was the site of several creameries and skimming stations, the largest of which was the California Central Creameries Plant where the milk and butterfat from local herds were processed.

April 6, 1914 marked another milestone in the community's history with the opening of the Humboldt Normal School whose growth through the years has influenced, not only the growth of the community, but also the socio-economic makeup of its population.

The residential architecture of Arcata's first eighty years followed closely the patterns of history. The settlement period of mining, pack trains, and a budding logging industry roughly covered the years between 1850 and 1885 and its architecture was, for the most part, an expression of culture rather than architectural training. Victorian opulence made its appearance between 1885 and 1900 and corresponded with the prosperity of a full-blooming timber economy. Transition and experimentation in architecture introduced Arcata to the modern world during the first decade of the twentieth century. And the twenty years between 1910 and 1930, reflected in the Craftsman period of architecture, put Arcata in touch with the rest of California both physically and culturally by the completion of rail connections in 1914 and the Redwood Highway in the early 1920's, and the opening of what is now Humboldt State University.

Being a truly frontier community, isolated and rural, Arcata's architectural evolution lagged behind that of the eastern United States and even that of urban California where styles were generally ten to fifteen years ahead of those in the Humboldt Bay region. As a statement of Arcata's history, however, nothing is more accurate or more visible than its architecture. What follows is a survey of that history as recorded through eighty years of architecture.



Settlement-era houses in Arcata were built by immigrants who brought their past with them. Culturally-conservative, they were tied to the influences of New England and built recognizable house-types of English origin that were adapted to local circumstances. Generally the earliest houses were simple and straightforward, displaying the unadorned, classic lines of Greek Revival forms. Rooflines were gabled — sometimes front-facing, sometimes end gables, sometimes with center gables — but always gabled. Of medium to high pitch, the gable roof dominated Arcata architecture into the 1880's and it was only with the coming of Victorian lavishness that multiple rooflines made their appearance. Several distinctive forms, easily separated by their arrangement but bound by common characteristics, were built by Arcata pioneers during the first thirty years of settlement.

Front-facing Gable Although New England houses were generally of two stories, the majority of Humboldt County front-facing gables were one-and-a-half. Typically they had off-centered front doors with transoms and sidelights; open verandas supported by four thin posts, sometimes split; and 12-pane windows. Houses built prior to 1870 were covered with clapboard; houses after that date had a form of shiplap, either cove-rustic or v-rustic. Exterior moulding was limited to a plain frieze with end boards and narrow window shelves and sills.

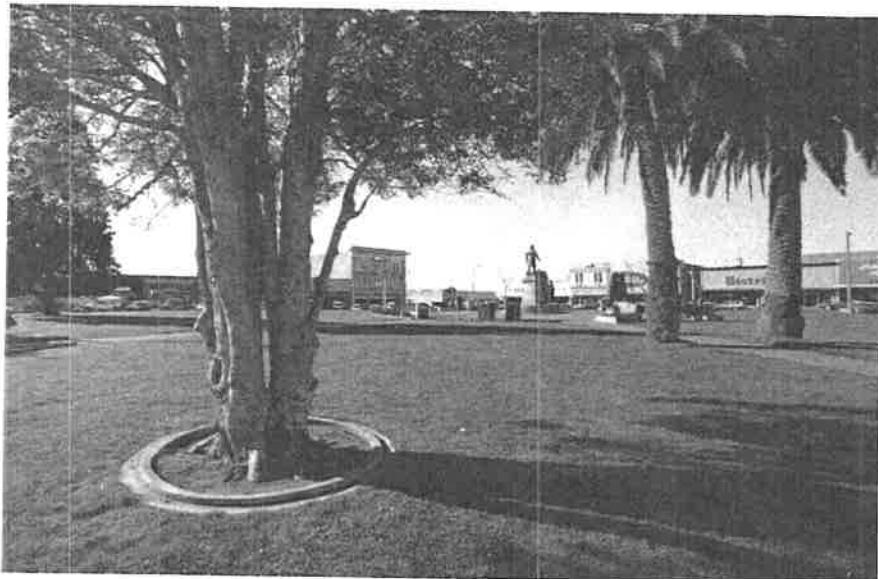
End Gable In New England, this house was rectangular in floor plan and facade, full two stories high, with doors and windows evenly spaced both vertically and horizontally. Known as a four-over-four because of its predictable floor plan, Arcata end gables had a front facade of three windows with a central entrance serving as the middle "window" of the ground floor.

Center Gable Where end-gable houses were constructed with only one-and-a-half stories, needed light for stairways and upper rooms was provided by a center window gable or a dormer or even a door with a balcony. Usually the returns on the gable ends were repeated on the center gable or dormer, situated above a simple, entrance stoop. As in the front-facing gable house, moulding was generally unadorned, although one center-gable house has modest cornice brackets. Transoms, sidelights, and both four and twelve pane windows were commonly found on center-gable houses.

Upright-and-Wing The basic form of the upright-and-wing, which originated in New England and spread across Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana during westward settlement, was a two-story, front-facing gable (the upright) with a one-story section at right angles (the wing). Generally the porches were attached to the wing, either with a separate roof or as an extension of the wing's roofline. Entrances were in either section or both, and Arcata upright-and-wings came unadorned or ornamented.

Gothic Revival Cottage Arcata's one Gothic Revival cottage is basically a center gable house, but the lattice-paned casements under pointed hoods and the lovely bargeboard ornamentation of the center gable transform it into a picturesque cottage of this romantic style.

THE PLAZA



Date 1850

Location Block 167 — AP# 21-107-01

Owner City of Arcata

Description One block bounded by "G" and "H" and 8th and 9th Streets; center of downtown business district; bounded on all four sides by sidewalks; central paved area with William McKinley statue facing west; radiating sidewalks from central area to each corner and to the middle edge of each side; flagpole in sidewalk running north from central area; W.C.T.U. drinking fountain in middle of west edge; brick and concrete flowerbed borders; brick, concrete, and wood benches around central area; two palm trees on either side of northeast corner sidewalk; evergreens, flowering trees, and flowers in season.

As the commercial and often social center of Arcata, the Plaza is of especial historical importance to the community. At the time of settlement by the thirty-member Union Company in April, 1850, designation of a public park, Block 167, seemed appropriate and later generations have always agreed. Called the Park or the Plaza, but never the Square, it is a "village green" encircled by Arcata's downtown business district.

Frame and tent residences, along with commercial structures, sprang up around the Plaza as the first arrivals settled in Union. Mule corrals, however, may have been more prevalent since the primary purpose of settlement was to supply the interior mining districts and only mules could negotiate the rugged mountain trails between Humboldt Bay and the mining camps on the Klamath, Trinity, and Salmon rivers.

The Wharf and its connecting railroad to the Plaza were completed in 1855. Transported over this first California railroad, supplies were delivered to the Plaza's commercial establishments from the steamers which called at the town's deep-water port. Thirty-or-more-mule packtrains, loaded and ready for the long trip inland, were a familiar sight on the Plaza in those early days.

Another familiar sight was the local livestock which ran loose and enjoyed grazing on the Plaza. Candidates for the town's Board of Trustees in 1901 ran on a pound-law issue as the community undertook a Plaza beautification project. Pound-law supporters were voted in; cows were voted out and the Plaza Improvement Committee set about raising money and making plans to beautify the Plaza. Among the first projects were the handsome little bandstand in the Plaza's center and a fine white-painted fence around its borders. A note in the *Arcata Union* of June 28, 1902 announced that "barriers" were coming down from around all the yards in town as the cows were banished from the streets.

In anticipation of the arrival of the McKinley statue, which was to replace the bandstand, the city planted palm trees on the Plaza in the spring of 1906. Arcata's best-known personality, the William McKinley statue, was commissioned by prominent Arcatan George Zehndner and cast in San Francisco under the direction of sculptor Heig Patigian. Despite San Francisco's earthquake and fire in April 1906, the bronze McKinley survived and upon its arrival in Arcata in May 1906, was hoisted to its present place of honor in the Plaza's center.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union drinking fountain at the west edge of the Plaza was built by local craftsman, James Davidson in 1912. The flagpole, benches, colorful flower gardens, evergreens, flowering trees, and towering palms are all part and parcel of the Plaza. In past years it was the site of parades and festivities as local fraternal organizations celebrated special occasions or the community went all out in the annual Fourth of July celebration. Today it is a place where people gather on sunny afternoons to eat lunch and visit. Craft fairs, sidewalk sales, high school rallies and parades, and lots of socializing take place on the Plaza — the focal point of Arcata's 129 year old history.

THE PHILLIPS HOUSE

5

Construction Date Estimated mid-1850's

Address 71 East 7th Street

Location AP# 503-202-01

Original Owner William E. Phillips

Interim Owners Brice M. Stokes (1869); Melvin P. Roberts (1888); Roberts heirs (1926); Brizard Matthews Machinery Co. (1959).

Present Owner Brizard Company

Description 1½ story, end-gable house with cornice returns; identical front and rear verandas with central entrances; transom over west door; 12-pane windows; clapboard siding; square veranda posts with simple capitals; addition on south; sits on corner of busy thoroughfares; some surrounding open space, but development threatens.



Perhaps the best remaining example of Greek Revival architecture in Arcata, the Phillips House, located at the corner of 7th and Union Streets, is of considerable architectural significance. The house style of simple classic elements is evident in the symmetry of the front and rear facades, the square veranda piers with simple capitals, and the return on the cornice at the gable ends. Notable features of early Humboldt County architecture are the 12-pane windows, divided transom over the front door, and the clapboard siding.

The house was built by a Massachusetts-born blacksmith named William E. Phillips who came to Humboldt County with his young wife in 1851. An exact date of construction could not be determined, but several references in the *Humboldt Times* in the 1850's indicate that Phillips was living in this vicinity. The Phillips barn near the Lindsey place across the road was mentioned in connection with a murder trial in October 1854, and an article dated August 9, 1856 noted that "The roof on the dwelling house of William E. Phillips, near town, caught fire on Saturday last..." Assessments for Phillips list improvements on his land as early as 1854, but there is no way to determine what these improvements on his land were or where they were located. It seems reasonable, however, based on architecture and the scant historical information available, that the house was built in the mid 1850's.

THE NIXON HOUSE

Construction Date 1858

Address 1022 10th Street

Location Block 210 — AP# 21-142-06

Original Owner James A. Kleiser

Interim Owners J.A.B. Faulkner (1859); A. Jacoby & James Michael (1860); William Nixon (1865); Nixon heirs (1913).

Present Owner Dan and Donna Hauser (1971)

Description 1½ story, steep-roofed end gable house; center gable with cutout bargeboard; diamond-paned casements open onto balcony under center gable; diamond-paned casement windows with shutters sheltered by gabled hoods; clapboard siding; one-story kitchen section at rear; concrete retaining wall on east; spacious well-kept lawn with a huge walnut tree.



Among the oldest and certainly the most distinctive houses of Arcata is the Gothic Revival cottage known as the Nixon House. Occupying spacious grounds highlighted by the beautiful, spreading walnut tree, the Nixon House is the only Arcata house of this romantic architecture, distinguished by the pointed hoods over the diamond-paned casement windows, the steep gable roof, and the center gable bargeboard over a picturesque entrance.

The history of this house goes back to 1858 when James A. Kleiser, pioneer Union merchant and Hoopa Valley grist mill owner, purchased two blocks of land from the Liscoms. Local redwood lumber was used in the construction of the house, but the diamond-paned windows and interior amenities — marble fireplaces and the newel post and banister for the entrance hall staircase — were shipped around the Horn from New York. Because the house was offered for sale within a year, it is possible the Kleiser family never occupied the house, built with such care and attention to detail.

For Sale — A Bargain

The new and superior dwelling house of James A. Kleiser in the town of Union with two blocks of ground, well stocked with fruit trees, convenient out buildings. In all respects a most desirable family residence. Terms low if applied for soon. For particulars apply to the subscriber.

H. W. Havens, Union

(*Northern Californian*, 14 Sept. 1859)

The property "together with the dwelling house and other erections and improvements thereon (growing crops excepted)" was sold within the week to Klamath County packer, J.A.B. Faulkner. A town tax sale the following March indicated Mr. Faulkner was delinquent with his tax payments and shortly afterwards the house and land passed into the hands of Union merchants A. Jacoby and James Michael.

In 1861 William Nixon assumed ownership for the price of 500 sacks of potatoes grown on the Nixon farm. Legal title to the property, however, didn't come to Nixon until 1865 when the Trustees of the Town of Arcata granted blocks 210 and 211 to William Nixon "being the occupant of said blocks and he having paid the sum of \$20 being the equal proportion of the expenses incurred in entering and surveying said town apportioned."

During the 110 years of Nixon family ownership, the house was home to at least four generations of Nixons — Sarah Nixon, wife of pioneer Isaac Nixon and mother of William; William and his wife Emily Slaughter; their children, Mable L., William L., Jessie E., Charles H., and Emily W.; and the

family of Charles H. and Fern Jackson Nixon, whose daughter Harriet Elizabeth Nixon Lubin sold the family home to the present owners in 1971.

Humboldt Times, 25 Nov. 1854.

Northern California, 15 Dec. 1858, 14 Sept. 1859, 7 March 1860. Susie Baker Fountain Notebooks, Vol. 7. Deed and Assessment Records.

THE LINDSEY HOUSE

7

Construction Date c. 1851

Address 55 7th Street

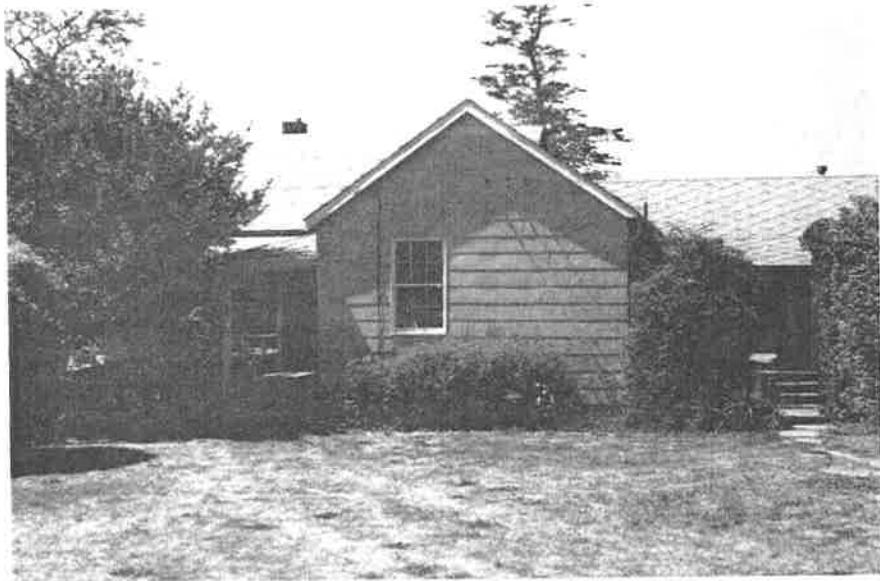
Location AP# 503-151-24

Original Owner Findley Lindsey

Interim Owners William Lindsey, son; William L. & Jennie Quear; Eva Quear Hunt (1939).

Present Owner V. Everett Hunt (1970).

Description One story; gable roofline; porch; additions; 12-pane windows; sits far back from street and is almost hidden by bushes and trees.



Although considerably altered from its original state, the Lindsey House is included in this survey because of its long association with a pioneer family whose descendants still reside in Arcata and because a construction date of c. 1851 could mean the house is the oldest remaining structure in town.

Findley Lindsey, a homeopathic doctor from Indiana, brought his wife and three young children to California by ox-drawn wagon in the summer of 1849. He served as the wagon master during the trip and, aided by his wife Rebecca, tended to the medical needs of the travelers. Arriving in Union in June 1850, the Lindseys were among the first families to settle the newly-discovered Humboldt Bay region. A claim was taken on 160 acres across the gulch to the east of town and it was here that Lindsey built his house, now hidden from street view by trees and bushes. An avid horticulturist, Lindsey was well known for his orchards at the home place where he was buried in March 1885.

Twelve Lindsey grandchildren, born to their daughter Sarah Jane and her husband John Preston, have children still living in the town settled by their forebears over 125 years ago. The old home place was occupied by family members — son William and his wife Sarah Harvey, and daughter Sarah Jane Preston (Bates) and her son Charles — until 1932.

Arcata Union, 9 Nov. 1916; 28 July 1921.
Daily Humboldt Standard, 5 March 1885.
Fountain, Susie Baker. *Settlement of the Humboldt Bay Region*.
Estelle Preston McDowell, personal communication, 26 Nov. 1978.
Deed Records.

THE WHALEY HOUSE



This simple Greek Revival cottage, built by John A. Whaley before his marriage to Emily Southard of Boston in July 1855, was originally located in the middle of the block on the north side of 14th Street between "I" and "J" Streets. A native of New York state, John Whaley was born in 1817 and arrived in Arcata, then Union, in the early 1850's. Over the years he worked as a butcher, owner of a harness and saddlery shop and during the 1880's was a Justice of the Peace, Town Recorder, conveyancer and general business agent. There were four Whaley children — John A., Jr.; William D.; Mattie; and Emma — only one of whom survived the father who died in 1888, none surviving the mother whose death occurred in 1911 at Hollister, California.

In 1903 Charles Hill purchased the house and moved it to its present location where it remained in family ownership until the Hill's granddaughter Mrs. Meta (Julius) Moore sold it in 1964.

Construction Date 1855

Address 1395 "H" Street

Location Block 273 — AP# 21-093-04

Original Owner John A. Whaley

Original Location North side 14th between "I" and "J"

Interim Owners Walter J. Wiley (1899); Charles W. & Mary M. Hill (1903); Henry Edmond Hill, son, (1935); Nellie H. Wilson & Elizabeth Smith, heirs, (1943); Meta M. Moore, daughter of Elizabeth Smith (1944); Glen W. & Myrtle Sahacht (1964).

Present Owner Marvin A. Richards (1974)

Description 1½ story, front-facing gable with returns; veranda with 4 posts on piers (not original); off-centered front door; two, 6-pane casements in upper story, probably opened onto balcony originally; two, 8-pane casements on veranda; clapboard siding; 12-pane windows on side; rear one-story section: side slant bays (not original); picket fence; side yard with plantings and old orchard trees; sits on corner of busy thoroughfares.

THE SELVAGE HOUSE

9

Construction Date c. 1874-75

Address 609 "J" Street

Location Block 130 — AP# 21-162-11

Original Owner Leonard Selvage

Interim Owners George Cecil Selvage, son, (1911); Selvage heirs (1923); O. and Fidalma Fanunchi (1929); Elio Fanunchi (1965); Carl Marchetti, Ralph Goddi, William Atkins (1972).

Present Owner Alexandra and Victor B. Fairless (1973).

Description 1½ story, front-facing gable; veranda with three posts decorated with modest cut-out brackets; 12-pane windows; off-centered front door with divided transom and sidelights; shiplap siding; one-story kitchen section at rear; picket fence; two large conifers in front yard; corner lot.



A beautiful example of the popular Humboldt Bay house of the 1870's, the Selvage House was boarded-up and waiting for demolition when it was purchased and restored by the present owners in 1973. The simple, classic lines of this house with its short, steep-pitched roof, are highlighted by the divided transom and sidelights around the front door and the modest cut-out brackets on the veranda posts. Interior renovation retained the character of the house right down to the wood-burning heating stove.

Built about 1874-75 by Leonard Selvage, the house remained in the Selvage family until 1929. Patrick Leonard Selvage, born in Nova Scotia in 1832, was married to Annie A. Bailey in New Brunswick before they came to California in the early 1870's. There were six Selvage children: Mrs. Allie (James) Gillis; Mrs. Vashti (W.H.) Kline; Mrs. Mary (James) Kirk; George Cecil Selvage; Charles Selvage; and Thomas H. Selvage, who was a well-known attorney and judge.

THE PACKER'S HOUSE

Construction Date estimated prior to 1873

Address 630 11th Street

Location Block 235 — AP# 21-088-03

Original Owner Unknown

Property Ownership H.D. Ley (1859); Anna Haven (Conte) (homestead, 1860's); Sacramento Moreno (1873); Thomas and Wm. Morgan (1886); Wm. Morgan heirs (1905); Nora Noe (1921); Cora Hunt Taylor (1923).

Present Owner The First Presbyterian Church of Arcata (1975).

Description 1½ story, front-facing gable; veranda with four split posts; off-centered front door with transom; 12-pane windows; shiplap siding; one-story cottage at rear; retaining wall and steps from street; large corner lot with flowers and blackberry bushes.



Surrounded by the flowers and planting of past years, this handsome classic house enjoys the space of its original quarter block of land and survives unaltered on the exterior. One of only two Arcata houses to retain the beautiful split veranda posts, the Packer's House displays all the architectural features of this popular settlement style.

Named for a Mexican packer with the splendid name of Sacramento Moreno, the house is estimated to have been built in the 1870's although a house known as Prospect Cottage was on the property as early as 1859. Perhaps it was the same house, or the one-story rear cottage or an entirely different house — there is no way of knowing. In partnership with A. Brizard, who owned the town's large mercantile store, Sacramento Moreno packed supplies to the company's branch stores throughout the mining districts on the Klamath and Trinity Rivers during the 1870's and 1880's. The importance of mules to the local, packing-trade economy is illustrated by the \$2800 assessment listed for the Brizard-Moreno, 70-mule pack train in 1875.

Long-time residents of the Packer's House were Andrew Jackson Taylor and his wife Cora, daughter of pioneer rancher, Albert N. Hunt. A local businessman for many years, Mr. Taylor ran a cash and carry grocery in the Minor Building during the early 1920's and later owned a newsstand/ice cream shop on the Plaza.

THE CROGHAN HOUSE

11

Construction Date c. 1876-77

Address 628 9th Street

Location Block 195 — AP# 21-058-04

Original Owner Bartholomew Croghan

Interim Owners Croghan heirs—Ellen, widow, & children, Mary Conry, Zeta, Louisa and Bertha Croghan (1917); Mother Bernard Gosselin (1918); Albert & Ellen Heningen (1920); Ellen J. Walter (1940); Horace Walter (1944); Archer B. Dorman (1944); Dorman heirs (1974).

Present Owner Lucy Stokes (1975)

Description 1½ story, front-facing gable; off-centered front door; 12-pane windows; veranda with wall pier and posts; veranda partially glassed-in; transom over front door; shiplap siding; rear one-story section; low cement retaining wall with steps; narrow lot with plantings.



Another well-preserved example of the front-facing gable, settlement-era house is the Croghan House, the middle one in a row of three located across from Arcata's fire station. The house on the west is hidden by a store-front addition and the one to the east has undergone alterations as a result of past remodeling and reconstruction after a recent fire. The Croghan House, however, remains architecturally intact, although some changes are noted. The front door is a replacement, the original split veranda posts have been removed, and the veranda is partially glassed-in, but the classic lines and 12-pane windows survive.

Despite their age these houses were not the first ones built in this row. The 1857 Kuchel and Dresel lithograph of Arcata includes the houses of Walter Van Dyke and Austin Wiley, editors of the *Humboldt Times*, which was published in Union (Arcata) at that time. Van Dyke was a successful attorney who went on to become Justice of the California Supreme Court. In 1886 his associate, Austin Wiley, established the *Arcata Union*, later managed by his sons for many years. These houses, along with a major part of Arcata's business district on the north and east sides of the Plaza were destroyed by fire on the night of July 9, 1875. George H. Tilley rebuilt, erecting the house on the east in the fall of 1875. The house on the west, built by Thomas Brett about 1878, was moved from "G" Street in 1896 when the Arcata City Hall, located at the southwest corner of the block, was under construction.

THE TRUESDELL HOUSE



Construction Date c. 1876

Address 494 "H" Street

Location Block 87 — AP# 21-112-03

Original Owner Joseph Gingery

Interim Owners Matilda H. Truesdell (1880);
Ernest S. Truesdell (1905).

Present Owner Herbert T. Truesdell

Description 1½ story, front-facing gable with returns; 12-pane windows; veranda with four posts; off-centered front door with transom; center upper-story door; shiplap siding; addition on north side; attached rear garage; back yard with old orchard trees.

The upper-story door and flat-roofed porch surely indicate that double galleries with decorative balustrades were once part of this classic little house. The Kuchel and Dresel Lithograph of Arcata in 1857 includes several Greek Revival cottages sporting French doors and delicate upper and lower story balustrades. It was during the first twenty years after the gold rush that Greek Revival cottages of this type were being built in California with Arcata continuing such architecture through the 1870's.

Built by Joseph Gingery in 1876, this house passed into the Truesdell family when Matilda Truesdell purchased the property in 1880, a year after the death of her husband Lucius. Born Matilda Henderson in Pennsylvania in 1842, Mrs. Truesdell was married in 1859, immigrating to Eldorado County, California where Lucius tried his luck in the Pilot Hill mines. Four Truesdell children were born there before the family moved to Humboldt County where three more children joined the family. Mrs. Truesdell lived in this "H" Street house until her death in 1923.

THE SOBOL-ROSSI HOUSE

13

Construction Date c. 1874

Address 1226 "B" Street

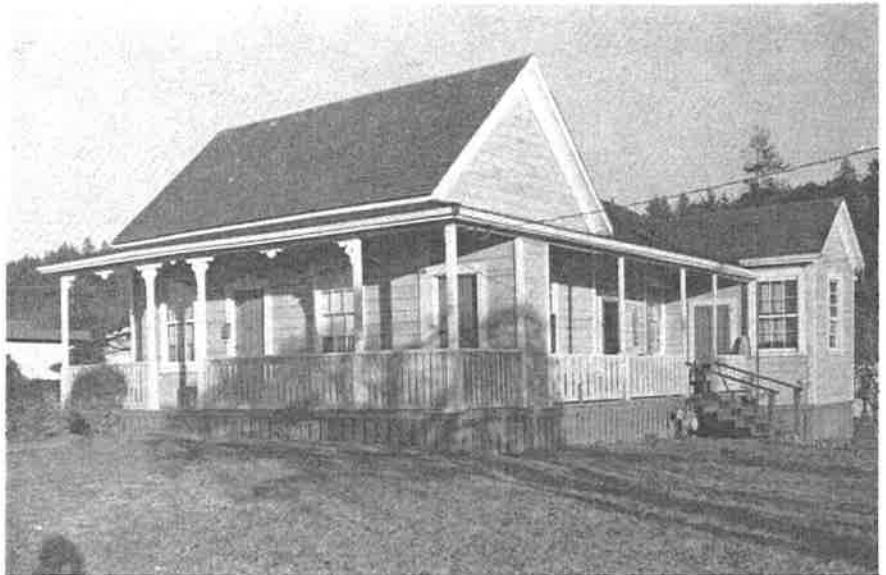
Location Block 241 — AP# 21-067-06

Original Owner David H. Tower

Interim Owners Schuyler Clark (1875); Maria Beacom (1886); H. Gorlich & Charles Grotzman (1890); Thomas Longmore (1902); Kate Merrithew (1903); Nellie Scribner (1903); George and Bessie Sobol (1906).

Present Owner Henry Rossi and Eva Sobol.

Description One story, end gable with other gables at side and rear; veranda across front and south side; 12-pane windows; cutout brackets and decoration on veranda; large yard with fruit trees, garden and chicken sheds.



Built about 1874 by David H. Tower, this little settlers cabin recalls that earlier era with its twelve-pane windows and decorative porch brackets. Old chicken sheds, fruit trees and a garden spot add to the setting of this East Arcata house which occupies a large corner lot above Campbell Creek.

For the past seventy-two years, the Sobol-Rossi family has occupied the house which was purchased by Bessie and George Sobol shortly after their marriage in 1906. Mrs. Sobol came to this country from Italy as a young woman and was first married to Dominico Rossi who ran a store on the north side of the Plaza. After his death in 1906, the young widow with two small children married Austrian-born George Sobol and three children were born to the couple. An employee of Devlin Tanning Company, Mr. Sobol died of pneumonia in 1912 and, in addition to his young family, was survived by brothers Martin and Nicholas Sobol of Arcata. Today daughter Eva Sobol and son Henry Rossi reside in the old family home.

THE CHAPMAN HOUSE



Construction Date Side cottage, 1874; main house, 1876.

Address 974 10th Street

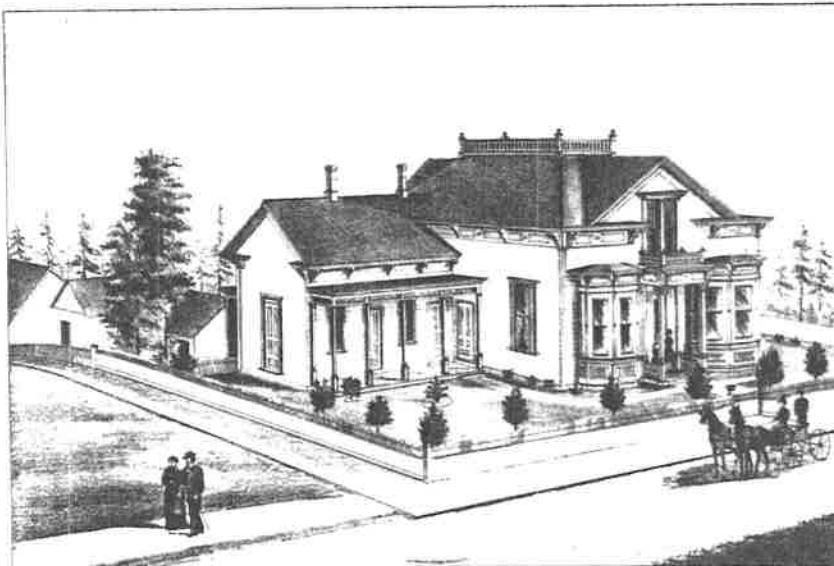
Location Block 209 — AP# 21-142-15

Original Owner H.S. Daniels

Interim Owners Thomas Bair (1880); Elizabeth Burroughs Chapman (1883); Edward Huntington Chapman and Juliette Chapman Cropley (1923); Juliette Chapman Cropley (1951).

Present Owner Doris Elizabeth Cropley Richey, granddaughter of Elizabeth and John Chapman (1961).

Description 1½ story Italianate with truncated hip roof and front pediment; recessed entry with transom; pillared, flat-roof stoop; paired slant bays with bracketed cornice and colonnettes; house cornice with brackets, dentils, and decorative detail; side cottage with veranda; sits above street level; concrete retaining wall; plantings, trees, and old orchard.



The Chapman House from *The History of Humboldt County, California*, W.W. Elliott and Co., San Francisco, 1882.

The Chapman House is basically Italianate architecture with bracketed bays, colonnettes, and a truncated hip roof which once supported a captain's walk. At the time of its construction in 1876, the editor of the *Humboldt Times* called it "the finest there is in this section and probably there is no dwelling in the county that will compare with it in appearance." Truly something unique during a period of classic-style architecture, the house has survived the intervening years with little alteration and looks much as it did in Elliott's 1882 lithograph of the Thomas Bair residence.

Seven years after construction the house was purchased by Elizabeth Burroughs Chapman, a native of Port Orford, Oregon, who was married to John Grinnell Chapman, II in 1872. Mr. Chapman, born in New York in 1832, was a California forty-niner who, unlike most forty-niners, continued an association with mining until his retirement in 1901. Coming to Humboldt County in 1852, he opened a mercantile store on the Salmon River and ran a pack train between Union and the mining districts. In the early 1870's he became superintendent of the mine at Gold Bluff Beach.

The Chapmans had four children: Edward H., Elizabeth, John G., and Juliette, whose daughter, Doris Elizabeth Richey, and her husband, Roy, presently occupy the family home.

Weekly Humboldt Times, 12 August 1876.

Elliott, W.W. 1882. *History of Humboldt County California*. W.W. Elliott and Co., San Francisco.

Fountain, Susie Baker. *Notebooks*, Vol. 9, H.S.U. Library.

Doris Elizabeth Richey, personal communication, 6 Nov. 1978.
Deed Records.

THE CULLBERG HOUSE

15

Construction Date 1862

Address 1452 "I" Street

Location Block 288 — AP# 21-094-02

Original Owner Isaac Cullberg

Interim Owners Isaac Cullberg, nephew (1900); George Zehndner (c. 1915); Wilhelmina Zehndner, widow (1919); Olaf and Matilda Ekenberg (1920).

Present Owner John L. and Avelina Mateus (1962).

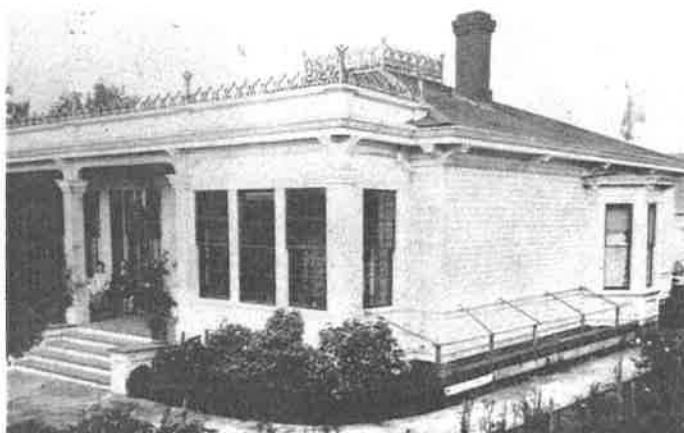
Description One-story; low pyramidal roofline in front with low gable at rear; brackets on cornice; clapboard siding; large, 8 pane windows; slant bays on sides; exterior chimneys; recessed entry with fanlight; porch with large pillars and lattice work; side yard on west with palm tree; newer houses built in front of house.



An unusual version of the Italianate style, the Cullberg House, which once enjoyed the space of an entire block, was completed in 1862 for Swedish immigrant Isaac Cullberg. Son of a sea captain, Cullberg came to Union in the early 1850's and established a mercantile business on the west side of the Plaza. Other business dealings included his partnership with Isaac Minor and James Kirk in the Warren Creek Mill and his interest in the Home Savings Bank. In 1900 ownership of the house passed to Cullberg's nephew and his wife Hulda, whose daughters Ebba and Asta enjoyed their childhood in the spacious old home.

The younger Isaac Cullberg, also a native of Sweden, began working in his uncle's Warren Creek mill shortly after his arrival in Arcata in 1885. After nine years working for both his uncle and Isaac Minor, Cullberg, in partnership with four other men, opened a shingle mill at "K" and 8th Streets in Arcata where the first shingles were produced in April 1894. Known as the Humboldt Manufacturing Company, the firm also had a mercantile store on the west side of the Plaza. In 1895, in response to a growing demand among local residents for electricity, Cullberg and his partners invested in a Westinghouse electrical plant, which produced electricity with steam generated by the mill's waste fires. In April 1895, Arcatans enjoyed their first electric lights. After a 1915 fire destroyed the shingle mill, Mr. Cullberg had a car dealership in Eureka for several years before opening a real estate office which he ran for nearly forty years. Isaac Cullberg, an active participant in Arcata's history for seventy-six years, died in 1961 at the age of 94.

The house is an unusual architecture for Humboldt County and is, in fact, the only one of its kind remaining in Arcata. Built at a time when classic-style front-facing gable houses were the rule, the Cullberg House is an exception with its low, spreading pyramidal roofline, one-story size, and lattice and pillared porch. Particularly notable are the large eight-pane windows, the small cornice brackets, and the elegant recessed entry with a handsome fanlight above.



The Cullberg House prior to 1900.

THE GRAHAM-McDONALD HOUSE



Construction Date 1884

Address 1020 "C" Street

Location Block 202 — AP# 21-076-07

Original Location Northwest corner 10th and "D" Streets

Original Owner George and William Boscow

Interim Owners W. J. Swortzel & George Williams (1890); J. H. Davis (1892); Windelin Ehreiser (1892); Martha J. Martin (1899); Frank Graham (1902); Norman Graham (1924); Seely and Titlow Co. (1930); Addie L. Hill McDonald (1952); State of California (1969).

Present Owner Graham Misbach (1971)

Description Two-story, end-gable with returns; cornice brackets; central door with transom; added colonial porch; shiplap siding; rear addition.

A typical New England style house sometimes called a four-over-four, the Graham-McDonald house was moved in 1971 by Graham Misbach from its original location at the northwest corner of 10th and "D" Streets. The basic house type is evident despite the added window shutters and the columned porch which was built in 1906 when colonial porches were in vogue in Arcata.

Notice of construction was carried in the *Daily Humboldt Standard* of April 24, 1884:

Our enterprising citizens George Boscow and son are doing a good deal toward the improvement of the eastern portion of Arcata heretofore called Stump Town. They have erected a large and commodious two-story frame on block 204 on the eastern side of Tracy's gulch.

The article continued that the Boscows had removed the "king stump" of stump town and along with others had built a foot bridge on 10th Street across the gulch. The people of the area wanted it known that they no longer lived in Stump Town but in East Arcata.

Purchased by Frank Graham for members of his family, the house was owned by a son, a daughter, and a granddaughter before it was bought by the State for freeway expansion.

THE SENEVEY-MENESEE HOUSE

17

Construction Date estimated mid 1880's

Address 513 "I" Street

Location Block 112 — AP# 21-166-06

Original Owner Margaret Senevey

Interim Owners Denise Menefee, daughter (1886); Frank A. Smith (1913); Charles Baird (1913); Esther Baird, widow (1931); Mary Esther Baird (1939); A. A. and Myrtle Frazier (1946).

Present Owner Myrtle Frazier (1953)

Description Two-story, end-gable house with returns; four-pane windows; center entrance with decorated stoop; rear one-story section with porches on both south and north; one 12-pane window remains; added stationary window shutters.



Confusing assessment records for Block 112 make it difficult to determine construction date for this house, but because of its similarity to another end-gable, four-over-four type house, built in 1884, an estimated date of the mid-1880's is given. If this date is correct, original ownership would belong to Margaret Senevey, who settled in Arcata with her husband Joseph, about 1876. Natives of France, the Seneveys purchased the entire block from John Lessard in 1877 and it is possible that the one-story rear section was on the property at that time.

The Senevey daughter, Denise Menefee, wife of Arcata postmaster James Menefee, was given the house and the south half of the block in 1886, although her mother continued to carry the property on the assessment rolls until 1890. Joseph and Margaret Senevey lived in another house on the northeast corner of the block until their deaths in October 1896.

The house is a good representative of the New England style house of two full stories with an end gable arrangement. Notable is the entrance stoop because of its cutout brackets and symbolic sawn ornamentation.

THE HOLLAND HOUSE



Construction Date Original house, c. 1888; remodeled, 1907.

Address 890 15th Street

Location Block 313 — AP# 20-098-06

Original Owner Flora E. Holland

Interim Owners Irene Leona Holland; Noah H. Falk (1907); Robert Roberts (1920); Robert W. and Meta Matthews (1924); Ralph C. and Jane Davis (1944); Ruth Eversole (1953).

Present Owner Gayle W. and Rosemary Melendy (1971).

Description Two-story, end-gable house; gables are pediments; shingles in pediments; center door with transom; two slant bays under angled porch roof; porch columns and balustrade; little pediment on porch roof; rear section with dormer; detached garage.

Contractor Carpenters Collins and Hill did remodeling work in 1907.

Carpenters Collins and Hill started work this week on the old Holland home on the corner of 15th and I, now owned by N. H. Falk and the house will be completely remodeled and renovated throughout. An octagon porch, which is something new in Arcata, will be built on the front of the house and will contain two bay windows. The upstairs portion will be made over and the house will be painted and papered throughout...

(Arcata Union, 24 August 1907)

Although remodeled with early twentieth century features, the Holland house is a good example of the basic "I" house-type. Looking very much like the standard New England four-over-four, except that it is only one room deep instead of two, its ancestry is English. A popular house of the Middle Atlantic and upper South, it found limited application in Humboldt County and was generally of the one-and-a-half story, center-gable type rather than the purer two-story form of this house.

THE MARONICH HOUSE



Construction Date Original two rooms, c. 1889; present house, c. 1905.

Address 87 East 12th Street

Location Block G of Union Addition — AP# 20-026-02

Original Owner Joseph Maronich

Interim Owners Frank, Joseph and John Maronich, sons.

