

A Look Back in Time

The Crangle-Fisher House, 6522 Seventh Avenue, is a good example of a small workers cottage that reflects the Greek Revival and Italianate styles, thus meeting the criteria set forth in Section 15.04 of the City's Zoning Ordinance, Standard No. 3, "embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type of specimen..." The home was originally designated a Kenosha Historic Site in 1983 and re-designated on December 16, 1996.

Built around 1865, the Crangle-Fisher House consists of a one-story main block with a two-story wing attached at the rear. The main block has a hip roof topped with a raised hipped-roof deck. A wooden frieze runs under the shallow roof eaves. The walls of the house are covered with clapboards and punctuated with primarily tall, narrow four-over-four light, double-hung sashes. A square bay with similar openings projects from the south elevation. The main entrance is decorated with a narrow transom and sidelights flanked by pilasters. The entrance is covered with a flat-roofed portico supported by round columns. Lattice panels decorate the porch base. Projecting from the rear of the main block is a two-story, gable-roofed wing that has a side-gable form. The roof is decorated with a wide frieze with returned eaves. The wing is also covered with clapboards, as is the one and one-half story ell attached to the west elevation.

The Crangle-Fisher House was built for laborer Patrick Crangle. Peter and Emma Fisher acquired the house around 1890 and Emma Fisher owned it until 1922. For a time, the house was converted into a duplex. The Crangle-Fisher house is architecturally significant because it is a fine and well-preserved example of a small workers cottage that reflects both the Greek Revival and Italianate styles of architecture. The form and massing of the house reflects the symmetry of the Greek Revival style, while the tall, narrow openings suggest the Italianate style. No style dominates, however, this house is a good example of a vernacular building that reflects popular architecture at the time it was built, but is not an elaborate example of any style. Workers cottages of this type were common in urban areas during the nineteenth century, but few have survived with this high level of preservation.



Because the house is so well preserved, it provides important information about how typical working class families lived in the nineteenth century.

A walk or drive past this quaint cottage will afford you a look back in time of how middle class families lived years ago. The home is well-preserved and deserving of historic designation.