

## A Brief History...

The first farmers moved into the area in the years following the Civil War. They dug out the existing canals left by the Hohokam people and built new ones to carry water to their fields across the valley. The first settlers in the Tempe area were a group of Hispanic families who started small farms to the west of Tempe Butte. In 1870, Charles Trumbell Hayden, owner of a mercantile and freighting business, homesteaded here.

These communities merged into one, and after some earlier settlement names, Tempe was officially named in 1879. "Lord" Darrell Duppa, an Englishman who helped establish Phoenix, is credited with suggesting the name. The sight of the butte and the wide river, and the nearby expanse of green fields, reminded him of the Vale of Tempe in ancient Greece.

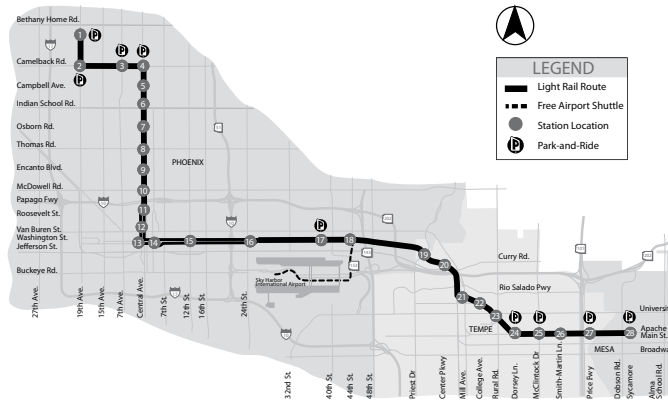
As more farmers settled in the Valley and started raising alfalfa and grains to feed livestock, the Tempe Irrigating Canal Company provided the necessary water. Crops of wheat, barley, and oats ensured a steady business for the Hayden Mill. The milled flour was hauled to forts and other settlements throughout the territory. By the 1890s, some farmers started growing new cash crops such as dates and citrus fruits.

In 1885, the Arizona legislature selected Tempe as the site for the Territorial Normal School, which trained teachers for Arizona's schools. The Maricopa and Phoenix Railroad, built in 1887, crossed the Salt River at Tempe, linking the town to the nation's growing transportation system. Tempe became one of the most important business and shipping centers for the surrounding agricultural area.

The completion of Roosevelt Dam in 1911 guaranteed enough water to meet the growing needs of Valley farmers. On his way to dedicate the dam, former President Theodore Roosevelt applauded the accomplishments of the people of central Arizona from the steps of Old Main, at what is now Arizona State University. He predicted that their towns would grow to become prosperous cities. Less than a year later, Arizona became the 48th state, and the Salt River Valley was well on its way to becoming the new population center of the Southwest.

Prompted by Tempe's centennial in 1971, Mill Avenue was revitalized into an entertainment and shopping district that attracts people throughout the Valley. Tempe is the eighth largest city in Arizona, with a strong modern economy based on commerce, tourism, and electronics manufacturing.

## Valley Metro Light Rail Map



*The recommended light rail station for the Downtown Tempe Walk Through History Event is Mill Avenue / Third Street*



## DOWNTOWN TEMPE WALK THROUGH HISTORY

*Mill Avenue Route Map*



# DOWNTOWN TEMPE WALK THROUGH HISTORY

Tours will focus on the original Tempe town site and will include descriptions of the development of the community within the broad patterns of state growth and development.

## Mill Avenue Downtown Tour

Enjoy a closer look at some of the buildings along Mill Avenue that have been restored for today's uses and hear the story of Tempe's famous inverted pyramid, otherwise known as Tempe Municipal Building. The Mill Avenue Downtown Tour is .75 miles from start to finish.



