

## Commonwealth Apartments

**605 – 619 W. Commonwealth Avenue**

**1948**

**Bungalow Court**

**Status: Unrecognized Significant Property**



This post-WWII development is considered one of the last bungalow courts to be built in Fullerton. The court configuration for multi-family residential development on small lots became impractical when the city's per-unit parking requirements were increased in 1953.

The 16-unit complex is actually composed of four, 50-foot-wide lots, each developed with four apartments (a one-story triplex building and a two-story building at the rear with a unit above a 4-car garage). The planned layout of each lot creates two court areas that are framed by the one-story triplex buildings. The late 1940s architecture exhibited in this complex, now referred to as Minimal Traditional, has not been altered, and no building additions have taken place. There are two added features not part of the initial construction: 1) the front metal fencing installed in the early 2000s, and 2) a parking area accessed from Commonwealth Avenue at the west end of the complex that was apparently created after this side of the 600 block of West Commonwealth Avenue was changed to a commercial zone in the 1960s.

Presently, this complex is owned by two entities: one taking title to the three, most-easterly lots, and another owner of the most-westerly lot.

Another similarly designed bungalow court complex is situated on the same block at 631-645 W. Commonwealth Avenue; both of these developments were built in 1948, by owner/builder Albert Reed. The construction company Mayfield and Reed built a number of single-family residences and small apartment developments in Fullerton between 1947 and 1955.