

ALBERT G. WISHON HOUSE
340 North Fulton Street
Fresno
Fresno County
California

HABS No. CA-2883

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Building Survey
Pacific West Region
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94102

Due to insufficient and conflicting information, this report may not meet HABS standards.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

ALBERT G. WISHON HOUSE

HABS No. CA-2883

- Location:** 340 North Fulton Street
Fresno, CA 93701
- Present Owner:** State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in 1992
- Present Use:** Residence
- Significance:** The Albert G. Wishon house is for its association with the early development of Fresno's North Park neighborhood, for its association with the life of Albert G. Wishon, a prominent civic leader, and as a well-designed Prairie style dwelling by a local master architect A.C. Swartz.
- Historians:** Margo Nayyar, Research Associate, Division of Environmental Analysis, California Department of Transportation; John Snyder, Senior Environmental Planner, Division of Environmental Analysis, California Department of Transportation Completed October 2011.
- Project Information:** The Albert G. Wishon House recordation was completed as one of the mitigation measures for the Route 180 Freeway Extension project (Caltrans #06-Fre-180-R56.2/R58.4), and was prepared as stipulated in the Memorandum of Agreement submitted to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Photographs were taken by Don Tateishi in March 1992. The Albert G. Wishon House was determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places on July 8, 1991 through consensus determination between the Federal Highway Administration and the California State Historic Preservation Officer. Furthermore, the house is listed on the City of Fresno Local Register of Historic Resources as the A.G. Wishon Home (H.P. #138).

Part I. Historical Information

A. Physical History

- 1. Date of erection:** 1904
- 2. Architect:** W. J. Oakes - ???? unverified information

No builder information was found at the time of this survey.

- 3. Original owner:**¹ Albert Graves Wishon

Albert Graves Wishon was born on November 6, 1858, in Relfe, Missouri. His father, Francis Marion Wishon, was from North Carolina, and was the first sheriff in Phelps County. His mother, Mary Elizabeth (Coppedge) Wishon, was born in Virginia. Wishon attended university at Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, and later from 1871-81 he worked in merchandizing for the St. Louis firm, Adler, Goldman & Co. After his marriage to Henrietta Emory on October 5, 1881, he began his own merchandizing business in St. James, Missouri (1881-87). But in 1887, he began working for the Missouri Pacific Railroad's Bridge and Building Department until he and his wife decided to move to California in 1889. Wishon and Henrietta had two children, a son, Albert Emory, and one daughter, Jennie (Mrs. Ralph W. Watson).

Wishon worked with the San Joaquin Lumber Company in Tulare, California from 1889-91, and from 1891-93, as a bookkeeper for the Tulare County Bank. Wishon survived the 1890s national depression by handling real estate in Tulare and Visalia, communities located approximately fifty miles south of Fresno. He specialized in solving irrigation problems by financing canal projects to create workable farm land. After the economy improved, Wishon founded the Mount Whitney Power Company (MWPC) in 1899. The business, based out of Visalia, is famous for pioneering the electrical agricultural pump used for vast farm acreage, including the large agricultural colonies surrounding Fresno. Wishon left MWPC due to managerial conflicts, but quickly organized the Fresno based-San Joaquin Light and Power Company in 1902. In addition to his role as general manager of the Light and Power Company, he was the vice president, director and manager of the Fresno City Railway and the Fresno Water Company. Under his leadership, the Fresno City Railway developed the first three streetcar lines for Fresno in 1903, one of which was the Forthcamp line that ran in front of his residence at 340 North Fulton Street, in the 1902-era North Park suburb.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, all of the information is derived from John Snyder's "Wishon House" rough draft. In the original essay form of this report Snyder had not included footnotes stating his sources. Sources used are in the bibliography; Charles L. Palmer, "Albert G. Wishon, Founder of the San Joaquin Light and Power Company," Fresno past and Present, v. 1:1, January 1959; v.1:2, April 1959; v. 1:4, October 1959; v.2:1, January 1960.

