

Historic St. George

Walking Tour

Green Gate Village



Prepared by the Washington County Historical Society

Introduction

Settlers who arrived in St. George in 1861 laid out the town on a grid based on LDS leader Joseph Smith's Plat of Zion. Individual home lots were clustered in the town center, surrounded by fields held in common

by the villagers. The blocks in the historic heart of St. George are 528 feet square, with an area of 6.4 acres, and major streets are 90 feet wide. Each block was originally divided into eight lots. In addition to a house, each town lot contained gardens and orchards for food production, and pastures, pens, and corrals for domestic animals, along with outbuildings such as barns and granaries.



The Advenire Hotel 25 West St. George Blvd
Circa 2020/1865



The site of the today's Advenire was for nearly two decades the epicenter of old pioneer St George. With its gable roof and cornice returns, the Social Hall was the town's first community center designed to accommodate both social and religious events. In 1880 when the St. George opera house was built, social events moved there and the old Social Hall was sold and used for private interests, such as The General Merchandise store as seen in the photo. Today, the four-story hotel is part

of Marriott's Autograph hotels, and the windows were designed with a local history theme styled after Erastus Snow's Big House, once located across the street.

Closet Revival 79 North Main

A clothes boutique that has been in operation for about two years, according to store manager Sarah Ripplinger.



St. George Co-op Mercantile (Bear Paw Cafe)
75 North Main
Circa 1876



In the early days of St. George, stores did not exist because of the high cost of transporting goods and because no one had money, so bartering was the pre-eminent trading system. When the cooperative movement launched in Salt Lake City with the goal of protecting those in the Utah

Territory from outside price gouging, the Southern Utah Cooperative Association organized in 1868, which morphed into the St. George Co-op. For over half a century, the Co-op was the driving force in the financial progress and growth of the area. Irritated that not one woman sat on the board of directors of the co-op, "the Sisters" formed their own co-op, placing the little store directly across the street. Also, for years the Co-op building was the site of Mama Edy's, and her initials are carved in the wood at the front cash stand. Currently, the Bear Paw Café is here, started in 1998 by the Pizzuto family.



Riggatti's Wood-fired Pizza 73 North Main

Hometown Lenders, 61 North Main has been at this location since 2017, according to Manager Shane Eagan and Loan Officer Pete Morrow. It also serves as the offices of **Mission Firefly**, a non-profit organization that digs water wells and builds schools in Guatamala. "We kick butt on loans," Eagan said, "It's all about service. Services stays forever."

MoFaCo

(Modern Farm and Artisan Co-op)

55 North Main

The **Garden of Edith** florist shop operated for many years here. Today **MoFaCo** is owned by Kat Puzey. In the rear part of the building **6Bit Creative**

LLC co-owned by Brian Jensen. Ed Nelson is owner of the building.



Wide Angle Gallery

51 North Main

Owned by Nathan Watkins, this business opened in 2003. "I take pictures of pretty places in Southern Utah," Watkins says. "I like to find places that are off the beaten path."

Main Street Antiques

49 North Main

Selling old coins, silver, gold, and antiques that are 60 years old or older, this business is owned by Jerry Christensen.



Forever Young Fine Jewelers 41 North Main

McArthur Jewelers was born at the end of World War II when Tom McArthur was stationed in northern Italy. While on leave in Switzerland, he became intrigued with the beautiful Swiss clocks and watches. Using the G.I. Bill, Tom enrolled in watchmaker's school then worked for Steadman Jewelers. In 1950 he moved his family to his hometown of St. George and opened McArthur Jewelers. He chose the location on Main Street next to the Dixie (movie) Theatre because "the people will leave the movie theatre holding hands, they will see my diamond rings tempting them, and she will let him know the one she wants." The store grew and changed over the years. In 1972 dad asked his son to come help for the summer, and as Tom Jr. said, "The summer never ended." In 1983, Tom Jr. and his wife purchased the business. Four McArthur daughters worked in the business and added energy and vision to the company until its sale to Jeremy Young, an employee of McArthur Jewelers. Jeremy and his wife Megan Young owned and operated the jewelry store until Jeremy passed away in 2018. Megan Young is the sole owner today.





