19. University

Between 1900 and 1920, Salt Lake City experienced prosperity and growth, and the University Historic District is lasting evidence of that expansion. The success of this East Bench community was assured when the University of Utah was established in 1901. Soon after, the City installed utilities and extended electric streetcar lines to the University area. Stimulated by the presence of the University, the district filled with homes and businesses relatively quickly, making for a homogenous blend of architecture and consistent streetscapes. More than any other Salt Lake City historic district, the University Historic District has a uniform character and identity.

The University district has a small but lively neighborhood shopping area on the blocks between 200 and 300 South and 1300 East and University Street. Some of the businesses are located within former homes including several four-square residences. This district lacks the types of historic corner commercial buildings found in areas such as Central City and the Avenues. While the remaining one and two-part commercial blocks interspersed in the more residential areas have generally been converted to residences.

These homes along 1300 East have been adaptability reused for commercial purposes.

Fire Station Number Eight at 260 South 1300 East (1929) has been converted into a restaurant and maintains much of its original character.