

# Historic Salt Lake City Apartments of the Early 20th Century

---

Lisa-Michele Church

Utah State History, September 16, 2015





Stratton

Embassy Arms



A treasure trove in downtown Salt Lake City

The key area –

South Temple to 1400 East

Third Avenue to 400 South

Built in two phases – 1902-1918, 1922-1940

Use Walking Tour brochure to explore more

Photo Essay will be online at [Utah Historical Quarterly website](#)



Buildings with Names



Urbanization brought a new residential form

SLC population grew: 53,000 (1900) to 140,000 (1930)

High-rise commercial buildings built – Boston, Kearns

Electric Streetcar lines opened up transportation

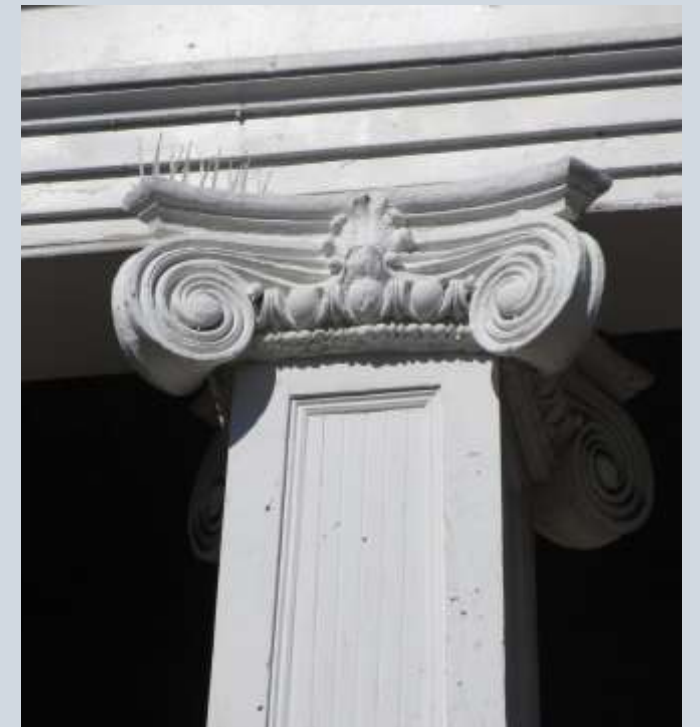
Electricity, gas, telephone, water, sewer, sidewalk

Female head of households: 15.4% (1910) - 33.8% (1940)

Middle-class in transition



Altadena Elise



# Goodwin's Weekly.

Vol. XIII

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, SEPTEMBER 5, 1908.

No. 18

FIRE  
PROOF

SOUND  
PROOF



Free from the  
noise and  
crowd, yet it  
is only two  
blocks from  
the Kenyon  
Hotel

## The Woodruff

The handsome new apartment building now nearing completion, located on Second East between Second and Third South Streets, just two blocks from the very heart of the shopping and business district, yet far enough removed from the hustle of business to insure that restful feeling. No street cars within half a block to disturb your sleep.

The building is four stories high. The first story being of red sandstone, laid in alternate courses of rough and smooth finish, the three upper stories light buff pressed brick, with stone trimmings. There are fire-proof and sound-proof walls between each apartment, every room light, bright and well ventilated.

By selecting your apartment now you will be considerably housed for the winter, you will get just the one you want, and it will be finished to suit you.

The building will be steam heated, you will have hot water ready at all times of day or night, as well as free janitor and night watchman service, telephone and gas ranges.

Rents are reasonable, and the amount you will save on coal bills, water, telephone, street car fares and other incidentals, will reduce your cost of living, and you will have all the comforts besides.

There are a number of apartments suitable for bachelors. References required. Floor plans can be seen any time at the company's office.

## BE YOUR OWN LANDLORD

It is no longer necessary to have a big fortune to own good income producing real estate.

By investing your surplus money in the shares of this company, you can soon own your own apartment and be YOUR OWN LANDLORD.

If you put each month the difference between the cost of living in THE WOODRUFF and what you would have to pay for the same accommodations and comforts elsewhere, in the stock of this company, you will soon be your own landlord and have an investment that will pay you a larger rate of interest than the savings bank will give you and have the same security they lend your money on.