Wadsworth Building (Arts to Zion and Dixie Watercolor Society) 35 North Main

Circa 1927

The Wadsworth Building has been home to many businesses such as the Dixie Theater, Jimmy's Fountain & Lunch, Rex's Fountain, RM Reber Insurance Agency, Wadsworth Apartments, Wadsworth Theatre, and a TV station. Dixie College students rented apartments in this building. Around 2005, the building housed the Main Street Theatre and Ballroom. Today the building houses the Dixie Watercolor Society and Arts to Zion, an art

destination that represents local artists. Other tenants in the rear of the building include LearnKey, ArtProvides.com and Creative Well Design.

Twenty-Five Main (Cafe)
25 North Main

Has been opened since 2010 and is owned by Jason and Lori Legg.



KW St. George Keller Williams Realty (Prado)
21 North Main

This building was constructed in 1873. The building, which also includes City Wide Loans/Vanguard Title Insurance Agency at 15 N. Main is owned by Patrica Bishop, according to Marilyn Marquez, real estate agent.





Bishops' Storehouse *17 North Main*

Circa 1887

The bishops' storehouse received and stored the tithes and offerings donated by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The goods were distributed to the widows as well as the poor and needy in the community. The building later became a bakery owned and operated by the McArthur family.

Gold Ore Store *7 North Main*

Gred and Melodie Neel began by purchasing mining claims in Beaver County with the goal of selling gold, silver and other mining ores. Eventually, they opened a storefront in St. George in 2012. The store carries coins, old currency, collectibles, antiques as well as products for the natural healing arts, including books, teaching aids, crystals, stones, rocks and other metaphysical items.

Annie's Vintage Garden *3 North Main*

Established in 2003 by Annie Whitney, the store is stocked by independent vendors who lease floor space and offer gifts, décor, collectibles, clothing, accessories, jewelry, locally made artwork and more.

One Hot Grill of Dixie *14 West Tabernacle*

This has been owned by Dona Lane Brady since 2012. It features hamburgers, hot dogs and Italian beef sandwiches.



George and Leonora

Worthen Home *16 West*

Tabernacle

Circa 1870s

Torn down and replaced by **City View St. George** apartments, this house was built and owned by Orson Pratt who sold it to Joseph Bentley. Bentley married

Maggie Ivins, sister to Anthony W. Ivins. When the Bentleys and Ivins moved to Mexico, the house was bought by George and Leonora Worthen, who raised nine children in this simple two-story adobe home. The children slept upstairs. Among the events that happened here: one day while George was serving a mission in West Virginia, Leonora found a sack of flour on her doorstep and cried because she hadn't had enough food for her children; youngest daughter Lucille was playing next door when she lit a match, dropped it on her gingham dress, then ran to attempt to extinguish the blaze and neighbor Mrs. Jewell caught her, wrapped her in a blanket, and smothered the flames and both Lucille and Mrs. Jewell suffered serious burns; George worked as a driver of the temple wagon, then later served as patriarch; in this house, daughter Maida was married in 1914; in 1926 George and Leonora celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Green Gate Village

The Green Gate Village is a unique collection of eight pioneer and early Victorian St George homes (circa 1862-1881), some of which are on the National Register of Historic Places. Self-guided tours of the grounds are available daily. Green Gate Village is owned by Peg Development and the Gulbranson Family, according to Jared Gulbranson. Vertex is the property manager of Greene Gate Village.

