



1 South Sheridan Road

Bicentennial Landmark

There are probably more sketches and paintings of 1 S. Sheridan Rd. than of any other single Waukegan building. But that is all that remains of the Queen Anne residence and office built by Dr. Norman J. Roberts.

The building permit was recorded in the city council minutes of 1891. Known as the Gable, it was the offices for a surgeon, dentist, Christian Scientist and a milliner in 1895.

Of later years, the house with its corner turret had taken on a haunted look. The red frame siding underlaid with sheet steel for fireproofing, was darkened as the result of a fire. A dead tree curled its stark twisted branches up in front of the windows, and curtains whipped in and out of the broken window panes.

It was no more eccentric, perhaps, than its former owner, a world renowned oral surgeon, who left famous patients sitting in the chair for hours while he worked in his garden, fixed his car, or chatted with neighbors.

Dr. Roberts, who came to Waukegan in 1887, was at one time president of Northwestern Dental School, lecturer at Rush Medical College and a forerunner in oral dental procedures. His patients came from this country and abroad. Among them were such international celebrities as Pearl Buck. He died in 1940; his widow in 1971. The home was demolished in March 1978.