

Tooele City Downtown Historic District

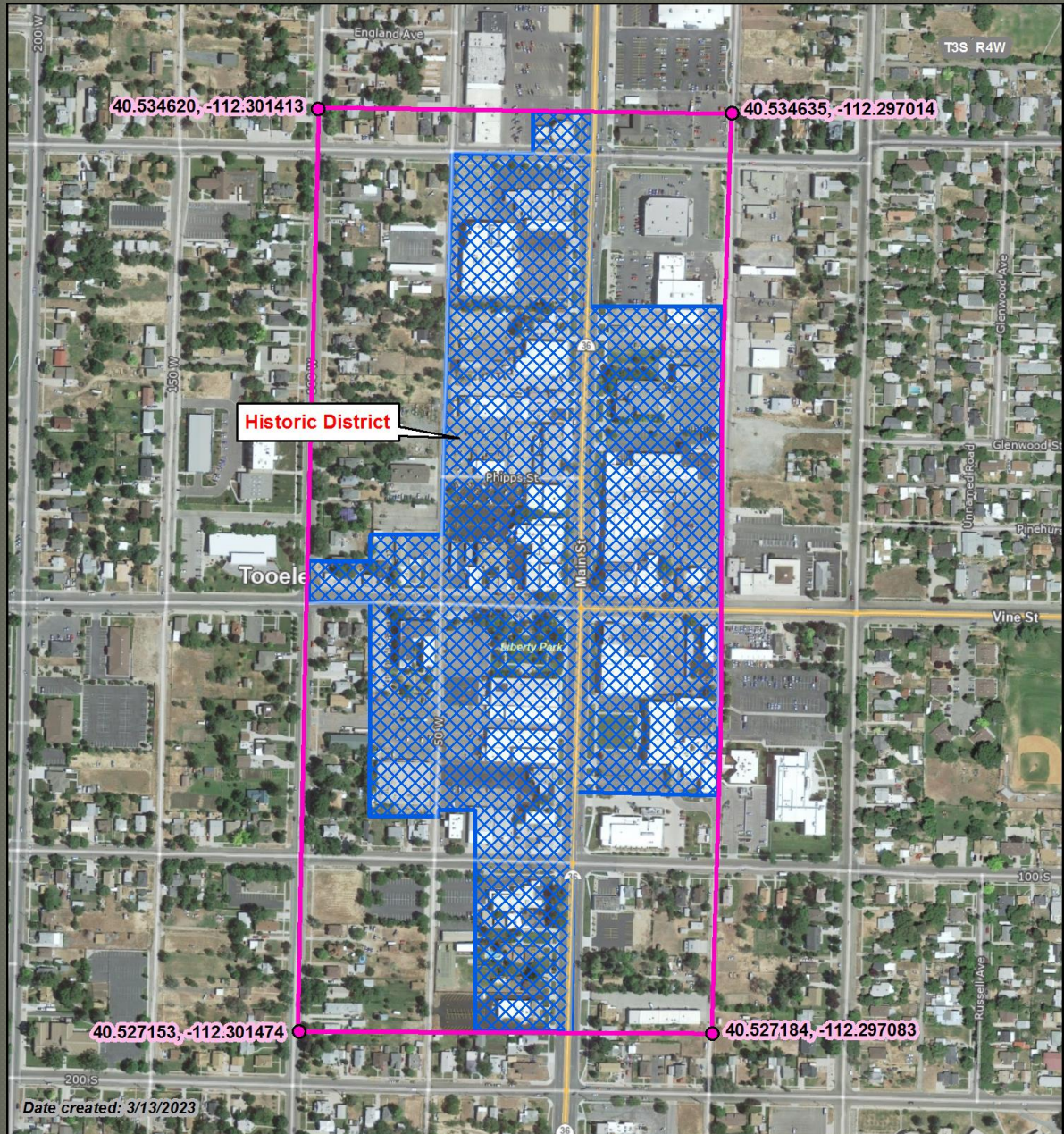
District Overview



April 10, 2023

Nomination Summary

- Boundaries
- Survey data
 - SHPO Staff 2019 Field Survey
- Statistics
 - 80 total properties
 - 48 Contributing (60-percent)
 - 32 Non-contributing (40-percent)
 - Mostly commercial buildings
- Period of Significance is 1864 to 1973



