



*Time Travel
on South Temple*



Photo by Griffin Photo Design

Acknowledgements

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Preservation Utah fulfills its mission through a wide range of programs and activities which reach communities throughout the state, including: the annual Utah Preservation Conference and Historic Homes Tour, tours and classroom programs for school groups, the Heritage Awards program, our newsletter *Heritage*, the Revolving Fund Loan Program, and stewardship of the historic Memorial House in Memory Grove Park. As a private, non-profit, membership-

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Time Travel on South Temple

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, South Temple was Salt Lake City's most fashionable street. Many of Utah's wealthiest families built beautiful mansions with lovely gardens along South Temple. The street glittered with grand parties and elegant dinners of Utah's high society.

Wouldn't it be exciting to visit a South Temple family from the early 1900s and ask them what life was like? Those people who lived on South Temple are no longer here, but some of the buildings they built are. If you ask the right questions, these buildings can transport you back in time.

We are used to seeing many buildings every day. But have you ever really looked at a building and wondered why it looks the way it does? Or what it is made of? Or how it was used?

These are the kind of questions you need to ask to begin traveling through time. Keep them in mind as you walk down South Temple. Use the map on the back cover to help you find your way as you travel through time.

Over time, South Temple has continued to be an ideal gathering spot for both families and businesses in Salt Lake City. In the 1960s many of the grand mansions along South Temple were demolished to make room for more modern buildings and new uses. These buildings have become representative of their own era and boast the unique style of their time.

Emanuel and Fanny Kahn Mansion

1

678 E.
South Temple

Built in 1889

This house was the home of Emanuel and Fanny Kahn. Emanuel and his brother, Samuel, were some of the first Jewish immigrants to settle in Utah. They started the Kahn Brothers store which became one of the largest grocery stores in Salt Lake City.



Photo by Griffin Photo Design



How is the Kahn Mansion used today?

The Kahn Mansion is built in the Victorian Queen Anne style of architecture. Queen Anne buildings are very ornate and have many details and decorations that catch your eye. The fancy wood carving on the porch is commonly referred to as *gingerbread* detailing.



Photo by Griffin Photo Design

Where else do you see carving or decorations on the Kahn Mansion?

Queen Anne style buildings usually have an unbalanced, or asymmetrical, front or facade. No matter how you try, you can't draw a line dividing the Kahn Mansion into two mirror halves.

As you walk, look for other buildings with unbalanced fronts or facades.



Photo by Griffin Photo Design

Draw your favorite decoration on the Kahn Mansion here.

Salt Lake Masonic Temple

2

650 E.
South Temple

Built in 1927

Tours available by calling in
advance, (801) 930-0584.

www.slcmta.org



Photo by Design Corps

The Masonic Temple is the meeting place of a fraternal organization called the Masons. The word *mason* refers to a person who builds with brick or stone. The Masons began as a club for builders in the Middle Ages (500 – 1,500 AD). Today, the Masons sponsor many charitable activities such as Shriners Hospital, which provides free medical care for children with special needs.



Photo by Griffin Photo Design

The Masonic Temple is built in an architectural style called *Egyptian Revival*. This style became popular for a short time after further exploration of the Egyptian pyramids and the discovery of King Tutankhamen's tomb in 1922.

Can you find these Egyptian symbols on the building?



Photo by Griffin Photo Design

- A double-headed, feathered serpent**
This serpent represents Horus, the Egyptian god of light or life.
- Two sphinxes**
A sphinx is half human and half lion and represents mystery. What is on the globes the sphinxes are holding?

- A scarab**

The scarab is a type of beetle that represented Atum, the Egyptian god of creation.

- Columns with lotus capitals**

The lotus is a type of water lily. It has a flower that closes and sinks underwater at night. In the morning, the flower comes to the top of the water and re-opens. To the ancient Egyptians, the lotus flower was a symbol of rebirth.

