



Clark County Museum

Beckley House

Built: 1912

Style: California Bungalow

Original address: 120 S. Fourth Street, Las Vegas

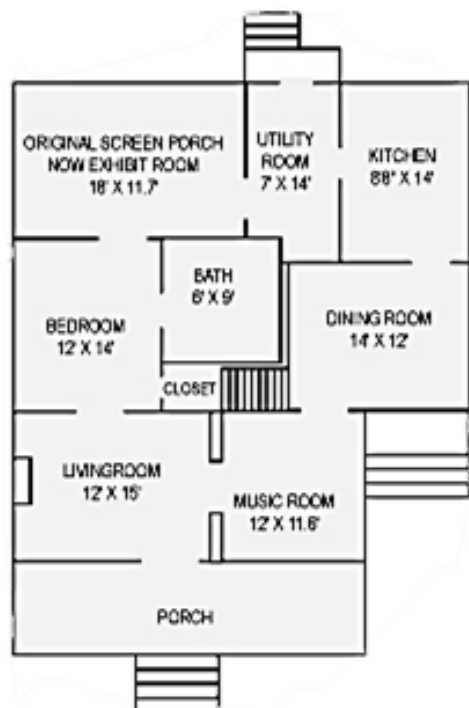
Moved: 1979

Opened for exhibit: 1983



Will Beckley arrived in Las Vegas in 1908 and opened a clothing store. He lived in a tent house until 1910 when he proposed by mail to Leva Grimes, a teacher in Illinois, and brought his new bride to Las Vegas. In 1912 he had this house built for \$2,500.

The California bungalow was a popular design of the period because it was economical to build and could be expanded easily. When this house was originally built it contained four major rooms and an open rear porch. Between 1923 and 1925 some major additions were made. A brick fireplace and chimney were added to one end of the living room and the original kitchen was extended and converted to a dining room. A portion of the rear porch was enclosed to provide for a new kitchen with the remaining portion converted into a sleeping porch.



The Beckley's had two children, a son Bruce and a daughter Virginia. Will and Leva lived in the house continuously until Will's death in 1965. Leva remained in the house until 1978 when at the age of 93, ill health forced her to move in with family members.

The Beckley house became a local landmark because it was the last pioneer home left in downtown Las Vegas. Since it could not be preserved in its original location due to developmental pressure, the Beckley family donated the home and furnishings. It was moved to the museum and became the first house on Heritage Street.

Major assistance was provided by the Junior League of Las Vegas.

