Special Topics in Art History:
The Architecture and Urbanism of El Paso, 1659-1945

TERMINOLOGY

JUNE 7 – INTRODUCTION (PART 1)

Mansos, Sumas and Mescalero Apaches

Viceroyalty of New Spain

El Paso del Norte, founded 1659

Apache peace establishments

Ponce de Leon’s first ranch (1827-30) and second ranch (1832-1882)

Anson Mills Plat, 1859 – “Franklin” renamed “El Paso”

City of El Paso established 1873

First railroad arrives in El Paso in 1881

Camino Real

Adobe period of El Paso (1659-1881)
Victorian period of El Paso (1881-1908)
Reinforced concrete period of El Paso (1908-present)

adobe

cottonwood

vigas
Mission of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, El Paso del Norte, founded 1659
Mission at Ysleta del Sur, founded 1682
Mission at Socorro, founded 1691
Presidio at San Elizario, founded 1789

JUNE 8 (PART 2)

Ponce de Leon establishes second ranch purchased by Franklin Coons and leased to US Army in 1849, becoming the “Post Opposite El Paso del Norte.”

Butterfield-Overland Stage, 1857-1961

Southern Pacific Railroad reaches El Paso May 19, 1881: arrival of milled timber, high-quality bricks, cement

El Paso population was 731 in 1881 but exceeded 10,000 in 1890.

First three two-story wooden buildings in El Paso:
Southern Pacific Railroad Depot, Main Street (1881)
Lightbody & James Store (1881)
Central Hotel, Pioneer Plaza (1882)

Oldest commercial building in Downtown El Paso: Montgomery Building (1882), false front Victorian

Merrick Bldg. (1887)

County Courthouse (1886)

Automobiles appear in El Paso, 1903

Duranguito, birthplace of El Paso

Trost & Trost established 1903
Henry C. Trost (1860-1933), primary architect
Gustavus Adolphus Trost, architect
Adolphus Gustavus Trost, structural engineer, joined 1908
George Trost, kept the books

Adolphus Trost brings reinforced concrete to El Paso
Caples Building (1909), first reinforced concrete structure (with brick skin)

Abdou Building (1909-10), first exposed reinforced concrete building in El Paso

**JUNE 9 – PRESIDIO OF SAN ELIZARIO**

Hacienda de los Tiburcios

Don Oñate arrives at site April 30, 1598.

*Toma*

Current presidio chapel of San Elizario, completed 1789, rebuilt in 1880s and after fire of 1935

Apache peace camp (peaked in 1790s)

Ysleta del Sur (1682) and Socorro (1691) are between El Paso del Norte (1659, presidio 1684-1773) and San Elizario (1789, presidio)

Flood of 1829 gravely damages San Elizario presidio

El Paso County founded 1850

Los Portales (“Casa Garcia”), 1850s

Old County Jail, 1850s

Butterfield Overland Stage Station, 1850s

**JUNE 10 – CLASSICAL ARCHITECTURE AND ARCHITECTURAL STYLES**

Greek civilization peaks in 5th century BC

Roman civilization peaks in 1st-2nd centuries AD

Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders

Temple of Hera II, Paestum, Italy, 460 BC.

stylobate
peristyle
cella
column
flutes
capital
abacus
entablature
architrave
frieze (triglyphs and metopes)
cornice
pediment
raking cornices
optical refinements
intercolumniations
base
volute
fasciae
dentils
brackets

Acropolis of Athens: Parthenon and Erechteion
temenos

Roman eclecticism and economy

arch
voussoir
keystone
intrados
extrados
barrel vault
groin vault
acanthus leaves

Egyptian
Mission Revival
Chicago style
Georgian
Moorish
Italian Renaissance
Gothic
Art Deco
Mediterranean Revival
Pueblo
**JUNE 14 – SUNSET HEIGHTS**

Satterthwaite Addition, 1885.  
Renamed “Sunset Heights”, 1899.  
Local H-overlay district, 1984.  

Historic Landmark Commission  

Federal (20%) and Texas (25%) tax credits  

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL)  


Aronstein Home, 628 W. Yandell, Trost & Trost, 1909. Four square.  


Carusso Apartments, 800 N. Prospect, Trost & Trost, 1915. Eclectic.  


Mundy Residence, 1401 W. Yandell, S. E. Patton, 1902. Queen Anne Victorian.  

