

## **1926 – 1930: RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**

This brief period was perhaps the greatest time of growth for Fullerton prior to the 1950s. The booming economy generated a demand for housing, and for the first time there was a market for exclusive neighborhoods. Not only was there a need for more housing but for residences of a more sophisticated type. Houses designed with Spanish Colonial and Cottage styles were built in response.

At the same time, concentrations of larger, more expensive residences appeared in several hillside subdivisions specifically promoted as high quality neighborhoods. Some of the Significant Properties of this period are the special housing in these areas.

Apartment developments, some built in a courtyard pattern, continued to be constructed to meet an ever-growing demand for housing.

## **List of Properties**

**William Wintter House, 1926**  
**Lamhofer House, 1927**  
**Henry Kroeger House, 1927**  
**Model Home of 1927**  
**Gobar House, 1927**  
**Starbuck House, 1927**  
**Mahr House, 1928**  
**Nenno House, 1928**  
**Conley House, 1928**  
**Edgar Johnson House, 1928**  
**Mennis House, 1928**  
**Gowen House, 1928**  
**Mariola Apartments, 1929**  
**Abbott House, 1929**  
**Cleaver House, 1929**  
**Dewella Apartments, 1929**  
**Dunphy Apartments, 1929**  
**Foster House, 1929**  
**Thompson House, 1930**  
**130 West Whiting Avenue Apartments, 1930**  
**Hirigoyen House, 1930**  
**Russ House / Hunter House, 1930**

**William Winter House  
327 W. Orangethorpe Avenue  
Spanish Colonial Revival  
1926**



**This two-story structure is now a mixed use: the ground level is used for commercial offices and the second story is a residence. The exterior of this fine house is essentially that of the original design. An open balcony at the northwest corner was enclosed in 1994, and the original roof tile from Holland was replaced at the same time. The arrangement of architectural forms makes this a particularly attractive version of the Spanish Colonial Revival type.**

**William Winter's father, Jacob, came to the Anaheim-Fullerton area in 1896, and lived here for 59 years. William and his wife purchased and built on this property in 1926, after living in his father's home at Orangethorpe and Highland.**

**This two-story residence represents a fine example of English Tudor Revival architecture with its steep, shake-covered gable roofs, stucco walls with half-timber decorative bracing, detailed brick-capped chimney and well-positioned and proportioned multi-paned casement windows. In addition to the brick trimmed entry, there are outstanding details on all sides of the structure, and the detached garage continues the architectural style.**

**The initial owners were Eric and Ester Lamhofer, who lived in the house until 1936. Norton Simon, president of Val Vita Foods and later Hunt-Wesson Foods, lived here between 1936 and 1938, but did not own the property. The Lamhofer family owned the property until the 1960s.**



**Lamhofer House  
600 W. Valley View Drive  
Tudor Revival  
1927**

**Henry Kroeger House  
901 E. Chapman Avenue  
Cottage Style  
1927**



Both the architectural refinement and the impeccable grounds contribute to the outstanding appearance of this Cottage style house and garage. The house has well disposed volumes and is less eccentric than many of this style. The residence was constructed originally with a wood shingle roof that imitated the thatching on a European cottage; the present composition shingle roof replaced the original in 1997.

The property is associated with one of the oldest families in Fullerton. As early as 1915, Henry Kroeger owned a large tract of land north of Chapman Avenue. The house replaced an earlier structure on the site.

This house is a rather streamlined version of a cottage style. The extension of the street-facing gable nearly to the ground on one side and forming the roof of the porte-cochere on the opposite side, is a unique feature. The triangular-topped opening of the porte-cochere matches the outline of the dramatic picture window.

This house was built as a “model home.” In the spring of 1927, the Chamber of Commerce organized a cooperative construction of this house to promote home buying in Fullerton. The home was opened in September with much fanfare. In spite of its status as a model home, none other like it was ever built in Fullerton.



**Model Home of 1927  
701 N. Richman Avenue  
Cottage Style  
1927**

**This residence's architecture may be the only one of its kind in Fullerton. In this two-story structure traits of Cottage and Gothic Revival are exhibited as part of a late Craftsman style. The shingled exterior is the prominent feature, along with the multiple number of steep and wide gable roofs with exposed rafters. The brick chimney on the west side accentuates the vertical dimension of the house. The wooden pergola with post and notched beams is another common element of the Craftsman style. The same architecture was used for the detached garage at the rear of the lot.**

**As one of the earliest residences to be built in the Golden Hills tract in 1927, it was both the home and office for George Gobar, a prominent attorney. There are two doors at the front of the structure – one for the entrance to the residence and a second that was the entry for Mr. Gobar's office. He and his wife lived in the house for nearly 45 years.**