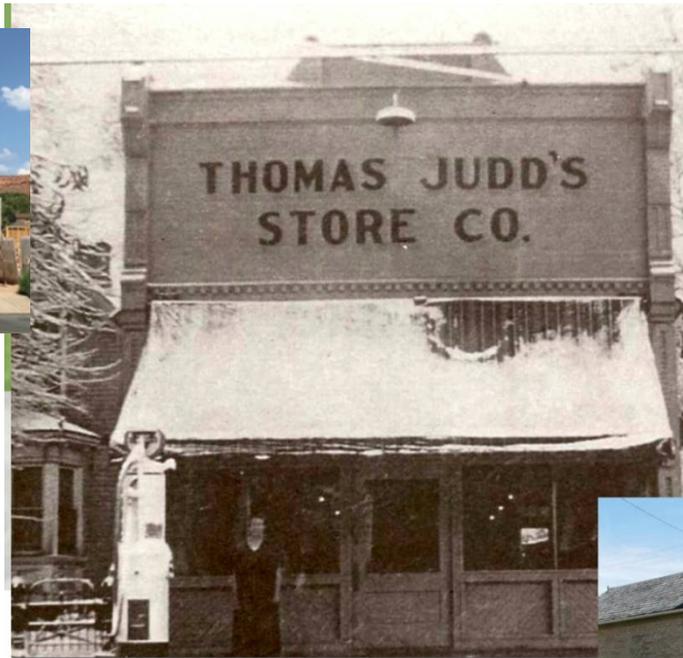


Green Gate Village

Judd's Store

Circa 1911

In 1879 William Bentley built his home then later Richard Bentley built this store in front of the house. Founded as a general mercantile, this store built with adobe bricks handled groceries and dry goods, including clothes, kerosene, hay dry goods and fabrics. Gas was even pumped at the curb, and one of the pumps is now renovated and located in front of the store at its original location. The store was purchased by the Judd Family who added a "sweet shop," and the enterprise became the oldest family-owned business in St. George. Since 1911, Judd's store has been a favorite place visited by every kid in town, conveniently located across the street from the Woodward school. The wood floors, custom shelves and drawers are all original. Remaining in the Judd family until 1982, the city wanted to condemn the store and turn it



into a parking lot, but Dr. Mark and Barbara Greene purchased the building and made it the focal point of Green Gate Village. Still open for business, visitors can enjoy hearty soups, warm breadsticks, candy and glass bottled sodas for lunch in a nostalgic setting.



Green Gate Village

Orson

**Pratt/Richard and
Elizabeth Bentley
Home**

Circa 1862

The Pratt family built this large two-story house directly north of

the public square. The first permanent home in St. George, it was constructed with locally produced adobe bricks stacked two deep, with a black lava rock foundation and 18-inch thick walls. The Pratt family lived on the second story as the ground floor was fitted as both a small dry goods store and St. George's first post office. In 1864, Pratt was called on a mission to Austria. Before he left, he traded homes with Richard Bentley in Salt Lake City. The Bentley family continued to operate the small store out of the room on the west end of the first floor, but they also converted the main portion of the downstairs into living quarters. Bentley's wife, Elizabeth, was in the forefront of the ladies called to develop the silk industry in Utah's Dixie and one large room upstairs was devoted to this industry adventure.

After Richard Bentley's death, the building passed into the hands of his son, prominent local businessman, William Oscar Bentley, whose family lived there until the early 1920s when he built a more modern home just around the corner. When the family moved out, the house was divided

into apartments and suffered several unsightly changes and additions. By 1981, the building was in a state of complete decay and marked for demolition by the city, but it was purchased by Dr. Mark and Barbara Greene who turned it into the centerpiece of the Green Gate Village bed and breakfast complex.

This home is currently used by “**Scout Cloth**” store.



Green Gate Village

Joseph and Margaret Bentley Home

Circa 1876

William Oscar

Bentley completed this house in 1876 for his bride-to-be, Mary Ann Mansfield. When he proposed to Mary Ann, he promised her a beautiful new Victorian-style

home in the shadow of the Tabernacle. She accepted and construction began almost immediately. Her diary tells of how she enjoyed watching its construction and dreamed of the day when she would be mistress of this elegant structure with its spacious rooms and ornate woodwork. But, alas, Mary Ann was never to have this privilege. Two weeks before the wedding, William Oscar Bentley sold the home to his brother, Joseph. Mary Ann's diary records her heartbreak: "I almost called the wedding off, but decided I was getting married 'for better or worse,' and I needed to learn that lesson right from the start." One of Joseph Bentley's families grew up within these walls until the family moved to Colonial Juarez. A great deal of the social life of early St. George took place here with its elegant Christmas decorations and parties. In 1908, Joseph Bentley sold the house to pioneer businessman, Thomas Judd. In 1911, Judd opened *Judd's General Store* in front of the house and the house became the

office and storage space. When Thomas' son, Joseph Judd, took over, he continued to run the store but boarded up the house. The house remained unoccupied for over 50 years. The city slated the house for demolition, until Dr. Mark and Barbara Greene purchased the building in 1982, making it a focal point of their Green Gate Village. A long period of restoration followed during which hand painted doors and 'marble' fireplaces were discovered. The original stove was also found under a collapsed out-building. Today the house serves as the **Chef Alfredo Italian Restaurant**.



