

HISTORIC ECCLES WALKING TOUR



JOHN & LOUISA HOUTZ HOME ▲ 2522 Eccles Ave.
 This home was built in 1910 and designed by Leslie Hodgson for John Shannon Houtz. Mr. Houtz was the vice-president of Commercial National Bank. Born in Schuylker, Pa., in 1833, he came to Utah in 1848. His business ventures included sheep, freight, livery, and as subcontractors on the transcontinental railroad. His wife, Louisa Curtis Houtz was born in Cottonwood, Utah in 1853. The Houtz' had 5 children.
 The home with its centrally placed hip dormer reveals an American Four-Square style of architecture, but the exterior is dominated by a wide variety of Prairie School and Arts and Crafts architectural features.

RUTH WATTIS GWILLIAM/MARRINER ECCLES HOME ▼ 2541 Van Buren Ave.
 Built in 1917 and designed by Eber Piers, this home is one of two matching houses which were designed on adjoining properties on Van Buren and, along with the Edmond Orson Wattis house behind them on Eccles Avenue, formed the Wattis compound. This house was given to the Wattis' daughter, Ruth Wattis Gwilliam. Mrs. Gwilliam divorced her husband and moved to Paris to become a sculptress.
 In 1923, the home was sold to Marriner Eccles. Mr. Eccles began his career in finance at a small bank in Hyrum, Utah and along with Marriner Browning organized the First Security Corporation. Mr. Eccles and his wife, May Campbell Young, added a garage and a servant's wing onto the house.
 Mr. Eccles talents and insights caught the attention of the Roosevelt Administration and he was appointed the chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank in 1934. His vision greatly influenced the massive public works projects of the FDR Administration. He also was instrumental in the creation of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Housing Administration and the World Bank. Mr. Eccles died in 1977.



EARL & ELIZABETH GREENWELL HOME ▲ 2538 Van Buren Ave.
 Built in 1919, this home is an example of Prairie School Style of architecture. The interior of the home retains the character defining features with woodwork emphasizing the horizontal composition.
 Born in 1881, Earl Greenwell was a prominent dentist in Ogden retiring in 1957. The Greenwell's owned the home until 1941, when it was sold to T. Leland Shreeve. The Shreeve's owned the home until 1972, then sold it to James & Lynne Morgan.

PETER D. & HELEN I. KLINE HOME ▼ 2547 Van Buren Ave.
 This home was built for Peter and Helen Kline in 1913. It is an example of Bungalow style with a gabled roof intersected by a cross gable. With the sloping ceilings on the upper floors, light is received through windows at each gabled wall. The house is graced by a porch with a flat roof supported by brick piers.
 Mr. Kline was assistant to H.A. Strauss, general electrical engineer for the Walkeneau Electrical Construction Company of Chicago. He then assisted the Electrical Bond & Share Company of New York in the consolidation of various electrical properties and assisted in the organizing of the Utah Power & Light Co. He became general manager of the Ogden Rapid Transit Company until 1916, when he became vice president of an electrical company operating in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan.