40.534620, -112.301413

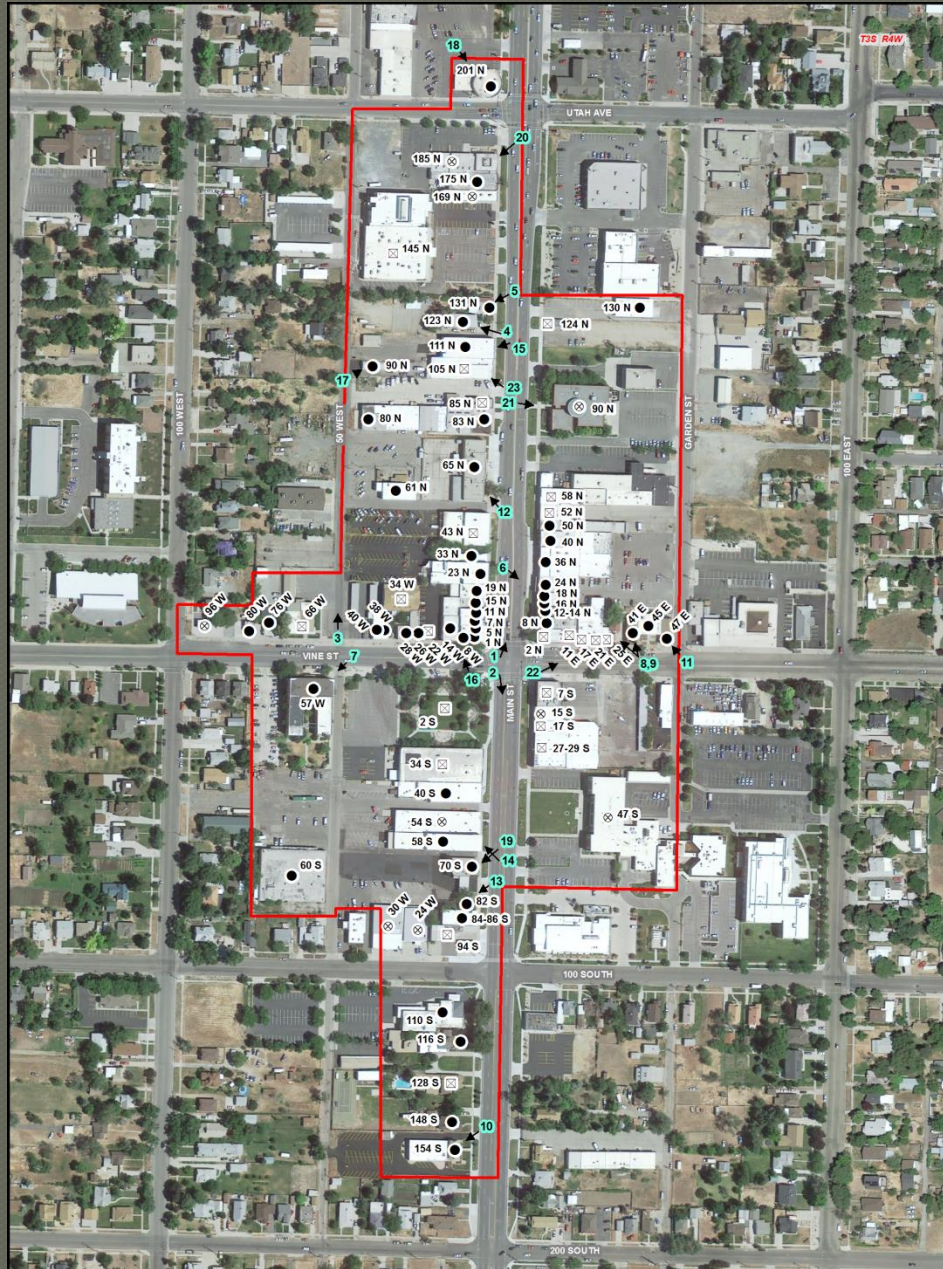
40.534635, -112.297014

Historic District

40.527153, -112.301474

40.527184, -112.297083

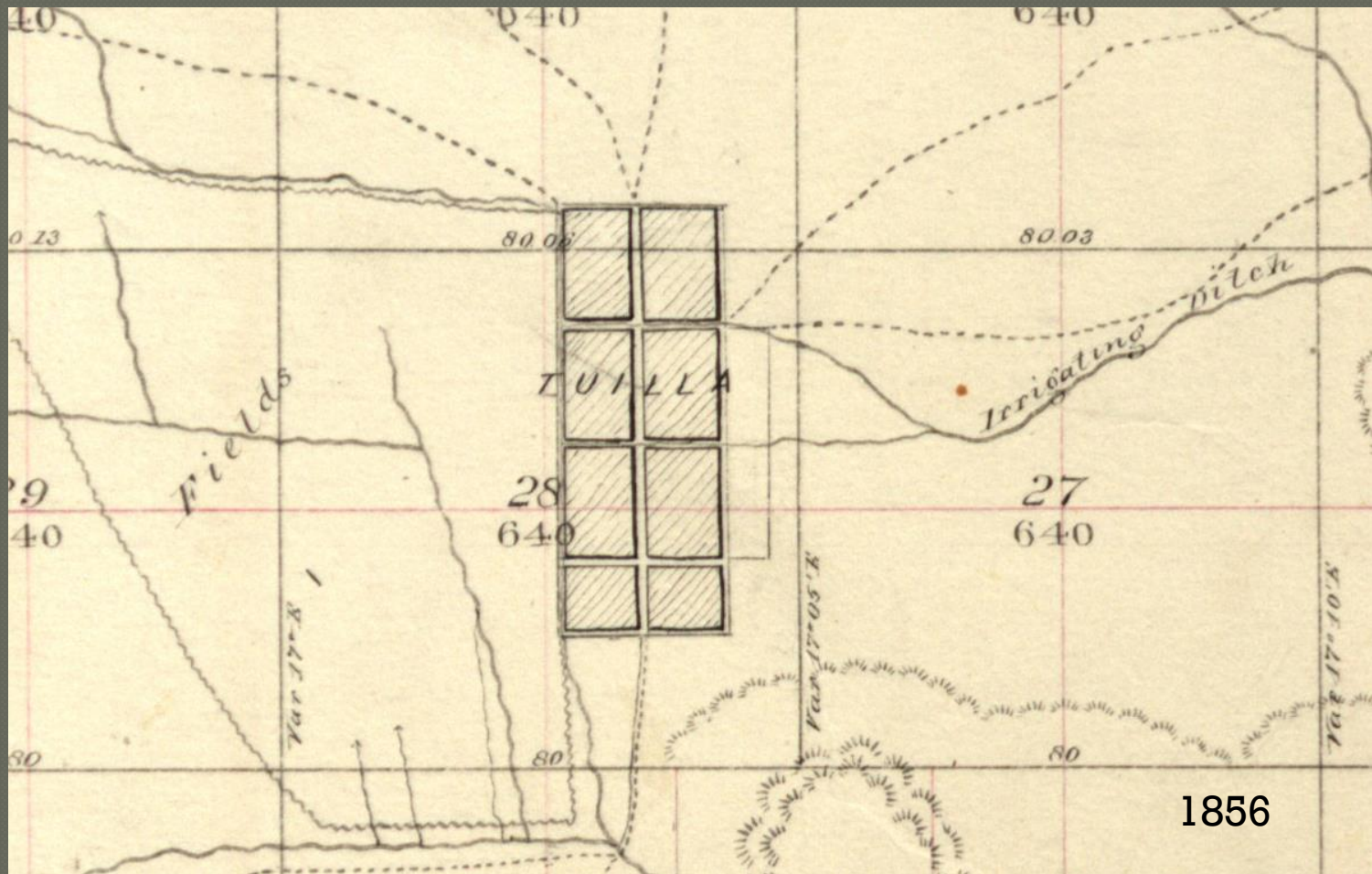
Date created: 3/13/2023



District History

- City settled in 1849 & incorporated in 1853
 - No resources in the District from this settlement period save for one relocated cabin
- Three major temporal/thematic periods define the history of the District
 - Early Mining Boom Period (1864 to 1909)
 - Industrial Development Period (1910 to 1941)
 - Defense Industry Period (1942 to 1973)

Early Mining Boom (1864 to 1909)



Early Mining Boom (1864 to 1909)

- ◉ Period is marked by discovery of mineral ore in the surrounding mountains and start of Rush Valley Mining District
- ◉ Mostly Classical style architecture edging into Victorian styles later in the period
- ◉ Tooele City rapidly became the commercial hub of the valley
- ◉ Over 1000 residents by 1890

Early Mining Boom (1864 to 1909)

- 10 total buildings from this period
 - Oldest is Tooele County Courthouse (1867)
 - Remaining 9 buildings built 1890 to 1906
 - 7 Contributing and 3 Non-contributing
 - Mix of commercial and residential

