

William L. Shipp House 1511 Everett Street



The William L. Shipp house, located at 1511 Everett Street in Houston's Near Northside, first appeared in the Houston City Directory of 1902-1903. It was built by William L. Shipp possibly in 1901, when records show that Shipp obtained a \$1,200 mortgage from the Bayou City Building and Loan Association on February 4 of that year. Shipp was born in Louisiana in 1862 and, like many of his neighbors at the time, worked as a freight clerk for the railroad depots scattered throughout the Near Northside. Shipp was employed by the Southern Pacific railroad depot until the 1890s, when he went to work for the T&NO (Texas & New Orleans) freight depot. The T&NO freight depot was located at the corner of Willow Street and Liberty Avenue, within walking distance of the Everett Street house.



The Shipp house is a balloon-framed, Queen Anne L-plan which features an unusual and unique pierced frieze featuring wave or 'dragon'-shaped trim above the porch as well as

other elaborate decorative work, and is considered an architectural gem. The style gained popularity in America during the last decades of Queen Victoria's reign when increased industrialization and the growth of the railroad industry allowed mass-produced wood to be easily transported. The Shipp house is an excellent representation of Near Northside early houses and is the first structure in the area to receive a City of Houston Landmark and Protected Landmark Designation.