

OLD CARR HOUSE BECOMES HISTORY

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“Famous Landmark, Built 40 Years Ago, to Make Way for Modern Home”

“One of Tacoma’s oldest landmarks, the home of Job Carr on North Sheridan Ave between North 7th and 8th streets, is now passing. Work of tearing down the house, which has stood for more than 40 years, began last week and will make way for a modern residence to be built in the near future by Roland E. Borhek, Tacoma architect, who is the present owner of part of the old Job Carr tract. *(Editor: This was not Carr’s original log cabin built in Old Town when he first came to Tacoma, but was the house on his homestead property on the hill above Old Town.)*

Demolition of the house revealed the fact that many of the foundation timbers were only rough hewn. The Job Carr tract for years had unusual interest for residents of that section of the city, as the tract was not platted at the same time as adjoining property, so that the property lines ran at odd angles to the streets. Only recently has the tract been platted to conform with the layout of contingent district.

The [Carr] house [was] a two-story frame structure, its blue-green color having nearly faded into the original weather-beaten board. It is surrounded by a large orchard of fine bearing trees. About 30 of the trees still remain on the Borhek place and they will be retained as far as possible, says Mr. Borhek. The original abstract from the United States government to Job Carr, Tacoma’s first resident, and bears the signature of President U. S. Grant. The property commands on of the best views in the city.”

In 1920 the new home of Roland and Marie Borhek was built at 715 North Sheridan on the site of land which first belonged to Job Carr. Borhek was an architect, originally from the East Coast. He opened his office in Tacoma in 1910, and designed many prominent Tacoma buildings. He was president of the Tacoma Architects Association for 10 years.



Borhek House Built 1920

Karen May, NSHD writer who is the author of “Tacoma’s North Slope,” has a wealth of Carr information in her fascinating book. Reach her for where to find it: Karen May, 253-779-0160, klmay@wamail.net

“Tacoma Daily Ledger” can be accessed from Main Library’s Northwest Room, Brian Kamens, Curator.