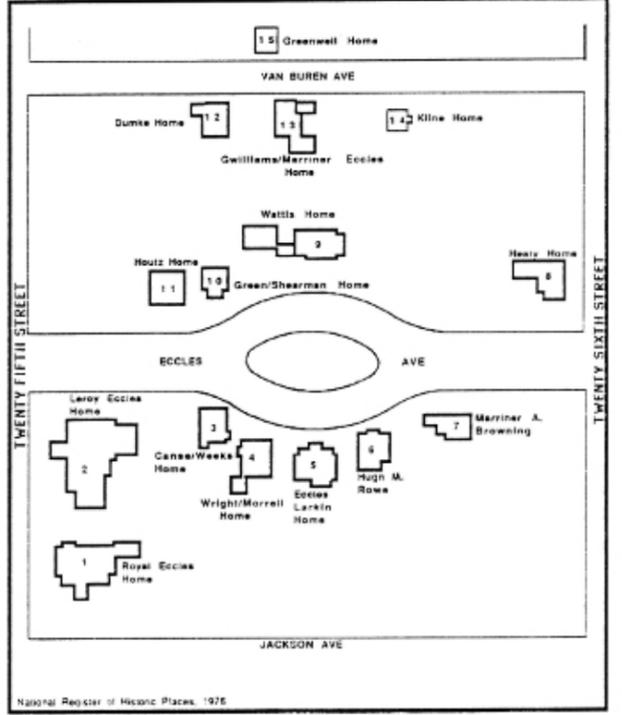


EZEKIEL & EDNA DUMKE HOME ▲ 2527 Van Buren Ave.
 Designed by Eber Piers, this house was built in 1917 for Dr. and Mrs. Ezekiel R. Dumke as part of the Wattis Compound. Of those three houses included in the Wattis Compound, the main Wattis house fronts onto Eccles, centered on Eccles Park. The daughters homes were built on Van Buren behind the main house on Eccles. The daughters houses were the design of the main house divided into two parts. Edna Wattis Dumke was the youngest daughter of E.O. Wattis.
 Dr. Dumke was a prominent Ogden surgeon. He helped organize the Ogden Surgical Society. He was a great supporter of sporting activities. The Dumkes loved to entertain many of the famous figures in sports, such as Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. The Dumkes were founders of the Wattis-Dumke Foundation which has supported many of the cultural organizations in the State.



THE ECCLES HISTORIC DISTRICT

The historic significance of the Eccles Historic District is founded in the prominence of the families who lived within its boundaries, primarily between 1910-1945. The Eccles, Browning, Wattis, Healy, Houtz, Larkin, and other families whose names are associated with these homes, were prominent in business, civic and cultural affairs of Utah. Not only does the District include the residents of some of northern Utah's most prominent families, but is also the setting of the finest examples of various architectural styles (primarily Prairie Style) in Utah.
 The Eccles Historic District includes all of the Eccles Subdivision (sited between Jackson and Van Buren, and between 25th and 26th Streets) where Houses #1-14 are located and a portion of the Corey Subdivision (sited east of Van Buren) where House #15 is located.
 Portions of the Eccles Subdivision were owned by various individuals until 1887 when all of the subdivision block was purchased by Oscar E. Hill, a cashier at the Commercial National Bank and later Ogden City's Mayor (1916-17) and Thomas Whalen, a real estate promoter involved with Commercial National Bank, who also served on Ogden's City Council. Both Hill and Whalen were actively involved in Ogden's real estate boom of the late 1880s-early 1890s. In 1889, they sold the property to Amos B. Corey for a reported \$13,000. Corey and his brother founded Corey Bros. Inc., a company involved in railroad construction throughout the western United States. This property was used as collateral for a large loan in 1892. The Corey Brothers Company lost the property in 1893 to the Ogden Savings Bank which was controlled by David Eccles. David Eccles developed the Eccles Subdivision in May of 1909.
 The property which became the Corey Subdivision was originally owned by William R. and Elizabeth Kingsford. Property records indicate that the Kingsfords owned the property for at least 16 years. Amos B. Corey purchased the property from Elizabeth Kingsford in 1888 for a reported \$4,500. He recorded the Corey Subdivision in 1889.



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"HISTORIC" ECCLES



Walking Tour



Ogden, UT.

HISTORIC ECCLES WALKING TOUR



CANSE/WEEKS HOME ▼ 2529 Eccles Ave.
The Canse/Weeks Home is a highly stylized American Foursquare built in 1910. The original owner of this house was J.M. Canse, who came to Ogden to be manager for the Eccles Lumber Company. The home was purchased from Mr. Canse in 1919 by Otis Weeks, who came to Ogden from Denver with his family. Otis Weeks graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1895 with a degree in civil engineering, and later became the Engineer for the Salt Lake Division of the Southern Pacific Railroad (from 1913 until his retirement in 1940). Mrs. Weeks was extensively involved in community activities and was instrumental in establishing the Ogden YWCA. She also had an intense love of nature and beauty, which she expressed in her painting and weaving. Mrs. Weeks lived in the home until 1956.



