# PART III  Site Specific Design Guidelines

GENERAL ISSUES, REDESIGN, & NEW CONSTRUCTION

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4th Avenue Stairs (SLCHLR No. 1)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

The 4th Avenue Stairs consist of a pair of concrete stairways located in the Avenues Historic District. The stairways are located on either side of Canyon Road near the mouth of City Creek Canyon. The canyon bifurcates Fourth Avenue, which lies high above the canyon bottom. The stairs provide east and west pedestrian connections from the Fourth Avenue to the low-lying Canyon Road.

The East 4th Avenue Stairs are located within the 4th Avenue right-of-way between A Street and Spencer Court. A Street is located high above the canyon bottom within the Avenues District; Spencer Court is a small local road that runs parallel with Canyon Road. The West 4th Avenue Stairs are also located within the 4th Avenue right-of-way, between East Capitol Street and Canyon Side Lane; East Capitol

(4th Avenue Stairs - Siri Vlasic, 8/5/15).
Street is located high above the canyon bottom in the Capitol Hill neighborhood.

The East 4th Avenue Stairs were established in 1915 as a practical pedestrian connection between Canyon Road and 4th Avenue. The West 4th Avenue Stairs were constructed sometime prior to 1965, completing the link. Both sets of stairs ascend the steep side slopes of the canyon, connecting the 4th Avenue residential neighborhoods that lie above with the low-lying Canyon Road neighborhood below.

Both stairways were originally constructed as simple, wooden structures and have since been upgraded as complex stairways constructed primarily from concrete. There is no evidence that either of the existing stairways were laid out with the original design in mind, although the east stairway includes metal detailing and gestures which allude to the period of original construction.

Refer to Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: 4th Avenue Stairs (SLCHLR NO. 1) for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

The 4th Avenue Stairs are historically significant for providing access between the Canyon Road neighborhood at the bottom of the grades to the Avenues neighborhood in the East and the Capitol Hill neighborhood to the west. The stairways themselves are not historic, although they are the contemporary representation of the original stairways.
**Period(s) of Significance:** 1915 (East stairway) & pre-1965 (west stairway)

**Design Objective**

While the stairways themselves are not directly historic, the use is historic. They are the contemporary representation of the original stairways, and should remain as important features for linking three neighborhoods that would otherwise have challenging connectivity. As the stairways age and change over time, enhancements and modifications should be anticipated.

**Spatial Qualities of the Landscape**

**Organizational Elements of the Landscape**

The East 4th Avenue Stairs consist of a nine-tiered double staircase that is nestled into the steep side slopes of City Creek Canyon. Each of the nine concrete stair segments is punctuated by a concrete landing. Although the stairway includes decorative concrete walls, metal hand railings and light fixtures designed to provide a reference to the historic era the stairway was established, the focus is on a constantly-changing ground plane defined by steps and landings.

The West 4th Avenue Stairs consists of an eight-tiered single staircase which is also nestled into the steep hillside. The stairway ascends the hillside in a less uniform and less formal manner than the East
4th Avenue stairway. Each of the nine stair segments terminates in a concrete landing where the direction of the stairway typically changes in response to the slope and terrain. Dominated by informal groupings of plants and trees, plants and landscape materials help to visually connect the stairways with the steep hillsides, with more formal plantings limited to concrete planters have been incorporated into the stairs and terraced walls. Other vegetation include naturalistic groupings of mature trees that are scattered around both stairs, providing an irregular shade canopy.

Low walls and metal railings provide a sense of security and safety as one ascends and descends both stairways.

Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

The steep natural hillside and resulting stairways are historically significant and are the dominant character-defining features. Both sets of stairs ascend the steep side slopes of City Creek Canyon, connecting the 4th Avenue residential neighborhoods that lie above with the low-lying Canyon Road neighborhood below.

Action: The steep natural hillside and stairways should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.
Vegetation

There is no historically significant vegetation identified that should be preserved. Weeds and invasive plant are scattered throughout the area, a sign of inadequate maintenance.

**Action:** Maintenance efforts should ensure that weeds and invasive plant materials are removed from the site.

Nodes & Gathering Places

There are no historically significant nodes or gathering places identified that should be preserved.

Circulation Systems

The stairways have been carefully designed to facilitate pedestrian travel, with motorized and wheeled vehicle travel specifically not supported. Both stairways serve as pedestrian shortcuts from the upper slopes of the avenues to the low-lying Canyon Avenue neighborhood below, with motorized and vehicular use specifically not supported. The stairs primarily serve as linkages for local residents.

**Action:** The connection between the Canyon Road neighborhood at the bottom of the grades to the Avenues neighborhood in the East and the Capitol Hill neighborhood to the west is historically significant and should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.
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Water

There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.

Landscape Structures

There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

Site Elements

The concrete stairs, landings and walls themselves are not historic, although they are the contemporary representation of the original stairways.

The metal railings, light fixtures and ornamental elements are not historic in and of themselves, but they reinforce the connection with the historic era. The interpretive signs provide details about the history of the stairs, while helping to tell a story about the development history of the neighborhood and city.

Action: The historic use of stairways to connect the 4th Avenue residential neighborhoods that lie above with the low-lying Canyon Road neighborhood below should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

Action: As the stairs age and require upgrading and change, consider maintaining the distinctive characteristics of the stairways and associated landscape treatments to maintain strong connections with the era they were originally established. The use of era-appropriate designs, construction materials
Design Guidelines for Historic Landscapes

Chapter 1. 4th Avenue Stairs

and methods should be carefully integrated.

**Action:** As the metal railings, light fixtures and ornamental elements age and require upgrading and change, consider maintaining the distinctive characteristics of the stairways and associated landscape treatments to maintain strong connections with the era they were originally established. The use of era-appropriate designs, construction materials and methods should be carefully integrated.

**Site Furnishings**

There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.

**Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields**

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

**Materials**

Wood was the original material used for the stairways, which has been replaced with concrete over time.

**Action:** Although concrete was not used for the original stairways, the existing stairs should be repaired and maintained to extend the longevity of both stairways.
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Sources

5th Avenue Park (SLCHLR No. 2)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Fifth Avenue Park is located within the Avenues National Local Historic Districts, Salt Lake City, Utah, although it is not considered historic. The 0.37-acre park fronts the southeast corner of Fifth Avenue and C Street intersection at 520 North C Street. The park is nestled within a well-established, verdant residential neighborhood characterized by single-family homes and low-density apartments, including some historic residences.

It is unknown as to when Fifth Avenue Park was established as a neighborhood pocket-park. Access to the park is from C Street. The terraced site is located in an area with significant south-to-north upward grade, which is a common characteristic of the Avenues neighborhood terrain. The park contains two pickleball courts and a surrounding...
PART III  Site Specific Design Guidelines

chain link fence.

The courts are terraced into the steep terrain by two concrete retaining walls located along the north and west sides of the property. The southern edge of the property transitions into a grass slope.

Refer to the Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: 5th Avenue Park (SLCHLR NO. 2).

Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance

The Fifth Avenue Park landscape is not considered historic.

Period(s) of Significance: N/A

Design Objective

The overall intention for the site based on the character, context, historic significance and period(s) of significance was to create a pocket park for the use and enjoyment of the neighborhood nearby. There is nothing of historic significance that should be represented in future design.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

There are no historically significant spatial elements or qualities identified that should be preserved.
Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography
There is no historically significant topography identified that should be preserved.

Vegetation
There is no historically significant vegetation identified that should be preserved.

Action: No invasive plant materials were identified for removal, although maintenance efforts should ensure that invasive plant materials continue to be removed from the site.

Nodes & Gathering Places
There are no historically significant nodes or gathering places identified that should be preserved.

Circulation Systems
There are no historically significant circulation systems identified that should be preserved.

Water
There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.
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Landscape Structures

There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

Site Elements

There are no historically significant site elements identified that should be preserved.

Site Furnishings

There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.

Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

Materials

There are no historically significant materials identified that should be preserved.

Sources

6th East Mini Park (SLCHLR No. 13)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

6th East Mini Park is located in the Central City Local Historic District, Salt Lake City, Utah. The park is fronted by 600 East and located between 200 and 300 South (600 East 220 South).

In 1990, 6th East Mini Park was established as a neighborhood pocket-park. The quarter-acre park is located within a residential/office zoning district. To the south and across the street to the east are single-family homes and low-density apartments, many documented as historic residences dating as early as 1885. A three-story brick business building, Utah Retirement Systems (URS) is located to the north. Access to the square-shaped park is from 600 East. Secondary access is from the west, connecting to a two-level parking lot owned by URS. The

surrounding area is relatively flat, although the site itself is part of a detention basin associated with the URS building storm water plan. A simple planting of four Maple trees (*Acer sp.*) are in the park strip just outside the park.

The entrance into 6th East Mini Park is defined by a replica of a Victorian-era wrought iron fence along the length of the street frontage, with shrub plantings of Barberry (*Berberis sp.*) and (*Mahonia aquifolium*), and one mature Maple tree (*Acer sp.*) located within the planting bed that contains the fence. A square metal light fixture is located at both the north and south entrances on 600 East. The Dee Ray/Kenneth Apartments building was previously located at 218 South 600, and are assumed to have been demolished at some point in the past, making room for the park.

Refer to the *Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: 6th East Mini Park (SLCHLR NO. 13)* for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

6th East Mini Park is not considered historic, and has no clear historic connections.

**Period(s) of Significance**: N/A

**Design Objective**

The overall intention for the site based on the character, context, historic significance and period(s) of significance was to create a pocket park for the...
use and enjoyment of the neighborhood nearby as well as serve as a detention basin associated with the
URS storm water plan. There is nothing of historic significance that should be represented in future design.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

There are no historically significant spatial elements or qualities identified that should be preserved.

Character-Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

There is no historically significant topography identified that should be preserved.

Vegetation

There is no historically significant vegetation identified that should be preserved.

Action: Although no invasive plant materials were identified for removal, maintenance efforts should ensure that invasive plant materials continue to be removed from the site.
PART III  Site Specific Design Guidelines

Nodes & Gathering Places
There are no historically significant nodes or gathering places identified that should be preserved.

Circulation Systems
There are no historically significant circulation systems identified that should be preserved.

Water
There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.

Landscape Structures
There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

Site Elements
There are no historically significant site elements identified that should be preserved.

Site Furnishings
There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.
Playgrounds, Sports Courts, & Sports Fields

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

Materials

There are no historically significant materials identified that should be preserved.

Sources

Brigham Young Cemetery (SLCHLR No. 3 )

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Brigham Young Cemetery is located in the South Temple National Historic District and the Avenues Local Historic District in Salt Lake City, Utah. It fronts on 1st Avenue and is located between State Street and A Street at 140 East 1st Avenue. The cemetery is the interment site of Brigham Young and his close family members. Young served as the second President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from December 27, 1847 until his death on August 29, 1877.

The 0.25-acre cemetery is nestled on the west side of 1st Avenue in the lower, western-most reaches of the steep Avenues neighborhood. The cemetery is surrounded by single-family homes and apartments, including several structures located immediately adjacent to the site on its south, west

(Brigham Young Grave - Siri Vlasic, 11/6/15).
and east edges. Multi-family residential buildings are also located on the north side of 1st Avenue opposite the cemetery, providing views into the cemetery from those vantage points. Farther to the west is Temple Square, Brigham Young Historic Park, and City Creek Park. Access to the burial site is from 1st Avenue. The site is located in an area with significant south-to-north upward grade, although the site itself is relatively flat and even, the result of terracing achieved through the use of retaining walls along the steep perimeter edges and within the cemetery. The internal retaining wall includes a set of stairs, which provide access between the two character-defining sections of the cemetery: the Upper Courtyard: Mormon Pioneer Memorial and the Lower Courtyard: Brigham Young Family Burials.

Brigham Young Cemetery was originally owned and maintained by descendant family members who operated under the name of the Brigham Young Cemetery Association. On March 18, 1927, Richard Young, President of the Brigham Young Cemetery Association passed ownership over to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Notable plans and improvements to the grounds occurred between October 1972 through June 1974, at which time the site was rededicated as the “Mormon Pioneer Memorial”. Improvements included the addition of the “All is Well” statue, the Eliza R. Snow and William Clayton granite monuments and plaques, and the bust of Brigham Young.

The Brigham Young Cemetery is owned and managed by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; however, because it is located within
the South Temple National Historic District and the Avenues Local Historic District, it is subject to these design guidelines should any repairs or modifications be required. Coordination with the owner is of high importance.

Refer to the Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Brigham Young Cemetery (SLCHLR NO. 3) for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

The Brigham Young Cemetery is a landscape originating from as early as 1848. The cemetery is significant because of its recognition as the interment site of Brigham Young and his close family members. Young served as the second President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from December 27, 1847 until his death on August 29, 1877.

The historic integrity of the site is strong in recognizing the burial grounds of Brigham Young, second President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from December 27, 1847 to August 29, 1877 and his close family members. A simple interpretive plaque acknowledges Young’s achievements mounted on the western boundary of the fence enclosing his plot.

**Period(s) of Significance:** 1848-1891
PART III   Site Specific Design Guidelines

Design Objective

The overall intention for the site based on the character, context, historic significance and period(s) of significance was to set aside a place for the internment of Brigham Young and his close family members. This purpose should continue to be carried forward into the future, commemorating the life and significance of Brigham Young and his close family members.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The site is located in an area with significant south-to-north upward grade, which is a common characteristic of the Avenues neighborhood terrain. When Brigham Young arrived in the valley, he selected a large portion of his personal property east of the temple, dedicating a small plot of burial land for his family located on a hill east of one of his homes, the White House, which was located at 119 East South Temple Street. Presently, the site itself is relatively flat and even, the result of terracing achieved through the use of retaining walls along the steep perimeter edges and within the cemetery itself. Terracing occurred as early as 1877 and as late as 1882 in the lower courtyard of the cemetery according to the history section and a photograph included in the Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Brigham Young Cemetery (refer to page 8 and figure 62 from the report).
Grass (whether native or introduced Kentucky Blue Grass (*Poa pratensis*) has been a historically significant base plane. The flagstone walkways, flower beds and cement surfacing were introduced at a later date and are not historically significant.

The overhead plane includes a soft canopy of a variety of trees and spacing around the upper perimeter of the cemetery grounds and lower northern perimeter. An additional set of Oak trees (*Quercus sp.*) located midway between the lower section also flanks each side of the connecting pathway to the upper and lower courtyards providing additional tree canopy. The form, height, density, translucence, sound absorbance, texture and color vary by tree species and seasonal interest. Approximately half of the site is an endless extension to the sky.

The vertical plane includes a retaining rock wall and wrought iron fence that marks the perimeter of the cemetery grounds; and an additional wrought iron fence around the perimeter of Brigham Young’s cemetery specifically. Two upright granite blocks with bronze interpretive insets also flank the east and west sides of the upper perimeter and varied placements and varieties of trees are noted around the upper perimeter of the cemetery grounds and lower northern and southern perimeter; including an additional set Oak trees (*Quercus sp.*) located midway between the lower courtyard flanking either side of the connecting pathway to the upper and lower courtyards.