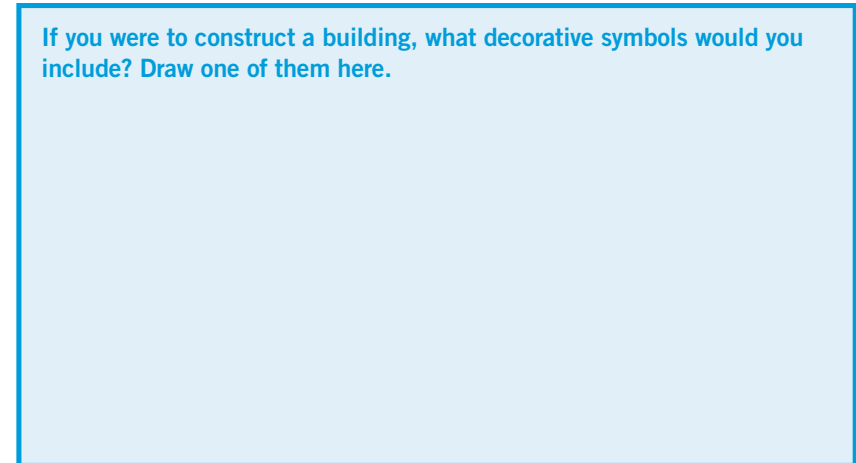


Photo by Griffin Photo Design

What other parts of the Masonic Temple remind you of Egypt?



If you were to construct a building, what decorative symbols would you include? Draw one of them here.



Matthew and Angelena Walker Mansion

3

610 E. South Temple

Built in 1904

Six-year-old Frances Glenn Walker, known as Glenn, is pictured here striding up the steps of her new South Temple home with confidence. Her favorite room in the house was the huge music



Photo courtesy of Utah State Historical Society



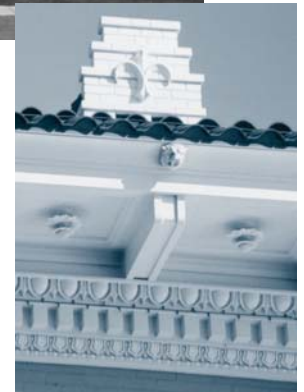
room. It had ceilings three stories high and a huge organ with 1,500 pipes. Many great musicians performed here. Glenn Walker loved music and became a skilled pianist. Later in her life, she helped found the Utah Symphony and Ballet West.

Glenn Walker's childhood was very different from her father's. When Matthew Walker was five, his family left England to come to Utah. Along the way, his father and three sisters became ill and died. Walker crossed the plains with his mother and three brothers in a wagon. Once in Utah, he helped his brothers set up a small store with a bank. After many years of hard work, Matthew Walker became president of the Walker Brothers Bank and one of the richest men in Utah. This photo shows the historic Walker Bank Building that still stands at 200 South on Main Street in Downtown Salt Lake City.



Photos by Neena Madigan, Design Corps

When it was originally constructed the front, or facade, of the Walker Mansion had a balanced look. Now, with the office addition on the west side, it is less balanced. But if you ignore the addition and imagine a line starting at the roof and going down the middle to the ground, it divides the mansion in half and each half is nearly a mirror image of the other! This is what is called a symmetrical facade.



The Walker Mansion is made of many different building materials like brick and wood. How many different materials can you see?

List them below.

Ezra and Emily Thompson House

4

576 E.
South Temple

Built in 1889

Ezra and Emily Thompson bought this red brick house in 1898. The next year, Ezra Thompson was elected mayor of Salt Lake City. He was a very successful mayor and served three terms in office. While Thompson was mayor, South Temple was paved for the first time.



Photo by Nona McAlpin, Design Corps



Photo courtesy of Utah State Historical Society

Looking at the historic photo to the left, you can imagine how bumpy and dusty South Temple was before the street was paved. You can still see the original sandstone curb in front of the Thompson House.

Ezra Thompson bought an Owens Magnetic electric car in 1906. There were

less than 100 cars in the whole state at that time! Thompson could drive for 50 miles before charging his batteries at the Whitmore Garage down the street. (See stop #5) This historic photo shows one of the first electric cars in Salt Lake City.



Photo courtesy of Utah State Historical Society

Look for a square tower on the northeast corner of the Thompson House. Corner towers like this are often called *turrets*.



Photo by Griffin Photo Design

What other types of buildings do you think might have turrets?

How many different shapes can you see in the architecture of the Thompson House?

Draw or list some of them.