Green Gate Village

Charles and Mary Tolley Cabin

Currently occupied by "Twisted Silver" store, the Tolley cabin was originally built on a small family farm in Nortonville, near Nephi, Utah. The two-room

broadside (a pioneer style characterized by a fireplace at each end of the house) was built by Charles and Mary Tolley. The house was the birthplace of 13 children. In the winter, the boys slept on the front porch enclosed with canvas and quilts. In the summertime, all the Tolley children slept outdoors under apple trees. The Tolley home was moved to St. George in 1989 with the help of a historical architect who meticulously and catalogued each board, door frame and window sash before it was dismantled.



Green Gate Village

Home to Thomas and Mary Judd Home/George and Victoria Miles/Green Hedge Manor/Cedar Pointe Homes Circa 1872

This house, built by Thomas Judd, was located at 238 South 200 East in the midst of huge old mulberry trees and behind a tall untrimmed tamarack hedge surrounding most of the city block. Grape vines and rose bushes bordered the sidewalk to the house. The Judd-Miles Home, constructed of lava rock and adobe on the exterior, features three Dixie dormers and a large porch, both with decorative scroll work somewhat unusual for the period and region.

After building his store on Tabernacle, Thomas Judd built a new family home on the corner of Tabernacle and 100 West. Judd sold this old house to the George Q. Cannon family who, in turn, sold it to George E. Miles.

Miles lived there for seven decades and raised seven children with his wife Victoria Jarvis until he died at age 104. This house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on January 31, 1978.

Scheduled for demolition In 1986, enough signatures prevented the home's destruction. The house was moved to an empty lot but sustained severe damage. For several years, the disassembled pieces of the home sat in piles, protected against the elements until its restoration in 1991.



Green Gate Village

Orpha Morris House/Signature Scents

Circa 1879

This house was built for Orpha Morris on the corner of Main and 200 North, across from the St. George Opera House. It was a two-story home with a granary. Morris was a successful seamstress and clothing designer in the Los Angeles area.

Because she was the only one of her siblings who wasn't married, she gave up her career and returned to St. George to care for her sick and aging parents. Over the years, the house fell into disrepair. In the early 1980's, it was scheduled for demolition to make way for the Post Office on 200 North Main, but Dr. Mark and Barbara Greene rescued it and had it moved to the *Green Gate Village*. It took more than a month after the purchase contract was signed to secure steel beams under the foundation. Cables

were wrapped around the home, and it was moved onto a truck bed. With the help of St. George City, the house inched toward its Tabernacle address. Power lines were disconnected to allow the passage of the two-story home. It successfully made the turn from Main Street onto Tabernacle and was lined up perfectly in front of its new foundation. However, moving the truck up and over the curb resulted in a broken axle, and the jarring snapped the cables. Nearly a century of memories fell into the courtyard in a thunderous crash. After surveying the heap, it would have been easier to carry the rubble to the local dump. But having already invested a significant amount of time and money and with the help of the trucker's great insurance, the house was rebuilt using as much of the original material as possible.



Green Gate Village
The Christmas Cottage

The cottage was originally located behind Andelin's Gable House Restaurant at 206 East St. George Blvd and it is an original pioneer house.

The "Christmas Cottage" label stuck after Mike Andelin began selling holiday decorations from October to February in the home. Later, when the Gable House was sold and demolished, there was just enough time to convince the new property owners to not demolish the cottage. The cottage was taken down brick by brick and reassembled at Green Gate Village and today houses The Barbers of Green Gate.

Green Gate Village

Carriage House and Granary

Occupied by **Cosy House and Gift**, this long rectangular adobe brick building is divided into two sections: the Carriage House and the Granary. The *Carriage House* stored the Judd family's various forms of transportation. Originally, the only openings were large double doors that faced the alley. During restoration, a front entrance and windows were framed into the 18-inch-thick walls. The Granary was used as a storehouse for Judd's Store. Bags of grain, storage bins, drop shoots, and a loading dock have been replaced by lace curtains and flowered wallpaper. When the Granary was cleaned out of almost a century of accumulated odds and ends, lots of treasures were found, among them were 50 pairs of new shoes (circa 1900). Many of the items found in the cleanup are on display in Judd's Store.