In 1925, Wishon and his son, Albert, merged the Light and Power Company with the Western Power Corporation; and in 1930 they merged with Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E). Wishon continued as vice chairman of the board of directors for PG&E, and Albert as vice president of PG&E.

Wishon was a prominent civic leader in Fresno. He was a Republican with memberships with the Masons, Fresno Commercial Club, Fresno Rotary Club, the University Club, the Sequoia Club, and the California Club. He promoted the Fresno County Chamber of Commerce, and was a member of Las Palmas Lodge, No. 366. He served as president of the Midland Counties Public Service Corporation, and the Bakersfield and Kern Electric Railways. He also served as vice-president of the Lerdo Land Company, as director of the Wishon-Watson Company, the Visalia Manufacturing Company, and the Great Western Power Company. Wishon practiced the Arts and Crafts lifestyle and many of his business decisions were based on this belief. He loved Yosemite National Park, and in 1904, his company, the Fresno Traction Company (formerly the Fresno Railway Company), attempted to build an electric railroad from Fresno to Yosemite. The project was characteristic of those within the Arts and Crafts movement who believed in and sought futuristic rusticity, but the project fizzled due to the automobile's growing popularity.

Albert G. Wishon lived in his North Park house at 340 North Fulton Street until 1915, after which he moved to the 3000 block of Huntington Boulevard, in a more fashionable neighborhood. The 340 North Fulton Street house has remained a single family home since.

4. Builder: Alexander Culbertson Swartz

Swartz was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania on January 5, 1846. He received a degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois in 1873, and by 1877, Swartz worked in the Santa Fe Railroad's engineering department. In 1890, Swartz relocated his family to Fresno, California while he carried out survey assignments for the Santa Fe, but he left Santa Fe Railroad for an unknown reason shortly after. Swartz opened an architectural and engineering office in Fresno the same year, and received his first known commission in 1891. He established himself in Fresno as a renowned architect and builder and was awarded important local projects, such as the 1897 National Brewing Company and the Risley Block. At the turn of the twentieth century, Swartz was awarded commissions for the Scheid business block, the Dr. J.C. Cooper building, Powler Union High School, Sanger Union High School, Orange Center School, and Washington Union High School (1901). Swartz' son, Fred, joined the business in 1909. Swartz & Son continued in business until Alexander Swartz' death in 1919. He died at the age of 73.

Alexander Culbertson Swartz designed the Prairie-style house with Colonial Revival detailing located at 340 North Fulton Street for prominent California

businessman Albert Graves Wishon in 1904. Swartz was one of the key architects responsible for developing Fresno's North Park neighborhood. He built the large Colonial Revival/Queen Anne style Proffitt house in 1909, and in 1910 and 1911, Builder and Contractor noted Swartz as responsible for designing George V. Martin's house at the corner of Forthcamp and Franklin. Bart A. Harvey's house, a Colonial Revival at the corner of Van Ness and Belmont, is also one of Swartz' renowned works.²

5. **Original plans and construction:** The Wishon House looks that same as it was built in 1904. The Fresno Evening Democrat described the house as "consisting of reception hall, parlor, dining and sitting rooms and kitchen on the first floor and 4 bed rooms on the second floor."³
6. **Alterations:** One alteration is indicated in the Sanborn maps. The rear one-story bays were altered early in the twentieth century.⁴

B. Historical Context⁵

Fresno incorporated as a city in 1885 and quickly expanded north of its city limits. Prior to the turn of the twentieth century, Fresno's upper- and upper-middle class residents lived in a multi-block downtown area roughly bounded by Divisadero, Blackstone, Stanislaus and Broadway. Today this area is called the L Street historic district. However, after the turn of the twentieth century, middle- and upper-middle class families moved from downtown to the newly fashionable suburbs; North Park was one of these suburbs.⁶

The suburbs were not exclusively for the wealthy, in fact, the first neighborhoods were designed for the working class starting in 1880. The Griffith's Addition (1880) and Griffith's Second Addition (1884) were the first two neighborhoods. They were platted in dense, narrow lots meant for modest working-class houses. Following the platting of the Griffith's Additions were the Park, Forthcamp, Elm Grove, Central and Kroeger's Additions. All of the additions, except for the Park Addition, were laid out in dense, narrow lots, intended for modest dwellings. The Park Addition (1885), north

² Karen J. Weitze, and Lori Lilburn, Dames & Moore, field survey, November 1-14, 1990; All information is derived from John Snyder's "Wishon House" rough draft.