Present Owner Peter and Ursula Palmquist (1973).

Description 1½ story, end-gable house with pediments; four-pane windows; dentils; center door with two arched panes; porch with turned posts, fancy cutouts around top, and spool-and-spindle decoration; basement; wood stake fence with archway entrance and hedge; old orchard trees.

This East Arcata house, originally constructed in 1889 and enlarged about 1905, has classic end-gable pediments and a richly-ornamented porch with fancy cutouts and spool-and-spindle decoration. The old orchard trees and the entrance archway/hedge add to the character of the old home place, which belonged to the Maronich family for eighty-four years.

A native of Yugoslavia, Joseph Maronich came to Arcata on the advice of local resident Cosmo Stiglich, who encouraged his friend to join the growing Slavic community employed in Humboldt's logging woods. Maronich purchased several fractional blocks in East Arcata from the Union Water Company in 1889 and built a two-room house. A bride from the old country was sent for and as the family grew, so did the house. In 1905 local carpenter, J. R. Collins, raised the house in order to build a basement and it was probably at this time that the present house was constructed. The Maronich sons, Frank, Joseph and John, inherited the house in later years and after John's death in 1973, the house passed from family ownership.



The Maronich House, Circa 1891.

THE BEACOM HOUSE

19

Construction Date c. 1889-1890

Address 68 East 12th Street

Location Fractional Block F in the
Union Addition AP# 20-021-10

Original Owner Robert Beacom

Interim Owners May Rivet, Beacom heir (1930);
Charles E. & Bessie M. Gregory
(1936); Gottfried Roth (1942);
Joseph C. & Marie Hays (1947);
B. F. & Pearl McCombs (1950);
Homer B. & Geraldine Tolley
(1954); Willard & Elyzabeth
Pratt (1963).

Present Owner Robert C. and Anne E. Bur-
roughs (1973)

Description 1½ story, end-gable with re-
turns; slope-roofed veranda
with four posts; center door of
15 panes; 4-pane windows; ship-
lap siding; rear addition; plant-
ings and orchard trees.



A one-and-a-half story, end-gable house with open veranda across the front, the Beacom house was among the first built in the Union Addition of Arcata after it was opened for development. In January 1889, the Union Water Company, organized in 1883 to supply water to local residents, subdivided the Union Addition covering the area between 11th and 19th Streets and "A" and Bayview. Robert Beacom purchased his lot in July and built this handsome little New England style Cape Cod cottage for his wife Elizabeth and their children, who eventually numbered seven. Lacking the center gable or dormer often added to maximize the utility of upstairs space, the Beacom house is a good example of this popular New England architecture.

THE TRASK-GASTMAN HOUSE / HUMBOLDT MACHINE WORKS

21

Construction Date c. 1864

Address 10th and "I" Streets

Location Block 192 — AP# 21-144-02

Original Owner George W. Redman

Interim Owners Nancy J. Wood (1870); Albert D. Trask (1871); Effie Gastman, daughter (1897); F. J. Macey (1920).

Present Owner George F. Hitt (1938)

Description Large 1½ story, end-gable with returns; center gable with door; stoop with chamfered posts; front door with divided transom; four-pane windows; frieze and end boards; rear one-story section with 12-pane windows; machine shop to side and rear.



The Trask-Gastman House is a good example of the center gable house of one-and-a-half stories. The door in the center gable and the height of the upper story might mean a balcony once extended across the front of the house, but today only a stoop covers the front entrance.

Exact date of construction was not easily determined although assessment records for the property go back to 1859 when it was listed under the name of George Redman, a blacksmith who settled here in the early 1850's. Improvements of \$100 to \$175 appear up to 1865 when a figure of \$350 is listed. Even as late as 1905, some forty years later, improvements for the property were valued at only \$400. The rear one-story section of 12-pane windows appears older than the main house and could represent the early improvements. The jump to \$350 in 1865 could indicate construction of the large house.

The house was in Trask-Gastman family ownership for nearly fifty years. Albert Trask, a native of Maine and early resident of Arcata, purchased the house in 1871 and lived there until his death in 1911. His daughter, Effie Gastman, and her husband, A. L. Gastman, owned the house until it was purchased by F. J. Macey of Smith River in 1920.

In 1921 Macey opened a Ford Garage, built for him by Nelson B. Johansen, at the rear of the house. He and his son-in-law, Harold Collins, ran the garage and both families occupied the house. Since 1938 the house and garage have been part of the Humboldt Machine Works, owned by George Hitt.



THE SEAVER HOUSE

Construction Date c. 1886

Address 120 13th Street

Location Block 280 — AP# 21-062-05

Original Owner Daniel Seaver

Interim Owners Annie Seaver, widow (1901); Allen Seaver, son (1924); Nora Seaver Harpst (1941); John W. and Rubie Short (1945); Walker and Alice Sherrick (1947); Charles H. and Emma Thompson (1950); Harold and Amy Fisher (1954); Burdette and Viola Barnes (1956).

Present Owner Viola Barnes (1964)

Description 1½ story, end-gable house with center gable; center door flanked by square bays; front door with two narrow arched panes of glass; panels below bay windows; small pedimented stoop over front door; rear addition used as apartment; old post and wire fence; large trees.

The Seaver house is a center-gable house with paired square bays and a pedimented stoop over the front entrance. Being only one room wide, it could be called an "I" house — a colonial house-type of folk origins — but with an added center gable for upstairs light and space.

Located on the block to the north, the first Seaver House may have been moved and incorporated into this house with first improvements for this block appearing in the 1887 assessment. Vermont-born Daniel Seaver came to Arcata in 1873. He and his wife Annie had three children: Nora, who married Charles I. Harpst; Allen, a long-time employee of the Northern Redwood Lumber Company; and Lottie, who married into the neighboring Buck family. The house remained in family ownership for fifty-five years until Nora Harpst sold it in 1941.

THE MARSH-SCOTT-LOGAN HOUSE

23

Construction Date 1876

Address 889 6th Street

Location Block 113 — AP# 21-165-01

Original Owner Henry W. Marsh

Interim Owners Henry P. Scott (1887); Scott heirs (1919).

Present Owner Mrs. Inga Logan (1947)

Description 2½ story, end-gable with center gable; cornice returns; center entrance with balcony; bracketed shelf over balcony door; Palladian window in center gable; four-pane windows; door with two long arched panes of glass; transom; east side rear porch with lattice work; picket fence; beautiful flowers and yard.



This lovely old home was built in 1876 by Dr. Henry Marsh as a hotel and health spa. The immaculate interior, antique furnishings and carefully-tended flower gardens add to the charm of the delicate Palladian window and stoop balcony. The wedge-shaped yard is modern evidence that, bordering the lot on the east, the railroad once ran out to Arcata's deep water wharf built in 1855. A visit to the Marsh House by the editor of the *Democratic Standard* in 1877 resulted in the following:

We visited this quiet and nicely located hotel and water-cure house a few days ago for the purpose of taking a good steam bath, which we succeeded in getting and were shown through the house by the gentlemanly landlord Dr. H. W. Marsh. This is a fine two story and a half house, situated two blocks south of the Plaza and near the Union Wharf Company's railroad, containing eighteen rooms — 12 bed, 1 sitting, 1 parlor, 3 baths, and 1 large diningroom which is presided over by Mrs. Marsh. The bath rooms are handily arranged. The Doctor is prepared to administer 10-12 different kinds of baths including Turkish, Russian, steam, spirit, medicated and many others...Strangers visiting Arcata should not go away without giving this house at least one visit and try the baths.

(Democratic Standard, 17 Nov. 1877)

Sold to Henry Scott, a native of Germany who arrived in California at the time of the Gold Rush, the house was run as a hotel and served as the family home for many years. In 1947 Larry and Inga Logan purchased the house, where Mrs. Logan, a warm and delightful lady, still resides.

Humboldt Times, 29 July 1876.
Democratic Standard, 17 Nov. 1877.
Arcata Union, 21 April 1906.
Deed Records.

THE DILLON HOUSE



Construction Date 1886

Address 388 11th Street

Location Block 238 — AP# 21-085-07

Original Owner John R. Dillon

Interim Owners Dillon heirs (1905, 1911, 1937, 1938); Michael Cipor (1939); Violet Davis; Peter Alberti (1943); Richard and Gladys Bruce (1945); Grace J. Baxter (1946); James & Pauline McCarroll (1948); John & Dorothy Rosasco (1962).

Present Owner Bruce E. and Deanne Jesson (1970).

Description 1½ story, end-gable with center dormer; cornice returns; return repeated in dormer; brackets; decorative end boards; center door with transom; shiplap siding; four-pane windows; bracketed entrance stoop; one-story rear addition; detached apartment at side.

This center-dormer house in East Arcata was the long-time residence of the John R. Dillon family. Born in Virginia and married to Mary Tracy in Missouri, John Dillon worked as a woodsman in the California Redwoods for many years. Active supporters of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, the Dillons gave the land for the church on the block west of their home. There were eleven Dillon children, eight of whom survived the father who died at age 90 in 1919.

Sitting on the hill at the 11th Street entrance to East Arcata, the Dillon House is an example of a standard vernacular form found frequently in the area, in this case enriched with a panelled frieze with brackets and other ornaments normally associated with the Italianate.



The L.K. Wood House, Circa 1880's. Courtesy Humboldt State University Library.

THE L.K. WOOD HOUSE

25

Construction Date Between 1850 and 1857

Address Janes Road at Zehndner

Location AP# 506-131-06

Original Location Janes Road at 11th Street

Original Owner Lewis K. Wood

Interim Owners Wood heirs (1892); Mary Foster, daughter of L.K. Wood (1892); Foster heirs (1926); Seba Gilardoni (1944).

Present Owner Helen Gilardoni (1974).

Description 1½ story, end-gable with small returns; center gable; center entrance with transom and sidelights; 6-pane upper sash, 1 pane below (12-pane originally); asbestos shingle siding; sits on 20-acres.



including L. K. Wood began what they thought was to be an eight-day journey to a "large and beautiful bay surrounded by fine and extensive prairie land." After incredible hardship the party arrived at Humboldt Bay on December 20, 1849, more than six weeks after leaving Rich Bar.

Some years later a narrative on the exploration and discovery of the bay was written from Wood's notes by Walter Van Dyke, editor of the *Humboldt Times*. Regarding the future site of Arcata, Wood recalled:

...we arrived towards night (23 Dec. 1849)...after leaving our camp opposite Bucksport, on a beautiful plateau near the highland and redwoods at the northeast end of the bay. At this point which commands a fine view of the bay stretching out to the southwest we made a halt and it being nearly night, pitched our camp. This plateau is the present site of the Town of Union now Arcata.

Our camp was near the little spring about two hundred yards from the east side of the plaza, toward the woods.
(Lewis, 1966)

After recovering from severe wounds inflicted by grizzly bears during the last leg of their journey, Wood returned to Humboldt Bay in the fall of 1850. The following spring he became Trinity County recorder and in 1853 when Humboldt County was formed from part of Trinity County, he was elected first county clerk.

Wood took a claim on a 160-acre farm which he named Kiwelattah after a Wiyot Indian who had befriended him. The house, moved about 1900 when his son David build a new house on the original site at the west end of 11th Street, was built sometime before Wood's marriage to Clarissa Hanna in 1857. There were eight Wood children, seven of whom grew to adulthood: David, L. K., Emma Stinson, Ella Deuel, Clarissa Foley, Mary Foster, and Alice Barter. Kuhnle family descendants of Mary Foster still reside in Humboldt County.

In 1976 L. K. Wood descendants purchased a redwood grove at Prairie Creek State Park and dedicated the Lewis Keysor Wood Memorial Grove to the memory of this first Humboldt Bay pioneer.

Fountain, Susie Baker. 1964-1966. *The Settlement of the Humboldt Bay Region in 1850*. Taken from the *Blue Lake Advocate*.
Lewis, Oscar (editor). 1966. *The Quest for Qual-A-Wa-Loo*. The Holmes Book Co., Oakland.
Bernice Kuhnle, personal communication, 21 December 1978.
Deed and Assessment Records.

Recalling Union's earliest days of settlement with its delicate cornice returns, gabled roof and divided transom and sidelights, the L. K. Wood house sits on the Arcata Bottom a short distance north of its original site, now subdivided into a housing tract. Despite window changes, asbestos shingle siding and the removal of an entrance on the north, the house is easily recognized as the L. K. Wood residence which appeared in the 1857 Kuchel and Dresel lithograph of Arcata.

Lewis K. Wood was a man of some note in early Humboldt County history and remembered today as a member of the discovery party which located Humboldt Bay by land in December 1849. A native of Kentucky, Wood was at Rich Bar on the Trinity River near Weaverville in the fall of 1849. When provisions ran low and the routes to the supply centers on the Sacramento became impassable, the incentive for locating a coastal supply port was sufficient to bring about the organization of an exploring party. Led by Dr. Josiah Gregg, physician, author and explorer, a group of seven men

THE BROWN-LISCOM HOUSE



This early settlement house, built about 1868 for Benjamin and Julia Brown, is listed in the Historic American Buildings Survey in the Library of Congress. The HABS photograph, taken in 1934, indicates little change in the basic house style. Essentially an upright-and-wing, the old home has stoop-covered entrances into both sections, sidelights and a transom around the door of the "upright", and clapboard siding, now covered by asbestos shingles.

In 1890 the property was inherited by the Brown's daughter and son-in-law, Mary E. and Frank M. Liscom. Born in Brattleboro, Vermont in 1845, Frank M. Liscom came to Humboldt County in 1853 with his parents and brother Charles. The father, Captain Charles Liscom, settled a 640-acre claim west of town and it was on this ranch that literary great Bret Harte lived and tutored the Liscom boys in the fall and winter of 1857-58.

Frank was married to Mary E. Brown in 1874 and they had two sons, Frank M., Jr. and George Henry Liscom, who later built houses for their brides to the west and south of their parents' home. A local carpenter for many years, Frank, Sr. lived in this house until his death in 1906. His widow owned the house for several more years before it was purchased for rental property about 1920.

Construction Date c. 1868

Address 1383 "J" Street

Location Block 271 — AP# 20-111-01

Original Owner Benjamin Brown

Interim Owner Julia Ann Brown, widow; Mary E. Liscom, daughter, and Frank M. Liscom (1890); Mary E. Liscom (1919); Sam Cerini and H.O. Hill (1920); Thomas Carolan (1924); Others; Francis B. Mathews; John Wilson (1973); Virginia Test (1974).

Present Owner Gordon & Betty J. Ponting (1978).

Description 1 1/2 story, front-facing gable with one-story side cottage; off-centered front door; sidelights and transom; four and twelve pane windows; added shutters and asbestos shingle siding; additions at rear; interior renovation and conversion into two apartments in 1974-75.

THE ERICSON HOUSE

27

Construction Date 1870

Address 1376 "H" Street

Location Block 274 — AP# 21-096-03

Original Owner Charles Booth

Interim Owners Martha Tower (Booth's widow); A.W. Ericson (1878); Ericson heirs (1928); Beverly Krestensen & Robert Bryan, granddaughter and grandson of A.W. Ericson (1976).

Present Owner John and Judy Bennett (1976).

Description Small 1½ story, front-facing gable; off-center front door with transom and sidelights; veranda with split posts; shiplap siding; north side addition; orchard trees and old clothes reel in back yard; original picket and lattice work fence gone.



This little settlement cottage was the home of Humboldt County's well-known photographer, A. W. Ericson. Through his photography, Ericson recorded with accuracy and sensitivity the early history of the area over a 40-year period from the 1880's into the 1920's.

Born in Orebro, Sweden in 1848, young Ericson served as a printer's apprentice before arriving in the United States at age 18. Coming to Arcata in 1877, he opened a printing shop which was later expanded into books, musical merchandise, stationery, and even sewing machines. His real passion, however, was photography and it was through this medium that he captured the spirit of Humboldt County.

In his book, *Fine California Views*, Peter Palmquist wrote:

During Ericson's active period of photography, opportunities in logging, shipbuilding, mining, and farming drew settlers to Humboldt County in increasing numbers. Towns grew rapidly, and the need for housing and business services expanded to booming proportions. Ericson sought to record each detail. He photographed the felling and milling of giant redwoods, coastal shipping, construction of new homes and businesses, introduction of steam power, groups of school children, and the bustle of everyday life. His pictures of the white deerskin dance and other Indian rituals are ranked among the best examples of such photographs in the nation.

Ericson purchased the house in 1878 at the time of his marriage to Ella Fitzell. Eight Ericson children were born here, seven growing to adulthood. Sold to the present owner in 1976 by Ericson's grandchildren, the house was in family ownership for ninety-eight years. Historic in the truest sense of the word, this old house has witnessed the laughter and tears of one family's entire life.

There is a difference of opinion regarding the original owner and date of construction for the Ericson House. In a May 11, 1956 *Arcata Union* article written by the late Susie Baker Fountain, a highly respected Humboldt County historical researcher, Judge Justus E. Wyman is listed as the original owner of the house, whose construction date is given as being before 1855. Members of the Ericson family and other people in the community support this conclusion based on land ownership records, the 1857 Kuchel and Dresel Lithograph of Arcata, a *Humboldt Times* reference of August 4, 1855, and Ericson family oral history. It is this researcher's opinion, however, that the original owner was Charles Booth and that the date of construction was 1870. In addition, the researcher believes Judge Wyman's house was located near the northwest corner of block 247 (southeast corner of 13th and "H" Streets) which is the block directly south of the Ericson Block (274) and that Judge Wyman's house was torn down in December 1887.

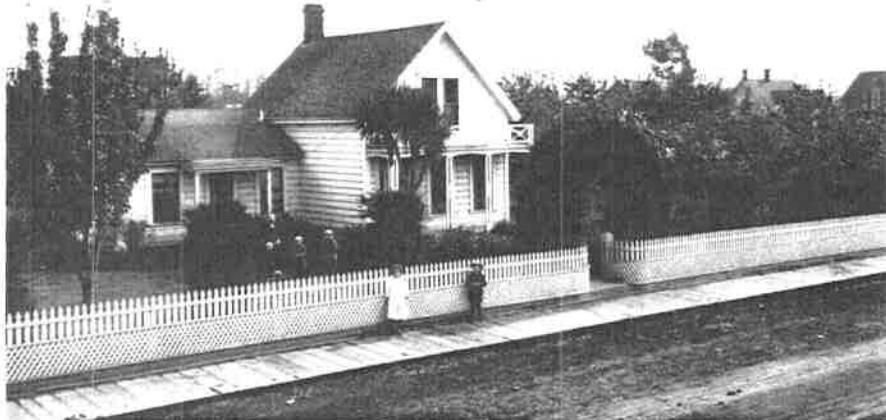
This opinion is based on the following data:

1. According to the 1856 assessment, Judge J. E. Wyman owned the west half of block 247 and blocks 274 and 287 along with other town property. For 1856, an improvement value of \$1,500 is listed for the west half of block 247, but there is no improvement value for blocks 274 and 287 which are listed together. The 1859 assessment for Wyman lists the same information as for 1856. The 1864 assessment shows no improvement value for the south half and the northwest corner of block 274, but does list a \$750 improvement value for block 287 and the west half of block 247 which are listed together.

The next assessment for the property is under the name of Charles Booth. The 1867 assessment for Booth lists the west half of block 247 and blocks 274 and 287 together with an improvement value of \$700. Up to this point no improvement value has appeared for block 274, but it should be noted that this value includes block 247 which carried an improvement value in previous assessments. It isn't until the 1870-71 assessment that an improvement value appears for blocks 274 and 287 disassociated from block 247.

The researcher concludes that Judge Wyman had improvements on the west half of block 247 before 1856 and that there were no improvements on block 274 at least through 1864.

Name	Date	Property	value of land	value of improvements
Wyman	1856	W½ blk. 247; blk. 274 & 287	\$100 100	\$1,500 0
Wyman	1859	W½ blk. 247; blk. 274 & 287	100 100	1,500 0
Wyman	1864	S½ & NW½ blk. 274 W½ blk. 247 & blk. 287	75 150	0 750
Booth	1867	W½ blk. 247 & blk. 274 and 287	300	700
Booth	1870-71	blk. 274 & 287	200	250



2. A mechanic's lien, recorded in Book A, Page 180 of Mechanics Liens, reads in part:

William Thomas versus Charles Booth 4 January 1871
 Know all men by these presents that I William Thomas of the County of Humboldt, State of California, have performed labor and work and furnished materials as a journeyman carpenter and joiner for the construction of the building erected and now upon the land more particularly described . . . that piece of parcel of land situated lying and being in the town of Arcata . . . as portion of block 274 particularly described as follows to wit: commencing at the northwest corner of said block 274 and running thence east 250 feet, thence south 194 feet, thence west 250 feet, thence north 194 feet to place of beginning . . . completed on the 8th day of December 1870 . . .

39 1/4 days work at \$3.00 per day and board	\$118.50
42 feet of plank furnished	1.00
32 feet of flooring boards	.75
rollers and lock furnished for folding doors	5.00
	<hr/>
	125.25
credit by A. Brizard	40.00
	<hr/>
balance now due	85.25

Since the Ericson house is located on this parcel of land, the researcher concludes that William Thomas built the house for Charles Booth in 1870.

3. The 1857 Kuchel and Dresel Lithograph of Arcata buildings was published by Judge Wyman's brother, B. Henry Wyman. Included in the composite is Judge Wyman's house. In comparing an 1890's photograph of the Ericson house with the Wyman house of the lithograph several differences are noted:

- 1) the lithograph shows a two-story house; the Ericson house is 1 1/2 stories;
- 2) the lithograph shows three, second-story windows below the roofline; the Ericson house has a double window within the roofline and there is insufficient space for additional windows;
- 3) the lithograph shows the main entrance on the south front; the main entrance of the Ericson house is on the north front;
- 4) there are three other differences with regard to the porch posts, the balcony railing, and the side additions, but these could be easily changed so cannot be used as supporting data.

In his book, *California's Architectural Frontier*, Harold Kirker includes the following in his Bibliographic Notes: "Paintings, drawings, lithographs, and photographs are the chief tools for a study of California's architectural frontier. The finest single sources are the Kuchel and Dresel lithographs of California towns, executed between 1855 and 1858 . . .". The comparison indicates to the researcher that the Wyman house, as it appears on the 1857 lithograph, and the Ericson house are not the same house.

4. In 1887, Noah Falk built a fine home on block 247 (the block directly south of the Ericson block). A newspaper article in the *Arcata Union* of Dec. 17, 1887 provided a description of Falk's new house and ended by saying: "The old house on the north of the block, an old Arcata landmark, will be torn down next week. Here the lamented Judge Wyman lived with his family."

The researcher concludes that Judge Wyman's house was on block 247 and that it was torn down in 1887.

5. Although Mrs. Ivan Krestensen, A.W. Ericson's granddaughter, believes the mechanic's lien is for the north-side addition, Mrs. Ella Bryan, Ericson's daughter, told this researcher in April 1974 that her father built the addition onto the house. Assessments for Ericson show a \$150 jump in the improvement value between 1879 and 1880 and this could possibly indicate the addition. The \$100 increase for improvements between 1885 and 1886 might also indicate an addition.

Name	Date	Value of Land	Value of Improvements
Booth's estate	1872	\$200	\$300
Ericson	1879	200	250
Ericson	1880	200	400
Ericson	1884	200	400
Ericson	1885	200	440
Ericson	1886	200	540
Ericson	1891	500	500
Ericson	1905	360	440
Ericson	1917	500	440

Assessment Books, HSU Library

6. The newspaper article of August 4, 1855 (*Humboldt Times*) which states: "Mr. Fleishman is now erecting a large and handsome dwelling house on the block nearly opposite Judge Wyman's residence . . ." is used to support the opinion that the Ericson house is the Wyman house. However, the Fleishman block was directly opposite (west) of the Ericson block but would have been "nearly" opposite the Wyman block, if, in fact, the Wyman house were located on the block south of the Ericson block.

7. According to Mrs. Ivan Krestensen, her grandfather told her the house belonged to Judge Wyman and this has always been an accepted fact in the Ericson family. This researcher acknowledges oral history as a valuable research tool. The information available at this time, however, indicates that the Ericson house is not the Wyman house, but was built for Charles Booth in 1870.

THE FRY HOUSE

29

Construction Date c. 1874

Address 290 12th Street

Location Block 242 — AP# 21-066-10

Original Owner H.P. Carlson

Interim Owners Marie Favry (?); Hume L. Fry (1883); Vinko & Anne Levar (1919); Mary Peterson (1957).

Present Owner James F. and Dixie Erhard (1963).

Description 1½ story gable and wing; veranda on wing; 4 and 12 pane windows; dormer in wing; shiplap siding.



This stump house was located on the block south of his house and is pictured in a 1905 Ericson photograph of the Ed Larsen house. At that time it was a playhouse for the neighborhood children.

Mr. Fry spoke German and French as well as English and was a writer of some note.

The subject of this sketch was a man of broad education and was possessed of literary attainments of no mean merit, having contributed freely during his lifetime to the different papers of the county and also to sporting journals in England. He has done considerable delving into the early history of the county especially the Trinidad and Luffenholz section and has published a number of articles.

He was an ardent lover of outdoor sports especially fishing and was somewhat of an authority on piscatorial matters. He was also quite a pedestrian. Several years ago he walked to Hoopa one day and back the next.

(Arcata Union, 4 March 1911)

Among the remaining houses in East Arcata, the 1874 Fry house may be the oldest. It is included in this survey, not because of architecture since many alterations have occurred over the years, but because of the interesting family who lived here from 1883 until 1911.

Born in England in 1849, Hume L. Fry — world traveler, weatherman, writer, hiker, linguist, and more — was graduated with high honors from the University of Gottingen near Hanover, Germany. In 1874 he married Londoner Sophia Crocker, a German-educated artist, and secured a responsible position with the British Tea Company. They came to Arcata in 1883, purchased this house and five surrounding blocks of cut-over land, and established themselves as active members of the community. Mrs. Fry was involved in the development of Arcata's Library and being well-versed in the social graces, placed this notice in the January 27, 1900 *Arcata Union*:

Hereafter Mrs. H. L. Fry will be "at home" only on the first and third Wednesday afternoons of each month.

Mr. Fry's natural curiosity and academic background inspired him to research local history, keep weather records, and observe local fauna and flora.

A novel idea of his was the building of an observatory on the top of a tall redwood stump which was entered from the hollow center by means of a winding stairway and for several years past, the "house on the stump" has been one of the landmarks of Arcata which has been visited by many strangers.

(Arcata Union, 4 March 1911)

Visits to England, British Columbia and various parts of the United States were noted in the local newspaper. The Fry children, Donald and Winifred, were graduates of Stanford, where Winifred met her future husband, D. H. Webster, later a member of the faculty at the University of Nebraska. Donald was head of a business firm in Los Angeles and married to the niece of California's illustrious historian, H. H. Bancroft.

In 1904, the Fry tract was subdivided into building lots with a "commanding view of the bay." New houses were built and the people of East Arcata asked the City Trustees to open 11th Street so that they might have better access to town. That was somewhat in the future, although they did get a bridge on 11th over Campbell Creek. The stump land surrounding the Fry house began to take on a look of civilization as Arcata ushered in the 20th century, but Hume and Sophia Fry continued to occupy their little settlement-era house until his death in 1911.

Arcata Union, 12 Jan. 1889; 10 Jan. 1891; 20 Aug. 1892; 21 May 1898; 27 Jan. 1900; 25 July 1903; 9 April 1904; 8 March 1905; 21 Oct. 1905; 4 March 1911; 3 March 1921.
Deed and Assessment Records.

THE SMITH-MCKENZIE HOUSE



Construction date 1877

Address 1619 "H" Street

Location Block 328 — AP# 20-091-03

Original Owner Charles R. and Mary L. Smith

Interim Owners Rosella Smith, daughter (1919).

Present Owner Hugh C. and Winifred McKenzie (1939).

Description 1½ story, front-facing gable with one-story wing; cornice returns; four-pane windows with bracketed shelves; wing porch enclosed; evidence of turned posts and cutout brackets at entrance; lattice work on south side entrance and foundation skirting; garage and body shop built at rear and north side.

Although somewhat altered from its original architecture, the Smith-McKenzie house is basically an upright-and-wing with classic cornice returns and decorative bracketed window shelves on the gable portion. Two turned posts and cutout brackets at the front entrance are remnants of the open veranda that once extended across the wing. Covering the south side entrance is a handsome lattice work screen also found on the foundation skirting.

During its one hundred years, only two families have owned the house, constructed in 1877 for Charles and Mary Smith and purchased from that family by the present owners Hugh and Winifred McKenzie in 1939. A Civil War veteran and native of Maine, Charles Smith came to Humboldt County shortly after the war and established a blacksmithing business. He and Mary L. Kelsey were married in 1870 and became the parents of three daughters: Lulu Ogilvy, Maude Liscom, and Rosella Welsh. Present owners Hugh and Winifred McKenzie have lived in the house almost forty years during which time Mr. McKenzie has run a garage and body shop located on the property.



The Fry House, Circa 1880's.

THE MONETTE HOUSE

31

Construction Date 1885

Address 665 "F" Street

Location Block 126 — AP# 21-115-05

Original Owner Teddy Monette

Interim Owners Manual S. & Antonio S. De Azevedo (1915); Vernon L. Hunt (1924); A.J. & Cora Taylor (1944); Verne & Billie Parker (1945); Charles H. & Myrtle Aldrich (1946); Myrla Kern (1952); Kenneth & Carol Scott (1971); George H. and Joan Moore (1975).

Present Owner Dottie and John Morgan (1978).

Description 1½ story upright with wing; gable returns; square bay on gable section; brackets on cornice, bay and window shelves; veranda on wing with turned posts, cutout brackets and cutout cornice decoration; cutout cornice decoration on house; eight-pane windows; used as offices for real estate agency and travel agency.



The Monette house is an elaborately decorated example of the upright-and-wing, the most characteristic architectural style transplanted from New England by migrating settlers. Its origin is unknown, but it may have been a natural evolution of New Englanders' penchant for connecting buildings. Constructing the wing first, they added the gable as their financial circumstances allowed.

Unlike the more austere New England examples, the Monette house is ornamented with a square bay, brackets and cutout carpenter's decoration. Built at a time when other upright-and-wings were being constructed in Arcata, the house remains an important contributor to Arcata's architectural heritage.

Its original owner, Teddy Monette, was a French-Canadian, born in Ontario in 1852. Coming to Humboldt County in 1875, he secured work with John Vance at Essex where he served as mill foreman and later in that same capacity for Hammond Lumber Company.



Hume L. Fry with wife Sophia and children, Circa 1880's.

*Daily Humboldt Standard, 5 March 1885.
Arcata Union, 30 Oct. 1931.
Deed Records.*

THE MARION STOKES HOUSE



Construction Date 1890

Address 165 12th Street

Location Block 240 — AP# 21-072-09

Original Location Northwest corner of 11th and "D" Streets

Original Owner Davis Lee Dillon

Interim Owners G.R. Georgeson (1898); Retta Stokes (1899); Retta & Rease Wiley; Alice A. Warren (1937); State of California (1969); Alexandra Fairless (1974).

Present Owner John and Deborah De Selle (1975).

Description 1 1/2 story upright with wing; gable returns; shiplap siding; cornice and window shelf brackets; decorative end boards; entrance into gable section has flat-roofed stoop; transom over door; wing entrance off partially enclosed porch.

The Marion Stokes house was built in 1890 by Davis Dillon on the northwest corner of 11th and "D" just across the street from his parents' home at 388 11th Street. An unadorned upright-and-wing except for modest cornice brackets, the house has entrances into both the gable and wing sections. The wing porch has been partially enclosed but other than that, the original architecture is preserved. It was moved and restored by Alexandra Fairless when the freeway was expanded in 1974.

The house was purchased in 1899 by Retta Stokes, wife of Arcata-born Marion Stokes. It remained in her ownership for thirty-eight years and had only one other owner until taken by the State in 1969. Stokes, son of pioneer settlers, Brice and Catherine Stokes (her brother Isaac Wilson was a member of the Gregg-Wood Party which discovered Humboldt Bay by land in 1849), was a rancher for many years. With the coming of automobile travel in the 1910's, he established an auto rental service with a seven-passenger Packard. Advertised for "family parties to Willow Creek, Orleans or anywhere," the agency was headquartered at the Plaza Garage on the northeast corner of 8th and "G" Streets.

THE CATES HOUSE

33

Construction Date 1884

Address 185 12th Street

Location Block 240 — AP# 21-072-08

Original Location Southwest corner of 11th and "D" Streets

Original Owner Sewell Cates

Interim Owners Cates heirs (1932); Edith Horner (1954); State of California (1969); Edith Stokes (1974).

Present Owner Thomas R. and Marilee Coriell (1976).

Description 1½ story upright with wing; gable returns; four-pane windows; cornice brackets; stoop and entrance into wing; bracketed window shelves.



Another simple upright-and-wing house with a single entrance into the wing is the Cates house which sits directly west of the Marion Stokes house. It was also moved because of freeway expansion and was originally located on the southwest corner of 11th and "D" Streets. Although completely renovated at that time, the house retains its original form and is a good example of this popular New England architecture.

The house was built in 1884 by long-time Arcata carpenter Sewell Cates. A native of Machias, Maine, Cates was married to Lillie Kemp of Placerville and they had three children: Ethel, Mrs. Elmer Devlin, who is 94 and a resident of Woodland, California; Edna, the late Mrs. Lawrence Erickson; and Paul, owner of the barbershop in the Hotel Arcata for forty years and now retired. During Sewell Cates' early years in Arcata, he drove a wagon bringing tanbark from Fickle Hill down to the Devlin Tannery where it was used in preparing the leather. In later years, he served on the City's Board of Trustees and worked as a carpenter, building and remodeling many Arcata houses.



For want of a better designation, the last twenty years of the 19th century is classified as the Victorian period. During these years "gingerbread" houses with sawn, chiseled, and turned ornamentation; complex rooflines and shapes; and towers and bays replaced settlement-era houses of classic simplicity. But it was also a period of restrained Italianate architecture and stylish little cottages with modest ornamentation. Because of the community's size and the economic make-up of its population, it seems probable Arcata never had many houses of true Victorian style. Only a dozen or so examples of Italianate, Queen Anne, Eastlake and their combinations survive as part of Arcata's architectural heritage.

Italianate Two-story Italianate houses were built with low, hipped roofs; bracketed cornices; grouped windows, often round-headed; stacked square bays decorated by colonnettes and brackets; and entrance stoops rather than full-blown porches.

Queen Anne The most eclectic style in texture and form, and thus the most Victorian, Queen Anne houses displayed complex rooflines and irregular silhouettes. Corner towers, bay windows, projecting upper stories covered with patterned shingles, and Palladian windows were common features of the style.

Eastlake Eastlake actually refers to a type of ornamentation rather than to the basic house form. Houses essentially Queen Anne in form with bays, towers and multiple rooflines became Eastlake by the addition of ornamentation produced by chisel and lathe. Curved brackets, knobs, rows of spindles and "table-leg" porch posts were generously applied in Eastlake decoration.

THE MINOR-CANCLINI SHOP

Construction Date 1884

Address 1057 "H" Street

Location Block 208 — AP# 21-104-08

Original Owner Isaac Minor

Interim Owners Mary Elizabeth Minor Pressey (1913); Minor family heirs; Pete Canclini (1923).

Present Owner Rena Canclini (1963).

Description Original structure: Recessed center door flanked by large, 4-pane windows; heavily-decorated upper facade with cutouts and appliques; tiny cornice brackets and hooded windows on sides.

Present structure: False front; center recessed door flanked by large, multi-paned windows; row of rectangular windows above door and large windows; cornice brackets and one hooded window visible on south side.

Architect George F. Costerisan

Builder Theodore Dean

Remodeling George Hugnin



Isaac Minor built this little store as a milliner's shop for Mrs. David Minor in 1884. Eureka architect George F. Costerisan drew the plans for what was described as a "modified Eastlake" structure and local builder Theodore Dean supervised construction. That original Victorian architecture was altered into this simple false-front store in the early 1920's by local contractor George Hugnin.

During the 1880's the little shop was used for millinery and dressmaking, first by Mrs. David Minor and later by Mrs. Joseph Otto. Between 1902 and 1911 Dr. J.B. Simms had his dentist office in the building. In 1923, Pete Canclini purchased the shop from the Minor family and after remodeling, moved his shoe business from the east side of the Plaza to this location. It continued to serve as a shoe shop until Canclini's son Leno moved into his new building next door in 1951. For the next fifteen years, Wally's Paints occupied the little store, which was vacant for several years before the Epicurean Restaurant opened in 1971.



The Minor-Canclini Shop, Circa 1900's. Courtesy Humboldt State University Library.

Daily Humboldt Standard, 11 Feb. 1884; 25 Feb. 1884.
Arcata Union, 13 Sept. 1923; 25 Oct. 1923.
 Leno Canclini, personal communication, 22 Nov. 1978.
 Deed Records.

THE WILLIAM SMITH HOUSE

37

Construction Date 1888

Address 1542 "H" Street

Location Block 314 — AP# 20-097-05

Original Owner William Smith

Interim Owners Smith heirs (1907); Jesse J. & Mathilde Hynding (1915); Benjamin Chaffey (1919); Harold L. Chaffey (1932); Julia Hamblock (1945).

Present Owner Charles and Ruth H. Swigraver (1959).

Description Two-story, hipped roof; cornice brackets; strip window moulding; bracketed window hoods; decorative window detail; bracketed stoop; front door with two long arched panes of glass; transom; port-hole window above stoop.



William Smith, the teamster, is building a cozy and substantial residence on H Street near the redwoods. It will help the looks of Shep Hall's nice house. (Arcata Union, 11 August 1888)

William Smith's "cozy and substantial residence" is the two-story hipped-roof house at 1542 "H" Street. Shep Hall's nice house was located on the southeast corner of 15th and "H" Streets and was destroyed by fire in July 1894. When firemen arrived, the fire was so far gone that they turned their attention to saving William Smith's house and gave Hall's house to the "fire fiend."

Born in England in 1842, William Smith went to sea as a 12 year old boy and stayed for 13 years, arriving in California in 1866. He tried his hand at mining at Gold Bluffs before returning to England where he married Mary Anne Starling in 1875. Back to Humboldt County that same year with his bride, Smith worked as a logger, farmer and teamster until he became Arcata's Superintendent of streets in later years. At the time of his death in 1906, he was survived by four children: William Smith, Mrs. E.J. Winter, Mrs. William Preston and Versa Smith.

When Mr. Hynding purchased the house in 1915, it was raised and underwent "extensive improvements." It is a handsome house with decoration concentrated on the windows. Strip window moulding extends into cornice brackets and window hoods repeat the motif. Tiny detail decorates the tops of the windows and a single "porthole" looks out from above the entrance stoop.

THE STIGLICH-MERRIAM HOUSE



Construction Date c. 1889

Address 11 East 12th Street

Location Block 363 — AP# 20-026-12

Original Owner Frank Stiglich

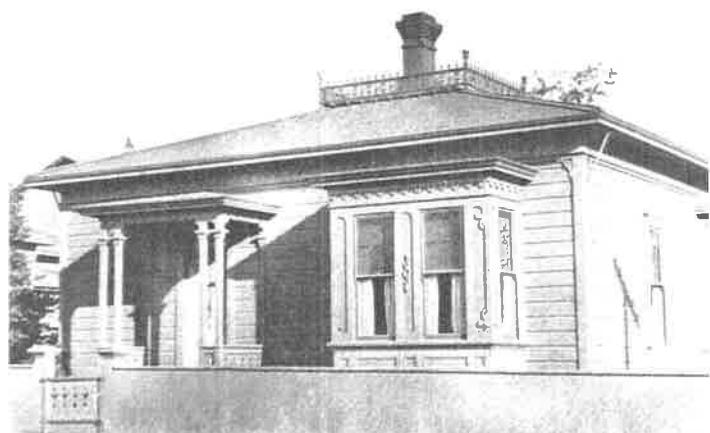
Interim Owners Cosmo Stiglich, brother, (1906); Cosmo Paskvan (1921); George E. Lungi (1937).

