

## Take a Stroll on Historic Garden & Foster Avenues



*Mary Mason with children Grace (baby), David A., Florence, Alice and Margaret Mason in front of their home at 223 Foster, probably 1903. TrD-3-110*

**Here is a short tour of some of the homes on Foster and Garden Avenues between 3rd and 10th streets.**

**Begin just west of 3rd on Foster heading east.**

### **223 Foster (NW corner), built 1903**

Coeur d'Alene's postmaster David and his wife Mary Mason were the first residents. They lived here only a short time and by the late 1930s it was three apartments.

### **702 N. 3rd**

Hilda Potter Erickson owned the Home Hospital in the 1930s and 40s. In the late 1940s it was known as the Kootenai Hospital and was operated by Melvin and Belinda Boothe. In the late 1950s it was a nursing home.

### **424 Foster Ave., built 1913**

For 40 years W.Z. and Freda Cooper lived in this Craftsman Bungalow. In the 1930s he owned Cooper Chevrolet. In 1971 Martin and Carol Stacey purchased the house from the Cooper estate.

### **501 Foster Ave., built 1893**

Emma Nichols, a postmaster at Fort Sherman, lived in the house from 1893 until 1917. It was remodeled

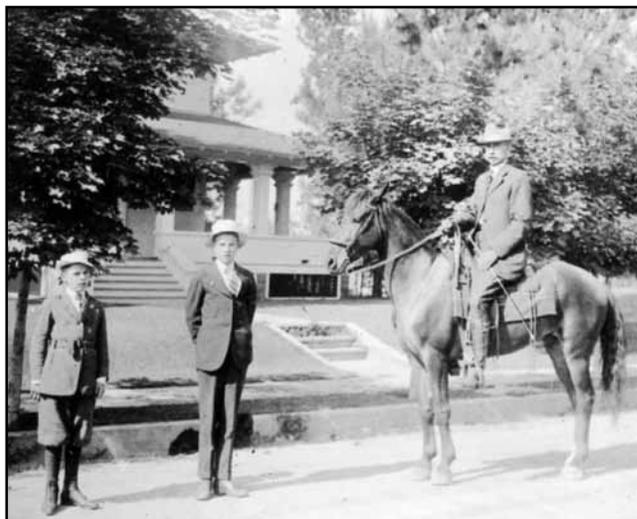
in 1927 by Nichols' sisters, Martha Kerns, and Minnie Otterson. They lived here into the 1950s. In 1959 the Johnston-Spaulling family purchased the home from the Otterson estate. In 1985 the owners turned part of the home into the Colonial Wedding House.

### **515 and 521 Foster Ave., built 1933**

These two Cotswold/Cape Cod cottages were built during the depression. The builders knew that these two homes would be all the work they would have for a while, so great pride and time went into them. 515 was built for Dr. Husted who used part of it for his office. Herbert and Pearl Minster lived at 521.

### **601 Foster Ave., built 1905**

Mr. Landt built this home with classic Revival/Italianate influence for Robert Early McFarland. Outstanding architectural features include a magnificent archway between the living and dining rooms, coffered ceilings, beautiful dark woodwork with crown moldings and plinth blocks, and leaded windows. R.E. McFarland, a 27-year old lawyer, came to Murray, Idaho in 1884 and was elected the first



*Rt: Robert E. McFarland, John and Joseph McFarland in front of their home at 601 Foster Ave., late 1910s. TrD-3-24*

probate judge of Shoshone County. In 1885 he and his wife, Vivian Pendy, came down the Coeur d'Alene River on a bateau on their wedding day for Mr. McFarland to fill his appointed position as registrar of the U.S. Land Office in Coeur d'Alene. From 1896 to 1899 he served as Idaho's Attorney General. The home remained in the McFarland family until 1972. Stephen R. and Winifred Howarth Gregory purchased the home in 1985 and after two years of restoration opened the Gregory's McFarland House Bed and Breakfast. Nancy Harper bought the house and reopened it in 2005 as the McFarland Inn Bed and Breakfast.

#### ***618 Foster Ave., built 1904***

Built by a plumber, the house was purchased in 1906 by the co-owner of the Red Collar Steam Lines, Roy Giles. At one time the company controlled water transportation on Lake Coeur d'Alene. His bachelor son Gordon resided here until his death in 1989.

#### ***701 Foster Ave., built 1929***

This half-timbered Tudor Revival house was built by the Colquhoun family who owned a hardware store in Coeur d'Alene for many years.

#### ***712 Foster, built 1895***

Noted as the first home in this area, this Victorian was built by Dr. Young, a veterinarian for Fort Sherman. He wanted to keep his daughter safe from the soldiers, so he built the home away from the Fort. Dr. Young's daughter sold the house to the Scott family in 1935.

#### ***720 Foster Ave., built 1907***

This Victorian home was built by Heine Glindeman, Coeur d'Alene's mayor from 1917 to 1921. In 1984 Steve Handlen purchased and restored the house. He hand-cut the 2,100 shingles for the roof to get the right diamond design.

#### ***801 Foster Ave., built 1913***

Arthur Edmonds built this "Salt Box" for his son, O.W. Edmonds, who lived there until 1922. O.W., also known as Foxy, owned the Panhandle Abstract Title Co. and was mayor of Coeur d'Alene many times over the years.

#### ***818 Foster, built 1914***

Many homes are interpretations of different styles from Craftsman Magazine. This home is an example of a Bungalow.

#### ***906 Foster Ave., built 1907***

The Ralph S. Nelson family lived in this home from 1915 to 1965. This spacious three-story home has undergone several remodels including the removal of a large porch in 1937, giving the house a Colonial appearance. In 1924 an all-glass sun room was added which served as the family room. It has a formal dining room with a servant's call button under the table.



*916 Foster Rasmussen family, c. 1924. CDA-7-74*

#### ***916 Foster Ave., built 1906***

Built by T.C. Cannon, the original house had a wrap-around porch, a tower in the front, and a widow's walk on the very top. It was remodeled in the 1940s. In the 1970s a small room was discovered upstairs that had been sealed off for over 50 years.

#### ***917 Foster Ave., built 1939***

This International Style house was built with "blue mud" stucco brought here from Southern California. When dry, it is harder and denser than concrete. The walls are 11" thick. The house has 6,000 sq. ft. and sits on 2/3 of an acre.

**Turn right and go to Garden Ave. and head west.**

#### ***603 N. 7th, built about 1910***

Horace and Adelle Hubbard camped on the St. Joe River while this house was being built. Joseph McFarland, in the early 1920s, remembered walking to school and seeing a snow fort in the yard. The top of each squared corner was shaped into a pyramid with a 14" American flag stuck into it. No one ever saw it being built. Could Judge Hubbard, who died in 1927 at the age of 81, been up nights building this fort?

#### ***602 Garden Ave., built 1904***

First built as a one-story school, the second and third stories were added in 1908. Central school burned in 1933 but when repaired the third story was left off. It was a public school until 1974.

#### ***501 Garden Ave., built 1903***

On the southwest corner of this property was first a house owned by S. Day Beebe, postmaster, and his wife, a music teacher. In 1925 F.W. Fitze bought the house and added the Tudor style north wing in 1929 and the east wing in about 1932.

**The Museum is seeking volunteers to research buildings in the Coeur d'Alene Region.**