

Witter House

4840 Schuyler Avenue

The original owners, Addis (A.L.) and Mary Witter, moved to La Mesa around 1910 from Delevan, Wisconsin. Originally from Boone County, Illinois, Witter was the son of a Civil War veteran who learned photography from his older brother, John.

When he moved to La Mesa, A.L. Witter was 51 years old and an established professional photographer. Considered the town's photographer in the 1910s, Witter made regular contributions to the La Mesa Scout and provided images for an early Chamber of Commerce publication.



Other notable work includes a photograph of the 1916 Grammar School graduating class and a series of scenic tourist postcard photographs. Witter initially based his portrait studio from his residence on Schuyler Avenue and later (after 1916) had a studio in the Volk Building on La Mesa Boulevard.

The house, a modest hip-roofed bungalow, appears on the 1911 Sanborn Map together with its detached single-car garage. There are few remaining houses of this type in La Mesa. The house has a gabled front entry porch, horizontal siding, and exposed rafter tails. Exterior finishes are original and in good condition. A small rear addition was permitted in 2006.