

Hillcrest Drive

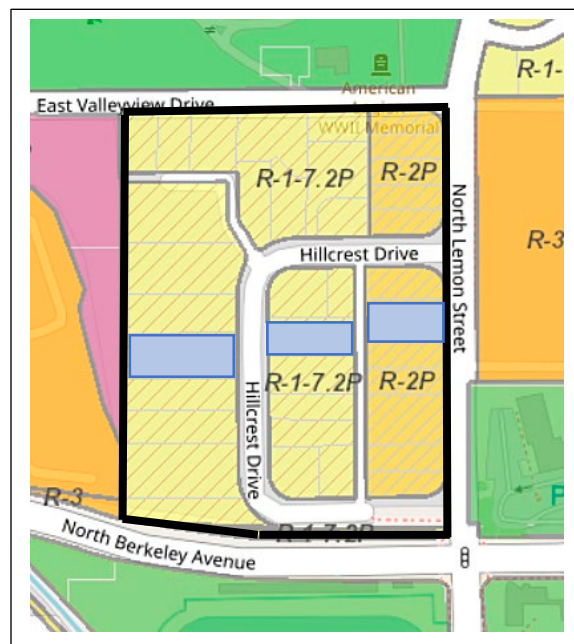
Status: city-recognized Historic District

The Hillcrest Drive neighborhood was subdivided in 1914 as the Hillcrest Addition, making it one of the earliest tracts of land recorded in Fullerton. The neighborhood is situated on high ground overlooking the flat area that was the original townsite, and many of the earliest residences were two-story in design to take advantage of this feature. The only point of entry to the neighborhood is from Lemon Street. A majority of the housing was built between 1914 and 1930 on large lots, incorporating several architectural styles that reflected the changing taste in the design of residences during this period.

With its hillside setting and cooler temperatures, the tract was promoted as one of the finest places to live in the city, and several of the most prosperous families built residences on these lots, including Walter Chaffee, Richard Gregory, Samuel Fuller, Albert H. Sitton, and Waldo O'Kelly.

In the 1920s, the neighborhood vied for prospective buyers with other residential tracts. The neighborhood's relatively remote location from the downtown failed to attract prospective buyers, and by the late 1920s, many of the lots remained vacant. The remaining lots would be developed during the decade after World War II, and while these newer residences do not compare architecturally with those built in earlier decades, the Hillcrest Drive/Hillcrest Lane neighborhood retains a cohesiveness given its isolated, hillside setting, mature landscaping, and deep front setbacks for the majority of the houses.

In 2015, at the request of a majority of the property owners in this neighborhood, the city rezoned the district with a residential preservation zone classification (R-1-7.2P and R-2-P zones), with the objective of preserving and protecting the historical context of the area from intrusive or inappropriate development.



The district contains three designated Local Landmark properties: the Fuller House at 150 Hillcrest Drive; the Sheppardson House at 155 Hillcrest Drive, and the Tracy House at 1021 N. Lemon Street.

 Location of Local Landmark or Significant Property