

**CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO  
CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY  
FIELD FORM 1988-1989**

HIST. NAME: Johnson, Charles & F.F., House  
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1898  
COMMON NAME: Vose House  
ORIGINAL USE: Residence  
ADDRESS: 841 Fifth Street  
OWNER: Wittauer, John W. & Emily  
PRESENT USE: Residence  
ARCH./BLDR: Unknown  
T/R/S: 2S 1E 3DB  
TAX LOT: 600

STYLE: Vernacular  
RESOURCE TYPE:  
THEME: Architecture  
ADDITION: First  
Addition  
BLOCK: 9  
LOT: 9  
QUAD: Lake Oswego  
LOT SIZE:  
ZONE: R-7.5

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: Rectangular  
NO. OF STORIES: 2  
FOUNDATION MATERIAL:  
BASEMENT: Brick/Concrete  
ROOF FORM & MATERIALS: Gable w/ composition shingles

WALL CONSTRUCTION: Wood  
STRUCTURAL FRAME: Stud  
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: Double-hung sash, paned on facade  
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: Dropped horizontal lap siding corner board wide water table  
DECORATIVE FEATURES: Belt course horizontally bisects facade; rustic shingles in gable end; porch brackets

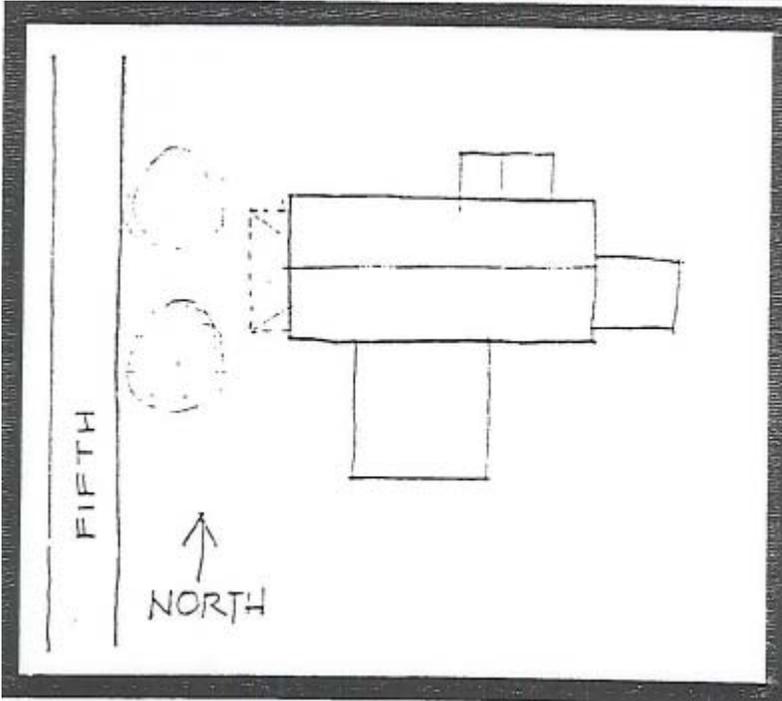
OTHER: Shed roof dormer s. elevation sided w/ tongue-and-groove siding; front porch w/ plain square posts w/ wood decking  
CONDITION: Good  
EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: Dormer added, (c.1925) shed roof ell w/ double-hung sash windows s. elevation added (1987); rear porch w/ corrugated fiber/glass shed roof added, (n.d.)  
NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: Climbing vine on porch; two large deciduous trees and hedge at right-of-way; picket fence set back from right-of-way, ornamental foundation planting  
ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES: None

SETTING: Located on east side of Fifth Avenue in area of early 20th century residence and scattered post. World War II era residences  
NOTES:

RECORDER(S): Koler/Morrison; MacDonald DATE: January 1989  
SHPO #: \_\_\_\_\_ FIELD #: \_\_\_\_\_

# CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

ADDRESS 841 FIFTH STREET  
TAX MAP/LOT 2S 1E 3DB/600  
SHPO# \_\_\_\_\_ ROLL/FRAME# \_\_\_\_\_



## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Address: 841 Fifth Street

Historic Name: Johnson, Chas. & F.F., House

This house is a twin to the house at 344 D Avenue. The two were originally built side by side; however, the subject house was moved to its present location sometime before 1906.

Frank Dhooghe, originally owned this property, which he purchased from the Oregon Iron and Steel Company in 1892. Dhooghe sold in 1905 to E. S. and Georgiana Howe and John and Clara Stewart. Charles R. and F. F. Johnson owned the property between 1908 and 1915. During the Johnson ownership, a barn, located at Fifth and G in the east alley, was built to house Clifford "Happy" Johnson's horses. Johnson, an early postal carrier, had the first delivery wagon for mail. The Johnson's rented the house to Victor and Dora Vose for two years in 1911-1912. Victor Vose worked as principal and teacher at the old Oswego school for many years.

In 1917 Guy and Emma McCurdy purchased the property selling it in 1922 to Marie D. and Guy Wallace. Carl Vose became the next owner in 1931, from which time the house has remained in the Vose family; the deed transferred to Carl's parents, Hayes and Rosanna Vose in 1942, then back to Carl and his wife Helen Vose in 1950, and finally to John W. and Emily Vose Wittauer (Carl's sister) in 1964.

Carl Vose worked as a builder, painter, and handyman in Oswego until his death in 1967. He played violin in the Portland Symphony Orchestra and was active in the Congregational Church.

Commonly known as the Vose House, this is one of the best examples of the Vernacular style in the study area and is significant as such. Constructed in 1898, the house has many features associated with the eclectic late 19th century styles. The gabled volume is clad with dropped, horizontal siding, and finished with corner and rake boards, and a watertable molding. A belt course divides the facade into horizontal parts, above the course the wall is sided with rustic shingles. These shingles may cover fishscale or other types of patterned shingles.

Alterations to the house have been major, but do not destroy the historic character of the dwelling. According to a historic photograph, a gable ornament commonly associated with the Stick Style, used to hang from the upper gable end. It was removed prior to 1930. The porch posts have also been replaced by stout square posts. The first interior bathroom was added around 1931. The upstairs dormer was added in 1963 and the shed roof addition was made in 1985. A chimney on the north elevation was added in 1964, although the kitchen chimney is original.

Landscape features enhance the historic character of the house and include the two large, deciduous trees and hedge at the right-of-way and other ornamental plantings. The picket fence is probably not historic, although it is similar to the type which popular at the time the house was constructed.

### Bibliography:

Wittauer, Emily. Unrecorded interview w/ J. Morrison, 3/89. Wittauer photo collection  
"History of 841 Fifth," by Emily Vose Wittauer and Sharon Wittauer Gustafson, 4/89.