

## West Lawn Heights Historic District

Platted in three phases between 1903 and 1917 on open farmland without trees or buildings, this wedge-shaped district comprises twenty-three whole City blocks. The West Lawn Heights district consists of almost 400 single-family homes, two commercial buildings, and two church-school complexes. Nearly all were built between 1906 and 1946. The three separate plats of the district present a unified appearance and rhythm because all three were designed and surveyed by Leonard H. Smith, a professor of civil engineering and city planning at the University of Wisconsin, and the developers established rules and restrictions in an attempt to guarantee physical and social attractiveness.

Individually the houses in the district are fine examples of architectural styles that were popular in Madison between 1906 and 1946. Houses that were built before World War I consist mostly of Craftsman, Arts & Crafts, American Foursquare, Bungalow, and Prairie styles. Houses built after the war are almost all fine, representative examples of the various period revival styles, the most common being Tudor Revival and Colonial Revival. Collectively, these buildings are significant because they typify the stylistic and historic evolution of the district and the surrounding City during that period. Most houses also retain a high degree of historic integrity.