A. O. Whitmore Electric Automobiles Building

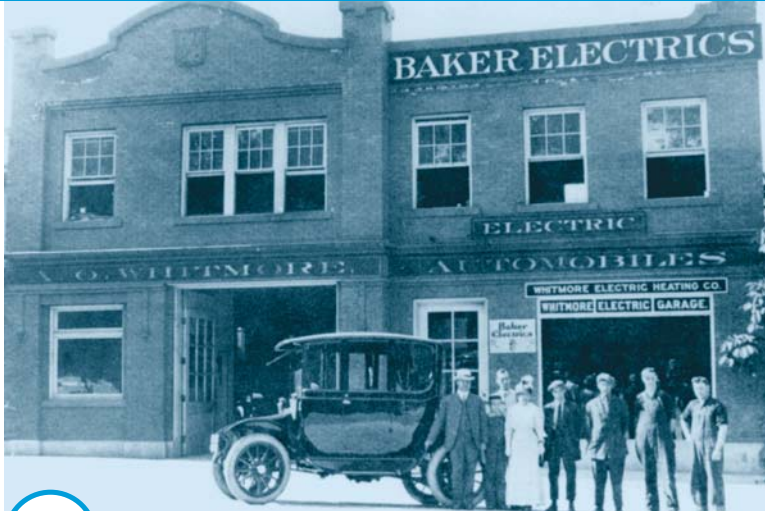


Photo courtesy of Utah State Historical Society

5

430 E.
South Temple

Built in 1910



Photo by Griffin Photo Design

Did you know electric cars have been in Salt Lake City for over 100 years? Electric cars are the future and also a part of South Temple's past. Alfred O. Whitmore had this building constructed in 1910 as a factory, dealership, and service garage for the electric cars he designed. Whitmore became one of the largest manufacturers and dealers of electric cars in the West.

Whitmore located his business on South Temple Street near the wealthy families who could afford to purchase early automobiles. The garage was also convenient for South Temple drivers who needed to recharge the batteries of their electric cars. You can see Whitmore standing next to an electric car in the historic photo. Whitmore stopped making electric cars around 1920 because gasoline-powered cars became much more popular.



2005 Toyota Prius. An example of an early 20th century electric car

Draw the design for your own electric car.

IBM Building #1



6

362 E. South Temple

Built 1960

This building was built in 1960 for International Business Machines Corp., or IBM. IBM was started in 1911 in Endicott, NY and evolved into one of the earliest technology and consulting companies. The first Salt Lake City office moved into this building in 1961 shortly after the building's completion. The original construction of this building cost roughly \$900,000 which was a considerable amount of money at that time.



This unique mid-century modern three-story building is composed of three tiers of vaulted arches, supported by pillars in the center on the north and south facades. The arches are decorative and also serve as structural floor dividers, allowing for an unobstructed view on the interior. The building is constructed of "post-stressed" concrete. At the time, this was a new technique for making concrete stronger, allowing people to build taller with less material. This was the first

time this technique was used in Salt Lake City.

As with the ALSCO building, (on page 20) the ability to construct the IBM building required the demolition of historic structures that already existed on the site. The IBM site combined five residential lots covering three-quarters of an acre.



Photo by Justin Johnson

What do the vaulted arches on the IBM building remind you of?

Do you think it is important to save buildings from different time periods? Why or why not?

The Cathedral of the Madeleine

7

**331 E.
South Temple
Built 1899-1909**

Open to the Public -
www.utcotm.org

Peering down at you from The Cathedral of the Madeleine's tall towers are eight, long-necked monsters. These strange creatures carved in stone are called *gargoyles*. People have been putting gargoyles on cathedrals since the Middle Ages. Some gargoyles worked as drain pipes. While others were carved to tell religious stories or frighten away evil spirits. Eventually, gargoyles became a tradition and were put on cathedrals and other buildings as decorations.

Look for a large round window above the entrance to The Cathedral of the Madeleine. What does the pattern of the stone lines, or tracery, in the window remind you of? This kind of window is called a rose window because it is shaped like a flower. Be sure to go inside the cathedral and see the brilliant stained glass in the rose window.



