



The Proposed Castillo Street Historic District includes properties on streets that branch off the 600 and 700 blocks of Castillo Street between Highway 101 and Bath Street. Those streets include Ruth Avenue, West Ortega Street, and Dibblee Avenue.

INTRODUCTION

The Castillo Street Historic District is representative of a change in design preference in architecture from the Victorian period to the Arts and Crafts period. Many transitional buildings in the area illustrate the phases of this transformation over time. The district's contributing properties are all residential. The dominant architectural style is Folk Victorian with a few examples of traditional Craftsman bungalows. Mature trees, sandstone curbing, sandstone retaining walls, and hitching posts on the northeast corner of West Ortega Street and Castillo Street contribute to the historic character of the district.

Proposed Castillo Street Historic District

The Historic District has been added to City's List Of Potential Historic Resources but has not been designated by the Historic Landmark Commission or City Council.



HISTORY

Period of significance: 1890-1925

Originally, the Castillo Street Historic District area was cultivated land owned by Thomas B. Dibblee. Upon his death in 1895, the land was sold, and by 1904 a residential tract was created with the dividing street named Dibblee Avenue. In 1905, Carl William Dewlaney created a residential tract with a dividing street named Ruth Avenue after his mother Ruth Ann Dewlaney. At the time, the cost of constructing a modest home was \$900 or less, with the total investment for the homeowner anywhere from \$1,000 to \$2,000. Thus, from 1904 to 1906, 50 dwellings were constructed on the 73 lots within the two subdivided blocks and an additional 17 dwellings were constructed between 1907 and 1918.

The Castillo Street Historic District is an area reflective of the architectural movements of the early twentieth century. The dwellings constructed in the district are primarily Folk Victorian style with a few Queen Anne and Craftsman styles. The Folk Victorian buildings are often transitional in style as they may take on Queen Anne or Craftsman embellishments but remain Folk Victorian in overall form. This neighborhood is the product of the average working class citizen and a symbol of financial success for each homeowner.