ROYAL & CLEONE ECCLES HOME ▲ 2508 Jackson Ave.
Designed by Eber Piers, a student of Frank Lloyd Wright at the Chicago School of Design, and built in 1920 by Whitmey Construction, this home is of a classical Prairie Style. The dark brick, low-pitched gabled roof, ceiling height and windows are premier examples of this style.
Born in Ogden in 1884, Royal Eccles, the son of the prominent David & Bertha Eccles, was educated in the Ogden City public schools, University of Michigan Law School, and then served a mission for the LDS Church in Germany and Austria in 1909. In 1912 he took up the active practice of law. In 1920 he became the Chief Executive Officer of the Oregon Lumber Company. In 1930 he sold his corporate interests and retired to devote time to his personal affairs. He married Cleone Rich in the Salt Lake Temple, August 22, 1918. They had six children, two sons and four daughters. Royal Eccles died in 1963 and Cleone Eccles died in 1973.



LEROY & MYRTLE ECCLES HOME (WEBER CLUB) ▲ 2509 Eccles Ave.
This home was built at a cost of more than \$100,000 in 1917 for LeRoy & Myrtle Eccles. Leslie Hodgson was the architect of this premier example of residential Italian Renaissance. LeRoy Eccles was powerful in the sugar industry and was vice-president and general manager of the Amalgamated Sugar Company. He was also involved with the Ogden, Logan & Idaho Railroad, the Sumpter Valley Railroad Company, the Empire Copper Company, and served as President and Director for the First National Bank and Ogden Savings Bank.
The home was later sold after business reversals to E.G. Harness in 1928. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Harness was in the nursery business. He died in 1956 at the age of 96; Mrs. Harness died in 1942. A nephew, William C. Harness, owned the house after their deaths.
In 1959, the home was sold to the Weber Club (a private club), at which time significant remodeling and improvements were made. Kier Corporation purchased the building in 1982 and remodelled it, putting back much of the elegance of the original mansion. The Weber Club still occupies the basement level, and the other levels have been used as a restaurant, meeting rooms, wedding reception center, etc.



WRIGHT/MORRELL HOME ▼ 2533 Eccles Ave.
In 1911, this home was built for Mr. & Mrs. William Wright. The three homes (the Rowe, Larkin, and Morrell Homes) were originally built for three of the children of David Eccles. In 1918, the house and property was purchased by Dr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Morrell. (It is interesting to note that brother and sister (David and Bertha Eccles) married brother and sister (Julia Wright Eccles and William Wright).
Dr. Morrell was a physician and surgeon in Ogden. He was head of the medical dispensary at the Defense Depot Ogden and served as surgeon for both the Union and Pacific Railroads. He was a member of the Utah Board of Health and the Utah Board of Medical Examiners, and was President of the Utah State Medical Society.

LARKIN/ECCLES HOME ▼ 2545 Eccles Ave.
In 1911, LeRoy Eccles built the large white Greek Revival Style home designed by Leslie Hodgson. The three homes (Rowe, Larkin, and Morrell) were originally built for three of the children of David Eccles. LeRoy Eccles was General Manager of the Amalgamated Sugar Company and was a major financial speculator. Mr. Eccles wanted to build a larger house so he sold this residence to a close family friend, Fred G. Taylor. The home was then sold to Elijah A. and Rosella F. Larkin in 1925.
Elijah A. "Lige" Larkin was born in Ogden in 1876. He attended Weber Academy in 1889 (the first year of the institution) and the U.S. School of Embalming at Denver. He was manager and reporter for Deseret News in Ogden. Lige Larkin was President of the Utah Funeral Directors, President of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers, and an active member of the Ogden Kiwanis Club for 35 years. He died in 1962. He married Rosella Ferrin, who was born in Eden. She served in the Daughters of Utah Pioneers and was active in numerous other civic positions for many years until her death in 1967.



DR. HUGH & VERN ROWE HOME ▼ 2555 Eccles Ave.
This home is one of three houses built by David Eccles for three of his children as a wedding gift for marrying in the LDS Temple. Built in 1911-12 and designed by Leslie Hodgson, this house was intended for Mr. Eccles' daughter, Veda Savage. She apparently lived there briefly before moving to Salt Lake City.
The deed was transferred to Dr. Hugh Rowe in 1912. Dr. Rowe was born in Canada in 1868. He graduated in veterinary surgery and medicine, and first practiced in Iowa and Nebraska. He came to Ogden in 1900 as a quarantine inspector for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and soon launched a career as a civic and business organizer. He organized the Western Federal Livestock Co. and he was first President of the Ogden Chamber of Commerce, which he helped to organize. In 1917, he married Vern Tavey of Ogden. They were prominent in social, financial, and civic activities in Ogden and lived at this location for about 30 years.
The ghost of Grace Spargo, who died in childbirth while living in the house briefly, is said to haunt the house.