Present Owner Harold M. and Minnie Merriam (1944).

Description One story, hipped roof; veranda across front; four posts and balustrade; 12-pane windows; rear addition with basement; sits above street level; picket fence and hedge.

Brothers Frank and Cosmo Stiglich, natives of Austria, were part of the Slavic colony that settled in East Arcata beginning before the turn-of-the-century. Within the general neighborhood lived the families of Joseph Maronich, Nick Dubrovich, Antone Batich, John Rozich, James Malovich, Francesco Crnich, and Frank Luksetich. Others lived in the Fieldbrook area and were employed in the logging woods and mills. Their number was sufficient to warrant the establishment of a National Croatian Society which included the names of Sepick, Sincich, Kinkela, Jurich and Bralich.

Frank Stiglich built this house about 1889 and sold it to his brother, Cosmo, in 1906. Cosmo and Adeline Stiglich lived here until 1915 when they built the little bungalow on the corner across Union Street. Their adopted daughter Rose married Cosmo Paskvan in 1912 and they lived on the south side of this block, where their son and his family still reside.



The Minor Cottage, 1068 I Street, Circa 1900.

THE MINOR COTTAGE

39

Construction Date 1884

Address 1068 "I" Street

Location Block 208 — AP# 21-104-02

Original Owner Isaac Minor

Interim Owners Jessie Minor Waters, daughter, (1910); Clearie S. Reed (1913); Alice M. Hill (1920); Edna McNeil (1939).

Present Owner Ben Feuerwerker (1960).

Description One-story, hipped roof with chimney at peak; central entrance stoop; delicate cutouts applied to cornice; south side slant bay with moulding decoration.

Architect/Builder Theodore Dean



During a flurry of building activity in 1884, Isaac Minor contracted for the construction of four buildings on his block. The first was the little milliner's shop, now occupied by the Epicurean restaurant; next his own residence at the southwest corner of 11th and "H" Streets; and finally in the fall, "two cozy cottage dwellings of the latest style of art" with contractor Theodore Dean in charge of all the construction.

Built as mirror images, each cottage (1086 and 1068 "I") had a four-window square bay, off-centered entrance with a handsome stoop, and fashionable roof cresting. Although both cottages are altered, 1068 "I" is recognizable as the Minor cottage in a 1900 photograph. The front bay is gone and the entrance moved to the center front, but the basic shape is unchanged as is the decorated cornice.

Isaac Minor was a pioneer settler of Arcata and one of its most prominent business and lumber entrepreneurs. Born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania in 1830, he came to Arcata in 1853. During his early days here, he was involved in the packing trade, a store at Orleans, and stock ranching on Redwood Creek. The 1860's brought him into the timber industry with the opening of the Dolly Varden and Jolly Giant mills near Arcata. His business dealings multiplied through the years to include a rock quarry, timber lands, mills, creameries, McKinleyville, Arcata's First National Bank, and the Minor Theatre.

He was married to Hannah Nixon, daughter of Capt. Isaac Nixon, in 1855. There were twelve children, six of whom died in childhood. The tragic results of contagious diseases before the advent of modern medicine are poignantly illustrated by the deaths of Minor children: Florence May, 6 Dec. 1864; Alice Louisa, 18 Dec. 1864; Maggie E., 25 Oct. 1868; Lottie F., 26 Oct. 1868; Sarah Louisa, 26 Oct. 1868; and J.S. Minor, 30 July 1876. On December 20, 1905 the Minors celebrated their Golden Wedding with their children Theodore H., Isaac N., and David K. Minor, and Mary Elizabeth Minor Pressey, Bertha Minor Graeter, and Jessie Minor (Waters). Mrs. Minor died in 1907; Isaac Minor in 1915.

THE SCRIBNER HOUSE



Construction date for this handsome little 19th century dwelling is estimated as 1885 with original ownership unclear. Assessment records indicate a progression of improvements beginning with \$100 in 1880 up to \$600 in 1886. At some point in between either an earlier house was remodeled or was replaced by the present house.

Simple lines and handsome cornice and porch decoration highlight the facade of this stylish cottage. Surrounded by trees and shrubs, it nestles almost unnoticed on a busy Arcata thoroughfare, but its architectural qualities are worthy of preservation.

The house was the long-time residence of Charlotte and Lyman B. Scribner, natives of Maine, who came to California in the 1880's. Mr. Scribner, a logger and rafter in the Maine woods, soon found employment in Humboldt County. There were three Scribner children: Nettie (Mrs. Milo DeCarli), Lloyd R. and Herbert. The couple celebrated their Golden Wedding on Thanksgiving Day in 1909 and both lived past 85 with Mr. Scribner still working on his 82nd birthday.

Construction Date c. 1885

Address 1661 "H" Street

Location Block 328 — AP# 20-091-08

Original Owner James Gillis or Fred Scribner

Interim Owners Fred Scribner (1886); Lyman B. Scribner; Charlotte Scribner (1891); Chauncey L. Bonstell (1921); Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association (1932); Harry and Edith Krohn (1939); Norman and Grace Crane (1943); James and Susie McNabb (1945); Hugh and Winifred McKenzie (1952); Jane M. Dahlquist (1952); Clifton and Eleanor Meredith (1962); Gazella Wike (1971).

Present Owner Steven Gompertz (1974).

Description One-story hipped roof; cornice decoration and brackets; separate veranda with same cornice decoration; posts with cutout brackets; balustrade; four-pane windows; center door with upper glass surrounded by smaller panes; transom; wood shingle siding.

THE CARRIE STOKES HOUSE

41

Construction Date 1888

Address 560 "G" Street

Location Block 115 — AP# 21-116-02

Original Owner William Dean

Interim Owners B.F. Stern (1895); Corilla Adams (1896); Hugh & Elizabeth Cave (1901); Carrie Stokes (1907); Mae Saunders (1948); Rose McConnaha (1954); Rose McConnaha and Greta Taynton (1968); Burr P. McConnaha.

Present Owner Harold and Carol Huggler (1972).

Description One story end-gable house with extended front gable over a two-window bay; bargeboard of front gable decorated with doughnut appliques; bay cornice has tiny doughnut appliques; entrance stoop with turned posts and cutout brackets; transom over front door; decorative moulding around front window; shiplap siding.

Architect/Builder William Dean



In the September 29, 1888 *Arcata Union*, William Dean, Arcata contractor and builder, offered his two cottages on "G" Street for sale at prices of \$750 and \$700. One of these cottages is the distinctively-decorated house at 560 "G"; the other was torn down for a gas station on the corner of 6th and "G".

The bargeboard of the front gable is decorated with little doughnut appliques which are repeated on the cornice of the bay beneath it. Dean used this same ornamentation on the gable of the Devlin House at 885 "K". The entrance stoop is decorated with cutout brackets and the front window with a fancy moulding.

William Dean, born in New York state about 1860, came to Arcata as a young man and was engaged in the building trade throughout his adult life. He was responsible for a number of Arcata houses including the Jacobs House at 986 12th, the Stern House on the northeast corner of 14th and "H", the Devlin House at 885 "K", and the house at 588 "H".

This house has been in continual family ownership since 1907, when it was purchased by Carrie McConnaha Stokes. Mrs. Stokes's niece Mae Chaffey Saunders, and her sister-in-law, Rose McConnaha, were later owners. Carol Huggler, who with her husband is the present owner, is a grandniece of Mrs. Stokes.

THE SCHORLIG HOUSE



One of two remaining two-story Italianate houses in Arcata, the Schorlig house was built in 1885. Typical Italianate characteristics are the stacked square bays with colonnettes, low hipped roof, grouped round-headed windows, and bracketed cornice.

Originally the house sat alone on the block surrounded by the flower gardens and fruit orchards that brought its owner the distinction of being Arcata's "most scientific florist" who "thoroughly understands the nature and seasons of rare flowers and plants." Schorlig's advertisements in the *Arcata Union* read:

L.E. Schorlig, Dealer in Vegetables, Fruits, Nuts, Candy, etc. "H" Street next to Harpst and Spring Store. Receive fresh supplies from San Francisco each steamer. Keeps constantly on hand fresh vegetables of the best quality raised in my own garden. In the fruit season here I have every variety of fruit grown in my own grounds and am always ready to fill orders at satisfactory rates. Give Me A Call. (Arcata Union, 30 July 1892)

A native of Germany, Schorlig came to the U.S. as a child, attended school in Arcata and married Caroline Moxon of New Brunswick in 1883. Two years later master carpenter Shepherd Hall was hired to build their home, which remained in family ownership for the next eighty-four years. In later years, the house was converted into apartments run at first by Mrs. Schorlig and later by her daughter, Mrs. Lulu Dolson Roberts. Today the house contains five apartment units, but the exterior has been carefully preserved and still displays the handsome features of 19th century Italianate architecture.

Construction Date 1885

Address 1050 12th Street

Location Block 250 — AP# 20-112-12

Original Owner Louis E. Schorlig

Interim Owners Carrie Schorlig, widow, (1916); Lulu Dolson (Roberts), daughter, (1937); Allan P. & Judith E. Hess (1969); Thomas Hatty & Judith E. Hatty, formerly Hess; Loren R. & Tommie Nelson (1972); Roger & Carol Kalina (1974).

Present Owner Alexandra Fairless (1976).

Description Two-story Italianate; stacked, 4-window, square bays with colonnettes; cornice brackets; bracketed shelf over windows; grouped round-headed windows in upper story; flat-roofed stoop over entrance; low, hipped roof; one-story rear section with veranda; carpenter's cutouts on veranda posts and balustrade; shiplap siding; sits in center of block with houses on three sides.

Builder Shepherd Hall

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

43

Construction Date 1884

Address 16th Street west of "J" Street

Location Block 330 — AP# 20-141-15

Present Owner Roman Catholic Bishop of Santa Rosa

Description Victorian Gothic architecture; wood construction; gable roof with front center steeple with spire; arch form in moulding, windows, and window hoods; recessed entrance; five supporting buttresses along sides.

Builder A.P. Glidden



St. Mary's Catholic Church is a Victorian Gothic structure built to replace an earlier church located across the street. Eureka contractor A.P. Glidden completed construction in November, 1884 "to the satisfaction of all concerned." The bell, weighing 1,040 pounds, was brought by steamer to Arcata the following November, but apparently dedication of the building didn't occur until 1889.

The structure has a steep gable roof with an entrance steeple containing the bell tower and topped by a spire and cross. The pointed arch—Gothic architecture's identifying feature—is found in the moulding above the door, a steeple window, and the windows and hoods in the body of the church. Each side is lined with five supporting buttresses.

The church cemetery is located to the rear and adjacent to Arcata's Greenwood cemetery. The parsonage, built next to the church in 1885, was demolished several years ago.

Daily Humboldt Standard, 2 Oct. 1884; 2 Dec. 1884; 29 Sept. 1885.
Humboldt Times, 28 Nov. 1885. Tonini, C. Catholic Church in Arcata. Sept. 1915.

THE PYTHIAN CASTLE



An Arcata landmark of long standing, the Pythian Castle was built in 1885 by Eureka contractor A.P. Glidden and formally dedicated with a "grand celebration" on the 8th of May, 1885. Its distinctive architecture, highlighted by the set of five projecting towers, and its importance in local social and commercial history place the Castle on Arcata's list of significant historical sites.

The Knights of Pythias, established by Justus H. Rathbone on February 19, 1864, was inspired by an ancient story of friendship between Damon and Pythias, each of whom was willing to die for the other. Concerned by the hatred generated by the Civil War, Mr. Rathbone felt his organization, based on this principle of friendship, could do much to heal the wounds of war. Even President Lincoln was impressed enough to advise the group to apply for a congressional charter which was granted to the Supreme Lodge of the Knights of Pythias in 1879.

Local Knights belonged to the North Star Lodge No. 39, established in 1876. In addition to the Lodge's structured organization and ceremonial role, the fraternal order was also concerned with fellowship, civic activities, and a bit of social life. Noteworthy events and anniversaries were celebrated with grand balls, parades and dinners, all of which provided opportunities for fun and relaxation in this isolated northcoast community.

The Castle's main hall, located on the upper floor, served local lodges as a place for business and ceremony. Evidence of the hall's function and once beautiful decor are the raised platform encircling the room, the wooden dado decorated with a flower cutout, and the four light fixtures which emerge from plaster reliefs replete with cherubs. The Castle's lower floor housed commercial enterprises, physicians, and at various times provided facilities for Arcata's Kindergarten and the High School.

Exterior features include three, five-windowed round bays on the front and south rear corners and two, four-windowed square bays in the middle of the front and south side. The square bays are topped with truncated hip roofs, once crowned by iron cresting; the corner bays sit under "witches' hats" that in times past sprouted tall finials. The bays are decorated with triangular pediments; colonnettes, and brackets. A vertical board cornice, also adorned with brackets, encircles the front and south side. Two pairs of upper-story windows on the south side are covered by broken pediments.

Construction Date 1885

Address 1100 "H" Street

Location Block 233 — AP# 21-091-07

Original Owner North Star Lodge No. 39,
Knights of Pythias

Interim Owners Maggie Ball, Luther T. Hunt,
George Purlenky, and Joseph
King (1944); Arcata Aerie No.
1846, Fraternal Order of
Eagles (1945); L.N. and Elaine
M. Allen (1957); Rollo and
Marian Guthridge (1958); Rus-
sel D. Hill (1972).

Present Owner Charles Evans (1978).

Description Two story; five projecting towers; three corner bays are rounded with "witches' hats" on top; two square bays have truncated hipped roofs; tower decoration includes colonnettes, window pediments and brackets; south side upper story windows with broken pediments; vertical board cornice with brackets; large four-pane windows in lower story along with plate glass windows in front; alteration of lower-floor facade to accommodate stores.

Builder A.P. Glidden

THE LORD HOUSE

45

Construction Date 1886

Address 1168 10th Street

Location Block 211 — AP# 21-141-06

Original Owner William Lord

Interim Owners Eleanor Lord, widow, (1919); Oscar & Benjamin Lord (1922); Betsey Lord Lytel (1931); Albert Kelley (1940); Sue B. Kelley (1948); Dayton Couchman (1950); Albert & Sue Kelley (1967); Ella Butterfield & Margie Stempfley (1967).

Present Owner Stephen & Katherine Ward (1976).

Description Two-story Italianate; stacked, 4-window square bays with pediments; decorative brackets on cornice and bays; colonnettes on bays; recessed door, originally double; transom; gable roof; shiplap siding; four-pane windows except in bays; no yard, surrounded by apartments.

Builder Orman and Beers, contractors.



This two-story Italianate house, built for William Lord in 1886, has suffered the fate of other large homes. Converted into apartments some years ago, the house is now engulfed by apartment units built right up to the front steps. The stylish beauty of the house is almost lost to the tangle of electrical wires, clothes lines, garages, and cheaply-constructed housing, but the handsome architecture is apparent on close inspection.

Paired, stacked, four-window square bays topped by pediments flank the central entrance. Cornice and bay brackets and the tiny colonnettes of the bays add the fine Italianate detail to this large gable-roof house. The recessed entrance originally held double doors below a divided transom.

A native of New Hampshire, William Lord came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama in 1858. He eventually settled in Orleans where he operated a pack train and owned a general mercantile store. Beginning in 1861 when Mr. Lord purchased his first gold mine and continuing until his retirement in 1912, he owned a number of mines including the Red Cap, Ten Eyck, Reynolds Creek, Nordheimer, Jimakanee and Savorum.

His Arcata property consisted of this house block and Block 212, located to the west, where he corralled his mules when the pack train came to Arcata. He sold parcels of that block for the Portuguese Hall in 1916 and Seely and Titlow's warehouse in 1917. Mr. Lord was married to Eleanor Locke in Iowa in 1869 and they celebrated their Golden Wedding only a month before his death in November 1919.

Although Mr. Lord's work kept him at the mines, he moved his family to Arcata so the children could attend public school. Contractors Henry Orman and Isaac Beers built this 15-room, \$3600 house with lumber from the old Janes Creek mill. The house remained in family ownership for more than fifty years.

POTENTIAL FOR DESIGNATION
TO THE LANDMARK AND
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
OVERLAY ZONE

Arcata Union, 13 July 1886; 2 Oct. 1919; 13 Nov. 1919.
Fountain, Susie Baker. *Notebooks*. Vol. 10:281.
Deed Records.
Miriam Lord Marks, personal communication, 18 Dec. 1978.

THE BAIR-STOKES HOUSE



Called a "must" for those fascinated by Victorian architecture, the Bair-Stokes house occupies a place of prestige on the hill overlooking Arcata and Humboldt Bay. Attributed to architects Samuel and Joseph C. Newsom who were responsible for the Carson Mansion in Eureka, the house was built in 1888 for Dr. Fred H. Bangs and his bride, Belle May. The master carpenter in charge of the construction is said to have been Shepherd Hall, a local man who built a number of other houses including Dr. Ray's house at 886 11th Street, the Schorlig house at 1050 12th, and the Bayside Presbyterian Church. Rich detail highlighted in the spindled entrance and connected balustrade make this house unique in Arcata's architectural heritage.

The family home for three Arcata physicians—Dr. Bangs, Dr. Levi Force and Dr. Francis R. Horel—it was purchased by Thomas Bair in 1898. A rags-to-riches, self-made man, Bair was born in Madison County, Arkansas in 1844 and orphaned at nine. He came to California with an uncle two years later. Starting his business career as a rider of the bell mare on local pack trains, Bair amassed a fortune in timber lands and at the time of his death in 1916, his estate was valued at one million dollars.

Construction Date 1888

Address 916 13th Street

Location Block 272 — AP# 20-104-02

Original Owner Dr. Fred H. Bangs

Interim Owners Anna Force (1890); Lois Horel (1893); Thomas Bair (1898); Mary S. Bair, widow, (1918); Fred S. Bair, son; R.A. & Patsy Ladd (1945); Jesse M. & Irene Van Cleave (1945); Joseph & Mary Forbes (1946).

Present Owner John and Edith Stokes (1948)

Description Two-story Queen Anne with Eastlake elements; octagonal tower with decorative panels irregular roofline, gables, bays, brackets, patterned shingles; dentils; elaborate entrance with spindles and balustrade; carriage house with louvered cupola; flowers and plantings.

Builder Shepherd Hall

Architect Samuel and Joseph C. Newsom.



The Lord House, 1903.

THE STONE HOUSE

Construction Date 1888

Address 902 14th Street

Location Block 289 — AP# 20-103-02

Original Owner W.W. Stone

Interim Owners Celia Stone, widow, (1928); Burpee & Farlia Cooper (1928); G.W. & Erma Donovan (1944); Otho & Edith Davis (1958); Tommie F. & Loretta Daly (1966); Warren J. & Sara Marion (1974).

Present Owner Eugene & Loye Greer and Robert & Virginia Cargill (1977).

Description 2½ story Queen Anne; corner tower; Palladian window in gable pediment; patterned shingles on upper story; decorative motif on frieze; floral design in porch pediment; double doors with transom; porch partially glassed-in; irregular roofline with gables; well-kept yard; recently-added picket fence.

Designer/Builder Theodore Dean



The Stone house and its counterpart on the west corner of the block are the purest examples of Queen Anne architecture in Arcata. The round corner tower, upper-story patterned shingles, Palladian window, gables, bays, and projecting upper story are typical of this popular Victorian style. With minor decorative differences apparent on close inspection, the houses are essentially identical in arrangement although reversed. Placed face to face, each reflects the other.

Thanks to the editor of the *Humboldt Times* (24 March 1889), the designer and builder of this stately Victorian are known. Describing in detail the interior decoration of the house, he credited Arcata builder Theodore Dean with the architecture and construction of the \$6500 house. Dean's own home at the northeast corner of 7th and "G" Streets was built in 1889 and remembered as the house that was moved by barge across the bay to 6th and "N" Streets in Eureka.

Wesley Whipple Stone was born in Ohio in 1848 and served with the Union forces during the Civil War. In 1886, he and his wife, Celia Crippen Stone, came to Arcata where he opened Arcata's first bank. Serving as its cashier for 25 years, Stone became president of the Bank of Arcata upon the death of Thomas Bair in 1916.

THE JACKSON-MATTHEWS HOUSE



Construction Date 1888

Address 980 14th Street

Location Block 289 — AP# 20-103-04

Original Owner Elisha B. Jackson

Interim Owners Harry W. Jackson, son (1904); Alicia May Jackson, widow of Harry W. Jackson (1939); Mary Madison Baker, niece of Alicia Jackson (1946); Robert W. Matthews (1946).

Present Owner Mrs. Robert W. Matthews

Description 2½ story Queen Anne; corner tower with finial; Palladian window in gable pediment; patterned shingles on upper story; decorative motif on frieze; floral design in porch pediment; irregular roofline with pedimented gables; carriage house at rear; beautiful yard and gardens.

The Jackson-Matthews house, mirror image of the Stone house and located on the opposite corner of the block, was built in 1888 for Elisha B. Jackson. Although no documentation of architect/builder is known, it seems reasonable that it was the work of Theodore Dean, designer and builder of the Stone house.

An early-day lumberman, Jackson was born in Maine and arrived in California during the gold-rush days. A few years of mining probably brought little reward, but the riches of redwood timber proved vastly more attainable. Settling in Arcata in 1875, Jackson became involved with local logging operations and, with several partners, started a mill at Blue Lake in 1883. Known as Chandler, Henderson, and Co., the mill was moved to Riverside in 1886 with Jackson's son, Harry, replacing Henderson in the partnership. In 1889, Chandler sold out and the firm became the Riverside Lumber Company with Harry Jackson as president. Consolidation of the Korbels' mill and the Arcata and Mad River Railroad with the Riverside Lumber Co. in 1903 brought about the new firm of Northern Redwood Lumber Company under the leadership of Harry Jackson.

The family home, built during a time of lumber-boom prosperity, reflects the fine craftsmanship and artistic design of Victorian architecture. Continuity of ownership and responsible care have maintained this fine home in mint condition. Spacious, well-appointed grounds cover the original one-third block of land and include the handsome carriage house at the rear. The Jackson family, including Harry W. and his wife, and a niece, retained ownership of the home until Robert W. Matthews purchased it in 1946. Mrs. Matthews and her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robin Arkley, live in the house today.

THE FRANK GRAHAM HOUSE

49

Construction Date 1888

Address 380 9th Street

Location AP# 503-151-19

Original Owner Frank Graham

Interim Owners Earl V. Graham, son, (1924); North American Subsidiary (1931); Marie Niemi (1934); Barto Azevedo (1934).

Present Owner Estella Krellwitz Azevedo, widow of Barto Azevedo

Description Two-story basic Queen Anne with Stick/Eastlake decoration; octagonal tower with decorative panels; bays, brackets, knobs, dentils, strip window moulding; entrance pavilion richly decorated with spindles, knobs, and brackets; double entrance with transom; sits at the end of the street; detached buildings and red garage/barn at rear.

Builder Shepherd Hall



At the time of its construction in 1888, the Graham house at the head of Ninth Street was described by the editor of the *Arcata Union* (28 July 1888) as occupying "the same elevated position as does the residence of William Carson at the head of second street in Eureka." Perhaps "elevated position" referred to both the physical location and the social/economic status of the owners. Surely there were similarities between William Carson and Frank Graham as both were natives of New Brunswick and both were involved in the timber interests of Humboldt County throughout their adult lives. A man of more modest means than Carson, Graham, nonetheless, contributed a fine Queen Anne house with rich Stick/Eastlake detail to Arcata's architectural heritage. Its high-peaked octagonal tower with decorative panels is very similar to the tower of the Bair-Stokes house. Patterned shingles, bays overhanging by projecting upper stories, and irregular roofline recall Queen Anne features. The massive, richly ornate entrance pavilion with spindles, knobs, finial, and decorative strip work provides the shelter for the double-door entrance.

Frank Graham began his logging career in Humboldt County in 1870 rafting logs on Elk river. In 1873, he and his brother, Alex Graham, along with James Kirk logged at Bayside. Ten years later he was a partner in the organization of the Chandler, Henderson and Co. mill at Blue Lake. That mill was moved to Riverside and continued as the Riverside Lumber Company until it was consolidated with the Korbel Brothers' mill under the name of Northern Redwood Lumber Co. in 1903. Frank Graham continued his association with both Riverside and Northern Redwood as a partner in charge of the logging and mill operations.

Graham was married to Martha Montgomery in 1875 and there were eight children, five surviving to adulthood: Addie Lee Hill, Hazel Tierney, Mildred Hester, Norman Graham and Earl Graham. The family home was given to Earl Graham by his father in 1924. For the past forty-four years it has been the home of the Azevedos.

According to Mrs. Dorothea Fraser, granddaughter of the Frank Grahams, Shepherd Hall, builder of the Bair-Stokes house, was the master carpenter on this fine home. She also recalled that the man in charge of the interior paneling and woodwork was employed as a craftsman on the Carson Mansion in Eureka. The octagonal towers of the Graham House and the Bair-Stokes house are of similar design, which could indicate either the same builder and/or architect.

Arcata Union, 28 July 1888; 4 August 1888; 22 Nov. 1922.
Dorothea Hill Fraser, personal communication, 11 May, 1978 and 3 Jan. 1979.
Deed Records.

THE UNION BUILDING



Construction Date estimated 1890

Address 898 "G" Street

Location Lot 10, Block 166 — AP# 21-041-01

Original Owner John C. Bull, Jr.

Interim Owners Walter Wiley (1901); Rease M. Wiley, brother; R.W. Matthews (1937).

Present Owner Hadley Newspapers, Inc. (1972).

Description One story rectangular building; projecting false front; multi-paned windows on side; large, 4-pane windows in facade; recessed entrance; row of small windows across top of large windows and entrance; wood construction; rear addition.

This one-story, false-front building was the home of the *Arcata Union* newspaper for seventy-five years. Purchased from J.C. Bull, Jr. in 1901, the building was remodeled to accommodate the newspaper's offices which remained at this location until the new plant was constructed in 1976. Sharing the little building with the *Union* were the Arcata Post Office from 1901 to 1907 and J.G. Dolson's undertaking parlors, which occupied the rear addition about 1905-1912. The Union Building now houses Julie-Jackcyn Florist Shop.

The *Arcata Union*, established by Austin Wiley and managed in later years by his sons, made its appearance on July 31, 1886:

Good Morning According to previous announcements, we make our bow this morning and greet our patrons with the first issue of the Arcata Union. . . As stated in the prospectus, the paper will be independent in politics. . . It will be the object of the paper to aid in building up and assisting in the development of the resources of the northern portion of our county. . . (Arcata Union, 31 July 1886)

Published weekly, except for a brief period in the early 1900's when it was printed twice a week, the *Arcata Union* has a ninety-two year history of only three different publishing families. Upon Austin Wiley's retirement in 1898, Rease and Lee Wiley became the junior and senior partners respectively with Rease continuing the paper after Lee's death in 1917. In 1937, Gene Smith purchased the paper but only managed it until March 1, 1939 when Gordon Hadley purchased it. Hadley published the paper until February 1, 1973 when his son, Craig Hadley, was named publisher. Hadley senior remains president of Hadley Newspapers, Inc. with *The Union* continuing in family ownership as of this writing in December 1978.

THE BULL/HUNT-TAYLOR BUILDING

51

Construction Date 1890

Address 876 and 890 "G" Street

Location Lots 8 and 9, Block 166 —
AP# 21-041-09

Original Owner John C. Bull, Jr.

Interim Owners Jay L. McLaren (1903); John Harpst (1905); Kate Harpst; Vernon L. Hunt and A.J. Taylor (1923); Eva Hunt and Cora Taylor.

Present Owner Fred and Janice Slack (1965).

Description Two story; wood construction; false front with paired brackets; center parapet with cutout applique; four, square windows across upper facade replace a pair of double windows; modern plate-glass storefront with center recessed door.

Contractor Beers and Hall

Built as a livery stable to replace the one destroyed by the November 1889 fire, the Bull/Hunt-Taylor Building was constructed in early 1890. Ten tons of corrugated galvanized iron were shipped by steamer for the roof of the new building, the first to be constructed after the town's new fire ordinance went into effect. The *Arcata Union* noted at the time that the new building would never "take fire" from the roof as the other one had.

In 1901 the livery building was leased by Levi T. Darden and completely remodeled into a furniture store, occupied first by Darden's Big Store and three years later by Todd and Dolson. George Robinson and a crew of six men from Eureka did the carpentry work under H.A. Poland, contractor. The second story floor was raised four feet to make a large, well-lighted display room on the first floor. A new front was built to include plate-glass windows on the street level and a pair of double windows in the second story.

After dissolution of the Todd and Dolson partnership in 1905, the furniture store of J.G. Dolson Co. continued to occupy the building with the Dolson undertaking parlor on 9th Street in the little rear addition to the Union Building. The J.G. Dolson Co. was succeeded by the Old Reliable Furniture Company, opened by Robert McDowell in the south half of the building in 1912. The Dolson undertaking parlor moved into the north half about the same time. In December 1918, McDowell closed his business and Pete Canclini, who had occupied the little store next door on the south, moved his shoe shop into the vacated quarters. Canclini and Dolson shared the building until 1923 when Canclini moved to the Minor Shop on "H" and Dolson opened a funeral home with Mr. Devlin at 1070 "H".

In 1927, Jack Taylor moved his newsstand from the Union Hotel Building into what was then called the Taylor and Hunt Building where he occupied the north side. His news and ice cream shop was here until the 1940's. In 1929, the south side store became Batman's Variety Store, followed by Herbert Hill's Variety Store during the 1930's and into the 1940's. The two sides were consolidated in the 1940's and the Sequoia Grocery moved in from next door. Following the grocery store was Graves Dept. Store from the mid-1950's until the mid-1960's when the present occupant, St. Vincent de Paul, took possession.



THE NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST HALL/ MARINO'S CLUB



Construction Date 1891

Address 861 9th Street

Location Block 168 — AP# 21-102-05

Original Owner Union Hall Association

Interim Owner Arcata Parlor No. 20 Native Sons of Golden West (1904); Marino Orlandi (1947).

Present Owner Orlandi Investment Co. (1957).

Description Two story; wood construction; false front with bracketed cornice; rounded parapet; pair of overhanging, three-window slant bays with brackets above and panels below; upper facade covered two styles of patterned shingles; tiled street-level entrance remodeled for bar; neon sign and stationary awning; front entrance to upstairs apartments.

Architect Henry Orman

Contractor Orman and Miller

The new Union Hall building, fronting on 9th Street, in the block west of the Plaza, is completed and is a fine substantial edifice. It is the joint property of the Native Sons, Native Daughters and Orangemen of this place with the exception of a few shares held by outside parties. The building is 30 by 106 feet, two stories. The lower story is 14 feet in the clear, and is occupied by C.S. Daniels for furniture warerooms and undertaking establishment. It is divided into five rooms, two of which are sales rooms, one undertakers rooms, morgue room and workshop. In the south end of the second story is the hall where the orders will meet. It is 30 by 50 feet. The floor is covered by a heavy, rich carpet and all the appointments are of the most tasteful and well furnished order. In the front of the upstairs is a large parlor, 20 by 30, elegantly furnished and will be used for a club room. Between the front parlor and the hall is the ladies dressing room, a kitchen for preparing refreshments, a dining room and five property rooms. All the upstairs is finished with curly redwood, lard oil finish. The stairway leading to the second floor is six feet wide with walnut rail on each side. The building is plastered throughout and the walls upstairs are beautifully tinted. The main hall and parlor are finished with heavy cornices, nicely painted.

Plans of the building and rooms were drawn by Henry Orman and the work done by Orman and Miller, under contract. . . (Arcata Union, 5 Sept. 1891)

As with other buildings belonging to fraternal orders, the storefront below the meeting hall was rented out to provide income for the organization. At the time of construction, the lower floor was occupied by C.S. Daniels furniture and undertaking establishment. In the late 1890's, the Humboldt Manufacturing Company opened the Arcata Cash Store here, but it was short-lived. Sometime during the early 1900's, Fred Stouder ran a bike and engine repair shop here. By the late 1920's, Joe Gray had his Arcata Garage in the building. Following the repeal of prohibition in Dec. 1933, Banducci and Pritchard opened a bar here, but within a few years Marino Orlandi replaced Pritchard in the partnership. Included in the bar were two alleys and the establishment was called the Arcata Bowl. In the late 1930's, Orlandi bought out his partner and the place became Marino's Club, now owned by Orlandi's son, Reno. The N.S.G.W. Hall upstairs was converted into apartments after Mr. Orlandi purchased the building in 1947.

Arcata Union, 5 Sept. 1891; 28 Nov. 1891; 3 April 1897; 22 August 1908; 8 Sept. 1927.

Reno Orlandi, personal communication, 7 Dec. 1978.

Humboldt County Directories.

Deed Records.

THE LUMBER YARD OFFICE

53

Construction Date c. 1890

Address 1102 12th Street

Location Block 251 — AP# 20-115-03

Original Owner William Rogers

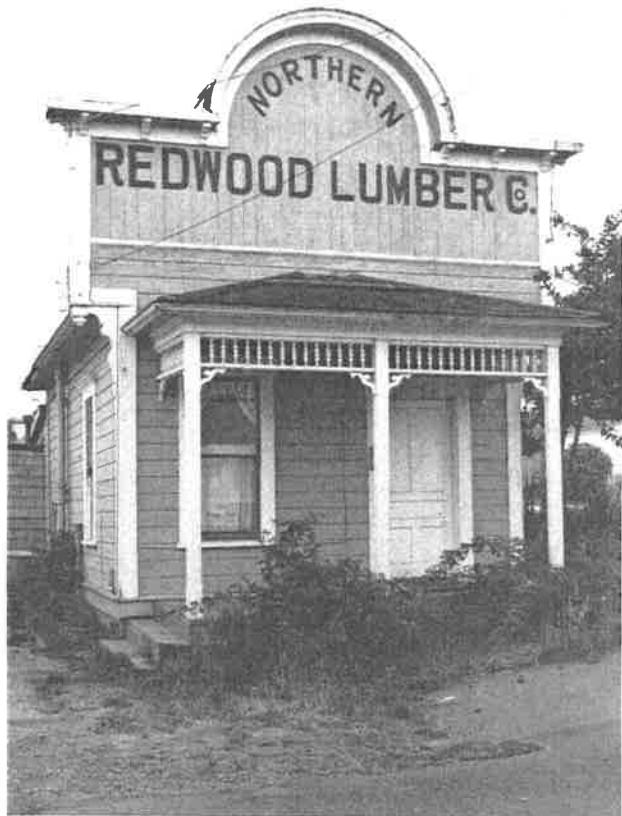
Interim Owners Rogers heirs (1941); S.T. & Evelyn Harding (1944); W.B. & Lucille Attaway (1948); Alvin and Elsie Potter (1955); Hugh & Winifred McKenzie (1955).

Present Owner Dryden & Katherine Ledbetter (1964).

Description One story office building; false front with tiny brackets; spool-and-spindle decoration and cutout brackets on porch; off-centered entrance; sits right on street, originally alongside A & MRRR.

Spool-and-spindle ornamentation and cutout brackets decorate the porch of this little false-front office, whose date of construction is unknown but estimated as c. 1890. Remembered by many Arcatans as the lumberyard office of the Northern Redwood Lumber Company, the building appears to have been built by the company's predecessor, the Riverside Lumber Company, who first leased the land from William Rogers in 1889 at the time of the company's incorporation. The November 9, 1889 *Arcata Union* noted the establishment of the Riverside Mill lumberyard in Arcata and agreed it was an enterprise the town's people had "felt the want of" for many years.

In 1903, consolidation of the Korbel Brothers' Mill at Blue Lake and their Arcata and Mad River Railroad with the Riverside Lumber Company brought about the formation of the Northern Redwood Lumber Company. Harry Jackson and Frank Graham of the Riverside Lumber Company were president and vice-president of the new company. Under its new name the lumberyard continued to operate, providing construction materials for local buildings until the mid-1930's. Since that time the little office has been used as a residence.



The Frank Graham House, 1906. Courtesy Erle Lee Hill and Dorothea Hill Fraser.

THE THOMAS DEVLIN HOUSE



The Victorian-style Thomas Devlin home is an apartment house today with additional units built up to the front steps, but at the turn-of-the-century, it was the elegant residence of one of Arcata's leading businessmen and his family.

Thomas Devlin came to Arcata in 1866 and started the first manufacturing company in town when he opened the Thomas Devlin Tanning Company at the northwest corner of 8th and "J" Streets. Using locally-produced hides and tan oak from the hills, Devlin prepared top-quality leather and was awarded the Grand silver medal at the San Francisco World's Fair in 1893. Devlin's sons—William, Thomas, Bruce, and Wallace—were involved in the company which continued operations into the 20th century.

For some months past carpenters have been busy building a new residence for Thomas Devlin which is a credit to Arcata, and a pleasing addition to the many pretty homes contained therein. When the work was planned it was intended to first simply remodel the old house but as the original plans were added to, the work was laid out on a more elaborate scale and the identity of the old house was merged into the new, making to all intent a new house throughout.

The style of architecture is Eastlake and it is a "house of seven gables." The front is finished with fancy square and round cut shingles with rosettes, carved and panel work. The northern end is surmounted by a large tower, the top of which is 40 feet from the ground. The tower forms a third story of the house and contains a number of colored glass windows. The porch is surmounted by a gable and has heavy carved pillars on either side. All the gables are fitted with round windows in the ends...
William Dean had the contract for the building of the house which was all done by Arcata carpenters...
(Arcata Union, 17 February 1900)

The original Devlin house was built about 1879, but a modest remodeling job begun in 1899 grew into major construction and the present house with its octagonal tower, pedimented portico and lavish decoration was completed in 1900.

*Arcata Union, 26 July 1905; 17 Feb. 1900.
 Deed Assessment Records.*

Construction Date Original house, c. 1879; present house, 1899-1900

Address 885 "K" Street

Location Block 171 — AP# 21-151-02.

Original Owner Thomas Devlin

Interim Owners Hannah Devlin, wife, (1904); Kate Devlin Minor, Nina Jane Brown, Elizabeth Devlin (1912); Catherine J. Brown (1941); Martin & Lorena Johnson (1946); Lee & Mary Roff (1946); Earl & Mable Roberts (1950).

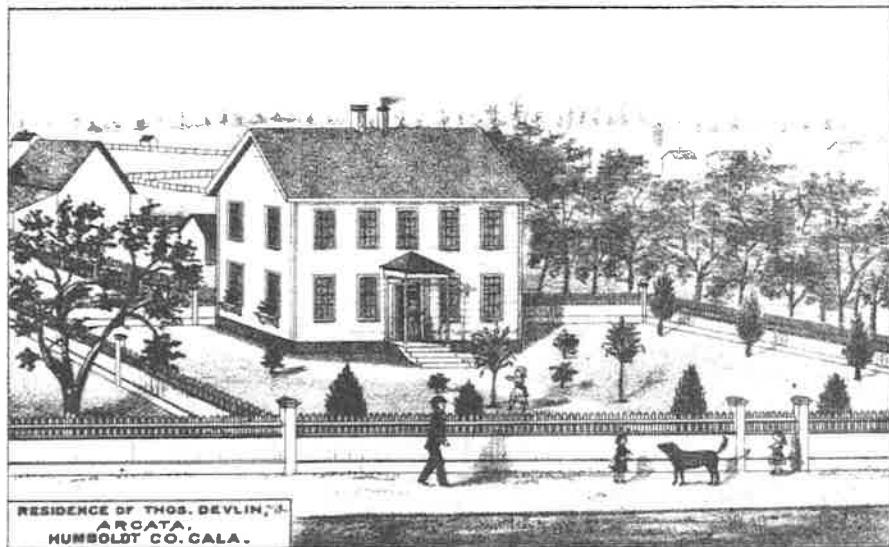
Present Owner William H. and Sara C. Thompson (1975).

Description 2½ story Queen Anne with Eastlake decoration; octagonal corner tower; pedimented gables with round windows; patterned shingles; decoration on frieze and on gable cornices; turned posts and carpenter cutout on portico; raised motif in portico pediment; colonnettes and strip moulding on tower; double entrance door with decorative moulding; converted to apartments with exterior steps.

