Each postwar subdivision was evaluated for historic and architectural significance, and integrity. The significance of a subdivision was determined by its relation to historic themes, such as community planning and development, federal housing policy, or association with prominent builders and developers. The evaluation of a neighborhood's integrity was based on several factors, including the proportion of individual properties that possess a high degree of integrity, the presence of a subdivision's key non-residential elements (streets, vegetation, irrigation system, etc.), and the absence of any significant non-conforming encroachments in the residential areas.

**STUDY METHODOLOGY**

The Tempe Post-World War II Context Study builds on previous key studies of the history of the built environment in Tempe. The original 1983 Tempe Historic Property Survey and Multiple Resource Area Nomination provides a thorough narrative history of Tempe, with emphasis on the development and early expansion of the original townsite. The 1997 Tempe Multiple Resource Area Update continues that narrative through 1945.

The Post WWII study does not provide the depth and detail of documentation required for a National Register nomination, rather it is intended to convey a broad contextual view of Tempe and its neighborhoods during the period from 1945 to 1960 to help City staff and the Historic Preservation Commission, as well as home owners and neighborhood associations, to assess, appreciate, and plan to conserve Tempe's postwar resources.

The field survey examined approximately 4,500 Tempe properties built between 1945 and 1960. From this survey, inventory forms were completed for 62 subdivisions containing nearly 1,800 individual properties. Only those houses that conveyed a high level of architectural integrity (i.e., that still possess all elements of their original design) were inventoried in detail.

Twenty four subdivisions were identified that will potentially become eligible as Historic Districts within the next ten years. Resources generally must be at least fifty years old to attain historic significance. Most of the properties surveyed for this study were built after 1951, and will soon become age-eligible. These subdivisions should be considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places as historic districts at the appropriate time, when most of the properties are at least fifty years old. Each of these subdivisions has some significant historical associations. Most or all of the houses in these neighborhoods were built between 1950 and 1960, and most of the houses, as well as the subdivisions themselves, exhibit a fairly high level of integrity.

**STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS**

Seven subdivisions were determined to be currently eligible as Historic Districts and were recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places as historic districts.

- Borden Homes
- College View
- Gage Addition
- Goodwin Homes
- Park Tract
- Roosevelt Addition
- University Park

**CONCLUSIONS**

Tempe has yet to designate an historic district, however, the Tempe Historic Preservation Commission has identified a goal to designate exemplary historic subdivisions as districts and list these on the Tempe Historic Property Register and the National Register of Historic Places.

Additionally, the above listed subdivisions are designated as Cultural Resource Areas in Tempe General Plan 2030. GP2030 represents a vision for the future of our community resulting from an extensive public participation process begun in 2002 and culminating with approved of the plan by Tempe voters at ballot 05/18/2004. Our community has identified Cultural Resource Areas in GP2030 as maintaining unique cultural significance that helps define the unique character of Tempe. GP2030 seeks to conserve these areas by recommending maintaining existing zoning at current densities. This stewardship affords opportunities for future historic district designations.

For additional information contact the Tempe Historic Preservation Office at 480.350.8870 or visit us on the world-wide-web at http://www.tempe.gov/historicpres.