**JUNE 15 – DOWNTOWN EL PASO**

Henry C. Trost, (1860, Toledo – 1933, El Paso)  

Gustavus Adolphus, Adolphus Gustavus, George  

Henry C. Trost in Colorado (1880-1888), Chicago (1888-1896), Colorado (1896-1899), Tucson (1899-1903)  

Specialized in wrought iron ornament in Chicago. Probably knew Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright
Chicago World’s Fair, 1893. California Pavilion (Mission style) and Zuñi Pueblo model

In Tucson, partnered with Robert E. Rust

Trost & Trost founded in El Paso in 1903 with Gustavus. Adolphus joined in 1908

Designed buildings in a great variety of styles

Paso del Norte Hotel, 1912. Georgian, Classical Revival, Baroque

Haymon Krupp & Co., 1916

Alhambra Theatre, 1914. Moorish

State National Bank, 1922. Italian Renaissance Revival


**JUNE 16 – DOWNTOWN EL PASO**

Caples Building, 1909. Reinforced Concrete. Italian Romanesque superstructure

“Concrete Row”

Abdou Building, 1909-1910. Chicago-style, exposed concrete

Buckler Block, 1910. Classical eclectic

Singer Sewing Machine Co., 1928. Tuscan Revival

O. T. Bassett Tower, 1929-1930. Gothic Revival with Art Deco inflections

Gateway Hotel, 1903 (renovated by Trost & Trost, 1927), first office of Trost & Trost

Hotel Cortez, 1926. Spanish Colonial Revival

Roberts-Banner Building, 1910. Romanesque eclectic, exposed concrete

Anson Mills Building, 1911. Largest reinforced concrete building on earth at completion

Hilton Hotel, 1929-1930. Art Deco
JUNE 17 – MONTANA AVENUE NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT


Contributing vs. non-contributing buildings

Bowen Residence at 1101 Montana Ave., Queen Anne Victorian, 1904 (we went inside).

Turney Residence at 1211 Montana Ave., Trost & Trost, 1909, Classical Revival (we went inside).

Baum Residence, 1377 Montana Ave., Gibson & Robertson, 1912, Doric Order.

Foxworth Residence, 1500 Montana Ave., S. E. Patton, 1909, Four Square.

Hoffeker Residence, 1514 Montana Ave., Trost-inspired, 1908, Ionic Order.

Attic base: torus, scotia, filet

1518 Montana Ave., Corinthian order.

Welch Residence, 1519 Montana Ave., Trost & Trost, 1905, Mission Revival.

JUNE 21 – BHUTANESE ARCHITECTURE AT UTEP

1913, Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy established by the Board of Regents. First campus was in two Trost buildings just north of Fort Bliss, formerly federal property.

Main and Dormitory

First class, 1914-1915, had 27 students and 3 faculty.

Third class, 1915-1916, had 41 students (including first two women) and 5 faculty.

April 1914, National Geographic issue by Claude White on Bhutan.


December 1916, Gibson & Robertson hired to draft sketch of Bhutanese-style campus, based on Dzong architecture (fortified Bhutanese monasteries made of rammed earth).

Jan. 4, 1917, Henry C. Trost wrote to UT Board of Regents President Vinson asking to be considered for the commission.
Jan. 6, 1917, Gibson & Robertson sketch published by the *El Paso Herald*.

Jan. 22, 1917, Kathleen Worrell (wife of the Dean) wrote to Vinson recommending Gibson & Robertson.

Jan. 23, 1917, Mayor Tom Lea sent telegram to Vinson recommending Trost.

Jan. 25, 2017, Vinson informed Trost in a letter that his firm would be recommended for the commission. Wants Mission-style or another style “suited” to El Paso.

February 1917, Dean and faculty rebelled against Trost’s first plan for the campus, but second set of plans (Bhutanese) pleased them.

March 1917, Compromise: Board of Regents bought plans from Gibson & Robertson for $930, Trost & Trost hired for reduced 3% fee, Edward Kneezel superintended construction, carried out by contractor V. E. Ware for $114,541.

May 1917, 22.9-acre plot acquired by the Board of Regents, free of charge from 5 El Pasoans.

June 1917-April 1918, first four buildings constructed: Power House, Chemistry (Quinn Hall), Main (Old Main), Boys’ Dormitory (Graham Hall).