# MUTUAL REALTY COMPANY

524 SECURITY AND TRUST BUILDING

September 5, 1908



Buckingham

# Walk-Up Plan

Two units wide on each floor

Unit has front projecting porch or balcony

Access is through your own stairway

“U” shape building around central court

Neo-Classical, Colonial Revival common styles

Most used prior to First World War

# Double Loaded Corridor Plan

Unit entry is from a central hall

Narrow front rectangular shape extending deep into lot

Inward facing with few porches or balconies

Flat roof with architectural detail in front only

Focus was on building entrances



Bigelow

# The Disappearing Bed

---



Woodruff Apartment Interiors, December, 1908 (USHS Shipler Collection)





Pauline (Progress)

278 East 100 South

1904





Embassy Arms

120 East 300 South

1926



Embassy

130 South 300 East

1926





Los Gables -  
Caledonian

135 South 300 East

1929





Piccardy

115 South 300 East

1930



Lorna Doone

320 East 100 South

1928



Annie Laurie

326 East 100 South

1928







Chateau Normandie

63 South 400 East

1931



Stratton

49 South 400 East

1927



Armista

555 East 100 South

1927



Elise

561 East 100 South

1914





USHS Photo Collection

Cornell

101 South 600 East

1910





Trenton

544 East 100 South

1927



Bell Wines

530 East  
100 South

1927

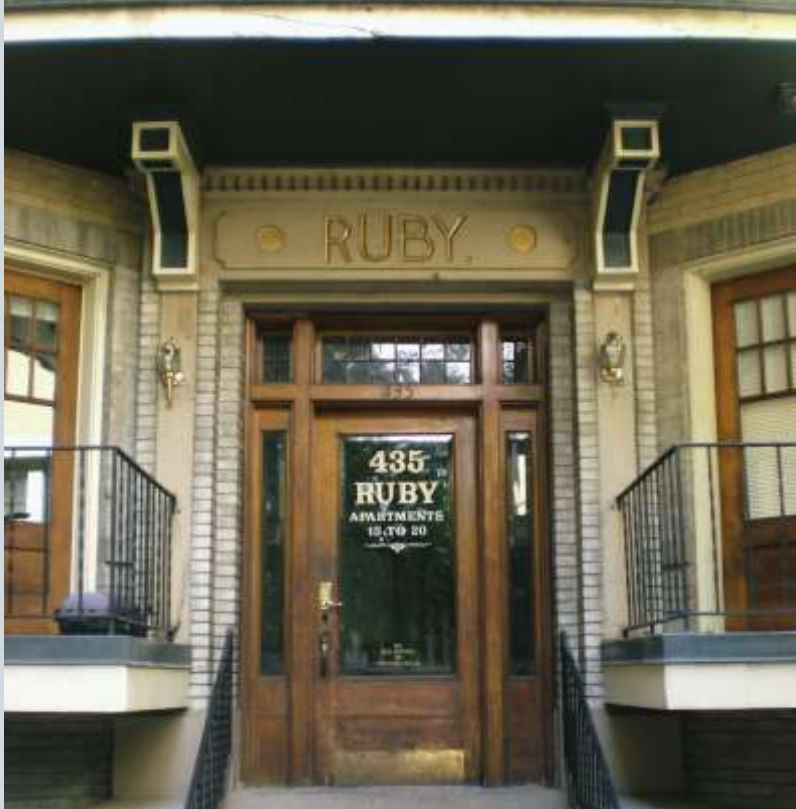
Ruby

435 East 200 South

1912









Peter Pan  
445 East 300 South - 1927

Westcliff  
Eastcliff

419-421 East  
200 South

1927





Piccadilly

24 South 500 East

1929



Premier

27 South 800 East

1931







The Covey family built the Covey flats in 1907 (now LaFrance) at 200 West 300 South, and the Buckingham, Kensington, Hillcrest, New Hillcrest and Covey Apartments during the period 1915-1920, between First Ave and South Temple.



Hillcrest

155 First Avenue

1916

# Interior Details



Piccardy



Barbara Worth



Lorna Doone





Altadena – 310 South 300 East

Sampson – 276 East 300 South

1906

## Research and Photographs: Lisa-Michele Church

Carter, Thomas, and Peter Goss, *Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847–1940: A Guide*. Salt Lake City: Utah State Historical Society, 1988. Updated version available at [history.utah.gov/utahs-historic-architecture](http://history.utah.gov/utahs-historic-architecture).

Cromley, Elizabeth Collins, *Alone Together, A History of New York's Early Apartments*. Cornell University Press: Ithaca, 1990.

McCormick, John S. *The Gathering Place: An Illustrated History of Salt Lake City*. Signature Books: Salt Lake City, 2000.

Roper, Roger. "Homemakers in Transition: Women in Salt Lake City Apartments, 1910–1940." *Utah Historical Quarterly* 67, no. 4 (1999): 349–66.

National Register of Historic Places Designation Form, September, 1989, "Urban Apartments of Salt Lake City."