**Action:** The historically significant base plane material characterized by grass should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.
PART III  Site Specific Design Guidelines

Action: Over time, the trees may need to be replaced – an exact replication of the plantings as they appear today is not necessary for future plantings, but any changes should be executed with the dignity, care, and sense of memorial that the current plantings suggest.

Action: The retaining rock wall and wrought iron fences are historically significant and should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.

Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

The site is located in an area with significant south-to-north upward grade, which is a common characteristic of the Avenues neighborhood terrain. Originally the site was part of a hill located east of one of Brigham Young’s homes, the White House, which was located at 119 East South Temple Street. Eventually the site was regraded into flat and even terrain, the result of terracing achieved through the use of retaining walls along the steep perimeter edges and within the cemetery itself. The terracing occurred as early as 1877 and as late as 1882.

Action: The historically significant characteristics of the topography should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.

Vegetation

Grass (whether native or introduced Kentucky Blue Grass (Poa pratensis) has been a historically
significant vegetation reflected through the site. A variety of trees, shrubs and flower plantings have occurred over the years.

**Action**: Over time the vegetation will change or need to be replaced. To the extent possible, the current design should be respected, but can be modified. The importance of the vegetation is in creating a setting that is memorial, serene, and respectful – characteristics that should be preserved, protected, and restored.

**Nodes & Gathering Places**

The burial site of Brigham Young is a historically significant node or gathering place. The markers of the additional family members noted through the site are additional gathering places, although at a much smaller scale. Two other nodes are recognizable within the cemetery: the Pioneer Memorial Monument located in the upper courtyard of the cemetery and the circular concrete raised annual flower bed with the bust of Brigham Young located in the lower courtyard. Although they are not of historical significance, their purpose serves to commemorate the life and significance of Brigham Young and his close family members.

**Action**: The burial sites serve as historically significant gathering places and should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.
Circulation Systems

The primary circulation through the cemetery is a north-to-south axis centered walkway with nodal progressions previously mentioned above. In the upper courtyard, a flagstone pathway set in concrete encircles an oval annual flowerbed, which contains a statue dedicated to the pioneers who settled the Salt Lake Valley as a centerpiece. A concrete staircase overlaid with flagstone transitions visitors to the lower courtyard. A radial flagstone and concrete paved surface emanates from a raised flowerbed, with four decorative metal benches evenly positioned around the circular space to the northeast, northwest, southeast and southwest. Beyond the raised flowerbed, the walkway transitions into cement and eventually back into a flagstone pathway upon arrival of the burial site of Brigham Young. An additional meandering flagstone pathway set in the grass to the east leads from the annual flowerbed and Mary V. Young marker located along the eastern perimeter of the cemetery to the southeast corner where the burial site of Brigham Young is located. Although the exact location and surfacing of the circulation system is not historically significant, the intent of a circulatory path from the entrance of the cemetery grounds to the burial site of Brigham Young and his family members is important.

**Action:** A circulatory path from the entrance of the cemetery grounds to the burial site of Brigham Young and his family members should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.
Chapter 4. Brigham Young Cemetery

Water

There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.

Landscape Structures

There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

Site Elements

The following site elements have been identified as historically significant and should be preserved, protected and restored as needed: the 1877 rock retaining wall and intent of a wrought-iron fence located around the perimeter of the grounds; the wrought-iron fence specifically located around the burial site of Brigham Young, fashioned and fabricated by William J. Silver, a successful iron works businessman who established his career in Salt Lake City; and the markers of Brigham Young and his family members located throughout the lower courtyard.

Although not of historical significance, additional site elements that contribute to the significance of a place set aside for the internment and/or commemorate the life and significance of Brigham Young and his close family members include a bust of Brigham Young, a statue of Young reading to a young boy and girl representing two of his children, a granite boulder with a bronze plaque in memory of Alice Young Clawson, and a simple interpretive plaque acknowledging Young’s
Achievements mounted on the western boundary of the fence enclosing his plot.

**Action**: The historically significant site elements should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.

**Action**: Additional interpretive information could be provided about the context of the site as it was located on a hill east of one of Brigham Young’s home, the White House, which was located at 119 East South Temple Street.

**Site Furnishings**

There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.

**Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields**

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

**Materials**

The stone used to construct the retaining wall around the perimeter of the cemetery grounds in 1877 and the wrought iron fence specifically located around the perimeter of Brigham Young’s grave fashioned and fabricated by William J. Silver, a successful iron works businessman who established his career in Salt Lake City, are historically significant materials.
**Action:** These historically significant materials should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.

**Sources**


*(Brigham Young Grave - Siri Vlasic, 11/4/2016).*
Ensign Peak Nature Park (SLCHLR No. 23)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

The Ensign Peak Nature Park was established in 1996 in memory of the historical ascension of Brigham Young accompanied with eight other men (including Heber C. Kimball, Wilford Woodruff, George A. Smith, Ezra T. Benson, Willard Richards, Albert Carrington, William Clayton and Lorenzo D. Young) two days after arriving in the valley to the top of the peak on July 26, 1847. Together they overlooked the valley and made plans for establishing a new city.

The name “Ensign Peak” is attributed to Brigham Young’s comment, who referred to the peak when he entered the valley and expressed his desire to go to the top. He said the peak was “a proper place to raise an ensign to the nations” (Wright). Upon ascension, a yellow bandanna was tied to a cane and waved to all below.

(Ensign Park Nature Park - Siri Vlasic, 10/10/2016).
Over the ensuing years, many efforts have been made to mark its importance to all below. Shortly after the ascension on July 26, 1847, an American flag was set atop the peak’s summit. In 1897, the Salt Lake Herald (Tribune) officially erected a permanent wooden flagpole onsite. On July 26, 1939, a rock monument and interpretive plaque was erected to mark the summit of Ensign Peak which still exists today. In 1947, a more heavy-duty flag pole was also eventually installed in place of the wooden pole from 1897; however, over time it was vandalized and later removed to the Council Hall near the Utah State Capitol.

Efforts for a park began as early as 1908; however, it wasn’t until 1989 the Ensign Peak Foundation was organized, a foundation dedicated to protecting and beautifying the peak and planning began for the establishment of a park. In 1996, Ensign Peak Nature Park was constructed including a plaza, vista overlook, a small amphitheater and a looped trail system that allows the public to hike to the top and enjoy the scenic view of the valley below. Interpretive signage is posted along the way, educating visitors about the cultural and geographical history of the Valley.

Refer to Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Ensign Peak Nature Park (SLCHLR NO. 23) for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

Although Ensign Peak Nature Park was established in 1996, the landscape’s importance originates from
as early as 1847. The peak is significant because of its recognition as the landmark Brigham Young, second President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, identified from a vision he received where he said Joseph Smith appeared to him and described the place where they should go and a banner should be raised. Ensign Peak was the recognizable landmark from the vision he saw when he entered the valley in July of 1847.

**Period(s) of Significance:** 1847

The historic integrity of the site is successful in recognizing the importance of the site as the landmark Brigham Young saw and therefore knew the valley before him was the place to settle. Although not historic in and of itself, the interpretive plaza and trail signage placed throughout the site help to acknowledge the importance of Ensign Peak as a landmark and its influence in the settlement of the Salt Lake Valley in 1847.

**Design Objective**

The overall intention for the site based on the character, context, historic significance and period(s) of significance is to commemorate the historical ascension of Brigham Young with eight other men and the influence of Ensign Peak as the landmark known for settling the Salt Lake Valley in 1847.

General guidance regarding the treatment of the following elements are found in Part II – Design Guidelines of the document entitled Preservation of Historic Parks and Public Lands in Salt Lake City (2017).
Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The site is located along the foothills of the Wasatch Mountain range with a significant west-to-east upward grade. Ensign Peak is specifically located along the historic Bonneville Shorelands where water would have lapped at its base during the existence of historic Lake Bonneville. Native grass and perennials specific to the Great Basin Desert have been a historically significant base plane. (One example is the Sego Lily (*Calochortus nuttallii*). The Native Americans introduced the spring perennial bulb to the Pioneers for food during a time when hunger was prevalent and homesteads were yet to be established. Its significance was so important that it became the Utah State Flower.) The dirt trails, cement walkways and stairs, and native flower beds specifically near the entrance were introduced at a later date and are not historically significant.

The overhead plane includes a canopy of a variety of native trees and spacing including Gamble Oak (*Quercus gambelii*) located around the plaza and sporadically along the ascending trail. The form, height, density, translucence, sound absorbance, texture and color vary by tree species and seasonal interest. A large majority of the site is an endless extension to the sky.

The vertical plane includes a concrete aggregate, low retaining wall, nine stone seats and nine trees which encircle the plaza. These elements are not considered historic in and of themselves, although,
their interpretive design and materials give tribute to the concrete aggregate and natural stone found in the Valley that the Pioneers would have used to build during settlement in the Valley, and the nine men who ascended the peak in 1847. Varied placements and varieties of trees and shrubs are also located around the plaza and sporadically along the ascending trail.

Action: The historically significant characteristics of the base plane should be preserved, protected and restored as needed. Disturbed and eroded areas particularly along the trails will need to be evaluated and revegetated continually. Over time, the native trees may need to be replaced – an exact replication of the plantings as they appear today is not necessary for future plantings. Maintaining a natural vegetated look is important for the site. The plaza is not considered historic and is open to change.

Topography

The site is located along the foothills of the Wasatch Mountain range with a significant west-to-east upward grade. Ensign Peak is specifically located along the historic Bonneville Shorelands. The distinct form and shape of the peak are important attributes.

Action: The peak itself is a historic landmark and should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.
Vegetation

Native grass and shrubs, including the Gamble Oak (*Quercus gambelii*) and Sego Lily (*Calochortus nuttallii*), have been historically significant vegetation reflected throughout the site. A variety of trees and shrubs have changed over the years near the entrance into the park and surrounding plaza area.

**Action**: The historically significant characteristics of the vegetation should be preserved, protected and restored as needed. Disturbed and eroded areas particularly along the trails where high traffic use occurs will need to be evaluated and revegetated continually. Vegetation introduced should reflect the native plant palette and complement the site.

Nodes & Gathering Places

The top of Ensign Peak is historically significant node or gathering place. Other recognizable nodes include the interpretive plaza, small amphitheater and trail signage placed throughout the site located at key vantage points along the ascension to the top. Although they are not of historical significance, their purpose serves to acknowledge the importance of Ensign Peak, important viewsheds of the valley that would have been seen during the ascension of Brigham Young and company, and the peak’s influence in the settlement of the Salt Lake Valley in 1847.

**Action**: The top of Ensign Peak is a historically significant gathering place and should be preserved, protected and restored as needed. Disturbed
and eroded areas will need to be evaluated and revegetated continually.

Circulation Systems

The circulation throughout the property is a looped system guiding visitors from the entrance to the top of Ensign Peak. The entrance to the interpretive plaza is a concrete staircase and wheelchair accessible ramped switchback which opens into an oval interpretive plaza where interpretive markers explain the geographic and cultural history of the site. An additional concrete staircase and ramp ascends to a gradual inclined walkway vantage point overlooking the Salt Lake Valley. Beyond the vantage point, the walkway transitions into a dirt trail which follows along the back of Ensign Peak eventually wrapping around to the top where an overlook is provided.

**Action**: A circulatory path from the entrance of the park to the top of Ensign Peak should be preserved, protected and restored as needed. A specific route is not mandatory, but access to the summit is essential. Disturbed and eroded areas particularly along the trails will need to be evaluated and revegetated continually.

Water

There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.
Landscape Structures

There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

Site Elements

Although not of historical significance from 1847, the 18’ tall rock monument located at the summit of Ensign Peak contributes to acknowledging the significance of the place. The idea of monuments originated from George Albert Smith in 1930, member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles from 1903-1945 and later President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from 1945-1951, who organized the Utah Pioneer Trails and Landmarks Association in efforts to identify and erect monuments where important pioneer historical events occurred. The monument on Ensign Peak was originally constructed on July 26, 1934 by the Salt Lake Ensign Stake Mutual Improvement Association and the Utah Pioneer Trail and Landmark Association. The project was led by Arza Hinckley, President of the Ensign Stake, and the monument designed by George Cannon Young. The stones set into the concrete frame were gathered from historic sites along the Mormon Trail such as the Nauvoo Temple site and the Sacred Grove. In 1996 the monument was renovated and many of the stones from 1934 were repurposed.

Additional site elements that contribute to the significance of a place include the interpretive nine stone seats representative of the nine men who ascended the peak in 1847; and the interpretive signage from 1934 and 1996 that are arranged.
within in the oval interpretive plaza explaining the geographic and cultural history of the site, along the trail, at key vista overlook points and at the top of the peak located immediately east of the 1934 monument.

**Action**: There are no historically significant site elements from the period of significance that should be preserved, protected and restored as needed; however, interpretive design through such applications such as monument, plaques and seating, is valued and enhances the purpose and meaning of the place.

**Action**: Site elements are a constant target for tagging and vandalism. A suggestion may be to convert interpretive signage into a digital informative experience with a prompt QR code accessed at the entrance from the plaza. The plaza is in a publicly visible location, and therefore signage appears to be more favorable location for signage. However, for the remaining hike, signage may be more successful digitally. This conversion may be of benefit for other languages due to the site’s world-wide historical importance for church members, and non-English speaking visitors who may make the effort to hike the peak.

**Action**: Additional interpretive digital information could be provided to enhance the experience and sequence of events from 1847. For example, a journal entry from one of the original nine who ascended the peak on July 26, 1847 provides interesting details and prompts:

“We left our horses about two-thirds of the way up, and after a rocky climb we succeeded in gaining the
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summit. Wilford Woodruff, the first to reach the top, assisted Brigham Young in the hike. Still wearing the travel-worn clothing from our 1,300-mile journey across the plains our small group now stood on the peak Brigham Young had seen in vision before we left Nauvoo. Using a spy glass we surveyed the valley, stretched out 1,000 feet below us. On the west glistened a large lake. Streams flowing from the eastern canyons, looking like ribbons of willows, emptied into a river which Brigham Young named the Jordan River. We could see sturdy timber in the surrounding mountains with which to build our homes and barns. From this vantage point on top of the peak we began to lay plans for the future city.

Brigham declared: ‘We will build a temple down there at the base of this peak, and the stream below will be known as City Creek, because we will build a city right where it runs.’ Gazing at the valley below, Brigham proclaimed: ‘This is the place where we will plant the soles of our feet. Here in the midst of the Rocky Mountains, we have found the place where Joseph Smith prophesied we would prosper and find peace.’

George A. Smith added, ‘On this peak is a good place to raise an ensign.’ Brigham’s reply was, ‘It would indeed, an ensign to the world. We will call it Ensign Peak.’ Prompted by President Young’s words, Heber C. Kimball took off his yellow bandanna, then said to Willard Richards, ‘Willard, may I use your walking stick a moment?’ Willard obliged. Heber tied his bandanna to the end of the stick, lifted it to the sky and shouted, ‘An ensign to all the world!’ All present responded enthusiastically. It was a moment of deep commitment (Llyod, Park).”
Site Furnishings

There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.

Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

Materials

The concrete aggregate used to construct the low retaining wall around the plaza, stone seats and overlook at the top are not considered historic in and of itself; although, their interpretive design and materials give tribute to the concrete aggregate and natural stone found in the Valley the Pioneers would have used to build during settlement in the Valley.

The monument is built of concrete, inset with stone. Many of the stones are original pieces from the 1934 original monument constructed and re-purposed during its renovation in 1996.

Action: There are no historically significant materials that should be preserved, protected or restored as needed; however, with any future improvements, interpretive materials are encouraged to continue to educate and enhance the period of historical significance.
Sources

Gallagher Park (SLCHLR NO. 17)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Gallagher Park is located in the Central City National and Local Historic Districts in Salt Lake City, Utah. It is sited on the corner of Gallagher Place (640 South) and Park Street (540 East) between 500 and 600 East (644 South 540 East). Although Gallagher Park is insignificant as a historic site, it is located in a portion of the Central City Historic District that is historically rich. The park was developed as part of several programs established during the 1970’s and 1980’s to upgrade and enhance blighted neighborhoods.

Gallagher Park was established around 1982 as a neighborhood pocket-park. The quarter-acre park is nestled within a well-established, verdant residential neighborhood predominated by single-family homes and low-density apartments.

USE & CONTEXT OF THE LANDSCAPE

CONTEXT & CHARACTER 1 : 1
HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE 1 : 1
DESIGN OBJECTIVE 1 : 2
SPATIAL QUALITIES OF THE LANDSCAPE
ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENTS 1 : 2
CHARACTER DEFINING FEATURES
TOPOGRAPHY 1 : 2
VEGETATION 1 : 2
NODES & GATHERING PLACES 1 : 2
CIRCULATION SYSTEMS 1 : 2
WATER 1 : 2
LANDSCAPE STRUCTURES 1 : 2
SITE ELEMENTS 1 : 2
SITE FURNISHINGS 1 : 2
PLAYGROUNDS, COURTS & FIELDS 1 : 2
MATERIALS 1 : 2

(Gallagher Park - Siri Vlasic, 8/16/2015).
Historic residences flank the sides, front, and rear of the park. The flat park is accessed from Park Street and Gallagher Place and is divided into two character-defining sections, the Parking Lot and the Playground.

Refer to the *Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Gallagher Park (SLCHLR NO. 17)* for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

Gallagher Park was established a neighborhood pocket-park circa 1982. The park is not considered historic in and of itself. Prior to its existence as a pocket-park, the property was four separate parcels. A single-family dwelling was located on each of the four parcels: 1) a brick and concrete block, single-family dwelling located at the address of 644 Park Street built in 1916 and modified with an addition in 1946, 2) a brick single-family dwelling at the address of 648 Park Street built in 1916, 3) a brick, single-family dwelling at the address of 654 Park Street built in 1916, and 4) a brick, single-family dwelling at the address of 656 Park Street was built in 1894. The information on the demolition of the dwellings and consolidation of the parcels are unknown, although it is assumed they were raised as part of the various programs established during the 1970’s and 1980’s to upgrade and enhance blighted neighborhoods projects instituted by Salt Lake City and partially funded as part of Community Development Block Grant program.

**Period(s) of Significance**: N/A
Design Objective

The overall intention for the site based on the character, context, historic significance and period(s) of significance was to create a pocket park for the use and enjoyment of the neighborhood nearby. There is nothing of historic significance that should be represented in future design.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

There are no historically significant spatial elements or qualities identified that should be preserved.

Character-Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

There is no historically significant topography identified that should be preserved.

Vegetation

There is no historically significant vegetation identified that should be preserved. No invasive plant materials were identified for removal.
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Nodes & Gathering Places

There are no historically significant nodes or gathering places identified that should be preserved.

Circulation Systems

There are no historically significant circulation systems identified that should be preserved.

Water

There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.

Landscape Structures

There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

Site Elements

There are no historically significant site elements identified that should be preserved.

Site Furnishings

There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.
Playgrounds, Sports Courts, & Sports Fields

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

Materials

There are no historically significant materials identified that should be preserved.

Sources

Kimball Cemetery (SLCHLR No. 24)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Kimball Cemetery is located in the Capitol Hill National Historic District and the Capitol Hill Local Historic District in Salt Lake City, Utah. It is located between Main and State Street and 200 North and North Temple (45 East Gordon Place). The small 0.13-acre cemetery is the internment site of Heber Chase Kimball, First Counselor in the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from December 5, 1847 until his death on June 22, 1868; Newel Kimball Whitney, the first Bishop of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in October 1844 and later Presiding Bishop from April 6, 1847 to his death on September 23, 1850; and their close family and friends.

Kimball Cemetery was the first plot of ground formally dedicated as burial grounds in the City in

(Kimball Cemetery - Siri Vlasic, 8/6/2015)
1848. It is located on the lower slopes of Capitol Hill and is today surrounded by an unnamed private park that is also owned by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This park was previously the location of a double row of small single-family homes located along a narrow street called Gordon Place. The park is flanked on the north, east, and west sides by single-family homes and apartments, including a number of historic residences. To the south is the history library and office buildings that are owned and operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Access to the park and cemetery is from State or Main Street. The site is part of a significant north-to-south upward grade, which is common characteristic of the Capitol Hill neighborhood terrain.

Two stone-facade pillars topped with lighted fixtures and a gate flank the east and west entrances into Park, which is linked to the cemetery. A black decorative iron fence encloses the park perimeter with the exception of the southwest corner, which is enclosed by chain link fencing. Large matures trees including Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens*), Pine (*Pinus sp.*) and London Planetree (*Platanus x acerifolia*) are scattered throughout the park. A meandering brick pathway and black decorative light fixtures guide users through the park from east to west.
The cemetery is located near the northwest corner of the park. A decorative wrought-iron fence marks the boundaries of the cemetery. A stone-faced retaining wall has been constructed along the east, south and west sides of the cemetery, helping to take up the slope and creating a relatively flat site in the process. The cemetery is highly manicured and well maintained.

Refer to Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Kimball Cemetery (SLCHLR No. 24) for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

Kimball Cemetery is the internment site of Heber Chase Kimball, First Counselor in the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from December 5, 1847 until his death on June 22, 1868; Newel Kimball Whitney, the first Bishop of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in October 1844 and later Presiding Bishop from April 6, 1847 to his death on September 23, 1850; as well as their close family and friends (Godfrey; Heber; Lloyd). The cemetery was the first plot of ground formally dedicated as burial grounds in the City in 1848 (Kimball-Whitney Cemetery, Salt Lake City, Utah).

**Period(s) of Significance:** 1848
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Design Objective

The most historic elements in the park occur within the fencing where the burials and monument are located. The monument, in particular is the most important historic feature in the cemetery area and the park. It should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

The surrounding landscape establishes the character of the place as serene, quiet, respectful, and caring – these are the appropriate qualities and any landscape changes required over time should reflect those qualities.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The cemetery ground is relatively small and is separated from the rest of the parkland by an ornamental metal fence. The elements and features within the fencing (stonework, fence, pilasters, etc.) should be preserved, protected and restored when needed. Any repairs to the monument itself should be repaired as needed and if necessary, restored with like materials.

The Giant Sequoia trees within the cemetery grounds are rather unique in Salt Lake City, but were probably not planted at the time of the burials and construction of the monument. Over time, trees and other plantings may need to be replaced – an exact replication of the plantings as they appear today is
not necessary for future plantings, but any changes should be executed with the dignity, care, and sense of memorial that the current plantings suggest.

The park is a later addition, and provides an appropriate and enhanced setting for the historic cemetery. It is characterized by open lawn areas and clusters of trees. As inevitable changes occur in the park, they too should be executed with the dignity, care, and sense of memorial that the current plantings suggest.

Two pathways provide access to the cemetery and park by pedestrians. Both are located between structures adjacent to State and Main Streets. The Main Street entry is narrow and between two tall apartment buildings. The State Street entry is located between two homes.

Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

The topography of the site suits its purpose and design. It should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

Vegetation

Over time the vegetation will change. To the extent possible, the current design should be respected, but can be modified. The importance of the vegetation is in creating a setting that is memorial, serene, and respectful – characteristics that should be preserved, protected, and restored.
Nodes & Gathering Places

The principal node within the area is the cemetery site, which occurs off of the main east-west circulation path. This arrangement of spaces should be preserved, protected and restored into the future.

Circulation Systems

The primary circulation through the park area occurs from the two access points along Main and State Streets, and the meandering concrete pathway that connects the access points. This circulation patterns works well, provides the needed pedestrian access, and will be required into the future.

Water

There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.

Landscape Structures

There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

Site Elements

The important site elements that occur within the fenced area associated with the cemetery and memorial monument should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.
Site Furnishings

The important site furnishings that occur within the fenced area associated with the cemetery and memorial monument should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

Materials

There are no historically significant materials identified that should be preserved.

Sources

Kletting Park (SLCHLR No. 5)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Kletting Park is located within the Avenues National and Local Historic Districts, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah. It is fronted by B Street between 3rd and 4th Avenue (164-170 N. B Street). The park is divided into two character-defining sections – the Kletting Courtyard and Playground. Although the landscape of Kletting Park is not considered historic in and of itself, it is significant because of the home which previously stood here, which was designed by Richard Karl August Kletting, an esteemed and influential architect who established his career in Salt Lake City. Kletting is most famous for being the architect of the Utah State Capitol.

Kletting Park was established in 1998 as a pocket-park in a verdant residential setting dominated by single-family homes and low-density apartments.

(Kletting Park - Siri Vlasic, 7/21/2015)
Several historic residences flank the sides and rear of the park, and others face the park from across the street. Access to the flat and L-shaped park is from B Street, with the frontage significantly wider than the rear extent. The site is relatively flat from the perspective of the steep Avenues terrain and the site is part of a significant south-to-north upward grade.

Refer to Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Kletting Park (SLCHLR No. 5) for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

The landscape of Kletting Park is not considered historic in and of itself. Rather, the park is significant because of the home which previously stood there, which was designed by Richard Karl August Kletting, an esteemed and influential German immigrant architect who established his career in Salt Lake City. No original remnants of the physical home remain. Kletting is most famous for being the architect of the Utah State Capitol.

**Period(s) of Significance:** N/A

**Design Objective**

In the future as natural wear-and-tear occur, it may be necessary to replace the site furnishings, plantings, and playground equipment. This may be done while maintaining the basic design of two distinct spaces, and their intended uses. The key elements of the design including the two distinct spaces, the fencing, walkways, hedge plantings,
trees, and interpretive sign function well for their intended use, and should be considered as changes occur. While there is nothing of historic significance on the site at this time, it is still an important feature in the neighborhood and recalls an honored man whose story is not told elsewhere in the City. That being said, the character and quality of the space should continue to reflect the qualities of the neighborhood while still adapting to changing neighborhood needs.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The park includes two distinct spaces – a forecourt designed for seating and a more active playground area. It is separated from the street and sidewalk by a Victorian-era iron fence and decorative shrub plantings. The courtyard itself is outlined by concrete walkways and a shrub hedge that enclose a square of grass lawn, which is accented by a specimen tree. The separated playground includes modern play equipment and additional seating.

Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

There is no historically significant topography identified that should be preserved.
Vegetation

There is no historically significant vegetation identified that should be preserved.

**Action**: Although no invasive plant materials were identified for removal, maintenance efforts should ensure that invasive plant materials continue to be removed from the site.

Nodes & Gathering Places

The formal entry into the courtyard space includes the features that attach it to the residential neighborhood and tie in nicely with the style of the surrounding residences, and the formal courtyard space is also consistent with the period. It serves as a small plaza and gathering space in the neighborhood. Nearby residents can easily walk or bike to the place; it is not likely a destination or attraction to others outside of the immediate neighborhood.

Circulation Systems

The space is intended to be pedestrian in nature, with no direct vehicular access. There are no historically significant circulation systems identified that should be preserved.

Water

There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.
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Landscape Structures
There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

Site Elements
There are no historically significant site elements identified that should be preserved.

Site Furnishings
There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.

Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields
The playground equipment and surfacing are modern and appear to meet requirements for accessibility and safety, but are not unique. There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

Materials
There are no historically significant materials identified that should be preserved.

Sources
Grandy, JoEllen and Siri Vlasic. “Salt Lake City

(Kletting Park - Siri Vlasic, 7/21/2015)
Liberty Park

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Liberty Park is located in central Salt Lake City, Utah. The park is between the downtown area and the Liberty Wells neighborhood. The park is bounded by 500 East, 900 South, 700 East, and 1300 South. The park currently contains approximately 80-acres and includes a variety of activity areas, landscape features, and open space. Tracy Aviary is located in the park and provides an additional recreational and entertainment opportunity. The park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP) and is also a Salt Lake City Landmark Site.

The activities and uses areas at Liberty Park are organized into several distinct areas. The northern portion of the park consists primarily of open space, with a few pavilions, buildings and playgrounds. The central portion of the park contains more

(Liberty Park - Siri Vlasic, 8/4/15).
programmed spaces for active recreation, including tennis courts, a swimming pool, basketball courts, bocceball courts, horseshoe pits, the Youth City program building, the Seven Canyons water feature and the Rotary All-Abilities Play Park. The Chase House and carnival rides are also located in the central area. The far eastern side of the central area is less busy, containing picnic tables and grills as well as open space, including the low hillform known as Mount Gust that overlooks the southern part of the park. The southern part of the park is mostly occupied by Tracy Aviary in the west and Liberty Park Pond in the east.

Liberty Park continues to serve a variety of uses that reflect the historic diversity of uses in the park. The park provides for both active and passive recreation. The design of the park also reflects the historic intent of providing naturalistic areas and open space as well as more formally landscaped and planted areas that now include large, mature trees that obscure city views from inside the park and provide a sense of remoteness, even in an intensely urban area.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

Liberty Park was part of the Big Field Survey of 1947. One of the lots contained in this area was assigned to Isaac Chase, a pioneer who farmed the land and constructed a grist mill on the site that is now located in Tracy Aviary. The mill and park land were sold to Salt Lake City, which commenced development of the park the following year. The original designs included Victorian influences, with large swaths
left natural due to the large size of the park. Later improvements were influenced by the City Beautiful movement. The park and many of the features that are still present within it were well established by 1920. The most significant change to Liberty Park that occurred during the 1930s was the establishment of Tracy Aviary. By the 1960’s the park developed a reputation for being “seedy” and dangerous. Efforts to improve the park resulted in confusion about the purpose of the park, and in the 1980’s efforts were undertaken to re-establish its historic nature and features. Subsequent improvements have similarly built upon the original ideas of the park, which in large part has been considered successful.

**Period(s) of Significance:** 1947 (established as an agricultural site); 1881-1882 (land purchased and original improvements by Salt lake City with Victorian influences); circa 1910 (improvements implemented according to City Beautiful influences); 1930’s (Tracy Aviary established); 1960’s (improvements implanted in contrast to original concepts and ideas); 1980’s onward (a series of improvements undertaken in part to re-establish and strengthen the park according to original ideas).

