Russell House

516 W. Amerige Avenue; Initially at 136 W. Commonwealth Avenue

1903

Colonial Revival

Status: Local Landmark



The house was built for Susan and Herman Russell, one of the early settler families in Fullerton. Upon its completion in 1903, the Russells quickly sold the ranch land with its house in 1904, and moved to another ranch on Orangethorpe Avenue. This two-story residence was originally situated on the south side of the 100 block of West Commonwealth Avenue; it was moved to its current location in 1923.

Colonial Revival in style, the house features four round pillars as part of the front porch and decorative dormers within the hipped roof. Small finials top the dormers that have fish scale siding. The symmetrical placement of windows on the second story, decorative wood molding and casings, and horizontal redwood siding are also characteristic of this style.

The Russell House has lost some of its original details, but is otherwise unaltered. A rehabilitation of the house by the owner in the 1980s has helped to retain its striking presence, and the current owners have continued to maintain and restore the historic residence.