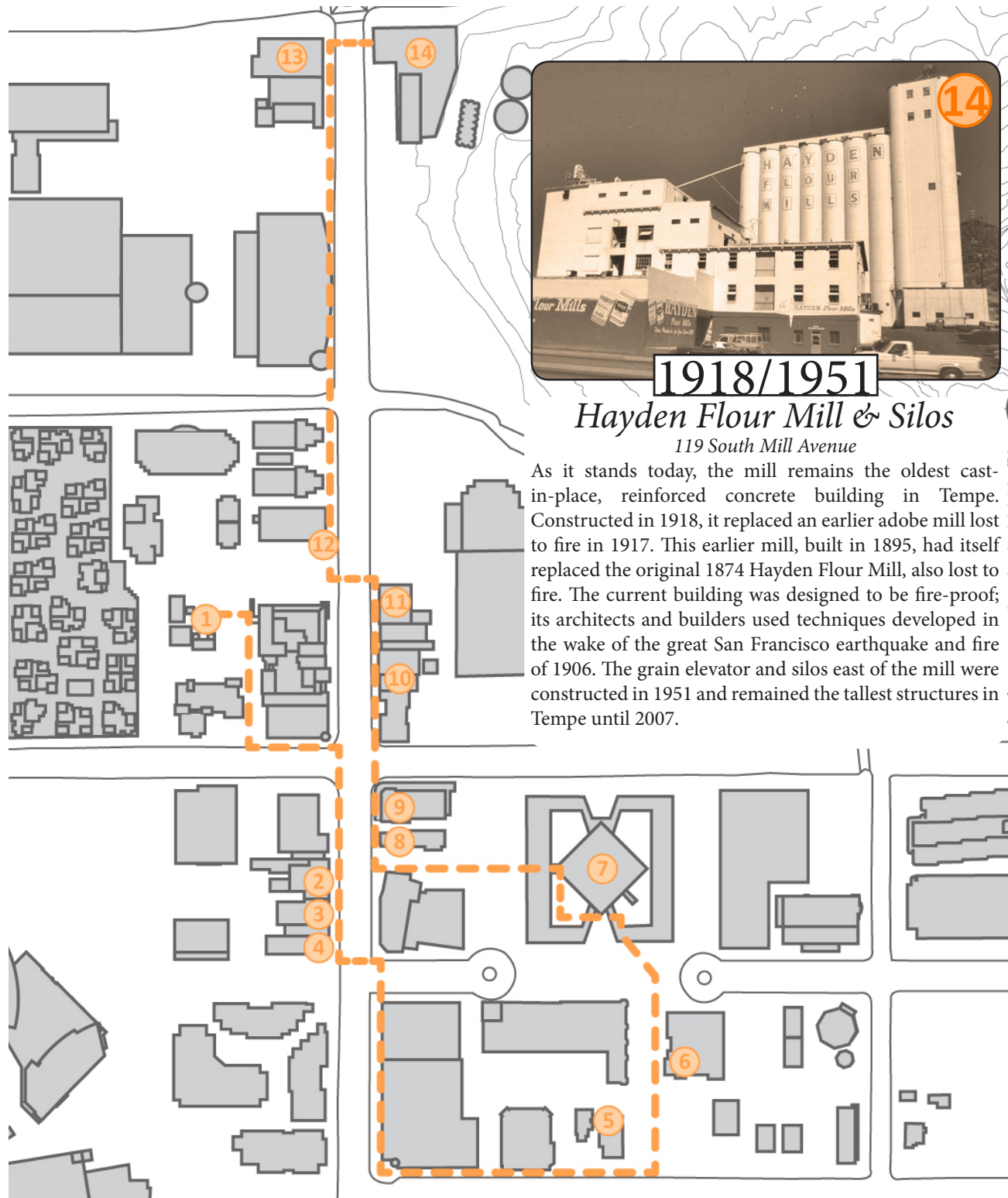
**1888**

NR / THPR

### Tempe Bakery - Hackett House

401 - 405 West 4th Street

This building is the oldest fired brick building in Tempe, and perhaps possesses the most original integrity of any territorial commercial building in Maricopa County. It has a majority of the original material remaining from the time of its construction, dating to the territorial period.



**1918/1951**

### Hayden Flour Mill & Silos

119 South Mill Avenue

As it stands today, the mill remains the oldest cast-in-place, reinforced concrete building in Tempe. Constructed in 1918, it replaced an earlier adobe mill lost to fire in 1917. This earlier mill, built in 1895, had itself replaced the original 1874 Hayden Flour Mill, also lost to fire. The current building was designed to be fire-proof; its architects and builders used techniques developed in the wake of the great San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906. The grain elevator and silos east of the mill were constructed in 1951 and remained the tallest structures in Tempe until 2007.





1907/1909

NR / THPR

### Garfield Goodwin Building

512 – 516 South Mill Avenue

The Garfield Goodwin Building is significant for its association with Garfield A. Goodwin, a prominent citizen of Tempe and operator of the Goodwin Curio Store for 41 years. The Garfield Goodwin Building is Tempe's only one-story cast iron frame commercial building and retains a significant portion of its exterior and interior integrity.



1898

NR / THPR

### Tempe Hardware Building

520 South Mill Avenue

The Tempe Hardware Building was originally built as the Odd Fellows Hall in 1898. The building has also served as home to a variety of organizations and businesses. The Tempe Hardware Co. occupied the ground floor from 1906 to 1976, making it one of the oldest continuously operated businesses in Tempe history. It is best known as the oldest 3-story brick building in Maricopa County.



1912

NR / THPR

### Tempe National Bank Building

526 South Mill Avenue

The Tempe National Bank was once a handsomely detailed building constructed in 1912 in the Egyptian Revival style. The building underwent a “modernization” in 1949 which obscured the original character. In 2005 the building's original architectural elements were restored to original scale and proportion.