**Design Objective**

While the park itself was established more than 160 years ago, many of the existing features are not directly historic. Some uses are contemporary representations of the original amenities and features, while others are newer and more contemporary, and others are well-preserved historic features from the various eras of park development. As the park
continues to age and change over time, appropriate enhancements and modifications should be anticipated. The design objective is to strengthen the historic character of the park, while addressing the unique and eclectic features and designs that have emerged over time.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The property where Liberty Park is located was used as farmland during the early settlement of Salt Lake City. The land remained a privately-owned open space until the Salt Lake City municipal corporation purchased it in 1881 and formally established the site as Liberty Park in 1882. The early park landscape included three roads that remain in use today: the oval loop road now known as Constitution Drive and a central north-south drive following the alignment of 600 East and a mid-block east to west drive. It also included planned recreation areas and informal planted areas.

In tandem with the City Beautiful improvement efforts that began in the early 20th Century came the establishment of new and improved recreational facilities. A paddle-wheel excursion boat operated on a pond in the park from the early 1900’s until the 1950’s, and a number of pavilions and walkways were established to encourage passive uses as well as active ones.
The structures and features built in the park during the early 1900’s were generally characterized by their rustic design, including the use of natural materials. Some classical or formal features were also installed at the park in the early 1900’s, including the vase-topped piers that were installed at the north entrance in 1920.

By the early 1920’s the park was known for its large shade trees, lawns, floral displays, lakes, playgrounds, tennis courts, concerts and the municipal zoo located at the present Tracy Aviary site.

In the 1940’s and 1950’s existing park features were improved and some new features were constructed. A swimming pool and bath house opened in 1949, which remained in use until 1994. In 1955 four new tennis courts and a club house were constructed. The structures and buildings of this area were designed to echo earlier elements.

After the park became negatively perceived by the public in the 1960’s and use declined, new features such as the merry-go-round and amusement park elements were established in the 1970’s, signaling a departure from the attempt to acknowledge the historic nature of the park and the historic design elements that were previously dominant. By the late 1970’s the park included other activities and features that resulted in confusion about the identity of the park.

In the 1980’s the parks department undertook an effort to improve and clean up Liberty Park, with a focus on restoring the historic design features of the park. Unfortunately, these efforts focused primarily
on the park’s early history, which resulted in the loss of several historic buildings that were not original to the park. Another significant change to the park resulted from improvements during the 1980’s was the closure of 600 East to vehicular traffic.

More recent efforts have focused on improving old parts and elements of the park that have deteriorated during recent years. In spite of the varying and wide ranging changes to the park during the modern era, Liberty Park continues to serve a variety of uses and features that reflect the eclectic history of the park. The park also reflects the historic intent to incorporate naturalistic areas and open space as well as more formal landscaped and planted areas that include large, mature trees as dominant features.

Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

The park is generally flat, with a low-slung, man-made hill defining the northern edge of Liberty Lake the primary feature with topographic interest.

**Action**: Preserve the existing topographic character of the site. Do not introduce additional man-made hills or swales.

Vegetation

There are literally hundreds of mature trees on the site, some of which appear to have existed prior to the formation of the park as part of the original natural landscapes. However, the bulk of trees found...
in the park have been planted over the years as part of wide-ranging park implementation and improvement projects undertaken since the park was established. Many of the trees are old and declining.

**Action:** Preserve and protect mature trees to the greatest degree possible. Experts at the Salt Lake City department of Urban Forestry should determine specific actions.

**Action:** Maintenance efforts should ensure that weeds and invasive plant materials are removed from the site.

## Nodes & Gathering Places

Historically significant nodes and gathering places are concentrated around the remaining original structures and buildings, such as the Chase adobe buildings. Other nodes and gathering places are less significant or not significant.

**Action:** Preserve and protect existing historic nodes and gathering places.

## Circulation Systems

The park has three primary roads, all of which have been modified and improved over the years. Although there is a plethora of sidewalks and pedestrian passage in the park, most appear to have been constructed fairly recently, typically in the same general location of the original conveyances.

**Action:** Preserve and protect existing sidewalks and
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walkways to the greatest degree possible.

**Action**: When required, replace existing sidewalks and walkways with similar materials. It is assumed that concrete will be the primary replacement material.

**Water**

Liberty Lake is historically significant. The lake was rehabilitated in 2015 as part of an oil spill in Red Butte Creek, which feeds into the pond.

The Duck Ponds are fed by natural springs. The ponds were significantly modified in recent years.

The Seven Canyons water sculpture was designed and implemented in the 1990’s.

**Action**: Liberty Lake should be preserved and protected to the greatest degree possible.

**Landscape Structures**

There are numerous historically significant landscape structures throughout the site. There are also numerous landscape structures that appear to be historically significant but were actually implemented fairly recently.

**Action**: Historic landscape structures should be preserved and protected to the greatest degree possible. The age and history of all such structures should be verified to determine the level of historic significance.
Site Elements

Liberty Park includes a wide range of landings, walls, pergolas, arbors and similar features, some of which are historically significant and others that are not.

**Action**: Historic landscape elements should be preserved and protected to the greatest degree possible. The age and history of all such features should be verified to determine the level of historic significance.

**Action**: As historic site elements age and require upgrading and change, maintain the distinctive characteristics and associated landscape treatments as originally established. The use of era-appropriate designs, construction materials and methods should be carefully integrated.

Site Furnishings

Historically significant site furnishings are scattered throughout the park. The dominant furnishings are replicas of replicas of an assumed historic precedent which may or may not have existed. There is no unifying park furnishings standard in place.

**Action**: As historic site furnishings age and require upgrading and change, maintain the distinctive characteristics and associated landscape treatments as originally established. The use of era-appropriate designs, materials, colors and methods should be carefully selected and utilized.
PART III  Site Specific Design Guidelines

Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields

There are numerous playgrounds, sports courts and open fields, many of which appear to have been upgraded and modified over time, possibly in the general location of the original features. Other playgrounds, courts and fields have been developed recently, such as the Rotary All-Abilities Play Park, which is located on the site of a historic playground that was demolished.

**Action:** As historic playgrounds, sports courts and sport fields age and require upgrading and change, they should be modified to ensure they are safe and meet current codes and requirements. These actions should be modified with the use of era-appropriate designs, materials, colors and methods to the greatest degree possible.

Materials

Historic materials used in the park include wood, timber, stone and metal. Concrete walkways and pathways may or may not be historically significant, depending on their age and the era they were established.

**Action:** The use of original materials should be used for the repair, maintenance and replacement of historically significant features in the park to the greatest degree possible.

**Action:** Although concrete was not used for the original pathways in Liberty Park, it should generally be used as historic sidewalks and walkways require repair, maintenance and replacement.
Chapter 9. Liberty Park

Sources

Medians (SLCHLR No. 7)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

These guidelines apply to the following four Salt Lake City medians:

1) The 600 East Median from South Temple to 900 South

This median is located within the Central City National Historic District, Central City and part of the South Temple Local Historic Districts. The medians are located within a 116’ wide street right-of-way and are generally 25’ wide. The medians act as a physical barrier, separating the two directions of traffic. The medians are broken into smaller segments between each block length, presumably to accommodate mid-block vehicular turns and access. A wide variety of tree species are planted along the

(600 East Median - Siri Vlasic, 7/24/2015).
length of the median segments in rows along the edges, including Linden, Ash, Zelkova, Crabapple, London Planetree, Cherry, Catalpa and Maple.

2) **The 800 East Median from South Temple to 900 South**

This median is located within parts of the South Temple, Bryant and Bennion-Douglas National Historic Districts and a small part of the South Temple Local Historic District. They are typically 25’ wide and located within a 116’ wide street right-of-way. Trees are generally planted in single row along the length of the median. The types of trees vary significantly, both in variety with White Ash most dominant.

3) **The 1200 East Median from South Temple to 500 South**

This median is located within parts of the South Temple and University National Historic Districts and University and part of the South Temple Local Historic Districts. The typical median segment is 44’ wide within a 120’ wide right-of-way width. The medians are often used to take up elevation change from one side of the right-of-way to the other. Trees are typically planted in the center of the median.

4) **The 200 South Median from 900 East to 1200 East.**

This median is located within the Bryant and University National Historic Districts and part of
the University Local Historic District. The medians are typically wide within a right-of-way that is 124’ wide. Trees are typically planted in an offset pattern, alternating from center. The trees are mature and uniform London planetrees.

Refer to Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Medians (600 East, 800 East, 1200 East, 200 South) (SLCHLR No. 7) for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

The first major effort to pave Salt Lake City’s streets coincided with the installation of a trolley system from 1906 to 1911. As tracks were installed, many of the electrical wires and poles originally located in the center of the streets were removed and relocated beneath or to the sides, leaving a void in the middle of the wide streets. Many of these were eventually installed with grassy median strips, which eventually became known as the “parked” movement.

**Design Objective**

The four medians are historically significant, associated with the historical design elements of Salt Lake City’s infrastructure. They are linked with the “parked” movement that took place in the city from 1906-1911, when the tracks for an extensive trolley system were being installed. Each of the medians has been significantly modified over the ensuing years, in large part due to changes and needs of vehicles, which have become increasingly dominant since the medians were first installed. While the general form
and location of the medians have remained intact, the curb edges have become increasingly barrier-like and the traffic along the edges has increased significantly, reducing the park-like function that was originally imagined.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The primary intent was to create a boulevard system leading to and connecting the city’s parks, although the vision was never fully realized. The medians were also intended to serve as alternative open spaces or parks. The first street to be “parked” was 600 East, which formed a park-like boulevard leading to the northern entrance to Liberty Park. The realization of true boulevards was never realized for the other three medians. The advancement of automobile use and the need for wider roads were the primary reason that the medians became part of a true boulevard, although the lack of linking parks and destinations at either end was another reason. The medians act as a physical barrier, separating the two directions of traffic. The medians are typically broken into smaller segments within each block length, presumably to accommodate mid-block vehicular turns and access.
Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

Since the medians are part of the road system, they typically exhibit similar topographic characteristics with the roadway itself. For the most part they are relatively flat. However, the 1200 East medians are used to take up grade tangential grade differences between the roadways on either side of the medians.

Action: Preserve the existing topographic character of the medians, which are generally flat and planal. Do not introduce man-made hills or swales.

Vegetation

The medians include hundreds of mature trees, most of which are large and mature. Some of the medians are dominated by a single tree species, while others have a broad mix of tree types. The widest medians typically have trees planted in rows along both edges, creating a shady “alle” effect. In contrast, trees on the narrower medians are typically planted in the center, forming a single row. Many of the trees are old and declining. Replacement trees have generally been planted as trees have been removed, although smaller species have been used in some locations, reducing the shade and “alle” effect.

Action: Preserve and protect mature trees to the greatest degree possible. Experts at the Salt Lake City department of Urban Forestry should determine specific actions.
**Action**: Replacement tree species should generally match the species being replaced. In no circumstance should a small tree species be used as a replacement of a large tree species.

**Action**: Maintenance efforts should ensure that weeds and invasive plant materials are removed from the site.

The ground plane of most medians is typically covered with grassy lawns, which supports the green and park-like appearance and function of the medians. This practice has come into question in recent years, as lawns generally require the use of large amounts of water and significant maintenance inputs to survive and look acceptable. Current Salt Lake City policy supports the use of water-wise planting approaches and efficient irrigation methods. These policies encourage the elimination or significant reduction of lawn areas to reduce water use. It is likely that water will become more scarce over time, requiring a sweeping paradigm shift for the city’s parks and park-like places.

**Action**: Alternatives to grass and lawn should be considered for the medians. Some ideas which might be considered include replacing the lawns with crushed stone and bark mulches; the use of water-conserving lawn species; the use of alternative lawns (thyme lawns, low decorative grass lawns, and low ground cover treatments); and the conversion of the medians into waterwise gardens. Such conversions should take place slowly over time as part of a “pilot” testing process. Once acceptable modifications have been determined, implementation should take place according to a unified design and a comprehensive implementation effort.
Nodes & Gathering Places

While some of the medians include small paved areas, monument features and park-like nodes, they are relatively rare.

**Action**: Preserve and protect existing historic nodes and gathering places to the greatest degree possible.

Circulation Systems

Located in the middle of streets, the medians are integral components of the road right-of-way and the public roadway system. Paved traffic lanes are located at the edges of the medians, with park strips and sidewalks located on the outer edges of the corridors. Within the medians there are few sidewalks or similar pedestrian circulation systems

**Action**: Preserve and protect existing sidewalks and walkways to the greatest degree possible.

**Action**: When required, replace existing sidewalks and walkways with similar materials. It is assumed that concrete will be the primary replacement material.

Water

No water features – natural or man-made - are located in the medians.

Landscape Structures

A handful of landscape structures are located on specific median segments, some of which may
be historically significant. Nearly all of these are monuments.

**Action:** Historic landscape structures should be preserved and protected to the greatest degree possible. The age and historic significance of such structures should be verified to determine the specific preservation or protective action required.

**Site Elements**

A handful of monuments are located on specific median segments, some of which may be historically significant.

**Action:** Historic monuments should be preserved and protected to the greatest degree possible. The age and history of all such features should be verified to determine the specific preservation or protective action.

**Action:** As the monuments age and require upgrading or replacement, the distinctive characteristics and associated landscape treatments should be maintained. The use of era-appropriate designs, materials and methods should be carefully selected and applied.

**Site Furnishings**

A handful of benches are located on specific median segments, although the historic significance is unclear. It is assumed that most are of an assumed historic precedent which may or may not have existed in the past. There is no unifying park furnishings standard for the medians.
**Action**: Historic benches and furnishings should be preserved and protected to the greatest degree possible. The age and history of all such features should be verified to determine the specific preservation or protective action.

**Action**: As historic furnishings age and require upgrading and change, the distinctive characteristics and associated landscape treatments should be maintained. The use of era-appropriate designs, materials, colors and methods should be carefully determined, selected and applied.

**Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields**

The medians contain no playgrounds or sports courts. However, the medians are essentially open fields. In general terms, the wider the median the more likely it is to be actively used for play and sport purposes. However, the medians are most significant for passive uses and as park-like features.

**Action**: As the median strips mature and require upgrading, they should be modified to meet current city policy and codes. If the use and treatment of the medians conflicts with policy, the use of overlay zones and similar tools should be considered to ensure the use matches the intent.
PART III  Site Specific Design Guidelines

Materials

Historic materials used for medians include grassy lawns and trees. The need to reduce lawn areas and to apply water-conserving planting techniques is likely to arise over time.

**Action**: Pilot projects should be considered to test the use of alternative ground plane materials.

Sources

Memory Grove/Freedom Trail

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Memory Grove is within the City Creek Canyon Historic District, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. Memory Park (Memory Grove) is documented in the *Historic American Landscape Survey – Memory Park (Memory Grove)*, HALS NO.UT-## report. The HALS documentation describes the history of the park, its transformations over time, and the historic elements of the park that are important and significant. These elements are primarily identified as the monuments, walls, structures and other features of the park that memorialize the individuals, heroes, and events of various wars. Because of its importance as a place of memory, the essential elements and features of Memory Grove should be honored and respected as changes occur over time. Consequently, any of the monuments, features, structures, and elements

(Memory Grove - Siri Vlasic, 10/10/2015).
described and documented in the HALS report, should be preserved and protected, and maintained and restored for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. Guidance regarding the treatment of these elements are found in Part II – Design Guidelines of the document entitled Preservation of Historic Parks and Public Lands in Salt Lake City (2017).