³ "Building Operations," Fresno Evening Democrat, March 12, 2004, 9.

⁴ Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Fresno, 1918/19.

⁵ All information is derived from John Snyder's "Wishon House" rough draft. In the original essay form of this report Snyder had not included footnotes stating his sources. Sources used are in the bibliography.

⁶ Paul E. Vandor, History of Fresno County, California, v.2, Los Angeles: Historic Record Col., 1919; L.A. Winchell, History of Fresno County and the San Joaquin Valley, (Fresno: Fresno County Recorder's Office, 1933); "A Lot of Building," Fresno Republican, v.21:65, August 14, 1901, 7.

of Elm Grove Addition, was the earliest with lots intended for large country estates. The lots measured 171 x 250 feet.⁷

The Central Addition (1887) stretches west to east, eighteen blocks along Divisadero, the city's original limit. Along the northern border of the Central Addition, from west to east, are the Kroeger's Addition (1888), Griffith's Addition (1880), Griffith's Second Addition (1884), Forthcamp Addition (1886), and the Elm Grove Addition (1887). The developed area formed a U shape, and the central core of the area remained unplatted and undeveloped until the North Park Addition in 1902.⁸

The North Park Addition was developed on land originally owned by Carlton Curtis, and was the first neighborhood in the area designed for the upper and middle-class residents of Fresno. By 1902 Fresno's wealthy downtown area between Divisadero, Belmont, West and Blackstone could not accommodate the growing middle and upper class families. These families eventually moved to the upcoming and fashionable North Park suburb.⁹

Surrounded by working-class enclaves, the new neighborhood was platted as Fresno's first streetcar suburb by real-estate entrepreneur William G. Uridge (who is listed in the city directories as a capitalist) and Benjamin G. McDougall (architect and land speculator). North Park became a major central Fresno residential neighborhood heralded by the Fresno Evening Democrat in January 1903 as "Fresno's 'Nob Hill.'" Businessman Albert G. Wishon arrived in Fresno at this time to work as General Manager of the San Joaquin Light and Power Company, Director and Manager of the Fresno City Railway, and Vice-President and Manager of the Fresno Water Company. Fresno City Railway operated the electric streetcar line along Forthcamp (Fulton) Street, which was one of three routes developed in 1902 to connect the suburbs to downtown Fresno. Sunnyside and Recreation were the two additional streetcar routes. Wishon's streetcar service along Forthcamp Avenue consisted of a single track, but in 1909 they expanded service and doubled the track. Bounded by Forthcamp, Van Ness/ College, Franklin and Mildreda, the original North Park plat quickly expanded with sequential subsequent plattings.¹⁰

The North Park Arts and Crafts neighborhood was so successful and desirable that it was quickly extended between 1902 and 1915. The North Park Extension (1902) extended the neighborhood west and the Bole North Park (1903) extended it to the

⁷ Andrea Galvin, "City of Fresno North Park Survey: Historic Context & Survey," (Galvin Preservation Associates Inc., Redondo Beach, California, November 2008), 1-115; Bole's North Park, County of Fresno, RS Book 2, Map 51, February 1903 (accessed at Fresno County Recorder's Office); Forthcamp's Addition No. 2, County of Fresno, December 1908 (accessed at Fresno County Recorder's Office); North Park, RS Book 2, County of Fresno, Map 14, January 18, 1902 (accessed at Fresno County Recorder's Office); North Park Extension, County of Fresno, Plat Book 2, Map 26, June 19, 1902 (accessed at Fresno County Recorder's Office).

