

# Arthur M. Thompson House

**617 W. Malvern Avenue**

**1928**

**Tudor Revival**

**Status: Local Landmark**



This 2,280-sq.-ft. Tudor Revival style house – along with its “English cottage” renditions – was as equally in vogue as the Spanish Colonial Revival style in Fullerton during the latter half of the 1920s. The designer/builder of the house, Arthur M. Thompson, used it as his personal residence from 1928-1931. Thompson was noted for his fine detailing, and the dwelling’s exterior includes many decorative features associated with Tudor architecture: uneven stucco walls, pseudo half-timbering (on the east/west elevations), a towering chimney, shed dormer windows, and a steeply pitched compound gable roof with minimum overhang – elements all designed to give a vertical emphasis to the house with its raised setting on the property. Another distinctive feature is the series of small windows on the second level that are situated over the main entrance. The back (north facing) elevation echoes the front façade with the similar use of shed dormer windows on the second level.

In his 15-year period living in Fullerton from 1920 to 1935, Thompson designed three local residences that are now designated Local Landmarks: the Carrie Earl McFadden Ford House, the Julius Bradford House, and the Raymond Starbuck House.

In 1930, Thompson constructed a two-car garage at the rear of the property. Thompson would only live in the house for three or four years, selling it to Jess and Ruth Hardy, who would remain in the home until the early 1940s. The Hardy family added a laundry and work room west of the garage and repaired the chimney in 1936. Kitchen and bathroom remodeling took place in 1950, and the residence was seismic-retrofitted in 1994. In 2002, the detached garage, along with the separate laundry and workroom, was replaced with a new garage, laundry room, and work studio having the same amount of building area.