**Gobar House  
610 W. Valley View Drive  
Craftsman Style  
1927**



**Historical Landmark**

**This 1927 home is described as an Irish country manor. Set on a one-quarter acre beautifully landscaped lot, the two-story house is rich in careful details and craftsmanship. The graceful counter-curves of the building's façade typify the overall fine design. A flag drive and imported street lamp contribute to the ambience. Fine interior details include hand rubbed wood and hammered copper fireplace hood, as well as hand crafted hinges and metal work which were the products of Fullerton's first blacksmith.**

**The house was built for Raymond Starbuck, the son of William Starbuck. It replaced an earlier, smaller house owned by the same family.**

**The Starbuck family made significant contributions to the development of early Fullerton. Shortly after arriving in 1888, William Starbuck opened the first drug store, initially at Spadra Road (Harbor Blvd.) and Santa Fe Avenue and finally in the Chadbourne Building at the northwest corner of Harbor and Commonwealth. The Gem Pharmacy became the center of many downtown activities because of Starbuck's enterprising nature. In addition to housing the drug store, the Gem Pharmacy was at various times the site of the post office with Starbuck as postmaster, the headquarters of Fullerton's first fire department, the first undertaker office, the first telephone exchange, and the first lending library. William Starbuck later successfully petitioned for a Carnegie library for Fullerton, and he helped establish the Fullerton Union High School, serving as Trustee for 15 years.**

**Starbuck House  
834 N. Woods Avenue  
Cottage Style  
1927**



**Historical Landmark**

**Mahr House**  
***George Golleher Alumni House***  
**C.S.U. Fullerton campus**  
**Spanish Colonial Revival**  
**1928**



This Spanish Colonial Revival house was built for Lottie Hetebrink, the daughter of Henry Hetebrink. However, Miss Hetebrink never actually resided in the house. Originally, the building was on a 50-acre lot, but the land was lost shortly after 1930. The Mahr family owned the property until the State of California bought it as part of the C.S.U. Fullerton campus.

Some of the building's features have been modified, but the original design is essentially intact. The structure's architecture exhibits the customary approach of the Spanish Colonial style, providing strong forms and mass as well as coherent detailing.

This two-story home was built in 1928, for Faustina Nenno, the daughter of an important early settler in Placentia. Originally a charter member of the YWCA, Ms. Nenno later sold her home to this organization in the late 1940s. The YWCA continuously used this property for over 50 years to offer a range of services including short-term residency in the structure's second story bedrooms. In 1999, the YWCA sold the property, and it is now used as offices for a group of clinical psychologists.

The house is a refined example of the Colonial Revival style in Fullerton. While later construction is evident at the rear of the house, most of its original design is unaltered.



**Nenno House**  
***Cherami House***  
**321 N. Pomona Avenue**  
**Colonial Revival**  
**1928**

**This residence represents one of the best examples of the Cottage style design that became popular in the mid-1920s. An array of fanciful features includes a steep gable roof; a conical (witch’s hat) roof for the corner portion of the house; a decorative arched entry; and a tapered chimney, prominently located along the front façade. The use of a smooth plaster exterior for the walls as well as the chimney unifies the architectural features of the house.**

**The house, locally referred to as “the castle”, is part of a small tract of Cottage style homes built by E. S. Gregory in the late 1920s along the north side of Whiting Avenue. The original owners were the Conley family. The house is more commonly associated with the Waymire family, who lived here for over 30 years until 1985.**

**Conley House  
1101 E. Whiting Avenue  
Cottage Style  
1928**



**Historical Landmark**

**Edgar Johnson House  
444 W. Brookdale Place  
Spanish Colonial Revival  
1928**

Primarily Spanish Colonial in style, this one-story house is designed with an unusual massing of forms and features unlike any other residence of its vintage. The low-pitched, tiled gable roof accentuates the simple, block-like structural form. There are dramatic floor-to-ceiling multi-paned windows facing the semi-defined entry area, and recessed casement windows are found on all sides.

The house is situated on a corner lot with an elevated building pad; the large setback from the two public streets, effectively landscaped with a tropical theme, contributes to the property's appearance.

This house was built for Edgar Johnson, the first editor of the Daily News Tribune. He started this newspaper in 1891, and sold it in 1929, shortly after the construction of this house. As a very influential voice in civic affairs, Mr. Johnson was a strong proponent of city incorporation as well as the development of the Fullerton High School campus. Mr. Johnson also served as the justice of the peace.

This house's unusual architecture and prominent location make the property a landmark within the Brookdale Heights district, a neighborhood of many outstanding residences.



