The Magnolia Historic District, located in Midtown Stockton, encompasses the richest variety of architectural styles found in the City. Primarily composed of single and multi-family homes, most of the neighborhood was designated, the Magnolia Historic District, by the State of California. The tree-lined streets display samples of virtually all the architectural styles of California’s most formative period, including Queen Anne, Eastlake, Craftsman, Moderne, Spanish Revival, and Dutch Colonial. Homes dating as early as 1860 still call this neighborhood home.

The Midtown possesses many of the homes built in the City between 1860 and 1920 which have been identified as historically and architecturally significant by the Stockton Cultural Heritage Board. In fact, over half of the district’s structures were constructed before 1920 and reflect virtually every notable architectural style of California’s 19th and early 20th centuries.

The Midtown-Magnolia area of Stockton is located within the boundaries of Harding Way on the North, Miner Avenue on the South, Union Pacific Railroad tracks on the East, and El Dorado Street on the West.

Enjoy your tour of this exceptionally rare neighborhood!
The Homes

1. 1335 N. Hunter. “Dunne House” (1895) Built for Edward Dunne, community pioneer and owner of a local shoe store. Eastlake, Stick, and Queen Anne styles were combined in the design of this building. Notice the collection of original stained glass windows.

2. 1330 N. Hunter (1899). This Queen Anne house is characterized by a turret topped with a witches cap peaked roof.

3. 1241 N. Hunter “McMurray Home” (1909). At one time occupied by Elihu B. Stowe, manager of Farmers Union and Milling Co., this Classic Revival home embodies the attempt to return to classic forms in architecture. In particular the detailed capitals atop the columns.

4. 119 E. Rose “Giles Nursing Home” (1908). Originally built for Luke Peart, the manager of Heald’s Business School, this Queen Anne is composed of two houses. The back half was believed to have been moved from San Francisco to Stockton by way of the Delta.

5. 135 E. Magnolia “Bennett Apartments” (1919). Designed by pioneer architect, Ralph P. Morell in the Spanish Colonial Revival style. This unique structure was home to many of Stockton’s well-respected citizens. It is designed so that no apartment directly faced another.

6. 205 E. Magnolia “Knox-Baxter-Sullivan Mansion” (1910). Built by Lee A. Phillips, and designed by Edgar B. Brown, who is also known for designing the Stockton Hotel (1910) and the Children’s Home of Stockton (1912). This Craftsman style, shingle bungalow has been home for many prominent Stocktonians. Notice the old carriage house down the alley.

7. 1107 N. San Joaquin “Newell House” (1888). Built for Sidney Newell, and his wife Anna Elizabeth (Uspalone). This is one of the finest examples of Queen Anne architecture in the Northern San Joaquin Valley. Designed by Samuel & Joseph Newsom Architects. Newell was a prominent banker of Stockton Savings Bank and a Steamboat Company Executive.

8. 1119 N. San Joaquin “Owen House” (1890). First owned by Charles Owen, a local music and jewelry store owner, this Queen Anne was sold in 1909 to William Brennan, the proprietor of a leading Livery stable.

9. 1143 N. San Joaquin “Ketcham House” (1890). This house was once the residence of General Thomas E. Ketcham, a Civil War veteran.

10. 1130 N. San Joaquin “Catts House” (1897). This was the residence of George E. Catts, the owner of Lauxen and Catts Furniture Store and the first president of the San Joaquin Pioneer and Historical Society which later founded the Haggin Museum in 1931. Original of this Queen Anne style house was remodeled in 1918 to resemble a Craftsman Shingle style.

11. 1120 N. San Joaquin “Levy House” (1893). Built for Max Levy, a prominent merchant, this Queen Anne displays turned posts, spool and spindle work, eyelid dormer and connected witches cap and finial.

12. 1106 N. San Joaquin “Buck House” (1892). Built for Judge George Buck. A beauty in its day, this house displays many of the characteristics of the Queen Anne style house.

13. 1045 N Sutter “McGurk House” (1890). An outstanding example of Queen Anne Cottage style. Home of Dr. Raymond T. McGurk, who served on the Stockton Police Force and was a pioneer in X-Ray technology. In 1912 the portico was restyled.

14. 345 E. Acacia “Manson Apartment” (1936). This is an early example of Streamlined Moderne. A forerunner of its time with glass bricks and built-in electric appliances. “The finest apartment building ever to be constructed in this area … ” (Stockton Record, 1936). Designed by Frank V. Mayo, also known for the Medico-Dental Building (1927).

15. 938-944 N. Sutter “Goold & John’s Tudor Flats.” (1924), built in the Commercial Gothic Style. Designed by Allen and Young, local architects who helped design the Stockton Civic Auditorium (1924), and are also known for; Henry Apts. (1913), First Church of Christ, Scientist Building (1928) and the Jewish Community Center (1928).

16. 347 E. Poplar “Barnett House” (1869). A former residence of real estate agent H. Barnett, this Cottage style house is one of the oldest buildings still standing in Stockton. At the turn of the century, Neoclassical alterations were added.