



Location: 726 NW 22nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon

Architectural Style: Queen Anne

Builder: Rudolph Becker

Date Built: 1893

Owners: Rudolph Becker built this house in what was considered a fashionable residential area called King's Second Addition. The King's Second Addition encompassed some of the largest and finest Victorian houses of the late 1800s. Unfortunately, Becker and his family never lived in this exquisite house. It is believed Becker fell victim to the 1893 Panic (an economic depression in Oregon), and like many others during that time, Becker was forced to lease his house. Luckily for him, Nathan Loeb and his family became Becker's tenants until Loeb's death in 1905.

Nathan Loeb was born in Germany and came to America with his two brothers to operate a clothing business in California. Later, they opened a merchandising business in Oregon. Nathan Loeb became quite prosperous and active in the Portland Jewish community. He was a founding member of the Temple Beth Israel congregation, and he and many of his descendants became prominent business

professionals in the Portland area. The house was later owned by Dr. and Mrs. Jack B. Blumberg. At present, it has been broken up into several apartments and is, as of the writing of this book, on sale.

Anecdotes: The Queen Anne architectural style is the epitome of what we now call "Victorian period" architecture, acquiring its name during the reign of Queen Victoria (1840-1901) and is characterized by picturesque architectural forms inspired by medieval buildings. In the 1880s, new fortunes were being made in Oregon, and new tastes had evolved from the more "conservative" Italianate styles to the more inventive and original form of the Queen Anne.

The Queen Anne architectural style was identified with the Scottish-born architect Richard Norman Shaw, whose domestic work in England was extremely eclectic. Shaw pulled ideas from a range of sources, including Classical, Tudor, and Flemish architecture, featuring steeply pitched roofs, asymmetrical designs, shaped gables, sash windows, tall chimneys, and highly decorative compositions.