Historical Landmark

**This house is one of the few good examples of the Colonial Revival style in Fullerton. Typical of the style, the two-story house features a balanced placement of windows trimmed with shutters, the use of horizontal siding, and a centrally located portico entry defined by sets of two columns supporting a pedimented gable. The house is virtually unaltered from its original construction, as is the detached garage at the rear of the property.**

**This was the only two-story structure constructed in a neighborhood of 1920s California bungalows and modest Spanish Colonial Revival houses. Its contrasting architecture has always provided a strong landmark for the Jacaranda-Malvern area. Little is known about the original owner, Joseph Mennes, a local real estate businessman who lived in the house for only a couple of years after its construction in 1929.**

**Mennes House  
532 W. Jacaranda Place  
Colonial Revival  
1928**



**Historical Landmark**

**Gowen House  
1600 W. Valencia Drive  
Spanish Colonial Revival  
1928**



As one of the few grove houses designed in the Spanish Colonial style, the one-story residence is simple in design with restrained detailing. The house was built for Tom Gowen, after he acquired the property from the Schulte Brothers in 1928.

Mr. Gowen was active in governmental affairs, serving on the City Council and as mayor in the 1930s. After living in the house until the mid-1940s, Mr. Gowen sold the property back to the Schulte family.

The Spanish Colonial style has seldom been used to such good effect as it is here in this small, intimate bungalow court. Six detached one-story units are grouped around an ensemble of palm trees and other landscaping with two small fountains. The court is entered from Commonwealth Avenue through an arched gate.

The apartments were constructed a unit at a time, over a one year period. F. L. Humphrey was the original owner. No major alterations are apparent, and the property has been maintained in excellent condition since the current owner, Vincent Mariola, purchased it in 1970.



**Mariola Apartments  
520 E. Commonwealth Avenue  
Spanish Colonial Revival  
1929**

**This house is an outstanding example of a Cottage style. Only a few other residences of its type are of similar quality in Fullerton. The wooden shingles of the high-pitched gable roofing have been applied in an imitation of thatching. The spaces above the main windows are decorated with stucco relief, most notably over the northern window in the front façade. This residence is very much like the Henry Kroeger House at 901 East Chapman Avenue in its footprint, exterior treatment and detailing.**

**The house was constructed by Clinton Abbott, who was a prolific local builder and known for his excellent craftsmanship. This house, like many at the time, was built with no buyer in place. It was opened to the public in April 1929, for inspection and sale, complete with furnishings. When no quick sale was made, Mr. Abbott took up residency in the house, staying there until 1934.**

**Abbott House  
705 N. Richman Avenue  
Cottage Style  
1929**



**Historical Landmark**

**Cleaver House  
519 W. Fern Drive  
Spanish Colonial Revival  
1929**

**This unique Spanish Colonial Revival house is the most distinctive and recognizable in a neighborhood of unusual residences. Elevated above the street grade, the two-story structure has an “L”-shape with a central circular tower that rises 30 feet in height to provide a counterpoint to the two rectangular wings. The design is rich in detail with custom features: two small arched windows above the arched entry; a large parabolic picture window on the east side; a circular penthouse over the tower element; and mosaic tiles at the base of the structure. The stucco retaining wall and the terraced, palm-laden landscaping contribute to the classic Mediterranean appearance.**

**This house was constructed for Arthur and Kathryn Cleaver. Cleaver’s initials may be seen in the pavement at the bottom of the steps. Mr. Cleaver was the owner of Sanitary Laundry, for which the building at 221-225 W. Santa Fe Avenue was constructed.**

**With its outstanding architecture and prominent setting, the residence is a visual landmark in the Upper Golden Hills neighborhood.**



**Historical Landmark**

**Dewella Apartments  
232 - 236 E. Wilshire Avenue  
Spanish Colonial Revival  
1929**

In this apartment complex, the Spanish Colonial style is used in an exceptionally graceful fashion. Particularly pleasing are the visual appearance of the sweeping staircases, the symmetrically disposed apartment wings, and the formal layout of the garden area in front. The use of the two-story structures on the sides and a single-story building at the rear is an unusual reversal in the pattern of the bungalow court. The use of smooth stucco walls with Mission-style forms for the second-story at the front and Monterey-style balconies at the back is an effective combination.

The original plan for the complex indicates that a second identical building was to have been constructed to the north along Wilshire Avenue. With this half of the complex never being built, the resulting large setback of lawn area makes the existing complex more striking.

Built for \$11,000 in 1929, the Dewella Apartments is a distinct visual landmark. The structure is a monument in local development as one of the early apartment complexes in Fullerton, but it is also a remarkable architectural creation, unique for its style and combination of building and landscape.