⁸ Galvin, "City of Fresno North Park Survey," 57.

⁹ Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Fresno 1906, 1918/19.

¹⁰ Fresno City Directories, 1904-1906; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Fresno, 1906.

north. Furthermore, several extant late nineteenth century lots located near North Park redeveloped as part of the greater North Park neighborhood. Within the original Forthcamp's Addition of 1886, the 100 block of both Fulton Street and Van Ness Avenue were redeveloped to become a part of the greater North Park neighborhood, and along the east side of Van Ness Avenue between Mildreda and Belmont (particularly between Mildreda and Franklin), growth patterns reflect an association with North Park. Additionally, the Sunset Tract of 1910 (a redeveloped section of the Griffith Addition), a narrow linear neighborhood along the west side of Broadway between Belmont and Voorman, reflects the same Arts and Crafts values as found in North Park. The Sunset Tract appears to have coherently developed with large middle- and middle working-class bungalows, for a community of emigrant and second-generation Germans, Swedes and Danes. However, each of the areas has contributed to the cohesive Arts and Crafts character of the greater North Park area. Boundaries for the area are generally Nevada, Van Ness, Belmont and Broadway.¹¹

North Park is a distinctive Arts and Crafts neighborhood in Fresno where houses display personal values and lifestyle choices unique to the Arts and Crafts movement. The Arts and Crafts philosophy rejected the Victorian-era architectural layout of small, cluttered rooms and exterior ornamentation, and highlighted the importance of simple craftsmanship and connection with nature. Architectural historian, Andrea Galvin, explains the arts and crafts architecture as having a "fluid relationship between the interior and exterior by using natural materials and creating spaces to bring the outdoors inside."¹² The fluid relationship is architecturally represented by the use of pergolas, open-air sitting porches and screened sleeping porches. Often, there were multiple porches on multiple levels throughout a property. Furthermore, open floor plans and sliding doors created larger open spaces, and rooms often opened to the outdoors. The Sample Sanitarium (1912-13) at 311 North Fulton Street, across the street from the Wishon House, is indicative of the Arts and Crafts philosophy, with its multiple, wrap-around exterior porches. However, the sanitarium may have initiated an exodus by many residents, including the Wishon's who moved in 1915, to more northern suburbs.¹³

North Park consists mainly of Craftsman and Prairie styles with Colonial and Tudor Revival detailing. The styles often were combined, as in the Wishon House, which is a Prairie-style house with Colonial Revival detailing. These styles also combined; cobblestone, clinker brick, and interior fireplace tile and were used in almost all the dwellings in North Park. Most houses are wood-frame, two-stories, and cost within the \$6,000 to \$10,000 range when first built. Architects repeatedly noted for

¹¹ Galvin, "City of Fresno North Park Survey," 1-115.

¹² Galvin, "City of Fresno North Park Survey," 53.

¹³ Galvin, "City of Fresno North Park Survey," 53; "Out-door sleeping," Fresno Morning Republican, August 1, 1907, 4.

designing in the greater North Park neighborhood including Alexander Culbertson Swartz, were Henry F. Starbuck, and Eugene Mathewson.¹⁴

Residents of the North Park neighborhood represented the civic-business community, and often were leaders in Fresno. The first occupants often were in real estate and the building industry, including architect Benjamin G. McDougall and capitalist William G. Uridge, who built houses early in their development (McDougall at 314 North Van Ness Avenue and Uridge at 370 North Van Ness) to serve as an encouragement for others to invest in the land. Building became insurance for their direct financial interests in the success of North Park.

