Goodwillie House

The Goodwillie House, commonly known as the Allen-Rademacher House, is the only extant example in Deschutes County of an early Craftsman bungalow. Located at 875 Northwest Brooks Street, the house was built in 1904 and survives as a bicycle shop, a ski shop, a coffee shop, and a bar called Crows Feet Commons.

The house was originally built by Arthur L. Goodwillie, a founder of Bend and its first mayor, elected to the position at the youthful age of twenty-six in 1905. Goodwillie constructed the home in 1904 and resided there until 1907. He helped establish Bend's first bank, power company, and telephone company.

The next residents, Herbert E. and Alice Allen, lived in the house from 1907 to 1929. Allen, an executive with the Brooks-Scanlon Lumber Company, made significant contributions to Bend’s civic and cultural development. He served on the Bend City Council, the school board, the Bend Commercial Club, and the Chamber of Commerce before his death in 1929 at the age of forty-five.

The next owners of the Goodwillie house were Clyde and Marjorie Rademacher, who arrived in Bend from Minnesota and purchased the house from Allen's widow in 1937. Rademacher, a physician, was a founder of the Bend Memorial Clinic, the first multi-specialty clinic in Bend. The Rademachers lived in the house for almost fifty years, until they died in the 1980s.

The house was considered for demolition in the early 1990s to make room for a parking lot adjacent to downtown Bend. A community effort to save the building and transform it into an arts center resulted in the house's purchase by the City of Bend and its subsequent move fifty feet to the south. The building was leased for many years to Arts Central, the Arts and Culture Council for Central Oregon. In 2012, Arts Central moved to a different location, and the City of Bend leased the house to a new local business. Today, the Goodwillie house retains its setting at the edge of Drake Park, overlooking Mirror Pond.

The Goodwillie house is a striking and early example of the Craftsman bungalow style of architecture. Built a scant year after the first Craftsman bungalow appeared in Portland, it is the only extant house from that period remaining in Deschutes County and one of the few left in all of Oregon. Its features include low horizontal massing, leaded windows, an “earth-hugging” appearance, a simple roofline with dormers, and a loggia and interior fireplace constructed with local volcanic rock.

The house is made unique in the Craftsman bungalow style by the narrow eave and the lack of A-frame brackets or decorative elements along the roofline. Locally sourced stone and lumber were used in the construction. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in May 2007.

Written by Nathan Pedersen

Further Reading:

Deschutes County Landmarks Commission. *Building Deschutes County: Architectural History 1813-1950.* Bend: Deschutes County and the Cities of Bend, Redmond and Sisters, and the State Historic Preservation Office, 1997.

Deschutes County Historical Society. *A History of the Deschutes County in Oregon*. Bend: Deschutes County Historical Society, 1985.

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