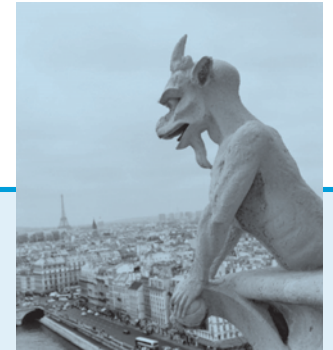
Photo by Griffin Photo Design



Photo by Neve Maklari, Design Corps

The Cathedral of the Madeleine took many years to complete. Finishing the massive, gray sandstone exterior took ten years. Fine craftsmen spent another three years creating the beautiful wood carvings and murals on the interior.

Compared to the cathedrals constructed in Europe during the Middle Ages, The Cathedral of the Madeleine was built very quickly. Because of wars, plagues, and lack of money, some of the great cathedrals were under construction for more than 100 years!



Draw a gargoyle of your own.



Photo courtesy of The Cathedral of the Madeleine

First Presbyterian Church

8

12 C Street

Built 1903-1905

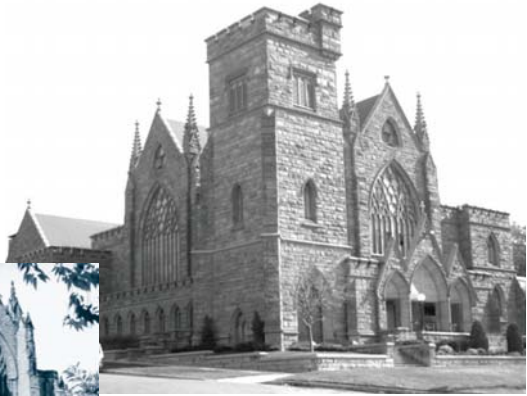


Photo by Griffin Photo Design

The First Presbyterian Church might look familiar to a person who lived in Carlisle, England, over 1,000 years ago. Architect Walter Ware had just returned from a trip to England when he designed this church. He based his plan on the beautiful cathedral he had seen in Carlisle (shown at right). Both churches are made of red sandstone and have large square towers with tops like the battlements on a castle. They also have graceful, pointed arch windows and tall, knobby pinnacles. [How else are these buildings similar?](#)

Young people are an important part of the history of First Presbyterian Church. Members of the church's Junior Christian Endeavor Society made the first donation for the construction of this building. After their gift of \$10, they raised another \$100 by saving the nickels and dimes they usually spent on candy. [How many dimes are in \\$100?](#)



Photo courtesy of Utah State Historical Society

The church building was planned with children in mind. It had many Sunday School rooms for children's activities. The historic photo shows one of the church's many children's events, a pretend wedding held in 1905. The Sunday

School children got to dress up like a real wedding party. The Sunday School rooms were decorated with yellow flowers and there was even an orchestra to play the wedding march.

First Presbyterian Church is still a place for children's activities today. In addition to the children who go to church here, Girl and Boy Scout troops, a children's choir, a kids' basketball team, and a daycare center all have a home in this beautiful building.

Children contributed to building the First Presbyterian Church. How can young people in your school help make your community a better place?

Enos and Mary Wall Mansion

9

411 E.
South Temple

Original House—1881

Enlarged and Remodeled—
1908-1914



Photo courtesy of Utah State Historical Society

Hidden inside this historic mansion is an even older house. One of Salt Lake City's early mayors, James Sharp, built a house here in 1881. Enos and Mary Wall bought this property in 1905. Enos Wall made a fortune helping start the Utah Copper Company, which later became Kennecott Utah Copper, now Rio Tinto. The Walls wanted a house that would reflect their wealthy lifestyle. They hired a famous architect, Richard K. A. Kletting, to remodel and enlarge Mayor Sharp's house to create this beautiful mansion. You can see the mansion being built around the older house in the historic photo.

Imagine that one of the Walls' five daughters has invited you to a party at the mansion. The butler greets you at the front door and shows you the elevator that will take you to the third floor. After twirling around the ballroom to music played by a live orchestra, you can try your hand at billiards in the game room. When you're tired, you can walk outside on the balcony above the front porch to enjoy the stars.



Photo courtesy of Utah State Historical Society

The small girl in the photo on the right is Peggy Wall. Her older sister, Mary Olga Wall, is the fifth woman from the left. Enos and Mary Wall are at the far left.