Bhutanese features: battered walls, brick bands with mandalas, cantilevered roofs.

But southwestern color for exterior plaster and reinforced concrete structure with moveable interior partitioning.

1921, Girls’ Dormitory (Vowell Hall) added, first in Texas. Occupied by females until 1926.

1930s, four other Trost buildings added to campus.

**JUNE 22 – MAGOFFIN HISTORIC DISTRICT**

H-Overlay district 1985, National Register district 2016

204 buildings (179 contributing/25 non-contributing)

Period of significance 1875-1966, affluent 1882-1910

2nd site of US military fort located at Magoffinsville (1854-68), leased to the Army by James Wiley Magoffin. His son Joseph Magoffin built the Magoffin home in 1875.
Joseph Magoffin co-founded State National Bank and served four times as Mayor. Born in Chihuahua of a Mexican mother, was fluent in Spanish and English and educated back East. Wife was Octavia.

Magoffin State Historic Site: Territorial style (organized around a central patio with a central hallway beyond the main entrance, classical details around exterior door and windows).

1129 Magoffin Ave., Queen Anne Victorian, 1906

1002 Magoffin Ave., Folk Victorian, 1898

912 Magoffin Ave., Queen Anne Victorian, 1900

817 Olive Ave., Beall House, L-shaped with redwood siding, 1882. One of the oldest homes in El Paso and the oldest in the neighborhood.


1103 E. San Antonio Ave., Folk Victorian 1900.

1009 Olive Ave., Folk Victorian on a Four Square plan, 1902.

**JUNE 23 – CHIHUAHUITA**

H-overlay district (1991)
National Trust for Historic Preservation: Most Endangered List since 2016.

Term “Chihuahuita” used to refer to all of south El Paso

El Paso established 1873, four wards in 1885.

Chihuahuita is the First Ward (El Paso St., River to south and west, San Francisco St. to north)

1818, Ricardo Brusuelas received a Spanish land grant and built a ranch there. Satellite community of El Paso del Norte.

1881, Santa Fe Railroad. Massive railyard.

1890s Jacales replaced by adobe homes

1897 flood.

1899 levees built.

Poverty and lack of sanitation. High mortality rate.

1915 report: "Probably in no place in the United States could such crude, beastly, primitive conditions be found as exist in Chihuahuita."

-Fears of plague outbreak.

1916, mass demolitions in Chihuahuita and the Segundo Barrio. Mayor Tom Lea.

Prohibition Era (1920–1933) The U.S. government banned alcohol. Chihuahuita was close to the border, so it attracted “bootleggers.” Bootleggers brought alcohol from Mexico to sell illegally in America.

1940s – 50s: Gangs such as the Canal Kids, Sinners, Las Pompas, La Chihua and the Roadblockers took over much of the area

1950s Streets paved.

People were still living in tenements "where as many as ten families shared a single toilet and relied on a central hydrant for water," according to Monica Perales.


Visited home at 429 Charles St., home of Dolores Chacon-Chavira and Rogelio Chavira

**JUNE 24 – SEGUNDO BARRIO (PART 1)**

Originally northern boundary was San Francisco St. and E. San Antonio Ave.

402 S. El Paso St., first County headquarters in El Paso, 1883-1886

Ponce de Leon’s first ranch was located at the northeast corner of Paisano Dr. and Santa Fe St. Emporium bar (Pancho Villa hangout) was in the Burger King parking lot.

Segundo Barrio NR Historic District: 686 contributing, 204 non-contributing, plus 3 contributing sites.

-Silver Dollar Café at 1021 S. Mesa St. is the only current National Register building.

-Period of Significance: 1884-1971 (although Orizaba Hotel is 1883)
Neighborhood laid out in grid pattern, following 1859 Anson Mills Plat

Three bridges built across the river:

   Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad (diagonal) bridge 1881
   Stanton St. bridge 1882
   Santa Fe Bridge 1889

Second Ward was multiethnic: Mexicans, Blacks, Chinese, Russians, Germans, Czechs, Turks, Syrians, Greeks, Bulgarians, Italians, French.

1916 race riot

1947, Paisano Drive completed, replacing 2nd Street

In 1967, more than half of tenements had no running water

Mexican American architectural heritage, placing the Territorial Revival, Mission Revival, and Pueblo Revival among the most common styles in the district.