In 1904-05, other notable individuals in the immediate North Park neighborhood included Albert Graves Wishon (340 N. Fulton), Matthew H. McIndoo (farmer; 345 N. Van Ness), Emory A. Donahoo (of Donahoo, Emmons, and Co., sellers of hardware, paints, plumbing and bicycles; at 211 N. van Ness), Federic M. Lee (cashier at the California Raisin Growers Association; at 304 North Van Ness), F.A. Bool (manager at Sanger Lumber Co.; at 340 North Van Ness); R. B. Parker (president of Parker Roth Co., sellers of groceries and hardware; at 235 North Fulton), Frederick W. Fisher (president of Glassford Hardware Co. and the Pacific Investment Co., at 205 North Fulton), and William D. Coates (manager of Sperry Flour Co., at 264 North Van Ness). Coates' son, William D. junior, worked as a draftsman for architect McDougal at this time.¹⁵

As advertised by Builder and Contractor in 1906-13, a second wave of residential settlement for North Park included Progressive civic leaders and agricultural farming families. Residents of this period included William W. Hanger, a successful vineyardist who became a buyer for the Earl Fruit Company (425 North Van Ness: 1906); Robert McIndoo, a prominent vineyardist and elder member of the successful farming McIndoo family (purchased architect McDougall's house at 314 North Van Ness in 1907); Benjamin M. Stone, a farmer who moved a farmhouse ca. 1878-95 onto the site at 408 North Fulton in 1907; John William Proffitt, a relocated Texas rancher turned citrus farmer with orchards near Sanger (405 North Fulton: 1909-13); Amazon Scholl Hays, vice-president of the Fresno national Bank and respected banker statewide, and Fresno civic leader (at 330 North Fulton: ca. 1907); Chester H. Rowell, editor of the Fresno Republican and nationally known leader within the Progressive movement (at 269 North Fulton: 1909); Newman J. Levinson, president of the Fresno Publishing Company (at 439 North Van Ness: 1911); Frank A. Homan, president-owner of Homan & Company sporting goods, and one term major of Fresno (at 820 E. Mildreda: 1911); Charles H. Cobb, president of the Cobb-Evan Automobile Company (at 437 North Van Ness: 1913); and Ivan Carter McIndoo,

¹⁴ Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Fresno 1906, 1918/19.

¹⁵ Fresno City Directories, 1906, 1918/19.

rancher and son of elder-statesman William McIndoo (at 410 North Van Ness: 1913).¹⁶

Key to the Arts and Crafts character of the greater North Park, in addition to residential political leanings and civic involvement, was the streetscape and individual lot plantings, symbolically referencing the larger landscape of Yosemite and the vast surrounding raisin vineyards. Yosemite to the east offered a favorite retreat for San Francisco Bay Area Arts and Crafts participants; the magnificent natural setting gathered in artists, hikers, early Sierra Club members, and suffragists. Individuals living in Arts and Crafts enclaves such as North Park brought the outdoor life home through their sleeping porches and screened sitting rooms. Living rooms typically featured a tiled or brick (clinker or pressed) fireplace, and double French doors, like that of the Porter house, sometimes could be completely opened to the outside. Nighttime temperatures often dropped severely after mild spring and autumn days: a fire in an open room recreated the experience of camping without a real discomfort from true cold weather. Also, behind the scenes, there were deliberate allusions to the cultivated landscape of the agricultural colonies. Acres of raisin vineyards defined outlying Fresno, just as acres of orange groves defined the Arts and Crafts communities of Pasadena, Redlands and Riverside to the south.

The “middle landscape” was a domesticated wild place, a popular image for the Arts and Crafts. The John William Proffitt, Benjamin G. McDougall, and Robert McIndoo houses are excellent examples of individual large-scale lot treatments within the neighborhood. Mr. Proffitt bought six lots on which he built a half-shingled Colonial Revival, late Queen Anne residence with two lots initially landscaped as garden and orchard. Sanborn maps indicate that architect McDougall, too, designed his residence to be deep-set on its extensive Van Ness Avenue site, likely surrounded by orchards and gardens planted and maintained by farmer-rancher Robert McIndoo. The primary North Park streetscape was that of Forthcamp (Fulton). It too, was landscaped in 1910 with deodar cedars, while the secondary streetscape of Van Ness was planted with sycamores.