Today, the Wall Mansion is no longer a house. It belongs to the University of Utah and is used as a gathering place for university and community leaders. Just like people and animals, historic buildings can adapt to new situations.



Photo by Griffin Photo Design

Many of the buildings and houses on South Temple are used differently today than when they were first built. Some of them are in this book.

Match the historic building with its use today. (side by side)

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Wall Mansion | A. Bakery and Shops |
| 2. Whitmore Electric Auto | B. Private Offices |
| 3. Keith Mansion | C. Bed and Breakfast/Hotel |
| 4. Walker Mansion | D. Financial Firm |
| 5. Kahn Mansion | E. College/University |

Answers: 1.E 2.A 3.D 4.B 5.C

American Linen Supply Company/ALSCO

10

505 E. South Temple

Built in 1967

George A. Steiner started his first linen delivery route when he was fifteen-years-old. At this time, most people dried their wet towels by putting them through a wooden roller and hanging it up before using it again. It was considered a luxury for someone to have a change of linen, or an extra towel.



In 1895, Steiner moved his linen business to Salt Lake City because he thought it was a great place to do business and raise a family. By

1959, the newly-named Steiner American Company was internationally recognized with more than 22 linen production plants worldwide.

In 1967, Richard Steiner, then company president, wanted to set a standard for their new international prominence by having a South Temple address. Steiner's direction to architect

William Moyle Browning for the design of the building was to go horizontal, not vertical, and to not violate the street's history with something so different or with something that relates so closely that it would compete with the street's historic mansions. The building features twenty-five-foot-high one-piece windows that extend from the ground to the roof. According to Browning, at the time of construc-



tion these windows were the tallest in the West and possibly in the nation. The building has changed very little since its construction.

For Steiner American, having a South Temple address came at a price. Before this building was built, the historic Cosgriff Mansion was on this site, though vacant for many years. Steiner initially wanted to renovate the Cosgriff Mansion for their offices but cost estimates and smaller size became defining factors in its demolition. ALSCO became one of the first businesses to inhabit this part of South Temple and with new development came new rules for South Temple. These rules, or ordinances, are enforced by Salt Lake City and are used to preserve the buildings and the culture of this historic street.

One thing that makes this building different from the earlier building is that it was constructed with underground parking. What else makes this building different from the earlier buildings on South Temple?

David and Mary Keith Mansion

11

529 E. South Temple

Built in 1900

This stately mansion was built for David and Mary Keith. David Keith, however, was not always rich. At age fourteen, his parents died, and he went to work as a miner to support himself. Many years later, Keith worked under Thomas Kearns in a Park City silver mine. One day Kearns saw a vein of silver near a mine that was not being worked. Keith and Kearns decided to take a risk and lease the mine. Their hunch paid off! The two men became millionaires, life-long friends, business partners, and neighbors. (Thomas Kearns' house is #10 on this tour.)

The historic photo shows the Keith family in a carriage in front of their house. While you won't see fancy carriages driving on South Temple today, you can still see

evidence of the horse-and-buggy days along the street. In front of the Keith Mansion next to the curb is a big stone block called a carriage step to help people get in and out of the high carriages. There is also a stone hitching post where the horses were tied. (see photo to the left)



Photo by Griffin Photo Design



Photo courtesy of Utah State Historical Society



Photo by Griffin Photo Design

To the east of the Keith Mansion is a carriage house. This is where carriages were stored and horses stabled. This carriage house also had room for a bowling alley, shooting gallery, and servants quarters. Just imagine if your garage were this big!

Be sure to look for other homes that still have carriage steps and carriage houses along South Temple.



Photo by Griffin Photo Design

Is the facade of the Keith Mansion balanced or unbalanced ?

Stand at the front of the building and draw an imaginary line to divide it in half.

What did you find?

Handwriting practice lines consisting of five horizontal blue lines.

Thomas and Jennie Kearns Mansion (Utah Governor's Mansion)

12

603 E.
South Temple

Built in 1900-1902

Tours available June – August
and December by appointment
only. (801) 538-1005



Photo courtesy of Utah State Historical Society

Have you ever had
breakfast with the President
of the United States?

