

2420 Capitol Way S

Statement of Significance

By: Jennifer Schreck

Setting:

In 1991 the South Capitol Neighborhood Historic District was placed on the National Register of Historic places. A description included in the nomination states: "While some of the city's finest homes are in the district and many notable state officials lived here, the majority of the houses represent more modest homes built and lived in by the many employees of state government. The compactness of the geographical area of the district, the close relationship of the district to the development of the state capitol, and the architectural character of the homes (which represent all the important 19th and 20th century styles) distinguish the district from other areas of the city. The district is also important as a complete residential urban landscape from the early part of this century which includes parks, churches, a school, and mature street landscaping."

House:

The house located at 2420 Capitol Way South was built for John O. Dalquest who worked for Capitol City Creamery and whose wife (Mrs. John Dalquest) was a socialite covered frequently in The Morning Olympian's Society pages. Another resident of the house was Walter L. Whiting, a former general manager of the Olympia Knitting Mills and violin teacher, he died at age 43 from a "long illness" while living in this house.

Subsequently Phil H Gallagher lived in the house from the late 1930s to the late 1940s. Mr. Gallagher graduated from Gonzaga with a law degree then went on to become the youngest state treasurer at age 30 in 1936. In 1948 he was appointed state attorney general and in 1956 elected state representative from the 33rd District.

Architectural Description:

The national register nomination describes the architectural character, "Front-gable, rectangular Craftsman/Bungalow style house with wide brackets eaves and exposed rafter ends. South side square bay. Projecting porch supported by tapered posts on brick piers. Narrow clapboard cladding. Three part windows with six-over-one and nine-over-one windows. One-story rear enclosed porch with multipane windows."