

# Florence Arnold House

1213 E. Chapman Avenue

1927

Cottage Style

Status: Unrecognized  
Significant Property



Built by Ernest S. Gregory, one of Fullerton's first developers, the house was bought by Archie and Florence Arnold in 1928, and they continued to reside there for the next 25 years, moving to 1136 Valencia Mesa Drive in 1953. In the 1960s, the house was converted for commercial usage, and presently, it is being used as an office.

In the 1950s during her 45-year career as a music instructor, Florence Arnold – known as “Flossie” – started a second vocation as a painter. Her first works were traditional landscape and still-life paintings, but she increasingly found herself drawn to what is known as “abstract classic” painting. Florence Arnold became a leading exponent of the Hard-Edge School, which is distinguished by the use of saturated colors and large, simple shapes, with clean, hard edges.

Florence Arnold became the best-known and most celebrated artist to emerge from Fullerton in the 1960s, and she became an internationally exhibited artist with articles about her work appearing in many publications. A Fullerton resident until she died in 1994, Florence Arnold's contributions to the arts and music are numerous, including the founder and guiding force behind “A Night in Fullerton”, an annual event established in 1964, to provide residents with the broadest possible exposure to art; the founding of the annual “Young Artists Festival” at the Muckenthaler Cultural Center; and the establishment of an endowment fund for scholarships for continuing art majors at CSU Fullerton in 1990.