

Arnold House

147 W. Ash Avenue

ca. 1915

Craftsman Bungalow

Status: Local Landmark



This unusual one-and-a-half story residence, with nearly 2,000 square feet of living area, exhibits classic Craftsman detailing: multiple, low-pitched gable roofs supported by decorative outriggers; wide eaves on all sides; all major windows treated alike; and a combination of horizontal wood siding and rustic shingles on all sides of the house. Plastered plinths with elaborate wooden posts composed of multiple brackets – suggesting the influence of Japanese architecture on Craftsman designs – hold up the main front porch gable.

This residence may have been constructed in the early 1900s elsewhere in town and later moved to its present location in the 1922. The house’s two chimneys were certainly constructed at that time. The house may have been a “catalog” design offered by Sears, Roebuck Company or Aladdin Redi-Cut. (In the early 1900s, people could pick a house out of a catalog and send away for it; the house components, including doors, trim, and even plumbing, were packaged and transported, usually by train, complete with instructions for assembly once a foundation was constructed.)

The property is named for James Arnold, who apparently had the house moved to the lot in 1922, when he owned the property. He sold the property a year later, and residency changed numerous times in the ensuing 50 years. In the early 1970s the Song family took ownership of the property and lived here for over 40 years; given this length of ownership, the house may also be referred to as the Song Residence.