The focus of the HALS report is on built features; however, the landscape elements including natural vegetation, the hillsides, important rows of trees, open lawn areas, the pond, and the creek environment are also important and merit consideration and attention so that they continue to contribute to the overall quality and character of this important memorial and recreational space. As discussed in more detail in the following, they do should be evaluated and management according to the Design Guidelines in the Preservation of Historic Parks and Public Lands in Salt Lake City (2017) document.

The Memory Grove Concept Plan (December 20, 1999), effectively documents and addresses the important historic features in the park as well as landscape treatments. Many of the ideas and recommendations included in the Concept Plan have since been implemented, especially in the lower areas of the park where the pond and most of the monuments occur. In 2002 (is this the right date), this area was completely renovated -- monuments were repaired, new circulations systems connecting the monuments were installed, trees and other landscape features destroyed by the tornado of 1999 were replanted and upgraded, hillside circulation
systems and plantings were restored, and Memory Grove was rededicated as a place of memorial and recreation.

The recommendations that follow rely heavily on the documents cited above, and should be consulted as a compliment to these recommendations as they provide critical background and analysis.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

Memory Grove is included as a contributing element to the City Creek Canyon Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The 1978 nomination form for the historic district states “Memory Park is significant as an example of memorial parks built in the United States following World War I. It is a sacred memorial spot of the people of Salt Lake City.”

**Period(s) of Significance**: 1847-1924

**Design Objective**

Memory Grove is located in the City Creek Canyon Historic District and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Any elements and structures identified and documented in the HALS report, should be treated as historic elements and should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

Landscape elements have been replaced over time due to natural disasters and age. The replacements set the tone and style of the landscape, which includes...
the tree rows, individual and clusters of trees, shrubs and perennial/grass planting beds, and the focus on water wise plantings. As inevitable changes occur in the future, the basic layout of the park and its amenities should be respected and restored as needed with like plantings, materials, and styles. The introduction of even more water-wise plantings to replace some small and isolated areas of lawn are appropriate; however, the relatively small area of open lawn area should be preserved, protected and restored for as long as practicable into the future.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The very formal entry to the park reveals an open, but contained space between the steep canyon walls. It includes the pond and memorials, the walls and stairs, revegetated hillsides and associated circulation systems, and Memorial House. The circulation system includes the roadway and walkways and trails. A formal row of trees along the roadway accentuate its presence, and the individual specimen trees and other plantings help to define the space and create nodes for seating and gathering.

Beyond the more developed areas of the park, two additional spatial elements are perceived. The west side of Canyon Road proceeds up-canyon between the steep western slope and City Creek with its riparian environment of predominantly native vegetation. The east side of the creek is more natural in appearance and includes the Freedom Trail – a
trail which interprets the meaning of freedom.

These three distinct broad spaces each include sub-elements and distinct qualities that are further described in the following.

**Pond and Memorial Garden**

The area surrounding the pond includes most of the memorials in the park, as well as a large open grass area that is heavily used by local residents. Individual trees and small masses of trees and shrubs are scattered around the pond, and formal rows of trees help to define the edges of Canyon Road and some of the walkways. This is the most open area in the park, with a relatively flat base and steep vegetated hillsides to the east and west. Views across this space from the entry gate terminate with the native vegetation to the north along City Creek.

![Pond and Memorial Garden](Memory Grove - Siri Vlasic, 10/10/15).

**West Hillside**

The west hillside is steep and heavily vegetated with native and adapted trees, shrubs, grasses and perennials. The switchback trail that leads up the slope from the formal stairway connects the park to the Capitol Hill area. This area was heavily damaged in the 1999 tornado, and was completely replanted. The west hillside encloses the park visually to the west.

![West Hillside](Memory Grove - Siri Vlasic, 10/10/15).
PART III   Site Specific Design Guidelines

East Hillside

The east hillside was also repaired due to the tornado, but not to the extent of the west side. It encloses the space to the east and is the backdrop to many of the monuments.

West Creekside

The west side of City Creek above the formal park area includes the continuation of Canyon Road (closed to vehicular traffic), where the west side of the road is steeply sloped and the edge immediately adjacent to the roadway is planted in lawn. Between the roadway and the creek, the area is landscaped with an edge of lawn which blends directly into the native riparian vegetation along the creek bank. Most of the vegetation is native and natural appearing, and continues up the creek to its origin.

East Creekside

The east side of City Creek is primarily native and adapted vegetation, and includes the Freedom Trail, which is a soft surface trail that meanders through the trees and features occasional monuments and interpretive plaques. This area in particular has a strong tree canopy which encloses the space and creates an atmosphere that is distinctly different from the more open areas to the south.
Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

The topography of City Creek Canyon and Memory Grove is primarily natural, with some man-made modifications including retaining walls and grading to create less steep areas for public use. These general characteristics should be preserved, restored, and rehabilitated when needed to preserve the overall spatial qualities of the park.

Vegetation

Formal Tree Rows

The formal appearing row of trees along Canyon Road and certain areas of the pathway system were replanted following the 1999 tornado. They replicate previous plantings that were destroyed and should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed with like species or compatible species.

Individual Trees and Groupings

Individual trees and groupings in the formal area of the park provide visual interest and in some cases define small plazas and gathering areas along the circulation system. The general concept of these individual and grouped trees should be respected and replicated in future plantings, as needed.
PART III  Site Specific Design Guidelines

Open Lawns

The open lawn area within Memory Grove is relatively small compared to the other landscape features and is heavily used by local residents and other visitors. While there are other smaller areas of lawn in park strips and in isolated areas that could transform into more water conserving plantings, the primary open areas should be retained as lawn for as long as possible.

Natural Vegetation

The natural vegetation occurring along the creek, and the revegetation plantings on the east and west hillsides provide an erosion control function, benefit wildlife, and give the edges of the park a natural appearance and quality. They should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed. The removal of invasive species is appropriate and should be conducted using good horticultural practices.

Special Planting Areas

The Garden of Perception is a special planting area along the southern-most eastern pathway in the memorial area. The intent was that the plantings have qualities that persons with visual challenges would be able to enjoy and identify. Along the top of the wall which defines the planting bed, plaques with various plant names and information about the plants are provided in Braille. The plantings no longer correspond to most of the plaques, so this area in particular should be restored to its original intent by accurately representing the plants identified.
on the plaques. On-going and future maintenance practices should respect that intent.

**Formal Shrub and Perennial/Grass Planting Beds**

Most of these are easily identified, and are defined by walkways, curbs, or walls. The plantings within the beds may change over time, but the general form of the current plantings should be retained: low ground covers, low spreading shrubs, rose garden, etc.

**Nodes & Gathering Places**

With the reconstruction of the formal park area following the 1999 tornado, a system of pathways and small gathering areas was established which connects the various monuments and provides places to sit, rest, and reflect. This system is accessible so that whoever wishes to visit the monuments, can do so without barrier. The accessible aspect of the formal park circulation system should be maintained, and because it works well and should be respected as changes may occur in the future.

Circulation Systems

**Canyon Road**

Canyon Road provides limited vehicular access to the Memorial House. Sidewalks, park strips, and a formal row of trees define the roadway. The walkways are paved with sandstone set in concrete – a material choice that should be preserved,
protected, and restored as needed. Similarly, the curb treatments – sandstone and cobble – should also be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

Beyond the formal park area, Canyon Road transitions to a pedestrian and bicycle route, where vehicular circulation except for maintenance vehicles, is prohibited. The asphalt surface and curbs should be maintained and repaired as needed. The grass areas along the sides of the roadway could transition into a more water-wise landscape solution.

**Trails and Pathways**

The formal circulation system in the pond and monument areas has already been discussed. The informal, soft-surface trails that comprise the Freedom Trail area on the east side of City Creek are enjoyed for their natural quality. They are not considered accessible, and there may be some benefit to formalizing them in the future with a hard surface to more clearly define the route, minimize erosion, and protect the creek bank and riparian vegetation from heavy use.

**Water**

**The Pond**

The pond is referred to as the Harbor of Beauty and is a manmade structure dating back to 1928. It is considered a historic element in the park and should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.
City Creek and Its Structures

The use of City Creek by the earliest pioneer settlers is well-documented. In addition to providing culinary water, it also powered mills and other industrial activities. Although the creek has undergone significant modifications, changes, and channeling and piping over the years, it still has some valued natural qualities, serves a storm water management function, and provides an amenity to the neighborhood. Its flow, route and alignment, structures, and vegetated qualities should be preserved, protected, and restored into the future.

Zucker Fountain

The Zucker Fountain located in the Garden of Perception is mentioned in the HALS report, and appears to have been constructed along with the Garden of Perception around 1976. It is currently operational and should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

Landscape Structures

The monuments, bridges, memorials, and other structures are fully documented in the HALS report. They should be treated as historic elements and preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

Site Elements

The walls, fences, stairways, water conveyance structures, etc. have all been documented in the
Site Furnishings

The drinking fountain, flagpole, site furnishings, etc. have all been documented in the HALS report and should be treated as historic elements to be preserved, protected and restored as needed.

Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields that should be preserved.

Materials

Historically significant materials should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

Sources

Historic American Landscape Survey – Memory Park (Memory Grove) document, HALS NO.UT-##.

Memory Grove Concept Plan, December 20, 1999, Landmark Design Inc. for Salt Lake City Parks and Recreation.

Memory Grove Park Interpretive Concept Plan, Landmark Design Inc. and Consortium West for Salt
Chapter 11. Memory Grove/Freedom Trail

Lake City Parks and Recreation.
Parkstrips (SLCHLR No. 10)

Use & Context of the Landscape

**Context & Character**

Parkstrips are park-like verges located within street rights-of-way between the paved roadway and adjacent sidewalks. The parkstrips that were examined are limited to those located within the Capitol Hill, Avenues, South Temple, Central City, University, Yalecrest (Normandie Circle, Upper Harvard Yale Park Plat A, Harvard Park and Princeton Park) and Westmoreland Place Local Historic Districts. The parkstrips pass through a variety of developed settings including residential and commercial districts, with notable varieties of sizes, widths and landscape treatments exhibited. The parkstrips were established as early as 1893 and are considered to be historic features, although they have evolved significantly from the original grass and tree row treatments.

*Parkstrips - JoEllen Grandy, 11/5/16.*
In recent years, these historic parkstrips have become less unified, with gaps in the tree canopy appearing as older trees have died and not been replaced or have been replaced with inconsistent species. Maintenance of the parkstrips has diminished over the years, and the introduction of waterwise gardens and similar treatments has emerged in place of green grass, significantly impacting the continuity and unity originally envisioned. The variety of designs, personal expressions, plants and surface materials is broad.

Refer to Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Parkstrips (SLCHLR No. 10) for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

Salt Lake City’s street layout was patterned after the “Plat of the City of Zion, which divided the city into ten-acre blocks in a grid pattern. Each street was designed to be wide enough for a team of oxen and a wagon to be able to turn around without having to back up. The original streets were all unpaved, with a row of trees and an irrigation ditch on both sides. As the City’s infrastructure developed with the introduction of the railroad in 1870, electric railway lines in 1890, and a trolley system between 1906-1911, the inclusion of sidewalks and parkstrips slowly became the norm. As early as 1893, city-wide improvements began including street grading and sidewalks.

From early establishment, Salt Lake City was envisioned to be a “valley of trees”. Street trees began to emerge as early as 1885, when the City passed an
ordinance that indicated that “holders [were to] set out trees, for the improvement of the city, in front of their lots, within a reasonable time.” More advanced standards were established in 1923 by the Salt Lake Shade Tree Commission, which included a list of recommended street trees. Some street tree species were specifically outlined for certain streets. The Urban Forestry Board, established since 1987, serves a similar role, although their efforts do not go as far as to assign specific tree species for specific streets.

**Period(s) of Significance:** From as early as 1893 and extending to the 1930s for all of the Local Historic Districts, with the exception of Westmoreland Place, where the Period of Significance is between 1920 to 1950. These dates represent the general window of parkstrip development that occurred in each of the districts.

**Design Objective**

The overall intention for including parkstrips as part of the basic street infrastructure was to set aside provide a buffer between pedestrian movement on the sidewalks and the various modes of vehicles travelling in the roadways. The parkstrips provided a location where a designated palette of street trees could be place in front of adjacent properties, resulting in the improvement and beautification of the City. Continuity was important and dictated in some specific areas. The character, context, historic significance and period(s) of significance of each park strip varies.

General guidance regarding the treatment of the following elements are found in Part II – Design

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

Since the parkstrips are located within the road rights-of-way, they are generally relatively flat, reflecting the grading and topographic adjustments of the corresponding streets. Some are steeper than others, corresponding to the steepness of the roadway, and several segments have significant cross slopes, particularly those located in the steeper Avenues, Capitol Hill and University districts.

Grass is the traditional base plane material for most of the park strips, although alternate vegetative treatments have emerged over the years, introducing a perennials, annuals, ornamental grasses, shrubs and/or groundcovers as part of unique designs implemented by the associated private property owners. Non-vegetative surface treatments have also emerged, introducing the use of stone and bark mulches, concrete and other hard pavements.

The overhead plane is dominated by a soft tree canopy that varies in extent by the maturity and spacing of the trees. The continuity of the canopy also varies significantly by location. The form, height, density, translucence, sound absorbance, texture and color of the canopy varies by tree species, maturity and season. The percentage of canopy
coverage also varies significantly from district to district. For example, the tree canopy density in the South Temple, Westmoreland Place and some areas of the Avenues districts is significant.

The vertical plane is generally delineated by the size and frequency of street tree trunks. Segments where the street trees are planted closer together and where the trunks are older and larger help create a discernible “wall” treatment, enhancing the sense of buffering from the street. In nearly all locations the street trees are placed midway between the street edge and sidewalk areas.

**Action**: The historically significant uniform and flat characteristic of the grassy base plane should be preserved, protected and restored as needed (see “Character Defining Features Vegetation” below for specific recommendations).

**Action**: As the park strip trees age and mature they will need to be replaced (see “Character Defining Features Vegetation” below for specific recommendations). While the specific design and layout will vary according to district and location, the planting of new and replacement trees should be executed with uniformity as part of responsible stewardship of the urban forest.
Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

Since the parkstrips are part of the road system, they typically share topographic characteristics with the associated roadway itself. The roads are generally graded to promote safe vehicular movements, which results limits the steepness allowed. As a result, most of the parkstrips are located on relatively flat, even terrain, although some areas have significant tangential grades, particularly those located in the Avenues, Capitol Hill and University districts.

**Action:** Preserve, protect and restore as needed the typical topographic characteristics associated with the adjacent roadways. Excessive grading and the introduction of berms, mounds and depressions should be avoided.