Historical Landmark

This two-story dark red brick building is one of a pair of brick apartment buildings erected by Samuel Dunphy just before the Depression. The brick construction and minimal setback from the public sidewalk convey an East Coast design, and no other example of its type is found in Fullerton. Only the symmetrically placed chimneys and mansard tile roof break the building's strongly cubical form. The three ordinary rectangular doors are framed with arched openings and decorative pilasters, providing only minimal relief on the building's front facade.

Completed in April 1929, at a cost of \$25,000, the eight units in the Dunphy Apartments were quickly rented. Mr. Dunphy continued to reside in the single-family residence at the rear of the property that is of an earlier construction, until 1939. When the property changed ownership in 1940, the two-story building was renamed the Westwood Apartments. The name "The Westwood" is visible above the middle entry door.

The property still serves as an eight-unit apartment, and the original single family residence remains behind it.

**Dunphy Apartments**  
***Westwood Apartments***  
**126 W. Whiting Avenue**  
**Brick Residential**  
**1929**



Historical Landmark

**Foster House**  
**524 E. Commonwealth Avenue**  
**Spanish Colonial Revival**  
**1929**



This charming Spanish style house is one of the most innovative examples of the type. A low gabled wing on the west has three attractive arched windows, one featuring stained glass showing a cowboy. Adjoining is a two-story section with a Monterey style balcony, while further east is a third section, distinguished by a round tower with conical roof having four, evenly-spaced double hung windows. East of the residence is a separate building containing three small bungalow units, built in the 1940s.

Albert Foster, a prominent cement and gravel contractor in the 1920s, constructed both the residence and three-unit apartment; the property has remained in his family ever since.

This large scale, two-story house portrays a more austere design than is normally seen in the Spanish Colonial style. Only two large windows and four small ones on the street side pierce the simple rectangle, and the slight setback of the façade at the door does not interfere seriously with the geometric lines. The hipped tile roof and generous porch are good visual accents.

The house was built for Judge Raymond Thompson. Mr. Thompson served as the City Attorney in the 1930s, and later he was appointed to and presided over the Superior Court of Orange County starting in 1945. The property continues to be owned by the Thompson family.



**Thompson House**  
**1530 E. Commonwealth Avenue**  
**Spanish Colonial Revival**  
**1930**

**This one-story dark red brick building is the companion to the two-story apartment at 126 West Whiting Avenue. Samuel Dunphy, who owned these two properties until the late 1930s, built both structures.**

**The hipped red tile roof and narrow chimneys on the east and west sides provide the only break in the block-like appearance of the building. Like its contemporary, pairs of double hung wood windows are recessed in arched openings, which offer modest detailing. Openings on the side walls have the same detailing but feature metal framed casement windows with wire glass. The metal awning over the two front entry doors is the only addition to the original façade.**

**The four-unit apartment building was started soon after Mr. Dunphy completed the eight-unit apartment on the adjacent lot but before the Depression began to take its toll on the local economy. It was never given a name.**

**Apartment Building  
130 W. Whiting Avenue  
Brick Residential  
1930**



**Historical Landmark**

**Hirigoyen House**  
**400 W. Brookdale Place**  
**Spanish Colonial Revival**  
**1930**

As a multi-level structure on a corner lot, this residence is an exceptionally fine example of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture. In addition to the recessed arched picture window, the house has several custom features from the original owner. Two balconies, each wrapping around two sides of the house, feature a Monterey-style design with clay tiled shed roofs supported by post and beam construction. The top deck at the rear has been enclosed -- the only alteration from the original construction.

This house was built for Anthony Hirigoyen, who was a driller for the Standard Oil Company. The Hirigoyen family owned the property until 1958.

The house is Fullerton's best example of Monterey-style Colonial Revival architecture; its corner location and distinctive architecture make the residence a prominent landmark in the Brookdale Heights neighborhood.



Historical Landmark

**Russ House or Hunter House**  
***Congregational Church of Fullerton***  
**845 N. Euclid Street**  
**Spanish Colonial Revival**  
**1930**



**This attractive two-story Spanish Colonial Revival structure was originally located on Orangethorpe Avenue, west of Harbor Boulevard in the middle of an orange grove. The house was built for pioneer rancher Albert Russ and his wife Catherine, and it represents one of the few instances where this style was used for a grove house.**

**When Mrs. Russ sold the property in 1952, she moved the house to what was at that time the terminus of Euclid Street. Since 1963, the building has been used as a church facility. First belonging to the Presbyterian Church, the structure was named for Dr. Graham Hunter, an active minister of the church during the 1920s and 1930s. The property continues to be used as a church and day care center.**