

West Wilshire

This district is composed of portions of several 1920s subdivisions that created the lots on the 500, 600, and 700 blocks of West Wilshire Avenue, and the 300 blocks of North Drake, Marwood, and Woods Avenues. Like most development of the time, the houses were not constructed by one builder but rather were the work of many. These blocks feature housing from the three particularly active builders in Fullerton during the 1920s: Ernest Gregory, Evan Herbert, and Mortimer Carroll.

A mix of California bungalow, Cottage and Spanish Colonial Revival architectural styles is found on these blocks, with each house slightly different from another. Although never a focus of development like the Brookdale Heights or Golden Hill areas, these streets featured houses of good quality that were attractive to white-collar workers of the day.

The dozen residences on the south side of the 600 block of West Wilshire Avenue may be rightfully identified as the first planned development in Fullerton. Constructed by Ernest Gregory in 1922-23, these small houses were on postage-stamp lots, originally no more than 2,250 square feet in area. Their construction is the first documented example in Fullerton of an entire tract of houses being built at one time and in accordance with a few basic designs.