   Territorial most common (southwestern version of Classical Revival).

   Also “Mexican vernacular” (mimic earlier adobe buildings, 1890-1925). Simple, little ornament.

Sacred Heart Church, 1893-1923

   Sacred Heart School and Sacred Heart Church were established in 1892 and 1893, respectively, by Father Carlos M. Pinto, a Jesuit missionary from Salerno, Italy in order to attend to the spiritual and educational needs of the barrio community, consisting primarily of Mexican immigrants. The original church and school were built in 1893—Ernest Krause architect. The Jesuit residence was added in 1898 but expanded in 1911 in order to serve all area Jesuits. A second floor was added to the school in 1899. The current church replaced the original building in 1923—Maj. George C. Burnett, architect. Sacred Heart Church and Immaculate Conception Church are the oldest Catholic parishes in the City of El Paso.

418 S. Santa Fe, row house, 1900

621 S. Oregon, tenement, territorial revival, 1895

105 E. Father Rahm, Mission Revival tenement, 1920
**JUNE 28 – SEGUNDO BARRIO (PART 2)**

501 S. Stanton, commercial building, Mission Revival

514 S. Kansas, Territorial Style tenement

    Stepped corbels, concrete lintels and window sills

    Douglass School, 515 S. Kansas St., 1893. First African-American school, third Segundo Barrio location

608 S. Campbell, Territorial Style tenement, 1917

600 S. Florence, Territorial Style tenement, 1916

615 S. Florence, adobe, 1905

600 S. Ochoa, *los 6 Infiernos*, demolished 1973

501 S. Virginia, adobe, 1900

2nd Baptist Church, Gothic, 1907

1116 E. Paisano Dr., oldest datable adobe in the barrio, 1890

San Ignacio, Italian Renaissance Revival, 1913 (Trost facade, 1921)

1209-1221 E. 7th Street, row house, 1905

Bowie Bakery, *pan dulce*! 1905

910 E. 7th Street, row house, home of Mayor Raymon Telles, 1910

1021 S. Mesa St., Silver Dollar Café, only National Register building in barrio, brothel

801 S. Mesa St. Territorial Style tenement, 1924

709 S. Mesa St., Territorial Style tenement, 1908

600 S. Mesa St., Territorial Revival tenement, 1940
**JUNE 29 – UNION PLAZA**

Location of Ponce de Leon’s first ranch (1827)

“Arena Footprint” and “Arena Master Plan Area”

Public – private partnership between Paso del Norte Group and City, 2006

“Duranguito”

Pancho Villa Stash House, 1900

   Federal raid on house, 1915

   Villa’s attack on Columbus, NM, 1916

   Punitive Expedition 1916-1917

The Mansion, brothel, Romanesque, 1902

John B. Leahy Building, 1887-1888. Michael Dolan and Pancho Villa

Chinese Laundry, 1899-1900. Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)

Trost Fire Station No. 11

Colón Theater, 503-507 S. El Paso St., Mission Style, 1919 (revised to Art Deco, 1950)

**JUNE 30 – KERN PLACE**

Not a historic district.

Created by Peter E. Kern (1860-1937), jeweler and real estate developer in El Paso.


   1913, Mesa paved to Kern Place.

Kern Place was begun November 21, 1914 with the help of an engineer from Rochester named W. I. Rider.

   -Named streets after friends and places he admired. Forbade commercial properties.
1915, planted 500 trees in Madeline Park, which he gave to City that same year.

By 1917, 40 homes built.

601 Cincinnati, I. Hirschberg Residence, Thorman, 1940.

Hoover House, Richard Dudley Mansion, 711 Cincinnati Ave., 1917, Gibson & Robertson, UTEP presidential residence since 1965.