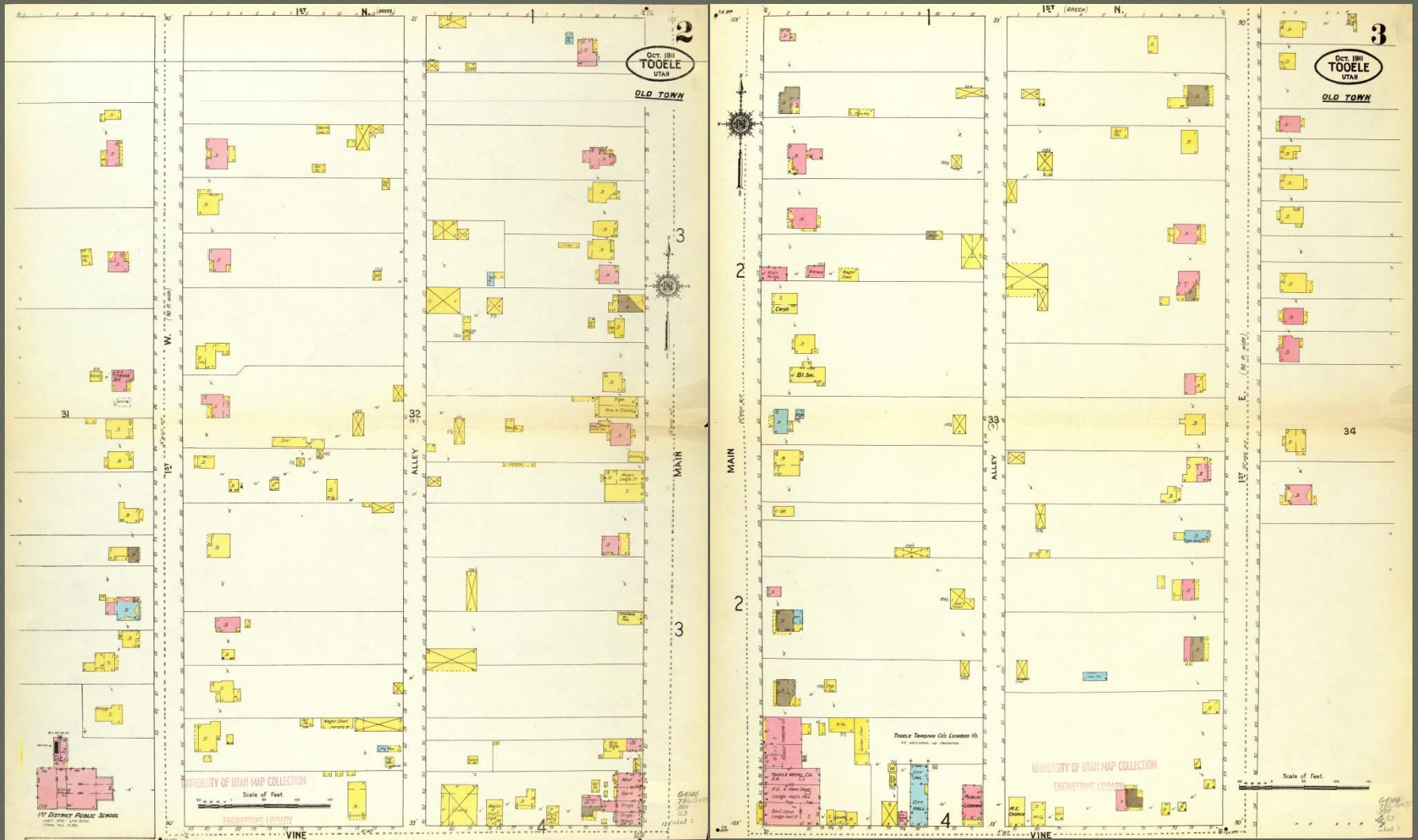


Industrial Development (1910 to 1941)