Builder William Dean

It has been suggested that the house at 879 "K" is the same house pictured as the Thomas Devlin House in Elliott's 1882 History of Humboldt County. This researcher feels, however, that the 1882 Devlin House is the "old house" referred to in the *Arcata Union* article of 17 February 1900 and that it is the rear portion of 885 "K". This opinion is based on the following:

1. The 1882 Elliott lithograph of the Thomas Devlin house shows a two-story, end-gable house with five windows across the front of the second story. The house at 879 "K" is a one-and-a-half story, end-gable house with paired slant bays. There are no windows in the second story front and, in fact, there is neither sufficient height nor width for five full-length windows.



From History of Humboldt County California, W.W. Elliott and Co., San Francisco, 1882.

2. The *Arcata Union*, 17 February 1900, specifically mentions that the original intent before construction of 885 "K" was to "simply remodel the old house" but that plans were expanded so that "the identity of the old house was merged into the new." Inspection of the house at 885 "K" reveals a rear portion of two stories with sufficient height for front windows in the second story. According to Mrs. Mable Roberts Hollen, who owned 885 "K" from 1950 until 1975, structural framing in the attic of the old portion distinguishes it from the newer front portion. She also told this researcher that the old portion has an end-gable arrangement with the ridge running north and south.

3. Both Mrs. Hollen and Mrs. Fabio Antonegiovanni, who lives across the street at 884 "K", told this researcher that the little house at 879 "K" was moved to its present site. Mrs. Hollen said her first father-in-law, a Mr. Ferguson, moved it from near the present Post Office on 8th Street. Mrs. Antonegiovanni moved to her house in 1947 and said 879 "K" was across the street then, but she was told by the old-timers in the neighborhood that it had been moved there.

4. In the brochure, *Fifty Years of Progress*, printed by A. Brizard, Inc. in June 1913, there is a panorama photograph taken from the Brizard Store looking north. The sweep of the picture, however, is such that it includes 8th Street west of the Brizard Store. A one-and-a-half story, end-gable house with paired slant bays on the front appears near the southeast corner of 8th and "I" Streets. There is no apparent difference between this house and 879 "K" and they could be the same house, thus adding support to Mrs. Hollen's statement that 879 "K" was moved from near the Post Office on 8th Street.

5. Devlin daughters, Nina Brown and Elizabeth Devlin, told Mrs. Antonegiovanni that the house at the southeast corner of 9th and "K" Streets was the first Devlin house where the family lived after their arrival in Arcata in the late 1860's. According to deed records, Mr. Devlin purchased the block across "K" in 1879 and the following year's assessment indicates substantial improvements added to the land. From the information available, it appears Thomas Devlin built the house pictured in the 1882 lithograph in 1879 and that it was incorporated into the "new" house built in 1900 and now identified as the Devlin House at 885 "K" Street.

THE KIRK HOUSE



Built in 1876 for John Chapman, the Kirk house was remodeled into its present style in 1902. Termed "extensive improvements" by the editor of the *Arcata Union*, the "radical changes" included moving and enlarging the house, removing the roof, and constructing porches, porticos and gables to "make almost a new place out of it."

Exhibiting a mixture of architectural decoration, the Kirk house is basically Queen Anne with the irregular roofline, finial-topped towers, projecting upper story, and patterned shingles. However, the colonial-style porches, one of which is a pedimented portico, and the patterned window borders are typical of Arcata's turn-of-the-century architecture.

The Kirk house has been the home of several well-known Arcata families. James Kirk, a native of New Brunswick, came to California as a young man and was first associated in the logging business with Frank Graham. Later he was a partner with Isaac Minor and Isaac Cullberg in the Warren Creek Mill and during the early 1900's was involved with the Northern Redwood Lumber Co. He was married to Mary Selvage in 1878 and resided in the house until sometime after her death in 1910.

With the opening of the Humboldt Normal School at Arcata in the spring of 1914, the Kirk house was leased to the school's first president, N.B. Van Matre. Two years later the house was sold to Blue Lake dentist Mathew Fountain. Walter Wood, Arcata High School band director for many years, and his wife Tessa owned the house for twenty-seven years. The present owner, Ben Feuerwerker, converted it into a restaurant some years ago.

Construction Date Original house, 1876; present house, 1902.

Address 860 10th Street

Location Block 208 — AP# 21-104-12

Original Owner Original house, John Chapman; Present house, James Kirk.

Interim Owners James Kirk (1883); M.F. Fountain (1916); Walter N. & Tessa Wood (1925).

Present Owner Benjamin Feuerwerker (1952).

Description 1½ story Queen Anne; two round towers; irregular roofline; two gables with returns overhang slant bays; grouped columns on front porch and side portico; double door entrance with transom; round-headed windows in gables; two types of patterned shingles; borders of gable and center-bay windows divided in squares, diamonds, and triangles; floral filigree on porch cornice; dentil trim; converted into restaurant; located near business district.

THE MURRAY HOUSE

57

Construction Date 1901

Address 987 "F" Street

Location Block 195 — AP# 21-058-02

Original Owner George W. Murray

Interim Owners G.W.B. Yocom (1904); James Stanley (1904); Minnie Lewis (1904); Ellen Anderson (1908); Anderson heirs (1914); John P. Houda (1917); D.A. & Pauline Pease (1923); North American Building-Loan Association (1933); Tiny M. Niemi (1937); Ollie & Eugene Hartman (1937); Minnie D. Gist (1947); James & Janet Ely (1967); Center for Creative Arts (1974).

Present Owner Richard & Janet Rothrock
Cinda Lu Gaynor (1976)

Description Two-story, hipped roof house with pedimented gables; corner tower; flat-roofed colonial porch with balustrade; bay with large divided center window; without decoration except for porch cornice; rabbed 3-step siding; sits on corner above street level; old barn/garage at rear.

Builder Herman H. Gastman



A transitional architecture with elements of both Queen Anne and turn-of-the-century styles, the Murray house was built in 1901 as a family residence, but soon became the town's infamous red light house. While in the ownership of Minnie Lewis, it made the local newspapers on a number of occasions as city officials, residents, the Attorney General and Madam Lewis argued for and against closure. In 1905, Judge Wilson permanently enjoined Minnie Lewis from running a house of prostitution, but an appeal apparently allowed her to continue "business" until the fall of 1906 when the City Trustees passed a resolution that all the people leaving the house at 10th and "F" would be arrested. She appealed to the City but to no avail and the following spring found the house closed and Minnie's furniture on the way to Eureka.

The house was built by Arcata's well-known contractor Herman H. Gastman for George W. Murray, local undertaker and businessman. The corner tower, pedimented gables and bay windows are the linking features with the Victorian period, but the flat-roofed colonial porch and the enlarge bay window with divided border easily identify turn-of-the-century Arcata architecture.

THE HOREL HOUSE



Best described as Queen Anne with its corner tower, patterned shingles, bay window and gables, the Horel house is another example of an old house remodeled into a new style. The original structure was built in 1893 as a sanitarium where Dr. Horel treated surgical and medical cases and was Arcata's only "hospital" until 1907. An 1896 publicity booklet entitled *Eureka and Humboldt County*, published by R.M. Thompson and Co., had this to say about Dr. Horel's sanitarium:

This worthy institution, though a private enterprise, is one of greatest importance to the general public, supplying most excellent facilities for the proper care and treatment of the sick and injured. The want of an institution that would meet the requirements of those needing special medical and surgical attention was early recognized by Dr. F.R. Horel and Captain J.W. Liveringhouse, both of whom have had extensive experience in hospital work in the East. . . The numerous cases of injury to the men employed on the jetty by the government made it necessary to have a sanatorium where they could be treated properly when injured or sick, and Dr. Horel, being known as an efficient surgeon, was induced by the government to take charge of this institution. This added to those occurring in general practice, determined these gentlemen to build and equip an institution, where not only surgical cases but also all chronic and acute diseases could be properly treated. With this object in view, they erected (this) commodious structure. . . , planning its interior arrangement, and fitting it up with all conveniences and requisites for the systematic and efficient handling of the various cases which their experience and taught them were likely to need attention.

In 1904 the house underwent extensive remodeling, so complete, in fact, that the editor of the *Arcata Union* opined that "it is difficult to see how such a beautiful and artistic transformation could be made of the former residence." Working with contractor H.H. Gastman, one of Arcata's master builders, architect W.F. Hunter added the corner tower, pediments, bays, columned porch with recessed entrance and the decorative elements to transform the 1893 building into the present house.

Francis R. Horel was a native of Wisconsin and a graduate of Chicago's Rush Medical College in 1885. After six years of practice in Nebraska, he and Mrs. Horel settled in Arcata where he practiced medicine and was active in the civic and religious life of the community until his death in 1925.

Arcata Union, 8 Oct. 1904; 9 April 1925.
Eureka and Humboldt County, R.M. Thompson and Co., 1896.
 Deed and Assessment Records.

Construction Date Original building, 1893; present house, 1904

Address 980 13th Street

Location Block 272 — AP# 20-104-03

Original Owner Dr. and Mrs. F.R. Horel

Interim Owners Ruth Horel Caskey & Lois Horel Knight, daughters, (1924); Anna Horel, Dr. Horel's sister, (1925); Bank of America National Trust & Savings Association (1933); David P. and Mina Thacker (1937).

Present Owner Fernando & Maria Avelar (1965).

Description Two-story Queen Anne; corner tower; bay window; patterned shingles; brackets, dentils, stick decoration on bay and tower; barge board on gable; double steps with balustrade onto colonial entrance porch; transom and sidelights; stringcourse of dentils; sits high above street on corner lot; old stone retaining wall along with newer concrete block wall.

Architect William F. Hunter, 1904 house

Builder Herman H. Gastman, 1904 house

THE MORGAN HOUSE

59

Construction Date 1901

Address 1192 "G" Street

Location Block 235 — AP# 21-088-01

Original Owner Nelson B. Johansen

Interim Owners William N. Morgan (1902); Morgan heirs—Phoebe, widow, and children Lucretia Sorenson, Verner, Lorena, William N. and Margaret R. Morgan (1905).

Present Owner Jane Morgan Blankenship, granddaughter of the senior William N. Morgan (1959).

Description 2½ story house with gables and round corner tower; colonial porch with pilasters; southside bay window; rabbeded 3-step siding; patterned shingles on tower and porch; dentils; fanlights in pediments have colored glass panes; diamond-paned decorative windows; cobblestone foundation; identifying palm tree in front yard; corner lot on busy thoroughfare.

Architect Nelson B. Johansen

Carpenter William Popp



Another towered house with the popular colonial porch, the Morgan House was built by Nelson B. Johansen in 1901. One of the area's most skilled and versatile contractors, Johansen designed and built many of Arcata's fine homes. Carpenter work on this first Johansen house was done by William Popp, a German-trained craftsman. Apparently there was a close association between the two men as they worked together on a number of Arcata houses.

This unique house brings together a variety of architectural elements. The round corner tower, slant bay overhung by projecting upper story, gables, and patterned shingles are remnants of Victorian styles. The colonial porch with grouped columns and pilasters, the stained-glass window panes, and the three-step siding introduce the 20th century. The diamond-paned windows and cobblestone foundation work are found on Arcata houses built into the 1910's.

Johansen sold the house to William Morgan in 1902 and moved to Eureka. An early-day rancher and timberland owner, William N. Morgan came to Humboldt County from Pennsylvania in 1875. He and Phoebe Jane Wilson were married in 1884 and had five children: Lucretia (Sorenson), Verner, Lorena, William N. and Margaret. Sharing the house with her brother Verner, Lucretia lived here most of her adult life. The house is presently owned by the senior William N. Morgan's granddaughter, Jane Morgan Blankenship, who visits here in the summer time, and occupied by Mrs. Blankenship's daughter, Pippa Blankenship.

Arcata Union, 26 Jan. 1901; 16 Feb. 1901; 23 Dec. 1903.
Deed Records.

Irvine, Leigh. 1915. *History of Humboldt County California*. Historic Record Co., Los Angeles.
Jane Morgan Blankenship, personal communication, 8 Dec. 1978.

THE JACOBS HOUSE

Construction Date 1900

Address 986 12th Street

Location Block 249 — AP# 20-105-05

Original Owner Frank B. Jacobs

Interim Owners Calvin Armstrong & Jessie Rusthoi, step children, (1926); Alfred & Delyte Houle (1953); Dept. of Veterans Affairs, State of California, (1966); James L. Marvel (1966); Byron Mauzy (1975).

Present Owner Marshall Zain Hansen (1977)

Description 1½ story Queen Anne/Eastlake cottage; pedimented entrance porch with decorative motif, fan brackets, and cutouts, double doors with transom; gables with stickwork; patterned shingles; bay window with colored glass squares; quasi turret with finial attached to wall; large unique corner brackets; window mouldings; broad brick steps to porch.

Builder William Dean



The Jacobs house, a Victorian style cottage with Queen Anne and Eastlake elements, was built in 1900 by master carpenter William Dean for Frank B. Jacobs, manager of the nearby lumberyard. Lacking the tower associated with Victorian styles, it has, instead, a quasi turret with finial attached to the west side of the house. Decoration is rich and varied and includes delicate stickwork in the gables, a raised motif in the porch pediment with the letter "J", fan brackets and cutouts on the porch, and patterned shingles.

Three levels of gables face the street. The porch gable spans a wide, double-door entrance with transom. A smaller gable above contains a decorative window and the large side gable includes a straight-moulded Palladian-type window above a large bay.

THE KELLER HOUSE

61

Construction Date 1894

Address 1566 "I" Street

Location Block 313 — AP# 20-098-07

Original Owner Herman H. Gastman

Interim Owners Brousse and Elenore Brizard (1901); William Keller (1911); Emma Keller (1930).

Present Owner Lee R. and Maureen Johannsen (1962).

Description 1½ story, truncated hip roof; center roof gable with casement window; pedimented stoop with brackets; porch pillars with capitals and piers; moulded cornice with brackets; decorative window moulding; recessed central door with 15 panes of glass and divided transom.

Architect/Builder Herman H. Gastman



This neat little house was designed and built by Herman H. Gastman in 1894. As with others he built, the Keller house does not easily fit into a particular style, although it has interesting decorative detail and a popular turn-of-the-century truncated hip roof. The center roof pediment is repeated in a small stoop pediment supported by handsome pillars with distinctive capitals. A wide moulded cornice with unusual brackets and built-up window mouldings add a special touch to the ornamentation.

For Sale: Gastman property on the hill; 7 rooms; hot and cold water; stationary wash tubs; and all modern improvements. Lot 75' by 125' . . . (Arcata Union, 23 Dec. 1899)

In 1901 the house was sold to Brousse and Elenore Brizard. It became the William Keller home in 1911 and remained in the family until the present owner purchased it in 1962. In 1925, Keller had Arcata builder William Carrico remodel the interior, making it "a modern home." Ceilings were lowered from 14 to 8½ feet, rooms were enlarged, and a fireplace and hardwood floors were added. Good care through the years has preserved the beauty of this house and its surroundings.

THE CHAFFEY HOUSE



Herman H. Gastman was only twenty-two when he built this house at 6th and "G" Streets in 1887, but he was already a proven craftsman having built the Croghan Building on the Plaza the previous year and the Crescent City Grammar School. Built for his bride, Mary Ellsworth, whom he married in April 1888, the house is more like turn-of-the-century styles than the Queen Anne houses being built in Arcata at that time.

In 1899, the house was purchased from Gastman's father by William Chaffey, a native of Prince Edward Island and member of the large Chaffey family which settled at Alliance in 1874. William was married to May McConnaha in 1887 and they were the parents of Lolita (Webster), Mae (Saunders), and a son, Glenn, who was killed in action during the First World War. Mr. Chaffey was a partner in the Humboldt Manufacturing Company mill at 8th and "K" Streets where shingles were produced from 1894 until a fire destroyed the mill in 1915.

Since the house was purchased by Chaffey eighty years ago, it has been owned and occupied only by members of the Chaffey family. Following the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Chaffey in 1944, their daughters, Mae and Lolita, assumed ownership. Two years later it became the property of their cousin, Harry (Harold) and his wife, Adele. The house is presently owned by their son and daughter, Keith B. Chaffey and Mary Frances Fisher.

Construction Date 1887

Address 589 "G" Street

Location Block 114 — AP# 21-113-05

Original Owner Herman H. Gastman

Interim Owners Henry J. Gastman (1892); William Chaffey (1899); Lolita Chaffey Webster and Mae Chaffey Saunders (1944); Harold L. and Adele B. Chaffey (1946).

Present Owner Keith B. Chaffey and Mary Frances Fisher. (1970).

Description One story, gable roof; patterned shingles and spool-and-spindle stickwork in gable; roof pediment over entrance; four-window, square bays on each side of stoop and recessed door; stoop with chamfered posts on wall pier; slant bay on north side; asbestos shingle siding added.

Builder Herman H. Gastman



The crew at Humboldt Manufacturing Company Shingle Mill, Circa 1900, Courtesy Emitt Murray.



The first decade of the twentieth century was a period of experimentation and transition in Arcata architecture. Remnants of the Victorian past were combined with new elements of style and form in a kind of swan song, perhaps, for that opulent era. Bays, patterned shingles, and gables spilled over into the 1900's but were soon replaced with low hipped roof-lines, curved and extended eaves with false rafters and a rabbeted three-step patterned siding. Colonial Revival architecture made only a brief appearance during the middle of the decade. It was a period of diversity leading to that unique, California-inspired architecture of the Craftsman movement. It was also during this interlude between 19th century styles and modern bungalow forms that many older houses underwent remodeling to bring the "old fashioned" into the modern stream.

Other than the Colonial Revival, Arcata's transitional architecture failed to fit easily into specific classifications. Common to the period, however, were a number of distinguishing characteristics which were of such specificity that they can be used to date construction with a probable error of only a few years. To allow identification where no formal architectural styles have been designated, commonly-held features are grouped under a fabricated classification.

Gablet Cottage Several houses in this category were built in Arcata between 1903 and 1906. Identifying features include the gablet roof, one-story size, front slant bay with roof pediment, enlarged center bay window with a border of colored-glass squares, and a decorated porch of turned posts and cut-outs.

Hipped-Roof Box This was the most modest of houses built at the turn-of-the-century. Always one story and usually void of decoration, it had a central entrance stoop and undivided two-sash windows. A dressed-up version added paired bays with pediments joined by a roof across the entrance.

Workingman's Queen Anne Houses of this classification were built between 1904 and 1910. Of one-and-a-half stories, they had gabled rooflines, patterned shingles on a projecting upper story that overhung a slant bay, and modest decoration.

Colonial Revival Built in Arcata between 1906 and 1908, Colonial Revival houses were a full, two stories and had curved and extended hipped roofs, false balconies, recessed porches with columns, and diamond-paned windows.

Bungalowoid House Certainly the forerunner of California's own bungalow style, this house was built in Arcata between 1905 and 1910. Characteristics include a low hipped roofline with extended and curved eaves supported by false rafters, diamond-shaped and geometric-patterned muntins in the upper window sash which was generally shorter than the lower sash, and a rabbeted siding molded into a three-step pattern to give the appearance of narrow, overlapping boards. Those houses of one-and-a-half stories had roof dormers which repeated the roofline of the house.

Single examples of other styles, combinations of styles, and even houses of 19th century architecture were also built during this period of transition.

THE STEWART HOUSE

Construction Date 1904

Address 1180 "C" Street

Location Block 239 — AP# 21-071-01

Original Owner Carl P. and Alma Anderson

Interim Owners Hugh B. Stewart (1920); Georgia Stewart, widow (1957).

Present Owner Jonathan and Sayoko Lu (1967).

Description 1½ story, front-facing gable with returns; north side gable over slant bay; 3-window slant bay on front; entrance stoop with turned posts, cut-out decoration, and tiny roof pediment; patterned shingles on upper story; rabbeted 3-step siding; stickwork in gables; small porch window with colored glass border; knob and cresting decoration overhangs corner bay window.



Perhaps best described as a workingman's Queen Anne, this house type was built in the Humboldt Bay region during the early 1900's. The patterned shingles, projecting upper story, bay windows, and modest decoration indicate its link with the Queen Anne, but the version is definitely simplified in both form and ornamentation.

This house and the Inskip House next door were the first houses built on the block after the Fry Tract was opened to development in 1904.

One of the choicest parcels of Arcata real estate is to be placed on the market by George Burchard. Plots prepared subdividing the Fry Tract into one-half and one-quarter block and extra size lots. Sightly tract of five blocks with a commanding view of the bay.
(Arcata Union, 9 April 1904)

Although original owners Carl and Alma Anderson owned the house until 1920, local residents recall it as the home of the Stewart family. Hugh B. Stewart is well-remembered in Arcata for his long and dedicated career with the local elementary schools. A native of Eureka, he served as principal of the Arcata Grammar School from 1911 until 1925 when he became Superintendent, a position he held until his retirement in 1952.

THE INSKIP HOUSE

65

Construction Date 1904

Address 1162 "C" Street

Location Block 239 — AP# 21-071-07

Original Owner John Edwin Larsen

Interim Owners Louisa Larsen Alden (1915);
Herbert R. Inskip (1920).

Present Owner Elta Stromberg Henricksen
(1959).

Description 1½ story, front-facing gable with returns; enclosed sunporch; fish-scale shingles on upper story, shiplap siding below; knob-and-cresting decoration on bay overhang; cross gables with returns; southside sunporch.



Another workingman's Queen Anne is the Inskip house built for woodsman John Edwin Larsen in 1904. An Ericson photograph, probably taken when the house was built, shows the Larsen family in the yard with Hume L. Fry's stump house in the background. The only facade changes are the enclosed sunporches on the front and south side. Patterned shingles, cross gables, a projecting upper story over the corner bay, and one tiny bit of crest-and-knob decoration are Victorian touches to this early 20th century house.

Herbert R. Inskip, station agent for the N.W.P.R.R., moved to Arcata from South Bay in 1916. He was the son of well-known Humboldt County educator, Philip Inskip, and was married to Maude Knight of the pioneer Table Bluff family. In 1920, the Inskips purchased the house from Edwin Larsen's sister. There were five sons and a daughter in the Inskip family and as one son recalled, "a lot of living went on" in the roomy old home. Mr. Inskip lived here for almost forty years before selling it to the present owner in 1959.



The Inskip House, Circa 1904.

Herbert R. Inskip, personal communication, 1973.
Deed and Assessment Records.
Arcata Union, 7 Sept. 1916.

THE McCORMACK-MacMILLAN HOUSE



Construction Date 1903

Address 1056 13th Street

Location Block 271 — AP# 20-111-06

Original Owner Rosetta McCormack

Interim Owners Ronald and Vera MacMillan (1924).

Present Owner Brooks and Carolyn Otis (1975).

Description 1½ story house with multiple gables; returns on gables; stickwork in gables; bays; columned portico; shiplap siding; basement; small lot on hillside.

Contractor Rease Brothers

This house of gables and bays sits high above street level with a view to the south. Built by the Rease Brothers for Rosetta McCormack in 1903, it has a complex roofline of projecting gables with cornice returns. One overhangs a corner slant bay, another is supported by grouped columns for the portico, another provides light and space for the stairway, and the east side gable overhangs a two-window bay.

Since its construction seventy-five years ago, this handsome house has had only three owners: Mrs. McCormack, who used the house as a rental; Ronald and Vera MacMillan, owners for more than fifty years; and the present owners, Brooks and Carolyn Otis, who purchased the property in 1975.

THE GASTMAN-GAYNOR-BEER HOUSE

67

Construction Date 1902

Address 1362 "K" Street

Location Block 271 — AP# 20-111-09

Original Owner Herman H. Gastman

Interim Owners Joseph Hinch (1907); Patrick Gaynor (1908); May Gaynor (1909); Samuel W. Beer (1920); Ernest R. and Mattie Linser (1927); Richard W. and Marian Johnson (1946); Rob Roy and Lola Jean Nielson (1953); Earl and Phyllis Jones (1956).

Present Owner Chester and Esther McCann (1965).

Description Large, two-story house with basement; multiple gables with returns; projecting gables overhang slant bays; large center bay window with decorative, colored-glass borders; fish scale shingles above, plain shingle siding below; pedimented portico with columns; decorative filigree on portico cornice; hilltop site overlooking bottom land.

Architect/Builder Herman H. Gastman



Typical features of this popular early 1900's style are the multiple gables overhanging slant bays, the wide center bay windows with decorative panes of colored glass, patterned shingles, and the pedimented columned porch. The house was built by local contractor Herman H. Gastman for his family in 1902. Son of German immigrants Henry and Margaret Gastman, Herman was born at Fort Anderson on Redwood Creek in 1865. At age 18, he was apprenticed to Hans Bendixsen where he learned the shipbuilding trade and developed his design and carpentry skills.

In 1886, he began his career as a contractor with the construction of the Croghan Building (Vernon Hunt Building) at the southwest corner of 9th and "H" Streets. The following year he built the house at 589 "G" (Chaffey House) a few months before his marriage to Mary Ellsworth in April 1888. Until the family moved to the Bay area in 1906, Mr. Gastman was actively involved in construction and was responsible for a number of Eureka buildings as well as Arcata buildings which included the Keller House at 1566 "I", the house at 1492 "H", the Murray House at 987 "F", the A. Brizard home, the Cullberg-Simpson House at 1348 "I", and the remodeled Dr. Hotel's house at 980 13th.

The Patrick Gaynor family, including the four popular Gaynor daughters, Gwen, Aletha, Elenor and Helen, lived here from 1908 until 1920. A long-time rancher and store keeper at Janes Creek, Gaynor was also involved in real estate and served as the local agent for the residential development of Richmond. In 1915, while searching for an alleged cache of gold in Central America, Gaynor died of yellow fever and was buried there. His family continued to live in this house until 1920 when Mrs. Gaynor moved to Berkeley to be near her daughters.

Well-remembered is the house's subsequent owner, Sam Beer, who owned a real estate and insurance business in Arcata for forty-five years. While living in this house during the 1920's, he transformed the vacant lot on the north into a colorful dahlia garden.



THE STROBEL HOUSE

Construction Date Original house, c. 1874; present house, 1904-05.

Address 1621 "J" Street

Location Block 330 — AP# 20-141-12

Original Owner Original house, Nathan & Mary Snider; Present house, Augustus and Alida Strobel

Interim Owners Mary Snider Daniels; Alvia Snider (1893); Alida Strobel (1894); J.E. Young (1920); Arcata Savings Bank (1926); Mathilde Jansen (1936); Harry D. & Edlia Stoddard (1945); Gerald Flynn (1968); Allan P. Hess (1969).

Present Owner K. Preston

Description 1½ story, multiple gables with returns; porch with columns on wall pier; projecting gable overhangs slant bay; gable stickwork; round window on porch; decorative windows with upper part divided into geometric designs; sunburst applique over front window; dentils on window moulding; shiplap siding.

An old house, built about 1874, was remodeled in 1904-05 by Carpenter Collins into a modern house with gables, bays, a colonial porch, and stylish windows. The story surrounding the purchase of the house by Mrs. Strobel from Nathan Snider's son, Alvia, in 1894 is found in a newspaper article:

Alvia Snider, an old resident of this town, has traded his two houses near the cemetery for the merry-go-round that has been running here for two weeks past. He sold one-half interest to a friend and the two are now operating the go-round at the Roherville fair. (Arcata Union, 29 Sept. 1894).

A bill of sale from Alida Strobel to Ida Snider (Alvia's wife) and James Eglos for a "steam merry-go-round" was recorded on the 22nd of September 1894, the same date as the deed from Alvia and Ida Snider to Alida Strobel for the parcel of land where this house and another to the north are located.

The Strobel's came to Arcata in 1894, evidently with a merry-go-round, and Mr. Strobel soon opened a "first class restaurant" known as the Arcata Restaurant and Bakery, located on the north side of the Plaza. He was so successful that within two years he had branch stores in Blue Lake and Alliance and ran a daily bakery wagon from Arcata.

A native of Rome, New York, Augustus Benedict Strobel died in 1906 at the age of 50. His tribute called him a "jovial, whole-souled kind of man, who always looked on the bright side of things"—a fitting description of a man who came to town with a merry-go-round.

THE FOLTZ-SJOMAN (SHERMAN) HOUSE

69

Construction Date c. 1900

Address 984 16th Street

Location Block 329 — AP# 20-101-12

Original Owner Amos Foltz

Interim Owners Foltz heirs (1914); Andrew Olsen (1916); William J. McMillan (1922); Oscar and Elizabeth Sjoman (1928); Sjoman children—Olga Pederson, Hugo Sherman and Hector Sherman (1932).

Present Owner Constance Sherman (1957).

Description One story, hipped roof; narrow two-pane windows; center door with transom; stoop with turned posts; west side chimney flanked by two narrow windows; corner boards and cornice moulding; rear gable section with porch is probably original house.



The Foltz-Sjoman (Sherman) House is a simple, hipped-roof box popular at the turn-of-the-century as a workingman's home. Although the rear portion with its west-facing porch appears to be considerably older, the main house was probably built for Amos Foltz, pioneer Bayside rancher, who purchased the property upon his retirement in 1900. Assessments list improvements on the land before that time, but a doubled value for 1901 seems to indicate construction the previous year.

In 1916, the Foltz heirs sold the house to Andrew Olsen, another pioneer settler, who came to this country from Norway and worked on the transcontinental railroad before coming to Humboldt County. W.J. McMillan purchased the house in 1922 and it was during his ownership that the fireplace was added and other modernizing changes took place. Oscar and Elizabeth Sjoman moved into the house from their Arcata Bottom ranch in 1928. Four years later their children, Olga Pederson, Hugo Sherman and Hector Sherman, assumed ownership of the house, which is presently owned and occupied by Mrs. Hugo Sherman.



THE SORENSEN HOUSE

Construction Date 1902

Address 1651 "J" Street

Location Block 330 — AP# 20-141-11

Original Owner Henry Sorenson

Interim Owners Richard H. Sorenson and Anne E. Berker (1964).

Present Owner Richard H. and Veron Richard H. and Verona Sorenson (1966).

Description 1½ story hipped roof with cross gables; projecting pediments over slant bays flank porch pediment; triangular dormer; tiny triangular windows in bay pediments; quarter-wheel brackets under pediments; patterned shingles in pediments; rabbeted 3-step siding; dentils; porch with delicate cutouts, brackets, and turned posts; entrance with transom and sidelights; enlarged center bay window with smaller divided upper pane.

Builders Jasper Reed and Ben Sorenson

This house of triangles is unique in Arcata's architectural heritage, although it has a plain counterpart at 1169 "C" Street. Projecting pediments with tiny triangular windows sit atop slant bays on either side of a beautifully decorated porch pediment. Delicate cutouts, brackets, patterned shingles, and another triangle highlight the entrance. A small triangular dormer and cross gables add more three-sided figures to the house.

Built for Henry Sorenson by his father-in-law, Jasper Reed, and his brother, Ben Sorenson, the house remains in family ownership with his grandson and family, the Richard Sorensons, as present owners. Born in Denmark, Henry Sorenson came to Humboldt County where he was raised by an uncle near Blocksburg. After graduating from Eureka Business College, he worked in the Dixon's Store in Loleta until 1902 when he came to Arcata and opened a Satisfactory Store known as Sorenson and Matzen. Three years later the store closed and Sorenson took a job in the C.S. Daniels clothing store. Accepting a position with the First National Bank in 1913, Sorenson began a long association with the banking business and in time became manager of the Bank of Italy.

THE LISCOM HOUSE

71

Construction Date 1899-1900

Address 1361 "J" Street

Location Block 271 — AP# 20-111-02

Original Owner George H. Liscom, Sr.

Interim Owner George H. Liscom, Jr. and Eva Liscom.

Present Owner Eva Liscom.

Description One story, truncated hipped roof; center door flanked by 4-window square bays joined by roof over entrance; pediments above bays; door with two arched panes of glass in upper part and panels below.



Completed in 1900 for George H. Liscom, Sr., this house is a good example of a popular turn-of-the-century style noted for its paired, pediment-topped bays, which flank a recessed entrance. Arcata had several such houses with variations ranging from the heavily-decorated Ray House at 11th and "I" Streets to this completely unadorned version.

In 1897, Frank and Mary Liscom, who lived directly north of this house, deeded the south half of their property to their son George H. Liscom, Sr. Construction of the house began in February 1899, but work wasn't completed until the spring of 1900. In 1920, George H. Liscom, Jr. brought his bride, Eva Osmor, to live in the family home where she continues to reside.



DR. RAY'S HOUSE

Construction Date 1889

Address 886 11th Street

Location Block 233 — AP# 21-091-01

Original Owner Dr. C. B. Ray

Interim Owners Jessie May Ray (1898); Charles Q. Ray (1919); Frank E. Sapp (1924); Ivan Sapp & Alma Jane Purlenky (1954).

Present Owner Loyce and Elva Desadier (1976).

Description One-story, truncated hip roof; paired, 4-window square bays connected by roof over entrance; cornice brackets; brackets on bay cornice; strip window moulding; window hoods; original center door replaced by small windows and double entrances; west rear addition with enclosed sunporch; water tower at rear of property.

Builder Shepherd Hall

Carpenter Shepherd Hall built this fine house of paired bays for Arcata's "jolly dentist" Dr. C.B. Ray in 1889. Although the original center door was replaced with two small windows and double entrances when the house was converted into a duplex in 1924, the architecture is preserved. Twin, four-windowed square bays, topped by pediments, are connected by the porch roof. Cornice brackets, porch cutouts, and window hoods and moulding provide a Victorian touch to this elegant little house.

In 1898, Dr. Ray had William Dean build the 40-foot water tower at the rear of the property. The 2,000 gallon tank and wind mill are gone, but the remaining base is a reminder of earlier days when water was pumped by the wind and stored for gravitational flow to the house.

THE MILLER HOUSE

73

Construction Date present house, c. 1900

Address 1193 "G" Street

Location Block 234 — AP# 21-098-04

Original Owner John Ivar Miller (?)

Interim Owners Lily Miller, daughter (1935); Miller heirs, Charles K. Trewelia, Earl Pederson, Jack Pederson, and Diane Tompkins (1973).

Present Owner G. M. Anderson and D. E. and N. J. Tranberg (1978).

Description 1½ story end gable house; center door flanked by paired slant bays joined by roof over entrance; pediments above bays; tiny brackets on entrance cornice; strip decoration on bays; cornice returns on gables; gable roof at rear.



Original ownership and date of construction for the Miller House are questionable. Assessment records for both the Odd Fellows and John Miller, who purchased the property from the Lodge in 1899, indicate some kind of improvement on the property before Miller purchased it. According to Earl Pederson, an heir to the Miller estate, John Miller enlarged and remodeled the early house into the present style with the paired, pedimented bays. Because this architectural feature was generally found on hipped-roof houses, it may indicate that the bays were added to the original end-gable house, which appears in a 1903 Ericson photograph taken from the block just north. Assessments are unclear as to when these improvements were made, but the style indicates turn-of-the-century architecture.

John Miller's daughter, Lily, assumed ownership of the house in 1935. A long-time employee of the California Barrel Company, Lily lived in the house until her death in 1973. Since that time it has been used as a rental, first by her heirs and now by the present owners.

THE TRACY-DAMGAARD HOUSE

Construction Date 1904



Address 1712 "J" Street

Location Block 352 — AP# 20-154-17

Original Owner Lodema Tracy (Mrs. John Tracy)

Interim Owners Peter M. and Norma Tracy; Peter P. Damgaard (1920); Ingeborg Marie Damgaard, wife, (1921); Damgaard heirs (1951); Stanley and Deane Godden (1951); Stacey and Thelma Sacchi (1964).

Present Owner Stacey Sacchi (1976).

Description One story, hipped roof; paired slant bays joined by roof over entrance; center door with old-type screen door; sits above ground level; rear south side porch with turned posts; beautiful setting beside duck pond.

Builder J. Gordon

At the turn-of-the-century Arcata's masonry needs were supplied by John Tracy and his sons, who had a brick and tile yard on north "J" Street near the entrance to Greenwood Cemetery. Today a little duck pond identifies the site alongside this house built by Mrs. Lodema Tracy in 1904. Natives of Missouri, the Tracys had eleven children including Peter, well-known locally for his brick and cement work, and Robert, "Arcata's properous fish merchant" who ran a commercial fisheries on the Mad River for twenty years until his death during the 1918 flu epidemic.

Mrs. Lodema Tracy has lumber on the ground for a five room house which she intends erecting for her own use near the brick and tile works. Carpenter Gordon will commence work in a few days.

(*Arcata Union*, 2 April 1904)

THE LEVY-SEIDELL BUILDING/THE PARK HOUSE

75

Construction Date 1903

Address 846, 850, 854, 860 "G" Street

Location Lots 5, 6, & 7, Block 166 —
AP# 21-041-08

Original Owner Robert Burns, then Louis Levy

Interim Owners G. W. Averell and Moses Greenwald (1907); Albert Seidell (1910); Elza Albert Seidell and Oliver G. Seidell, sons (1950); Helen Seidell (1960).

Present Owner Fred and Janice Slack (1962).

Description Two story; wood construction; three, 3-window slant bays projecting from upper story; three street-level stores with plate-glass windows and center doors, all remodeled from original.

Builder Nelson B. Johansen



In November 1889 a devastating fire destroyed the Arcata Hotel on the east side of the Plaza. The land remained vacant until construction of Henry Sorenson's store on Lot Four in 1902. The following year, Robert Burns, owner of Lots Five, Six, and Seven, undertook construction of a 50-foot store for the Diamond Fruit Company. Mark Wright prepared the cement piers for the foundation in January and Nelson B. Johansen began work in February. During construction, however, the lots were purchased from Burns by Louis Levy who then completed the Diamond Fruit Co. building and added another 25 feet onto the south. The 28 March 1903 *Arcata Union* noted that the Levy Building was progressing rapidly with the bay windows almost completed, making "the front . . . an ornament to the building and to this side of the square."

Upper floor rooms became a lodging house, known as the Park House, and over the next sixty years provided living accommodations for many Arcata residents. The three, street-level stores housed a number of different businesses, some of which occupied the building for many years.

The store at 860 "G" was occupied by Joe Roba's Diamond Fruit Company between 1903 and 1907. Purchased by Amato Banducci, the fruit and vegetable business continued at this location until Banducci's new store was built in 1925. The Sequoia Grocery, started by Ogher and Jacomella, moved into the vacated store and occupied it until the 1940's. After Sequoia Grocery came the College News and Sporting Goods store, later renamed Malm and Murray. Closed in the late 1960's, the store remained vacant for several years before Whole Earth Foods opened in the early 1970's. The Outdoor Store moved here in 1976.

The middle store, originally 854 "G," is remembered as the long-time home of the Varsity restaurant, first known as the Varsity Sweet Shoppe under the ownership of George Rossi in the mid-1920's. Beginning in 1908 when Bernard Johnson opened a confectionery here, the store has had continual use as a confectionery, ice cream shop, and/or restaurant. Following Johnson were Ernest Garcelon in 1915, Mrs. Dougherty in the early 1920's, and a Mr. Williams in 1924. Robert Gayhart, who purchased the Varsity from Rossi in the late 1920's, sold out to Paul and Anna Ely in 1945. Managed by the Elys for over twenty years, it was finally closed in 1978 and the space absorbed by the Plaza Gourmet.

The early history of the store now occupied by the Plaza Gourmet (846 "G") is somewhat clouded, but from sometime between 1907 and 1910 until the 1950's it was occupied by the Sunset Telephone/Pacific Telephone office. Following the telephone company were several insurance businesses, Gene Souligny's jewelry store in the late 1960's, and finally the present business in the early 1970's.

Arcata Union, 23 Nov. 1889; 4 Oct. 1902; 17 Jan. 1903; 7 Feb. 1903; 28 March 1903; 22 August 1903; 30 Nov. 1904; 30 March 1907; 31 August 1907; 11 Jan. 1910; 30 Dec. 1915; 10 April 1924; 26 Feb. 1925; 29 Oct. 1925.

Paul Ely, personal communication, 25 Nov. 1978.
Emitt Murry, personal communication, 6 Dec. 1978.
Humboldt County Directories.
Deed Records.