Vegetation

Although grass is the dominant traditional surface material used for the park strips, it has come into question in recent years, as lawns generally require the use of large amounts of water and significant maintenance inputs to survive and look acceptable. Current Salt Lake City policy encourages the elimination or significant reduction of lawn areas and replacing them with alternative water-wise treatments that use less water and allow the use of more efficient irrigation systems to be utilized. These alternative treatments including mixed plantings of perennials, annuals, ornamental grasses, shrubs and/or groundcovers; the use of stone and bark mulches;
and the use of hard pavements and surfaces. The policy represents a paradigm shift, whereby the parkstrips are important extensions of the private realm at the expense of a unified public expression and function. This is demonstrated by the allowance of vegetable and other specialty gardens in the park strips, and their use as an extension of adjacent private yards. Such uses have little precedent, and are not historically significant.

The historic function, tradition and precedent of park strips conflicts with recent policy related to these spaces. This is perhaps a logical shift, the policy responding to contemporary conditions and the needs of a transforming and maturing community. Limited water resources have emerged as a primary concern in recent years, and it is likely that such concerns will increase over time as the need for water increases. This requires a paradigm shift for the city’s parks and park-like places. New policies conflict with the original intent of the parkstrips, which envisioned a continuous and unified visual expression through the use of green lawns and trees.

**Action**: The use of alternate landscape treatments is allowed and promoted through existing city policy. This policy has significant impact on the original vision for the historic design and function of the city’s historic parkstrips. A detailed plan should therefore be created for each district, indicating how the historic function and intent will be balanced with existing policy. The policy should then be adjusted accordingly to meet the adjusted vision within each historic district.

**Action**: Maintenance efforts should ensure that weeds and invasive plant materials are removed.
The spacing and variety of trees vary on a site-by-site / district-by-district basis. Some districts have specific lengths of blocks or streets with a recognizable, themed row of trees; for example, the London Planetrees (*Platanus x acerifolia*) located in the University District on 200 South. In the Avenues, some of the numbered avenues and lettered cross street tree plantings alternate between London Plane Tree (*Platanus x acerifolia*), White Ash (*Fraxinus americana*), Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*) and Linden (*Tillia sp.*). The tree density and species in the South Temple and Westmoreland Place Districts are also significantly noticeable.

**Action:** The use of a specific variety of trees is less important than maintaining the intended visual function of the trees, from the perspective of the vertical and overhead planes alike. It should be recognized that some tree species that may have been utilized in the past that are no longer suitable for a variety of reasons. Such trees should be identified as part of preparing a detailed plan for each district, including the application of a phasing plan for implementation plan.

**Action:** As part of preparing the detailed plans, it is important is to retain the essence of unity and continuity of the original vision for each district. For example, the tradition of using a range of tree species in the Avenues should be honored, while areas where a single species has dominated should be continued to the greatest degree possible. However, the use of a specific species is probably less important than the use of trees with similar forms and functions. Likewise, maintaining the grouping or theming of a...
tree species along a certain length of blocks or streets is an important consideration, as is ensuring that the form, shape and color of the selected trees meet the intended theme or look.

**Action**: Each district should be investigated individually, addressing the specific intent, character and context. All efforts should be done in consultation with the Salt Lake City Department of Urban Forestry, which should have final determination of species selection.

**Action**: Trees should be present in parkstrips to the greatest degree possible. Recommendations for acceptable tree species should deferred to the Salt Lake City Department of Urban Forestry.

**Action**: Efforts to preserve and protect mature trees should be undertaken to the greatest degree possible. Experts at the Salt Lake City Department of Urban Forestry should determine specific actions when in doubt.

**Action**: Over time, trees will need to be replaced. A tree revitalization and replacement plan should be prepared for each district, outlining specific approaches and actions that address the historic character of the district in conjunction with maintaining a healthy urban forest.

**Action**: Replacement tree species should generally match the species being replaced. In no circumstance, should a small or decorative tree species be used as a replacement of a large shade tree species.

**Action**: Maintenance efforts should ensure that weeds and invasive plant materials are removed from the site.
Nodes & Gathering Places

There are no historically significant nodes or gathering places identified that should be preserved.

Circulation Systems

The circulation systems of many of the Districts are dominated by the adjacent roadways and sidewalks that define the parkstrips.

**Action:** The sidewalks and roadways that define the edges of the parkstrips should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.

**Action:** When required, replace existing roadways, driveways, sidewalks and walkways with similar materials. It is assumed that concrete will be the primary replacement material for sidewalks, and asphalt for roadways.

In recent years asphalt roadways have been replaced with concrete, in part in to reduce on-going maintenance routines and also to reduce the urban heat-island effect. It is apparent that many of mature street trees located in parkstrips along the affected roadways have since succumbed, presumably as a result of the extensive modifications to the tree root zones.

**Action:** Major modifications to the root zones as part of public infrastructure improvements should be avoided.
Chapter 12. Parkstrips

Water

There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.

Landscape Structures

The underpass structure, referred to as the “Pedestrian Subway”, located on each side of the South Temple Local Historic District in the parkstrips constructed in 1931 is a historically significant landscape structure. Its purpose was to provide a safe crossing to and from the Wasatch Elementary School’s playground located on the south side of Temple Street near R Street.

Action: The historically significant underpass should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.

Action: Additional interpretive information should be provided, explaining the context and use of the underpass.

Site Elements

The following site elements have been identified as historically significant and should be preserved, protected and restored as needed: sandstone carriage steps, curbs* and hitching post; the historic decorative green metal lattice-work trolley poles converted to lighting standards in the South Temple District; and the decorative green metal light poles located in the Yalecrest and Westmoreland Place Districts.

Parkstrips - JoEllen Grandy, 7/24/16)
**Action**: The historically significant site elements should be preserved, protected and restored as needed.

**Action**: Additional interpretive information should be provided, explaining the context and use of the carriage steps, hitching post and historic metal lattice-work trolley poles in the South Temple District. These elements are easily overlooked and underappreciated.

*Action*: Few sections along South Temple have sandstone curbs, and those which remain (particularly between G and H Streets) are wearing out. The remaining sandstone curbs should be preserved, protected and restored as needed. See the “Materials” section below for more details regarding the curbs.

**Site Furnishings**

There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.

**Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields**

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts and/or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

**Materials**

The sandstone used to construct the carriage steps, curbs* and hitching post; the historic decorative
green metal lattice-work trolley poles converted
to lighting standards located in the South Temple
District; and the decorative green metal light poles
located in the Yalecrest and Westmoreland Place
Districts are historically significant materials.

**Action:** Historically significant materials should
generally be preserved, protected and restored as
needed.

*Action:* Few sections along South Temple have
sandstone curbs, and those remaining particularly
between G and H Streets are wearing out. Recent
attempts to replicate the look of these features have
been undertaken, utilizing limestone in place of the
original sandstone. Unfortunately, the limestone
has not performed as expected and has crumbled.
Furthermore, the intended look of the limestone
has not met expectations, and is distinctly different
than the original sandstone curbs. Sections where
the original sandstone curbing still exists should be
preserved, protected and restored as needed offering
a small snapshot of the historical craftsmanship of
the settlement period. It is not necessary to restore
sandstone curbing throughout all of the South Temple
District, which could be cost-prohibitive. Rather,
select locations where sandstone still exists could
be saved, particularly adjacent to residences where
carriage steps are also located. In such locations the
sandstone curbing should be preserved, protected
and/or restored as needed. Such actions will provide
a snapshot of the era more holistically from curb to
front door, particularly of the South Temple District
which is a Salt Lake City showpiece location.

**Action:** Additional interpretive information should
be provided about the context and construction of
the sandstone curbs in the South Temple District. The interpretation should highlight the small brushstrokes and hand-craftsmanship of the works.

Sources

Chapter 13. Pioneer Park

Pioneer Park

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Pioneer Park encompasses a full City block (10 acres), and is located between 300 South and 400 South, and 300 West and 400 West in downtown Salt Lake City. The site is not located in a local or national historic district, but was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1974 as the “Old Pioneer Fort Site”, and is listed on the Salt Lake City Register of Cultural Resources. The NRHP listing recognizes the site as significant for colonization and religious history, with periods of significance of 1825-1849, 1850-1874, and 1875-1899. It should be noted that Pioneer Park itself, as a park site, is not currently listed on the NRHP.

Pioneer Park was one of the earliest sites to be designated as a park in Salt Lake City. Pioneer Park was the site of the Old Pioneer Fort constructed by

(Pioneer Park - Siri Vlasic, 9/8/16)
Mormon settlers in August 1847, creating the first Euroamerican settlement in the west. The walls were built of adobe, and housed approximately 160 families. By 1849, Mormon settlers had relocated outside of the fort, and by 1851 the abandoned fort was demolished. The site was subsequently rented by the City for gardens.

Ownership of the site then passed back and forth between Salt Lake City and various private owners, until the City repurchased the site in 1879. The block was officially dedicated as Pioneer Park in 1898. Early park landscaping includes trees planted in arcs originating near each corner of the park, areas of lawn, a perimeter wall, and a row of trees bordering the perimeter of the park. Early park facilities included playground equipment (swings, gondola swings, slides and teeter boards), a swimming pool and wading pool, picnic areas and ball fields.

The park was originally surrounded by residential homes, with the park serving as a gathering place for families. When the railroad came to the area, the character and land use of the neighborhood changed, with commercial development replacing residential uses to be near the railroad. Pioneer Park is now bounded on the north by a mix of retail shops and restaurants; on the east and west by hotels, retail shops and professional offices; and on the south by retail shops, restaurants and automobile-oriented services. The Fourth Street Clinic, which serves the local homeless population, is located southwest of the park, and the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral is located northeast of the park.

Over time, the park facilities fell into disrepair, and the park was modified and replaced to meet the
changing uses and community needs. Several small structures for use as dwellings, outbuildings and possibly pavilions were erected and torn down. In addition to commercial uses, industrial uses located near the park, as well as social service agencies and shelters to serve the homeless population, including the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake. With the shift in surrounding land uses, the park came to be used by more transient and homeless populations than local families, and problems such as crime and drug use began to occur in the park.

In 1983, Pioneer Park was reconfigured to include a central plaza where the original monument was relocated, and restrooms were added in the center, along with a playground, volleyball courts, a basketball court, and tennis courts on the west side of the park.

More recently, the park has become home to seasonal events such as the weekly Downtown Farmers Market and the Twilight Concert Series, both of which attract thousands of people to the park. However, the park continues to face challenges, including the lack of a sense of common ownership and not enough public use.

Improvements were made to Pioneer Park in 2008, including entry plazas at all four corners, a rollerblading path around the perimeter, crushed stone pathways on the inside of the perimeter sidewalks, a rectangular dog park in the southeastern portion of the park, the removal of some trees, transplanting one tree, and upgrading the electrical and irrigation systems.
The park has been an important open space with a mature urban forest that has served the neighborhood and the entire community since its inception, and maintains its historic use as an important place open space for recreation and leisure. Because of the NRHP listing, the historic elements of the park that remain should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

The site is not located in a local or national historic district, but was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1974 as the “Old Pioneer Fort Site”, and is listed on the Salt Lake City Register of Cultural Resources. The NRHP listing recognizes the site as significant for colonization and religious history, with periods of significance of 1825-1849, 1850-1874, and 1875-1899. It should be noted that Pioneer Park itself, as a park site, is not currently listed on the NRHP. Period(s) of Significance: 1825-1849, 1850-1874, and 1875-1899

**Design Objective**

As stated in the Cultural Resource Inventory and Monitoring Plan, “Properties listed on the NRHP are protected by both federal and state laws” which must be adhered to during planning, design, and construction. Due to the possibility for prehistoric and historic cultural resources within the park, “all ground-disturbing activities should be monitored by a qualified archeologist. A Training
Plan for all construction personnel involved with ground-disturbing activities is recommended. A Discovery Plan has been developed in order to suggest appropriate actions to be taken should an unanticipated discovery occur, including the discovery of human remains.”

As stated in the 1981 Pioneer Park Study, creating a reproduction of the Old Pioneer Fort is not recommended. Interpretation of the fort could occur through interpretive design, and more extensive interpretive signage could be added.

The important key elements of Pioneer Park – the flat ground plane, the diagonal pathways leading to a central plaza/square, the perimeter pathways, and the trees should be preserved, protected, and restored. Other elements and features in the park may change and be modified in the future, but these key elements are the essence of the historic importance of the park.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The spatial quality of the Pioneer Park site has long been defined by the open, horizontal character of the flat ground plane. Early uses created vertical planes around the perimeter in the form of the fort walls. After the Old Pioneer Fort was demolished, the flat ground plane was maintained as the use transitioned to a park. While the uses around the perimeter of the park changed through the years,
PART III    Site Specific Design Guidelines

with buildings of various heights, Pioneer Park remains as one of the only original designated open spaces to remain undeveloped. The ground plane has been characterized by diagonal walkways leading to a central plaza or square, with a variety of other surfaces including lawn and planting beds.

The ground plane is punctuated around the perimeter by a strong vertical plane of trees, a characteristic that dates back to the late 1800’s. Trees create strong vertical features on the interior of the park as well.

**Action**: The open, flat ground plane, punctuated by the vertical elements of the trees which has characterized the park from its early days, be preserved and protected.

**Character Defining Features of the Landscape**

**Topography**

Flat terrain has characterized the Pioneer Park site from the earliest record of uses, including its time as the Old Pioneer Fort Site and through its entire time as a public park.

**Action**: The flat topography should be preserved and protected.

**Vegetation**

The trees, particularly those planted around the perimeter, are one of the oldest and most significant elements that contributes to the character, overall...
Chapter 13. Pioneer Park

integrity, and potential eligibility of Pioneer Park for its nomination to the NRHP. A photo from 1909 shows mature trees around the perimeter of the park, indicating that they were planted in the late 1800’s, either at the time of the park designation in 1898 or even earlier.

Other vegetation in the park includes the open lawn areas, though this specific material may be adapted as cultural and climate needs change over time.

**Action:** The perimeter trees should be preserved, protected, or restored wherever possible.

### Nodes & Gathering Places

The central square or plaza characterized early conceptual layouts for the park, and has been a feature in the park since the time it was dedicated, or shortly thereafter.

**Action:** The concept of the central gathering square or plaza should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed, though its form may be open to interpretation as park needs change.

### Circulation Systems

The concrete pathways in the park reflect some of earliest conceptual designs for the park. The park has been bordered by a perimeter path for most of its existence, which was common on other City blocks as well. The unique circulation elements are the diagonal pathways from the corners that converge in a central square of plaza, which were included in early concept plans, and characterized
the park early on.

**Action**: The perimeter pathways and diagonal walkways should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.

**Water**

There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.

**Landscape Structures**

There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

**Site Elements**

There are no historically significant site elements identified that should be preserved.

**Site Furnishings**

There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.

**Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields**

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.
Materials

While the Old Pioneer Fort was built of adobe, none of the original walls or structures remain, and no physical remnants have been located to this date. Concrete was one of the original materials used for the pathways in the park, though the park has had various improvements made over the years, and the existing concrete in the park is not original. Other materials such as metal, have been used in the light fixtures and site furnishings, though they are not original to the park, nor are they historically significant.