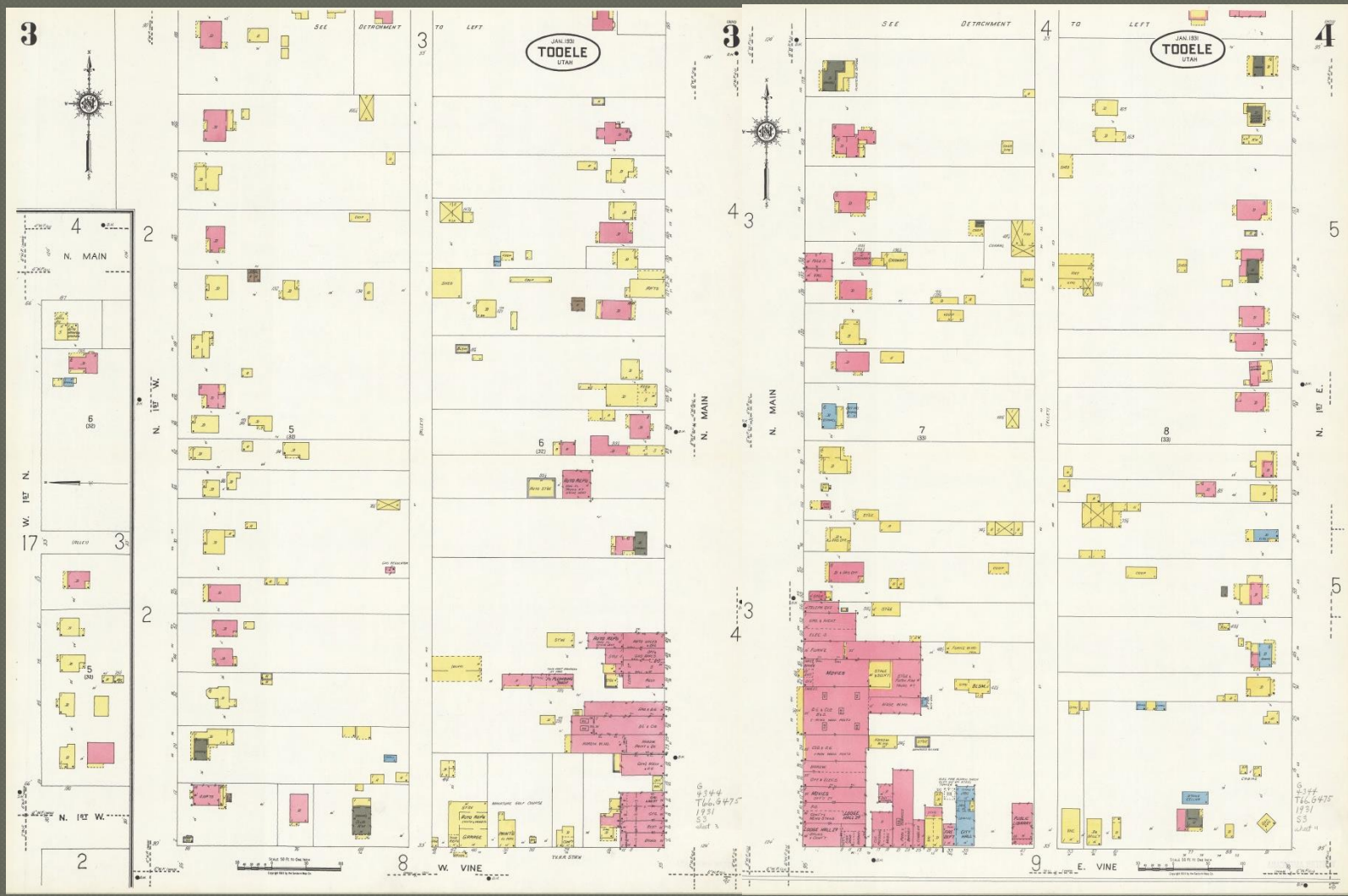
- ◉ Marked by opening of the International Smelting & Refining Company smelter
 - Spurred heavy influx of residents/workers and support services
 - Smelter operated 3 shifts/day with up to 1,000 workers per shift
 - Population grew from 2,753 in 1910 to 3,600 by 1920
 - Tooele Valley Railroad (1912)
 - New Town established

Industrial Development (1910 to 1941)

- 40 total resources from this period
 - 28 Contributing
 - 12 Non-contributing
 - Start of shift toward mostly commercial use
- Shift in architectural styles
 - Classical architecture of earlier period gave way to Victorian styles then to Early American forms (e.g., Bungalow, & Period Cottage) and early WWII Era styles



1911 Sanborn Map



1931 Sanborn Map

Industrial Development (1910 to 1941)

◉ Notable buildings include

- Carnegie Library (1911)
- Post Office (1934)



Defense Industry (1942 to 1973)

- Initiated by establishment of military facilities in the area (e.g., TOD, DCD)
 - New influx of workers to the city
- Rise of automobile culture
- District largely built-out by this time; new construction occurred as redevelopment
 - Much of the new commercial development occurred north of the District

Defense Industry (1942 to 1973)

- ◎ 21 total resources from this period
 - 14 Contributing
 - 7 Non-contributing
 - No new residential development
- ◎ Architectural styles evolve
 - WWII Era styles at the beginning shift to Modern architecture and ultimately to late-20th Century styles (e.g., big box stores)
 - Accommodating vehicles became high priority and changed overall nature of development

Defense Industry (1942 to 1973)

- ◉ Notable buildings include
 - Quonset Hut of 50 West (1955)
 - Key Bank (1971)



District Significance

- Two criteria – A and C
 - Criterion A: Representation of Tooele City's history, particularly its commercial history (Area of Commerce)
 - Criterion C: Architecture

Questions?



Main Street 1953