

Historic Property Elna & Emil Strom House
Inventory Report for 312 17 Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Elna & Emil Strom House **Field Site No.:** 3477
Common Name: **OAHP No.:**
Property Address: 312 17 Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501
Comments: OLYMPIA

County **Township/Range/EW** **Section** **1/4 Sec** **1/4 1/4 Sec** **Quadrangle**
[REDACTED] T18R02W 23 TUMWATER

UTM Reference
Zone: 10 **Spatial Type:** Point **Acquisition Code:** TopoZone.com
Sequence: 10 **Easting:** 507775 **Northing:** 5208488

Tax No./Parcel No. **Plat/Block/Lot**
60800401400 Maple Park Lot 14 Block 4

Supplemental Map(s) **Acreage**
City of Olympia .11

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: ss **Date Recorded:** 6/25/2003 **Survey Name:** Olympia

Owner's Name: **Owner Address:** **City/State/Zip:**
Rebecca Christie/Eric 312 17th Avenue SE Olympia, WA 98501
Dingeldein

Classification: Building **Resource Status** **Comments**
Within a District? Yes Survey/Inventory
Contributing? Local Register

National Register Nomination:
Local District:
National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name: SOUTH CAPITOL NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORIC DISTRICT

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Domestic - Single Family House
Current Use: Domestic - Single Family House

Plan: Rectangle **No. of Stories:** 1 1/2

Structural System: Balloon Frame

Changes to plan: Intact **Changes to interior:** Slight
Changes to original cladding: Intact **Changes to other:**
Changes to windows: Intact **Other (specify):**

Cladding Shingle - Combed **Foundation** Concrete - Poured
Style Tudor - Cottage **Form/Type** Single Family
Roof Material Asphalt / Composition **Roof Type** Gable

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1938

Architecture/Landscape Architecture

Architect:

Commerce

Builder: Kulla

Engineer:

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places:

Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local):

Yes - National

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance

Located in the South Capitol Neighborhood, the house is typical of the 1930s development in the area.

The house was built for Emil and Elna (Fagernes) Strom. Emil Strom was a Swede-Finn who came to the United States at a young age, first to Butte, Montana. In 1918 he came to Olympia and was one of the initial stockholders in the Olympia Veneer Company, which was established largely by Swede-Finns in 1921. Mr. Strom worked at this mill and at the Olympia Veneer Company's Eugene, Oregon facility until his death in 1957. He was active in many local lodges and organizations including the Swedish Order of Runeberg in Olympia. Elna Strom was from the Independence area in South Thurston County. She also was active in the Order of Runeberg. She died in 2003.

From family information, it is believed that the house was constructed by a brother-in-law of the Strom's, either Victor or Ray Kulla, as a custom house. The parquet floors in the living and dining rooms were hand-crafted by Mr. Kulla. The house was owned by the Strom's until its current sale to the applicants.

Description of Physical Appearance

One and one-half story cross-gable house set on a poured concrete foundation. The steeply pitched gables have close eaves. There is a shed roof dormer on the rear of the house. The house has combed cedar shingle cladding. The front of the house has a projecting gable set on the west side of the façade which has an arched window in the gable end. The entry is recessed in a second projecting gable. The arched recess in the front gable shelters the front door. There is a small rectangular window to the east of the door. The roofline of this gable extends slightly lower on the east side. There are large picture windows flanking the front entry gable. Other windows are one over one double hung sash. There is a one-story small, gabled projecting section on the west rear side of the house which has similar roofline detailing to the main house.

A large brick chimney also rises on the west side of the house which has a diamond design in the center. The rear of the house has an entry to the house which is flush with the rear wall. There is a detached garage in the rear of the house which is similarly clad to the main house with a gable roof. Non-historic addition: Newer garage door

Major Bibliographic References

Source: Information from Thurston County Assessor's Records and Tax Rolls. Obituary for Emil Strom, Daily Olympian, April 30, 1957, pg. 16. Information from Anita Fagernes.

PHOTOS



View of South Façade

taken 6/3/2003

Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments: