

Henry T. Hetebrink House

C.S.U. Fullerton campus

1886

Colonial Revival

Status: Significant Property



This house is tied to early settlers in Orange County. Natives of Hanover, Germany, Henry T. Hetebrink and his wife Rebecka came to America in 1859; after living in New York for several years, and then in San Leandro, California, the couple arrived in Fullerton in 1874. Henry Hetebrink bought 160 acres in what was referred to as the Placentia District, which later was divided between the cities of Fullerton and Placentia. This first land purchased by Henry Hetebrink would eventually become part of California State University, Fullerton.

The Hetebrink family used the 160-acre property to operate one of the few dairy farms in the area, but Henry Hetebrink also had a successful grove of English walnuts. Later, the land was used for the cultivation of hundreds of Valencia orange trees.

Henry Hetebrink built an earlier home on this site in 1875, but it was destroyed by fire in 1884. This second house, constructed with brick made locally, is the only early residence of this type of construction remaining in Fullerton. The house features a full basement with its entry on the west side.

Now owned by C.S.U. Fullerton and called Titan House, it serves as office space for athletics administration and ticket sales. In a \$500,000 renovation of the building in 2000, the structure was reinforced to meet seismic safety standards; there was a careful replication of the original front door and windows; the original front porch was altered so that it now resembles a terrace; and ramping was added on the east side for accessibility requirements.