1892

NR / THPR

### Governor B. B. Moeur House

34 East 7th Street

This multi-award-winning residence was once owned by former Arizona Governor Benjamin B. Moeur who served in office from 1932 until 1936. This home experienced a series of renovations over a 40-year period to transform it into what it is today. It is a locally significant example of early 20th century residential architecture. This residence is currently used by the Tempe Community Council as offices and meeting space.



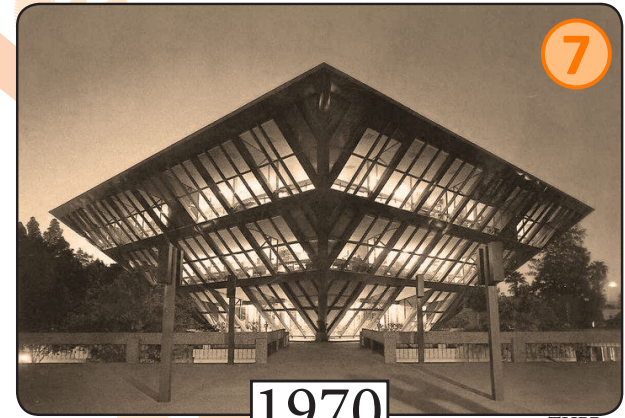
1899/1953

THPR

### First Congregational Church

101 East 6th Street

Originally constructed in 1899, the First Congressional Church was expanded in 1948 and 1953 to add classrooms and administrative space. It is an example of Colonial Revival Style architecture. The church houses the oldest congregation on the same site in Tempe. It was designated a Tempe Historic Property in 2001.



1970

THPR

### Tempe Municipal Building

31 East 5th Street

Tempe's city hall opened for the city's centennial and was the benchmark project for the revitalization of downtown Tempe. This has created a destination location in Tempe and has helped to draw thousands of tourists into downtown every year. Tempe Municipal Building is an architectural achievement as well as historical. It celebrates the use of steel construction as a primary construction method in the Salt River Valley.





8

1940

THPR

**Valley Art Theater**  
505 – 509 South Mill Avenue

The theater is the last remaining single-screen motion picture auditorium in the Valley of the Sun. It opened as the College Theater in 1940, named for its close proximity to Arizona State University, then Arizona State Teachers College. Owned and operated by Dwight Harkins, it was his third theater in Tempe. A successful expansion of Harkins' theater operations, the building is importantly associated with Depression-era business in Tempe.



9

1893

**Laird & Dines Building**  
501 South Mill Avenue

This building once housed an established drug store that served Tempe citizens for 63 years. It also served as the community's unofficial town hall, political campaign headquarters and boardroom. The building owners, Laird & Dines, also served terms as Tempe Mayor and on the Town Council.



10

1893

NR

**Vienna Bakery**  
423 South Mill Avenue

This is the only example of Commercial Victorian-style architecture in downtown Tempe. It served as a drug store as well as the local post office before becoming a bakery. This building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and received a Tempe Beautification Award of Merit in 1981. The Vienna Bakery Building was seriously damaged by a restaurant in 1990.



11

1900

NR

**Andre Building**  
411 – 415 South Mill Avenue

The original Andre Building was constructed in 1888 by R.G. Andre. The original building burned in 1899 and a new building was constructed on the same site the following year. Rebuilt in 1900, in partnership with C. G. Jones, the building remained true to the original design by prominent territorial architect James M. Creighton. The Andre Building is significant as one of Tempe's finest examples of Victorian and Neo-Classical architecture. Its design combines both Victorian Panel Brick Commercial and Neo-Classical elements. This is the best-preserved, continuously-used commercial block in the Salt River Valley.



12

1899

**Casa Loma Building**  
398 South Mill Avenue

Completed in 1899, the Casa Loma is the second hotel on this site. The brick structure replaced the Atwood Hotel that was consumed by fire in 1894. The new hotel was the early-day focal-point of Tempe's business district. Originally designed in a Victorian style, the exterior underwent a 1920s renovation to the then-popular Spanish Colonial Revival style. It features the original three-story, classically detailed staircase, and a restored cupola.



13

1873-1924

NR / THPR

**Charles T. Hayden House**  
1 West Rio Salado Parkway

The oldest continuously occupied structure in the Valley, C. T. Hayden House was built as Charles Hayden's family home between 1871 and 1873. In 1924, local architect and builder Robert T. Evans was commissioned by Hayden's daughters to restore the building to its original appearance. Later additions enlarged the facility to a total of 20,769 square feet on the 2.56-acre site. The property was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 and on the Tempe Historic Property Register in 2000.