EDMUND & MARTHA WATTIS HOME ▼ 2540 Eccles Ave.
This home was designed for Edmund Orson Wattis by Eber Piers and built in 1914. It is a premier example of the Prairie School Style of architecture. Mr. Wattis was born in 1855 in Uintah and worked on the first transcontinental railroad. In 1901, he became director of the Utah Construction Company, the major contracting firm in the West. Utah Construction was involved in the building of numerous dams among which was Boulder Dam in Nevada, Guernsey Dam in Wyoming, and American Falls Dam in Idaho.
Mr. Wattis married Martha Ann Bybee and had 7 children. Mrs. Wattis was active in social and civic affairs, the most notable being the Red Cross Community Chest, Eastern Star and the Utah Federation.
In 1944, Henry Benning, who was President of Amalgamated Sugar Company bought the home. Known as "Mr. Sugar", Mr. Benning was instrumental in the expansion and reorganization of Amalgamated Sugar. He lived in the home with his wife, Edna A. Eaton Benning and son Arthur.

MARRINER & DOROTHEA BROWNING HOME ▲ 2565 Eccles Ave.
Built in 1914, this traditional Prairie Style home is a premier example of the work of Ogden architect Eber Piers. Marriner Adams Browning was born in 1890 and died in 1966. He was the son of Matthew S. Browning (brother of John Moses Browning, the gun inventor). His uncle invented the guns and his father, Matt, handled the finances. He worked with these two men for 10 years in all business ventures and so it was natural for him to continue the business after their deaths. In 1928, Mr. Browning along with Marriner Eccles (David Eccles' son) pooled the Eccles and Browning bank interests to form the First Security Bank Corporation.
Mr. Browning married Dorothea Bigelow in 1912 and they had two sons. Mrs. Browning was a daughter of Archie P. Bigelow, former President of the Ogden State Bank and builder of the Bigelow/Ben Lomond Hotel. Mrs. Browning was the first of two women drivers in Ogden and was extremely interested in mechanics, which brought her together with her husband whom she used to watch making guns when she was just 12 years old.



GREEN/SHEARMAN HOME ▼ 2532 Eccles Ave.
Built in 1914, this home was built for Virginia Houtz Green by her parents who lived in the house to the north on Eccles Avenue. The home was occupied by the Greens for one year. They divorced and then rented the house. William Shearman married Wilhelmine Keisel Shearman in 1915 and they began renting the home in 1918. Mr. Shearman died in 1941 and Mrs. Shearman continued to live in the house until her death in 1955. Mrs. Shearman bought the home from Mrs. Green in 1949 after living there for 30 years.
The Shearmans made generous contributions to the Boy Scouts of America, donating the site for Camp Kiesel on the Ogden River and to other Boy Scout programs. Mrs. Shearman was the daughter of Fred Kiesel, one of the early settlers to Utah and a Mayor.
The house was distinguished by being the only private residence with a private elevator in Ogden at that time.



PATRICK & MARY HEALY HOME ▲ 2580 Eccles Ave.
Built in 1920 and designed by Howard Hewitt of California, this home was built for Patrick Healy, Jr. Mr. Healy was born in Ogden the President of Commercial National Bank (Commercial Security Bank) and also as Vice President of Murphy Wholesale Grocery Co. He retired in 1928 and died in 1947. He married Mary Sodwick in Geinell, Iowa in 1903. Mrs. Healy continued to live in the house until she sold the house to H. Q. Holley in 1960.
The design of this home is an Old English (cottage style) architecture. The house has a high pitched roof punctuated by a series of dormer windows successfully contrasted with a stucco base to form an attitude of restful domesticity. The rounded arches, the tapered brick chimney, and a canopied entrance door are reminiscent of an era of English Art Nouveau.