

Lamhofer House

600 W. Valley View Drive

1927

Tudor Revival

Status: Significant Property



This two-story residence represents a fine example of English Tudor Revival architecture with its steep, shake-covered gable roofs, stucco walls with half-timber decorative bracing, detailed brick-capped chimney, and the well-positioned and proportioned multi-paned casement windows. In addition to the brick trimmed entry, there are outstanding details on all sides of the structure, and the detached garage continues the architectural style. The home was constructed and designed for \$10,000 by one of Fullerton's best known early builders, Arthur M. Thompson, who had a hand in the construction a number of notable residences in the city.

The initial owners of the property were Eric and Ester Lamhofer, residing in the house until 1936. Eric Lamhofer was a salesman for the Home Oil Company in Anaheim and would later manage citrus properties.

The dwelling is often referred to as the Norton Simon home, because Simon rented the house with his wife and two sons from 1936 to 1938. Norton Simon was the president of Val Vita Foods and later Hunt-Wesson Foods, but he did not engage with the local business community during his stay in Fullerton. The Simon family remained in Fullerton until 1939, when they purchased a home in Los Angeles.

The Lamhofer family would again take up residence at the Valley View home in the 1940, residing there until the early 1960s.