Green Gate Village

Judd Bungalow

Home 94 West

Tabernacle

Circa 1917

Occupied by **The Book Bungalow and Nature Study**, this was the home of Thomas Judd, Sr., then his son, Joseph, who raised a family there. Joseph's son,

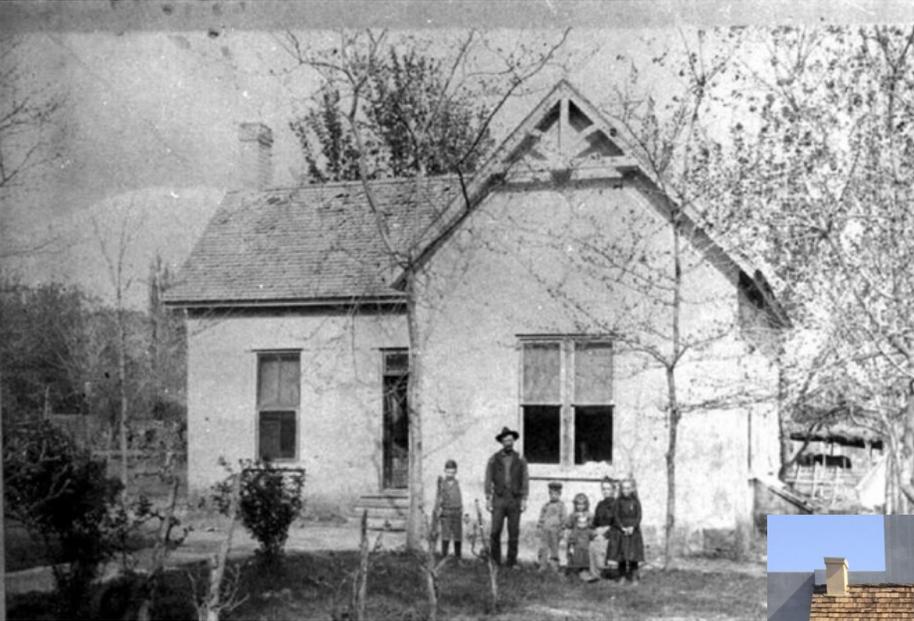
Thomas Judd Jr., grew up in this house; his room was a screened in porch at the back of the house. The home remained in the Judd family until 1974. The style of this building, Prairie School Bungalow, had external walls of yellow brick, which was considered a luxury in this area at the turn

of the century. The interior was finished off in the Arts and Crafts style made popular by Frank Lloyd Wright. Tapered columns and built-in cabinets with glass doors have been restored to their original luster. This house was purchased by Dr. Mark and Barbara Greene for inclusion in the Green Gate Village in the 1980s.



William and Hettie Bentley Home 46 North 100 West
Circa 1923

Currently Carmell's Cottage Antiques and Home Treasures, this house was built by William Oscar Bentley, Jr, who married Hettie Sullivan. Bentley served as a member of the Utah State Board of Education for 22 years and was instrumental in transitioning Dixie Junior College from a private church school to a state school. He was director of the Pickett Lumber Company for 50 years. Every Thanksgiving, the Bentley grandchildren gather on the porch for a family picture. William and Hettie celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary in the home. William died in the home from a heart attack. Today the home is owned by Carmell Averett, the antique store has been in operation since 2015.



Benjamin and Alice Pendleton

Home 60 North 100 West

Circa 1870s



Benjamin Franklin Pendleton was called by Brigham Young to relocate to Dixie as the community's blacksmith. To build this home, Pendleton mixed his own adobe on the site where Dixie State University now stands. Since he only had three brick molds, the bricks were laboriously made three at a time, dried, stacked, then repeated. Benjamin F. Pendleton died before the home was finished, but it was eventually completed by his son using the same technique. Alice Pendleton was the mother of eight children and lived in the home until her death after a lifelong struggle with asthma. The home is currently City View Leasing Office.

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