

Ruddock House

**520 W. Amerige Avenue;
Initially at 130 W.
Commonwealth Avenue
ca. 1897**

Queen Anne Victorian

Status: Local Landmark



This late Victorian house was originally constructed on the south side of the 100 block of West Commonwealth Avenue in the late 1890s, and later moved to 520 W. Amerige Avenue in 1918. The house has an irregularly shaped plan with a first-story bay window on the north-facing wing facing Amerige Avenue. Prominent architectural details include the steep, compound gable roof, a “balloon” wood frame construction featuring extensive wood siding and trim work, and the sheltered wood porch. The house was originally more ornate than its present condition; spindle work once filled the gables and were part of the porch design, while finials decorated the roof ridges.

The house is unaltered in design, but the front porch has been reworked. A low-profile section at the rear of the house appears to be an addition, unknown in date. The house was placed on a new foundation in the early 1990s, and the structure essentially retains its original features.

The detached, two-story structure at the rear of the property was constructed in 1939, and is not related historically or architecturally to the front house.

The initial owners, Charles Ruddock and his family, came to Fullerton from Wisconsin in late 1896. The Ruddock family resided in the house for 15 years before moving to Santa Ana. Ruddock eventually owned a considerable amount of unimproved land in the Fullerton-Placentia area where he grew oranges and walnuts. He later became active in local government, serving on the police force for some time and seeking office of County Sheriff in 1910.