

14. The Avenues

The Avenues is Salt Lake City's largest locally-designated historic district and the one best-known for the preservation efforts of its property owners. Fine views of the valley, proximity to downtown and long-standing diversity of both architecture and population make the Avenues a desirable place to live.

From its inception, the Avenues differed from the rest of the City in that it was laid out in smaller blocks with smaller building lots. Smaller lot size and narrower streets and sidewalks, coupled with large scale houses, made the Avenues denser than other 19th century Salt Lake City neighborhoods. The result is a particularly rich collection of era-specific urban architecture.

Many of the early houses in the Avenues are best described as Victorian Eclectic, indicating a flexible approach to Victorian design. On the other hand, a few Avenues residents adopted high-style architecture such as Queen Anne, Shingle, Colonial, Classical Revival and Italianate styles. Soon after 1910, bungalows came into vogue, and the streets of the Avenues reflected the popularity of these livable, low-profile homes. Churches and schools were also located in the Avenues.



The building (ca. 1906) at 187 N 'E' Street is a good example of a house store.



The building at 702 E 3rd Avenue (ca. 1940) was designed with simple detailing and has rectangular steel casement windows and original display windows.

To serve the Avenues residents, stores were built throughout the neighborhood from approximately 1910 to 1950. These buildings housed neighborhood services such as grocery stores, hardware stores, barbershops and restaurants. While some were constructed in the middle of blocks, others were built at prominent corner locations. Typically these commercial buildings were two stories in height with large storefronts and businesses on the first floor and living quarters for the proprietors on the second story. Known as two-part commercial blocks, these buildings were designed with detailing of the period such as Romanesque, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman. These commercial buildings in the neighborhood continue to provide important business locations while others have been converted into residences.

Additional Information

Haglund, Karl T. & Notarianni, Philip F. *The Avenues of Salt Lake City*. Published by Utah State Historical Society. 1980 books.google.com/books/about/The_avenues_of_Salt_Lake_City.html?id=yrciAAAACAAJ

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