Sources


Pioneer Park Study, prepared by Salt Lake City Parks Department, April 7, 1981.
Reservoir Park (SLCHLR No. 11)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Reservoir Park is located on the east side of Salt Lake City, northwest of the University of Utah campus. The park is bounded by South Temple, 1300 East, 100 South and University Street, and is located in the South Temple National Historic District and University Local Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The park has been an important amenity for nearby residents and the rest of the community since its inception, providing a place to enjoy art, recreate and to enjoy the pleasurable park setting. The NRHP recognizes Reservoir Park as an “urban amenity” for the neighborhood, and is a contributing feature of the district.

The 6.5-acre neighborhood park surrounded by residential homes and apartments. The University

(Reservoir Park - Siri Vlasic, 7/21/16).
of Utah’s northeastern access to campus is directly across the corner to the southeast. The park is built on the toe of the eastern bench of the Wasatch Mountains. It is rectangular in shape and has been divided into four character-defining quadrants: Playground and Open Green Space, Remnant Location of the Historic Reservoir, Art Barn and Tennis Courts.

Refer to *Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Reservoir Park (SLCHLR No. 11)* for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

Reservoir Park has historically been an important amenity for nearby residents. It has provided residents with a place to enjoy art, recreational activities, and green space in the city. The park is located in the University Neighborhood Historic District, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP) in 1995. The NHRP registration form recognizes the significance of Reservoir Park as an “urban amenity” for the neighborhood; the park is a contributing feature of the district.

**Period(s) of Significance:** 1900-1956

**Design Objective**

The important key elements of Reservoir Park – the wall along 1300 East, the open lawn area in the northwestern corner of the park, the remnant reservoir vents, and the visible memory of the
reservoir should be preserved, protected, and restored. Other elements and features in the park may change and be modified in the future, but these key elements are the essence of the historic importance of the park.

There appears to be little of no interpretive information at Reservoir Park. Because of the park’s importance historically, it would be appropriate to provide some signing or other acknowledgement of the reservoir and the park’s history.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

There are four distinct spaces within the park – the site of the previous reservoir, the open lawn area and playground, the tennis courts, and the Art Barn area.

The site and relative size of the previous reservoir are clearly visible on the landscape and are defined by the sloped and terraces edges on the east, the decorative concrete wall and fencing on the west, and trees on the north and south. The decorative concrete walls and fencing and the sloped landscaped edges are the most important elements remaining to define the former reservoir’s place.

The open lawn area to the north has always been a place for community recreation, and is important for its historic use. It includes a playground, but otherwise retains its character.
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The tennis courts are new, and replace tennis courts that were previously located atop the reservoir structure. They are consistent with the use and history of the park.

The Art Barn and its surroundings and landscape date back to 1933, and as such are an important historic feature in the park both in terms of their early construction and their historic use.

Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

The natural typography of the park has been modified due to construction of the reservoir, the Art Barn, and the retaining walls and circulation systems needed to access the park elements. The topography that defines the location and size of the former reservoir is an important reminder of the park's historic importance, as are the retaining walls and decorative walls. They should be protected, preserved, and restored as needed.

Vegetation

The open lawn area on the north is historic to the park, and the more recent lawn areas over the site of the former reservoir are important, un-programmed open spaces for community recreation. They should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed.
Some of the clusters and rows of trees are from an older era, and others are more modern. They are important to the quality of the space, but will likely be replaced at some point in time. Other than the formal planted areas, the arrangement of plantings could change over time as long as the integrity of the open lawns is maintained.

The landscape associated with the Art Barn will also change over time, but the original intent of the design should be retained, if possible.

**Nodes & Gathering Places**

The primary gathering places are informal and focused on the open lawn areas, the playground, the tennis courts, and the Art Barn where specific types of activities occur.

**Circulation Systems**

In addition to the sidewalks adjacent to the streets, the pedestrian circulation in the northeastern portion of the park winds down the hillside, through the playground, and connects to the Art Barn. The entire western half or more of the park is open and allows free movement. Vehicular access is provided from the streets where some parking is provided, and vehicular access to the Art Barn occurs off Finch Lane and through the parking lot. The vehicular and pedestrian systems appear to work well and provide the needed access to specific functions without interrupting the open lawn areas. These basic functions should continue into the future.
PART III   Site Specific Design Guidelines

Water

The only water-related elements remaining on the site are the two vents in the northwestern corner of the park. They are historic reminders of the reservoir and should be preserved and protected.

Landscape Structures

The Art Barn and its grounds have historic importance on the site and should be preserved, protected, and restored into the future.

The storage shed (one-car garage structure) is not historically important and may be removed and or replaced as needed in the future.

Site Elements

The important structures that remain on the site are the long, ornamental concrete wall along 1300 East with its columns, decorative lighting, and iron fencing, and some of the other retaining walls that appear to be original to the park – the stacked stone walls, and the stairways that facilitate pedestrian circulation. These should be preserved, protected, and restored into the future.

Site Furnishings

There is a mixture of site furnishings on the site, none of which have historic importance other than perhaps the stone drinking fountain. Aside from this one feature, the other furnishings could be replaced over time with similar and consistent
elements that complement the park. If possible, the stone drinking fountain should be preserved, protected, and restored.

**Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields**

These will be replaced and refurbished in the future. The playground will be updated to meet future standards, but the presence of a playground in the park is appropriate. The tennis courts will also need refurbishing and possible replacement in the future, and as long as tennis remains a popular recreational activity, the courts should be retained. However, if neighborhood and community recreational needs change over time, another recreational activity could be accommodated in place of the tennis courts.

**Materials**

There are no historically significant materials identified that should be preserved.

**Sources**

Shipp Park (SLCHLR No. 12)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Shipp Park is located in the Avenues National and Local Historic Districts in Salt Lake City, Utah. It fronts on 4th Avenue and is located between H and I Street at 579 East Fourth Avenue. The park is not considered historic in and of itself, but instead is a recognition of its namesake, Dr. Ellis Reynolds Shipp, who was one of Utah’s first female doctors. Dr. Shipp did not live in the home that once stood on the site. She resided and practiced medicine at a residence on 2nd Avenue a few blocks from this park. Shipp established her career in Salt Lake City, and in 1878 founded a school of training for obstetrics and nursing.

The small, quarter-acre park was established as a neighborhood pocket-park in 1987 within a well-established, verdant residential neighborhood. The

(Shipp Park - Siri Vlasic, 7/30/2015).
PART III  Site Specific Design Guidelines

neighborhood is characterized by single-family homes and low-density apartments, including historic residences which flank sides and rear of the park, with additional historic structures facing the park from on the opposite side of 4th Avenue, which is also the main entrance into the park. The terraced site is located in an area with significant south-to-north upward grade, which is a common characteristic of the Avenues neighborhood terrain. The park is divided into two character-defining sections - the Entryway and the Playground.

Refer to Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Shipp Park (SLCHLR No. 12) for more information.

Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance

The Shipp Park landscape is not considered historic in and of itself, although it is significant as a result of the recognition it provides to its namesake Dr. Ellis Reynolds Shipp, one of Utah’s first female doctors who established her career in Salt Lake City and founded a school of training for obstetrics and nursing in 1878.

Period(s) of Significance: N/A

Design Objective

In the future as natural wear-and-tear occur, it may be necessary to replace the site furnishings, plantings, and playground equipment. This should be done while maintaining the basic design of two distinct spaces, and their intended uses. The key
elements of the design including the terraces, walls, trees, and interpretive sign, function well for their intended use, and should be maintained. While there is nothing of historic significance on the site at this time, it is still an important feature in the neighborhood and recalls an honored woman whose story is not told elsewhere in the City.

Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The park is terraced to the north up the hillside into two spaces, a lower flat area of lawn and two specimen trees, and an upper level which includes the playground and benches. The surface treatments form the base plan, the mature trees create a canopy which encloses the space overhead, and the residential development on either side define the edges of the space. It is open to 4th avenue, where it is separated from the sidewalk with an ornamental iron fence.

Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

Its place on the hillside helps to define the space, where the backdrop is a sloped grassy vertical plane.
PART III   Site Specific Design Guidelines

Vegetation
The rather formal placement of the trees on each terrace provides a dense canopy, and are important elements contributing to the intimacy of the space.

Nodes & Gathering Places
It serves as a small plaza and gathering space in the neighborhood. Nearby residents can easily walk or bike to the place; it is not likely a destination or attraction to others outside of the immediate neighborhood.

Circulation Systems
The space is intended to be pedestrian in nature, with no direct vehicular access.

Water
There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.

Landscape Structures
There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

Site Elements
The retaining walls, stairs and accessible ramp are necessary to define and create the terraces and
spaces. The ornamental iron fencing and strap metal benches suggest and reference a past era that is in keeping with the time period in which Dr Shipp lived, and the interpretive signing briefly tells her story. The playground equipment and surfacing are modern and appear to meet requirements for accessibility and safety, but are not unique.

Site Furnishings

There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.

Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

Materials

There are no historically significant materials identified that should be preserved.

Sources

Silver Mini Park (SLCHLR No. 25)

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Silver Mini Park is located within the Capitol Hill National and Local Historic Districts in the northern extents of Salt Lake City. The park is not considered historic in and of itself, but instead in recognition to William J. Silver, the park’s namesake and a successful iron works businessman who established his career in Salt Lake City. The park is located in close proximity to the original site of the early iron works company founded by the Silver Brothers in the mid-1860’s, at approximately 500 North and Center Street. The company relocated soon after to North Temple Street as soon as the nearby railroad was completed.

Silver Mini Park was established as a neighborhood pocket-park in sometime between 1981-1987. The quarter-acre park is nestled within a well-established,
verdant residential neighborhood predominated by single-family homes and low-density apartments, including several historic residences which flank the sides and rear of the park and face the park from across the street. Access to the park is from 500 North at 26 West 500 North. The site is located in an area with a significant northeast-to-southeast upward grade, a common characteristic of the Capitol Hill neighborhood terrain. The park is divided into two character-defining sections – the Parking Lot and the Playground.

Refer to Salt Lake City Historic Landscapes Report: Silver Mini Park (SLCHLR No. 25) for more information.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

Silver Mini Park was established a neighborhood pocket-park in 1990. Although is not considered historic in and of itself, it is significant because of recognition it provides to William J. Silver, a successful iron works businessman who established his career in Salt Lake City. The park is in close proximity to the original site of the early iron works company founded by the Silver Brothers in the mid-1860’s, at approximately 500 North and Center Street. The company relocated soon after to North Temple Street once the railroad was completed.

The historic integrity of the site is weak in demonstrating the significance of William J. Silver from the 1860’s influence in the surrounding area. A simple interpretive plaque acknowledges William J. Silver achievements near the southwest corner of the park. It shows signs of wear and will need to be
replaced soon.

**Period(s) of Significance:** Mid-1860s

**Design Objective**

The overall intention for the site based on the character, context, historic significance and period(s) of significance was to create a pocket park for the use and enjoyment of the neighborhood nearby while also celebrating William J. Silver’s achievements in the Valley from the mid-1860’s.

**Spatial Qualities of the Landscape**

**Organizational Elements of the Landscape**

The base plane is relatively flat, level ground including small sections of grass near the entrances and eastern border slightly sloped upward, an asphalt parking lot, a cement walkway and a combination of octagonal and square brick pavers and solid grey-colored soft fall surfacing used to define the playground area.

Apart from the site being relatively flat, even terrain (although when considered in the larger context, it is part of a significant northeast-to-southeast upward grade), none of the base planes reflect or acknowledge the historical significance from the mid-1860’s; all are reflective and evolving of the 1990’s intention to establish a pocket park.
PART III   Site Specific Design Guidelines

The overhead plane includes a soft canopy of a variety of trees around the perimeter of the park site and bisecting the play area from the parking lot. The form, height, density, translucence, sound absorbance, texture and color vary by tree species. Toward the centers of the play area and parking lot is an endless extension to the sky.

None of these overhead planes reflect or acknowledge the historical significance from the mid-1860s; all are reflective and evolving of the 1990’s intention to establish a pocket park.

The vertical plane includes a wrought-iron fence through the southern half of the site with a partial shrub row to the west offering a screened barrier from automobile traffic access to the parking lot, a brick wall to the east abutting an apartment building, and varied placement and varieties of trees around the perimeter of the site and bisecting the play area from the parking lot. Two “rooms” are identified: the play area and parking lot.

The wrought-iron fence reflects the historical significance from the mid-1860’s; the trees and brick wall are reflective and evolving of the 1990’s intention to establish a pocket park.

**Action:** Explore ways to demonstrate through textures or colors reflective of what the base plane of a typical iron works company would have looked like in the mid-1860’s. A possibility could be to include interpretive footsteps one could trace following Silver’s process fabricating a gate or iron fence.
Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

There is no historically significant topography identified that should be preserved.

Vegetation

There is no historically significant vegetation identified that should be preserved. No invasive plant materials were identified for removal.

Nodes & Gathering Places

There are no historically significant nodes or gathering places identified that should be preserved.

Circulation Systems

There are no historically significant circulation systems identified that should be preserved.

Water

There are no historically significant water features identified that should be preserved.

Landscape Structures

There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.
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Site Elements

A wrought-iron fence is noted along the southern half of the western boundary of the site. Its date of construction is unknown, although its characteristics are reminiscent of the material’s typical use in early domestic and public landscapes. It particularly suggests inference to Silver’s ironworks fabricating fences.

A simple interpretive plaque acknowledges William J. Silver achievements near the southwest corner of the park. It shows signs of wear.

**Action**: Research specific fencing examples fashioned by Silver. A suggestion would be to provide a replication of fencing examples specifically fashioned by Silver in place of the existing wrought-iron fence at time of replacement stylized in a way to demonstrate an interpretive collection of his work.

**Action**: Repair some of the fence that has been bent.

**Action**: Replace the worn plaque. A suggestion would be to include a QR code where more in-depth information could be accessed through mobile devices expanding on Silver’s accomplishments. A link to a photograph and map of the Brigham Young Cemetery would help visually connect images of the gates and iron fencing that was fabricated by Silver piquing interest to visit the cemetery as well.

Site Furnishings

There are no historically significant site furnishings identified that should be preserved.
Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

Action: A suggestion in future redesign of the play area would be to include exploratory learning through interpretive play features characteristic of an iron works company from the 1860’s. A theme for the play area could be an iron works apprenticeship with William J. Silver learning how to fabricate fences, gates, and or construct a steam engine.

Materials

Wrought-iron fencing is noted along the southern half of the western boundary of the site. It is undetermined as to when it was constructed, although its characteristics are reminiscent of this material’s typical use in early domestic and public landscapes. It suggests inference to Silver’s ironworks fabricating fences.

Action: Continue to use wrought-iron material and/or other materials reflective of iron works companies from the mid-1860s as a theme.

Sources

Tracy Aviary

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Tracy Aviary was the first public aviary in the United States, and is located in the southwest corner of Liberty Park, near 500 East and 1300 South, in Salt Lake City, Utah. The site originally housed Salt Lake City’s zoo from 1911 to 1935, when the Hogle Zoo moved to its current location near the mouth of Emigration Canyon. The aviary is a contributing feature for Liberty Park, a large regional park that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and is a Salt Lake City Landmark Site. The Chase Mill, located in Tracy Aviary, is also listed on the NHRP.