916 Park Drive, Pearson’s house, Mabel Welch, 1929.

901 Cincinnati, Clifford Galloway Mansion, H.A. Welch, 1915-16

911 Cincinnati, Lee Hickerson Ordndorff Residence, Gibson & Robertson, 1915

809 Mississippi, 1941, Welch.

815 Mississippi, 1941, Welch

901 E. Baltimore Dr., Elias Krupp Residence, Trost & Trost, 1915

1001 Baltimore, Woodyard, J. F. Jr., Thorman, 1930

900 Galloway, Welch, 1928

1107 Baltimore Dr., Gustavus Adolphus Trost home, Gustavus Trost, 1923.


1308 Cincinnati, Kern’s house! Built 1913.

1329 Madeline Dr., Birgje. W. C., Thorman, 1938.

1301 Madeline Dr., Robert Richey Residence, Trost & Trost, 1917

1109 Madeline, Bixler, J. Glenn, Thorman, 1941

619 Blacker, Mabel Welch, 1931

626 Blacker, William G. Wuehrmann, 1929. For A. W. Norcopp.

939 Rim Road, Schuster Mansion, Wabel Welch, 1952.
939 Rim Road, Schuster Mansion, Wabel Welch, 1952.

821 Rim Road, Ervin H. Schwartz home, Trost & Trost, 1925

Given Mansion, 815 Rom Road, Otto H. Thorman, 1929. Went inside.

811 Rim Road, J. W. Peak Mansion, Mabel Welch, 1939.

711 Rim Road, A. B. Poe Residence, Mabel Welch, 1939.

**JULY 1 – MANHATTAN HEIGHTS HISTORIC DISTRICT**

First historic district established in El Paso: NR District, 1980

The Federal Copper Company operated a smelter in the area that would later become Manhattan Heights between June 9, 1899 and December 1, 1908. Demolished 1912 to clear space for homes.

On October 12, 1912, the area was sold to a dentist, Dr. James B. Brady for $85,000. The first home was built in 1914, and most homes were completed by the 1930s. The homes were designed with wealthy buyers in mind.

In 1976, residents formed the Memorial Park Improvement Association (MPIA), to help restore the neighborhood.

1980, designated a historic district.

The boundaries of Manhattan Heights are made up by Memorial Park, Piedras Road, Copia Street and Louisville.

Architecture in Manhattan Heights includes buildings that represent Georgian Revival, Foursquare, Tudor, American bungalows and Spanish-Italian architectural influences. In 1927, the first woman architect in El Paso and second in Texas, Mabel Welch, built her first home in the Manhattan Heights neighborhood. Welch started the trend of Spanish revival in the area.

Crocket Elementary School (1920) at 3200 Wheeling remodeled for $11.1 million. Cost $80K to build.

    Designed by Beutell & Hardie, led by H.M. Beutell.
3101 Copper Avenue, Herbert McClintock Residence, Thorman, 1916

3007 Copper St., Thorman, 1957

2929 Copper Ave., Perry Wallace, Thorman, 1914

2926 Copper Ave., L. A. Fruit, Thorman, 1941

3100 Gold Ave., Thorman, 1939

3101 Gold Ave, Sam Guido, Welch, 1952

3012 Silver, J. Mason Pollard, Welch, 1928

3009 Silver, Dr. George Turner, Welch, 1928

3001 Silver, Sam Watkins, Welch, 1931

2821 Silver, W.B.R. Stromburg, Welch, 1950

2817 Silver Street, Welch, 1927

2809 Silver, Welch, 1950

2801 Silver, Gus Momsen residence, Welch, 1950

1705 Elm Street, Thorman, 1919

2735 Federal, Thorman, 1916

2901 Federal Ave., Samuel Fant Mansion, 1918

2915 Federal St., Thorman, 1921. Restored by Martina Lorey.

2920 Federal, Thorman, 1937

3021 Federal, Welch, 1929

3037 Federal, Charles Holland Leavell Mansion, Georgian, Thorman, 1914.

3038 Federal, L. Roy Hoard, Welch, 1930

3100 Federal, Welch, 1937
3110 Federal, D.B. Vinson, Welch, 1928

3113 Federal, Loretz Residence, Thorman, 1914

3127 Federal, Welch, 1928

3147 Wheeling, another Mabel Welch personal residence, 1943

3144 Wheeling, Flint McGregor, Gustavus Trost, 1921

3143 Wheeling, Welch, 1943

3131 Wheeling, Welch personal residence, 1924

3108 Wheeling, Ed T. Amonette Residence, Mabel Welch, 1928

3025 Wheeling, Welch, 1929

3024 Wheeling, Welch, 1929

3017 Wheeling, Welch, 1928

3015 Wheeling, Welch, 1928

2921 Wheeling, William Peterson Residence, Thorman, 1923

2905 Wheeling, Carmen Gorrochotegui Residence, Welch, 1927

2619 Altura, Dr. Harry Leigh, Welch, 1931. H-overlay.