

2418 Otis Street SE

Statement of Significance:

Wildwood Park Addition is a neighborhood developed in the early 1920s that boasted 48 parcels on acre lots that featured a natural landscape. Most advertisements for lots for sale described the trees located on the property and the natural beauty of the landscape. While Wildwood Park wasn't officially annexed into the City of Olympia until November of 1930, the neighborhood was originally connected to Olympia's water. The development of this neighborhood involved many of Olympia's oldest and most active families including: J.T. Otis who was instrumental in renaming the streets of Olympia to eliminate confusion. The streets of Wildwood are named after his childhood friends.

The house located at 2418 Otis Street SE was built in 1940 by Roy Graham a builder in Olympia for Stan Butler who was a "rebuilder of automobile and truck bodies" who stepped up to run the Schaefer family business, A.G. Schaefer Company while Norman Schaefer served in WWII. (Morning Olympian; A.G. Schaefer Company Celebrating This Month, Its Successful Years of Automotive Service in Olympia: November 14, 1951.) A newspaper article from January 12, 1941 in The Olympian notes the house sold to D.A. Todd who had advertisements in the Daily Olympian for "Electrical Appliance Repair Service" at this property address. He offered pick-up and delivery.

This house is a strong example of a 1940 Tudor Cottage. The character defining features including: prominent exterior chimney, combination of lap siding on the body of the house and vertical scalloped siding on the gable ends, arched entrances to the covered stoop and rhythm of openings appear to be intact.

Architectural Description:

The Tudor cottage at 2418 Otis is cross-gabled, 1.5 stories, and faces west. The house is side-gabled with a wide, front-facing gabled projection on the southwest corner. The house is approached by a central set of stairs leading through an arched opening to the stoop sheltering under a corner of the projecting gable roof. Arched openings sit on both the east and south walls of the covered stoop. An external brick chimney is centered on the projecting gable. It incorporates a decorative brick arch. North and south of the chimney are double-hung wood windows with two horizontally divided lights in each sash. Similar windows remain on primary and secondary elevations. On the north elevation is a second projection with a secondary entry door. The house is clad in horizontal wood boards with decorative wood sheet in primary and secondary gables. The house has, along with its external chimney, an internal chimney. A detached garage with similar cladding sits in the northeast corner of the lot. The interior includes mahogany trim and doors.

In 2014 the kitchen was renovated and wood double hung windows were restored.