

Sitton House

144 Hillcrest Drive

1920

Mission Revival

**Status: Unrecognized
Significant Property**



This very distinctive two-story residence has classic Mission Revival architecture. Simple but bold geometric forms set the theme. The front portion has a tiled hip roof with exposed rafters; portions on either side have a flat roof with a stylized Mission parapet and highlighted by miniature bell towers at the corners. The placement of rectangular windows, modest detailing or relief, and overall mass of the structure are contributing features of the style.

The house was one of the first to be built in the Hillcrest Tract. The original owner, Albert Sitton, was an important civic leader and businessman in Fullerton. In 1900, Sitton opened the first bicycle shop in Fullerton, and in 1904, he started the first automobile repair business when there were only three such vehicles in the city. In 1908, he acquired the first automobile sales dealership in Fullerton. He also became the city's first electrician, installing lights in early city residences. In the 1930s, Sitton would become active in social work for Orange County, particularly in matters involving child and juvenile offenders. The Albert Sitton Home, a 1959 facility in Orange to house abused, neglected and abandoned children and juveniles (which closed in 1985 when the Orangewood Children's Home was opened) was named in his honor.