THE ZEHNDNER-PARTON HOUSE



Construction Date 1902

Address 1164 14th Street

Location Block 291 — AP# 20-135-05

Original Owner George Zehndner

Interim Owners Thomas Henry and Eleanor Parton (1919); George & Marilyn Berry (1961); Robert & Marion Meeks (1966); Richard & Margaret Abbot (1970).

Present Owner Betty Jain (1975).

Description 1½ story, gable roof; added dormers; sunporch across south; bracketed stoop onto porch; cornice dentils and brackets; windows with bracketed hoods and decorative moulding; paired, slant bays now covered by sunporch; spacious yard, trees, fish pond.

Builder William Popp

In 1902 after thirty years residency on the farm west of town, George Zehndner moved to this cottage high on the bluff overlooking the Arcata Bottom. The house was built by William Popp, Zehndner's nephew and a skilled carpenter. Tastefully decorated with cornice dentils, brackets, and window ornamentation, it has a fashionable gable roof highlighted by little "lions" on the front and rear peaks. Paired, slant bays are now hidden by the added sunporch.

After Zehndner's death in 1916, his widow broke up housekeeping, selling most of her furniture and moving into the newly build Hotel Arcata. She sold the house in 1919 to Thomas and Eleanor Parton, whose family enjoyed their hilltop home for more than forty years. It was during their ownership that the upstairs was converted into separate living quarters with the addition of roof dormers. In recent years the house has suffered from neglect and abuse, but the present owner has undertaken extensive renovation and, where possible, restoration of this fine home.



The George Averell Store, Circa 1919. Courtesy Ana Averell Johnson.

THE GEORGE AVERELL HOUSE

77

Construction Date 1901; remodeled, 1927.

Address 890 12th Street

Location Block 248 — AP# 21-092-01

Original Owner George Averell

Interim Owners Ana Averell Johnson and Lester Johnson (1939); Elmer and Evelin Biladeau (1964); Allan P. Hess (1970); Douglas R. Hess (1975); Robert J. Lawton (1976).

Present Owner Richard Scheinman (1978).

Description 1½ story, gable roof with dormer; stickwork in gable; sunporch across front; shiplap siding; sits high above street level with retaining wall.

Builder Isaac Beers, 1901; J. A. Hunter & J. B. Tilley, 1927.



Built in 1901 by Isaac Beers for George Averell, the house has a stylish gable roof with fine stickwork in the tiny gables. Window moulding is plain except for a modest lintel and a hint of decoration of the sill. In 1927 carpenters J. A. Hunter and J. B. Tilley added the 8' by 22' porch and changed the steps to enter from the east side rather than the south. The southwest corner of the porch was enclosed with glass and Mark Wright, long-time concrete man, built the steps, retaining wall, and sidewalk. Interior remodeling lowered the eleven-foot ceilings to nine and converted the attic to bedrooms, which required the addition of the dormer. The house was completely renovated in 1977, but care was taken to retain the old home's character.

The house was the long-time family home of George and Mary Averell. Son of Arcata pioneer Dunbar D. Averell, George began his business career in 1901 with Moses Greenwald in a "gents' furnishing" store. Their partnership was dissolved in 1917, but Averell continued the business for another twenty years. In 1939 the Averell daughter, Ana, and her husband, Lester Johnson, became owners of the house, which remained in the family until 1964.



THE BATICH HOUSE

Construction Date 1906

Address 98 13th Street

Location Block 14, Union Addition — AP# 20-039-06

Original Owner Antone Batich

Interim Owners Josephine Batich (1931); Gottfried Roth (1947); Paul and Doris Kjer (1955); Roger and Jane Cinnamon (1960); Robert and Wanda Jett (1966).

Present Owner Daniel and Linda Forbes (1968).

Description One story, hipped roof; pedimented stoop with turned posts and cutout brackets; tiny cornice brackets; four-pane windows; cresting on roof top; sits below street level; park and creek behind house.

One of the most delightful homes in Arcata, this house was built for Antone and Josephine Batich in 1906. Enjoying a beautiful setting with a redwoods backdrop, the house is maintained in immaculate condition and well-complemented by a tastefully-landscaped yard. It displays the typical turn-of-the-century hipped roof, but a number of small architectural features add those special touches to make the house truly distinctive.

Tiny cornice brackets along with larger corner brackets encircle the house, the entrance stoop is highlighted by a small pediment with turned posts and cutout brackets and shelters a handsome, paneled door, and the ridge of the wood shingle roof is decorated with a tiny bit of cresting. Utilizing the slope of the land and the location of the house, the owners have created a unique street entrance.

... out toward the Park on 13th Street carpenters have the foundation for a good-sized and substantial home for Antone Batich who is employed at Bayside and who has cast his lot with Arcata.

(*Arcata Union*, 10 March 1906)

DEVLIN COTTAGES

Construction Date 1904

Address 1112 7th Street

Location Block 150 — AP# 21-156-02

Original Owner Thomas Devlin

Interim Owners Hannah Devlin (1905); William Grant Devlin, son, (1906); Seely and Titlow Co. (1916); Michael John & Mary Brogan (1918); Myrtle & Lloyd Reynolds (1945); Kent & Edith Stromberg (1963).

Present Owner Walter and Diane Del Biaggio (1965).



Construction Date 1904

Address 1136 7th Street

Location Block 150 — AP# 21-156-03

Original Owner Thomas Devlin

Interim Owners Hannah Devlin (1905); Wallace Devlin, son, (1906); Manuel Rocha (1912); Rosa Rocha, widow, (1946); Fred and Abel Rocha, sons, (1960).

Present Owner Alberto and Serafina Furtado (1960).



Arcata's first tract houses were built for Thomas Devlin on Karp calls "space surrounded by wood." Typical of Arcata's with Frank M. Liscom, Sr., Marion Stokes, and Thomas Barter did the work on the four cottages which were described in the August 20, 1904 *Arcata Union*:

They are one-story structures, and the front of all are exactly the same. The buildings on each end have six rooms and the ones between have five with a pantry and bathroom and a woodshed will be built later, giving them all the modern conveniences. They have large bay windows in front, and also a very comfortable porch. Being built high from the ground they will be free from all dampness . . .

Some time ago Mr. Devlin figured that it was a loss to him to try to raise any crops on the land and he decided to build some cottages for rent. They will add much to the appearance of that part of Arcata as new sidewalks will be built and a new street opened.

Arcata Union, 20 August 1904.

Deed Records.

Karp, Ben. *Wood Motifs in American Domestic Architecture*. A.S. Barnes & Co., Inc. South Brunswick, N.J. 1966.



Construction Date 1904

Address 1162 7th Street

Location Block 150 — AP# 21-156-04

Original Owner Thomas Devlin

Interim Owners Hannah Devlin (1905); Bruce B. Devlin, son, (1906); Samuel McCurdy (1915); Mabel Maggi, niece, (1931); Giovanni and Santina Giuntoli (1936).

Present Owner Santina Giuntoli (1962).



Construction Date 1904

Address 1188 7th Street

Location Block 150 — AP# 21-156-05

Original Owner Thomas Devlin

Interim Owners Hannah Devlin (1905); Thomas D. Devlin, son, (1906); Theotonio Ferrera (1921); Enos Sousa (1925); Angelina Sousa (1926); Angelina and Michael Santo, (1930); Santi & Maria Giuntoli (1936).

Present Owner Santi R. and Mae J. Giuntoli (1964).

Description One-story, gable roof; three-window slant bay with pediment; porch with turned posts, brackets, sawn ornamentation above and on balustrade; large center bay window with colored glass border; strip moulding on bay; shiplap siding; row of four.

Contractor Isaac Beers

The house at 1188 7th is the only one of the four still displaying the beautiful porch decoration of the carpenter's saw. Turned posts with brackets add to this array of what Ben Karp calls "space surrounded by wood." Typical of Arcata's first decade of the 20th century is the slant bays with its wide center window and stain glass border. The Tinkey house at 947 Union is identical to this row and was built at the same time.

THE CULLBERG-SIMPSON HOUSE

81

Construction Date 1903

Address 1348 "I" Street

Location Block 273 — AP# 21-093-02

Original Owner Charles S. Daniels

Interim Owners Amanda Meyer (1904); Viola C. Hedden and Alice M. Hill (1909); Alice M. Hill (1920); Ebba M. Cullberg (1924).

Present Owner Ebba M. Cullberg Simpson

Description 1½ story gable roof with added dormers on south side; patterned shingles in gable; beautiful porch with turned posts, carpenter cutouts across top and cutout balustrade; strip window moulding; corner bay with pedimented roof; diamond-paned border in upper sash of large center bay window; two, small porch windows with square-paned border; almost hidden by trees and bushes in front.

Builder Herman H. Gastman



Monday morning work will be commenced on a six-room cottage for Charles Daniels on the lot adjoining the property of Robert Roberts. The house will be a modern cottage set high up off the ground with a basement underneath. H.H. Gastman will have charge of the work which will be done by the day. Mr. Daniels is building the place to sell or to rent which is good news for a town where houses are as scarce as they are here.

(Arcata Union, 28 March 1903)

M.F. Fowler and Sewell Cates have been busy making extensive alterations on the home of Mrs. Isaac Hedden on "I" Street between 13th and 14th. More room is being made by building additions on the south side and end and the place will be offered for rent when the improvements are all completed which will be in a few days.

(Arcata Union, 17 Sept. 1910)

Mrs. Hill . . . has leased her home at 1348 "I" Street with privilege of buying to Isaac Cullberg, Jr. who is at present occupying the old Isaac Cullberg house on 14th Street. Mr. Cullberg is . . . forced to move on account of the house where he is living having been sold to O. Ekenberg . . .

(Arcata Union, 9 Dec. 1920)



THE TINKEY HOUSE

Construction Date 1904

Address 947 Union Street

Location Lots 5 and 6, Block B, Pleasant Hill Addition — AP# 503-142-15

Original Owner Margaret Smith

Interim Owners Eurenos L.G. Tinkey (1911); John E. and Naonta Murray (1943); Marie Peck (1944); Edyth Erwin and Robert & Gordon Erwin (1958).

Present Owner Leonard and Hazel Juell (1966).

Description 1½ story, gable roof with added gabled dormer on south; slant bay with pediment; large center bay window with colored glass border; small window in pediment; beautiful porch with brackets, carpenter cutouts around top, turned posts and cutout balustrade; strip decoration on bay; small porch window bordered by small squares.

Builder Robert Murray and Al Gardner

... the residence of Mrs. M. J. Smith is being rushed to completion by the carpenters Al Gardner and Robert Murray. It will be a five-room structure with all the modern conveniences, and the plumbing is now completed, having been done by Daniel Donahue of the firm of A. Brizard, Inc.

(Arcata Union, 3 Sept. 1904)

A GASTMAN HOUSE

83

Construction Date 1898

Address 1492 "H" Street

Location Block 287 — AP# 21-095-03

Original Owner Herman H. Gastman

Interim Owners Samuel B. Clanton (1901);
Noah H. Falk (1903); Lester
A. and Ana A. Johnson (1920);
Arthur and Louise B. Brown
(1937); Margaret Jepson (1941);
Fredric and Linda Almdale
(1971).

Present Owner Linda Almdale (1973).

Description Large 1½ story with wide gables; center roofline is a truncated hip; moulded frieze; gable returns; cornice dentils; strip window moulding; flat-roofed porch with grouped columns and cornice dentils; low, sidewalk coping in front; large corner tree and hedge.

Builder Herman H. Gastman



Herman H. Gastman built this house in 1898, several years after the original house on this corner was destroyed by fire. As with all Gastman houses, it is distinctive and unlike any others he built. The house has classic style cornice returns on the front and side gables, but an interesting center section is covered by a truncated hipped roof. Window and cornice details add some Victorian touches to this turn-of-the-century house with its popular colonial porch.

Gastman offered the house for sale in December, 1899, but it didn't sell until 1901. Several years later Noah H. Falk, Arcata lumberman and real estate investor, purchased it for rental property and it became the home of the Garcelon family, remembered for their Arcata livery and drayage business.



THE DUNHAM HOUSE

Construction Date c. 1907

Address 610 Park Ave.

Location Ocean View Addition -- AP# 503-101-08

Original Owner William E. Dunham

Interim Owners Dunham heirs; Henry and Eva Domeyer (1943).

Present Owner Donald and Laura Claasen (1961).

Description Two story, hipped roof; off-centered front door; veranda across front; addition at rear; beautiful setting with Redwood Park to the rear.

William and Maria Dunham, accompanied by daughters Maybel, Lettie, Nancy, and Nora, came to Arcata from Oregon in 1906. They purchased the 50-acre Niels Nielsen ranch, which included the unsold lots on Park Avenue and Myrtle Court that were part of the Ocean View Addition subdivided by Nielsen in 1904. This fine, two-story house was built about 1907 and remained in the Dunham family until 1943.

Three of the daughters built houses on nearby lots. Maybel and her husband William Pritchard built a bungalow on the southeast corner of Park Avenue and Myrtle Court in 1913. Nora and her husband Herbert Brigden built on Park near its intersection with Myrtle Court in 1914. Some years later Nancy and her second husband Chris Winkler built the white stucco house just east of the Brigden home. Daughter Lettie married Clyde Ensign and lived at first on the corner of 17th and Union Streets, later building at 13th and "B" Streets. The Brigdens' daughter Mrs. Clyde Scott lives at the end of Myrtle Court. Both the Pritchard and Brigden houses are in family ownership.

THE D. D. AVERELL HOUSE

85

Construction Date 1902

Address 1243 "H" Street

Location Block 248 — AP# 21-092-07

Original Owner D. D. Averell

Interim Owners Lucinda Averell, widow, (1920); Averell heirs (1922); Anniversary Lodge No. 85, I.O.O.F. (1930); William & Rose Blankenship (1935).

Present Owner Rose Blankenship

Description 1½ story with basement; gables with returns; projecting upper story above slant bays; patterned shingles above, shiplap below; wide steps to flat-roofed porch with decorative cornice; turned posts with capitals; double door with long panes of glass; on hill with view to west and south.

Contractor Herman H. Gastman



A forty-niner from Maine, Dunbar D. Averell worked as a ship's carpenter in Boston before the tales of gold lured him to San Francisco in 1849. He arrived at Humboldt Bay in the spring of 1850, mined for a time on the Trinity, and eventually settled a 160-acre claim on the Arcata Bottom. In 1853 he formed a partnership with Titlow and McLain and built the first sawmill in Union. Located in the gulch east of the Plaza, it produced 10,000 feet of lumber per day and supplied Arcata's early needs. In 1861 he returned to Maine to marry Lucinda Dodge and they had eight children. A successful farmer and well-known gardener, Averell served on the Humboldt County Horticultural Commission for many years. He died in 1919 at the age of 95 and was survived by his widow, and children George W., William, Mrs. H. Lattin and Mrs. Thomas Stewart.

Constructed in 1902, the Averell house may have incorporated the original house built many years earlier. It has popular turn-of-the-century features—gables with returns, projecting upper story above slant bays, and patterned shingles. In 1920, the porch was remodeled "after the flat order" by J.B. Tilley. The house has had only two family ownerships: the Averells until 1930 and William and Rose Blankenship since 1935.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Construction Date 1906

Address 647 14th Street

Location Block 275 — AP# 20-084-10

Original Owner Elizabeth and Jesse Burchard

Present Owner First Church of Christ, Scientist

Description One story; gables with decorative returns; patterned shingles in one front gable; arched windows with cross-shaped divisions; flat-roof addition on west; gabled addition on east; shiplap siding.

Builder Nelson B. Johansen



Arcata's First Church of Christ, Scientist was organized by Mrs. Elizabeth Burchard and her husband, Jesse Burchard, who came to Arcata in 1900. Mrs. Burchard was a Christian Science practitioner and teacher, having received class instruction from the church's founder, Mary Baker Eddy.

The Burchards held services in their home at 13th and "G" Streets until this chapel was built on their land and at their expense. Nelson B. Johansen was in charge of construction, but evidently members of the church contributed volunteer labor. The chapel was completed in time for May 6, 1906 services with 50 people, including Christian Scientists from Eureka and Fortuna, in attendance.

Through the years the little chapel has been enlarged several times, the most recent addition occurring in 1978. A simple, one-story building of gables and small decorative returns, it is easily recognized as a house of worship by the arched windows with cross-shaped divisions. The west side, flat-roofed addition is somewhat out of keeping with the building's architecture, but the recent east side addition is a handsome complement to the little church.

THE WILEY HOUSE

Construction Date 1903

Address 950 14th Street

Location Block 289 — AP# 20-103-03

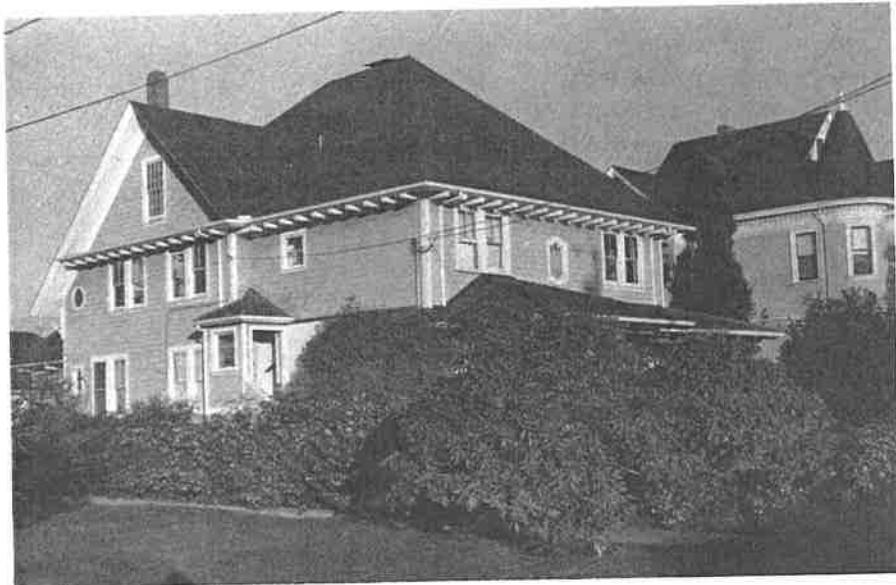
Original Owner Walter J. Wiley

Interim Owners R. M. Wiley (1926); Henrietta Wiley, wife, (1937); Horace E. Walter (1946); H. J. and Ardis Goodrich (1948); Marville Kavanaugh (1950); Carl H. & Lu Verne Storey (1963).

Present Owner William L. and Caroline Hawley (1971).

Description Large 2½ story with massive hipped roof; extended eaves; false rafters; roof gables on sides; 24-pane window in gable; ornamental window on front; round window at rear on west side; windows have solid pane upper pane; major alterations to porch and entrance; house surrounded by bushes.

Builder Charles Burrell



Plans are being drawn for a new residence to be built on the old Whaley property on the site of the house now occupied by Charles W. Hill and family. Mr. Hill has purchased the house from its present owner, W.J. Wiley and will move it one block east to the lot in the Falk block recently purchased by Mr. Hill's son-in-law Frank Smith of Glendale . . .

(Arcata Union, 17 Jan. 1903)

Charles Burrell has been awarded the contract for building a residence for Walter J. Wiley on the lot between the Stone and Jackson residences. The house will be a handsome two-story structure, containing ten rooms and hard finished throughout . . . modern and convenient in every particular. Ground will be broken for the foundation within the next ten days and the contract for the plastering has already been let and the lumber and mill work ordered. The contractor expects to have the house ready for occupancy by the middle of July.

(Arcata Union, 28 March 1903)

THE CHARLES B. STONE HOUSE

Construction Date 1904



The *Arcata Union* noted in its August 3, 1904 issue that Contractor Fowler of Eureka had started work on a new house for Charley Stone, son of banker W. W. Stone, and although Charley was saying the house would be for rent, "his friends just look wise and wink." Stone's engagement to Maude Alice Pressey, daughter of H. D. and Mary Minor Pressey of Petaluma and granddaughter of Isaac and Hannah Minor of Arcata, was announced in October. A complete description of the house, to which Stone would bring his bride, was carried in the Oct. 26, 1904 *Arcata Union*.

Among the new residences recently completed in Arcata is that of Charles B. Stone at the corner of 15th and "I". The house is a two-story structure, square in shape and modeled somewhat after the style of the residences built in Samoa by the Hammond Lumber Company for the use of their head men. The house is shingled on all sides; the shingles are in their natural condition, the rest of the house being trimmed in a colonial yellow. The main building is 24' by 30' with an addition 17' square in the rear. The front steps lead up to an enclosed porch surmounted by a large open archway which is also shingled...

One of the features of this house is the large clinker brick chimney which is built on the south side. A driveway extends around the rear and north side of the house. The working plans were drawn by Charles Stone. The work was done by Contractor M. B. Fowler and crew from Eureka . . . C. C. Crawford Co., plumbing; W. H. Batchelder, painting and papering; Peter M Tracy, masonry.

Address 1509 "I" Street

Location Block 312 — AP# 20-102-04

Original Owner Charles B. Stone

Interim Owners George P. Purlenky (1921);
Herbert A. & Elizabeth Mc-
Lellan (1922); James N. &
Eleanor D. Palmer (1935); John
E. & Ruth E. Satterthwaite
(1955); Kenneth & Emma Good
(1957).

Present Owner Eldon and Irma Watts (1961).

Description Two-story, hipped roof; shingle siding with horizontal band below windows; recessed front door behind arched entrance; diamond-paned porch window and another below cornice; exterior brick chimney on south; one-story rear section with southside porch.

Working Plans Charles B. Stone

Contractor M. B. Fowler

THE KIMBALL-COCHRAN HOUSE

Construction Date 1904

Address 1528 "M" Street

Location Block 309 — AP# 20-132-07

Original Owner John C. and Lila May Kimball

Interim Owners California Barrel Co. (1921);
John P. & Charlotte Cochran (1926); George and Muriel Cervonka (1962).

Present Owner Leonard and Hazel Juell (1976)

Description Two-story with basement; end-gable with extended eaves; octagonal pavilion forming balcony and sheltered entrance; shingle siding; south side addition; converted to apartments; sits high on bluff overlooking bottomland.

Builder M. B. Fowler



Described as the "mission style" of architecture by the editor of the *Arcata Union*, this unusual Arcata house was built for J. C. Kimball in 1904. Contractor M. B. Fowler supervised construction of the 14-room, two-story shingled house. The basic roofline is end-gable with extended eaves, but a unique octagonal pavilion extending from the center front creates an upper story balcony and a sheltered ground-floor entrance. Four pillars rest on a wall pier beneath the extended roofline and are marked at the bottom of the balcony by four, large wooden "balls." The house is appropriately located high on a bluff overlooking the bottom lands to the west.

THE MOULTON-BARLOW HOUSE



Construction Date 1907

Address 860 11th Street

Location Block 233—AP# 21-091-08

Original Owner William Moulton

Interim Owners Daisy Moulton, widow; Maude Davis (1920); Edward and Martha Barlow (1939); Barlow heirs (1969).

Present Owner Jess E. & Barbara Walls and Jess & Ava Walls (1971).

Description Two story, truncated hipped roof; patterned shingles on upper story; rabbeted 3-step siding; false rafters; corner hanging knob and cutout decoration; porch with "awning" effect roof; columns on wall piers; hanging "bulbs" on porch roof; west side porch with carpenter cutouts; center door with large pane of glass.

Builder J. R. Collins and crew.

*William H. Moulton has purchased from the estate of Mary E. Duygen the property on 11th Street below "H".
(Arcata Union, 1 Dec. 1906)*

*J.R. Collins and a crew of four men started to work on the new residence of Conductor William Moulton this week on 11th Street just below "H". Mr. Moulton's new home will be a two story house, and will be a credit to the neighborhood. The work will be pushed rapidly forward.
(Arcata Union, 14 Sept. 1907)*

THE SHUMAN HOUSE

91

Construction Date c. 1906

Address 965 "A" Street

Location AP# 503-151-05

Original Owner Wilbert Shuman

Interim Owners Minnie L. Ayers (1918); A. D. & Elnora Ensign (1927); Maria Dunham, heir, (1934); Lettie Ensign, Nora Brigden, and Nancy Briggs (1935); John & Alice Rudick (1946); Russell & Margurite Cole (1948); Charles & Nancy Hanne (1972).

Present Owner Duncan and Judith Burgess (1976).

Description 1½ story; distinguished by wide, extended arches at gable ends, on dormer, & porch roof; patterned shingles in arches; shiplap siding below; porch pillars and wall pier covered with 3-step pattern; 3 windows in gable end in Palladian arrangement; street level with basement.

Builder Attributed to Nelson B. Johansen.



This unique style is the remaining one of two such houses built in Arcata in the early 1900's. The first, demolished for the Arcata Freeway, was built in 1904 on the southwest corner of 14th and "F" Streets for William Wood. Several informants, including Margaret Johansen Crabtree, attributed the Wood house to Nelson B. Johansen. It seems probable that he also built this house a couple of years later for Wilbert and Carrie Shuman. The style is distinguished by the wide, extended arches of the gables, center dormer, and porch roof.

THE PAFSO-HENDRICKSON HOUSE

Construction Date 1906

Address 120 East 12th Street

Location Block 17, Union Addition —
AP# 20-022-06

Original Owner John Pafso

Interim Owners Anna Pafso, widow, (1945);
Benito Vargas (1947).Present Owner Paul and Blanche Hendrickson
(1953).Description 1½ story, gabled roof; gabled
dormers on west and east; re-
cessed, off-centered front door;
porch decorated with cutouts,
brackets, knobs, and cutout
balustrade; stickwork in ga-
bles; rabbeted 3-step siding.

Builder Nelson B. Johansen



The Pafso house was apparently built in 1906, which seems consistent with the exterior siding, windows, and recessed door, but the lovely wood motifs of the gables and entrance seem to recall another era. The flat stickwork design in the gables, cutout porch balustrade, and symbolic sawn ornamentation of the entrance are among the finest carpenter's sculpture in Arcata. At a time when he was designing up-to-date Colonial Revival styles, Nelson B. Johansen may have enjoyed a little, carpenter's license in the decoration of John Pafso's cottage.

THE JACOBY BUILDING

93

Construction Date Original building, 1857; present building, 1907.

Address 791 8th Street

Location Block 154 — AP# 21-108-02

Original Owner Augustus Jacoby

Interim Owners Joseph Jacoby, nephew (1868); William Fishei (1869); Joseph Greenbaum (1870); John Chapman and George Tilley, 1/2 interest each with Greenbaum (1873); Alexander Brizard (1880); Brizard heirs (1904).

Present Owner Brizard Company

Description Classical Revival commercial architecture; three stories; rectangular plan; flat roof with projecting, decorated cornice; brick and stucco exterior; corner pilasters; recessed entrance flanked by plate-glass windows; front and rear facades of symmetrical window arrangements; pediment over third floor center window; applied cornice and window moulding and decoration; complete renovation of building in 1977.

Builder Messrs. Webb and Kincaid, San Francisco, 1857 building.

Carpenter John L. Reed, 1857 building.

Brick Work Clark W. Durkee, 1857 building.

Architect Warren Skillings, 1907 building.

Contractor Nelson B. Johansen, 1907 building.



Born in 1839 in Bordeaux, France, Alexander Brizard came to Arcata with his family in 1850. Two years of mining on the Trinity with his father gave the young man valuable working experience and at age nineteen he accepted a clerking position with A. J. Roskill and Co. in Arcata. In 1863 he and fellow clerk James A. C. Van Rossum formed a partnership and purchased their own business. Van Rossum sold his interest to Brizard seven years later and the firm became known as "A. Brizard." A major fire in 1875 destroyed much of Arcata's business district including Brizard's store on the north side of the Plaza. Continuing the business despite his losses, Brizard purchased the Jacoby Building in 1880 and "A. Brizard" operated at this location for ninety-four years.

Expanded throughout the mining district to include stores in three counties, "A. Brizard" depended upon mule trains, a local institution into the twentieth century, to transport goods across the mountains. Incorporated in 1904, the business became known as "A. Brizard, Inc." whose management following Mr. Brizard's death in 1904 fell to his sons, Brousse, Henry, and Paul, successively. It was the passing of an era when "A. Brizard, Inc." closed its doors in 1974.

The original Jacoby Building was a flat-roofed brick and stone structure of one story with an above-ground basement. Three entrances across the front of the classic style building were decorated at the tops with radiating brick lintels. In 1896 Nelson B. Johansen added a new front to the building; interior remodeling occurred in 1903. Under the direction of Eureka architect Warren Skillings and contractor Nelson B. Johansen the second and third stories were added in 1907.

Built in Classic Revival architecture, popular for commercial and public buildings in the early 1900's, the Jacoby Building has a flat roof with a decorated, projecting cornice, corner pilasters, symmetrically-arranged facades, and third-story pediments over center windows. Plate-glass show windows flank a central entrance.

Designated California Historical Landmark No. 783 in 1963, the Jacoby Building on Arcata's Plaza housed mercantile firms for 117 years and now provides space for small shops, offices, a restaurant, and a nightclub. The original store, built for Augustus Jacoby in 1857 with native stone and locally-made bricks, was 104 feet deep and 34 feet wide on the exterior with a nine-foot high basement below the main storeroom. Second and third stories were added to the little store in 1907 to create the present building, which was renovated into the Jacoby Storehouse in 1977.

Built two years after construction of Arcata's wharf and railroad, Jacoby's fireproof warehouse stored supplies brought by steamer for transport by pack train to the mining camps on the Klamath, Trinity and Salmon rivers. An advertisement in the *Humboldt Times*, June 13, 1857, announced that A. Jacoby and Co. kept "constantly on hand" a full assortment of stock including provisions, groceries, Havana cigars, French wines and liquors, clothing, boots, and hardware, and, furthermore, traders, packers, and the public were urged to call and examine the stock before making purchases elsewhere. After Jacoby's business, H. Fleishman and Co., J. Greenbaum and Co., and J. Greenwald, all mercantile firms, used the stone warehouse until it was purchased in 1880 by Alexander Brizard for his mercantile business.

Humboldt Times, 16 May 1857; 13 June 1857; 15 August 1857; 24 April 1880.

Arcata Union, 10 Oct. 1896; 28 Feb. 1903; 16 March 1907; 8 Feb. 1908.

Appleton, Josephine Brizard, *The Jacoby Building*. A Report to the Historical Landmarks Advisory Committee of the State of California, 1963.

Brizard Company, personal communication, 8 Dec. 1978.
Deed Records.

THE LAMBERSON HOUSE

Construction Date 1908

Address 100 7th Street

Location AP# 503-151-24

Original Owner Daniel P. Lamberson

Interim Owners Lamberson heirs (1924); William J. and Jennie Quear (1924); Eva Hunt, daughter, & V. Everett Hunt, grandson, (1939).

Present Owner V. Everett Hunt (1970).

Description One-story "shotgun" house; hipped roof; small stoop with turned posts and cutout brackets; door with center glass pane; shed attachment at rear; picket fence.

Builder M. B. Fowler



Arcata's only "shotgun" house was built along the Arcata-Eureka road in 1908. Contractor M. B. Fowler built the little house for an eccentric old gentleman named Daniel Lamberson, a native of Michigan, who listed his occupation as "prospector" in the 1921 Polk Directory.

A "shotgun" house is only one room wide and takes its name from the fact that a person could stand in the front door, shoot his gun, and the bullet would exit from the back door. A common house-type of the South, where it was often built to house black families, the "shotgun" house has the typical "Southern Pyramidal" roof, perhaps the most distinctive element of southern domestic architecture. The Lamberson House, which has been in Quear-Hunt family ownership for over fifty years, is without decoration except for the lovely cutout brackets on the entrance stoop.

THE VAISSADE HOUSE

95

Construction Date Original house, c. 1853; present house, 1905.

Address 927 "J" Street

Location Block 191 — AP# 21-145-07

Original Owner Original house, William Martin; new house, Benjamin and Marie Vaissade.

Interim Owners George Ousley (1865); O.H. Spring (1871); Elizabeth Liscom (1874); Frank M. Liscom and Elizabeth A. Liscom, children, (1878); B.F. Stern (1879); Marie Vaissade (1892); Vaissade heirs.

Present Owner Louise Dean and Richard Le Duc (1971).

Description 2½ story, high hipped roof with pedimented gables; upper story overhangs slant bays; overhang with knob-and-cresting decoration; upper story shingle siding with narrow overlapping board below; porch recessed under projecting gable; large front door with glass pane above; transom; diamond-pane divisions over casement window in front; semi-circular window in top pediment; decorative division in small porch window; large yard with formal plantings, large trees and shrubs; picket fence.

Architect Ambrose Foster

Contractor Fowler and Pine



The old house was built by pioneer Captain William Martin sometime after the purchase of the land in 1853 and before 1857 when it appeared on the Kuchel and Dresel lithograph of Arcata. There were five other owners before Marie Vaissade purchased it in 1892. She and her first husband, Leon Chevret, were both natives of France. Married in 1879, they had three children: Marthe, Leon and Antoinette. After his death in 1885, she married Benjamin Vaissade, also a native of France, and there were five Vaissade children: Benjamin, Marie, Zelia, Felix, and Henry.

Family ties with France were strong. Both Marthe and Antoinette studied at the Sorbonne in Paris in 1907. Antoinette was among the 125 out of 500 students to pass the examination at the Sorbonne and upon her return to the U.S., was given a position at Mills College. A Vaissade daughter, Zelia, studied voice in France and performed with symphony orchestras in both Paris and Fontainebleau. Paris newspaper reviews gave high praise to the Arcata-born artist:

The voice of this singer, generously endowed by nature, brilliant in timbre and exquisite in its soaring high notes, expresses itself in delightful nuances and attests a solid technique and above all a mastery of the voice seldom reached by many.
(Arcata Union, 23 Sept. 1926)

Fowler and Pine, the contractors and builders, have completed the carpenter work on the new Vaissade house and after the painters have concluded their work the new home will be ready for occupancy.

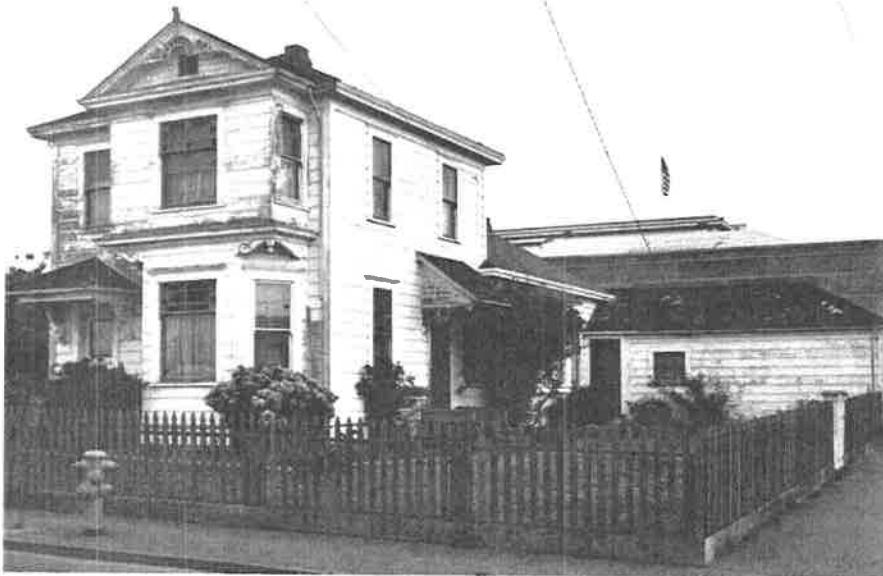
The design of the building is partly colonial and the plans were drawn by A.N. Foster of Eureka. It faces to the east and is two stories in height, with a large attic which may be fitted up into two sleeping rooms if necessary. It is a ten room house with two large halls, one upstairs and one on the first floor, besides a bathroom and pantry. The old house was moved to the rear and with the roof raised, the upstairs part was made into two commodious sleeping rooms. The lower part will be utilized as a woodshed, washroom and sewing room...

The building has been wired by our local electrician J. Marion Minor and the plumbing by Dan Donohue of A. Brizard was done in the most sanitary and satisfactory manner. The outside of the building has been painted yellow with white trimming and a black roof. The inside painting is being done by the Charles Potter Co. of Eureka. The actual cost is estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$4000 and the structure makes a vast improvement in that part of the city.

(Arcata Union, 22 July 1905)

The Vaissade home remained in family ownership for almost eighty years and was occupied by Chevret/Vaissade children until the late 1960's. Both Marie Vaissade and Antoinette Chevret spent their last years in the house. Antoinette was responsible for the unique and lovely plantings, many of which came from France. The house and gardens occupy a special place in Arcata's architectural and historical heritage.

Arcata Union, 3 May 1905; 22 July 1905; 20 July 1907; 26 Oct. 1907; 11 July 1908; 11 Sept. 1913; 23 Sept. 1926.
Fountain, Susie Baker. *Notebooks*. Vol. 7:250.
Weekly Times Telephone, 3 Oct. 1885.
Deed and Assessment Records.



THE SUHR HOUSE

Construction Date c. 1899 with major improvements 1910

Address 716 "I" Street

Location Block 153 — AP# 21-101-01

Original Owner Louis and Annie Barker

Interim Owners Melanie Hoerler-Suhr (1910).

Present Owner John F. Suhr and Melanie Suhr Barry (1933).

Description Two-story, hipped roof; pedimented square bay rests on 3-window slant bay; large center bay windows with colored-glass borders; pediment with patterned shingles and tiny window; delicate stickwork in gable; bracketed hood over entrance; shiplap siding; knob and-creasing overhang above corner bay windows; small, 2-window bay on south side; south side entrance with hood & "basket weave" brackets; one-story rear section; picket fence.

Looking all the world like a city row house, straight and narrow, the Suhr house stands alone at the corner of 7th and "I" Streets. Exact date of construction is questionable, but apparently the house was built by Louis Barker, a harness-maker and saddler, about 1899. Described as two-story, seven rooms, and almost new, the house was offered for sale in 1905, but wasn't purchased until 1910.

Unlike any other Arcata house, the Suhr home has the popular pedimented upper story stacked above the slant bay with knob-and-creasing on the corners. Colored glass borders in the large center windows, delicate stickwork in the gable and a hint of patterned shingles in the pediment add decorative touches.

Charles Suhr came to the U.S. from Switzerland in 1889 and was married in 1906 to Melanie Hoerler, a widow with two children. They purchased this house in 1910 and made substantial improvements as indicated by the 1911 assessment. The house has been in continual family ownership for the past 68 years.

THE GEORGE ZEHNDNER-HARPST-AUSTIN HOUSE

97

Construction Date Original house, c. 1870's; remodeled, 1910

Address 1860 11th Street

Location AP# 505-211-01

Original Owner George Zehndner

Interim Owners Charles I. Harpst (1909); Gregorio Costa (1924); Mary Costa (1929).

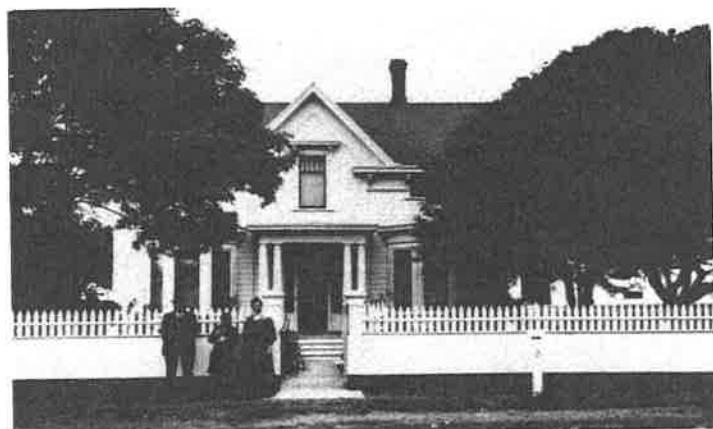
Present Owner Dorothy St. Louis Austin (1937).

Description Two-story center gable house; returns on gable ends; paired, 3-window slant bays with flat roofs; diamond-paned windows; center door is one large pane of glass; sidelights; colonial porch; 4-pane windows on sides; exterior chimney on west; one-story rear section; asbestos shingle siding; old fence and orchard trees.