Visions of high-speed travel also were emphatically a part of the imagery associated with the middle landscape. Originating out of the Socialist futurism of Edward Bellamy’s Looking Backward of 1887 and extending welling into the early years of the twentieth century with numerous published utopian novels, an Arts and Crafts idealization of the train and the streetcar often (with some irony) accompanied the rustic life. For greater North Park, Wishon’s Forthcamp streetcar line of 1903 (expanded in 1909) completed the “creation of place.” Unfortunately, the streetcar line also destined Forthcamp Avenue to become a major thoroughfare into the business core of Fresno as the suburbs continued to expand during the twentieth century. The linear extension of the streetcar service first carried residents farther out: original Arts and Crafters moved as styles changed and idealism waned. Of interest,

¹⁶ Fresno City Directories, 1906, 1918/19.

Albert G. Wishon, Porter, William Hanger, and Ivan Carter McIndoo, all moved in 1915-17. In the latter cases, the families only lived in the neighborhood about five to six years, relocating yet farther north in, for that era, avant-garde Prairie Style houses. At intersections like that of Forthcamp and Belmont, streetcar business nodes developed and encroached upon the residential character of the neighborhood. The large, airy houses one by one became boarding houses, much as their late-nineteenth-century predecessors had in the true downtown of the city. By 1918, Sanborn maps noted a number of North Park houses as having “furnished rooms.”

With the civic and cultural fragmentation generated by both world wars, and the new focus on the automobile, the streetcar Arts and Crafts neighborhood continued its demise. In 1939 the streetcar line was removed from Forthcamp Avenue, and the boulevard-like thoroughfare was renamed Fulton Street. Ironically, the very gracious, untended, landscaping of the 1902-15 period, enhanced the abandoned aura of the neighborhood. Later Sanborn maps show vacant lots and increasing amounts of multi-person rental housing – the very antithesis of what the Arts and Crafters had attempted to create. In some cases, apartments like those at 337-343 North Van Ness ca. 1937 served as infill housing for original garden areas. Original North Park residences had no need for garages, and typically do not appear to have had them in the beginning years. Their orientation was to the streetcar line. By the 1920s-40s however, garages are a prominent element on the Sanborn maps, quite profoundly altering neighborhood access. A number of these later garages still exist today.

Albert G. Wishon lived in his North Park house until 1915, after which he moved to the 3000 block of Huntington Boulevard. Although fragmentation of the single-family residential fabric along both Forthcamp (Fulton) and Van Ness appeared to be initiated by the exodus of other neighborhood residents to suburbs that were farther from downtown and served by extended streetcar service, the Wishon family’s move did not have such an effect. Ownership has continued to be single family up through the present day. The eastern face of the 300 block of Forthcamp (Fulton Street) between Mildreda and Franklin maintained a solid single-family profile, as indicated by the 1918/19 Sanborn maps. Seven large dwellings lined the street side, with only one converted to a nine-unit apartment (320 North Fulton to the south). On the other side of the block the Sample Sanitarium occupied the southernmost lots, with five private residences filling in the street face. Both to the south and to the north, more severe neighborhood fragmentation had begun. Chester Harvey Rowell’s house nearby, at the corner of Mildreda Avenue and Fulton Street had become a boarding house. On the 400 block of Fulton Street, only the Charles H. Cobb house was still in single family use on the west side of the street. On the east side of the 400 block, the dwellings were nearly all single story with the simple Colonial Revival house still extant at 460 North Fulton. The larger Benjamin M. Stone house at 408 North Fulton, likely similarly to the John William Proffitt residence across the street, originally included an expansive garden at its corner lot. By 1918-19 the landscaped portion of both the Stone and the Proffitt lots had been removed for the addition of other smaller

dwellings; soon all were in multi-person use, with shared garages that often were located at the alley lot lines.

Today, the State Route 180 freeway corridor occupies what once were residential lots to the north of the Wishon house.