In April 1938, Salt Lake City banker Russell Lord Tracy donated funding and his private collection of birds to the City for the purpose of establishing a public aviary. Salt Lake City constructed the

(Tracy Aviary - Siri Vlasic, 10/7/16).
aviary on approximately four acres of land near the southwest corner of Liberty Park, with gates opening on July 2, 1938. The aviary initially included non-avian animals, a practice which was eventually discontinued. The original site included a variety of structures, exhibits, walkways, and landscaping, including a canopy of mature trees.

Over time, the aviary continued to expand in size to the current 8.8 acre site, adding structures and exhibits, and increasing the size of collections, with an emphasis on acquiring rare and endangered birds.

Several species of birds were first bred in captivity at Tracy Aviary. For example, the aviary played a large role in the recovery efforts of the endangered trumpeter swan, and has been participating in programs to save other birds from extinction. The aviary has served a significant role in community education, and has been a significant community asset since its inception, offering school and community programs and professional development and citizen scientist opportunities.

**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

The aviary was established in 1938 during the Modernist Movement, when the majority of animal collections were located within parks. It is the oldest and largest avian park in the United States. Development continued through the 1940’s and 1950’s, with a range of changes in structures, exhibits, and landscaping occurring through the 1960’s, when the development in the aviary began taking on the
characteristics of “landscape immersion”, which aimed to recreate natural habitat, including the landscape, botany, and climatology. The movement also took into account the mental and physical well-being of the animal while often allowing a more proximate visitor experience.

A bond referendum was passed in the early 21st century, providing funding for the first phase of a major renovation effort, which has now been implemented. Approximately half of the site is slated for similar renovation efforts.

**Period(s) of Significance:** 1938 to the early 1970's

**Design Objective**

Tracy Aviary features historically significant structures, buildings and exhibits which should be preserved, protected and restored as needed. New structures, buildings and exhibits should utilize modern materials and design, complementing the existing historic structures while providing a contrast between historic and new structures. The mature forested canopy, the springs and waterways, and the remaining segments of walkways are contributing characteristics of the aviary and therefore Liberty Park, and should be preserved where possible or incorporated into redevelopment.

It will be difficult to manage historic resources effectively without a comprehensive master plan in place.

**Action:** Develop a comprehensive facilities master plan for Tracy Aviary, to be adopted by the Tracy Aviary Commission and Salt Lake City.
Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The ground plane of Tracy Aviary is characterized by a series of curvilinear asphalt and concrete walkways that wind around exhibits, buildings, and structures. Landscaping, including open lawn areas and planted shrub and perennial beds soften the ground plane between the pathways and structures. Water provides an additional ground plane surface that winds its way through the aviary from the Pelican Pond to the Waterfowl Pond, connected by the Dabbling Duck Pond.

The vertical plane is punctuated with a mature forested canopy of trees, interspersed throughout the landscape between the numerous buildings, exhibits, and structures. Fencing surrounds the entire perimeter of Tracy Aviary, and is also used internally to define the edges of exhibits and to help manage pedestrian circulation. Many of the trees are “pioneer species” with limited arboreal value.

The overhead plane is primarily defined by the broad canopy of mature trees, though some exhibits feature overhead structures, such as the Kennecott Wetland Experience.

The three planes work together to form a variety of spatial experiences visitors encounter as they walk through the site, including differences in the sense of enclosure based on size or overhead plane.

**Action:** The current variety of elements and spaces that compose the ground, vertical, and overhead
planes should maintained with selective modification as the aviary continues to be redeveloped.

Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

The topography of Tracy Aviary is relatively flat overall, with minor grade changes around the ponds and waterways, the terraced steps down to the lower floor of the Chase Mill, and small hills dispersed throughout the site that contribute to a more natural style of habitat design or outdoor learning spaces.

Action: Major changes to topography should be avoided, particularly the introduction of extensive hills and depressions.

Vegetation

Tracy Aviary and its features are contributing features of the Liberty Park, a Landmark Site that includes a mature forested canopy. The National Register of Historic Places nomination form for Liberty Park indicates that the informally planted trees are combined with more formal elements in the park in the popular style at the time, Victorian garden design. The Salt Lake City Planning Division Staff Report to Salt Lake City Historic Landmark Commission 2016 mentions that trees outside of the more formal areas of the park, which would include the trees in Tracy Aviary, are considered “contributory as a whole to the overall landscape of the Park, though not individually”.

Design Guidelines for Historic Landscapes
Informal plantings of shrubs, grasses and perennials have characterized the aviary from the early years, but are not historically significant in and of themselves.

**Action:** Trees that are removed should be replaced. Specific replacements species should be similar in form and function, as approved by the Salt Lake City Urban Forester.

**Action:** Existing trees should be maintained on a regular basis to ensure the safety of visitors and to contribute to the longevity and health of the trees.

**Action:** Conduct all tree-related activities under the consultation and supervision of the Salt Lake City Urban Forester.

### Nodes & Gathering Places

Tracy Aviary is characterized by a series of numerous nodes and gathering places, typically centered around exhibits, water features, or buildings, connected by curvilinear pathways and surrounded by informal landscaping. Each one of the exhibits, or the entries to the exhibits, represent a node or gathering place. The Visitors Center and Education Space feature plaza spaces on the north and south sides, and the Chase Mill is characterized by a wide sidewalk surrounding a sunken amphitheater type space that connects to the basement level of the mill.

**Action:** Historically significant nodes and gathering places should be preserved, protected, and restored as possible, with deference to meeting the design objectives of the aviary master plan. The characteristic of nodes at exhibits, buildings, and
structures should be continued with redevelopment.

**Circulation Systems**

In addition to buildings and exhibits, the original walkways which remain are significant features of the aviary.

Action: Historically significant sidewalks and pathways should be preserved, protected, and restored as possible, with deference to meeting the design objectives of the aviary master plan.

**Water**

The waterways and ponds of the aviary are significant features that date back to the early years of the park. The Pelican Pond area was constructed in the 1940's, with the rock and concrete island for rare waterfowl being added in 1949.

The Duck Pond was built in 1968, and is significant as an early feature of the aviary. However because of severe deterioration its integrity is questionable. The date of construction for the Waterfowl Pond is unknown, however, a map dating from 1968 references it as the “Seal Pond,” and seals were included with other non-avian species in aviary from the earliest years.

The aviary also includes an education stream which connects the north end of the Chase Mill to the existing Dabbling Duck Pond area.

**Action:** Historically significant water features and waterways should be preserved, protected, and
restored as possible, with deference to meeting the design objectives of the aviary master plan.

**Action:** The historically significant Pelican Pond and Waterfowl Pond should be preserved, protected and restored as possible, with deference to meeting the design objectives of the aviary master plan.

**Landscape Structures**

Numerous buildings and structures have been constructed on the site over the years, although few remain. The Isaac Chase Mill was the first building on the site and was constructed in 1854, before the area became a park. It was designed by William Weeks. The mill is the oldest remaining industrial structure in Utah, and is the only pioneer grist mill still located on its original site. It was renovated in the early 2000’s, and is now the location for special events such as community meetings, weddings and business meetings.

Architect Slack W. Winburn designed the first three structures for the aviary, including two wood frame structures and a flight pen. Only two original structures designed by Winburn still remain. The first is the aquarium/office building which was constructed in 1938, which was subsequently used as the caretakers cottage in the 1960’s, and has most recently been used for office and storage space. The second is the large flight cage which was built in 1938 and which has been updated with vestibules and a boardwalk to function as a walk-through exhibit.

Many of the early exhibits no longer exist, but appear to have been simple wire mesh enclosures.
In the mid 1940's, the aviary began adding more natural types of exhibits. Additional structures were built through the early 1950's, though none of these additional structures remain. Between 1960 and 1980, additional work began on the aviary, implementing designs by architect John Clawson and landscape architect Karsten Hansen. The Wilson Pavilion is one of the best examples of this type of exhibit, and included waterfalls, painted backdrops and natural landscaping.

Some remaining exhibits that have been deemed historically significant according to the Tracy Aviary Structure Inventory, 2009 because they are early features of the aviary and retain their historic integrity, including: the Burrowing Owl Exhibit, which was built in 1938; the Sandhill Crane Exhibit; the Wilson Pavilion; and the Turkey Vulture Exhibit, which was built in 1968.

Other structures that are significant include the original entrance on the east side of the aviary which was built in 1939, and an unnamed wood framed structure located by the aquarium/office building which was built in 1938, is significant as an early feature of the aviary and retains historic integrity.

**Action**: Historically significant structures that retain historic integrity should be preserved, protected and restored as feasible, with deference to meeting the design objectives of the aviary master plan.

**Site Elements**

Few of the original site elements remain, with the exception of the original wood bridge, which was
PART III Site Specific Design Guidelines

constructed in 1938 and is historically significant.

Action: Historically significant site elements that retain historic integrity should be preserved, protected and restored as feasible, with deference to the meeting the design objectives of the aviary master plan.

Site Furnishings

No historically significant site furnishings have been documented.

Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields

No historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields have been documented.

Materials

Wood and timber were the most common construction materials used for early structures.

Action: As recommended in the Salt Lake City Planning Division Staff Report to Salt Lake City Historic Landmark Commission 2016, the site should utilize modern materials that are consistent with the eclectic nature of existing structures, buildings, and exhibits within the site, and which also provide a unique contrast between historic and new structures. The limited use of wood and timber may be appropriate, depending on the design intent of specific projects.
Sources

Thompson, Amy. Salt Lake City Planning Division
Staff Report to Salt Lake City Historic Landmark
Commission: PLNHLC2016-00306/307 – Tracy
Aviary New Construction and Major Alterations.

Washington Square

Use & Context of the Landscape

Context & Character

Washington Square is the site of the historic Salt Lake City and County Building which was added to the list of National Historic Sites in 1970. The building itself was designed by Monheim, Bird and Proudfoot; was constructed between 1891 and 1894; and was dedicated on December 28th of that year. The building is documented in the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS No. UT-104), National Park Service.

The landscape of Washington Square was an important part of Salt Lake City’s history from the day the settlers arrived in the valley. They camped there, began tilling the ground, diverted water from what is now known as City Creek for irrigation, and within days of their arrival, it was identified by Brigham Young as one of four ten-acre blocks in his

(Washington Square - Siri Vasic, 10/10/16).
Plat of Zion as public space. Over the years it was the site of many outdoor social events and celebrations, and with the construction of the building, a formal landscape was designed and implemented on the grounds.

In 1986, Washington Square and the City and County Building were renovated and upgraded to modern standards, the building’s exterior and interior elements were restored, and the grounds were refurbished and restored to include many of the original design elements including the system of walkways, ornamental fountains, formally located trees, site furnishings and plantings. The renovations and improvements were based on historic drawings, photographs, newspaper articles, and other sources to be as accurate as possible and represent as many of the original elements as possible.

Following the 1986 improvements, an Operations and Maintenance Manual was completed for Washington Square providing detailed information about all of the landscape features and how they are to be managed and maintained into the future (The Ehrenkrantz Group / Burtch W Beall Jr., FAIA Architect, Volume VI, Landscape Systems). This document of over 125 pages provides detailed information about the materials, systems, furnishings, and infrastructure that make up the Landscape Systems, and also gives guidance on how to address proposed changes in the future so that the grounds remain essentially as they are today. The Operations and Maintenance Manual should be the prime document for guidance regarding any of the landscape systems on Washington Square.
**Historic Significance & Period(s) of Significance**

The landscape of Washington Square was an important part of Salt Lake City’s history from the day the settlers arrived in the valley. They camped there, began tilling the ground, diverted water from what is now known as City Creek for irrigation, and within days of their arrival, it was identified by Brigham Young as one of four ten-acre blocks in his Plat of Zion as public space. Over the years it was the site of many outdoor social events and celebrations, and with the construction of the building, a formal landscape was designed and implemented on the grounds.

**Period(s) of Significance:** Late 1800s

**Design Objective**

The documents cited here are an excellent source of information regarding the landscape at Washington Square. They should be consulted whenever there is a proposed change, need for repair or replacement, or any other modification proposed to the grounds. The important historic qualities of the landscape should always be considered first and foremost.
Spatial Qualities of the Landscape

Organizational Elements of the Landscape

The building is situated in the center of the 10-acre block, and is visible from all four directions. Each side of the building has its own distinct quality. The west side faces State Street and is the “front door” of the building and the location of the two prominent ornamental cast iron fountains. The east side provides vehicular access to the building with limited parking and service functions. Both the north and south sides provide access to the building along tree-lined sidewalks. All four quadrants of the grounds are connected with interior walkways and circular planters. The four streetscapes contain large trees in formal rows. The base plane is primarily lawn and low plantings, thus the building and its clock tower are visible from all four adjacent streets and from many locations throughout the city. These spatial qualities should be preserved, protected, and restored as natural changes occur in the future.

Character Defining Features of the Landscape

Topography

The topography of Washington Square is flat and landscaped with lawns and low plantings, which allows relatively unrestricted views to the building on all four sides. Views are interrupted only by the mature trees. These features should be preserved and protected, and restored as needed.
Vegetation

The most dominant vegetation is the large trees, some of which are original to the original landscape design and plantings. Trees form a formal row on all four street frontages, and line the diagonal walkways. The remaining landscape elements are low plantings at the base of the building and in the circular planters along the walkways, and the lawns that stretch to the street curbs. The landscape features are discussed in detail in the Operations and Maintenance Manual, which is the principal source of guidance regarding proposed changes to the landscape at Washington Square.

Nodes & Gathering Places

City sidewalks surround the grounds of Washington Square, and each entrance has formal walkways leading to major entrances. Between the streets and the building, a system of interior walkways punctuated by circular planters and the ornamental fountains provide places to stroll and find seating. A diagonal walkway extends from each of the four corners of the block up to the building. Parking is available on the streets and in the oval-shaped vehicular access on the east side. The planting nodes and circulation elements are discussed in detail in the Operations and Maintenance Manual, which is the principal source of guidance regarding proposed changes to the landscape at Washington Square. They should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed in the future.
Circulation Systems

See Nodes & Gathering Places.

Water

The two ornamental cast iron fountains on the east side were extensively researched and reconstructed to be as original as possible. They are discussed in detail in the Operations and Maintenance Manual and should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed in the future.

Landscape Structures

There are no historically significant landscape structures identified that should be preserved.

Site Elements

The light fixtures were selected to represent a style appropriate for the design of the building. They were selected based on research and should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed in the future. If replacements are required, they should be as close as possible to those currently existing.

Site Furnishings

The site furnishings – benches, trash receptacles, drinking fountains -- were selected to represent a style appropriate for the design of the building. They were selected based on research and should be preserved, protected, and restored as needed in the future.
future. If replacements are required, they should be as close as possible to those currently existing.

**Playgrounds, Sports Courts & Sports Fields**

There are no historically significant playgrounds, sports courts or sports fields identified that should be preserved.

**Materials**

There are no historically significant materials identified that should be preserved.

**Sources**


Salt Lake City and County Building, HABS No. UT-104; Historic American Buildings Survey, National Park Service.