George Zehndner, an early-day Humboldt County settler and prominent Arcata citizen, built this center gable house on his farm in the 1870's. He sold the 38 acres for \$15,000 to Charles I. Harpst in the fall of 1909 and the following spring Mr. Harpst remodeled the house into the popular architecture of the day. Characteristic are the slant bays, diamond-paned windows, and colonial porch. Sitting on a knoll above Janes Creek with a vestige of pasture land at the rear, the old house still commands some prestige after all these years.

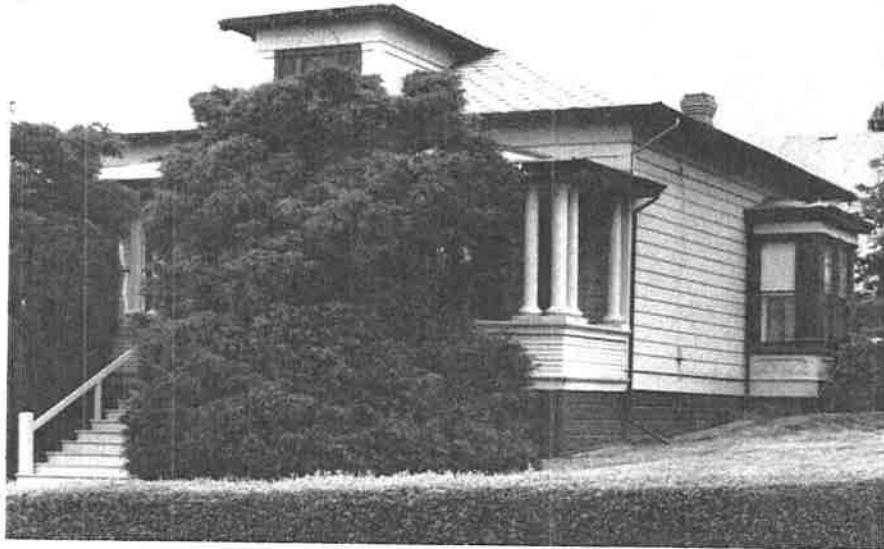
Born in Bavaria in 1824, George Zehndner came to the U.S. in 1849 and located in Indiana with relatives. He came to California three years later and after trying his hand at mining and running a store, he arrived in Humboldt County where he bought Angel's Ranch above Korbel. Selling the ranch in 1870, he purchased this farm from H.S. Daniels and lived here until 1902. He was married to Christine Rossow of Brandenburg, Germany in 1874. A stalwart Republican, Zehndner is remembered by local residents as the donor of the McKinley statue which has graced the Plaza since 1906.



Circa 1910.

THE C.S. DANIELS HOUSE

Construction Date 1885; remodeled, 1904.



Although roofline and porch indicate a turn-of-the-century house, the narrow, double-door entrance, recessed and raised, gives a clue to its real age. Built in 1885 for long-time Arcata businessman Charles S. Daniels, the house was remodeled in 1904. The hipped roof with curved eaves and false rafters and the columned porch are features of Arcata's early 1900's architecture.

Charles S. Daniels was involved in Arcata business affairs for many years. Beginning in 1895 with the purchase of George W. Murray's furniture business and continuing through his interests in the Elite Shoe Store, a clothing store, and the Arcata Mercantile Company, Daniels was an active, Plaza-boosting merchant. In 1921, he sold his home of 36 years to Charles I. and Nora Harpst whose ownership lasted for a quarter of a century. The present owner, Charles Brechbill, is another long-term occupant, having lived here for the past 27 years.

Address 918 12th Street

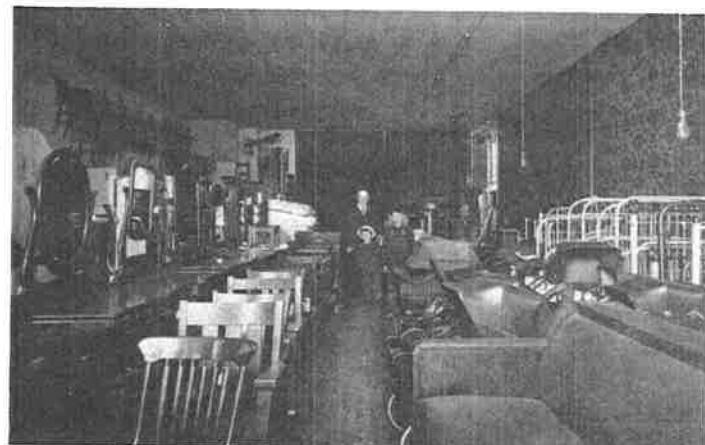
Location Block 249 — AP# 20-105-03

Original Owner Charles S. Daniels

Interim Owners Charles I. Harpst (1921); Nora Harpst, wife, (1922); William M. & Georgia L. Richards (1945); Nancy E. Briggs (1945); Edward & Engeline Timmerman (1946).

Present Owner Charles Brechbill (1951).

Description 1½ story, hipped roof with curved eaves; false rafters under eaves; dormer; wide porch with columns, recessed, double door with transom; shiplap siding; window shelf; wide wooden steps up to porch; 4-window square bay on east side; rear side porch with posts and cutout brackets; large yard with low, bordering hedge and sidewalk coping.



The Alex Todd Furniture Store, Circa 1917. Alex Todd with sons Samuel and Max. Courtesy Samuel S. Todd.

THE TODD HOUSE

99

Construction Date 1906

Address 616 14th Street

Location Block 286 — AP# 20-081-22

Original Owner James A. Todd

Interim Owners Todd heirs; Jack & Joan Maurer (1975).

Present Owner Arcata Radiology Group, co-partnership Jack Maurer, M.D. and Howard Biggs, M.D. (1975).

Description Two-story, hipped roof with dormer; curved and extended eaves; false rafters; recessed porch with large columns; stringcourse of brackets; large windows with diamond panes in upper portion; false balcony below two, small center front windows; wide entrance steps; corner location on busy thoroughfare; used as doctor's office.

Architect/Builder Nelson B. Johansen



Nelson B. Johansen designed and built this Colonial Revival-type house for his brother-in-law, Alex Todd, in 1906. The revival of Georgian plans in turn-of-the-century American architecture is evident in the large porch columns, false balcony on the center front, and hipped roof. One difference from the historic Georgian architecture, however, is the use of a deep porch, recessed below the upper story. Forerunners of the Craftsman movement, which was to sweep California and Arcata over the following two decades, are the curved and extended eaves, false rafters, and divided upper window sash. Vestiges of past styles are the projecting upper story and bay-type extensions.

The interior of this fine home is finished in dark-stained and varnished redwood. The front hall repeats the colonial theme with two columns on the stairs leading to the second floor. Sliding doors separate the beamed-ceiling dining room, living room and parlor. The addition on the east side was made about 1917. A fireplace, large size, and open ceiling to accommodate a 12-foot redwood Christmas tree made this a comfortable family room for the Todd family.

The style of architecture might be stated as modified colonial with the bungalow effect. The eaves overhang some three feet, insuring protection from the elements to the upper windows and the sides of the house to a large extent. The front of the house is taken up by a large piazza which is on the west side and the right side is taken up by a large plate glass window which floods the front room with light. Three large colonial pillars, the largest ever erected on any residence in Arcata, are placed on the front of the house, one on each corner and one in the middle...

The windows are cottage style with the upper sash diamond panes. The plans were drawn up by Nelson B. Johansen but much of the credit for the arrangement of the ground plans is due to Mrs. J.A. Todd. Mr. Johansen superintended the work of construction and most of the interior finishing was done by himself and Messrs.

William Popp and Ralph Sage, who are skilled workmen. Mr. and Mrs. Todd have every reason to feel proud of their new home which they will occupy soon.

(Arcata Union, 10 Nov. 1906)

*Arcata Union, 1 Oct. 1898; 10 Nov. 1906; 30 April 1937.
Samuel S. Todd, personal communication, 6 Jan. 1979.
Deed Records.*

THE RASMUS ANDERSON HOUSE

Construction Date 1908

Address 890 "D" Street

Location Block 163 — AP# 21-043-15

Original Owner Rasmus Anderson

Interim Owners Frank S. and Hazel M. Anderson (1936); Jack W. & Mary Carson (1955).

Present Owner John M. and G. Erstaline Tanner (1977).

Description Two-story, hipped roof with basement; dormer; curved and extended eaves; false rafters; recessed porch with large columns; large windows with diamond panes in upper portion; false balcony below two, small center front windows; large glass pane in front door; sidelights; second door for upstairs apartment; asbestos shingle siding.

Architect/Builder Nelson B. Johansen



Almost identical to the Todd house, the Rasmus Anderson home was built in 1908 by Nelson B. Johansen. Original architecture is retained except for the addition of asbestos shingle siding and a second door leading to the upstairs apartment. The hillside location gives perspective to the large-proportioned house and provides suitable slope for basement windows on both west and south elevations.

On the sunny, slightly southeast corner of 9th and D there is now nearing completion what when completed will not only be a marked improvement in the appearance of that neighborhood but as well one of the most handsome, modern and conveniently built homes in Humboldt County. It is the future home of Rasmus Anderson...

Its front is most striking with its massive columns supporting the porch, its large and attractive windows and extending roof, all in due conformity with the ideas of colonialism...

The structure is a credit to both the owner and architect, N.B. Johansen who has had entire supervision over the construction. (Arcata Union, 20 Feb. 1909)

A native of Denmark, Rasmus Anderson was a long-time member of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors. Appointed in 1910 upon the death of incumbent supervisor John Cochran, Anderson represented Arcata's district for 26 years.

THE JOHANSEN HOUSE

101

Construction Date 1906

Address 1369 "G" Street

Location Block 274 — AP# 21-096-10

Original Owner Nelson B. Johansen

Interim Owners Clara B. Morrell (1921); Vera Morrell MacMillan (1935); Wells Fargo Bank (1966); James & Frances Marvel (1972).

Present Owner John and Judy Bennett (1973).

Description Two-story with basement; multiple hipped-roof extensions; false rafters; curved and extended eaves; slant bays; windows with divided upper sash; grouped columns on porch piers; porch and steps balustrade; front door flanked by pilasters; overlapping board siding with "rusticated" foundation covering; renovated and adapted to dentist office by present owner.

Architect/Builder Nelson B. Johansen



Designed and built by Nelson B. Johansen in 1906, this lovely house was the Johansen family home until 1921. Elements of many styles are found here and testify to the architectural skill of this versatile and creative craftsman. Modern and innovative, Johansen took the projecting multiple gables of Victorian styles and adapted them into 20th century hipped-roof extensions. Cornice dentils, a quasi Palladian window, and overhung bays indicate past influences. The popularity of the colonial form is evident in the beautiful columned porch, front entrance pilasters, and formal balustrade. A future architecture is suggested in the oriental effect of the curved and extended eaves and the craftsman style upper window divisions. In this house, Johansen brought together the best of the past and introduced the exciting architecture of California's craftsman styles.

Born in 1869 in Marshfield, Oregon, Johansen came to Arcata with his father and step-mother in 1888. Although he was involved in a couple of business ventures (his partnership with Alex Todd in the furniture and undertaking business and later a clothing store), his talents with design and carpentry decided his life's work and earned him the reputation as a leading contractor. Until his retirement in 1925, Johansen designed, built and/or remodeled a sizeable portion of Arcata architecture.

His early training apparently came from his father, a native of Denmark, who learned carpentry skills as a four-year apprentice in the London shipyards. Johansen had additional training at a San Francisco architectural school about the time of his marriage to Margaret Todd in 1898. Although he was active in building before that time, his first documented work is the 1901 Morgan house at 12th and "G" Streets. The following year he designed and built the Rev. Todd's house at the southeast corner of 14th and "G" (torn down for a Kentucky Fry Chicken place in the early 1970's), and within the next few years, a house at 264 Hillsdale in Eureka, this house, houses for Alex Todd and Rasmus Anderson, and the Christian Science Church. During the 1910's and 1920's he built craftsman style houses for James Davidson at 16th and "I", William Catron on 17th, Howard Barter at 14th and "H", and for his family at 1461 and 1462 "H" Street. He was contractor on a number of commercial and public buildings including major construction on the A. Brizard Store (Jacoby Building) in 1907, the Pleasant Hill School (1912), and the Presbyterian Church (1916-17) and its annex (1911). The lasting quality of his design and construction adds significantly to Arcata's architectural heritage.

Arcata Union, 8 Jan. 1898; 1 Oct. 1898; 26 Jan. 1901; 26 Sept. 1903; 7 Dec. 1904; 21 Feb. 1906; 8 Dec. 1906; 8 Feb. 1908; 24 Oct. 1908; 15 July 1911; 29 Aug. 1912; 19 March 1914; 19 August 1916; 28 Aug. 1919; 1 July 1920; 7 July 1921; 30 Aug. 1923; 10 Nov. 1933.

Deed and Assessment Records.

THE SIMMS-HUNT HOUSE

Construction Date 1905

Address 855 "A" Street

Location AP # 503-151-14

Original Owner J.B. Simms

Interim Owners John E. Olsen (1911); Julius J. Krohn (1916); Vernon L. Hunt (1917); Hunt heir, V. Everett Hunt.

Present Owner John and Jean Dalsant (1972).

Description One-story with basement; hipped-roof extensions over bays; "lions" on ridge points of roof; diamond panes in upper portions of windows; rabbed 3-step siding on house and porch pillars; south and west side windows and balconies; beautiful yard with border hedge and plantings.

Architect Earl Simms; plans revised by Dr. Simms

Carpenters Elmer E. Sage and Orville Rice



Beautifully maintained since its construction in 1905, the Simms-Hunt house represents Arcata's entry into the bungalow styles. A sweeping hipped roof, curved and extended eaves, and one-story construction (basement excluded) announce the replacement of Victorian formality with casual and comfortable living.

The house was built for Dr. J.B. Simms, a transplanted Sacramento dentist, who was an active Arcata citizen during his nine-year residency. A graduate of Vanderbilt Medical School, Dr. Simms had his office in the Minor Shop presently occupied by the Epicurean Restaurant. He was involved in local church activities and during the early 1900's when Arcata experienced a substantial building boom, he was president of the Arcata Improvement Club and a Renters Loan and Trust Company.

The new residence of Dr. J.B. Simms in the Pleasant Hill addition has been completed and the Doctor and his family have been residing there for several weeks past. The plans for the structure which is a bungalow were drawn by Earl Simms and revised by the Doctor... The house faces to the east and contains seven rooms and is finished in the natural wood. On the front and side is a large colonial porch with seats. From this a door opens into the reception hall and from this room another door opens into the parlor on the northeast corner. This floor also contains three bed chambers, a bath room and a small back hall. From this stairs lead to the basement. The slope of the ground made possible the building of several rooms there, which are used as dining room, pantry, kitchen, laundry and woodshed...

There are three entrances to the building and from those on the south and west exquisite views of the bay, Eureka and Arcata Bottom may be obtained. The yard about the house contains rich soil and will make an ideal gardening spot. On the south there is sun the entire day and there is little doubt but that the Doctor will make the most of it.

(Arcata Union, 10 May 1905)

The house was sold in 1911 when Dr. Simms moved from the area. In 1917 it became the home of another Arcata dentist, Dr. Vernon L. Hunt and his wife Eva, and remained in the family until the Dalsants bought it in 1972.

THE AARON ALDEN HOUSE

103

Construction Date 1908

Address 946 "A" Street
Location Lot 11, Block B, Pleasant Hill
Addition—AP# 503-142-10
Original Owner Aaron Alden
Interim Owners Esther C. Alden (1911); David L. Toll (1915); Vernon L. Hunt (1923); Juanita Durdan and May E. Wentworth (1924); Earl and Mabel Roberts (1946); Lucy R. Savage (1946); Barbara & Charles Wilder, Marjorie and Leonard Wilder, Frances & Thomas Giffen (1947); John and Evelyn Kohler (1948); Evelyn J. Kohler (1959).
Present Owner Richard M. and Evelyn J. Gano (1962).
Description 1½ story, hipped roof with curved and extended eaves; false rafters; dormers with same roofline; rabbeted 3-step siding; recessed porch with slant bay to one side; knob and decoration on overhang above corner bay window; porch posts on wall pier, also covered with 3-step siding; center bay window with upper portion divided into geometric design; basement; sits high above street; double steps behind large wood wall; large plate glass windows on west and south corners.



Aaron Alden, woods boss at Kalstrom's Mill, was in Arcata on business on Saturday. Mr. Alden owns some choice lots in Pleasant Hill Addition and is making arrangements to have them cleared up, intending to build a home there later on.
(Arcata Union, 26 Jan. 1907)

The family of Aaron Alden are at present living in three rooms of their five room rustic bungalow now in course of construction on the slightly lot at the crest of Pleasant Hill Addition...It is expected that this pretty and attractive home will be completed within a few weeks when inconvenience will be replaced by comfort and convenience. Mr. Alden has every reason to feel proud of his new residence and as is the case with other dwellings adds greatly to the appearance of that portion of the city which it adorns.
(Arcata Union, 20 Feb. 1909)



THE PUTNAM-MCREADY HOUSE

Construction Date 1910

Address 913 "A" Street

Location AP# 503-151-08

Original Owner Edgar I. Thompson

Interim Owners Allen H. Putnam (1912; William Putnam (1924); Cliff & Grace McCready (1938); Charles H. & Elaine Davis (1959); Otho L. Davis (1961); Clestino Gomes (1965); Jose Gomes (1966); Louis & Norma Mook (1966).

Present Owners Laurel and Mary Richter (1968).

Description 1 1/2 story, hipped roof with curved and extended eaves; false rafters; roof dormers; diamond-paned upper window sashes; southside bay; spool-and-spindle porch with turned posts and balustrade; rabbeted 3-step siding; front door with diamond-paned sidelights; side porch; palm tree in front yard.

Built in 1910, this important transition house stands in both time and style at a pivotal point in Arcata architecture. Its sweeping hipped roof, curved eaves, and false rafters, popular in Arcata between 1905 and 1910, soon gave way to gables, straight eaves, and exposed rafter ends, as local builders embraced California's Craftsman-style architecture during the 1910's and 1920's. The diamond-paned upper window sashes of this house were fashionable up to 1915; after that time, rectangular and square window divisions were used. A holdover from the Victorian past, the handsome spool-and-spindle porch provides an unusual touch to this bungalow house.

The house was built for Edgar I. Thompson, who came to Arcata in the spring of 1910 to establish a business. Articles of incorporation were filed for the Humboldt County Milk Condensing Company by Thompson and two prominent Arcata men, but the business never materialized and Thompson opened a law office instead. Two years later he sold the house to Allen Putnam, long-time dairy rancher, whose family retained ownership until Cliff McCready purchased it in 1938.



In his book, *California's Architectural Frontier*, Harold Kirker called the redwood bungalow, developed by the Greene Brothers near the turn-of-the-century, the "first indigenous domestic architecture in California." Rustic wooden houses with oriental accents and informally-arranged living space set the tone for the Craftsman movement.

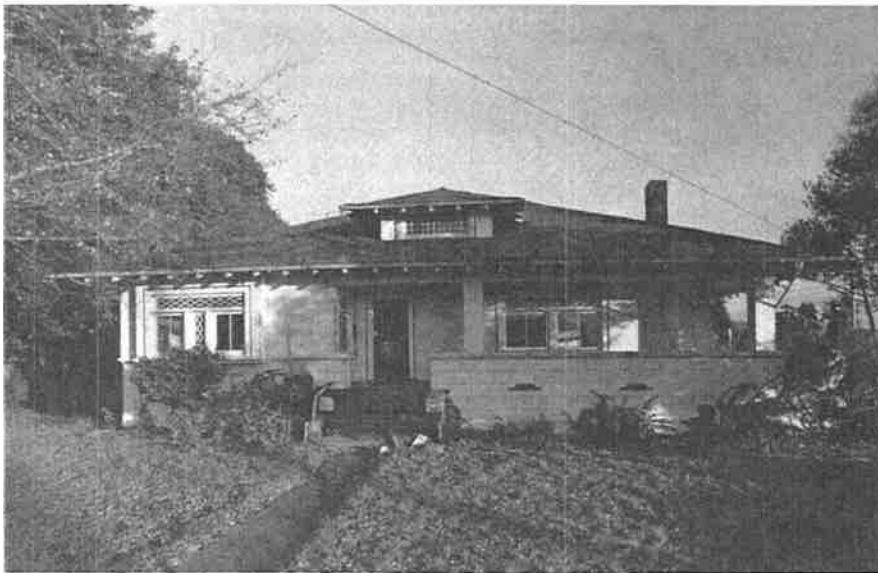
During Arcata's Craftsman period between about 1910 and 1930, rooflines were low and spreading with eaves extended and rafter ends exposed. Large verandas, developed in southern California where the weather invited association of in-doors and out-of-doors, were also built in cool and rainy northern California. Craftsman style windows were generally grouped and had a short upper sash and a tall lower sash. Upper sashes were divided into diamond and geometric panes until 1915; after that time the muntins were square or rectangular. Porch and front bay-type windows were usually of three parts with the center window larger than the side ones. Cobblestone fireplaces, foundations, and porch piers were also popular during the 1910's. It was a period of simplicity, economy, and informality and its contributions to Arcata's architectural heritage are of timeless and genuine beauty.

Western Stick Emphasis is on wood as a structural element rather than applied decoration, and typically houses display projecting eaves and exposed rafter ends with diagonal struts or brackets of straight stick work. Beams and other horizontal framing members, most noticeable in the porches and verandas, are common.

Stucco During the 1920's stucco housing became popular in Arcata. Some are of basic bungalow form with low, spreading rooflines and exposed wooden structural elements, but others display the influence of Spanish-style architecture with flat roofs, arches, and red, roof tiles.

Bungalow Bungalow houses are easily identified by the "layering" effect of house and porch gables. Porches are often supported by tapered pillars, rafter ends are extended and exposed, and windows contain multiple panes in the upper sashes over single-paned lower sashes. Solid and inviting, the popular California bungalow was built in Arcata into the 1930's.

THE DAVID WOOD HOUSE



Construction Date 1910

Address 1318 "H" Street
Location Block 274 - AP# 21-096-11

Original Owner David and Minnie Wood

Interim Owners James C. Toal (1917); Jeremiah Ralph Brown (1926); Ralph and Denzel Gaffaney (1946); Clare Marx (1963); Wells Fargo Bank (1972).

Present Owner John & Judith Bennett (1978).

Description One-story, hipped roof with dormer; wide veranda on south and west supported by two square pillars on a wall pier; casement windows with diamond-paneled panels; extended eaves; exposed rafter ends; several big trees in front yard; house in poor condition.

Architect M.D. Morris

Builder Elmer Sage assisted by Mr. Wood, Harry and Thomas Parton and Irving Cochran.

Los Angeles architect M.D. Morris designed this 1910 bungalow for L.K. Wood's son and daughter-in-law, David and Minnie Greenwald Wood. Carpenter Elmer Sage was assisted by Mr. Wood, Harry and Thomas Parton, and Irving Cochran in the construction of the \$2000 home. As Arcata's introduction into the bungalow era, the Wood house occupies a particularly important position in the evolution of the community's architecture.

The carpenter work on the cozy bungalow which has been under course of construction for David Wood and wife for several weeks past is now well along and nothing remains but the interior finishing.

The plans were drawn by Mr. M.D. Morris of Los Angeles and Mr. Wood altered them to suit his own ideas, the general appearance of the outside remaining the same. The little home is artistic in design, with deep overhanging eaves and shingled sides. A striking feature of the building is the veranda which is eight feet in width and runs along the front and south side. Two square shingled pillars support the roof and stand squarely in the middle of the veranda.

From the front porch is entered the hall and living room which are separated by an archway. The living room which is 14 by 18 feet is lighted by a large double window opening on the veranda and one end of the room is occupied with a large pressed brick fireplace of an attractive design...Opening into the hallway at the left of the front door is a comfortable dining room with a large double window, set out so as to form a niche for a window seat...

(Arcata Union, 16 July 1910)

THE SWEET HOUSE

107

Construction Date 1911

Address 1717 "H" Street

Location Block 353 - AP# 20-154-08

Original Owner Clara Todd

Interim Owners Walter B. Sweet (1913); Henry D. & Florence Calanchini (1939); Ivan L. and Ethel Carr (1942); Nora M. Green (1949); Arthur & Crystal O'Rourke (1949); Richard & Billie Ann Williams (1954); D. Harrison & Margaret E. Ford (1960); Ann S. Smith (1960).

Present Owner Ronald W. & Melanie Johnson (1975).

Description 1½ story, end gable with shed dormer; exposed rafter ends repeated on dormer, entrance roof, and bay; beam brackets; projecting eaves; post-and-beam and diagonal strut supports on entrance roof; heavy front door with six tiny glass panes; long, narrow sidelights; 4-window, hanging bay; windows with multi-paned upper sash and single pane below; casements in dormer; southside "hang-out" window with double casements and shed roof; shingle siding and overlapping board foundation skirting; wide entrance steps; well-kept yard.



This beautiful shingled house, designed by Clara Todd, was built as an investment in 1911 and sold two years later to Walter Sweet, chief accountant for the Humboldt Cooperage Company. Wood is emphasized as a structural element in the exposed rafter ends and beam brackets extending beyond the projecting eaves. Post-and-beam and diagonal struts support a shed roof over the wide entrance steps leading to a recessed front door. A hanging bay of four windows repeats the exposed rafter motif as do the shed dormer and entrance roof. Characteristic of this period, the upper window sash is multi-paned with a single pane below. Painted dark brown, the structural elements of this house are highlighted against the off-white shingles and rust-colored window trim.

THE MCKENZIE HOUSE

Construction Date 1913

Address 1875 11th Street

Location AP# 505-221-03

Original Owner Rodney and Helena McKenzie

Present Owner Mary McKenzie Lee (1963).

Description One story, spreading pyramidal roof extended over wide veranda on east and north sides; slant bay with pyramidal roof; roofline repeated on small dormer; seven columns with balustrade; door with large glass; windows have short upper portion divided into diamond panes; casements.

Builder Nelson B. Johansen



Nelson Johansen and crew are well along with a new bungalow to be occupied soon by Rodney McKenzie and family on the lot adjoining the home of Mrs. McKenzie's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Silva on the road to the United Creameries plant. The residence is 34 by 42 feet, with a woodshed 16 feet square at the rear. A ten foot porch runs around the north and east sides of the structure which will be supported by turned eight inch Colonial columns. A screened porch, 8 by 16 feet, will be built at the rear of the house. The arrangement of the livingroom, which opens on the porch, and the diningroom adjoining, is unique and an archway will divide the rooms. On each side of the archway, bookcase buttresses will be built in, to contain book cases on the livingroom side and china closets on the opposite side. On the west side of the house are located two bed chambers, connected by a bathroom. Buffets and cold cupboards will be built into the walls and the house is modern on the interior and most attractive on the outside.

The plans were drawn from a prize bungalow appearing in Keith's architectural magazine.

(Arcata Union, 18 Sept. 1913)

THE PRITCHARD HOUSE

109

Construction Date 1913

Address 112 Myrtle Court

Location Lot 2, Ocean View Addition - AP# 503-122-14

Original Owner William C. and Maybel Pritchard

Present Owner Wesley Dunham Pritchard (1950).

Description One story, end gable roof with extended eaves and exposed rafter ends; shingle siding with overlapping board between foundation and bottom of windows; extended porch gable with two large square shingled pillars on wall of overlapping boards; open grille between pillars and roof; two sets of porch steps - one on either side of pillars; exposed beams and rafters on porch gable; several wide windows; bay-type window on front with larger center window; multi-paned front door; retaining wall in front; view to west.

Builder Elmer Sage, Ralph Sage and Frank Johnson



Carpenter Elmer Sage will commence work about July 1st on a six room bungalow for William Pritchard on his lots in the Ocean View Addition. The plans which are now in the hands of Mr. Sage were drawn in Los Angeles and call for a most attractive and comfortable home. A large cobble stone fireplace will be among the features of the home and the bookcases, buffet, etc. will be built into the walls of the house...

(Arcata Union, 19 June 1913)

Elmer Sage assisted by his brother Ralph and Frank Johnson are working on a pretty little bungalow for William Pritchard and wife located on a corner lot on Myrtle Avenue adjoining the Fickle Hill road and the location is one of the most sightly to be found in the vicinity, giving a view of the country from the mouth of Mad river on the north to Freshwater on the south, also affording a view of Eureka and the entrance to Humboldt Bay. The residence is 26 by 38 feet, contains six rooms, and has a commodious veranda ten feet wide running across the front, a distance of 22 feet. The veranda is supported by square pillars forming an arch and a heavy grille is built in above the archway. The veranda is approached on two sides by four foot steps. Across the front of the bungalow running from north to south will be located the dining room, living room and den, connected by buttressed archways and at the rear of the living room a door enters the bed chambers, both connected by a bath room...

(Arcata Union, 18 Sept. 1913)



The First National Bank, Circa 1913.

*Arcata Union, 19 June 1913; 18 Sept. 1913.
Deed Records.*

THE DAVIDSON-CARROLL STORE AND HOUSE



Construction Date Store, 1911; house, 1914.

Address 1593 "I" Street

Location Block 312 - AP# 20-102-01

Original Owner James Davidson

Interim Owners Grace Jennings (1938); Joseph & Maude Carroll (1939); Carroll heirs (1962).

Present Owner Richard and Ronald Roberts (1978).

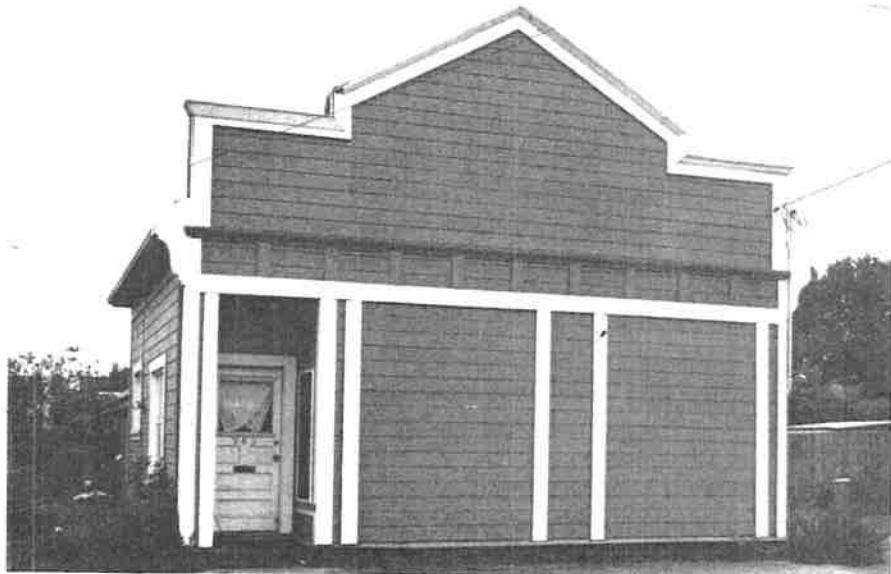
Description Store: false front; recessed door; horizontal board siding with strip work; cobblestone foundation.

House: one-story, hipped roof with dormer; exposed rafter ends; shingle siding; veranda with cobblestone wall and short wood pillars; off-centered front door with large glass pane; cobblestone chimney on north, brick chimney on south; diamond-paned casements in dormer; diamond-paned upper windows.

Architect/Builder Nelson B. Johansen, house.

In 1911 James Davidson built the store as a showroom, office, and workshop for the Humboldt Granite and Marble Works. "Trust and reliability" were the hallmarks of his business which included cemetery monuments, rock and cement work, and special commissions such as the Plaza drinking fountain, completed in 1912 for the W.C.T.U. The store building has a false front, recessed door, strip work, and a cobblestone foundation.

The Davidson house, designed and built by Nelson B. Johansen for \$3000, beautifully illustrates the rustic, but authentic features of the Craftsman bungalow. The cobblestone foundation, porch, and chimney were built by Mr. Davidson with rock from the Mad River. Dark shingle siding and exposed rafter ends provide the wood detail. The bungalow form is expressed in its one-story size, roof dormer, and wide veranda. Artistic decoration is limited to the diamond-paned windows and dormer casements.



THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

111

Construction Date 1913

Address 1000 "H" Street

Location Block 207 - AP# 21-105-01

Original Owner Isaac Minor

Interim Owners Minor family heirs

Present Owner Humboldt Open Door Clinic (1971).

Description Classic-style commercial architecture; one story; flat roof with projecting, decorated cornice; large windows with heavy divisions; decorative band extends above windows; pilasters between the three west-side windows; rectangular-shaped building with entrance at one corner on the diagonal; double doors with divided transom; concrete construction.

Contractor Mercer-Fraser Construction Co.



In accordance with a number of invitations sent through the mail and a general invitation extended through these columns, the new First National Bank of Arcata threw its doors open for inspection on Saturday afternoon and evening, and a crowd estimated at between seven and eight hundred people thronged through the place... In addition to visitors from Arcata and northward, there were some ten auto loads of visitors from Eureka including Mayor Clark and party and the officials from several Eureka banks. Cashier Toal and Teller Henry Sorenson were extremely busy showing visitors over the building, explaining the workings of the big vault with its intricate and complicated time locks, and explaining the various features of the safe deposit vaults, etc. President Isaac Minor, who has been confined to his bed with rheumatism for some days past, came over for a short time and received the guests in his comfortable private office at the east end of the public lobby. Vice-President Peter Johansen, who will be found at his desk daily was also present to assist in receiving. Dr. Bonstell's orchestra discoursed music during the evening, making the occasion a lively one...

The building... is most substantially constructed of reinforced concrete, is fire and earthquake proof, and should withstand the ravages of time for a few generations at least. Its dimensions are 35 by 75 feet, the location being on the northeast corner of 10th and H Streets and the building is finished with light tan colored stone paint. An illuminated electric sign bearing the word "BANK" appears over the front doors and neat gold and black signs, bearing the name of the institution are shown on each side of the building. The windows are also lettered in gold with the name of the bank, list of officers, capital stock, etc. The building is surmounted by a flag staff, from which flew a 6 by 21 "Old Glory" during the afternoon.

(Arcata Union, 2 Oct. 1913)

The Bank remained in local ownership until 1927 when it became a branch of the Security Bank and Trust Company. The following year, the Bank of America assumed control but continued to use the building until about 1930. From the late 1940's until 1970, the Deluxe Cleaners occupied the old bank. Purchased by the Humboldt Open Door Clinic in 1971, it now houses a community health facility.



THE MINOR BUILDING

Construction Date 1913-1914

Address 1021, 1031, and 1041 "H" Street

Location Block 208 — AP# 21-104-10

Original Owner Isaac Minor

Interim Owners Mary E. Minor Pressey (1913); Minor family heirs.

Present Owner Norma Minor Timmons (1970).

Description Two story; wood construction; three storefronts; each has a recessed door flanked by plate-glass show windows; transoms over doors; row of small windows extends across building above doors and show windows; six pairs of windows in upper story; two stores with black tile below windows.

Builder Nelson B. Johansen

Isaac Minor's first building period was in 1884 when he had his own home, two cottages, and the little Minor Shop built. His second was in 1913-1914 when the First National Bank, the Minor Theatre, the Minor Bungalow, and this building were constructed. Except for the bank, which is across the street, all are located on block 208, and although the Minor house is gone (the rear portion remains), all the Minor buildings are standing and occupied.

Contractor Nelson Johansen built the first 25-foot wide store at the north end of the row in the spring of 1913. First tenants were Dr. Hadley, whose offices were upstairs, and grocer Anthony Marks. In the summer of 1914, the other two stores were built between the Minor Theatre and the first store.

Although older Arcatans recall some of the many businesses which occupied these stores and Humboldt County Directories and *Arcata Union* advertisements add a little more information, there are still large gaps. For some years, the store presently occupied by Bug Press (1041 "H") was a grocery, beginning with Marks and followed by Jack Taylor's Cash and Carry in the early 1920's and Seely and Titlow's True Blue Cash and Carry in 1925. Aggeler Electric was here during the 1940's and 1950's with the Arcata Yardage Shelf opening around 1960. The building was vacant for most of the 1960's and early 1970's until the present business opened in 1975.

The middle store, presently Bubbles, at 1031 "H" was a meat market beginning in 1914 with William Seelig's Humboldt Cash Market and followed by the Humboldt Meat Market in the 1920's and later J.C. Bull, Jr.'s wholesale meats in the 1930's. C.H. Renner, jeweler, occupied the store in the late 1930's. From the late 1940's through the 1950's, the store housed Hammond and Barnum Paints, and in the early 1960's, Bailey's Paints. Vacant for several years, it became Benzinger's Radio and TV before Bubbles moved in about three years ago.

The south store, whose early history could not be determined, is divided into two small shops. From about 1918 until the mid-1930's, 1023 "H", the Women's Center, was Vintie Munson's millinery and dress shop. M.D. Root's restaurant and Gabo Silva's bakery followed in the late 1930's. From the 1940's until the early 1970's it served as a barber shop—Ray's, William's and Nickol's. The Women's Center has occupied the shop since about 1976.

Until the late 1930's, no occupants could be determined for 1021 "H", now occupied by Moonstone Mountaineering. From that time until the mid-1950's, Edgar Ericson had his photography store here. Phillips Camera Shop followed in the late 1950's. During the early 1960's, Gene Souligny's jewelry store occupied the shop. From the late 1960's until the present business moved in a year ago, there were several stores including Arcata Appliance Service, Action Community Pressworks, and Flat Earth Bicycle Shop.

Arcata Union, 20 March 1913; 23 July 1914; 15 Oct. 1914; 11 June 1925.

Humboldt County Directories.

Leno Canclini, personal communication, 7 Dec. 1978.

Deed Records.

THE WAITE-HAUGH HOUSE

113

Construction Date 1914

Address 614 "G" Street

Location Block 126 — AP# 21-115-01

Original Owner Burton and Mayme Waite

Interim Owners Martin Haugh (1922); Sarah Haugh, widow (1929).

Present Owner Marino and Esther Quintoli (1950).

Description One-story; hipped roof with porch gable; extended eaves with exposed rafter ends; shingle siding; overhanging bay-type window on front; square upper window divisions; 36-pane window in porch gable; tapered porch columns on shingled piers; lattice-foundation vents.

Builder Charles Anderson



Carpenter Charles Anderson built this \$3000 bungalow for Mayme and Bert Waite in 1914. Typical bungalow features are the extended eaves, exposed rafter ends, shingle siding, and multi-paned window sashes, all of which appeared in Arcata architecture several years before construction of this house. Notable, however, is the extended porch gable, introduced here on a hipped-roof house and soon expanded into the standard, two-gable form, popular locally through the 1920's.

During the early 1900's, Waite ran the Old Reliable Harness Shop on 9th Street. As auto travel increased, the business expanded to include auto top repair and in 1926 he moved the shop to the Plaza Garage Building on the corner of 8th and G Streets. After his marriage in 1913 to Mrs. Mayme Anderson, proprietor of Arcata's Pastime Theatre, Waite became involved in theatre management and was, for a time, in charge of the Minor Theatre.



The Minor Building, Circa 1914. Courtesy Humboldt State University Library.

Arcata Union, 18 Oct. 1905; 11 Sept. 1913; 12 Feb. 1914; 30 April 1914; 5 Nov. 1914; 15 Jan. 1920; 13 May, 1926.
Deed Records.



THE SOWASH HOUSE

Construction Date 1914

Address 1160 "G" Street

Location Block 235 — AP# 21-088-05

Original Owner George and Gladys Sowash

Interim Owners James H. Rollison (1949); Mary Bacchetti (1952); James and Elva Wyatt (1954).

Present Owner Jay Kober (1975).

Description 1½ story; two, front-facing gables; extended eaves; exposed rafter ends; beam brackets in gables; shingle siding; overlapping board siding on basement; bay; sunporch; geometric upper window divisions; double doors of 15 panes each; lattice foundation vents.

