Heritage Square Audio Tour: The Hughes-Stevens Duplex

One of the more recent of the existing Heritage Square buildings, this duplex was built in 1923 by Marguerite Haustgen. Marguerite, a dressmaker who emigrated from Luxembourg in 1914, owned the two bungalows located to the south of this property - the Stevens House and the Stevens-Haustgen House; Marguerite already used those homes as rental properties (renting out one and living in the other with lodgers) and intended to use the Duplex for the same purpose.

The construction of multi-unit housing was likely in response to the rapid growth of Phoenix's population, which grew from 29,000 to 48,000 between 1920 and 1930. Though the name listed on the house is the Hughes-Stevens Duplex, the Hughes and Stevens families, previous owners of the nearby properties, never actually lived inside the Duplex.

Out of all the buildings within the Square, the duplex is the most typically "Arizonan" in style- It has sleeping porches in the back which are constructed with canvas panels covering screen walls. The canvas could be pushed out at night so residents could sleep in the cooler night air.

The Duplex is now office space for the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation, and the Heritage Square Foundation.