Four-year-old Helen Kearns did. When her father, Thomas Kearns, served as a U.S. Senator from Utah, he became friends with President Theodore Roosevelt. In 1903, President Roosevelt came to Salt Lake City and had breakfast at the Kearns Mansion. The mansion was draped in bunting and flags in honor of the President's visit, as you can see in the historic photo above. Helen greeted President Roosevelt in French and presented him a bouquet of carnations.

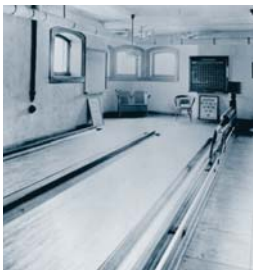


Photo courtesy of Utah State Historical Society

Helen and her two brothers, Thomas, Jr. and Edmund, had many other adventures in the Kearns Mansion. With 32 rooms in the mansion, including a bowling alley in the basement, they had plenty of room to play. They slid down the banister of the grand staircase and played tag in the ballroom. When their parents held grand parties in the evening, the children would sneak upstairs to watch the elegant dancers.

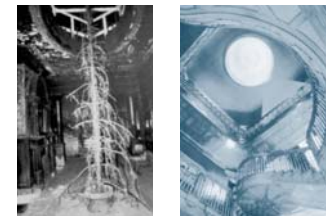
By 1937, all the Kearns children had grown up and moved away. Jennie Kearns decided to donate the Kearns Mansion to the State of Utah to be used as the governor's house. Before this, Utah did not have an official governor's residence. Governor Herbert Maw said the mansion was a tremendous boost to the image of the state.

A terrible fire swept through the interior of the Kearns Mansion in 1993. Luckily, no one was hurt. Craftsmen from around the country came to work on the restoration of the mansion. Today, the interior and the exterior look much as it did when Helen Kearns met President Roosevelt in 1903. The exterior stone is a limestone from Sanpete County Utah, called oolite limestone.

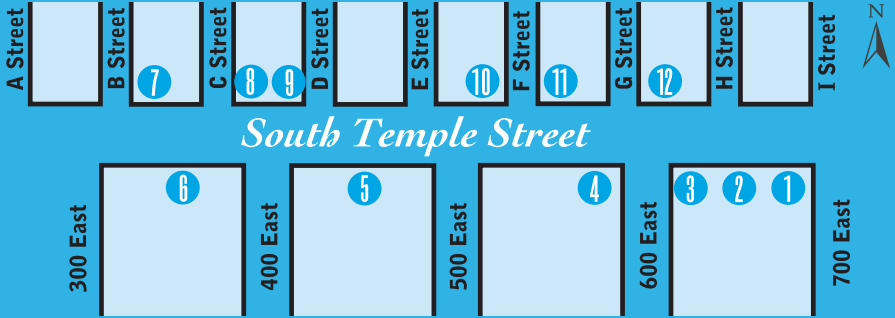
To play "Kearns' Mansion and the Secret Silver" online game, go to www.utahheritagefoundation.org.

Thomas and Jennie Kearns loved to host parties. Imagine you could hold a party at the mansion. What would your guests do (e.g. eat, dance, go bowling)? What would they wear?

Describe your party.



All photos this page courtesy of Utah State Historical Society



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|----|--|---------------------|
| 1 | Emanuel & Fanny Kahn Mansion | 678 E. South Temple |
| 2 | Salt Lake Masonic Temple | 650 E. South Temple |
| 3 | Matthew & Angelena Walker Mansion | 610 E. South Temple |
| 4 | Ezra & Emily Thompson House | 576 E. South Temple |
| 5 | A.O. Whitmore Electric Automobiles Bldg. | 430 E. South Temple |
| 6 | IBM Building #1 | 362 E. South Temple |
| 7 | The Cathedral of the Madeleine | 331 E. South Temple |
| 8 | First Presbyterian Church | 12 C Street |
| 9 | Enos & Mary Wall Mansion | 411 E. South Temple |
| 10 | American Linen Supply Company | 505 E. South Temple |
| 11 | David & Mary Keith Mansion | 529 E. South Temple |
| 12 | Thomas & Jennie Kearns Mansion | 603 E. South Temple |

Take a tour of the Salt Lake City and County Building or the Kearns (Utah Governor's) Mansion on your own or with your class. Visit our website at www.preservationutah.org for information on free public and school tours.



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