Builder Charles Anderson

Built for \$2500 in 1914, the Sowash House is of standard bungalow form with two broad, street-facing gables. The front gable of the porch is echoed by the house gable, located behind and to one side of the porch. Although the true bungalow is one story, this one-and-a-half story house has many recognized features identified with bungalow types, i.e., shingle siding, extended eaves with exposed rafter ends, beam brackets in the gables, and multi-paned upper window sashes. A protruding bay with geometric divisions in the upper part of the center window, a sunporch of similar windows, and double, multi-paned doors make full use of the house's western exposure.

THE MALVICH HOUSE

115

Construction Date 1914

Address 1030 "C" Street

Location Block 202 — AP#21-076-09

Original Owner James Malvich

Interim Owners Josephine Malvich; Lee R. and Edna Taylor (1945); Stephen A. and Ruth Watkins (1950); Dino and Dorothy Giannini, and Abraham and Jean Cozart (1958); Graham and Mary Misbach (1965); Steven Kilkenny, Timothy McKay, Robert Sizoo, Jeffrey Powers (1972);

Present Owner Steven Kilkenny (1978).

Description Large, two-story, end gable with returns; pedimented stoop with turned posts and cutout brackets; used as boarding house through the years.



Thirteen Patients and Two Deaths in One House

About two weeks ago a number of workmen from the Carson woods at Fieldbrook came to Arcata when the epidemic of influenza first broke out and went to the lodging house conducted by Mrs. Josephine Malvich and her daughter Fannie at 1030 C Street, where they make their homes while in Arcata. In a very short time, they were nearly all confined to their beds with the disease and Mrs. Malvich and daughter Fannie and two young sons also came down, thirteen people being ill at one time. For several days Louis Crarnich, an intelligent young Croatian, did splendid service by caring for his sick countrymen and later Mrs. Effie Acorn was secured to take charge of the sick people. The Red Cross Committee for Civilian Relief...gave much needed assistance.

The first victim was John Luksetich, who was taken to the Red Cross Hospital in Eureka for treatment and who died on Friday...Luksetich was a native of Austria, aged 23 years...The second to pass away was John Ivanicich, also a native of Austria, aged 28 years...

By Tuesday evening all the patients at the Malvich house had recovered except three who were still confined to their beds.

(Arcata Union, 7 Nov. 1918)



THE MINOR BUNGALOW

Construction Date 1914

Address 865 11th Street

Location Block 208 — AP# 21-104-04

Original Owner Isaac Minor

Interim Owners Mary Elizabeth Pressey, daughter, (1913); George P. McNear (1920); Lottie B. Egan (1921); A.W. Green (1927); Martha J. Green, widow, (1938); Plonnie Taylor (1963); Taylor heirs (1964).

Present Owner Benjamin Feuerwerker (1964).

Description One story, end gable roof with extended porch gable; beam brackets; exposed rafter ends; flat stickwork in gable; tapered porch columns on granite piers; two small windows of ten panes each in gable; decorative board resting on four brackets beneath gable window; multi-paned upper windows; sits right on sidewalk.

Builder Carpenter Hammond with crew including Neil Hill, Charles Peterson, and William Popp. Stone work by James Davidson.

Another small bungalow which is one of the most unique and attractive built in Arcata in many a day was recently completed for Isaac Minor on his lot on 11th Street at the rear of the Minor home place. This bungalow is a facsimile of one recently built in Los Angeles where the most original designs in the world are to be found and was built from a photograph and detailed drawings. It is 28 by 44 feet with a six foot porch running across the front with a ten foot ceiling. The porch is supported by two heavy columns resting on heavy granite buttresses, the dimensions one foot eight inches by three feet two inches. These buttresses are made of large slabs of granite brought from Mr. Minor's upper Warren Creek quarry and add much to the massive appearance of the bungalow. The floor of the porch and the steps are concrete and two of the buttresses carry columns, the other two being plain, affording a chance to place a potted plant or tree for decorative purposes.

From the porch is entered the living room 14 by 16 feet immediately back of which is the dining room, separated by buttresses in which are set bookcases with leaded glass doors. The attractive feature of the living room is a fireplace five feet high surmounted by a handsome mantel of Vermont marble, the hearth being also of highly polished Vermont marble. The granite in the fireplace is from the Minor quarry at Warren Creek and the setting of the stone was done by James Davidson who is an artist in handling this class of work...

The interior wood work is pine, beam ceilings being used in the living and dining rooms. Charles Muhlberg did the painting and papering of the interior and David Minor the exterior work. The plumbing was done by Wesley W. Downing, and Pete Tracy did the concrete work. J.E. Hammond had charge of the work and was assisted by carpenters Neil Hill, Charles Peterson and William Popp.
(Arcata Union, 1 Oct. 1914)

THE JAMES HUNTER HOUSE

117

Construction Date 1914

Address 838 17th Street

Location AP# 20-154-09

Original Owner James Hunter

Interim Owners Norman Graham (1917); Murrell Warren (1920); Tony John Straka (1926); Antonio M. Lyons (1929); A.E. Lyons (1945); Robert N. & Edythe Loring (1952); Robert & Susan BEEKMAN(1974).

Present Owner Susan BEEKMAN (1975).

Description One story; wide front gable with stick brackets; extended to cover veranda; veranda clinker brick piers and columns; extended eaves with exposed rafter ends; overlapping board siding; one of original ornamental chains remains on veranda; wide front door with 4 glass squares; French doors open onto veranda; west end of veranda enclosed for sunporch; east side pergola; tall, clinker brick chimney on west; 51-pane window in front gable; other windows with divided upper sash; located in area of other bungalows.

Builder Elmer Sage assisted by Ralph Sage and Frank Johnson.



Another handsome bungalow built during Arcata's 1914 building boom is the James Hunter house on 17th Street. First of a five-bungalow row, the house was built by master craftsmen Elmer Sage, his brother Ralph, and Frank Johnson. One wide gable, extended to cover an eight-foot veranda, is decorated with light stickwork brackets and contains a rectangular window of 51 tiny panes. Clinker brick piers support the porch columns originally joined by suspended ornamental chains, one of which remains. The veranda is partially enclosed as a sunporch. Extended eaves with exposed rafter ends, upper window divisions, and the pergola add to the bungalow detail. A tall clinker brick chimney extends through the eaves on the west side of the house.



Called the "Sportsman's Headquarters" and the "finest hostelry for its size on the Pacific Coast," the Hotel Arcata opened with a grand celebration in April 1915. Seventy-five guests registered the first day at rates of one and two dollars depending on whether the room had a bath or not. Weekday meals in the dining room cost 35¢; Sunday meals were 50¢. For service to the front door, the autobus met all trains and the auto stage line.

The first managers of the hotel were Thomas Bryant and A. Haumann, former proprietors of the Great Western Hotel in Sheridan, Wyoming. With them came "one of the finest collections of mounted big game heads ever brought to the county or even the state." There were fifty trophy heads of elk, deer, moose, antelope and Rocky Mountain sheep. Wired for electricity and festooned with colored lights, the heads were the final touch to the lobby's decor!

The three-story, fire-proof brick building with heavy metal cornices was designed by San Francisco architect, W.H. Weeks, and built by Elsemore and Jacobs, contractors. Directors of the Arcata Hotel Company were George Marken, Noah H. Falk, Ralph W. Bull, S. Myers, and Henry Brizard. The Bank of Arcata served as the corporation treasurer.

The Hotel Arcata provided accommodations for tourists traveling by rail or steamer, but after the completion of the Redwood Highway in the 1920's, most of the business came from the motoring public. In addition to the transient trade, the Hotel was also used by local people as a permanent residence, and the diningroom was a popular place for Sunday dinner. A.D. Lee was manager during the first part of the 1920's; William Hughes, the middle years. In 1926 Wallace C. Devlin assumed the management position, held by him into the 1930's. During the war years, C.A. and Lottie Bartell owned and operated the Hotel, which now provides apartment living for Humboldt State University students.

THE HOTEL ARCATA

Construction Date 1914-1915

Address 708 9th Street

Location Block 194 — AP# 21-106-04

Original Owner Arcata Hotel Company

Interim Owners Charles E. and Mary A. Falk, Dorothy Philips, Muriel Bogardus, and Drury Falk (1937); C.A. and Lottie May Bartell (1945); Wilbur and Amy Greer (1960); Robert and Virginia Cargill, Ralph and Mary Good, and James Tappenbeck (1969).

Present Owner SIO Corp (1975).

Description Three stories; flat roof; square design; brick construction; projecting cornice with decoration; rows of windows in upper stories; horizontal bands above windows; ground floor with plate glass store fronts; main entrance covered by stationary awning below a bracketed hood and the words, HOTEL ARCATA.

Architect W. H. Weeks

Contractor Elsemore and Jacobs

THE RANDLE-GILARDONI HOUSE

119

Construction Date 1915

Address 1320 "Q" Street

Location AP# 21-241-04

Original Owner George N. Zehndner

Interim Owners Marion Randle (1917); Randle heirs; Seba Gilardoni (1937).

Present Owner Estate of Seba Gilardoni (1974).

Description One story, spreading hipped roof with extended porch gable; extended eaves with exposed rafter ends; beam/stick brackets; porch supported by corner pillars on piers; railing balustrade; shingle siding; diamond-paned divisions in upper portion of middle window; diamond-paned window in gable; bay-type window on north side repeats the diamond-paned motif in upper portion of middle window; exterior brick chimney; palm tree in front yard; house still part of original dairy farm.

Builder Charles Anderson



Part of the old Jacob Zehndner ranch, this house was built for Zehndner's son, George N. Zehndner, in 1915 while he was manager of the ranch and the Cypress Grove Dairy. In 1917 the house was sold to Marion Randle, but the dairy business west to Seba Gilardoni, who purchased 34 acres from the Jacob Zehndner estate the following year. In 1937 the Randle family sold the house and additional land on the east and north to Gilardoni, whose son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gilardoni, live in the house.

With its hipped roof and projecting porch gable, this fine bungalow is very similar to the 1914 Waite-Haugh house also built by Charles Anderson. Shingle siding, exposed rafter ends under extended eaves, diamond-paned windows, and beam-and-strut brackets in the gable are all typical of early Craftsman period architecture.



THE HILL HOUSE

Construction Date Original house, c. 1878; present house, 1914.

Address 332 9th Street

Location Block 198 — AP# 21-055-07

Original Owner Original house, Henry Jenkins; present house, Addie Graham Hill and Herbert Hill

Present Owner Erle Lee Hill (1952).

Description Large 1½ story end gable house; extended eaves with exposed rafter ends; stick brackets in gable ends; shed dormer; porch with rabbeted 3-step siding; square pillars; bay-type extensions with roof; upper window sash divided into geometric panes; rough overlapping board siding; wide steps onto porch; sits well above street level; low cobblestone wall in front.

Builder Elmer Sage assisted by Frank Johnson and George Ripley.

A settlement era house of the 1870's was converted into this modern bungalow in 1914. Purchased by Frank Graham for his daughter Addie Graham Hill, the house remains in family ownership with Mrs. Hill's daughter and son, Dorothea Fraser and Erle Lee Hill, as present occupants.

To look at the new residence now occupied by Bert Hill and family on Ninth Street east of "D", one would never suppose that it was a portion of the old residence, which formerly stood upon the same lot. The house has been made into a large modern bungalow and is architecturally most pleasing to the eye. A broad veranda has been built on, from which is entered the parlor and dining room which composes the new portion. The finish of these two rooms is handsome and attractive, being golden oak which takes a high polish and something new in beam ceilings are also to be seen here. The electric furnishings, carpets, hangings, etc. are rich and harmonious and the built-in buffet and window seats in the dining room are convenient and attractive.

The carpenter work was done by Elmer Sage, who had for assistants Frank Johnson and George Ripley which is sufficient guarantee of first class workmanship through out. The painting and papering was done by Bert Downs and Paul Nelson...

The lawn and front yard have also been improved and a heavy cobblestone coping placed around the house adds to its appearance and stability. Mr. and Mrs. Hill are to be congratulated on the possession of such a neat and comfortable home.

(Arcata Union, 16 April 1914)

THE BRIGDEN HOUSE

121

Construction Date 1914

Address 540 Park Ave.

Location AP# 503-121-02

Original Owner Nora and Herbert Brigden

Present Owner Nora Brigden

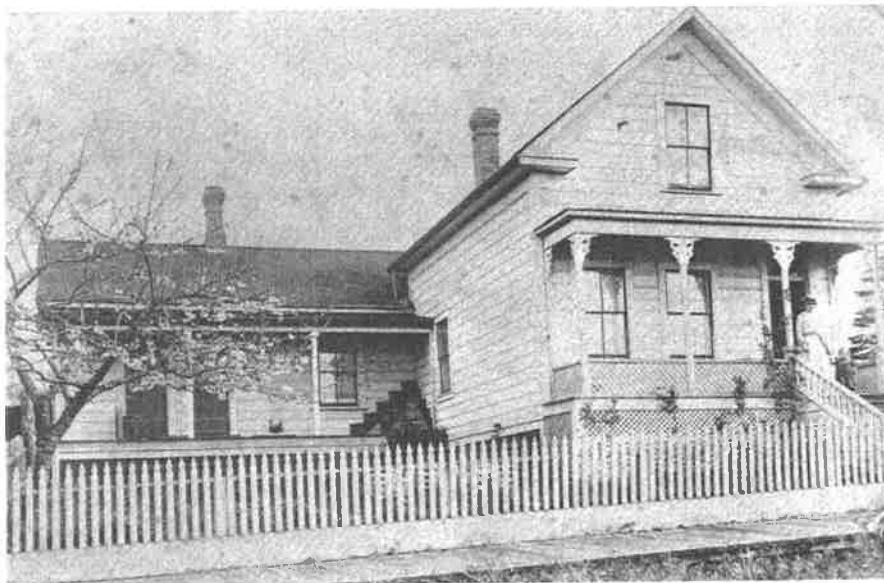
Description One story, spreading roofline with gables; veranda with cobblestone piers and tapered columns; wide cement steps onto veranda; cobblestone chimney protrudes through gable; extended eaves with exposed rafter ends and beams; plate glass windows; small windows with divided upper sash; pergola on west; strip decoration under front gable; wide, overlapping board siding; open space with Arcata Redwood Park as backdrop.

Architect/Builder Elmer Sage assisted by Ralph Sage and Frank Johnson



Described as "one of the most sightly places in Arcata besides enjoying a splendid view," the Brigden house was built in 1914 and remains in original ownership sixty-four years later. The plans for the "artistic bungalow" were drawn by Elmer Sage, who was assisted in the construction by his brother Ralph and Frank Johnson. James Davidson of the Humboldt Granite and Marble Works built the cobblestone porch piers and chimney.

Built at a cost of \$2500, the house expresses many elements of the Western Stick, notably its emphasis on the wood structural members — rafter and beam — projecting beyond extended eaves; the low, spreading roofline which accentuates a horizontal character; the strip decoration under the gable; and the open arbor or pergola on the west. Plate glass windows on the south and west make possible full enjoyment of the view. Built into the hillside with a backdrop of redwoods, the house is a beautifully-maintained example of stick/bungalow architecture.



The original Hill House before the 1906 remodeling. Mrs. Hill and Dorothea on the porch, 1906. Courtesy Erle Lee Hill and Dorothea Fraser.

Arcata Union, 2 July 1914; 5 Nov. 1914.
Deed Records.



THE MINOR THEATRE

Construction Date 1914

Address 1015 "H" Street

Location Block 208 — AP# 21-104-10

Original Owner Isaac Minor

Interim Owners Minor heirs

Present Owner Norma Minor Timmons

Description Classic-style commercial architecture; two story; square form with flat roof; dentils on projecting cornice; pilasters extend from ground to horizontal band between stories; double sash windows in upper story; recessed arched entry with ticket window; three sets of multi-paned double doors; center parapet "1914 MINOR 1914".

Architect Franklin Georgeson

Contractor Ambrose Foster

Pictures of Africa and the launching of a British battleship introduced Arcata to the world of moving pictures in 1908. Two years later the Pastime Theatre received a new model "non-flicker" picture machine and in February 1913 Arcata was treated to the Wonderful Edison Talking pictures.

In the summer of 1914 Isaac Minor undertook construction of "Humboldt County's Finest Play-House." Opening night, Dec. 3, 1914, found the Minor Theatre filled to capacity as Arcatans enjoyed Jack London's "Valley of the Moon." The building was designed by Eureka architect Franklin Georgeson and built under the direction of Ambrose Foster. The first lessees were the Pettengills, but others were to follow including Mr. Morrell, Bert Waite, R.E. and B.B. Byard, and George Mann.

Besides moving pictures the Minor was used for Humboldt State student productions, Arcata High graduation exercises, traveling theatrical groups, and other events that required a large seating capacity. Until the arrival of sound pictures to Arcata in 1930, music was provided first by the Minor Theatre Orchestra under the direction of Willard Wagner and later by an old upright piano. In 1919 a lovely baby grand was purchased to the delight of Director Wagner who "can fairly make you cry now with his 'death of little Eva' music or fairly raise you out of your seat when he has occasion to use the 'Eliza crossing the ice' variety." The Minor Theatre pipe organ was installed in 1923.

Charlie Chaplin, Tom Mix, and Douglas Fairbanks were among the favorites at the Minor. Theda Bara appeared in the million dollar film, "Salome" and Gloria Swanson, John Barrymore, and Clara Bow shared top billing with Rex, King of the Wild Horses.

Except for brief periods, one of which occurred in 1931, the Theatre was in continuous operation until 1960. For the next eleven years, it stood vacant, reopening in 1972 under the management of John Lynch, Faison Jordan, Rick Brazeau, David Phillips, Michael Thomas and Fred Neighbors.

Arcata Union, 22 Feb. 1908; 10 Dec. 1910; 11 Dec. 1913; 6 Nov. 1914; 17 Dec. 1914; 10 Dec. 1914; 13 May 1915; 23 Dec. 1915; 10 May 1917; 31 July 1919; 15 Jan. 1920; 29 Nov. 1923; 17 March 1927; 6 Nov. 1931.

Faison Jordan, personal communication, 3 Dec. 1978.
Deed Records.

THE SAM NAYE HOUSE

123

Construction Date 1914

Address 759 7th Street

Location Block 127 — AP# 21-114-05

Original Owner Samuel A. Naye

Interim Owners Elizabeth Naye, wife, (1953);
Ebbie Warren and James Carrico (1970).

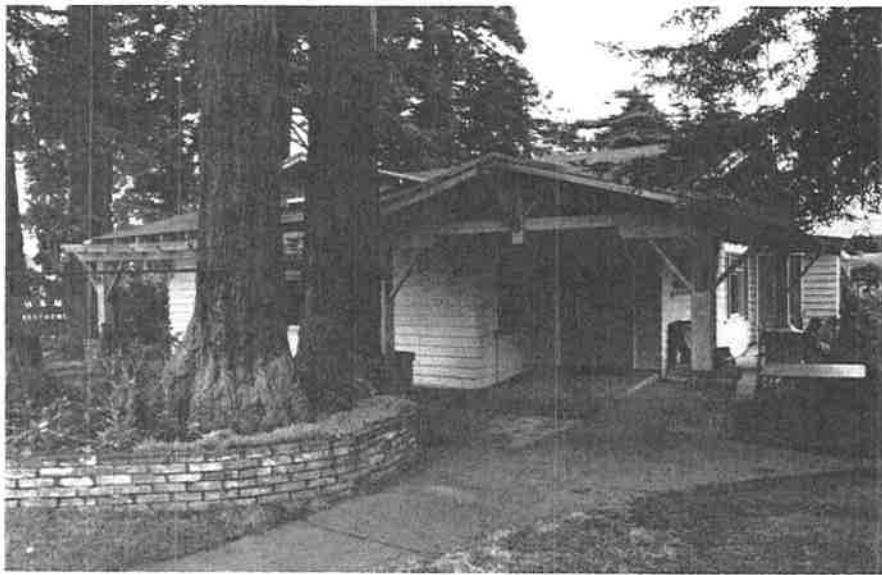
Present Owner Jose F. and Alzira Sousa
(1970).

Description One story; low-pitched front gable with smaller east side gable; house roof extends to cover veranda which is supported by a 3-post group at each end; shingle siding; diamond-paned window in front gable; square panes in upper sash of other windows; extended eaves are perforated by beams which are supported at the corner by diagonal struts; excellent condition; located in commercial area.

Builder William I. Carrico



Contractor William Carrico built this up-to-date house for cigar store owner, Sam Naye, in 1914. One wide gable faces the street and covers the veranda, which appears more expansive than most because there is no center support but only a three-post grouping at the ends. Beams perforate the extended gable eaves and are braced at the corner by diagonal struts. A large porch window is flanked by two narrow windows, all with multi-paned upper sashes. A diamond-paned window fits under the front gable. There is a wide off-center front door with multi-paned French doors on the east side. Located a block south of the Plaza, the Naye house is bordered on the west by a parking lot and on the east by a hamburger drive-in.



THE McKINNON HOUSE

Construction Date 1914

Address 631 13th Street

Location Block 246 — AP# 21-081-02

Original Owner Dr. G. W. McKinnon

Interim Owners Annie McKinnon, wife; Gus E. and Sadie Peterson (1944)

Present Owner Charles D. and Velma P. Dyer (1966)

Description One story, low sweeping roof-line with gables on ends; separate front gable projects for porch; wide veranda; stick brackets on porch; open beams over veranda; porch posts on brick piers; wide overlapping board siding; dormer; windows with multi-paned upper portions; in setting of redwoods.

Architect/Builder William Carrico assisted by Harold Carrico.

The Union man recently had the pleasure of visiting the new home of Dr. and Mrs. G.W. McKinnon located on the corner of 13th and F Streets in Arcata, which has been occupied for several weeks past...Standing in the midst of a grove of some 45 second growth redwood trees, all being more than 50 years of age and measuring from one to two feet through, stands one of the prettiest little bungalows to be seen in Humboldt County. The roof is covered with white asbestos roofing and when seen from the street the house has the appearance of a snow covered cottage nestling in the depths of a fairy forest. The outside dimensions of the structure are 33 by 60 feet and a six foot concrete porch runs around the east, west, and north sides, with doors opening into the house from the porch on all three sides. The porch is finished with a novel pergola effect quite pleasing to the eye, the timbers being supported by five brick buttresses built close to the concrete porch, giving a substantial and yet graceful effect...

The house was built by contractor William Carrico and his son Harold and the design was drawn by the elder member of the firm. A. Brizard, Inc. furnished and installed the plumbing fixtures and the work on the fire places and a portion of the concrete work was done by George Cornwall of Eureka. Peter M. Tracy put in most of the concrete work and Bert Downs did the painting and decorating.

(Arcata Union, 19 Nov. 1914)

THE ARCATA WOMAN'S CLUB

Construction Date 1916

125

Address 13th and J Streets

Location Block 271 — AP# 20-111-04

Original Owner Arcata Woman's Club

Present Owner Arcata Church of Christ
(1969).

Description One story with basement; flat roof; stucco exterior finish; bracketed pentroof; large windows with heavy divisions and moulding; entry gallery with rectangular openings; concrete steps and retaining wall.

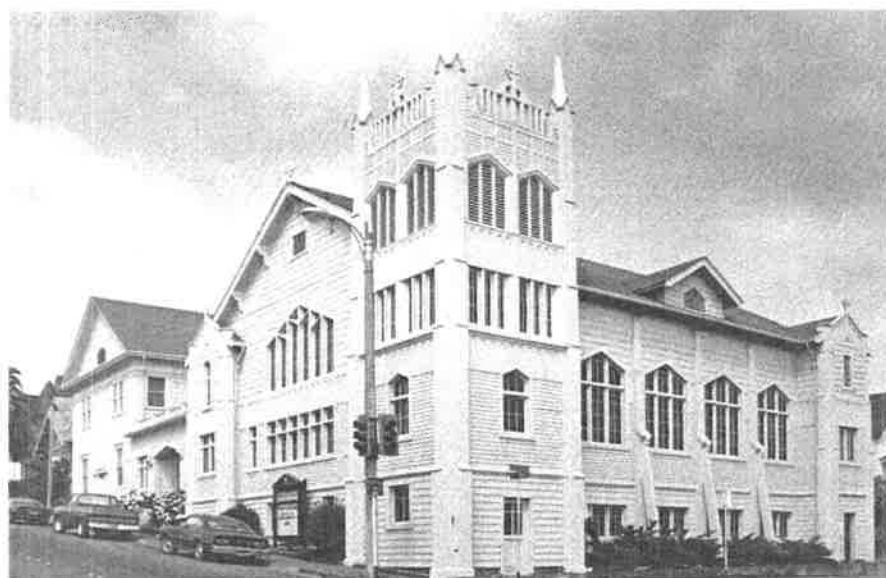
Architect J.L. Cunningham



Organized as a social club in 1907, the Arcata Woman's Club expanded its activities to community service in 1914 and undertook the construction of this club house in 1915. A building committee of Mrs. Louis Everding, Mrs. H. W. Jackson, Mrs. Thomas Bair, and Mrs. Nelson Johansen with Mrs. Ralph Bull as chairman endeavored to raise, through donation, sufficient capital and materials for the construction. One thousand dollars each from Mr. Everding, Mr. Jackson, and Mr. Bair got the ball rolling and in March 1916, J. L. Cunningham, a recent arrival from Oregon, was chosen architect for the new building. In October the Woman's Club held a reception in the new club house with forty members and ninety visitors enjoying the beautifully-decorated rooms.

Called "Square Mission" at the time of its construction, the Woman's Club is a reinforced concrete structure with stucco exterior. The flat-roof building, encircled by a bracketed pentroof, was originally painted white with dark brown woodwork.

ARCATA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Construction Date 1916; annex, 1911

Address 11th and "G" Streets

Location Block 235 — AP# 21-088-04

Owner The First Presbyterian Church of Arcata

Description Craftsman-influenced Gothic architecture; gabled roofline with extended eaves; brackets at gable ends; square bell tower topped by corner pinnacles, a balustrade, and crosses; Gothic pointed arches carried out in windows, entrance, and tower louvers; flying buttresses along south wall; shingles and horizontal board siding with decorative bands on tower and below shingles.

Architect Franklin Georgeson

Contractor Nelson B. Johansen

The Arcata Presbyterian Church was organized in 1860 and the first church, which faced 11th Street on this site, was dedicated in April 1861. Additions and alterations occurred through the years with the "plain but classic and simple" annex built by Nelson Johansen in 1911.

Fund-raising for a new building began in January 1916 and totaled \$5000 within two months. Designed by Eureka architect Franklin Georgeson and built under the direction of Contractor Johansen, the church was dedicated on June 3, 1917.

The new church is designed after the Tudor-Gothic style, which idea is carried out both interior and exterior and combines something of the Roman and Greek architecture in the general plan. The building has a frontage of 112 feet on "G" and a depth of 68 feet on 11th. In the way of ornamentation, imitation flying buttresses support the walls and tower and the finish around the windows and openings are most attractive. A prominent feature is the square bell tower, each corner being surmounted by minarets, finished in a Latin cross finial and on each side of the tower, between the minarets, rests an encircled cross on a balustrade.

The exterior finish is unplanned lumber, painted bronze brown and trimmed with buff...

Mr. Johansen has added to his laurels as a builder and the church trustees feel that they have received dollar for dollar for the money expended.

(Arcata Union, 7 June 1917)

THE PORTUGESE HALL

127

Construction Date 1916

Address 1185 11th Street

Location Block 212 — AP# 21-171-14

Original Owner Manuel Rocha

Present Owner Society of the Holy Trinity
(1925)

Description Large 2-story hall; Espadana roof; bracketed pent roof across front; beam-and-strut supported balcony; multi-pane double doors open onto balcony; stucco facade with side covering of asbestos shingle siding; recessed double-door entrance; recently added exterior stairway on east side.

Architect J.L. Cunningham

Contractor W.W. Rease



The local Portuguese community provided over \$4000 for the construction of this hall in 1916. Under the direction of the building committee composed of Manuel Rocha, Joe Ennes, Frank Costa, and Frank Simmons, plans were drawn by architect J.L. Cunningham and the contract awarded to W.W. Rease. After four months of construction, the hall was officially opened to the public with a dance on New Year's Eve in 1916.

The Hall is a center for community festivals and organizational activities shared by over two hundred Portuguese-American families in the Arcata area. Although the earliest Portuguese immigrants settled in the Ferndale vicinity during the late 1870's, Arcata's population has grown steadily since the early 1900's and includes more first generation families than any other place in Humboldt County. Primarily from the Azores, an archipelago of nine volcanic islands located between 800 and 1200 miles due west of Lisbon, most of Arcata's Portuguese are from the islands of Flores and Terceira.

The desire to join other members of their families and to improve their economic opportunities are two key factors in the growth and development of the Portuguese community in Arcata. Since their livelihood in the Azores depended upon agriculture, dairy cattle and fishing, these occupations are also among those which employ the California Portuguese. A large number of Arcatans have also worked in the lumber mills for many years.

Arcata Union, 27 July 1916; 10 August 1916; 31 August 1916; 4 Jan. 1917.
Sally Botzler, personal communication, 21 Nov. 1978.
Deed Records.

THE CALIFORNIA CENTRAL CREAMERIES PLANT



With plants at Ferndale and Eureka and skimming stations at Arcata, Freshwater and McKinleyville, the California Central Creameries expanded its Humboldt County operation in 1917 with the construction of a third plant in Arcata. Located on the railroad and near a cheap source of fuel from the Humboldt Cooperage Company, the \$100,000 creamery was completed in the fall of 1918. By January the following year, the plant was producing 1500 pounds per day of Golden State Swiss Cheese which sold in places as far away as New York state. Because of its long association with the Golden State trade name, California Central Creameries became the Golden State Milk Products Company in 1923. A description of the new plant was carried in the March 1919 issue of the *Pacific Dairy Review*:

In Humboldt, the manufacture of dairy products has kept pace with the intensive dairying system which has made this section a world leader of the industry. Last year the California Central Creameries filled a contract of 750,000 pounds of butter for the Navy alone, the butterfat production of many of the herds of the Eel river section. The Arcata factory will serve the dairymen of the bottom lands lying between Eureka and Arcata and the farms skirting Mad river, Little river and other districts to the north and east...

The new plant of the California Central Creameries at Arcata, Humboldt County, is one of the finest establishments of the kind on the coast. The main building covers an area of 80 by 180 feet. It is a one story structure surmounted by a central tower 40 feet square and 80 feet in height and is of an architectural design that makes it a distinct addition to the community...

(Arcata Union, 27 March 1919)

The creamery continued operation until the late 1950's when the building was sold to William and Richard Norris. The Arcata Roller Rink used the spacious structure for the next 14 years or so followed by the Internal School and Sundance Leather which still occupies the building along with the Pacific Art Center and the Mad River Dance Co-op. Today, theatrical and musical productions are breathing new life into the 60-year old creamery.

Construction Date 1917-1918

Address 1251 9th Street

Location Block 172 — AP# 21-173-02

Original Owner California Central Creameries

Interim Owners Golden State Co., Ltd.; Foremost Dairies, Inc.; William and Richard Norris (1958); James Leland and James Leslie Marvel (1972).

Present Owner Brian Finigan and Melisa Thonson (1977).

Description One story; flat roof with low parapets; multi-paned windows; entrance with bracketed hood, transom, and sidelights; wood construction; original 80-foot tower of two stages topped by an octagonal cupola; tower decoration included balustrades, arched windows, and a bracketed pentroof; only lower stage remains; roof addition; second building at rear.

Architect Franklin Georgeson

Contractor Englehart Construction Co.

THE WAGNER BLOCK

129

Construction Date 1919, 1920 and 1923.

Address 1056 11th, 1038 11th, 1008 11th, 1133 "J", 1157 "J", 1187 "J", 1087 12th, 1077 12th, 1057 12th, 1045 12th.

Location Block 231 — AP# 20-113-01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 08, 09, 10, 12.

Original Owner John A. Wagner

Present Owners 20-113-01, Wm. & Margaret Barrett; 20-113-02, John & Ruby Cahill; 20-113-03, David & Trudy Dolson; 20-113-04, Billie & Lyle Ocheltree; 20-113-05, Karen & Daniel Johnson; 20-113-06, Wm. & Mary Fulton; 20-113-08, Fernando & Alic Silva; 20-113-09, Joe & Deolinda Cabeceira; 20-113-10, Margaret Razzai; 20-113-12, Edith & Brunetto Papini.

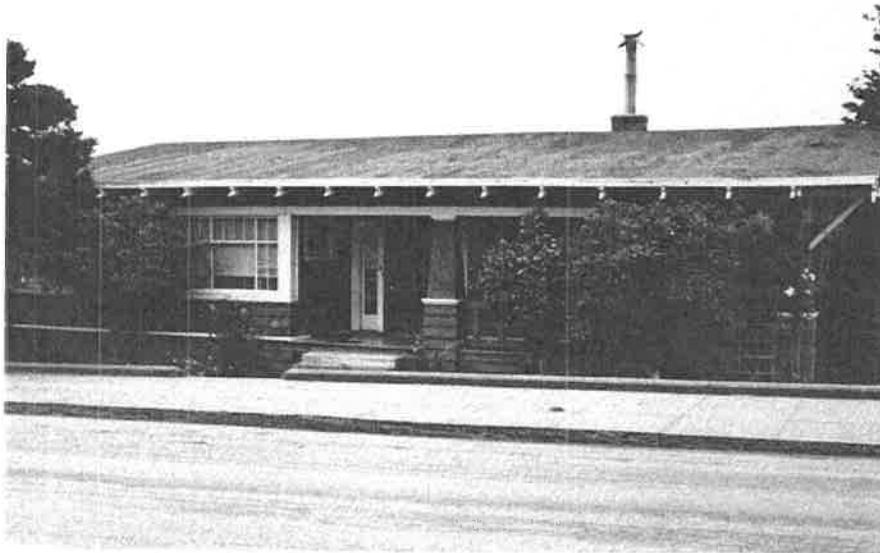
Description Block of ten bungalows with low gable rooflines; veranda gables; tapered veranda columns; extended eaves; exposed rafter ends; stick brackets; craftsman style windows.

Builder Charles Burrell probably built first eight in 1919-1920. William Hamilton assisted by Charley Brown and Joe Carroll built 1187 "J" in 1923 and perhaps 1157 "J" sometime afterwards.



After the frenzied building activity of 1914, when both commercial and residential structures were springing up in Arcata, the years just preceding and during World War I were in marked contrast. New construction was limited and actually halted during 1917-18 after the United States entered the war. With the November 1918 armistice and the passing of the Spanish flu epidemic, Arcata returned to a degree of normalcy which meant, and still does, insufficient housing.

In the spring of 1919, Judge J.A. Wagner and builder Charles Burrell teamed up to do "something about the housing situation." Wagner purchased the Nixon Block on 11th, Burrell built the houses, and Wagner sold them on a down payment-installment buying plan. Between August 1919 and August 1920, Burrell apparently built eight bungalows. The one at the corner of 12th and "J" was built for Wagner by William Hamilton, and Joe Carroll in 1923 and the one directly south sometime afterwards.



All are of the bungalow form with house and veranda gables, tapered veranda columns, exposed rafter ends, brackets, and craftsman style windows. However, there is a range of elaborateness running from the simplest houses on 12th Street to the lovely stick style/bungalow at 1187 "J" Street. Generally the houses show little exterior changes except for 1057 12th which lost its wood detail and is covered by asbestos shingle siding. The gasoline station at the southwest corner of the block is the only intrusion.

THE CHRISTIE HOUSE

131

Construction Date 1919

Address 1662 "I" Street

Location Block 328 — AP# 20-091-06

Original Owner J.A. Wagner

Interim Owners Frank D. Letter (1924); Mabel E. Christie (1928); Dorothy Greene (1962); Jane M. Dahlquist (1962).

Present Owner Joseph and Zella Costa (1974).

Description One story; low gable roof extending over porch; extended eaves with exposed rafter ends; two corner pillars on piers; beam/stick brackets in gable end; rough overlapping board siding; gable window with vertical divisions; shingles in gable.

Builder Charles Burrell



For sometime past the U.S. Dept. of Labor has been promoting and fostering a thrift movement to help handle the unemployment problem and to add to the wealth of the nation. The slogan is "Own Your Own Home," the idea being that 10,000,000 wage earner renters in this country should be independent of the land-lords. With this idea in view, Contractor Charles Burrell and Judge J.A. Wagner have joined forces and started a tight little building and loan corporation all by themselves and on Monday, if the lumber can be secured in time, Mr. Burrell expects to start work on a five room cottage on I Street between 16th and 17th, on a lot 50 by 125 feet recently purchased from Dr. C.L. Bonstell.

The house will be known as the "Burrell Type—The House to Fit the Lot," and is expected to be finished in about six weeks. The house will then be turned over to Mr. Wagner, who will sell it on the "just like rent" plan to some man who has a portion of the purchase price to pay down and wants to pay the remainder by installments...
(Arcata Union, 5 June 1919)



California Central Creameries Plant, Circa 1919. Courtesy Humboldt State University Library.

*Arcata Union, 5 June 1919.
Deed Records.*



CES (Gist Hall)

completed 1933



In 1913, the California Legislature appropriated \$10,000 for establishing a normal school in Humboldt County. Selection of a site was vested in a Board of Trustees, which considered Fortuna, Eureka, and Arcata as possible locations. After much controversy and amid more than a few bitter feelings, Arcata was chosen as the location with the most to offer—its grammar school rent-free for two years and a \$12,000 operational fund.

Humboldt State Normal School held its first classes on April 6, 1914. Within a few months, enrollment totaled 135 students including more than 30 males. In December 1914, the Board of Trustees accepted a 25-acre donation from William Preston and a comparable parcel from Noah H. Falk and his Union Water Company. Temporary buildings were constructed in 1915 with students occupying the new site in January 1916. The following year's Legislature appropriated \$245,000 for permanent buildings and operations. Although a contract was let that year, construction was delayed until the summer of 1919 because of the First World War.

The State Dept. of Engineering with O.L. Morton as supervisor oversaw construction of that first building, now known as Founders Hall. Banner headlines in the *Arcata Union* of 23 February 1922 announced completion of Humboldt State Teachers College (all normal schools became state teachers colleges in July 1912) and invited the public to a reception for the formal opening of the building.

Included in the Spanish-style building were faculty offices, the library, auditorium, classrooms, social and dining areas, and the training school designed for 250 children. Built around an open court, Founders Hall has a central pyramidal-roofed tower above an arched entrance and two long wings running north and south. Red roof tiles, mandated for all college buildings in 1925, complete the Spanish detail. With a backdrop of redwoods and a hilltop location, Founders Hall enjoys a magnificent view of Arcata, the bottom lands, Humboldt Bay, and the Pacific Ocean.

Nelson Hall

completed 1940



Jenkins Hall

completed 1950



Although the Spanish motif of Founders Hall is carried out in some degree throughout the campus, only three other buildings could be considered Spanish-style architecture. The College Elementary School (Gist Hall), completed in 1933, is the best example of the three. The facade is a stepped series of gables, short and without overhang. Large multi-paned windows are recessed as are the brick entrances. The exterior finish is smooth-plastered, painted cream, and red roof tiles cover the entire building. Above the east entrance is a tiled mural of a nursery rhyme—a gentle reminder that the building was originally intended for school children. The College Elementary School was closed about 1970 and renamed Arthur S. Gist Hall for Humboldt's third president, who served from 1930 until 1950.

Completed in 1940, Nelson Hall was the only permanent dormitory on a state college campus at that time. It was built at a cost of \$200,000 and named in honor of State Senator Hans C. Nelson, who introduced the bill in the 1913 Legislature to create Humboldt State Normal School. The building repeats the red roof tiles, short flush gables, and smooth-plastered finish of Founders Hall and CES.

Jenkins Hall (Industrial Arts Building) complements the Spanish theme of the other buildings with its short, flush gables, recessed multi-paned windows and smooth-plastered finish. Completed in 1950, the building was named for long-time industrial arts professor, H.R. Jenkins, who began his teaching career at Humboldt in 1915.

Arcata Union, 11 Sept. 1913; 20 Nov. 1913; 9 April 1914; 6 August 1914; 10 Dec. 1914; 13 May 1915; 23 Dec. 1915; 7 June 1917; 26 June 1919; 1 Jan. 1920; 3 Nov. 1921; 15 Dec. 1921; 23 Feb. 1922; 30 July 1925.

