

THE MONTAYNE HOUSE

Construction began in 1885 and was completed in 1888

The architecture of the Montayne House is known as the *Italianate style*. Italianate buildings cropped up on the East coast in the 1840s but remained popular in Oregon through the 1890s. This style of architecture was derived from medieval Italian villas and farmhouses. Key features include overhanging eaves with substantial brackets; tall, narrow windows; low-pitched roofs; and a vertical emphasis.



When this house was built, the streets were dirt and the sidewalks were a boardwalk style similar to the front walkway above. The lap-siding and exterior trim are all original. The current white-picket fence surrounding the home is a replica of the original fencing.

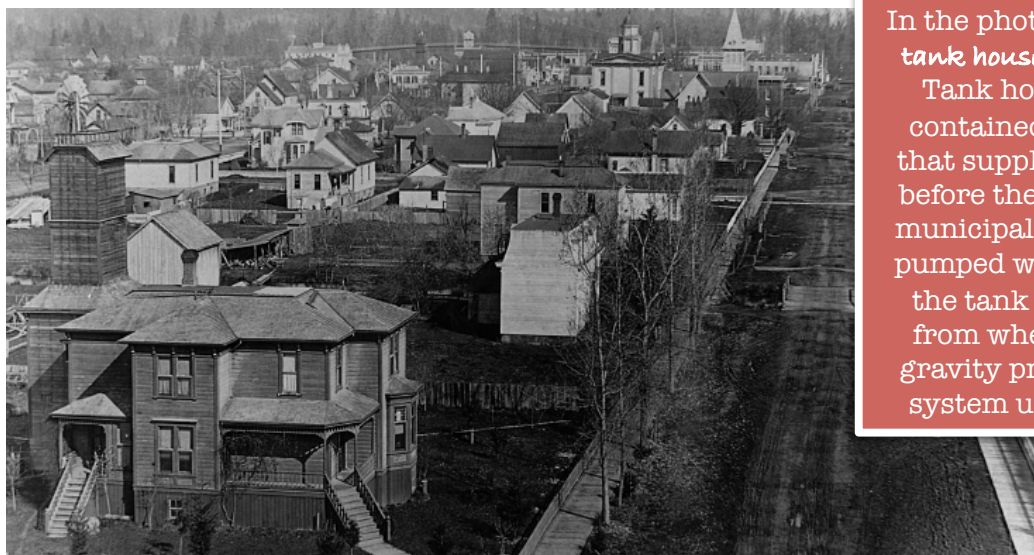


Photo (c. 1895) courtesy of the Albany Regional Museum

In the photo to the left, you can see a **tank house** at the rear of the house.

Tank houses were part of a self-contained domestic water system that supplied the house and garden before the advent of electricity and municipal water mains. A windmill pumped water from the well up into the tank at the top of tank house, from where it flowed down under gravity pressure to the house. The system used no fuel or electricity.

To see a video tour of the ground floor, scan the QR Code below or visit:

<https://youtu.be/-kdRvQRnt1M>



The Montayne Family

The home was built for Lemuel Montayne, his wife Elizabeth Catherine aka Kate, and their two children, George and Mary. Lemuel was a Civil War veteran from Indiana and Kate was from Louisiana. In addition to practicing law, Lamuel was prominent in local public affairs. Positions he held include Recorder of the City of Albany, School Clerk & Director for Albany School District, charter member of the Linn Fire Engine Company No. 2, volunteer firefighter, and Oregon State Legislator.

During the restoration of the home in the 1980s, markings of the heights of the children, George & Mary, were found on the wall with the dates July & November 1893

