

Something Old in a Place so Very New

Have you ever wondered of a place in the desert, with peaceful views, sunsets, and more? As you look out over Mesa's vast valley, you start to wonder who found this place? What history is behind Mesa and its people living there. Why do its residents use their time to tell you about West Second Street? As you look around more, you may wonder how Mesa keeps its historic neighborhoods from getting damaged. We take great pride in our city of Mesa and hope our visitors will too! Research for this essay was found on (B., 2021) and (GRANICUS, 2022).

To begin, as you walk around and see a group of what looks like newcomers like you. When you walk closer and hear someone talking to them about this new place you have come to, you start to think why do the residents here take so much time and pleasure to inform newcomers about their city which they just walked into. The answer is here, these people here take pride in Mesa, for its historical neighborhoods, view, and even their sunsets, and they wish to share that to you. In the link, (GRANICUS, 2022), it states "They have challenged themselves not only with renovating beautiful homes which have been in existence since the beginning of Mesa history, but have tasked themselves with fostering neighborhood spirit, community pride and integrating the past with the present."

To continue, you may have heard the group speaking about a neighborhood and decided to check that place out. While you're driving to go find this place, you start to wonder. Why do these people take such pride for the West second street neighborhood? Well here's the answer,

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we take pride in it because it is our oldest historical neighborhood in mesa and has many great houses still there. We are proud of our history, the link (B., 2021) further states, “Missionaries and explorers, including Coronado, Father Kino, and Marcos de Niza, came to Arizona (though not present day Mesa) during the 1500’s and 1600’s. A less known explorer was Esteban (also called Estevan or Estevanico), who searched for the city of gold. Apache Indians, east of our area, drove the Spanish away in the 1700’s. U.S. Army troops fought the Apaches in the late 1800’s, opening the way for white settlement. Kit Carson and other explorers came through the Salt River Valley during the early part of the 19th century.” (B., 2021)

Before we close, you may walk down the streets of this neighborhood and start to wonder again, how are these historical places held together for lasting so long? The answer is, that throughout the years people have raised funds and to keep these historical sites safe, they reinforce the old buildings with more cement for the cracking old cement and much more to keep the houses safe and out of harm's way. They try to provide a “...cool sanctuary...” says the link (B., 2021).

As we close, I would like to thank you for exploring mesa and these historical neighborhoods. We have always loved to share our history with the world and are proud of it! I hope we have answered your questions about our residence, historical neighborhoods, and how we are able to keep them from being damaged. We thank you again for visiting this amazing

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city. Tonight, as you start to head home, look up, and enjoy, the best thing about Mesa, our sunset.

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Work Cited

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