Humboldt State College, Circular of Information, 1951-52.

THE GODDEN HOUSE

Construction Date 1919

Address 938 17th Street

Location Block 352 — AP# 20-154-12

Original Owner William H. and Gertrude Catron

Interim Owners Norma and Peter Tracy (1922).

Present Owner Stanley G. and Deane Godden (1937).

Description One story; front-facing gable with separate porch gable; stick brackets; extended eaves; projecting, pointed rafter ends; brick piers and square pillars on porch; shingle siding; cobblestone chimney; low sidewalk coping of cobblestones, excellent condition; well-kept yard.

Architect/Builder Nelson B. Johansen



The Godden house on 17th Street is the prototype California Bungalow. Simple and straight forward, the wood shingled house has two gables facing the street. Both the house and porch gable have stick brackets, extended eaves, and pointed rafter ends projecting beyond the eaves. Two brick piers provide support for the square porch pillars. A marvelous cobblestone chimney, complemented by a low cobblestone sidewalk coping, adds the final bungalow touch.

The house was built by Nelson B. Johansen for William and Gertrude Catron in 1919. The brick piers, cement steps, and artistic cobblestone work were surely done by Catron's son-in-law, Peter Tracy, whose father John Tracy was Arcata's pioneer brick maker and mason. The little duckpond just west of the house was once the Tracy brickyard.

THE HOWARD BARTER HOUSE

135

Construction Date 1920

Address 816 14th Street

Location Block 288 — AP# 21-094-07

Original Owner Howard Barter

Interim Owners Barter heirs

Present Owner Ned G. and Dolly Barsuglia (1957).

Description One story; low-pitched gables; front porch with tapered columns on brick piers; beam railing on porch; brick porch foundation and chimney; extended eaves with unique split brackets; east side porch with open truss beams on tapered columns; multi-paned door with windows connect side porch with interior; flat stick decoration and hole-and-slot cutouts on front gable; plate glass window on front porch; horizontal board siding; corner lot.

Architect/Builder Nelson B. Johansen with carpenter Elmer Sage and mason Ray Welch.



A description of the Howard Barter house might easily fit Marcus Whiffen's definition of the Western Stick Style. In his *Guide to the Styles*, he characterizes this architecture as an "emphatic expression of wood-framed structure in conjunction with accentuation of the horizontal." The roof is broad with a gentle pitch; eaves are of great projection with simple or elaborate brackets; and porch beams extend beyond their supporting posts.

The Barter house is rich in detail, but adheres to the bungalow principal, which stresses the informality of indoor-outdoor living spaces as highlighted in the open truss porch connected to the indoors by a multi-paned door and flanking windows. Tapered porch columns on brick piers and heavy beam railing provide a feeling of solidity. Flat stick decoration and hole-and-slot cutouts in the front gable along with the unusual split brackets provide the artistic touches. Exterior siding takes on a new look in this house with a wide-narrow-wide-narrow motif, repeated in the horizontal board fence at the rear.

Working with master carpenter Elmer Sage and mason Ray Welch, architect/builder Nelson B. Johansen brought together in the Barter House the best of the bungalow period—quality craftsmanship and harmony of elements.

Arcata Union, 1 July 1902.

Whiffen, Marcus. *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles*. The M.I.T. Press, Cambridge. 1969.
Deed Records.

THE JOHANSEN-McCANN HOUSE

Construction Date 1921



Address 1461 "H" Street

Location Block 288 — AP# 21-094-10

Original Owner Nelson B. Johansen

Interim Owners Merle C. and Mary E. McCann (1925).

Present Owner H.R.V. and Ruth Chapman (1964).

Description One story; low-pitched gables; brick veranda wall and piers; grouped, square posts veranda supports; extended eaves with some exposed rafter ends; extended beams and rafters notably on veranda; veranda on south front and extends length of east side, wide, rounded veranda steps; horizontal siding; beautiful condition with landscaped yard.

Architect/Builder Nelson B. Johansen

No doubt pleased with his efforts on the Barter House, Nelson Johansen built this stick style bungalow for his family the following year. With two grown sons and only their daughter, Margaret, at home, the Johansens no longer needed the big house on "G" Street and this smaller, comfortable bungalow seemed appropriate.

Building on the lot north of the Barter house, Johansen incorporated several features of that house into his home, notably the brick porch piers, exterior siding, and low, gabled roofline. In the Johansen bungalow, however, major emphasis is placed on the veranda, which extends around the side of the house and its heavy projecting beam and rafter structure supported by grouped square posts. In this house, Johansen captures the horizontal expression of structural members accented by the deep overhang of the eaves. Low, rounded, cement steps lead easily onto the spacious veranda and the whole feeling is one of casual harmony between outdoors and indoors.

This was the last Arcata home for the Johansens. Upon his retirement in 1925, they moved to Palo Alto where their son, Donald, was a student at Stanford. An amazingly gifted person, Donald overcame the handicap of deafness to earn a Ph.D. in botany from Stanford where he was a University Fellow and author of a "truly remarkable piece" of scientific research. As a young man in Arcata, he was widely known for his outstanding horticultural success with dahlias and may well be responsible for much of Arcata's dahlia stocks recognized for their prolific beauty each summer.

Nelson B. Johansen died in Palo Alto in 1933, his wife Margaret in 1954. They were active, respected members of Arcata's community for many years. Through Mr. Johansen's skilled craftsmanship and innovative designs, he made many significant contributions to Arcata's architectural heritage.

Arcata Union, 18 July 1918; 7 July 1921; 3 Jan. 1924; 22 Oct. 1925; 18 March 1926; 1 April 1926; 29 April 1926; 19 Jan. 1928; 10 Nov. 1933; 4 April 1954.

Margaret Johansen Crabtree, personal communication, 30 March 1978.

Deed Records.

THE LUNDBORG HOUSE

Construction Date 1923

Address 318 12th Street

Location Block 243 — AP# 21-084-05

Original Owner John Lundborg

Interim Owners Minnie Lundborg (1923); Leonard and Hessie Jacobs (1940); Byron Nelson and Janis Wilson (1950); Mark F. and Lillian Bosch (1951); Everett and Mary Humphrey (1958).

Present Owner Gerald and Connie Beardsley (1975).

Description One story; low, spreading gabled roofline; separate flat roof over veranda; extended eaves; windows with vertical divisions in upper portion; garage of same style; horizontal board siding of wide/narrow pattern.

Builder William Popp and Frank Johnson



Located on a corner lot, the Lundborg House has a low-pitched roofline with wide gables facing both streets. Covered by a flat roof, the cement veranda extends from the corner across the front of the house and around to one side, where the entrance is located. Front windows are arranged in a group of three with smaller side windows flanking the wide center window. As usual with bungalow housing, the upper portions of the windows are shorter than the lower ones and are divided into small panes. The siding is of horizontal boards, marked by a wide/narrow pattern, popular during the 1920's in Arcata.

William Popp and Frank Johnson are building a new five room cottage for John L. Lundborg and family on the corner of 12th and C Streets on property bought from M. Greenwald of San Francisco. The home will be ready for occupancy some time in July.

(Arcata Union, 31 May 1923)

THE JOHANSEN-HORTON HOUSE

Construction Date 1923

Address 1462 "H" Street

Location Block 287 — AP# 21-095-02

Original Owner Nelson B. Johansen

Interim Owners Margaret Johansen, daughter; Margaret Johansen Crabtree and David M. Crabtree, Jr.; William C. and Lily Pritchard (1937); Walter J. & Holly B. Warren and H. R.V. & Ruth Chapman (1943).

Present Owner E. Ray Horton (1954).

Description One story stucco; low gable with extended eaves, exposed rafter ends and exposed beams in gable; lattice work on face of gable; windows with vertically-divided upper sash; exterior chimney; south side flat-roofed addition.

Builder Nelson B. Johansen



Contractor Nelson Johansen has recently finished pouring the foundation for a five room bungalow of attractive design which he will build on his property on H Street across the street from his present home and south of the home of Lester Johnson. The house will contain five rooms with bath, laundry, etc., and will be finished with stucco outside and plastered within. The bungalow will have a gravel and paper roof and brick and concrete porch and steps. Mr. Johansen will probably sell the place before it is completed and a number of people have already cast envious eyes on the spot.

(Arcata Union, 30 August 1923)

THE BANDUCCI BUILDING

Construction Date 1925

Address 942 "G" Street
 Location Block 195 — AP# 21-058-07
 Original Owner Amato Banducci
 Interim Owners Elena Banducci, wife (1946);
 Fred A. Banducci and Jennie
 Banducci (1954).
 Present Owner Charles B. Evans, Jr. and
 Peter & Darian Dragge
 (1976).
 Description One story; flat roof, stucco
 facade; two recessed doors
 with transoms; plate-glass
 windows; row of small rec-
 tangular windows across
 front; pentroof; recently re-
 modeled on the interior.
 Architect Franklin Georgeson
 Contractor George Hugnин



Banducci's produce business occupied the north store; the south side was the home of Eunice Dougherty's dressmaking shop known as the Betty Jane Smart Shoppe and the real estate/insurance office of W.A. Beer and Son. Mrs. Dougherty closed her business in the mid-1930's and the space was absorbed by the Beer Agency, which continued at this location until about 1971. After the Banducci store was closed in 1941, it was occupied by several businesses including Suburban Gas Service and Julie's Arcata Florist. The store vacated by the Beer Agency was occupied by the Fishmonger restaurant and later the Phoenix Cafe before both sides of the building were consolidated and remodeled into the Cafe Antilles which was opened in 1978.

The Banducci Building is one of several Arcata buildings designed by Eureka architect, Franklin Georgeson. Son of one-time Eureka mayor Fred W. Georgeson, Franklin was a graduate of Eureka High School and the University of California where he received a degree in architecture. After his graduation in 1910, he was associated with several large San Francisco firms including Walter Parker and Co. and Charles H. Kaiser. Returning to Humboldt County, Georgeson designed the Minor Theatre, 1914; Arcata's Presbyterian Church, 1916; the Arcata Post Office (Beneficial Finance, 725 8th), 1916; the Marken Building (The Boot, 735 8th), 1917; and the California Central Creameries Plant, 1917. He also designed houses for Humboldt State President Van Matre (1917) and *Arcata Union* editor Rease Wiley (1923). With the exception of the residences, all the buildings are still standing.

Georgeson's Eureka buildings include the First Church of Christ, Scientist; several schools built between 1910 and 1915; Marshall Elementary School; the County Health Department building at 6th and "I" Streets; St. Joseph's Hospital, which was occupied after Georgeson's death in 1953; and the house presently owned by Ray and Delores Vellutini at 2424 "J" Street. He also designed schools in Del Norte County and hospitals in Santa Rosa and Orange County.

Perhaps best described as simply a Storefront, the Banducci Building was built in 1925 to house several small businesses. It has a flat roof, stucco facade, two recessed entrances and large plate-glass windows. Recent renovation including interior carpentry work, decoration, and furnishings has converted the store into the Cafe Antilles, a restaurant with a West Indies atmosphere.

Amato Banducci came to the United States in 1896 from his native Italy. Arriving in Humboldt County in 1902, he worked in the lumber industry, but within a few years started a vegetable and fruit route, traveling by wagon throughout the local area. In 1907, he purchased Joe Roba's fruit and vegetable business at 860 "G" Street. The business flourished under Banducci's management and in 1925, he built this little Storefront, designed by Eureka architect Franklin Georgeson and constructed by local contractor George Hugnин.

Arcata Union, 22 Nov. 1905; 30 March 1907; 23 Dec. 1915; 22 June 1916; 28 Sept. 1916; 16 Aug. 1917; 23 Aug. 1917; 22 Nov. 1917; 14 Feb. 1924; 23 Oct. 1924; 12 Feb. 1925; 26 Nov. 1925.
 Jennie Banducci, personal communication, 27 Nov. 1978.
 Tom Georgeson, personal communication, 13 Jan. 1979.
 Humboldt County Directories.
 Deed Records.

THE ENSIGN HOUSE

Construction Date 1925

Address 240 12th Street

Location Block 242 — AP# 21-066-05

Original Owner Clyde Ensign

Interim Owners Lettie Ensign, wife, (1922).

Present Owner Frances M. Pardini, daughter

Description One story stucco; low, end gables; extended eaves; exposed rafter ends; stick brackets in gables; two wide arches on porch; window divisions in upper sash.

Builder George Hugnun



The first Arcata houses of stucco construction made their appearance in the early 1920's. Nelson Johansen was among the first to use stucco on a basic bungalow type when he built the house at 1462 "H" Street in 1923. Two years later contractor George Hugnun built this house for Clyde and Lettie Ensign in East Arcata. Low-pitched gables, extended eaves with stick brackets, and exposed rafter ends are typical bungalow characteristics. The wide porch arches, however, seem to add a Spanish-style touch to the bungalow elements.

THE SHANO HOUSE

141

Construction Date 1925

Address 1603 "G" Street

Location Block 327 — AP# 20-092-03

Original Owner W.R. Shano

Interim Owners J.H. Crothers (1927); William G. Boyd (1928); H.R.V. and Ruth Chapman (1943); Robert L. and Eunice Sonnenfelt (1949); George W. and Muriel Cervonka (1956); Robert L. and Eunice Sonnenfelt (1956); Angelo and Jane Manfredda (1965); John P. Lipscomb (1968); Niel and Louanne Blandini (1969).

Present Owner Mary Schmidbauer (1973).

Description One story; steep end-gable roof with one front-facing gable; stucco; steep gable over arched entrance; arched door with round glass; multi-paned casement windows; north end chimney; wood framing extends beyond ends of gables.



New Home on the Redwood Highway

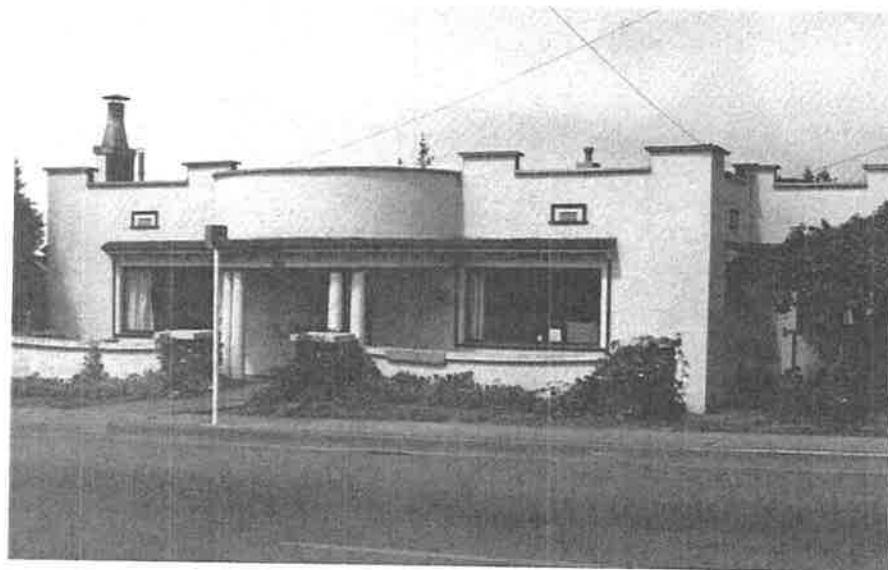
W.R. Shano, who recently purchased a lot 50 by 125 feet on G Street across from the G.T. Groceteria, commenced work on the foundations of a house which will be 36 by 45 feet this week. The building will contain seven rooms, will be one story with stucco finish and is designed after the English style with steep roof...

(Arcata Union, 3 Sept. 1925)

An important factor in the building of new homes in Arcata is the local organization of business men affiliated with the Oakland Guarantee Building and Loan Association of which Henry A. Sorenson, cashier of the First National Bank, is the local agent.

The recent completion of an attractive stucco house of English design valued at \$6000 for W. R. Shano on G Street, north of 16th, was made possible by a loan through the local branch of the organization...

(Arcata Union, 8 April 1926)



THE MORANDA HOUSE

Construction Date 1925

Address 1116 11th Street

Location Block 230 — AP# 20-114-06

Original Owner Joseph Moranda

Interim Owners Hazel L. Wasmuth Yermini

Present Owner Walter Moranda

Description One story stucco; flat roof; circular portico with round column supports; low stucco wall with fieldstone piers at sides of portico; two, large plate glass windows; bracketed pent roof over windows and around portico; front door with large single pane of glass; east side sun room; no steps, sits at street level; garage at rear.

Builder Joseph Worthington

Contractor Joseph Worthington built this Spanish style stucco for Joseph Moranda in 1925. It has a parapeted flat roof with a protruding circular portico supported by large columns. Across the front of the house is an eight-foot patio, open on either side of the portico and delineated by a low, curved stucco wall with fieldstone piers. Two, large plate glass windows flank the entrance and a bracketed pent roof shelters the windows and encircles the portico.



Arcata Grammer School

Arcata Grammer School, Circa 1884. Courtesy California State Library.

STEWART SCHOOL

143

Construction Date 1925

Address 16th Street between "J" and "L" Streets

Location Blocks 310 and 311 — AP# 20-133-01

Owner Arcata School District

Description One story with basement; center pavilion with wings running east and west; pavilion has five, arched, multi-paned windows; arched entrances flank the pavilion; perpendicular sections at the ends of the wings have gable returns on the south side and pediments on the north; large multi-paned windows in wings and along entire north side.

Architect N.R. Coulter

Contractor Myrl Crane



At the time of its construction in 1925, Stewart School was the pride and joy of the community and rightfully so. Designed by San Francisco architect N.R. Coulter and built at a cost of \$70,000 by Myrl Crane, the school was considered the most modern and best-equipped in Humboldt County. Built in the Moorish style, the unit type structure was designed so that later additions could be made, with the initial unit consisting of an auditorium with seating room for 800 people, twelve standard-size classrooms, office, library, teachers' room, nurse's room, restrooms and a basement.

The row of elm trees along the eastern border of the property is also of some historical note. In 1876, Ferndale-area rancher Joseph Russ visited his old home in Maine. The elm trees he remembered from his youth were as beautiful as ever and he decided to bring some seedlings to Humboldt County. Planted at Fern Cottage, the seedlings flourished and about the turn-of-the-century, seedlings from those trees were planted here in the yard of the Graham home, later torn down for additional playground.

Arcata's first schools date back to the early 1850's when various members of the community conducted private and public schools. Local homes, the Temperance Hall, a room in Murdock's Store, a ten by twelve foot shanty, and fraternal halls all sufficed at one time or another as school houses. Although there were several early school houses, one at the southeast corner of 12th and "J" and another built in 1884, the school remembered by older Arcatans was built in 1892 at 11th and "M" Streets. Designed by a San Francisco architect and built by local contractor Henry Orman, the school served the community until 1925. Temporary buildings on this site were used for Humboldt Normal School's first classes in the spring of 1914. A growing East Arcata prompted construction of the Pleasant Hill School at 11th and Union Streets in 1912.

Area high school students were first served in 1894, when the Arcata Union High School District was established. In 1903, it built the first Humboldt County high school at the corner of 16th and F Streets. Additions were made to this building but enrollment surpassed its capacity in a few years and in 1918 a new building was constructed on the high school site at the west end of 16th Street. The present facility was a phased-development project beginning after the second World War and continuing through the 1950's and into the 1960's.

The Stewart School building reached its capacity in the late 1940's, making it necessary to build three elementary schools in Arcata's newly-developed residential areas. Lower grades were gradually moved from the old building until only seventh and eighth grades remained, but because the building did not meet state-mandated standards for earthquake safety, it had to be abandoned in 1976. Although the old school is now boarded-up and vandalized, it is still fondly remembered by many who attended school there during its fifty years of service. Local residents also recall two dedicated educators, long-associated with the building.

Hugh B. Stewart, for whom the school was named in 1952, was principal of Arcata's grammar school from 1911 until 1925 and superintendent from 1925 until his retirement in 1952. It was under his leadership that the building was constructed and when it was vacated, the new gymnasium at Sunny Brae Middle School was named in his honor.

Asta Cullberg never missed a day of teaching because of illness in her forty years at Stewart School. During those years (1930-1970) she was a classroom teacher at every grade level and also served as vice principal. Her continuing interest and efforts in developing a library at the school made it appropriate to name the new facility at the Sunny Brae Middle School, the Asta Cullberg Memorial Library.



THE BEER HOUSE

Construction Date Original house, c. 1877; remodeled, 1927-28.

Address 1391 "G" Street

Location Block 274 — AP# 21-096-04

Original Owner John D. Smith; owner at time of remodeling, W.A. Beer.

Interim Owners Catherine Dunn (1884); Mary A. Johansen (1894); William Robert Pine (1903); Elna C. Pine (1920); W.A. Beer (1927); Marienne Walsh Beer (1937); Evelyn M. Donahue (1937); Samuel Beer, William Donahue, Joanne Mace (1971); John and Judith Bennett (1975).

Present Owner M.W. & Carolyn Sheppard (1978).

Description One story, end-gable, house; shed dormer with divided windows in front; windows with divided upper sash; enclosed portico with multi-paned windows and door; gabled portico roof with returns and corner columns; divided fan light over door; exterior cobblestone chimney on south.

Remodeled with popular 1920's features—roof dormer, multi-paned upper sash windows, and cobblestone fireplace—the Beer house belies its age. Assessments indicate the original house was constructed about 1877 by John D. Smith, a pioneer Humboldt County settler from Pennsylvania. After several ownerships the house was purchased by W.A. Beer in 1927 and underwent renovation and remodeling that same year. It remained in the family until purchased by the Bennetts in 1975.

A well-known family, whose daughter, Martha Beer Roscoe, is the knowledgeable researcher of Humboldt County history, the Beers came to Arcata in 1915 for Mr. Beer to teach at the newly-established Humboldt Normal School. A man of some credentials, W.A. Beer was born in Pennsylvania, held advanced degrees, served in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, was a teacher and administrator in Pennsylvania schools, and authored several books and articles on education. He entered Arcata activities with the same enthusiasm that his past experiences indicate: teaching, writing for the *Arcata Union*, serving as Secretary of the Arcata Chamber of Commerce, establishing a real estate and insurance business, and serving as Arcata's Justice of the Peace.

Carpenters put the finishing touches on Judge W.A. Beer's remodeled house on the corner of 14th and G Streets last week. The remodeling plans which were original with Mr. Beer are an adaptation of Colonial design. The windows vary in that the lower sash carries only one light while the upper sash is multi-pane with four, six or eight almost square lights according to the width of the window.

The roof is of Pabsco shingles of varied colors and makes a pleasing appearance. The front porch is a concrete floor covered with a handsome arched ceiling roofed in with Pabsco and supported by old Tuscan columns and pilasters set under a wide soffit. The fireplace is housed in a regular old fashioned Colonial rock chimney but the fireplace is of brick and plaster...

Altogether the improvements show what can be done in remodeling if one has a good frame work to build on and knowledge of building. (Arcata Union, 9 Feb. 1928)

THE PAUL CATES HOUSE

145

Construction Date 1929

Address 1291 "C" Street

Location Block 243 — AP# 21-084-02

Original Owner Frank Johnson

Interim Owners Frank Toste (1943); Nancy E. Briggs (1943); Anna C. Sorenson (1944).

Present Owner Paul and Helen Cates

Description One story stucco with flat roof; extended flat-roofed entrance with small columns and very narrow arches on front; large arch ways on sides; two large plate glass windows on front; door of one large pane of glass flanked by sidelights; north side chimney; little bay-type extension on north side.

Builder Frank Johnson



The Paul Cates home was built in 1929 by long-time Arcata contractor Frank Johnson. The house has a flat roof, stucco finish, and plate glass windows in the front facade. Its Spanish heritage is obvious and particularly evident in the arched porch which has three different size arches including a wide entrance arch flanked by single columns. The arch motif is repeated in a raised moulding on the chimney.

THE SVEN RYLANDER HOUSE

Construction Date 1929

Address 1310 "B" Street

Location Block 280 — AP# 21-062-06

Original Owner Sven H. Rylander

Present Owner Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (1913).

Description Large 1½ story end-gable house; shed dormer with two half-sized windows of six upper panes and one pane below; paired brick chimneys in roof; windows with divided upper sash, solid lower sash; front-facing gable porch roof with two small columns; beam railing; rabbeted 3-step siding; beautiful tree in front yard.

Builder Sven Rylander



This handsome one-and-a-half story house, built by Swedish carpenter Sven Rylander for his family in 1929, has typical 1920 characteristics: shed-type roof dormer, multi-paned upper window sashes, and exterior siding in a three-step pattern. Adding to the fine qualities of the house is the beautiful Belgian laurel planted by Mr. Rylander many years ago.

Sven "Scotty" Rylander came to the United States in 1902 from Stockholm, where his father was a sailmaker. He wanted to pursue a life on the sea, but coming from a strict Lutheran family, was dissuaded and came to San Francisco instead to work for a cousin driving an oyster delivery wagon. In 1906, he signed on a fishing boat for a year's cruise off Alaska. Returning to California he worked on a ranch near Sacramento where he met the future Mrs. Rylander. In 1911, they came to Arcata, where her family lived, and Mr. Rylander went to work in a local mill. During World War I he was employed in the shipyard at Fairhaven, later entering the contracting business. Assisted by his sons, Mr. Rylander built and remodeled many Arcata houses.

THE LEMBKE HOUSE

147

Construction Date 1929

Address 1559 "F" Street

Location Block 315 — AP# 30-096-11

Original Owner William J. and Hilda Louise Lembke.

Present Owner Rose and Chris M. Jacobsen (1969).

Description One story with end gables; rabbeted 3-step siding; stucco chimney; patio across front of house; center entrance sheltered by curved-roof portico with two column supports; open beam trusses on either side of portico; multi-paned sidelights; paired plate glass windows with multi-paned windows on either side; beautiful flower garden in south side yard.

Builder George Hugnin



In 1926, the Little River Redwood Company purchased the old school property at 11th and "M" Streets and opened a lumber yard. Supplying materials for home construction, they also had a Home Builder's Service, which issued a 100-page book of house styles, elevations, and prices for prospective home builders. Arcata contractors and their clients could choose from several basic styles with a variety of modifications.

Probably the Lembke house, built for Dr. and Mrs. William Lembke by George Hugnin in 1929, was an adaptation of a plan book house. Called a "Colonial" by the *Arcata Union*, the house has end gables with a wide cement patio across the front. The center door is covered by a column-supported, curved-roof portico with open beam trusses on either side. Multi-paned sidelights flank the door with paired plate glass windows and smaller divided windows to the sides. Wide cement steps lead to the porch.

Complementing the immaculate condition of the house is the beautiful flower garden of the side yard. Always a treat for local residents, the gardens are the work of Mr. Jacobsen, a retired rancher and city gardener.

THE BARTER BUNGALOW COURT / COLLEGE MOTOR INN



Over the long haul probably nothing has influenced Arcata's development patterns more than the automobile. Completion of the Redwood Highway through Arcata in the early 1920's resulted in a string of service stations along the "G" Street route. As Arcata joined the state's transportation network, the *Arcata Union* noted its location "Along the Redwood Highway" in its masthead and owners took pride in new houses with "G" Street addresses. No longer dependent upon ship or train as a means of reaching Humboldt County, the motoring public sought accommodations more adapted to their new mode of travel. The City responded in 1923 with the construction of an auto camp and lodge in Redwood Park; private enterprise provided Arcata's first tourist court in 1929 when the Barter Bungalow Court was completed on north "G" Street.

Built for Howard Barter, who owned the College Service Station on the corner of 17th and "G", the modern tourist court was opened in August 1929. Originally there were six bungalows, each with a sleeping room and kitchenette, and two family-sized cabins. Separate shower facilities were located between the bungalows. The business was so successful that four more bungalows were built the following spring. Constructed with low gable rooflines, extended eaves and exposed rafter ends, the little bungalows have an added decorative touch in the unique curved and split brackets. No longer used by auto tourists, Howard Barter's bungalow court, renamed the College Motor Inn in the 1940's, provides convenient housing for Humboldt State University students.

Construction Date 1929-1930

Address 1645 "G" Street

Location Block 327 — AP# 20-092-10

Original Owner Howard Barter

Interim Owners Alice Barter, wife (1933); Gussie Wilkins (1941); William and Barbara Kiewatt (1945); Muriel Glen, Ella Mae Lusk and Margie Stempfley (1952); Muriel and George Cervonka (1967); Howard Emerson, Myrtle Emerson and Domenic & Julie Rae Giannini (1968); Robin Fairbairn (1975).

Present Owner John Lipscomb (1977).

Description One story; units attached but rooflines separate; gables with extended eaves and exposed rafter ends; split, curved brackets on gable ends; originally ten units with two family cabins; now seventeen apartment units.

THE VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING

149

Construction Date 1930

Address 14th and J Streets

Location Block 290 — AP# 20-134-02

Owner County of Humboldt

Description Large T-shaped building; gabled roofline; wood construction with stucco tower and chimney; large multi-pane windows; pergola along south exposure; recessed entry with three, double doors; many-sided entry columns; flag pole and Japanese canon in front yard.

Architect Newton Ackerman

Contractor Louis Halvorsen



In 1929, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors authorized \$160,000 for the construction of Veterans Memorial buildings in Eureka, Fortuna, and Arcata. Arcata's share was \$30,000 with the land at 14th and J Streets donated by Carrie Bull in memory of her only son, Francis, who served in World War I and died in Arcata in 1921. Under the leadership of Allen Ham and Lester Johnson, Post No. 274 of the American Legion assumed responsibility for the Arcata building. Ground was broken in May 1930 with a completion date scheduled for July 4th.

The Memorial's architecture combines a basic Craftsman style with classic revival elements of Egyptian influence. Typical Craftsman features are the gabled roofline, multi-paned windows, exposed rafter ends, and the large pergola along the south side. Classic detail is concentrated in the recessed entry beneath a front-facing gable and includes many-sided columns with horizontal bands below the capitals, decorative detail across the top of the entry, and double doors with long panes of glass protected by an ornamental open work of iron.



THE ARCATA THEATRE

Construction Date 1937

Address 1034 "G" Street

Location Block 206 — AP# 21-051-02

Original Owner Redwood Theatres, Inc.

Interim Owner George Mann (1938)

Present Owner Richard Mann (1963)

Description Moderne architecture; multiple roof levels and arches; vertical "ARCATA" above marquee; tiled ticket booth and entrance; three double doors into lobby; small shops on either side of entrance.

By 1927, Humboldt County's moving picture business was controlled by George Mann, whose chain of picture shows included Arcata's Minor Theatre. Confident in the town's future and its desire for a modern theatre, he built a "luxurious new show house" on the Brizard Block in 1937. Various reports as costing from \$40,000 to \$60,000, the Arcata Theatre opened on February 5, 1938 with "Thin Ice," touted as the "picture you've all been waiting for" and starring Sonja Henie and Tyrone Power.

The building has a facade of stucco with a tiled ticket booth and entrance leading to the lobby through three, double doors. Multiple roof levels and arches culminate in the vertical "ARCATA" at the top of the marquee. A barber shop and an ice cream parlor occupy the small shops on either side of the entrance.

TRINITY HOSPITAL

Construction Date 1943-44

Address "C" Street between 13th and 14th

Location Block 279 — AP# 21-061-01

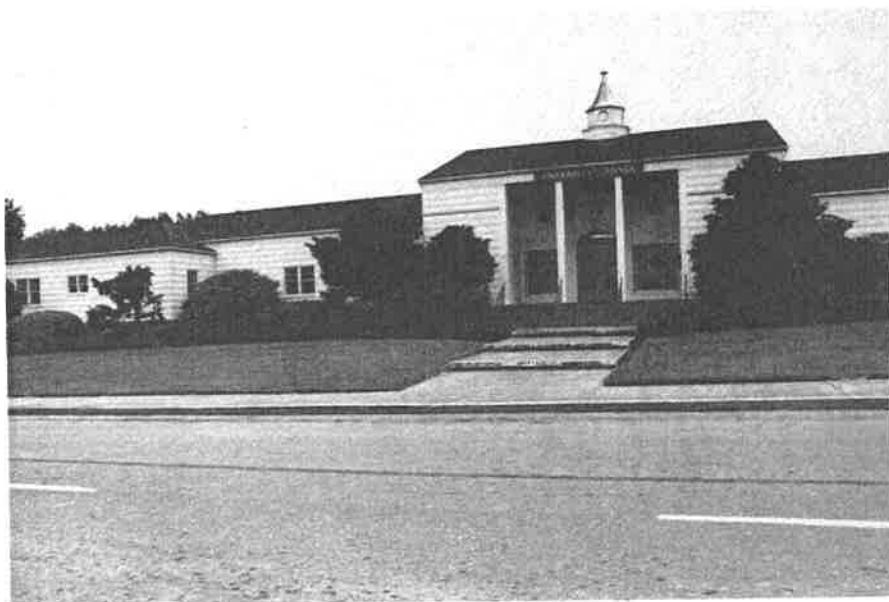
Original Owner Trinity Hospital of Arcata

Present Owner Arcata Hospital Corporation

Description One story; center pavilion with cupola; recessed and pillared entry; north and south wings extend the building an entire block; grouped windows with divided upper sashes; double doors with a fanlight flanked by large, multi-paned windows; rear additions; well-kept lawn and plantings.

Architect Newton Ackerman

Contractor R.H. Douglas



In February 1943, Arcata's Trinity Hospital, located in the old Jacob Richert house on the southeast corner of 13th and "G" Streets, was destroyed by fire. Twenty-three people escaped the early-morning blaze which burned the second and third stories, but spared the new chapel, emergency room, and Sisters residence. Established in 1907 by Dr. G.W. McKinnon and later owned by Dr. George Purlenky, the hospital came under the management of the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1927.

Following the fire, local community leaders took steps to locate a new site and raise sufficient funds to purchase the property. An option was taken on the Emerson block at 14th and "C" and within two months the \$2000 necessary for purchase was exceeded by citizen donations. Before construction could begin, however, special materials clearance from Washington, D.C. was necessary because of the War effort. Ground breaking for the new hospital occurred in July with completion scheduled for the latter part of December. Eureka architect Newton Ackerman drew the plans for the 33-bed hospital whose construction was under the supervision of general contractor R.H. Douglas. Difficulties in obtaining materials delayed the project which was not completed until May 1944.

The \$90,000 hospital was considered "one of the finest and most modern in northern California." Covering an entire block, the building has a center lobby and office section with a recessed and pillared entrance. Two long wings, each with an abundance of windows for "sunshine in every room," extend on either side. Wide lawns and plantings add to the gracious qualities of the building, used by the community for almost thirty years until a new facility was built in the early 1970's. Presently the old hospital houses Humboldt State University administrative offices.

GREENWOOD CEMETERY



On the first of March 1860, the Board of Trustees of the Town of Union "set apart" and "declared" a public graveyard at the north end of "J" Street. Editor Whipple applauded the move in the *Northern Californian* of 14 March 1860:

We publish today an ordinance of the Board of Trustees of Union locating and defining the public cemetery. We are glad to see that the selection of a site embraces the two lots already used for sepulture, thus avoiding a disturbance and removal of the dead. An addition of a tract lying outside of the town limits completes the selection, making a picturesque and suitable provision for the settler's last home.

You have acted tastefully and most discreetly, gentlemen of the Board of Trustees, and we thank you in the name of those who have kith or kindred, who hold a pre-emption in "God's Acre." Let us have a fence—a good strong suitable enclosure—and then let those who choose, beautify and decorate the locality.

Although designation of the site as a public cemetery came ten years after settlement, graves, dating from the early 1850's, indicate local residents were using the site for burials long before official recognition.

In 1882, the Town of Arcata gave the cemetery site (Blocks 369, 370 and the east half of 371) to the newly-forming Greenwood Cemetery Association. A set of bylaws, under which the Association still operates, was drawn up in February 1883 with prominent local men—G.H. Tilley, Byron Deming, William Nixon, Thomas Devlin, and Joseph Nellist—named to the first Board of Directors. In an effort to compile a complete register of all persons buried in the cemetery, the Board asked residents to come forth with information on unmarked graves. Maintenance of the grounds was shared by the Association and families owning plots.

In 1908, the Cemetery Association investigated costs and reviewed plans for an arch at the cemetery entrance. Arcata builder Nelson Johansen drew the plans and was awarded the \$600 contract for construction, completed in 1909. Just how long that arch remained at the entrance is not known, but today a new entrance is planned as a committee of local citizens endeavors to raise \$12,000 for its construction.

Address 1757 "J" Street

Location Blocks 369, 370, and east half of 371 — AP# 20-141-02; AP# 20-141-14; AP# 505-111-02

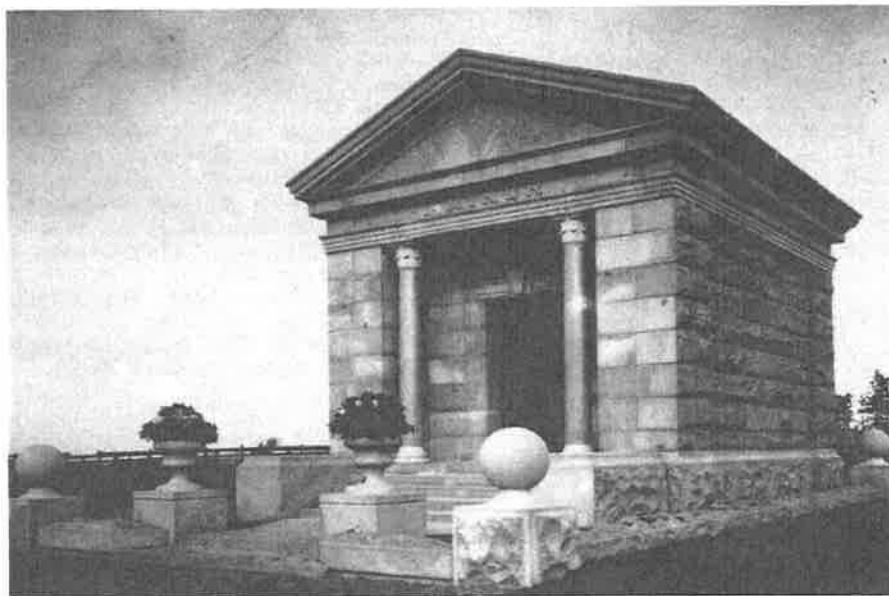
Present Owner Greenwood Cemetery Association

As the years passed, neglect and vandalism took their toll. Finally in 1952, a group of local people launched a five-year plan to beautify the cemetery and place it under a plan of perpetual care. To gain valuable space so that it would not be necessary to find another cemetery site, curbing and aisles were removed. With the permission of families, gravestones were placed flat in the ground for better maintenance of the grounds. Work began in the spring of 1952 under a Board of Directors consisting of Joe King, Bob Titlow, Cecil Webster, Mrs. J.D. Moore and Jack Ballinger. K. Cotter assumed responsibility for the rehabilitation work.

Located on a tableland above Jolly Giant Creek, the cemetery is just north of St. Mary's Catholic Church and Cemetery, and Arcata High School. A row of cypress trees borders the south side of the westernmost section, where the Minor Mausoleum, a Greek temple of local granite and Vermont marble columns, was built in 1910-1911. Minor's Fickle Hill quarry provided the granite, valued at \$40,000, for the structure, built under the direction of William Greig.

Nearby is another Greek temple mausoleum belonging to the Noah Falk family and two Egyptian Revival structures, built for lumbermen Thomas Bair and E.B. Jackson. A smaller above-ground vault in this row of memorials was built for James Davidson, who, as owner of the Humboldt Granite and Marble Works, must have constructed a number of the headstones in the cemetery. The A. Brizard stone, built by the G.H. Jones Co. of San Francisco, was shaped from a three ton slab of granite mined at the Redmond, California quarry.

As the burial site of many Arcata pioneers and families, Greenwood Cemetery occupies a special place in the community's heart and history. Like old friends, the names on the tombstones recall the people, buildings, and events recorded in this survey. Each is unique and individual, but in common, they are all reflections of Arcata history.



The Minor Mausoleum, Circa 1910.

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