Part II. Architectural Information

A. General Statement

- 1. Architectural Character:** The Albert G. Wishon House is a ca. 1904 two-story, Prairie style residence with Colonial Revival detailing. Built in Fresno's greater North Park neighborhood, the residence was one of a number of large scale dwellings remaining on the 300 block of Fulton. Built in Fresno's greater North Park neighborhood, the residence contributes to the neighborhoods distinctive Arts and Crafts character. North Park has a variety of Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival and Craftsman houses, all with arts and crafts detailing. The Wishon House showcases several superlative Arts and Crafts features including: a sleeping porch, the use of earthy materials, and high-style craftsman windows.
- 2. Condition of fabric:** The house is in excellent condition.

B. Description of Exterior

- 1. Overall dimensions:** The two-story Wishon House has a simple rectangular footprint. It is two bays wide and three bays deep; on the north façade, the second and third bays project from the main body of the house.
- 2. Foundation:** The house has a pier and beam foundation with a brick sill. It is sheathed in vertical wood boards.
- 3. Walls:** The exterior of the house is clad with horizontally-laid drop-lap siding. There are wide vertical corner finishing boards and wide simple frieze along the exterior of the house.

A shallow, rectangular shed-roof bay window with simple frieze is located on the first story of the south façade.

- 4. Structural system, framing:** The house is wood frame.
- 5. Porches:** There is a full-width porch on the primary (west) façade. The porch has a moderately pitched, half-hipped roof with composite shingles. The porch roof has boxed eaves with moderate overhang and inset wood paneling as the frieze. The ceiling of the roof has channeled wood boards. The roof is supported by four symmetrically placed round, plain columns with ionic volutes. The columns are supported by wood-panel base piers with decorative moldings. Turned wood

spindles are used for the porch railing. The flooring is made of flush wood boards that are laid perpendicular to the main plane of the house; and concrete stairs lead to the porch.

On the northeast rear corner of the house there is a second-story, shed-roof sleeping porch. The porch roof has composite shingles.

6. **Chimneys:** There is one interior brick chimney located on the east slope of the roof, at the rear (east) façade of the house

7. Openings

- a. **Doorways and doors:** The primary (west) entrance is offset to the north. The door is made of wood and has a single-paned, fixed-sash window on the upper half of the door, with a decorative entablature and sill. The lower half of the door has a coffered wood panel with decorative inset molding and a carved, Beaux-Arts style decorative garland. The door surround is made of simple wood panels.

On the east façade, offset to the south, is a second entrance with three-quarter height sidelights. Details could not be established at the time of this survey.

- b. **Windows:** First-story windows on the main (west) façade include a tripartite picture window with a large rectangular fixed-sash, single-light window topped by leaded-glass lozenges; the window is framed by narrow one-over-one-light double-hung sash. To the left (north) of the main entry there is one double casement window with oblong oval leaded detailing. The windows have simple wood surround. The second story of this façade has two, one-over-one-light double-hung windows with simple wood surrounds. The roof dormer has small ribbon (five contiguous) single-light fixed-sash, square windows.

All windows on the north façade could not be identified at the time of this survey. However, there is one, one-over-one-light double-hung window on the second story of the main house. The westernmost bay window on has two (one on the first and one of the second story), one-over-one-light double-hung windows with simple wood surrounds on the west side, as does the second-story of the easternmost bay window on this façade. On the north façade of the same bay window, there are two, one-over-one-light double hung windows on the second story, and a ribbon window composed of three tall, narrow, one-over-one-light double-hung windows in plain wood surrounds.

Windows on the east façade could not be identified at the time of this survey.

The first story on the south façade has a one-over-one-light double-hung window at the west end. The shallow bay window has four one-over-one-light

double-hung windows; and, at the east end is a tripartite picture window with a large rectangular fixed-sash, single-light window; the window is framed by narrow one-over-one-light double-hung sash. On the south façade's second story there are two evenly spaced, one-over-one-light double-hung windows. At the east end of the south façade there is a ribbon of four one-over-one-light double-hung windows.

8. Roof:

- a. **Shape, covering:** The hipped roof is moderately pitched with a bellcast ridge. Composite shingles cover the roof. At the northeast corner of the house, over the two-story bay window and sleeping porch, the roof becomes a shed roof with composite shingles. Over the two-story bay window on the north façade the roof is cross-hipped with composite shingles.
- b. **Cornice, eaves:** There are wide overhanging boxed eaves with a decorative cornice and brackets. The soffit is composed of narrow, horizontally laid, channeled wood boards.
- c. **Dormer:** There is one roof dormer centered on the roof's west slope. This hipped-roof dormer has a bellcast ridge and is covered with composite shingles. There are wide overhanging boxed eaves with a decorative cornice. On the north and south sides of the dormer, there is horizontally laid, drop-lap siding to match the rest of the house. Underneath the five-ribbon single-light fixed-sash, square windows is a louvered vent. There is wide frieze.

C. Description of Interior

1. **Floor Plan:** The Fresno Evening Democrat described the house as “consisting of reception hall, parlor, dining and sitting rooms and kitchen on the first floor and 4 bed rooms on the second floor.”¹⁷
2. **Stairway:** There is one known stairway at the northwest corner of the house. The defining feature of the staircase is the dark hardwood detailing. The stairs, balustrade, and banister are made of wood. The balustrade is made of turned wood spindles. At the base of the staircase is a wood pediment with inset wood panels, decorative inset molding, and a decorative entablature at the top. A hardwood chair rail extends from the bottom to the top of the staircase. The chair rail is made of hard wood paneling and has decorative entablatures and base boards.
3. **Flooring:** At the time of this survey there was carpet throughout the house, but most likely there are hardwood floors underneath.

¹⁷ “Building Operations,” Fresno Evening Democrat, March 12, 1904.

4. **Walls/ Ceiling finish:** Dark hardwood chair rails extend throughout the house. The chair rail's decorative detailing is different from the staircase entry way and parlor. The parlor has less intricate detailing with vertical board-and-batten details, and plain top and base boards. The parlor has deteriorating floral wallpaper above the chair rail. The rest of the house has textured plaster on the walls and ceilings.
5. **Openings**
 - a. **Doors:** There are four notable doors in the parlor, all of which are made of dark wood. Three of the doors match with five horizontal wood panels. There is a sliding dark wood double door with six wood panels in each leaf. Each of the four doors has simple wood surrounds and decorative entablatures.
 - b. **Windows:** The windows have the same dark wood surrounds as the doors, and have decorative entablatures and sills.
6. **Decorative features and trim:** The parlor has dark wood crown molding.
7. **Hardware:** The windows and doors have original metal hinges. On the parlor's sliding double doors are two metal key locks. Another of the parlor doors has the matching lock. The other two doors have decorated metal knobs with key locks.
8. **Mechanical Equipment**
 - a. **Heating, air, ventilation:** Unknown.
 - b. **Lighting:** Known original electrical switches are located at the bottom of the staircase at the main entrance and next to the parlor doors. Switches have metal plates and plastic switches. Original lighting fixtures in the parlor include two matching wall sconces and a matching chandelier. The bodies of the lights are made of metal with an acanthus leaf design. The lamp shades have cloth tassels.

D. Site

1. **Historic landscape design:** Two Deodar Cedars were planted within the tree lawn facing Forthcamp (now North Fulton Street) in ca. 1910, and Beaux-Arts style street lamps were installed ca. 1920. Today, both the mature Deodar Cedars and street lamps are intact. There is also mature landscaping that accents the north and south façades of the house.
2. **Outbuildings:** Originally a one-story wood-frame structure stood along the alley at the rear (east end) of the lot. The Sanborn map of 1906 did not label the building as a garage, and it is unlikely that the structure served this purpose. In the 1948 Sanborn map an outbuilding is mapped on the same spot: this appears to be the ca. 1938 wood-frame garage now on site. The two-car garage has a

moderately pitched front gable roof with moderate eave overhang and exposed rafters. There are flush gable ends and board-and-batten siding and the roof is covered in composite shingles. The garage is a two car garage.

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